

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE PhD COURSE IN
Improvisational Languages in Contemporary Music
(DOTT24ZCF8M)
40th CYCLE – Academic Year 2024/2025**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 2, 2024, 12.00 p.m. (CEST)

Changes and/or additions to the call will be published on the official website of Siena Jazz
(www.sienajazz.it)

THE DIRECTOR

In accordance with Law No. 210 of 3 July 1998, and in particular Article 4, as amended by Article 19, paragraph 1, of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;

In accordance with the Presidential Decree No. 132 of 28 February 2003 “Regulations for the statutory, regulatory and organizational autonomy of artistic and musical institutions, pursuant to Law 21 December 1999, No. 508”;

In accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 December 2021 “Regulations for the accreditation of doctoral research centers and courses and criteria for the establishment of doctoral research courses by accredited institutions”;

In accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 470 of 21 February 2024, which regulates the PhD programs of AFAM Institutions;

In accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 544 of 27 March 2024 “Decree determining the annual amount of the scholarship for attendance at PhD Courses in AFAM (High Artistic, Musical and Choreographic Education) Institutions”;

In accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 630 of 24 April 2024 for the allocation of three-year doctoral scholarships for participation in innovative doctoral research courses that meet the innovation needs of businesses and promote the hiring of researchers by businesses;

In accordance with the Guidelines for the accreditation of AFAM PhDs approved by Ministerial Decree No. 778 of 12 June 2024;

In accordance with MUR Note Prot. No. 9166 of 13 May 2024 “DM 21/02/2024 n. 470 - AFAM PhDs – Changes to the Academic Regulations of the Institutions”;

In accordance with MUR Note Prot. No. 11649 of 18 June 2024 “Operational instructions for AFAM Institutions to supplement Note Prot. 8614 of 02/05/2024”;

In accordance with the Agreement for the establishment, activation and operation of the PhD Course in *Improvisational Languages in Contemporary Music* for the three-year

period 2024–2027 – XL cycle between Siena Jazz, the Ferrara Conservatory of Music “G. Frescobaldi” and the CPM Music Institute;

In accordance with the Agreement with Accademia Chigiana and the letter of commitment signed with Fondazione Monte dei Paschi di Siena;

DECREES

Article 1. Establishment and activation of the PhD course

Siena Jazz, in agreement with the Ferrara Conservatory of Music “G. Frescobaldi” and the Milano CPM Music Institute, hereby establishes the PhD Course in *Improvisational Languages in Contemporary Music* for the academic year 2024/2025 (XL cycle). The PhD Course has its administrative headquarters at Siena Jazz and has a three-year duration, starting on December 1, 2024.

The activation of the PhD Course is subject to verification by the MUR of the accreditation requirements, as provided for by the Ministerial Decree 470/2024. The activation of funded scholarship positions under the PNRR funds is subject to the actual allocation of resources by the MUR and the completion of the agreements with partner organizations. Any negative outcome of the accreditation procedure, which could prevent the activation of the course and the assignment of the advertised positions, will be promptly communicated to the applicants.

Article 2. Call for Applications

A call for applications, based on evaluation of candidates CVs and by evaluation of research proposal and oral interview, is hereby announced at the Siena Jazz Academy for the admission to the three-year PhD Course in *Improvisational Languages in Contemporary Music*, referred to in Article 1 of this announcement, for the academic year 2024/2025.

Article 3. Description and Purpose of the PhD Course

The course aims to support innovation in the contemporary music production industry, with specific attention to applied research in the performing arts area, the enhancement and reinterpretation of musical heritage and the search for new audiences.

The members of the Doctoral Faculty represent a broad set of authoritative points of view and stylistic approaches within the field, capable of supporting the development of different lines of research and study. The research area, in fact, is genre-inclusive (classical, jazz, folk, ethnic, etc.); it fosters interaction between different musical languages, as well as dialogue with other (non-musical) artistic languages, promoting the principles of cross-pollination, dialogue and propulsive creativity.

For the description of contents and objectives of the course, please refer to the in-depth content sheet, which is an integral part of this notice.

Article 4. Number of Available Positions and Scholarships

5 scholarship positions are available under the PNRR funds, investment 3.3, according to the ex-Ministerial Decree 630/2024.

1 position without scholarship is also available. Evaluation criteria and standards will be the same for scholarship and non-scholarship positions.

The number of positions covered by the scholarship may be increased, after the issuance of this decree, in case of the allocation of additional PNRR resources to Conservatories, as established by the MUR with a specific provision. Any such changes will be communicated exclusively on the competition web page.

The scholarships funded from PNRR funds are linked to specific research topics. For a description of these topics, please refer to the in-depth content sheet. The renunciation of the scholarship invokes automatic withdrawal from the course, and the next eligible candidate on the ranking list will be offered the position.

In line with the principles of gender equality and with the desire to stimulate women's access to the world of research, a minimum of 25% (i.e. 1/4) of the scholarships funded from the PNRR funds, the subject of this notice, will be reserved for female candidates.

In the event no female candidates achieve the minimum score necessary for entry to the course, the scholarship will be awarded to the next male candidate in the list.

Doctoral scholarships under Ministerial Decree 630/2024 are related to Mission 4, component 2 “From Research to Business”, Investment 3.3 “Introduction of innovative doctoral programs that meet the innovation needs of businesses and promote the hiring of researchers by businesses” and are co-financed by businesses for the implementation of innovative doctoral programs to meet research and innovation needs.

The scholarship must be used from the beginning and for the entire three-year training period, and the doctoral program will be automatically ended in case of renunciation of the scholarship.

These PhD scholarships cannot be awarded to PhD students who have renounced PNRR scholarships in the 38th and 39th cycles pursuant to Art. 8 paragraph 7 of D.M. 630/2024. The activation of scholarships is subject to the signing of agreements between Siena Jazz and the participating organizations.

Article 5. Admission Requirements

Applications for admission to the PhD Course may be submitted, without age or citizenship restrictions, by those who hold, by the deadline of this call, one of the following qualifications: “old-system” Italian Conservatory Diploma combined with an upper secondary school Diploma, Second-Level Academic Diploma (Italian Conservatory), Italian University Degree under the previous system to D.M. 509/1999 (“old system”), Specialist/Master’s Degree Diploma, or equivalent title for level of studies obtained at foreign universities (Master’s Degree).

Applicants with a foreign academic qualification must submit the following documents:

- For qualifications obtained in European Union countries, Diploma supplement or certificate of comparability and verification issued by Cimea as an ENIC-NARIC center;

• For qualifications obtained in countries outside the European Union, “declaration of value on site” by the Italian diplomatic-consular representative competent for the territory or certificate of comparability and verification issued by Cimea as an ENIC-NARIC center.

If these documents are not yet available, applicants must attach to the application form a description of the degree with a list of exams taken, which will be sufficient for enrolment purposes. However such enrollment is provisional, and the completion of the Doctorate will be possible only following proper legal recognition of the foreign degrees.

The suitability of the foreign academic qualification in terms of content is assessed by the Doctoral Admissions Committee set up for admission to the doctoral program, in compliance with the current regulations in force in Italy and in the country where the qualification was issued, and with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.

Those who do not yet hold the required academic qualification by the deadline of this call may also participate in the competition, on condition that the qualification is obtained within the deadlines for enrollment for the doctoral program (D.M. 470/2024 article 7, paragraph 1).

These candidates will be admitted *sub condicione* and must submit a self-certification stating: name of the institution issuing the qualification, expected date of achievement and type of diploma.

Article 6. Admission Procedure

Applications for admission must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. CET on **September 2, 2024**, to the following link:

<https://registroelettronico.nettunopa.it/ammissioni/?id=118001>

The admission procedure includes the following documents, written in Italian or English:

- 1) **Admission Exam Fee.** Payment of a non-refundable fee of €50.00 by the admissions deadline using the PagoPa service for more information on payment methods, please consult the following website <https://www.sienajazz.it/dottorato-di-ricerca-in-linguaggi-dellimprovvisazione-nelle-musiche-contemporanee/>
- 2) **Identity Document.** Candidates must submit:
 - a. Copy of a valid identity document;
 - b. Copy of passport (for foreign candidates only).
- 3) **Application Form.** The application form must provide the following information (see Application Form model in Annex A):
 - a. Personal information (name and surname, place and date of birth, citizenship, residence address, home address if different from residence, elected address for application purposes with indication of postal code, telephone number and email address);
 - b. Preferred language (Italian or English) for the interview;

- c. Degrees already obtained, with the indication of the date and the issuing Institute/Conservatory/University;
- d. Declaration of adequate knowledge of the Italian language, minimum level B2 (only for foreign citizens);
- e. Declaration of adequate knowledge of the English language, minimum level B2;
- f. Whether or not you have previously availed yourself of another scholarship (even for one year only) for a doctoral program;
- g. Whether or not you are a research grant holder;
- h. Whether or not you are an employee of Italian Public Administration;
- i. Undertaking to attend the doctoral program full-time, according to the procedures that will be indicated by the Doctoral Faculty;
- j. Awareness that the acceptance of a PNRR ex D.M. 630/2024 scholarship entails the obligation of periods of study and research abroad and in partner organizations (art. 4 of this Call for Applications) and that failure to comply with this obligation will result in the revocation of the scholarship and the forfeiture of the doctoral program;
- k. Undertaking to communicate promptly any changes in their residence or address for application purposes;
- l. Having read this call for applications.

The applicant must self-certify their educational qualifications (previously earned degrees):

- a) For qualifications obtained in Italy, self-certification and/or notarial deed pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000;
- b) For qualifications obtained in European Union countries, Diploma supplement or certificate of comparability and verification issued by Cimea as an ENIC-NARIC center;
- c) For qualifications obtained in countries outside the European Union, “declaration of value on site” by the Italian diplomatic-consular representative competent for the territory or certificate of comparability and verification issued by Cimea as an ENIC-NARIC center. If these documents are not yet available, applicants must attach to the application form a description of the degrees earned with a list of exams taken. This will be sufficient for the application, although graduation will not be possible until all legal requirements are met.
- d) Graduates must submit a self-certification stating: name of the institution issuing the qualification, expected date of achievement and type of diploma.

Any letters of reference will not be taken into consideration and will not be awarded any points.

4) **Research Project and Artistic Portfolio**

The research project must describe the topic of study, the methodologies envisaged and the objectives of the research (see Research Project Model in Annex B) and be accompanied by a relevant Artistic Portfolio (section i. of Annex B). This portfolio consists of 2 audio/video recordings of performances relevant to the proposed research project: the links must be included in Annex B together with a brief description (max 2000 characters, spaces included). If relevant to the project, the respective scores can be attached in pdf.

5) Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum

The curriculum vitae et studiorum must include a list and brief description of no more than 20 of the candidate's most significant qualifications: additional degrees or studies, artistic production, academic qualifications, professional qualifications, and other qualifications.

Failure to submit even one of the documents listed above will result in exclusion from the call for applications.

All applications are subject to verification of the self-certifications pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments.

The Commission may, at any time, by reasoned decision, exclude candidates from the application procedure if the applicant does not meet the prescribed requirements. Exclusion measures will be published on the website of Siena Jazz, and such publication will constitute official notification to the candidates, therefore no personal communications will be sent (contact the Data Privacy Officer for privacy issues).

Siena Jazz Administration assumes no responsibility for any errors in the compilation of the application form on the part of the candidate.

Article 7. Candidates with Disabilities, SLD and Other Situations Protected by Law

Those who, in relation to their specific condition of disability (art. 20 of Law no. 104/1992), specific learning disorders (ex-Law 170/2010) or other situations protected by law, require assistive tools and/or additional time or organizational measures to participate in the application process, must make an express request in the application form.

Article 8. Doctoral Admissions Committee and Admission Exam

The Doctoral Admissions Committee, responsible for evaluating the candidates, will be appointed by decree by the Director of Siena Jazz and the list of members will be published on the website of Siena Jazz.

The Committee is composed of five fixed members (including the Coordinator of the PhD program) and one or more substitutes, all chosen from the professors of the Doctoral Faculty. A member of the administrative staff may be present as acting secretary.

Admission to the doctoral program is based on a selection process that evaluates both academic qualifications and the quality of the proposed research project. The aim of the selection process is to identify candidates with a strong academic background, significant research skills, and a genuine interest in pursuing artistic research. The selection process consists of an evaluation of the research proposal, the applicant's curriculum vitae, and their artistic portfolio, followed by an online interview.

The evaluation of the research proposal, curriculum vitae, and artistic portfolio will take place before the interview. The results of the evaluation will be available on the website of Siena Jazz on the course page.

The research proposal, which must be structured according to the standard template provided, is only relevant for the selection process and does not bind the choice of the doctoral thesis in case of admission.

Article 9. Selection of Candidates

The selection of candidates will take place in two phases:

1. Evaluation of the research project and qualifications: the Commission will evaluate the research project, curriculum and artistic portfolio of the candidates. In this phase, a maximum of 40 points may be awarded for the research project and a maximum of 20 points for the qualifications and portfolio presented.
2. The first phase of the selection will be considered passed for candidates who have obtained a score greater than or equal to 30/60 (with a score of note less than 20 points for the research project and not less than 10 points for the curriculum vitae and artistic portfolio).
3. Public oral interview (online): the candidates who pass the first phase will be invited to an oral interview, during which they will present their research project and answer questions about their skills and interests.

After the evaluations have been completed, the Doctoral Admissions Committee will draw up a special report, indicating the evaluation criteria used, the score awarded to each candidate and the general ranking of merit. The scholarships will be awarded on the basis of the general ranking.

In case of equal scores, firstly, the female candidate will prevail; secondly, the younger candidate will prevail, pursuant to art. 2, paragraph 9, of Law 191/1998.

The final ranking will be published by **September 14 2024** on the website of Siena Jazz.

Article 10. Evaluation of the Research Project and Qualifications

The Doctoral Admissions Committee will evaluate the applications according to the following criteria:

1. Quality and coherence of the research project: up to 40 points;
2. Curriculum vitae et studiorum and artistic portfolio: up to 20 points;
3. Oral interview: up to 40 points.

The evaluation of the curriculum vitae and the artistic portfolio will take into account the candidate's academic history, research and professional experience, scientific publications and artistic activity.

Article 11. Oral Interview

The oral interviews are public and will take place online from **September 10, 2024** onwards. The detailed timetable of the interviews, with the indication of the date, time and link in which they will take place, will be published at least 3 days before the date of the first interview, by publication on the Siena Jazz website (<https://www.sienajazz.it/dottorato-di-ricerca-in-linguaggi-dellimprovvisazione-nelle-musiche-contemporanee/>).

No personal invitations will be sent to the candidates for participation in the tests; therefore, information regarding the conduct of the oral interviews will only be available online and the candidate is responsible for finding that information on the website.

The oral interview is aimed at verifying the candidate's knowledge of topics related to the educational and scientific areas covered by the PhD course. It includes a presentation of the proposed project, followed by a general discussion aimed at verifying the candidate's skills, scientific quality and motivations. The interview may also be aimed at verifying the candidate's aptitude for research, willingness to undertake experiences abroad and scientific interests, and language proficiency (English).

The interview is conducted in Italian or, at the candidate's request, in English.

The candidate must show a valid identity card or passport to access the oral interview. The oral interview is awarded a maximum of 40 points and is passed with a minimum of 30/40 points.

Article 12. Publication of the Ranking

At the end of the oral interview, the Doctoral Admissions Committee compiles the general merit ranking on the basis of the sum of the scores obtained by the candidates in the individual tests (evaluation of the research project, curriculum vitae and portfolio, oral interview). The candidate is eligible if he/she has achieved the minimum overall score of 70/100.

The score corresponding to the evaluation of the candidates in each category assigned by the Committee will be reported in the respective official reports. This score constitutes a motivated assessment on the candidate's individual qualifications and tests.

The final ranking will be published on the website of Siena Jazz by **September 14, 2024** and constitutes notification to the interested parties, who will not receive any direct written communication.

The winners of the competition must confirm their acceptance of the position by **September 19, 2024**.

Article 13. Admission to the PhD Course

Candidates are admitted to the PhD Course in order of points awarded and up to the maximum number of positions available for the call. The Candidates admitted to the PhD Course will forfeit their place if they do not enroll within the required deadline for enrollment. In such cases, the next eligible candidate will be admitted according to the order of the ranking. The same applies if any of the admitted candidates withdraw within three months from the start of the course.

If the renounced has already received scholarship payments, she/he is obliged to return them. The eligible candidate for taking over the position will be contacted personally by email by the admissions office of Siena Jazz and will receive the appropriate instructions and deadlines for enrollment.

Article 14. Enrollment

The admitted candidates must complete their enrollment by **October 1st, 2024**, by following the procedures outlined on the website of Siena Jazz (except for those candidates

who have taken over following a withdrawal, according to Article 13, paragraph 2 of this Call). In the event of withdrawal or failure to enroll within the specified deadlines, the subsequent candidates on the ranking list will be admitted.

Candidates will be removed from the ranking list following their express or tacit renunciation of the position, up to the forfeiture of the same (DM 630/2024, art. 8, paragraph 8). In the event of a forfeiture, the position covered by the scholarship will be offered to the next eligible candidate according to the order of ranking, subject to the obligations and requirements described above for reserved positions.

If candidates lower in ranking are admitted due to forfeiture or withdrawal on the part of the highest ranking candidates, their admission is provisional and will be subject to re-verification of the qualification requirements.

Enrolled doctoral students are required to pay the annual regional education fee of €140.00, (to be paid on the DSU website: <https://www.dsu.toscana.it/tassa-regionale>), and an insurance premium of €20,00 per year, to be paid to Siena Jazz during the enrollment procedures.

Withdrawal from the doctoral program does not entitle the student to a refund of the enrollment fees already paid.

During enrollment, candidates must demonstrate Italian residency by obtaining and providing the following documentation:

- a) Italian tax ID number (codice fiscale);
- b) Valid Italian residence permit or student visa (required for non-EU foreign residents).

The validity of foreign qualifications will be verified at the time of document submission. Until then, candidates are admitted to the course provisionally, and may be excluded from the rankings if they do not meet the required qualifications.

Article 15. Scholarships

The scholarships for the PhD course, the annual amount of which is €16,243.00 as of the date of issuance of this provision (gross of social security contributions borne by the scholarship recipient), are awarded to the winners according to the order of the ranking list and following the regulations in force. Scholarships are paid monthly.

The scholarship amount is exempt from income tax (Irpef) pursuant to Article 4 of Law No. 476 of August 13, 1984, and is subject, in terms of social security, to the provisions of Article 2, paragraphs 26 and following, of Law No. 335 of August 8, 1995, as amended.

Within 30 days from the start date of the course, scholarship winners must send a copy of the receipt issued by INPS, confirming the establishment of the contribution position with the separate management fund, to the administrative offices of the Siena Jazz via email: info@sienajazz.it (for details, refer to the website www.inps.it).

The scholarship is compatible with income derived from employment, exclusively in cases provided by the current regulations concerning doctoral programs, provided it does not exceed the amount of the scholarship itself. The income limit is understood as the gross amount received in the year of maximum entitlement of the scholarship.

Scholarships have a total duration of at least three years and are renewed annually, provided that the doctoral student has been admitted by the Doctoral Faculty to the subsequent year, after verification of the regular and effective completion of the activities planned for the previous year.

In addition to the scholarship, and within the co-financing provided by Fondazione Monte dei Paschi di Siena in the budget, each doctoral student is assured, starting from the first year, a budget for research activities in Italy and abroad determined for each course at 10% of the annual gross amount of the scholarship.

In case of withdrawal from the scholarship, the interested party must notify the enrollment offices of Siena Jazz at least 15 days before the suspension of the course. The notification will be transmitted to the National Research Office.

Article 16. Obligations of the PhD Candidates

The PhD Course has a duration of three years and will start on December 1, 2024.

Admission to the PhD Course entails a full-time exclusive commitment, in accordance with the research and training activities defined by the Doctoral Faculty.

The PhD candidate awarded the PNRR scholarship associated with the relevant project must also commit, upon enrollment, to:

- a) Produce a six-month report indicating the time commitment (broken down into months in the industry, on-site, and abroad) and a summary of the main activities undertaken;
- b) Report her/his activities through the designated online platform and using the available forms;
- c) Complete the required periods of study and research abroad and in the industry;
- d) Avoid any conflicts that might affect the scholarship and, if they occur, promptly inform the Doctoral Faculty Coordinator;
- e) Ensure compliance with communication and information obligations as stipulated in Article 34 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, indicating in all documentation that the Program is funded under the PNRR, with explicit reference to the funding by the European Union and the NextGenerationEU initiative, and including the European Union emblem in the documentation;
- f) Adhere to the principle of not causing significant harm to environmental objectives, as per Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852.

Article 17. Attainment of the Degree

The final examination for obtaining the degree consists of a final concert/performance and a thesis to be agreed upon with the Doctoral Thesis Committee.

The PhD thesis, written in Italian or English, or in another language with prior authorization from the Doctoral Thesis Committee, must include a summary in English. The Doctoral Defense Committee judging the final examination is appointed by the Director of Siena Jazz

in accordance with the Conservatory's educational regulations. The PhD defense will be public.

Article 18. Personal Data Protection

In accordance with Legislative Decree 196/2003, as amended by Legislative Decree 101/2018, and Regulation (EU) 679/2016 (General Data Protection Regulation or GDPR), Siena Jazz and the partner Institutions are committed to respecting the confidentiality of the information provided by candidates: all data provided will be processed solely for purposes related to and instrumental to the call for applications and any subsequent management of the relationship with Siena Jazz and partner Institutions, in compliance with current regulations.

Article 19. Reference Norms

For all matters not covered or regulated by this announcement, reference is made to Law No. 210/1998, Law No. 240/2010, Ministerial Decree No. 226/2021, Ministerial Decree No. 470/2024. Regarding the PhD scholarships financed through PNRR funds, the provisions of Ministerial Decrees No. 630/2024 also apply..

Siena, July 30, 2024

Siena Jazz

Accademia Nazionale del Jazz

THE DIRECTOR