Aaron Williamson is Professor of Performance Science at the Royal College of Music. His research focuses on music cognition, skilled performance, and applied psychological and health-related initiatives that inform music learning and teaching. His book, Musical Excellence, is published by Oxford University Press and draws together the findings of initiatives from across the arts and sciences, with the aim of offering musicians new perspectives and practical guidance for enhancing their performance. Aaron is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA) and the UK's Higher Education Academy (FHEA) and, in 2008, was elected an Honorary Member of the RCM (HonRCM). In addition, he has performed as a trumpeter in chamber and symphony orchestras, brass bands, and brass quintets in both Europe and North America.

Facing the music: An investigation of musician’s physical and mental responses

Musicians typically rehearse far away from their audiences and in practice rooms that differ significantly from the concert venues in which they aspire to perform. Due to high costs and the inaccessibility of such venues, much current international music training lacks repeated exposure to realistic performance situations, with students learning all too late (or not at all) how to manage the stresses of performing and the demands of their audiences. This presentation will explore the physiological and psychological differences between practising and performing. It will also introduce the ‘Performance Simulator’, an innovative new facility which operates in two modes: (i) concert and (ii) audition simulation. Initial results demonstrate that the Simulator allows musicians to develop and refine valuable professional skills, including enhancement of communication on stage and effective management of performance anxiety.
FALL 2013 SCHEDULE

SEMINARY SERIES

Webinar Co-ordinator
Patricia A. González Moreno, PhD
Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, Mexico

Institutions Also Involved in the Webinar Series:
Argentina: Instituto Universitario Nacional del Arte
Cyprus: University of Cyprus
Mexico: Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, Universidad Veracruzana, Servicios Educativos del Estado de Chihuahua, Conservatorio de Música de Chihuahua, IIIECH, CENIDIM
United Kingdom: University of Cambridge, University of London
United States: Ball State University, Benedictine University,

Wednesday, Sept 11 - 9:00-11:00am - Webinar Lecture
Dr. Jon Skidmore, Brigham Young University, Utah
The psychological skills of music performance: The missing link in the training of performing artists

Thursday, Sept 26 - 4:00-6:00pm - MODAL Research Group meeting
Presentation: Deanna Peluso, Doctoral Candidate (SFU)
Using an iPhone/iPod App to Capture Music and Multimodal Digital Media Engagement in the Daily Lives of Youth

Wednesday, Oct 2 - 4:00-6:00pm - Webinar Lecture
Dr. Margaret Barrett, University of Queensland, Australia
Children’s invented song-making: the foundations of creative thought & practice

Thursday, Oct 17 - 4:00-6:00pm - MODAL Research Group meeting
Presentation: Zara Pierre-Vaillancourt, Doctoral Candidate (Laval University)

Wednesday, Oct 30 - 9:00-11:00am - Live/Webinar Lecture
Dr. Susan O’Neill
Transformative music engagement: Making music learning matter

Wednesday, Nov 6 - 9:00-11:00am - Webinar Lecture
Dr. Aaron Williamon, Royal College of Music, London
Facing the music: An investigation of musicians’ physical and mental responses

Wednesday, Nov 13 - 9:00-11:00am - Live/Webinar Lecture
Prof. Yaroslav Senyshyn
Changing attitudes and teaching strategies in music education classrooms to bring out the best in our students and teachers

Wednesday, Nov 27 - 5:00-8:00pm - Arts Education Doctoral Students
Critical Discourse Analysis Presentations by EDUC 945 Students

Thursday, Dec 5 - 4:00-6:00pm - MODAL Research Group meeting

All are welcome