

To the Board of the Department of Musicology:

**Proposal for a New Position in Contemporary Musical Thought & Scholarship**

From Kyle Devine and Nanette Nielsen

In response to the recent call for *innspill til stillingsplanen*, we propose a permanent hire in Contemporary Musical Thought & Scholarship.

The position will be open with regard to musical style, time period, geographic region, and methodology. Although the successful candidate will possess expertise in a particular musical tradition or traditions, we are primarily interested in scholars who are pursuing new theoretical directions and empirical approaches in music studies. This means thinking beyond traditional distinctions between, for example, popular music and art music, context and text, culture and nature, subject and object, humanism and science, as well as between qualitative and quantitative methodologies. It involves embracing new conceptual and political challenges in studies of sound and music, and adjacent areas such as media and communications, technology and science, gender and ethnicity, disability and ability, environment and zoopolitics, culture and biology, theory and practice. The successful candidate will address a combination of such challenges in a way that is motivated by an earnest concern for what the future of multidisciplinary music studies might be in the twenty-first century. Candidates with expertise in musical topics (including broader sound- and dance-related topics) outside the Global North are especially encouraged to apply, although applicants with research programs addressing musics of Europe and the Anglophone world will be given full consideration.

The purpose of this position is to bolster IMV's role as an internationally excellent and forward-thinking hub of music scholarship, and to continue to propel our research and teaching profiles forward in the twenty-first century. Such a position resonates with the teaching and research ambitions specified in the current IMV *stillingsplan*, which emphasizes the strengths inherent in capturing current societal engagement through forward-thinking multidisciplinary. Additionally, the candidate for this position will have some vision for connecting IMV with the strategic initiatives of UiO:Life Science, especially that of "Ethics and Society," by meeting "the considerable social challenges [associated] with a multidisciplinary approach that includes social science subjects and the humanities" and by contributing "to an evidence-based, ethically reflective social dialogue on real opportunities and new choices arising from the life sciences." Further afield, such a position is also aligned with the research mandates of the ERC and the Horizon 2020 program, as well as the changing shape of the musical field itself. Solidly situated in current and future musical thought, the position will help IMV to reflect a significant range of social, institutional, and musical realities, and it will ensure that the students emerging from our degree programs will be curious, confident, and capable musicologists that can understand and influence these realities, whether they are going on to other university degrees, performance careers, research paths, or jobs in the creative industries, cultural policy, and media.