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| <p>Institution: Liverpool Hope University</p> |
| <p>Unit of Assessment: 35a: Music</p> |
| <p>a. Context Music at Liverpool Hope is a vibrant, research active department situated within the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. The department has a long history of engaging, interacting and connecting with community projects and local Liverpool organisations (for example, FACT – Foundation for Art and Creative Technology and the In Harmony Project). Since the last RAE, the department has advanced collaborations with several major Liverpool organisations: Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra (RLPO), European Opera Centre and Milapfest (the UKs leading Indian Arts Development Trust). These collaborations have enabled staff research and expertise to infiltrate beyond academia, reaching and impacting upon the cultural sector within areas of public engagement, tourism, enrichment, school-level education and public wellbeing. Impact originating from staff research has been observed beyond the local Liverpool area, where dissemination routes have connected research originating in Liverpool to national and international platforms. The department as a whole can boast a wide variety of high quality dissemination activities and associated impact in areas of composition, historical and musicological-informed performances and local tourism within Liverpool.</p> |
| <p>b. Approach to impact Since the last assessment period the department has actively engaged with non-academic beneficiaries within the local community, general public, school aged-learners, concert-goers, local music education hubs and areas of tourism and heritage. The department’s contribution to the Liverpool Capital of Culture year celebrations (2008) acted as a catalyst for a number of significant projects and partnerships to form, which have left a lasting legacy in the department, including the official start of the Milapfest-Hope partnership. For achieving impact, the Music department has focused on four distinct, long-term strategies: (i) infrastructural growth (ii) fostering partnerships with local non-academic organisations (iii) financial investment to support developing research activity that demonstrates clear pathways to impact and (iv) pursuing non-academic dissemination routes.</p> <p>(i) Infrastructural growth Departmental links, connections and partnerships with external organisations have been strategically prioritized over the past six years with regards to achieving impact within and around the local Liverpool area. Situated in the heart of Liverpool’s city centre, the department’s location was flagged as an important aspect to exploit. In order to create favourable and optimum conditions for such partnerships to first emerge, the department undertook major infrastructural regeneration to provide ample space for collaborations and connections to take place. The university’s vision for a new multi-purpose performance venue within the heart of the city as part of wider local regenerations plans within one of Liverpool’s most deprived wards (Everton), was realised in 2010 with the opening of the new Capstone building containing a multi-discipline performance platform for dissemination, orchestral rehearsal space, incubation hub for entrepreneurial activity, office space for on-site partners (Milapfest, European Opera Centre and Collective Encounters) and conference hosting capabilities, which have elevated the department’s status, reach and impact streams. Building a new Music department around this new performance venue has encouraged community and public engagement with staff research dissemination via performances, and partnerships. The new Capstone Theatre has increased venue space for annual public events such as the Cornerstone Festival, which on average attracts approximately 2300 audiences each year. Liverpool Hope University’s infrastructural regeneration of the Creative Campus became the subject of external research outlined in Dr Paul Benneworth’s (Senior Researcher at the Center for Higher Education Policy Studies, Netherlands) research paper ‘Building Social Capitol in the inner city: university-community engagement at Liverpool Hope University’, which formed an integral part of a research project into the impact of Higher education Institutions on regional economies funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) where Liverpool Hope was praised for “evolving civic culture which has shaped the space for university-community interaction.”</p> <p>(ii) Connecting with local, Liverpool-based non-academic organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Opera Centre (based in Liverpool Hope University, Creative Campus) |

Dr Laura Hamer's collaboration with the European Opera Centre's activities coupled with her research into Irish composer, Ina Boyle, led to the first performance of any work by Boyle in London since 1960. The performance of Boyle's *The Wild Geese* by the European Union Youth Orchestra formed part of the annual Europe Day Concert at St John's Smith Square. Attended by 750 people, the programme was created to mark Ireland's Presidency of the European Union. It was broadcast on RTÉ and was recorded on CD and DVD. The programme including Boyle's work was also taken to the Harpa Concert Hall in Reykjavik where it was performed to an audience of 1800. The Harpa performance has since been broadcast on the Icelandic National Broadcasting Service. Dr Hamer's expertise and research into Boyle's work enabled the retrieval and revival of performance materials and resulted in an incitement of new interest, performances and audience following of this previously little-known composer.

- Milapfest (based in Liverpool Hope University, Creative Campus)

Collaboration between Milapfest, Indian music musicians and Dr Manuella Blackburn has led to new compositional work performed to new non-academic audiences. The performance of Dr Manuella Blackburn's work *New Shruti* for sarod and electronics (2013) at the Music for the Mind and Soul concert (Capstone theatre, Liverpool) introduced electroacoustic music to an audience of local community members who were uninitiated with the genre. AHRC-funded research supporting this collaboration, focusing on the transference and translation of cultural sound within the context of electroacoustic music has resulted in new repertoire for Indian classical musicians and has contribution to cultural enrichment within the Liverpool area and beyond through performances. A new educational website 'Instruments INDIA' <http://www.milapfest.com/instruments-india/> has also emerged from the collaboration, with the aim of providing a concertgoers guide to Indian classical music for young learners and audiences new to the genre.

In Harmony project and local education authorities

Collaboration between the Music department and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra has resulted in the establishment of the 'In Harmony project' (2009). Professor Stephen Pratt contributed advice to the 'In Harmony Liverpool Research Network' steering group for this project. The project aimed to encourage participation in music and bring positive change to the lives of young children aged 3-14 years in West Everton. Drawing upon staff research and expertise into community engagement, Professor Stephen Pratt and Mr David Walters both contributed to the scheme's development and success. 165 children and young people participated in '*In Harmony Liverpool*' in 2011/12 and longer-term impact can be claimed through the "increases in pride, wellbeing and engagement throughout the West Everton community, with reports of improved parent-child relationships and examples of parents themselves returning to education." (Quote from <http://www.liverpoolphil.com>).

(iii) Financial investment and support in developing impact-related activity

Financial investment towards impact-making activity has been received from:

- Arts and Humanities Research Council (Dr Blackburn, £65,000, Early Career Fellowship)
- Arts Council England, Brabners Chaffe Street, Church House Investment, Ravensdale Trust and private donors (contributing £86,000 towards the Cornerstone Festival since 2008).

The Faculty Research Committee budget (annually £30,000) has supported a wide range of research and impact-making activity where the department can demonstrate a high success rate in securing funds for performance and publications costs and also website (Dr Alberto Sanna's Stradella project) and downloadable app (Dr Manuella Blackburn's Instruments INDIA app) creation expenses.

(iv) Non-academic dissemination routes

The department has contributed a wide variety of national and international performances of new compositions from staff members, Blackburn, Pratt, Hartwell and Percy. Dissemination pathways reaching non-academic audiences include performances in the Black Box Music Centre (Helsinki), Segal Hall (New York), Kings Place Gallery (London), Ohrenhoch Art Gallery, (Berlin), Falvey Hall, Brown Center (New York), Shimokitazawa Town Hall, (Tokyo), The Basilica and Monastery of San Francisco de Asis (Havana), METAL Arts Centre (Liverpool) Philharmonic Hall (Liverpool), Bath International Music Festival and the Bridport Arts Centre (Dorset). These examples of performances in non-academic venues further demonstrate cultural enrichment and economic

impact of staff work upon the creative sector.

c. Strategy and plans

The university-wide strategy to incentivize, encourage and foster impact creation arising from staff research in the future involves (i) connecting current promotion routes with evidence of impact making, (ii) internal funding awarded to applications stating pathways to impact and (iii) the establishment of an impact 'think tank' as a sub-committee to Faculty Research Committee, who may provide advice and prioritise areas of staff research ring-fenced with the potential to create significant impact. Research officers in each department will take on advisory roles first to identify potential impact opportunities and secondly to support development plans to achieve impact with regards to individual's research trajectories.

At unit level, the department has committed to a future strategy which includes:

- Mentoring schemes overseeing impact-making research projects for early career staff.
- Early prioritization of potential impact-making research projects to maximize time for piloting ideas and enabling them to flourish within the next assessment period.
- Encouraging and prioritizing collaborative work with our existing partnerships (Milapfest, European Opera Centre and the RLPO).
- Establishing an internal think-tanking culture integrated into the weekly Music research seminar series to promote impact making as well as providing a forum for identifying non-academic users and beneficiaries of staff research.
- Establishing events, exhibitions, networking schemes and opportunities to interact and engage with non-academic audiences and user groups both within and outside of the university.

The following staff research projects in collaboration with our partners have been prioritized areas for future impact making. These projects will be strategically supported (both financially and creatively to fulfil maximum potential). These include:

- The continuation of the 'Instruments INDIA' online sound archive which developed as an output from Dr Manuella Blackburn's AHRC Early Career Fellowship. This website (emerging in 2013) functions as a freely accessible new concert-goers guide to Indian Classical Musical instruments which is integrated into Milapfest's current website and promotion of Indian arts across the UK. The site is also an educational resource, which aims to find its way into primary and secondary schools across the UK to engage young learners with Indian instrument, their sounds and context. The future impact lies with school-aged learners, concertgoers and artists applying to a commissioning project utilizing the sound material, along with the establishment of a downloadable app for classroom use.
- Dr Laura Hamer plans to develop her existing partnership with the European Opera Centre by collaborating on a project on the French composer Elsa Barraine. Barraine, one of the pre-eminent French composers of the mid twentieth century, is currently under-going a renaissance of appreciation in both France and the UK. Dr Hamer and the European Opera Centre intend to collaborate on staging Barraine's little-known 1932 opera *Le Roi bossu*. Future Insight Days (for general public and school groups) will include talks by musicologists, the European Opera Centre production team and the performers.
- Professor Tassilo Erhardt's links with Liverpool's two cathedrals as well as with Westminster Cathedral and Westminster Abbey have indicated further non-academic platforms for future research. These renowned choral foundations are keen to explore hitherto unknown repertoire that has come to light through Professor Erhardt's research that will subsequently be made available in scholarly editions. Due to the cathedral choirs' wide reach through daily performances and high-profile recording projects, this co-operation promises significant impact through performances.

d. Relationship to case studies

The two case studies (from Dr Brocken and Dr Blackburn) are typical of impact making within the department. They have both drawn upon impact-making strategies as outlined above and have both benefitted from support, advice and internal funds to strengthen their development. The focus on education, cultural enrichment and tourism reflect the unit's unique strengths and areas of growth in the current assessment period.