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## The Research Catalogue

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## The Research Catalogue

### Cover Page Footnote

Casper Schipper is supervising the Research Catalogue at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, The Netherlands.

## Research Catalogue: Exposing Artistic Practice as Research

*Casper Schipper*

The Research Catalogue (RC)<sup>1</sup> is an open-access research platform, developed for documenting artistic research outcomes. It is provided by the Society for Artistic Research (SAR)<sup>2</sup>. In contrast to more traditional formats such as PDF, the RC allows researchers in the arts to expose artistic practice as research, by creating online presentations that can include video, audio and other media and building an “exposition” out of these elements<sup>3</sup>. Put in another way: in the RC, recordings of artistic practice are not limited to functioning as a mere illustration of a text, instead media can be freely organized and contextualized to demonstrate embodied knowledge that is uncovered throughout artistic practice. Research within jazz may present an interesting use case here: the application of audio recordings as a form of documentation has been present since its early beginnings.

Within an RC exposition, how media is organized throughout a text (and how much text there is) is something that can be decided by the author. There are several formats<sup>4</sup>, each with its own use case: a graphical editor, allowing for a free-form non-linear layout of materials, a block editor, which provides a more streamlined editing and mobile-friendly result and a text-based editor, which makes it easy to import texts from Word, Google Docs, LaTeX or other writing software.

A number of examples of Jazz Research in the RC:

- Dick de Graaf, ‘Beyond Borders. Broadening the Artistic Palette of (Composing) Improvisers in Jazz.’, Academy of Creative and Performing Arts, 2017 (2017)  
<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/354613/377339/0/0>
- Michal Hoter, ‘When Jazz and Maqamat Meet’, Research Catalogue (2022)  
<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/797637/917938/>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.researchcatalogue.net>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.societyforartisticresearch.org>

<sup>3</sup> Michael Schwab, ‘Expositionality in Action’, Research Catalogue (2021)  
<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/1024139/1029718/0/0> [accessed 20/10/2022]

Michael Schwab, Henk Borgdorff, ‘The Exposition of Artistic Research: Publishing Art in Academia’, *Research Catalogue* (2014)  
<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/60957/60958/0/0> [accessed 20/10/2022]

<sup>4</sup> See full overview of RC formats in the manual:  
<https://guide.researchcatalogue.net/#choosing-an-editor>

- (Student from KC): Dimitris Koutantos, 'JAZZ DRUMS: 5 unconventional comping examples', 1 (2021), KC Research Portal.  
<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/1157888/1163382/>

In summary, the Research Catalogue provides the following:

- A flexible format, where one can expose artistic practice (in the form of audio, text, video, and images) as research.
- A relevant audience of other artists/researchers. Currently, the RC has over 20000 registered users.
- A flexible range of editors that do not require prior technical knowledge.
- A hybrid publication policy, that is highly inclusive: research can be submitted to peer-reviewed journals or controlled institutional portals, but individual researchers can also choose to self-publish or share results without going through a review.
- A non-profit funding model, where any individual researcher can create an account and publish results free of cost. Institutions can become (paid) portal partners that allow them to set up their own publication portal within the Research Catalogue.
- Various ways to collaborate, supervise, and communicate with other researchers.
- A generous "fair-use" policy regarding storage space.
- The opportunity for institutions to become a *portal partner*: which will gain them their own portal within the RC:
  - Public institutional portal to present your research results, displayed within the largest international environment for artistic research;
  - An *internal portal* for teaching and research activities, which also enables you to organize users together in different groups for workshops, courses, projects etc. (the same user can be connected to several groups). Co-working, supervision, and examination/peer review takes place within this closed part of the RC;
  - Institutional archive/repository, that can include non-published material such as student's examination works etc.
  - An application system for handling research funding application within a closed portal – including assessment, decision-making and storage, which can be further extended to handle applications for doctoral studies as well as doctoral supervision and examination for those parts of final results that shall be documented and stored.
  - In addition, you may also create a public portal for an online journal, given that this journal is open for external submissions and has a peer review procedure.

For more info about the SAR and the Research Catalogue, please visit:

<https://www.societyforartisticresearch.org>