Proposal Guidelines: CMS Emerging Fields in Music

The CMS EMERGING FIELDS IN MUSIC series, published by Routledge, consists of concise monographs that help the profession re-imagine how we must prepare 21st Century Musicians. Shifting cultural landscapes, emerging technologies, and a changing profession in-and-out of the academy demand that we re-examine our relationships with audiences, leverage our art to strengthen the communities in which we live and work, equip our students to think and act as artist-entrepreneurs, explore the limitless (and sometimes limiting) role technology plays in the life of a musician, revisit our very assumptions about what artistic excellence means and how personal creativity must be repositioned at the center of this definition, and share best practices and our own stories of successes and failures when leading institutional change.

These short-form books (25,000-50,000 words) can be either single-authored works, or contributed volumes comprised of 3 or 4 essays on related topics. The books should prove useful for emerging musicians inventing the future they hope to inhabit, faculty rethinking the courses they teach and how they teach them, and administrators guiding curricular innovation and rebranding institutional identity.

The series welcomes new proposals; proposals will be accepted between October 15, 2020 and January 15, 2021.

Proposals should focus on leading meaningful institutional change at a time of uncertainty and promise.

The world is changing swiftly and together we must reimagine what is possible when living, learning, and teaching within a hybrid paradigm, explore the infinite possibilities of cross-institutional collaborations, navigate the complexities of a global pandemic, and create a more equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist music profession.

This call will result in a collection of books within the series whose arc re-imagines the structures of music in higher education. The books will be adjoined by a shared title: Leading Change, followed by a subtitle that shares specific captures the content of each book.

For this collection, the editorial board seeks proposals that inspire widespread, rapid systemic change across music in higher education that:

(a) interrogates the place of music in human and societal context;
(b) reimagines what is possible when living, learning, and teaching within a hybrid world;
(c) creates a more equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist music profession;
(d) repositions creativity, interdisciplinary collaboration, and entrepreneurially thinking and action to the center of all that we do; and
(e) prepares students for a lifetime of artistic engagement.

With this in mind, your proposal should address five main areas:
1. A Statement of Aims
   - Briefly and concisely state the main themes and objectives of the proposed book. Please give a one or two paragraph summary of the content of the book.
   - What are its main themes and objectives?
   - What are you doing differently, in a more innovative way, or better than existing books?
   - Please also provide a concise (150-200 word) and compelling abstract for the book.

2. A Detailed Synopsis, including Chapter Summaries and Pedagogical Features (if any)
   - A proposed table of contents with chapter titles and subheadings.
   - Chapter headings and provide at least one paragraph of explanation on what you intend to cover in each chapter.
   - Indicate the basic structure and features of each chapter (e.g., introduction, argument summary, case studies, etc.).
   - If an edited collection, and you have already identified collaborators, please provide a list of the expected authors and their affiliations and indicate whether they have agreed to contribute. If you plan on authoring a single chapter, please make this evident. Note: Single essay submissions will be paired with other essays that connect or contrast ideas.

3. A Description of the Intended Readership
   - Discuss the intended audience for your book. Is it written primarily for scholars/researchers (if so, what disciplines), professionals/practitioners (if so, which fields)?
   - Will this book have international appeal? If so, where?
   - Writing Style: Is the writing accessible to the intended audience?

4. A Review of the Main Competing Titles
   - List the main competing (or closest-to) titles–three to five. Provide a few sentences of explanation on each. These could be books covering the same subject matter or books that are related in terms of field of research or cutting-edge argument. What are their strengths and weaknesses? What distinguishes your book from the existing competition?

5. Format and Timeline
   - Provide a realistic date for when you intend to submit the final manuscript. If this is an edited collection, remember to allow time for revisions to individual chapters once contributors have delivered them.
   - Wordcount–does this include references and footnotes? Please note that volumes in this series should be 20,000-50,000 words in length.
   - How many diagrams, illustrations, or tables will there be (approximately)?
   - Third party material: Please give a clear indication of content to be included in the book that will come from another source (i.e., previously published material or illustrations). Other Relevant Information.
Other Relevant Information

- One or two sample chapters (preferably the introduction and another chapter). If an edited collection, abstracts will do, but an Introduction from the volume editor would be helpful.
- Your CV

To discuss an idea for collection, please contact:

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To submit a proposal, please email:
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