

“How to combine specialization with  
a holistic approach?”

**A portfolio career as  
orchestral musician**

# Holistic approach – what is that?

The whole musician is nothing mysterious!

The whole musician is not an esoteric term!

A whole musician is:

A competent professional artist able to be proactive in a complex and fast changing profession

# Expectations to an orchestral musician

- Win an audition and pass the probation time
- Always prepare – and be prepared not to be able to!
- Find new ways to improve your playing
- Be able to play in a wide array of genres
- Contribute to section development
- Be a good colleague - and loyal to your work place
- Stay fit – avoid physical problems

# Expectations to an orch. mus.- 2

Be an active part of the local music community:

- Arrange/compose music for any sort of ensemble
- Teach on all levels
- Motivate and communicate to new audiences
- Take initiative
- Organize minor musical events
- Apply for funding – and fund in other ways!

# The port folio career

- Play better than the rest
- Be a section player and a chamber musician
- Teach and educate
- Communicate
- Organize
- Improve yourself
- Improve your colleauges
- Promote yourself – and music!

# Educating to a portfolio career as an orchestral musician

- Learn the instrument
- Play lots of chamber music
- Learn how to perform orchestral music
- Learn how to prepare and play an audition
- Learn how to collaborate in an orchestra
- Learn how to avoid physical problems
- Learn how to communicate arts and music
- Learn to teach
- Learn to arrange and compose
- Learn to organize
- Learn to promote yourself

# Holistic approach to a specialist education as orchestral musician

- Instrumental skills
- Chamber music skills
- Audition skills
- Orchestral skills
- Work environment skills – health and relations
- General musical skills: Arranging, composing etc.
- Teaching skills
- Music Communication skills
- Entrepreneur (What do you do with your ideas?)
- Be visible! Lift your voice and be heard!

# Partnerships are necessary!

Orchestral and work related skills:

Odense Symphony Orchestra –  
Syddansk Orkesterakademi

Teaching and outreach:

University College Lillebælt  
University College Syddanmark

Health and relations:

University of South Denmark  
Center for musician's health