

The didactics of improvisation

Pedagogical development project (200hrs)



Det Jyske
Musikkonservatorium
**The Royal Academy
of Music**

Framework

Hello!



Artistic profile

Improvising drummer/percussionist,
composer and sound artist

RAMA profile

Assistant professor
Drums/percussion, Artistic
Entrepreneurship, Coordinator of the
soloist class (Rhytm.+Comp.),
RAMA-festival, supervisor, (i.a.)

RAMA research

Between and beyond [link](#)
Manus Obscurus [link](#)
Lykkebækken [link](#)



Research questions

- How and why is improvisation being taught?
- How do you practice improvisation?
- How do you evaluate an improvisation?

— — —

Methode

- **Classroom observations**
(at RAMA and abroad)
- **Participation in two intensive programs**
(as observer and as teacher)
- **Semi-structured interviews**
(with students and teachers)
- **Unstructured interviews**
(with students and teachers)



In the field

In the field

- **Class room observations and interviews at RAMA**

SDS Elective (Lena Gregersen)

Improvisation for classical musicians
(Søren Nørbo)

Optimize your practice (Søren Rastogi)

Songwriting/composition (Kasper Staub)

- **Participation in two I.P's**

Metric I.P. at MHL in Lübeck

(as an observer) <https://metricimpro.eu/>

Contemplay I.P, at LMTA in Vilnius
(as a teacher, w. students from RAMA)

<https://lmta.lt/en/renginys/tarptautinis-siuolaikines-ir-improvizacines-muzikos-festivalis-dirbtuves-contemplay-2/>





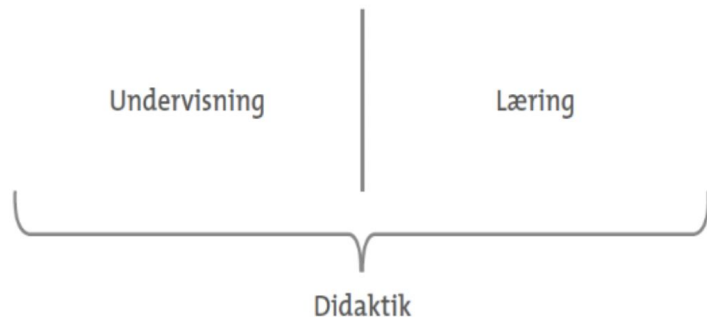


Still to come

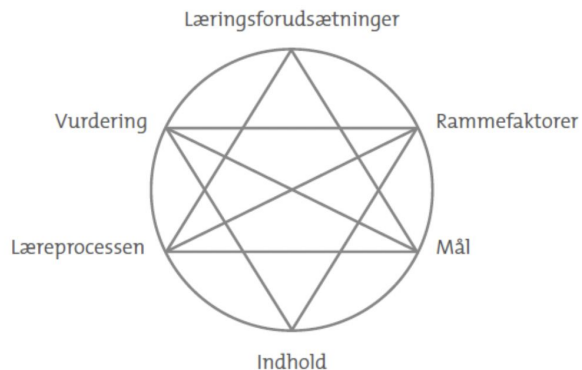
- **Fieldtrip to HSLU in Luzern and ZHDK in Zürich** (Jan. 2027)

- **Metric I.P. 2027**
with students
- **More observations at RAMA**

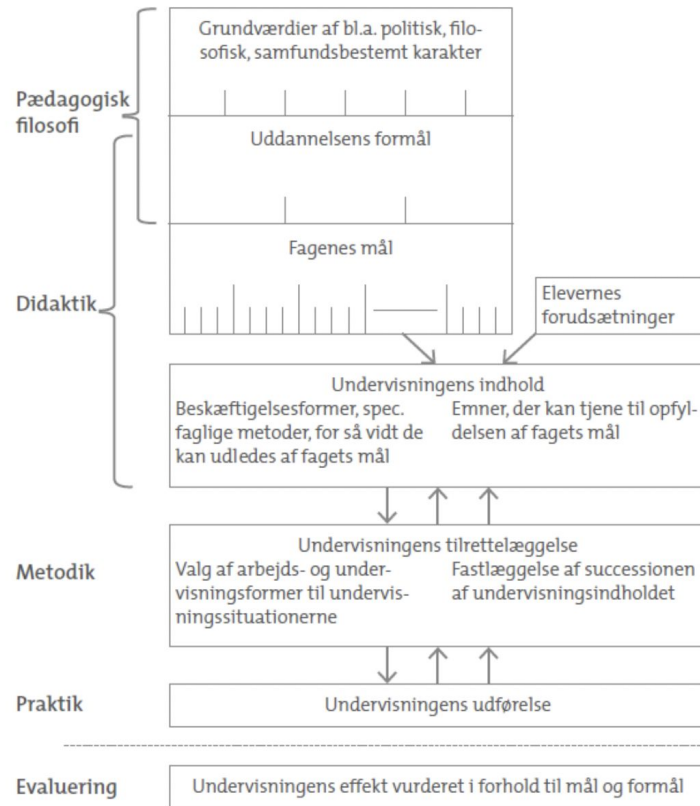
Didactics and findings



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Kilde: Hiim, H., & Hippe, E. (2005). *Didaktik for fag- og professionslærere*. København: Gyldendals Lærebibliotek (s. 18).



Kilde: gengivet fra Jensen, 1997

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Kilde: <https://emu.dk/fgu/de-15-didaktiske-principper/tydelig-struktur/didaktisk-refleksion-fra-intention-til-evaluering>

What?

Why?

The 9 essential didactic questions

How?

For whom?
By whom?
With whom?
When?
Where?
With what tools?

What?



Why?



How?



Final thoughts

Final thoughts

- **Improvisation is “almendidaktisk”**
- **Metric network is a great resource** <https://metricimpro.eu/>
- **Future research idea**
The blurred edges between interpretation and improvisation
- **Suggested elective**
“Atonal improvisation and deep listening”



Book recommendation

Improvisation

Its Nature and

Practice in Music

Derek Bailey

