

impuls . 12th International Ensemble and Composers Academy for Contemporary Music

August 16th to 27th, 2021

(originally planned for 17.-28.2.2021 / second version splitted in 2 parts
February + August)

KUG . University of Music and Dramatic Arts Graz and other locations in Graz

impuls . Composition Workshops

Vienna/Graz, August 8th to 16th, 2021

(originally planned for 11.-17.2.2021)

7th impuls . Festival

August 16th to 27th, 2021

(originally planned for 17.-28.2.2021 / second version splitted in 2 parts
February + August)

KUG, Helmut List Hall, MUMUTH / TIP, Forum Stadtpark
(originally planned also for esc, MUWA, several galleries and other locations in
Graz)

impuls . Composition Competition

impulsradio . Front Row Seat . Festival Artists in Focus

3-Day-Focus on Austrian Composer and Musicians

Founded by Beat Furrer and Ernst Kovacic back in 1998, impuls, the international Ensemble and Composers Academy for Contemporary Music, has by now developed into one of the internationally leading institutions in this field. It offers young musicians and composers from Austria, but also from all over the world, a high-quality training and a holistic approach to contemporary music both in a theoretical and a practical way.

As in previous years, ensemble playing, composition classes and discourse programs hereby form the basis of the Academy's offerings, being significantly enriched by a constantly growing number of multifarious Special Programs. At this year's now 12th edition you will find Reading-Sessions with formations such as Klangforum Wien, various Calls for Score connecting composer and musician, intense Production Workshops such as "ConceptMusic", "Performative Music", "Machine Learning" or "Instant Composition" with coaches such as Peter Ablinger, François Sarhan and Carola Bauckholt, and likewise you will find

Feedback-Sessions and Try-outs such as "Conductor's First View on Scores" and "Sound Session with Percussion", as well as Workshops with a focus on "Instruments and Voice", "21st Century Piano Virtuosity", and many more. Over a period of close to 14 days impuls hereby creates an important platform for learning and provides a valuable basis for international exchange and networking. A team of international tutors, consisting of top-musicians and conductors specialized in contemporary music, and, in the same way, most renowned composers, hereby guarantees utmost quality and valuable guidance for the highly motivated and already highly qualified as well as internationally interlinked young artists as competent and authentic ambassadors for the music of our times.

impuls competition

impuls promotes and supports young composers not only at its Academy, but also through the international impuls Composition Competition. Every second year impuls organizes a competition, commissions new works for ensemble from the composers selected, and invites them to work with Klangforum Wien, one of the world's leading ensembles. Five new compositions derived out of this program also for 2021, the premieres are scheduled for August 16th at the impuls Festival. Furthermore the interested audiences may also learn more about the composers and their works at several music communication programs. Apart from its Competition, impuls commissions other young composers also in the framework of projects such as „Text im Klang“ or the Ulysses-Network-Activities.

impuls festival

Already for the 7th time, the impuls Festival offers a rich and versatile daily music and discourse program. Normally presented at various, quite diverse stages and venues also apart from traditional concert settings, this year's edition will focus on concerts and presentations at Helmut List Halle, MUMUTH and Palais Meran due to the ongoing COVID-19-pandemic.

Also in 2021 impuls welcomes internationally renowned top formations (Klangforum Wien and Quartetto Maurice) as well as 2 more Ensembles in Residency (Schallfeld Ensemble and Black Page Orchestra), tutoring, rehearsing, producing and performing on spot. Besides further young and rising ensembles (Trio Abstrakt, latenz ensemble as well as the PPCM-Ensemble), several of their sub-formations and further individual musicians and artists, will offer an intense inside view in the richness and diversity of contemporary music with well over 100 works – all composed in the 20th and 21st century, amongst them once more numerous world and Austrian premieres, many of them produced specifically for and during impuls.

This year in particular, the first three days hereby focus on Austrian composers and interpreters and present additional musicians and composers such as Benes/Ressi, Nimikry, Alfredo Ovalles, Vogel/Preinfalk, Mirela Ivičević, Alexander Kaiser, Matthias Kranebitter and Bernhard Lang, amongst others.

On top lectures, discussions, composers' talks and other music communication programs enhance the impuls Festival program and the Academy alike. This way new music, be it classical modern or most current one, can be experienced first hand both in theory and practice, discourse and sound.

impuls events

In addition to the impuls Composition Competition, the Academy and Festival, impuls occasionally offers short Workshops for young musicians residing in Austria and provides a stage for them through formats such as the „impuls MinuteConcerts“. impuls also initiates interdisciplinary projects such as „Text im Klang“, commissions compositions and develops a cooperation network to stage concerts and education programmes also together with other arts organisations.

ULYSSES network

From its very beginning, impuls . Verein zur Vermittlung zeitgenössischer Musik, has been an active member of the European ULYSSES-Network. It brings together 11 European partner institutions and additional Associate Partners, all involved in the support and promotion of young artists.

Coordinator: IRCAM (France) + Partner: Associacio Collectiu Mixtur (Spain) + Divertimento Ensemble (Italy) + Fondation Royaumont Foundation (France) + Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg (Germany) + impuls . Verein zur Vermittlung zeitgenössischer Musik (Austria) + Internationale Ensemble Modern Academy (Germany) + Stichting Gaudeamus Muziekweek (Netherlands) + Stiftelsen Ultima Oslo Contemporary Music Festival (Norway) + Viitasaaren Kesäakatemia RY / Time of Music (Finland) + Związek Kompozytorów Polskich (Poland)

These institutions (academies, summer schools, ensembles and festivals) play a fundamental role in the recognizing, accompanying, professionalizing, and developing of the careers of young European composers and performers. Of those partners, several have engaged in supporting artists for longer than 20 years. The network has chosen the name ULYSSES, the emblematic European figure of a symbolic journey, personifying human and artistic adventures. By now the ULYSSES-Network is enjoying the support of the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union for the third time.

In 2021 impuls will not only welcome several Ulysses Journey Composers at its Academy and Festival, but also a group of artists preparing for the project „In Situ“ through a weekly research period in Graz this summer. Just like other Ulysses programs, this project connects various European Partner-cities, revealing distinctive specifics of each place. impuls will hereby put a focus on the long tradition and heritage of the Austrian Avantgarde, as present at places such as Forum Stadtpark in Graz since the 50ies, and commission new works from the invited In Situ-artists to be premiered at impuls in 2023. Furthermore, Schallfeld Ensemble and Black Page Orchestra (two Austrian formations, that impuls has introduced to the Ulysses-Network) are intensively involved also in impuls as Young Ulysses Ensembles in Residency in 2021 with 4 concerts, workshops, calls and further programs.

* Close to **140 regular Academy participants** and several other **invited composers** (coming from all **5 continents** and more than **40 nations**) attended the 12th International Ensemble and Composers Academy for Contemporary Music in 2021, despite of the ongoing Corona pandemics and the triple postponement (this is of course less than the years before, but can still be considered a great success in view of the adverse circumstances – considering, that not all applicants were accepted and the fluctuation of participants was much higher this time, there were just as many young artists intending to join the Academy as in former years.)

For the first time the Academy addressed already **existing young ensembles** as participants, aside from **composers** and aside from welcoming also individual **musicians, sound artists** and representatives of **other art disciplines**.

Out of the 146 young artists, 90 were male and 56 female, 92 were composers (30 of them female) and impuls again saw a good mix of participants coming from Austria (approx. 15 %) and from abroad.

* 34 renowned tutors plus additional younger coaches as well as Klangforum Wien were invited for this year's Academy, coaching composers and musicians, but offering also classes for electronics, improvisation, and intermedia projects.

* The **Academy offers** could once more be **enlarged** in respect of the many special programs, and several **new special programs** were developed and the cooperation in between **composer** and **interpreter** intensified once more – amongst them: **KonzeptMusik** . Special Workshop with **Peter Ablinger and Dimitrios Polisoidis / Performative Music** . **Body as instrument - instrument as body** . Special Workshop with **François Sarhan / Machine Learning** . Special Workshop with **Artemi-Maria Gioti / Instant Composing** . Special Workshop with **Carola Bauckholt / Klangforum Wien** and **Bas Wiegiers** . Reading Session / **First View** . **A Conductor's Feedback on Scores** with **Ernst Kovacic, Lucas Vis, Bas Wiegiers / Trio Abstrakt** . Call for Scores + Feedback / **Quartetto Maurice** . Call for Scores + Reading Sessions + Feedback / **Black Page Orchestra** and Ensemble Schallfeld with Calls for Scores

+ Feedback / **Alfredo Ovalles** . 21st Century Piano Virtuosity . Call for Scores + Feedback / **Samuel Toro Pérez** . Call for Scores for E-Guitar + Feedback / **Manuel Alcaraz Clemente** . Sound Session with Percussion / **Elisa Azzarà** and **Margarethe Maierhofer-Lischka** . Instruments + Voices . Call + Workshop / **latenz ensemble** . Call for Scores + Reading Sessions / **Call for Scores & Sketches** . Coaching by Uli Fussenegger / **Ernst Kovacic** . Composing for **violin solo** and **chamber music** formations / **Georg Vogel** . **Clavitone** . Presentation + workshop talk + try-out / **Andreas Orasch** . **Piano Preparation** Workshop for Composers and Instrumentalists amongst others.

* impuls is partner of the **European Project Ulysses** (running for another 4 years until 2024 after two already successful periods from 2012-16 + 2016-2020) and realized **several special projects** within this network also in 2021 (Young Ensembles in Residency: Ensemble Schallfeld and Black Page Orchestra + Ulysses Journeys for Composers + Preparation for In Situ Project).

* Besides **individual** and **group lessons** as well as **chamber music** and **ensemble work** also **lectures, discussions** and **presentations** (for example Case Study Black Page Orchestra or Concept Music) took place, **special topics** (f. e. **Market strategies at the beginning of the career**) were discussed, a nearly daily **Open Meeting for composers** was installed and **lectures** on various theoretical topics (f.e. **integritas, proportio, claritas** or **Composing for voice**) were held on a daily basis.

* **The August edition of impuls 2021 included:**

Tutors Composition: Peter Ablinger | Mark Andre | Carola Bauckholt | Franck Bedrossian | Pierluigi Billone | Beat Furrer | Clara Iannotta | Klaus Lang | Giorgio Netti | Alberto Posadas | François Sarhan

Tutor Electronics: Artemi-Maria Gioti

Further Coaches: Manuel Alcaraz Clemente | Elisa Azzarà | Alessandro Baticci | Szilárd Benes | Laura Bertolino | Black Page Orchestra | Uli Fussenegger | Leonhard Garms | Klangforum Wien | Ernst Kovacic | Margarethe Maierhofer-Lischka | Quartetto Maurice | Andreas Orasch | Dimitrios Polisoidis | Aline Privitera | Georgia Privitera | Schallfeld Ensemble | Samuel Toro Pérez | Francesco Vernerio | Lucas Vis | Bas Wiegers

Conductors: Leonhard Garms | Ernst Kovacic | Lucas Vis | Bas Wiegers

Ensembles: Trio Abstrakt | Black Page Orchestra | Klangforum Wien | latenz ensemble | Quartetto Maurice | Nimikry | PPCM-Ensemble | Ressi/Benes | Schallfeld Ensemble | Vogel/Preinfalk

Further Festival artists: Manuel Alcaraz Clemente | Elisa Azzarà | Alessandro Baticci | Szilárd Benes | Mathilde Hoursiangou | Sylvia Kimiko Krutz | Luca Lavuri | Margarethe Maierhofer-Lischka | Alfredo Ovalles | Gerald Preinfalk | Christof Ressi | François Sarhan | Samuel Toro Pérez | Georg Vogel | Rafał Zalech

Music Communication Programs: Peter Ablinger | Mark Andre | Carola Bauckholt | Franck Bedrossian | Pierluigi Billone | Beat Furrer | Uli Fussenegger | Artemi-Maria Gioti | Ole Hübner | Clara Iannotta | Alexander Kaiser | Emre Sihan Kaleli | Matthias Kranebitter | Klaus Lang | Sonja Mutić | Giorgio Netti | Alberto Posadas | François Sarhan | Doris Weberberger | Bas Wieggers

Composer of the impuls Competition: Ole Hübner | Alexander Kaiser | Emre Sihan Kaleli | Sonja Mutić | Yiqing Zhu

Ulysses Composer In Situ: Loïc Destremau | Mauro Hertig | Georgia Koumará | Julian Siffert

Ulysses Journey Composers: Tuomas Kettunen | Georgia Koumará | Itziar Vilorio (3 further invited composers had to cancel due to Corona)

Ulysses Ensembles in Residence: Black Page Orchestra: Alessandro Baticci | Florian Fennes | Igor Gross | Matthias Kranebitter | Alfredo Ovalles | Samuel Toro Pérez | Fani Vovoni | Rafał Zalech

Ulysses Ensembles in Residence: Schallfeld Ensemble: Elisa Azzarà | Szilárd Benes | Maria Flavia Cerrato | Manuel Alcaraz Clemente | Álvaro Collao León | Lorenzo Derinni | Johannes Feuchter | Myriam García Fidalgo | Diego García Pliego | Leonhard Garms | Petra Horvat | Mirko Jevtović | Margarethe Maierhofer-Lischka | Stefan Obmann | Francesca Piccioni | Hannes Schöggli

impuls festival

* Already for the **seventh time** the **impuls Festival** offered a versatile **daily concert and discourse program** enriching and perfecting also the offers at the impuls Academy. **Graz** again was turned into a **festival city** and a center of contemporary music and the arts, offering various possibilities to experience

new and contemporary music (this time due to Corona reduced to a few locations in town and also due the flooding of the main location relocated to Theater im Palais for most of the evening concerts).

* **12 days** with **concerts** of both **young and internationally renowned musicians** and **composers**, newly established formations as well as already existing **ensembles** such as Klangforum Wien, Ensemble Schallfeld, Black Page Orchestra, Trio Abstrakt, latenz ensemble and PPCM Ensemble.

* **12 days** with **performances** and presentations of **special projects** such as **ConceptMusic, Performative Music, Instant Composing** or **Machine Learning**, more than 25 lectures, discussions, composers' talks and other **music communication programs** as well as several reading-sessions.

* The first three days were programmed with a **special focus on Austrian** composers, musicians and formations, including concerts by invited artists like Benes/Ressi, Alfredo Ovalles, Nimikry, Preinfalk/Vogel as well as Ensemble Schallfeld, Black Page Orchestra and of course Klangforum Wien presenting music by Matthias Kranebitter, Bernhard Lang, Alexander Kaiser, Peter Ablinger, Mirela Ivičević a.o..

* **Premières, most recent contemporary compositions** – amongst others also impuls commissions – as well as **compositions** of the **20th century** at **various concerts** with works by **more than 100 composers (73 male, 29 female)**: Rakhat-Bi Abdysagin | Peter Ablinger | Yuval Adler | Asia Ahmetjanova | Mark Andre | Cristina Arcos Cano | Olivia Artner | Alyssa Aska | Simon Bahr | Simone Baron | Alessandro Baticci | Franck Bedrossian | Raphaël Belfiore | Szilárd Benes | Marco Benetti | Pierluigi Billone | Sarah Brabo-Durand | Mattia Clera | Jérôme Combier | Kaj Duncan David | Dilay Doğanay | Pascal Dusapin | Margareta Ferek-Petrić | Miguel Filipe | Reinhard Fuchs | Beat Furrer | Marco Gaietta | Beltrán Gonzáles | Luca Guidarini | Xue Han | Elisabeth Harnik | Ole Hübner | Clara Iannotta | Mirela Ivičević | Michael Jarrell | Uršula Jašovec | Reuben Jolleyman | Jieun Jeong | Tom Johnson | Alexander Kaiser | Emre Sihan Kaleli | Tuomas Kettunen | Amir Khalaf | Katharina Klement | Alexey Kokhanov | Matthias Kranebitter | Bernhard Lang | Klaus Lang | Kevin Leomo | Magnus Lindberg | Eduardo Loría Lazcano | Nina Maghsoodloo | Miki Manabe | Benedict Mason | Leonardo Mezzalira | Marco Momi | Sonja Mutić | Sarah Nemtsov | Giorgio Netti | Pauline Olivieros | Claudio Panariello | José Luis Perdigón de Paz | Gérard Pesson | Paolo Piäser | Simeon Pironkoff | Alberto Posadas | Gerald

Preinfalk | Stefan Prins | Hugo Vasco Reis | Gerald Resch | Christof Ressi | Uroš
Rojko | Antonis Rouvelas | François Sarhan | Rebecca Saunders | Valentin Schaff
| Charlotte Seither | Elisabeth Shearon | Alexey Sioumak | Brandon Lincoln
Snyder | Alexander Stankovski | Johannes Maria Staud | Marco Stroppa |
Wolfgang Suppan | James Tenney | Daniela Terranova | Germán Toro Pérez |
Matteo Tundo | Mariana Vieira | Itziar Vitoria | Georg Vogel | Jaime Wolfson |
Johanna Wozny | Rafał Zalech | Iván Adriano Zetina Ríos | Yiqing Zhu |
Raimonda Žiūkaitė | Manuel Zwerger

108 performed pieces, amongst them 34 world premieres (26 of male
composers, 8 of female composers) and 11 Austrian premieres (9 of male
composers, 3 of female composers)

10 improvisation pieces by Yuval Adler | Elena Arbonies Jauregui | Christina
Arcos Cano | Anna Arkushyna | Simon Bahr | Omer Barash | Simone Baron |
Raphaël Belfiore | Sarah Brabo-Durand | Miguel Filipe | Ana Gnjatović | Anna
Grenzner | Nilufar Habibian | June Young Kim | Alexey Kokhanov | Eduardo Loría
Lazcano | Nina Maghsoodloo | Connor McLean | Víctor Morató | Léa Moullet |
Myrto Nizami | Ana Ostojić | Alyona Pynzenyk | Didier Rotella | Aigerim Seilova |
Jennifer Seubel | Elisabeth Shearon | Emil Vijgen Strøbæk | Itziar Vitoria |
Manuel Zwerger

* With **performances** that were all conceived specifically during the special
program ConceptMusic and Performative Music as well as with the performance
of latenz ensemble impuls also enforced the **link of music and the visual,
performative and staged arts.**

* impuls **locations:**

KUG . MUMUTH Lichtenfelsgasse 14 | 8010 Graz – relocated to Theater im
Palais due to flooding damage

KUG . MUMUTH Studiobühne Lichtenfelsgasse 14 | 8010 Graz – relocated to
Theater im Palais . Ballettsaal

KUG . MUMUTH Proberaum Lichtenfelsgasse 14 | 8010 Graz – relocated to
Theater im Palais . Probebühne

KUG . MUMUTH György-Ligeti-Saal Lichtenfelsgasse 14 | 8010 Graz Theater
im Palais . Bühne

KUG . Palais Meran Leonhardstraße 15 | 8010 Graz

KUG . Florentinersaal Leonhardstraße 15 | 8010 Graz

KUG . Reiterkaserne Leonhardstraße 82–84 | 8010 Graz

KUG . Harrachgasse Harrachgasse 21/V | 8010 Graz

IEM Inffeldgasse 10 | 8010 Graz

Forum Stadtpark Stadtpark 1 | 8010 Graz

Helmut List Halle Wagner-Biro-Straße 98a | 8020 Graz

* **cooperations & networks** amongst others with: KUG | IEM | partners within the European Network Ulysses (such as Gaudeamus | Ircam | IEMA | Royaumont | Time of Music ...) | Klangforum Wien | mica | open music | esc medien kunst labor | Forum Stadtpark | kunst.wirt.schaft | MUWA – Museum der Wahrnehmung | as well as many more international networks (amongst others with international Universities and Academies, Competitions and Festivals, various music organisation, ensembles and individuals ...)

* **public/audience** coming also from abroad (including international journalists and festival promoters, invited through a special cooperation with mica, NASOM and BMEIA), to the first three days dedicated to a Focus on Austrian composers and musicians

* **Appreciation of the media:** Various articles and announcements in specialist periodicals (f.e. Schweizer Musikzeitung and Neue Zeitschrift für Musik) and monthly and weekly magazines (Concerto, Skug, Falter), TV-reports (ORF, Radio Helsinki) and several radio-reports (for example on ORF Stmk. and Ö1, Radio Helsinki, Soundportal ...); articles and announcements in daily newspapers (Kronen Zeitung, Kleine Zeitung, Wiener Zeitung, APA); high internet appearance and reports on various homepages (amongst others of mica, Kulturserver Graz, Steirische Tourismus GmbH as well as through homepages and newsletters of numerous international impuls cooperation partners) and internet sites ... In addition to that the ORF recorded and transmitted the opening concert on August 17th.

impuls competition

* Within the impuls Festival 2021 five **new impuls commissions** by young composer **Ole Hübner** (*1993, Germany), **Alexander Kaiser** (*1985, Italy), **Emre Sihan Kaleli** (*1987, Turkey), **Sonja Mutić** (*1984, Serbia/Croatia),

Yiqing Zhu (*1989, China/Germany) were **premiered** in Graz on **August 17th**. All these composers had been selected through the international **impuls Composition Competition** already back in 2019 and invited to take part in the **impuls Composition Workshop** with **Klangforum Wien** and **Bas Wieggers** before the premieres and performances of their pieces. In addition to that they were invited to join the impuls Academy 2021, present themselves and their work in public at various talks and other **music communication programs** and also profit from the Academy by meeting up with participants and tutors.



Klangforum

Wien_Foto Tina Herzl

In **2020 another edition of the international impuls Composition Competition** was set up by impuls. In April 2021 a jury consisting of both composers and musicians (Mark Andre, Franck Bedrossian, Markus Deuter, Clara Iannotta, Andreas Lindenbaum) selected four composers out of close to a hundred applications sent in from various nations and four continents: **Maurizio Azzan** (*1987, Italy), **Oren Boneh** (*1991, Poland/USA/Israel), **Sachie Kobayashi** (*1990, Japan), **Anna Korsun** (*1986, Ukraine). These composers will take part in the **upcoming impuls Composition Workshop** in Vienna and Graz with Klangforum Wien coming along with **commissions** to write new pieces for this most prestigious ensemble to be **premiered in 2023** in Graz during the impuls Festival 2023 together with a current piece of a **former winner** of the impuls Composition Competition.

For the first time impuls presented compositions by impuls Academy participants as „**impuls Radio**“ on Radio Helsinki (stream on www.helsinki.at / UKW 92,6 Mhz locally) on three afternoons in August: 11.8. + 18.8. + 25.8.2021, 15.00-16.00)

Also for the first time **five films**, featuring the **nominees of the international impuls Composition Competition**, were produced in 2021 with the profound support of AVL Cultural Foundation and furtheron presented in the series „**Front Row Seat**“ (a new channel to give voice and to promote artists and their activities) – hereby also promoting the impuls commissions of these five young composers to be premiered by Klangforum Wien at Helmut List Halle on August 16th as start of the **impuls Festival 2021**. On top impuls was invited as one of five **Graz Arts Festivals** for a documentary about Festivals during the Pandemic, a special episode of AVL Cultural Foundation's „**Front Row Seat**“.

With the support of mica . music in Austria several impuls Festival Artists could be promoted through various online publications as **Festival Artists in Focus**.

On top, a cooperation with mica . music in Austria allowed the **invitation of journalists and Festival curators** to attend the **first 3 days of the impuls Festival**, programmed to feature **specifically Austrian musicians, Austrian formations and Austrian composers**.

www.impuls.cc

