

impuls . 9th International Ensemble and Composers Academy for Contemporary Music

February 13th to 24th, 2015

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

impuls . Composition Workshops

Vienna/Graz, February 6th to 13th, 2015

impuls . Festival

February 13th to 24th, 2015

KUG, Helmut List Hall, Großer Minoritensaal, MUMUTH, esc, Galleries and other Locations in Graz

impuls . Composition Competition

Founded by Beat Furrer and Ernst Kovacic impuls, the **international Ensemble and Composers Academy for Contemporary Music** and Association for the Communication of Contemporary Music has developed into one of the internationally leading institutions in this field within shortly – not least for its international team consisting of renowned composers and musicians as tutors, who warrant and secure highest quality already by themselves. In 2015 the Academy is now heading towards its 9th edition.

With instrumental classes and ensemble work, composition classes, many-faceted lectures, call for scores and special programs such as reading sessions with Klangforum Wien, Composition beyond Music, electronic and improvisation workshops ... and also possibilities for participants to present their work in public, impuls offers to young musicians and composers from all over the world an intense training and holistic approach to contemporary music both in a theoretical and a practical way. Besides reflecting classical modern up to most current musical tendencies, working on innovative techniques, discussing topics such as notation and interpretation, a particular emphasis is put on an active exchange and cooperation of composer and interpreter.

Also for Austrian up-and-coming musicians and composers impuls hereby offers an important platform for international exchange and networking – a rare opportunity, which is still enlarged by various possibilities for presentation of works and public appearances at the impuls Festival.

impuls promotes and supports young composers not only through its Academy, but also through the **international impuls Composition Competition**. Every second year impuls commissions new works for ensemble from young composers selected by a jury. Subsequently these composers are invited to take part in the impuls Composition Workshops in Vienna respectively in Graz, where their new works are collectively rehearsed and discussed extensively with musicians of world-class ensembles such as Klangforum Wien.

The world premieres of these pieces are to be witnessed at the prestigious Opening of the impuls Academy and Festival in Graz in the presence of the young composers.

Concerts with Klangforum Wien, the ensembles Nickel and Schallfeld, of internationally renowned leading musicians and numerous formations emerging on spot, ..., modern classical music, new and contemporary music, among the premieres those of impuls composition commissions, electro acoustic and live electronic music, ..., formats such as the impuls MinuteConcerts within the framework of a gallery walk with music or A Day on Campus and in the City, ..., round tables, lectures, discussions and other education programmes ... From February 13th to 24th 2015 impuls does not only stage its international Academy, but also the **impuls Festival** with a most versatile program addressing both an audience with open ears and minds as well as offering lots of music communication programs also for newcomers and constantly growing audiences.

Some more hard facts on impuls 2015

impuls academy

* **199 regular Academy participants** and another **9 external participants** coming from **4 continents** and more than **45 nations** plus additional international guests and external visitors were accepted to the 9th International Ensemble and Composers Academy for Contemporary Music in 2015 (this is more than double the size compared to 2009 and a rise of 10% compared to 2013; close to 500 musicians and composers applied; in general: again strong rise of applications, again a good mix of Austrian and international participants).



* For the second time impuls was part and partner of an **European Project (Ulysses)** realising **several special projects** within this network (Composition beyond Music + Young Ensemble in Residency + Composer Exchange Program impuls-Royaumont and IKI/Opus XXI + Double bass solo-Dario Calderone). Thus – besides Academy ensembles formed on spot – with **Ensemble Nikel** an already existing young ensemble was included in the Academy offering reading sessions and premiering several works by impuls composer participants besides presenting pieces by tutor Chaya Czernowin and winner of the impuls Competition Marco Momi. At Georg Nussbaumer's Masterclass "**Composition beyond Music**" composers realised site-specific works at esc medien kunst labor, and were visually accompanied and documented by Christine Schörkhuber. A call for score amongst the participants gave rise to several **new works for double bass** to be read and premiered by **Dario Calderone**. Last but not least with **Raphaël Languillat** and **Benjamin Scheuer** two young composers could be included and featured at the impuls Academy and its partners through special exchange programs.

* As a result of some special programs offered, impuls **commissioned and premiered** a piece by **Benjamin Scheuer**, hosted and premiered a piece for double bass solo by **Gagi Petrovic** and commissioned two more from impuls participants **Oliver Thurley** and **Tomoya Yokokawa** to be presented at Gaudeamus (NL) as partner organisation this autumn. Besides that of course many more new pieces of other impuls composer participants also found their **premieres** at the **impuls Festival**.

* Both offers for **composition, electronics** and **instrumental classes** could be **enlarged** again (with more than 30 tutors, classes also for improvisation, yoga and intermedia projects amongst others) and **new ones** were installed successfully also for e-guitar and vocal ensembles for the first time.

* **New special programs** were developed and the cooperation in between **composers** and **interpreters** intensified once more (f. e. through various calls for scores amongst the composer

participants – to be worked on and partly performed in public during the Academy in sequence –, through additional reading sessions and compositions developed and finalised together with the interpreters on spot ...), amongst them: Interaction Project supervised by Dieter Ammann, Eva Furrer and Christian Dierstein, translucent spaces. Space_Sound_Performance (with Klaus Lang), Performative Computer Music Practice and Exchange (with David Pirró and Richard Barrett), ... a Notation Seminar with Clemens Merkel or Brass special for composers and brass players with Bill Forman and Uwe Dierksen just to name a few.



* Besides **individual** and **group lessons** as well as **chamber music** and **ensemble work** also **lectures, discussions, instrumental presentations** and **special workshops** (f. e. Piano Preparation Workshop, Free improvisation - instant composing, brass instruments: specifics, notation, techniques, possibilities, Contemporary Techniques on the Saxophone ...), a **jour fix for composers, workshops** on various theoretical topics as well as with practical impact (f. e. Self-marketing platforms and promotion, Why (not) programming contemporary music?, How to release your music today?) and other programs were offered on a **daily basis**.

* An **additional workshop** was organised specially for **young pupils** of the school pilot project Klex (Marschallgasse, Graz).

* For the third time **daily improvisation classes** and modules including lectures were offered and possibilities for presentations at various concerts organised.

* For the third time a cooperation with the Ernst Krenek Institute comes along with both a residency and **commission** for a new piece to be performed by Klangforum Wien for one of the participating **young composers** and another impuls participant will profit from an **exchange program** within the Ulysses-Network.

* **more than 30 Tutors: Tutors Composition Classes:** Dieter Ammann | Richard Barrett | Pierluigi Billone | Chaya Czernowin | Beat Furrer | Clemens Gadenstätter | Klaus Lang | Isabel Mundry | Georg Nussbaumer



+ **Tutors Instrumental Classes:** Dario Calderone, bass | Yaron Deutsch, e-guitar | Uwe Dierksen, trombone + brass | Christian Dierstein, percussion | Andreas Fischer, voice | Bill Forman, trumpet + brass | Eva Furrer, flute + yoga | Petra Hoffmann, voice | Ernst Kovacic, violin | Clemens Merkel, violin

| Ulrich Mertin, viola | Lars Mlekusch, saxophone | Ernesto Molinari, clarinet | Ian Pace, piano | Janne Rättyä, accordion | Ernest Rombout, oboe | Rohan de Saram, cello | Marcus Weiss, saxophone | Klangforum Wien, reading sessions + **Tutors Improvisation:** Frank Gratkowski | Manon-Liu Winter + **Tutor Composition beyond Music:** Georg Nussbaumer + Christine Schörkhuber + **Tutors Performative Computer Music (PCM):** David Pirrò/Gerhard Eckel | Richard Barrett + **Tutor translucent spaces:** Klaus Lang + **Tutor Interaction Project:** Dieter Ammann | Eva Furrer | Christian Dierstein + **Tutor Yoga:** Eva Furrer



- * **Ensembles:** Klangforum Wien | Ensemble Nickel | Fractales | Ensemble Schallfeld | various Ensembles impuls 2015
- * **Conductors:** Leonhard Garms | Ernst Kovacic | Clement Power a.m.o.
- * **Music Communication Programs:** Doris Brady | Bill Fontana | Andreas Karl | Rainer Mennicken | Matthias Naske | Gisela Nauck | Matthias Osterwold | Enno Poppe | Rainer Praschak | Christian Scheib | Elke Tschakner amongst others
- * **Composers of the impuls Composition Competition:** Wojtek Blecharz | Ashley Fure | Raffaele Grimaldi | Marco Momi | Davor Branimir Vincze
- * **Composer of the Composer Exchange Program Fondation Royaumont - impuls:** Raphaël Languillat
- * **Composer of the Composer Exchange Program IKI/Opus XXI - impuls:** Benjamin Scheuer
- * **Quartet:** KUG SAX IV CLASSIC
- * **Répétiteur:** Anna D'Errico
- * **Assisting Conductors:** Leonhard Garms | Jorge Diego Vázquez Salvagno
- * **Fine Artists:** bankleer | Heribert Friedl | Anneke Klein Kranenbarg | Andreja Kuluncic´ a.m.o.

impuls festival

* For the **fourth time** the Academy was accompanied and enlarged by a daily **Festival program** offering various possibilities to experience new and contemporary music to a broadening audience with open ears and external Academy visitors. Hereby Graz was again turned into a festival city and a center of contemporary music and the arts.



* **12 days** with **Concerts** of both young as well as internationally renowned musicians and composers (including also a **Marathon concert** – lasting more than 7 hours –, the impuls **Minute.Concerts** at various locations in the city – lasting more than 12 hours –, as well as a format called **A Day on Campus and in the City** with concerts and presentations all around the clock from 10 am to 10 pm), concerts with **young ensembles** such as Ensemble Schallfeld und Nickel, premieres of **impuls commissions, composers' talks, public reading sessions and rehearsals**, afternoon and evening **lectures, round tables** and several **jour fix, discussions, workshop presentations** ... as well as **installation pieces** plus **performances** conceived at special programs such as Composition beyond Music or translucent spaces set up a festival program of various kinds and highest density.



* **Premières, contemporary compositions** – amongst others also impuls commissions – as well as **compositions** of the **20th century** and **improvisations**: Rehearsals and – in most cases – public performances of works by Peter Ablinger | Dieter Ammann | Georges Aperghis | Jessica Aslan & Bernardo Barros & Emma Lloyd | Luciano Azzigotti | Benjamin Bacon | Hank Badings | Antonia Barnett-McIntosh | Richard Barrett | Martin Rane Bauck | Florian Baumgärtner | Luciano Berio | Can Bilir | Pierluigi Billone | Wojtek Blecharz | Pierre Boulez | Gianni Bozzola | Elliott Carter | Anthony Cheung | Murat Çolak | Léo Collins | Victor Coltea | George Crumb | Chaya Czernowin | Rocco de Cia | Juan de Dios Magdaleno | Thierry de Mey | Julie Delisle & Vincent Giles & Hanns Holger Rutz | Jacob Druckman | Franco Evangelisti | Brian Ferneyhough | Francesco Filidei | Michael Finnissy | Ashley Fure | Beat Furrer | Clemens Gadenstätter | Pablo Galaz | Cindy Genevieve Giron | Vinko Globokar | Vitalija Glovackyte | Gerardo Gozzi | Frank Gratkowski | Raffaele Grimaldi | Gérard Grisey | Andrés Gutiérrez Martínez | Georg Friedrich Haas | Carlos G. Hernández | Heinz Holliger | Toshio Hosokawa | Hiroyuki Ito | Michael Jarrell | Seongmin Ji | Hannes Kerschbaumer | Thomas Kessler | Hikari Kiyama | Jo Kondo | Helmut Lachenmann | Klaus Lang | Dylan Lardelli | Fabien Lévy | György Ligeti | Facundo Llompart | Anestis Logothetis | Martin Loridan | Giulia Lorusso | Fernando Manassero | Nader Mashayekhi | Timothy McCormack | Alex Mincek | Ernesto Molinari | Marco Momi | Isabel Mundry | Tristan Murail | Adrian Nagel | Luigi Nono | João Pedro Oliveira | Mauricio Pauly | Goni Peles | Gagi Petrovic | Matthias Pintscher | Enno Poppe | Daniel Portelli | Javier Quislant Garcia | Feliz Anne

Reyes Macahis | Lorenzo Romano | Elena Rykova | Benjamin Ryser | Kaija Saariaho | Rebecca Saunders | Giacinto Scelsi | Benjamin Scheuer | Arnold Schönberg | Salvatore Sciarrino | Stefano Scodanibbio | Zesses Seglias | Charlotte Seither | Eric Skytterholm Egan | Kate Soper | Johannes Maria Staud | Simon Steen-Andersen | Karlheinz Stockhausen | Toru Takemitsu | James Tenney | Oliver Thurley | Maria Teresa Trecozzi | Lorenzo Troiani | Chaz Underriner | Juan Camilo Vásquez | Nadir Vassena | Jorge Diego Vázquez Salvagno | Davor Branimir Vincze | Jennifer Walshe | Jeff Weston | Daniel Wilson | Iannis Xenakis | Tomoya Yokokawa | Isang Yun amongst others (**in summa 51 public world premieres plus 1 Austrian first night**; altogether **178 works** plus several **improvisations performed in public**; further works were **rehearsed** during the Academy)

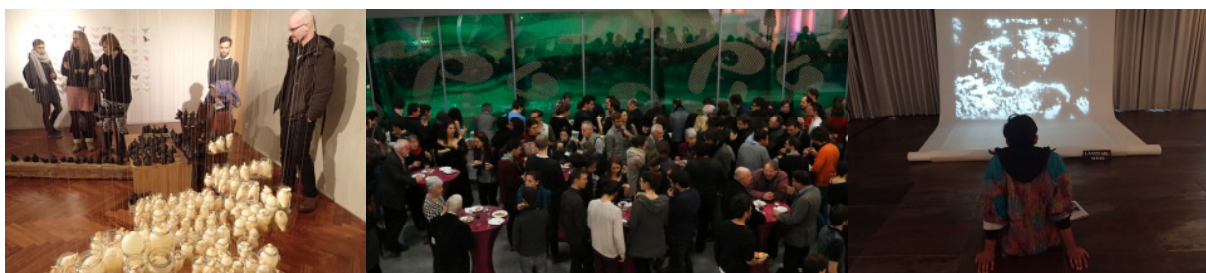
* With an **exhibition** of mainly installation pieces plus a couple of **performances** and **video** screenings that were all conceived during the special program Composition beyond Music and concerts placed at various **galleries** and art institutions in Graz impuls also enforced the link of music and the visual arts.



* **impuls programs throughout the city:** KUG . Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Graz . Aula . Florentinersaal . MUMUTH | Helmut List Hall | György-Ligeti-Hall | Reiterkaserne | Großer Minoritensaal | esc medien kunst labor | Forum Stadtpark | gebhart blazek . udo gangl | Haus der Architektur | Kulturzentrum bei den Minoriten | Galerie Lendl | MUWA – Museum der Wahrnehmung | < rotor > Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst

* **Enlargement of the cooperation-network:** Partners within the European Network Ulysses (such as Gaudeamus | IMD | Ircam | Opus XXI | Royaumont | Time of Music ...) | Jeunesse | Ernst Krenek Forum | mica | open music | esc medien kunst labor | Forum Stadtpark | gebhart blazek . udo gangl | Haus der Architektur | Kulturzentrum bei den Minoriten | Galerie Lendl | MUWA – Museum der Wahrnehmung | < rotor > Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst, as well as KUG, Klangforum Wien and IEM and many more international networks (amongst others with international Universities and Academies, Competitions and Festivals, various music organisation, ensembles and individuals ...)

* **Strong interest of the public/audience** coming from Austria but also abroad (including international journalists) for both the prestigious impuls opening and final concert as well as the concert of the impuls tutors, but also for all other programs, festival activities and smaller formats such as the MinuteConcerts in galleries.



* **Strong interest of the media:** Numerous articles and announcements in specialist periodicals (amongst them Dissonance, Positionen and ÖMZ) as well as monthly and weekly magazines (such as Falter and Die Woche); several TV-reports (ORF); numerous Radio-reports (for example on ORF Stmk. and Ö1, Radio Helsinki, SWR and DLF ...); numerous articles and announcements in daily newspapers throughout Austria (Kronen Zeitung, Kleine Zeitung, ...); high internet appearance and reports on various homepages (amongst others of mica, Kulturserver Graz, g24, Kulturservice Steiermark, Steirische Tourismus GmbH as well as through homepages and newsletters of numerous international impuls cooperation partners) and internet blogs and magazines such as terz and I Care If You Listen; all together more than a hundred appearances ...

In addition to that the ORF recorded and transmitted the opening concert on February 13th and the final concert on February 24th (including the premieres of the impuls commissions performed by Klangforum Wien and Clement Power).

impuls competition

* Within the impuls Festival 2015 four **new impuls commissions** by young composers **Wojtek Blecharz** (*1981, Poland) | **Ashley Fure** (*1982, USA) | **Marco Momi** (*1978, Italy) and **Davor Branimir Vincze** (*1983, Croatia) were **premiered** in Graz on **February 13th** and another already existing work by **Raffaele Grimaldi** was performed due to a cancellation of **Brigitta Muntendorf**, who had also been commissioned to write a new piece. All these composers had been selected through the international **impuls Composition Competition** already back in 2013 and invited to take part in the **impuls Composition Workshop** with **Klangforum Wien** and **Clement Power** before the premieres and performances of their pieces. In addition to that they were invited to join the impuls Academy 2015, meet up with the participants and tutors and actively take part in a couple of **music communication programs**.



In 2014 another edition of the international **impuls Composition Competition** was organised by impuls. In February 2015 a jury consisting of both composers and musicians (Clemens Gadenstätter, Klaus Lang, Florian Müller, Sophie Schafleitner) selected five composers out of more than 150 applications sent in from various nations and four continents: **Adam McCartney** (*1987, Ireland) | **Carolyn Chen** (*1983, USA) | **Michail Paraskakis** (*1980, Greece) | **Diana Soh** (*1984, Singapore) | **Lorenzo Troiani** (*1989, Italy). 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 ensemble to be **premiered in 2017** in Graz during the impuls Festival 2017.

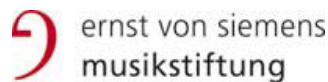
For the rest of the year impuls is working on the development of a new European Network Project, will start with the preparation of the next edition of the impuls Academy and Festival as well as additional workshops, concerts and music communication programs such as the impuls MinuteConcerts in Galleries in spring 2016.

www.impuls.cc

Many thanks to our sponsors and cooperation partners:



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impuls is part of the **ULYSSES network**

realising several projects also **with the kind support of**  **Culture** With the support of the Culture programme of the European Union