Introducing the European Composers Forum

The European Composers’ Forum (ECF) represents thousands of classical & art music composers in Europe and is the central network organisation linking together 28 national composer societies active in this genre. Irrespective of political divisions in Europe, the ECF believes in an all-European artistic community beyond EU-borders. Our 28 members include composer associations from: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, England, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. Thereby ECF offers direct access to more than 10,000 composers of contemporary classical/art music Europeanwide.

Aims & positions

Contemporary music needs to play as an important role in the European music landscape as today does the classical music heritage! Therefore, ECF creates activities to safeguard sustainable environment for contemporary music creation in Europe of today and tomorrow. ECF also acts as a driving motor to increase the awareness for and the reception of contemporary music in the cultural community and in society as a whole - in regard for its creators: the living composers in Europe.

ECF activities & projects are focused on:
1. Cultural and political lobbying for music creators of contemporary music in Europe
2. Publicity for composers and their works – the music of the 20th and 21st century
3. Networking & cooperation among the composer and with music institutions from all around Europe
4. Music education & audience development

European Composers Forum and the European House for Culture

The European Composers’ Forum has recently moved into the European House for Culture (Flagey, Brussels) and is looking forward to even more intensive networking with the partners and organisations involved in the European House. We are happy to bring in our ideas and to interact with our projects and network.

[PROJECT] ARTMUSFAIR – Shaping the Future of Contemporary Music

ARTMUSFAIR is the new annual convention place for the contemporary classical/art music scene in Europe and each year offers a creative environment for exhibitions, concerts, workshops, project presentations, exchange, making new contacts and to develop new music projects together with European partners. Following the premiere in the frame of the Nordic Music Days 2008 in Helsinki, the 2nd edition of ARTMUSFAIR in Glasgow - 29th October - 01st November 2009 - again opens to representatives from throughout the contemporary music scene and aims to attract hundreds of composers, music publishers, record labels, musicians, promoters, managers and agents from across the whole of Europe. As such ARTMUSFAIR is devoted to strengthening the position of European contemporary classical music, its creators and makers, and aims to encourage music stakeholders to integrate more contemporary music repertoire into the framework of classical music programming in Europe. www.artmusfair.eu

[PROJECT] The Composers’ Factory

Developing Audiences for Contemporary Music in Europe: the idea of the “Composers’ Factory” is a connecting to contemporary music programme for high school students. Similar to a “composer in residence” programme, the Factory shall introduce normal public school pupils and students to concepts of musical composition and offer them the unique opportunity to study, rehearse and perform the music of and together with a particular composer from their local region. Together with the idea of the Factory this initiative shall collect Europeanwide expertise and experience already made locally here and there. Therefore a regular experts forum shall be installed. The first Forum will be hosted in 2010 in conjunction with the Nordic Music Days in Copenhagen.

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