



EXPECTATION / ERWARTUNG

1914 and the century after

A RUSSO-AUSTRIAN MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROJECT

MUSIC – VIDEO – DANCE – MULTIMEDIA

The Center for Contemporary Music
at the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory
and the Austrian Cultural Forum in Moscow
together with
“das weisse haus Wien” Cultural Collective
The Vsevolod Meyerhold Theater Center
Fabrika Center for Creative Industries

present in April-May 2014 the cultural project
“EXPECTATION / ERWARTUNG.”

The first concert of the project will take place APRIL 10 IN THE RACHMANINOV HALL OF THE TCHAIKOVSKY CONSERVATORY at 7 p.m.

The performers will be the “New Music Studio” ensemble under conductor Igor Dronov.

The idea for the project: “Expectation” is one of the most successful works by Austrian composer Arnold Schoenberg, which he wrote not long before the beginning of World War I in 1914. After 100 years, the creators of the project are bringing back this work and other masterpieces of that time as well as presenting 7 world premieres of multimedia compositions created specially for the “Expectation” project. “Expectation” will end with a series of performances by Austrian media artists in the framework of the Moscow “Museum Night” at the Fabrika Center for Creative Industries.

Since the beginning of World War I, often called the “forgotten war,” a hundred years have passed. The horrors of World War II eclipsed the catastrophe of the First World War, yet as August 1914 recedes from the present day and as we sharply recall the departed 20th century, we become more and more certain of the colossal significance that the Sarajevo shootings, in that small part of the enormous Habsburg Empire, had for the fate of civilization. The “Expectation” project is dedicated to this theme, referring to the name of the well-known monoopera by Schoenberg, and has a symbolic meaning—in the flames of their mutual opposition, the last European empires died—the Russian and the Austro-Hungarian.

The festival program is ambitious, with concerts specially created for the project of works by Russian and Austrian composers as well as centuries-old compositions expressing the threatening atmosphere of expectation of the worldwide catastrophe (“Expectation”), and reflections by contemporaries (“History of a soldier”) as well as modern expressions of the theme of the “forgotten war.”

Aside from the early-20th-century vocal and instrumental compositions that will be performed by the New Music Studio ensemble in the Rachmaninov Hall of the conservatory, Russian and Austrian composers worked with media artists to create a few entirely new pieces specially for this cycle. These will take place at two leading Moscow cultural centers — the Vsevolod Meyerhold Theatrical Culture Center (two concerts with the premieres of projects created for the festival) and the Fabrika Center for Creative Industries (with four international multimedia projects dedicated to the festival's theme as part of Museum Night, under the direction of the “das weisse haus Wien” cultural association).

Direct Speech:

Vladimir Tarnopolsky, composer, founder and director of the New Music Studio ensemble:

“The events of the First World War expressed themselves differently in the memories of European nations. In some countries (for example, in France) many family archives to this day cautiously preserve photographs and documents from that time, while in Russia the events of that war have wound up in the deep darkness of the October Revolution, one of the results of the war. In our project, “Expectation,” we want to research the feelings, presentiments, and “psycho grams” of composers of that time and put them in a present-day context. We turned to Russian and Austrian composers and multimedia artists with a proposal to write works on this theme. In the concert programs, audiences will also hear more significant vocal and orchestral compositions by Austrian and Russian composers of that time, which are connected with the theme of the First World War.”

Simon Mraz, Director of the Austrian Cultural Forum in Moscow, cultural attaché of the Austrian Embassy in the Russian Federation:

“Expectation” in our project should be understood to signify not only passivity. One hundred years have passed since the creation of the eponymous work of the great composer Schoenberg – one hundred years since the beginning of the great, catastrophic war. We do not want to limit ourselves to only one “Expectation.” Our goal is to create something new together with composers and artists. The partners in the project and, most importantly, its participants – composers and media artists – took Schoenberg’s “Expectation” as a starting point, in order to remember the year 1914 from a somewhat “different” perspective. For us, this is firstly a reason to remember afresh creativity in all its forms; secondly we wish to become followers of the heritage of the early 20th century and the work of Arnold Schoenberg, and thirdly this project is a possibility to once more raise the question of “Expectation,” but in the year 2014.

Project participants:

William “Bilwa” Costa (media artist), USA
Paul Wenninger (video artist), Austria
Vladimir Gorkinsky (composer), Russia
Andrew Quinn (video artist), Australia / Italy
Kollektiv/Rauschen (media artists) Austria
Matthias Kranebitter (composer), Austria
Natalie Latham (video artist), Austria
Alexei Nadzharov (composer), Russia
Todor Pozharev (video artist), Serbia
Nikolai Popov (composer), Russia
Ulla Rauter (media artist), Austria
Alexandra Smolina (video artist), Russia
Fyodor Sofronov (composer), Russia
Benjamin Tomasi (media artist), Italy
Emmanuel Flores Elías (video artist), Mexico
Tamara Friebe (composer), Austria
Evgenia Shelkova (dance), Austria / Russia
Peter Jakober (composer), Austria

Curators:

Vladimir Tarnopolsky (Moscow)

Alexandra Grausam (Vienna)

Simon Mraz (Moscow)

Sponsor of the project:



General Sponsor of the Austrian Cultural Season in Russia:



Project Partner:



Media partners of the Austrian Cultural Season in Russia:



Press info:

<http://www.akfmo.org/en/press/>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Program of events:

Thursday April 10, 2014

*Rachmaninov Hall of the Conservatory (Bolshaya Nikitskaya, 13)
Beginning at 7 pm, free admission*

CONCERT 1

- Arnold SCHOENBERG *Erwartung (Expectation)*, Monodrama on text by M. Pappenheim, op. 17 (1909/1999)
Arrangement for chamber orchestra by F. Karayev
- Galina USTVOLSKAYA *Composition 1: Dona Nobis Pacem* for piccolo, tuba and piano (1970-1971)
- Klaus LANG *Rote Asche* for two bass clarinets, cello and accordion (2009/2012)

Yekaterina KICHIGINA, soprano

NEW MUSIC STUDIO ensemble

Conductor — Honored Artist of Russia **Igor DRONOV**

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

*Rachmaninov Hall of the Conservatory (Bolshaya Nikitskaya, 13)
Beginning at 7 pm, free admission*

CONCERT 2

- Anton WEBERN *Passacaglia op.1* (1923-1924)
Arrangement for chamber orchestra by H. Pousseur
- Alban BERG *Five songs* for soprano and orchestra on postcard texts by P. Altenberg, op.4 (1912/1985)
Arrangement for chamber orchestra by D. Wagenaar
- Igor STRAVINSKY *History of a Soldier* suite (1918)
- Yury KASPAROV *Wind,*
Ash gloomy and
Rain
after the last battle for six performers (2013)
- Peter ABLINGER *Voices and Piano* for piano and tapes (1998)

Natalia CHERKASOVA, piano

NEW MUSIC STUDIO ensemble

Conductor — Honored Artist of Russia **Igor DRONOV**

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

*Vsevolod Meyerhold Theater Center (Novoslobodskaya, 23)
Beginning at 8 pm. Tickets available at theater box office*

CONCERT 3

Multimedia show for chamber orchestra, movements, video projections and live electronics

Défaire

Music — Peter JAKOBER (Austria), video — Paul WENNINGER (Austria)

Something went awry

Music — Alexei NADZHAROV (Russia), video — Andrew QUINN (Australia/Italy)

Erwartung

Music and video – Vladimir GORLINSKY (Russia),
Dance – Anna GARAFEYEVA

Pierrot and his darkness

Music — Fyodor SOFRONOV (Russia), graphics — Alexandra SMOLINA (Russia),
video — Svetlana KARIMOVA

NEW MUSIC STUDIO ensemble

Conductor — Honored Artist of Russia **Igor DRONOV**

- **Saturday, May 17, 2014**

*Fabrika Center for Creative Industries (Perevedenovsky per., 18)
Beginning at 8 pm*

PERFORMANCES, AUDIO AND VIDEO INSTALLATIONS AS APRT OF MUSEUM NIGHT 2014

Media artists: William “Bilwa” Costa (USA)

Kollektiv/Rauschen (Austria)

Ulla Rauter (Austria)

Benjamin Tomasi (Italy)

- **Wednesday, May 21, 2014**

*Vsevolod Meyerhold Theater Center (Novoslobodskaya, 23)
Beginning at 8 pm. Tickets at the theater box office*

CONCERT 4

Multimedia performance for chamber ensemble, movements, video projections and live electronics

There was never war here

Music — Tamara FRIEBEL (Austria), video — Natalie LATHAM (Austria),
dance — Evgenia SHELKOVA (Russia/Austria)

State of Surfeit

Music — Matthias KRANEBITTER (Austria), video — Emmanuel FLORES ELÍAS (Mexico)

Acquisition

Music — Nikolai POPOV (Russia), video — Todor POZHAREV (Serbia)

NEW MUSIC STUDIO ensemble

Conductor — Honored Artist of Russia **Igor DRONOV**

Information about the New Music Studio ensemble

The New Music Studio (NMS) is a leading ensemble of contemporary music in Russia. It was founded in 1993 by Vladimir Tarnopolsky and Igor Dronov on the base of a specially chosen graduate class at the Moscow Conservatory called “Orchestra of contemporary music.” The ensemble performs about 60 programs yearly in Moscow and other Russian cities and is also a frequent guest at many Western contemporary music festivals. Concerts by the Studio have been held in such prestigious venues as the Berlin Philharmonic, Konzerthaus, Cite de la Musique and many others. The New Music Studio ensemble has performed about 900 premiers of works by Russian and foreign composers. In recent years, the Studio has worked actively on projects with electronics, video and multimedia. Among the broad repertoire of the ensemble, Russian avant-garde of the 1920s has a special place (Gavriil Popov, Nikolai Roslavets, Alexander Mosolov and others).

Among the Studio's larger projects are the three-year cycle “Anthology of 20th century music in the Russian regions” and the “Russia-Germany” concert series.

Information about das weisse haus

das weisse haus is Kunstverein (art organization), exhibition space and non-profit-organization for the promotion and presentation of young art. das weisse haus offers young artists — besides the presentation of their artworks – comprehensive PR, a wide-ranging international network as well as various forms of mediation such as artist talks, lectures, video interviews, texts and a kid's program.

das weisse haus opened in December 2007. It was founded by Alexandra Grausam und Elsy Lahner and has been directed as well as conceptually designed together until August 2011. Alexandra Grausam is solely responsible for the management of das weisse haus since then. In addition the team is continuously supported by assistants, interns as well as helping friends, members, sponsors and supporters.

Since the opening the use of various premises has been the major strength and feature of das weisse haus. The consistent transformation of the locations and the associated characteristics of the exhibition program show the flexibility and openness of the Kunstverein with their contemporary approach and commitment for new exhibition spaces. The possibility to experiment with the available space, to develop new concepts as well to create a symbiosis of art and space make das weisse haus unique. Which part and how much of the exhibition space is finally used is co-decided with the artists, thus it allows them to adjust the room according to the specific works and to the different needs of the artists.

Since the opening das weisse haus has been regularly organizing solo- and group exhibitions, since 2009 also project spaces and additional, to complement the program, events such as artists talks, guided tours and at times even a kid's program. Part of the additional events of das weisse haus are talks, film screenings as well as presentation of permanent installation or installations in public space.

In the selection of artists from Fine Arts, Photography, Video- and Media Art das weisse haus focuses on young national and international positions. Also international cooperations take an important role.

<http://www.dasweissehaus.at/>