

Jazzgalerie Nickelsdorf invites and welcomes you to

KONFRONTATIONEN 2016
JULY 21–24



(c) flugsand & windei

Konfrontationen is a festival for free and improvised music that knows no borders – whether they be styles, nations or generations.

At this year's 37th edition, 68 musicians from five continents will spare no effort to demonstrate it: drawing on the spirit of tradition, committed to free experimental playing, or creating something that defies any categorisation, these global travellers will make music that connects all of us, from across the pond to the Mediterranean region, from the Baltic Sea to the Indian Ocean. The 2016 festival will also feature more Austrian and female musicians than ever before. And alongside international stars of improv, who have developed long-standing relationships with the Jazzgalerie, Konfrontationen will also present musicians who will be playing in Nickelsdorf for the first time.

The 2016 Konfrontationen festival is dedicated to **Johannes Bauer** and **Marco Eneidi**, musicians who died far too young in May.

THURSDAY, JULY 21

@ JAZZGALERIE, 8 p.m.



The Elks (c) The Elks

The first day of the festival features three enormously diverse quartets. Paying homage to

blues and black music, the Italian avant-jazz combo **Roots Magic** will get the audience in the mood for a long weekend. When you replace the second violin in a classical string quartet with a double bass, you get a **Strinquantet** that not only opens up new tonal dimensions, but also boosts the energy level of improvisation. But how did **The Elks** make it into the Konfrontationen line-up? With a strange collection of machines, with horns that are misused rather than played (we are lucky they are not screening abstract movies this time!) – in short: with futuristic chamber music.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

@ KLEYLEHOF, 3 p.m.

In keeping with our motto *no border, no nation, no seat reservation*, we collect the “forgotten” blankets from the backs of chairs and pack picnic baskets for an outing into the Pannonian lowlands to the former stables of the Kleylehof (where now the sculptor and painter Franz Gyolcs lives and works). The audiovisual live performance **I_AM ECHOES**)) disrupts the idyllic rural setting, because it tracks down the spectres of abandoned machines that haunt derelict buildings.

@ JAZZGALERIE, 7 p.m.



Ute Wassermann (c) Georgia Fanelli

Manned with three free-form guerrillas, the Swedish **Lokomotiv Konkret** steams and puffs through the Jazzgalerie courtyard, before it stops at the next cathouse. This **Speak Easy**, however, doesn't just purr softly, it howls and hisses, whistles, creaks and kkrksbzzles, taps and scrapes. **Sophie Agnel/John Edwards/Steve Noble's** act promises equally magic moments of musical interaction: familiar faces from different constellations, this year the three musicians will demonstrate that even a classical piano trio can morph into something entirely new when it flirts with all genres, intensities and emotions. **Where is the Sun** is the dream team of a vocalist/clarinetist who has never cared much for pleasant music, but instead has always explored new terrain – this time with breath and turntables. Next are **Der Lange, der Junge und der Dicke**, also known as ... why not just “Mein Freund der Baum”? No, D.K. is not involved! We reveal the secret: behind the band name are the wild elegance of the clarinet, the ethereal buzz of the guitar and the vibrating pulse of free improvisation.

SATURDAY, JULY 23

@ PROTESTANT CHURCH, 3 p.m.



Rdeča Raketa (c) zoe*fotografie

The church will serve as a launch pad for **Rdeča Raketa/Jean-Luc Guionnet**: a red rocket lifts off to organ drones, erupts with coloured flames and fades away – just like life in the cosmos of the Slovenian poet Srečko Kosovel, improvisation also means the constant blaze and glow of an inner fire.

@ JAZZGALERIE, 7 p.m.

Seeking to rekindle the flame is the duo **Also**, which collaborated in the past on *The Circus of Life* and now oscillates between intricate soundweaving and gritty groove. Hailing from the (musical) heart of the Mühlviertel district, **Trio Now!** speaks jazz as a first language, knows the answer to *Tomorrow is the Question!* and – despite all exclamation marks – always gets to the point. **Georg Graewe**, who as a composer is committed to European Modernism and as an improviser ranks among the best in Europe, will continue a long-term project: the art of the solo piano – intensity with subtly introverted means. **Red Trio + John Butcher** combines an energetic, highly focused, sometimes nervous and violent group from Portugal with a virtuoso and inventive saxophonist from England to yield rich contrapuntal textures with an unusual poetic dimension. The evening closes (or rather, next day starts) with **Karkhana**, a Middle Eastern super group that unites exponents from the Cairo, Istanbul and Beirut scenes, and blends free jazz with psychedelic and traditional styles such as *shaabi* and *tarab*.

SUNDAY, JULY 24

@ PROTESTANT CHURCH, 2 p.m.

Johannes Bauer Memorial with **Phil Minton's Feral Choir**



Phil Minton (c) Iztok Zupan

@ HESSER GSTETTN, 3 p.m.

Exploring Nickelsdorf is the perfect way to spend the afternoon, for instance at Hesser Gstettn where the French duo **Michel Doneda/Lê Quan Ninh** will play in a *terrain vague*.

@ JAZZGALERIE, 7 p.m.

What started with three quartets on Thursday, will culminate with four trios on Sunday (with a grand extended finale) to highlight the many facets of improvised music. For his Nickelsdorf debut, a Philadelphia-based saxophonist teams up with a pianist from Leipzig and a percussionist from Münster: **Keir Neuringer/Simone Weißenfels/Willi Kellers** hot-wires improvisation and contemporary music with noise and garish avant-garde. The same holds true when a powerful British saxophonist teams up with Dadaist provocateurs from overseas in **Alan Wilkinson + Talibam!** (just in case, Jazzgalerie will keep smelling salts close to hand). The all-star trio of **John Butcher/Thomas Lehn/Matthew Shipp** brings together an elegant, precise saxophone language with new pianistic ideas and imbues them with synthetic sounds. After that, you can only cry “fire!” – the (burning) hot Konfrontationen finale features Mats Gustafsson exploring the *slowcore* with his **FIRE! Trio + Oren Ambarchi**. (*fk*)



Christine Schörkhuber, “We arrived on the dark side of Europe”

This year’s **Soundart** is entitled “why are we still here?” and will present works by Klaus Filip, Jean-Luc Guionnet & Lotus Eddé Khouri, Mazen Kerbaj, Lisbeth Kovacic & Juri Schaden, noid, Christine Schörkhuber, and Yan Jun.

You can find detailed info on www.konfrontationen.at

Tickets: Thu 30/25, Fri/Sat/Sun 35/30, three days: 90/75, four days: 110/95 euros (reduced: Club Ö1, pupils, students, under 18, Nickelsdorf locals) – afternoon concerts & Soundart: admission free

See you in Nickelsdorf!

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