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Contact

University of Graz

Core Research Area of the Faculty of Humanities | Perception

Susanne Kogler

Merangasse 70, 8010 Graz, Österreich

+43 (0) 316 / 3802269 | perception@uni-graz.at

perception.uni-graz.at

Perception: Episteme, Aesthetics, Politics

CORE RESEARCH AREA of the Faculty of Humanities



LECTURE SERIES

Perceiving Nature(s): Epistemic,
Artistic, and Political Practices as
Contested Fields

04.07.2025, Mozartgasse 3,
8010 Graz, HS 23.02, 9.30 a.m.

Re-newable Music? Sounds of Nature in Stefan Węglowski's Music

Barbara Mielcarek-Krzyżanowska, Academy of Music Bydgoszcz:

Stefan Węglowski (b. 1985) is a composer, producer, and live performer. Since his studies, he has been fascinated by timbre, sound, musical colour, amplification of sound, and the possibility of deconstructing and building the structure of sound anew. The sounds of natural instruments and solo voices (produced in a traditional way, but also according to the composer's instructions) and the sounds of nature are presented in a non-obvious way, becoming a pretext for creating his own, completely original sound vision. The aim of the lecture is to discuss if nature is only a source of different sounds (potentially musical sounds) or an environment supporting our emotional balance.

Barbara Mielcarek-Krzyżanowska, Academy of Music Bydgoszcz – musicologist, head of the Department of Theory of Music in the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz. Her scientific interests are focused on the musical culture of the 20th and 21st centuries, mainly the Zygmunt Mycielski's output and the activities of Maria Modrakowska. She is a participant and organizer of national and international scientific conferences, author of the book "Musical folklore in the works of Polish composers of the 20th century" (Bydgoszcz 2021, awarded the Musical Eagle statuette at the 2nd International Competition "Musical Eagles" in 2022), e-publications realized as part of the grant of the National Institute of Music and Dance (Maria Modrakowska and the activity of the Association of Young Polish Musicians in Paris in the light of unknown feuilletons "Amateur photos from Paris", access: <https://openmusicreview.art/publikacje/zdjecia-amatorskie-z-paryza>; Maria Modrakowska's correspondence with the

Polish artistic community, access:

<https://openmusicreview.art/publikacje/korespondencja-marii-modrakowskiej-z-polskim-srodowiskiem-artystycznym/>), folder "composer" of the monographic portal mycielski.polmic.pl, scientific articles published in Poland and abroad, and booklets for CDs, DVDs and Blu-rays. She collaborates with the Sagittaria Publishing House, the Polish Music Publishing House and Opera Nova in Bydgoszcz.

Degrees of Separation

Hannes Priesch, Artist

"A human being is part of a whole, called by us the 'Universe'—a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts, and feelings, as something separated from the rest—a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circles of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty."

—Albert Einstein

About a possible lecture/performance

Based on Einstein's reflections, I will explore the paradox of separation and connectedness as it occurs in human culture, theory, art and politics. My presentation will be an open-ended reflection on some of the most unusual and extreme tendencies currently struggling to shape our future and compare them with examples from other times, cultures and traditions. These ideas straddle the boundaries between

anthropology, fiction, non-fiction and science fiction and will also have links to earlier art movements, particularly Futurism - possible precursors to current developments - whose roots often lie in a broader ideological framework.

Hannes Priesch is an artist based in Semriach, Austria. Priesch studied at Akademie der bildenden Künste, Vienna from 1973 to 1977. Priesch is a founding member of the artist group REM, Vienna. and founder of OM THEM, a public art platform in New York City. He lived in the USA (Chicago and New York) from 1990 to 2016. His 6-part artist book series "wörks" started in 2020.

recent shows

2024/25

- Horror Patriae, steirischer herbst, Neue Galerie, Graz, (group show)
- Poetics of Power, Kunsthaus Graz, (group show)

2023

- Eyewall at the Museum Liaunig, Neuhaus, Corinthia (solo)
- ~~De Sptzel des Esbergs~~, Kunsthaus Mürz, with Gerhard Kaiser
- exhibition at the conference Radical Thought in the Anthropocene: Dimensions and Potentials of Critical Theory, University of Graz, Austria, (solo)

2022

- Public Domain @ Porgy & Bess, Vienna, (solo)

Programme

09.30 Lecture Barbara Mielcarek-Krzyżanowska

11.00 Coffee break

11.30 Lecture Hannes Priesch

13.00 Lunch