

# New Music Directions

## Salzburg and Musical Contemporaneity

The International Society for Contemporary Music at 100: An International Symposium

20–22 April 2022, Mozarteum University Salzburg

In 1923, Ernest Newman hailed Salzburg as a mecca for the performance of contemporary music, a city where a new epoch in music history had dawned. The *Mozartstadt* clearly witnessed a boom in all areas of cultural and financial life following the First World War, but arguably no more so in the realm of music when, in August 1922, the Salzburg Festival began (in its modern format) and an international cohort of contemporary composers – such as Béla Bartók, Arthur Bliss, Paul Hindemith, Arthur Honegger, Zoltán Kodály, Darius Milhaud, Ethyl Smyth and Anton Webern – gathered in Café Bazar to establish the International Society for Contemporary Music (ISCM). While both institutions were momentarily intertwined in ways that have yet to be fully understood, the ISCM left an indelible imprint on the musical life of the city. Today, the ISCM remains the most important society globally for the promotion of contemporary music. In 2022, it celebrates its hundredth anniversary.

This conference seeks to examine the genesis and early years of the ISCM, as well as cast a glance across its long, complex history as a European and global phenomenon. It welcomes studies on specific facets of the ISCM, an institution that has been a catalyst for first performances, world premieres and international dialogue among composers from over one hundred nations. The aims, agents, and aesthetic diversity of the society, particularly during the politically turbulent early decades, continue to remain fertile grounds for new research. Indeed, the ethical questions implicit in internationalism, the artistic response to world crises, and the tensions and synergies generated by the inherent plurality of the ISCM, suggest its relevance to musical life is as tangible today as it was a century ago. To celebrate the local within the international, this conference also calls attention to the “Salzburg Idea” heralded in 1922 by its founders (Rudolph Réti and Egon Wellesz), and seeks to train a critical lens on Salzburg’s New-Music scene over the last century, elucidating the influence of prominent ISCM figures such as Paul Hindemith’s impact on local composers, Carl Orff’s establishment of an institute in his name, and Gottfried von Einem or Peter Ruzicka’s presence at the Salzburg Festival.

Papers dealing with all aspects of the ISCM’s rich history are welcome, but the programme committee especially welcomes themes dealing with:

- The contexts, figures and aims of the ISCM’s establishment
- The ISCM’s contribution to musical internationalism of the interwar and postwar years
- The ISCM meetings in Salzburg (1922, 1923, 1924, 1952) and throughout Austria (e.g., Vienna and Graz)
- Salzburg as a setting for New Music, e.g. Mozarteum (both the Stiftung and Conservatory), Salzburg Festival, International Summer Academy, Zeitfluss Festival, etc.
- Questions of gender, canonicity, and marginalisation in the ISCM’s history

Please submit an **Abstract** of no more than 250 words by **1 August 2021** to [IGNM2022@moz.ac.at](mailto:IGNM2022@moz.ac.at)

The conference languages are English and German.

Publication of a collected volume of essays is planned.

This conference is part of the exhibition “Treffpunkt International: Salzburg and 100 Years of the International Society for Contemporary Music”. Additional conferences on the ISCM, to convene in Vienna and UK, are planned for 2023. Separate calls will be issued at a later date.

### KEYNOTES

**Markus Hinterhäuser** (Intendant, Salzburg Festival), *tbc*

**Barbara Kelly** (President of the Royal Musical Association / Professor, Royal Northern College of Music)

**Ruta Staneviciute** (Professor, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, Vilnius)

### ORGANISER

Mozarteum University Salzburg, Salzburg Music History Research Group

*in association with*

International Society for Contemporary Music, Austrian Section

Royal Musical Association

### PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

- Sigrun B. Heinzlmann (Mozarteum University Salzburg)
- Thomas Hochradner (Mozarteum University Salzburg)
- Stefan David Hummel (ISCM Austria/ Mozarteum University Salzburg)
- Sonja Leipold (ISCM Austria)
- Monika Voithofer (ISCM Austria)
- Matthew Werley (Mozarteum University Salzburg)

**WEBSITE:** [www.salzburger-musikgeschichte.at/veranstaltungen/](http://www.salzburger-musikgeschichte.at/veranstaltungen/)

