

Karlheinz Essl

## Curriculum vitae

Born 1960 in Vienna. Studies at the Wiener Musikhochschule: composition (Friedrich Cerha), electro-acoustic music (Dieter Kaufmann) and double bass (Heinrich Schneikart). Studies at the University of Vienna: musicology (1989 doctoral thesis on *Das Synthese-Denken bei Anton Webern*).

His work with computers (with emphasis on Algorithmic Composition) and a prolonged occupation with the poetics of serial music have been a formative influence on his compositional thinking. Besides writing instrumental music, Karlheinz Essl also works in the field of electronic music, interactive realtime compositions and sound installations. Since the early 90's he has developed software environments for interactive algorithmic composition in real time which he uses for his own live performances and also in collaboration with artists from other fields (choreographers, dancers, visual artists and poets).

1990-94 „composer in residence” at the *Darmstädter Ferienkurse für Neue Musik*. 1992-93 work on a commission at IRCAM (Paris). Between 1995-2006 Essl was teaching „Algorithmic Composition” at the Studio for Advanced Music & Media Technology of the Bruckner University in Linz. Since 2007 he is professor of composition for electro-acoustic and experimental music at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Austria. Furthermore, Karlheinz Essl is the music director of the Essl Museum (Vienna/Klosterneuburg) where he curates experimental music events and sound installations.

Karlheinz Essl's works has been performed at the most important music festivals in Europe and the United States such as Wien modern (Vienna), Salzburg Festival (Salzburg), Musikprotokoll (Graz), überGrenzen (Berlin), Ars Musica (Brussels), Musica Presente (Milano), Presences (Paris), Sonar (Barcelona), Time of Music (Finland), ISEA (Chicago), Convergence (New London), NEMO (Chicago), ISCM World Music Days (Romania), ULTRASCHALL (Berlin), Foro Internacional de Música Nueva (Mexico City), Art meets Media (Tokyo) etc.

In 1997 Essl was featured at the Salzburg Festival (”Next Generation”) with two portrait concerts and two interactive music installation. In 2003 he was artist-in-residence of the festival „musik aktuell“ (Lower Austria, and in 2004 of the Brucknerhaus in Linz.

In 2004, Karlheinz Essl received the „Cultural Prize for Music“ of the state Lower Austria.

He is collaborates with high-class ensembles such as the Arditti Quartet (London), Ensemble Modern (Frankfurt), Het Nieuw Ensemble (Amsterdam), Ensemble InterContemporain (Paris), Klangforum (Vienna), Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna, Elision Ensemble (Australia), ensemble recherche (Freiburg), Champ d’Action (Antwerp), Orpheus Trio (Vienna) etc.

More information about Karlheinz Essl can be found on the Internet:

<http://www.essl.at>