

Bernhard Gál

Workshops | Lectures | Artist Talks

Lectures by Bernhard Gál

Alongside his concerts and exhibitions, Bernhard Gál gives lectures, artist talks and workshops, concerning his own work as well as general subjects of the contemporary music and art practice (sound installation, music & architecture, music & language, soundscape composition, etc.). Sound installation art was also the subject of Gal's lecturing at the University of Arts in Berlin in 2006-07. Naturally, topics and perspectives of his presentations vary with the audience (i.e. art and music professionals, university students, school classes, exhibition and concert visitors). Gal gives insights into his creative process and introduces selected intermedia art projects / sound installations, electro-acoustic or instrumental compositions.

Lectures about Gal's own work: 'Between the categories - intermedia installations by Bernhard Gal'
(about sound installations | intermedia art projects)

Electro-acoustic compositions
Compositions for acoustic instruments
Intermedia Music Projects

General subjects: 'A brief history of sound installation art'
(about history and scope of sound installation art)

Phonography | Soundscape Composition
Music & Architecture
Music & Language

'A brief history of sound installation art'

Sound art is a relatively young art practice, a time-based artform that finds itself between the traditional categories, integrating concepts of contemporary music, visual art, architecture or other forms of creative expression.

A sound installation can be regarded as an expansion of the concept of installation art, adding the element of sound, and thus stressing a focus on temporal perception. The audience is offered an opportunity to thoroughly explore the installation space, and particularly the placement and movement of sound in space. Many sound installations are site-specific, they may be conceived for closed and for open spaces, establishing a dialogue with their surrounding architectural and acoustic environment. Some installations make use of interactive technology (computers, sensors, mechanical and kinetic devices, etc.), others present pre-recorded sound projections from loudspeakers exclusively, or just acoustic sound sources.

Sound installation artists often extend their interest from sound-only works towards the creation of multi-disciplinary works, hence employing intense sensorial interactions. The placement of sound in space gains significant importance, sometimes suggesting parallels to architectural strategies. The site-specific arrangement of acoustic and visual objects often results in an extensive physical experience of sound and a re-evaluation of one's own perceptual system. Well-known sound installation artists include Alvin Curran, Rolf Julius, Christina Kubisch, Bernhard Leitner, Robin Minard, Max Neuhaus, and La Monte Young.

<http://www.bernhardgal.com/lectures.html>

'Beyond categories – intermedia installations by Bernhard Gal'

Sound Installation Art is one of Bernhard Gal's main areas of interest and was also the subject of his lecturing at the University of Arts in Berlin in 2006-07. Throughout the past 12 years, Gal has presented around 50 installations on four continents. Since 1997, he also works in collaboration with the Japanese architect Yumi Kori ('audio-architectural installations'). As a musicologist, curator and advocate of sound art, Gal has given lectures and workshops at educational and cultural institutions across the globe. His installations revolve around interactions of sound and light, site-specificity, time-space correlations, as well as the perceptual and sensorial preconditions of aesthetic experiences, and the human existence in general.

<http://www.bernhardgal.com/soundinstallations.html>

Previous presentations

Workshops (selection)

2009	Music and Intermedia	SESC Avenida Paulista, São Paulo
2009	Istanbul: The city and its dreams	Bilgi University, Istanbul
2008	Sound Installation Art	Bilgi University, Istanbul
2006	Proyecto Itinerante	Festival Sinapsis, Mendoza, Argentina
2006	Sound Art	SESC Pinheiros, São Paulo
2005	Klangwürste	Music Workshop for Children, Graz, Austria
2004	Klangwürste	Music Workshop for Children, Jeunesse-Festival, Vienna
2003	Trändi Händi, yo!	Music Workshop for Children, Art Project 'TASTE 0-20', Vienna
2002	Music and Language	Studio for Electroacoustic Music, University of the Arts, Berlin
2002	Liquid Music	Music Workshop for Children, ÖKS, Austria

Lectures | Artist Talks (selection)

Facultatea de Arte, Timisoara, 2009 | Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Braunschweig, 2009 | Kunstverein Alte Schmiede, Vienna, 2009 | Red House, Sofia, 2009 | Vaska Emanouilova Gallery, Sofia, 2009 | Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, 2009 | Ibrasotope, São Paulo, 2009 | Minueto Centro Musical, Belo Horizonte, 2009 | Alpen-Adria-Universität, Klagenfurt (AUT), 2008 | George Mason University, Fairfax (USA), 2008 | Wesleyan University, Middletown (USA), 2008 | Hampshire College, Amherst (USA), 2008 | UNESP, São Paulo, 2008 | UDESC, Florianopolis, 2008 | Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, 2008 | New York University, New York City, 2007 | Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, 2007 | National Taiwan University of Arts, Taipei, 2007 | National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, 2007 | Shanghai Conservatory of Music, 2007 | Digital Arts College, Shanghai University, 2007 | Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing, 2007 | Santa Marcelina University, São Paulo, 2007 | University of the Arts, Berlin, 2007 | Conservatorio di Musica "Santa Cecilia", Rom, 2006 | Conservatorio de Música de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, 2006 | Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, 2006 | Auditorio "Juan Victoria", San Juan (AR), 2006 | Centro Cultural de España, Santiago de Chile, 2006 | Escola de Música, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, 2006 | Departamento de Música, Universidade de São Paulo, 2006 | University of Music, Vienna, 2006 | Electronic Studio of the Academy of Music, Basel, 2006 | Dep. of Architectural History, Technical University, Vienna, 2004 | School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, 2004 | School of Music, Californian Institute of Arts, Los Angeles, 2004 | Academy of Music Hanns Eisler, Berlin, 2004 | Elektronisches Studio, Technische Universität Berlin, 2003 | Gallery 'Trees are so special', Tokyo, 2003 | Dep. Of Architecture, Chung Yuan Christian University, Taiwan, 2002 | Dep. of Music, National University of the Arts, Taipei, 2002 | Nagoya City University, 2002 | Studio MYU, Tokyo, 2002 | Kunstverein Alte Schmiede, Vienna, 2002 | Phonomanie-Festival, Ulrichsberg, Austria, 2000 | ESCOM Conference, Uppsala University, Sweden, 1997

Bernhard Gál

The Austrian artist, composer and musicologist Bernhard Gál has become internationally known as one of the most prolific sound artists of a younger generation. During the past twelve years Gál has created around 50 sound installations and media art projects, combining sound, light, objects, spatial concepts and video projections into intense and often site-specific interdisciplinary art works. He also composes music for acoustic instruments and electro-acoustic music. As a (laptop) musician he has been performing around 150 concerts on four continents. He runs the record label Gromoga Records and is director of the Austrian art organization 'sp ce'. Currently, Gál lives as a freelance composer, artist and curator in Vienna and Berlin where he also taught sound art at the University of Arts in 2006-07. For his music and art projects Gál has received numerous awards, his music has been made available on 30 audio publications.

<http://www.bernhardgal.com>