

**Mahler Forum for Music and Society**  
***A Room of One's Own – Creativity and Space***  
**July 1-2, 2022**

Konzerthaus Klagenfurt  
Komponierhäuschen Maiernigg – Composing Hut Maiernigg

Gustav Mahler was far more than a composer; his music goes beyond sounding art as it indeed explores the human condition. His magnificent works reveal a human being who struggles with some of life's key questions: What is life about? How can we understand death? Who are we and how can we deal with identity and the need to belong? What can music, art, and culture accomplish?

This is the inspiration for the Mahler Forum for Music and Society, a locally based and globally connected culture format. In cooperation with the Mahler Foundation and other international and national musicians, artists, scientists and authors, the Mahler Forum provides an open, interdisciplinary platform to examine the central issues of our time from the perspective of music and art.

Initiated by Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein und Morten Solvik in 2021, the first Mahler Forum for Music and Society explored the ambivalent, often contradictory relationship between culture and nature, humankind and environment.

The second Mahler Forum for Music and Society, titled *A Room of One's Own – Creativity and Space* will take place from July 1-2, 2022 and will explore the time-honoured cultural technique of the artist retreat. This year's theme of creativity and inspiration, particularly in spaces of retreat, is conceptually rooted in Gustav Mahler's Composing Hut in Maiernigg at the Wörthersee.

For two days, visitors are invited to participate in the festival's democratic and open think space, where, together with the panellists, artists and musicians, we will trace, discuss and envision the theme of creativity and space from various perspectives. Informed by music and visual art, literature and philosophy as well as the natural sciences – this transdisciplinary approach helps us in our endeavour to create new versions of future social practices.

Various sources of inspiration serve as our starting point, such as Henry David Thoreau's momentous book from 1854, *Walden, or Life in the Woods*, which made him the forefather of civil disobedience and an icon of the ecological movement. Or Virginia Woolf and her groundbreaking essay *A Room of One's Own* from 1929, which was already highly acclaimed at the time and remains one of the most widely received texts of the women's movement to this day.

Together, they form the basis of our exploration of creativity, inspiration and the longing for autonomy that comes with it. How can we apply these energies to current social conditions?

The music programme curated by musicologist and Mahler expert Morten Solvik is realized in cooperation with the Orchestra for the Earth, mezzo-sopranist Gabriella Noble as well as teachers and students from The Gustav Mahler Private University for Music.

The musical performances will include *Fünf Lieder – Five Songs* by Alma Mahler and a selection of *Lieder* by Gustav Mahler. With the musical-scenic exploration *Die Seele des Ortes – The Soul of Place*, students of the Gustav Mahler Private University for Music directed by Dieter Bucher celebrate the triumph of the spirit and change as part of preservation. Artists from the classical, jazz, folk music and elementary music education departments will interpret works by Brahms, Mittelgradnegger, Bachmann, Musil and Lavant in various formations and arrangements, ending with a multiple-part modulation of Gustav Mahler's *Liebst Du um Schönheit – If you Love for Beauty*.

For the first time, the Forum commissioned a composition in cooperation with the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, which will celebrate its world premiere at the opening event on July 1, 2022. The composition *wow (want of wit)* for mezzo-soprano and ensemble by Doina-Cezara Procopciuc is based on poems from Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*.

Musical presentations will alternate with impulse lectures, readings, and conversations. A reading by Verena Altenberger from the essay *A Room of One's Own* by Virginia Woolf, a lecture performance by Elisabeth von Samsonow, a biological perspective on rhythms, free spaces and creativity by biologist Kristin Tessmar-Raible, and an impulse lecture by Hakan Ulus on creative spaces and composing are just some of the highlights in our extensive programme.

The art installations for *Exposition* by Dorit Margreiter and Maja Osojnik, curated by Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein and section.a with the title *Exposition*, were developed in resonance with the site of Mahler's Composing Hut Maiernigg. The artists created a mapping of architecture, sound, drawing and visual markings which invites visitors to become co-actors as they allow movement in what was believed to be firm knowledge. The presentation of the interventions, an artist talk and the premiere of the silent sound installation will take place at the Mahler Forum on July 2, 2022 in cooperation with the federal state of Carinthia's Year of Visual Art 2022 CLOSE(D) FUTURE, at the Composing Hut Maiernigg. The installations can be seen, walked through and experienced as an onsite installation until October 30, 2022.

Ö1 cultural editor Christine Scheucher will host the second Mahler Forum for Music and Society.

All lectures and discussions will be held in German and streamed live.  
Entrance is free.

Due to limitations on the number of visitors, we kindly ask you to register at the following email address: [info@mahler-forum.org](mailto:info@mahler-forum.org).

To find the current program, participants' biographies, information about our Friends programme, or to sign up for our newsletter, visit [www.mahler-forum.org](http://www.mahler-forum.org).

**Partners of the Mahler Forum for Music and Society 2022**

Gustav Mahler Private University for Music, Mahler Foundation, Musikforum Viktring, University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, Gustav Mahler Research Centre Toblach and the Federal State of Carinthia's Year of Visual Art 2022 CLOSE(D) FUTURE

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**Imprint**

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**Programme**

**Friday, July 1, 2022, 7.00 pm,  
Konzerthaus Klagenfurt, Mozartsaal**

Greetings

Roland Streiner, Rector of the Gustav Mahler Private University for Music  
Christian Scheider, Mayor of the City of Klagenfurt  
Peter Kaiser, Governor and Secretary for Culture of the State Carinthia

Retreating into the World – A Room of One's Own

Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein

Gustav Mahler, Alma Mahler and (Free) Creative Space

Morten Solvik

*Fünf Lieder – Five Songs*, Alma Mahler (published 1910)

*1. Die stille Stadt*

*2. In meines Vaters Garten*

Gabriella Noble, mezzo-soprano

John Warner and soloists of the Orchestra for the Earth

Reading

*A Room of One's Own*, Virginia Woolf

Verena Altenberger

World premiere *wow (want of wit)* by Doina-Cezara Procopciuc

*wow (want of wit)* for mezzo-soprano and ensemble

based on texts from Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*

Gabriella Noble, mezzo-soprano

John Warner and soloists of the Orchestra for the Earth and  
students of the Gustav Mahler Private University for Music

On *wow (want of wit)*

Morten Solvik in conversation with Doina-Cezara Procopciuc

Repeated performance of *wow (want of wit)*

--- BREAK ---

Creative Spaces – Composing as a Process

Hakan Ulus, Gustav Mahler Private University for Music

Studio Talk

*Composers and Gustav Mahler in Toblach*

Stefan Hakenberg, Fabian Dudek and Eva Kuhn

Round table

Verena Altenberger, Stefan Hakenberg, Doina-Cezara Procopciuc, Morten Solvik and Hakan Ulus

*Fünf Lieder – Five Songs*, Alma Mahler (published 1910)

3. *Laue Sommernacht*

4. *Bei dir ist es traut*

5. *Ich wandle unter Blumen*

Gabriella Noble, mezzo-soprano

John Warner and soloists of the Orchestra for the Earth

Host: Christine Scheucher

Projection: Videostill *Exposition 2014/22* by Dorit Margreiter

Reading: *A Room of One's Own*, Virginia Woolf

Retranslated from English and with an afterword by Antje Rávik Strubel.

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**Saturday, July 2, 2022, 11.00 am**

**Komponierhäuschen Maiernigg – Composing Hut Maiernigg**

Gustav-Mahler-Weg 10, 9073 Maiernigg

The Unmistakable Sound of Silence

on *Exposition*, an artistic intervention by Dorit Margreiter and Maja Osojnik

Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein

The Composing Hut: Mahler's Creative Space

Morten Solvik

World premiere *DOORWAYS 9 / A sound postcard to an abandoned home*

Composition by Maja Osojnik for soloists of the Orchestra for the Earth

Artist Talk

Dorit Margreiter, Maja Osojnik and Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein

*Exposition* by Dorit Margreiter and Maja Osojnik is on view from July 2 – October 30, 2022

**Saturday, July 2, 2022, 5.00 pm**

**Konzerthaus Klagenfurt, Mozartsaal**

Welcoming remarks

Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein

A Musical-Scenic Exploration

*Die Seele des Ortes - The Soul of Place*

Students of the Gustav Mahler Private University for Music

directed by Dieter Bucher

Man is but a Worm – A Biological Perspective on Rhythms. Free Space and Creativity

Kristin Tessmar-Raible

Round table

Bernarda Fink and Kristin Tessmar-Raible

--- BREAK ---

Two Lieder, Gustav Mahler

*Wer hat dies Liedlein erdacht?* (Des Knaben Wunderhorn, 1892)

*Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder* (Friedrich Rückert, 1901)

Gabriella Noble, mezzo-soprano

John Warner and soloists of the Orchestra for the Earth

Lecture Performance

*Hybrid Interior Divertimento*

Elisabeth von Samsonow and Michael Klaar

Round table

Bernarda Fink, Dorit Margreiter, Morten Solvik, Elisabeth von Samsonow,  
Kristin Tessmar-Raible and Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein

Musical Finale

Gustav Mahler, *Liebst Du um Schönheit*, (Friedrich Rückert, 1902)

Gabriella Noble, mezzo-soprano

John Warner and soloists of the Orchestra for the Earth

Host: Christine Scheucher

Projection: Videostill *Exposition 2014/22* by Dorit Margreiter

**Entrance is free.**

**Programme may be subject to change.**

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