

European Conference „Improvisation in Music“ 22 – 24 October 2004, The Hague

Venue: Royal Conservatoire of Music in The Hague, The Netherlands

From 22 -24 October 2004 the European Music Council (EMC) organises the conference “Improvisation in Music” in The Hague, The Netherlands. This outstanding meeting will assemble administrators, performing musicians, composers, students and teachers from all over Europe.

Improvisation is a theme that concerns everyone who is active in music – be it as performer, teacher, musicologist or administrator. Nevertheless, there are many musical fields and genres that still neglect improvisation considerably. With this conference, the European Music Council intends to provide information about different types and aspects of improvisation.

The conference will be inaugurated on Friday evening by the president of the EMC president Beata Schanda. Wolfram Knauer, leader of the Jazzinstitut Darmstadt, will deliver the keynote speech on the changing concept of improvisation in the history of Jazz.

On Saturday morning, lectures will give an overview of improvisation in different musical genres. Amongst other the Czech composer Ivo Medek will focus on Contemporary Classical Music. Other music fields viewed will be Folk and Jazz. The Jazz pianist Marc van Roon (The Netherlands) will show that improvisation in a more general meaning can be seen as organisation tool. He will analyse its importance in management procedures. Each lecture will be followed by an open panel which offers the opportunity for questions and discussion.

In the afternoon session, workshops will demonstrate improvisation in a practical way. The Spanish music therapist Patricia Sabbatella and Marc van Roon will invite the participants to take actively part in improvisation whereas the Dutch saxophonist Rolf Delfos and the French oud-player Marc Loopuyt will give showcases of their way of improvisation, explaining their personal approach.

The conference is framed by two public concerts. On Friday evening the Italian musician Francesco Turrisi will demonstrate at the harpsichord and at the piano how improvisation can link music from Jazz to Baroque. The Saturday evening concert will be performed by students of the Royal Conservatoire of The Hague.

For further information and registration please contact the European Music Council, Weberstr. 59a ,
53113 Bonn, Germany, Tel: +49 228 966996-67 or visit: www.emc-imc.org E-mail: info@emc-imc.org