

# Welcome to the **COMPOSERS FACTORY**

Vienna, 17 April 2010

presented by  
**Frank Stahmer, MA**  
(Secretary General ECF)

**Contact:**

E [info@composersforum.eu](mailto:info@composersforum.eu)

W [www.composersforum.eu](http://www.composersforum.eu)



## ABOUT THE EUROPEAN COMPOSERS FORUM

**THE EUROPEAN COMPOSERS' FORUM (ECF)** is representing all **Art&Classical Music composers in Europe** and is the central network organisation cross-linking all national composers' associations active in this genre (*founded 2006*);

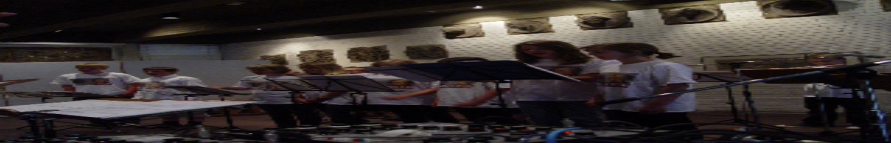
**Irrespective of still existing political divisions** in Europe, the ECF believes in an all-embracing European artistic community beyond EU-borders;

ECF is a not-for profit cultural network seated in Vienna with an **office in the European House for Culture** (Flagey building) in Brussels.

**ECF has been joined by 28 countries in Europe:**

Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, England, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland.





## THE ECF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Besides political lobbying for the contemporary classical music community in Europe, the ECF is primarily developing and initiating projects on a European scale, aiming at implementing living composers into the framework of European music life. **Among these activities are projects like:**

**1. ARTMUSFAIR** - is the place to develop your music project together with European partners! Open to representatives from throughout the contemporary classical music scene, we aim to attract hundreds of composers, music publishers, record labels, musicians, promoters, managers and agents from across the whole of Europe. ***3rd to take place: 22 - 25 September in Warsaw! You are all very kindly invited to join us in Poland!***

**2. ECCO - European Contemporary Composers Orchestra**

Newly founded Symphony Orchestra dedicated to the contemporary orchestral repertoire of 21st century composers living in Europe.

***You can book ECCO now!***

**“Don't be afraid of 21st century  
composers ... let us educate future  
audiences for contemporary music!”**

# **THE COMPOSERS FACTORY**



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - *about*

The “**Composers' Factory**” is **connecting contemporary music composers with high school, music school and higher education** (conservatory, university) students.

Alike a “**composer in school-residence**” programme the Factory shall introduce students to concepts of musical composition, and those who are playing in a school or university ensemble/choir will receive the unique opportunity to study, rehearse and perform the music of a particular composer in school-residence.

**The composer** is supposed to take part in the Factory programme personally. He/she and the students are the main protagonists.

The “Composers Factory” shall not be a single phenomenon in only one local town in Europe, but a **European wide spread activity programme** where **experiences are shared, models improved, cooperation induced!**



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - vision

### *Developing Audiences for Contemporary Music in Europe*

Without audiences music does not take place. Therefore we have to put **strongest efforts into raising and developing open-minded, contemporary-thinking, and excited audiences** who will be attending concerts, events, presentations, and workshops of contemporary music today and in 10, 20, or 30 years as well.

The Composers Factory shall become a European-wide initiative, gathering expertise and experience already made locally here and there.

In order to **collect existing projects, information & experience** a Forum shall be installed in order to **pool information, join initiatives** and **forward a role-model of a Composers Factory** to be adopted in practice in all regions throughout Europe.



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - *aims*

*The principal aims to be achieved are...*

- **Raise general awareness** for the fact that contemporary music is an integral AND practical part of music education in schools and for youth;
- **Guarantee that music educational programmes** outside from the regular school **course curriculum integrate living (!) composers** as key figures of music creativity that represent today's music life;
- **Develop functioning and transferable and comparable model-projects** European wide;
- Include **systematic assessment, evaluation and information transfer** in order to implement these into the music educational activities all around Europe.



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - *target group*

*Everybody aged 6-99 years...*

*Short & middle term target audience (Project Phase I):*

- **School children** of general public schools in Europe with or without regular music classes -> project partners: *EAS members, meNET partners, more*

*Middle & long term target audience (Project Phase II):*

- **Students and young performers** at music academies and universities and youth orchestras -> project partners: *national Jeunesses, Music Universities Network, European Youth Orchestra networks*
- **Adult amateurs** who study music or an instrument at a music school -> project partners: *EMU, music schools*





## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - methods & actions

- **Bring together** the key decision makers involved with the educational programmes (networks, institutions/NGO's, experts) with music creators (composers and their networks);
- **Involve politics ad politicians** (EU, national & regional governments and officers in charge for (music) education);
- **Encourage teachers** and music educational professionals to get in touch with contemporary composers / contact local composers;
- **Encourage composers** (young and elder) to engage in music educational projects and to go into schools/contact local schools;
- **Lower the hurdles** for composers and teachers to start a project together;



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - methods & actions

- **Encourage composers** to compose not only for the highly sophisticated orchestra/ensemble, but for youth orchestras, ensembles and choirs as well as normal public school classes;
- **Collect all information** available today on programmes and projects that have been realised all over Europe in this particular area already, involve key figures as experts;
- **Guarantee regular information flow** and access to information about functioning programmes & projects, guarantee contact points and assistance for project development;
- **Guarantee that the cultural policy** supports such programmes and initiatives.



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - *key elements*

- **Promotion of from the European level down to the regional** (Composers Factory" partners (ECF, EAS), European and national music education bodies;
- **Build a sophisticated database & network** to collect project information, evaluations and assessments, contacts, and schedules of projects that closely relate to the composers factory idea and take place, are to take place or have taken place anywhere in Europe;
- **Install a once a year a Europeanwide conference** involving all relevant stakeholders that can help and take part in realising the idea and vision;
- **Develop a role-model "Composers Factory"** that builds on experience and project schemes already collected and made in order to develop this further and set clear standards about input, outcome, methods, compatibility, sustainability and assessment.



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY - *schedule*

- **8-11 September 2010:** Composer Factory kick-off at Nordic Music Days '10 in Copenhagen
- **Early 2011:** official start of the project in the frame of a successfully installed EU project
- **End of April 2011:** 1st European Composers Factory Conference in Weimar in the frame of the "Franz Liszt" year celebrations



## THE COMPOSERS FACTORY

- Feedbacks, comments, ideas
  - Who wants to take part
    - Any other business?

**Thank you very much!!!**