

Bonn, 30 August 2010

bonn hoeren – City Sound Art
SAM AUINGER the world's first city sound artist

In 2010, in the form of *bonn hoeren*, the city of Bonn's Beethovenstiftung für Kunst und Kultur has initiated a hitherto internationally unique project focusing on the annual engagement of a "city sound artist".

Since April and until October 2010 **Sam Auinger** (b. 1956 in Linz, Austria) will be living in the city as Bonn's first **city sound artist**.

Worldwide, he is one of the most influential pioneers of urban sound art, whose focus is the acoustic confrontation with public space and public routine.

bonn hoeren centres on Sam Auinger's artistic research while resident in the city. He investigates urban situations in Bonn according to acoustic criteria and from **10 October 2010** will be presenting in the form of **grundklang bonn** a **sound installation in the public space**, which can then be heard there for the following six months.

bonn hoeren represents an invitation to local people to rediscover their city and perceive it differently: artistic confrontations with visual and auditory habits that make reference to the city's history and development, its geographical location, and its acoustic particularities.

bonn hoeren was and is integrated into a broad accompanying programme:

the **stadtklangforum [city sound forum]** invites all those interested to a series of talks and discussions on the theme of "city and sound", to be held in the auditorium of the *Kunstmuseum Bonn*.

In the form of **klangstadt in der schule [sound city in school]** the *Büro für Konzertpädagogik* [office for concert education] is staging a number of projects with students and teachers at schools in Bonn.

Finally at the **sonotopia** exhibition from 11 September 2010 accompanying the *Beethovenfest Bonn* the results of a workshop with students from the *Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln* (KHM) will be presented under the direction of Sam Auinger.

In regular blog entries, Sam Auinger describes his impressions of the city and gives readers an opportunity to take part in his excursions.

The **curator** and **director** of *bonn hoeren* is **Carsten Seiffarth** / Berlin.

bonn hoeren is a project of the **Beethovenstiftung für Kunst und Kultur der Bundesstadt Bonn** in collaboration with: Kunstmuseum Bonn, Beethovenfest Bonn, KHM Köln, initiative hören.

www.bonn hoeren.de

The next **bonn hoeren** events:

• **stadtklangforum** – SERIES OF TALKS AND DISCUSSIONS

Wed, 1 September 2010, 7 p.m., Kunstmuseum Bonn (main auditorium)

“The City as Acoustic Space” Lecture by Prof. Gernot Böhme (Darmstadt)

With: Sam Auinger (20100 bonn city sound artist), Prof. Gernot Böhme (philosopher) and Klaus Hoppe (GrünGürtel project leader, Frankfurt), presenter: Raoul Mörchen

• **sonotopia** – EXHIBITION to accompany the **Beethovenfest Bonn 2010**

Opening: Sat., 11 September 2010, 6 p.m. / Exhibition room of the Beethovenhalle Bonn / Opening times: 11 September – 9 October 2010 beginning one hour before the start of each concert

• **grundklang bonn** - SOUND INSTALLATION by Sam Auinger

Opening: Sun., 10 October 2010, 3 p.m. Bahnhofsvorplatz Bonn

Duration: 10 October 2010 – 1 May 2011

SAM AUINGER BONN 2010 CITY SOUND ARTIST,

born in 1956 in Linz (Austria), lives and works as sound artist and composer in Linz and Berlin. Since the early 1980s has occupied himself intensively with questions of composition, computer music, sound design and psychoacoustics.

• In 1989 together with Bruce Odland he founded “O+A”. Their central theme is “Hearing Perspective”. Among the projects realized are “Garten der Zeiträume” (Ars Electronica 90, Linz), “TrafficMantra Forum Trajanum” (Rome 1991), Sound design for Peter

Sellars’s “The Persians” (Premiere: Salzburg Festival, 1993), “Balance” (Sonambiente, Berlin 1996), “Box 30/70” (2001, Berlin, ongoing, Neerpelt), “Blue Moon” (New Sounds New York, NYC 2004), “Requiem for fossil fuels” (Ear to the Earth 2007, NYC), sonic commens’ (2009)

• Frequent collaboration with the bassist and composer Hannes Strobl (tamtam), the choreographer Marguerite Donlon and the composer Claas Willeke. In 2005v after a number of joint projects, Sam Auinger, Dietmar Offenhuber and Hannes Strobl formed the artist group ‘stadtmusik’.

• Sam Auinger has received numerous scholarships and prizes including the Kulturpreis der Stadt Linz in 2002 and the SKE Publicity Prize in 2007. In 1997 he was the guest at the Berlin Artist Program of the German Academic Exchange Service.

• Alongside his artistic activity, he is currently visiting professor of “experimental sound design” for the MA course in “Sound Studies” at the UdK Berlin.

CARSTEN SEIFFARTH Curator and Project Leader of *bonn hoeren*,

studied orchestra music, musicology and sociology in Weimar and Berlin. Since 1991 he has curated and produced projects in the field of contemporary music and acoustic art at home and abroad. From 2005 to 2007 he was one of the artistic directors of the Medien>Kunst<Labor TESLA in Berlin. In 1996 he founded Germany’s only acoustic art gallery, the singuhr - hoergalerie in Berlin, which he has managed since then.

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Beethovenstiftung | Bonn

ein projekt der beethovenstiftung für kunst und kultur der bundesstadt bonn
in zusammenarbeit mit kunstmuseum bonn, beethovenfest bonn, kfm köln,
initiative hören. medienpartner: kulturradio WDR3, neue zeitschrift für musik.

