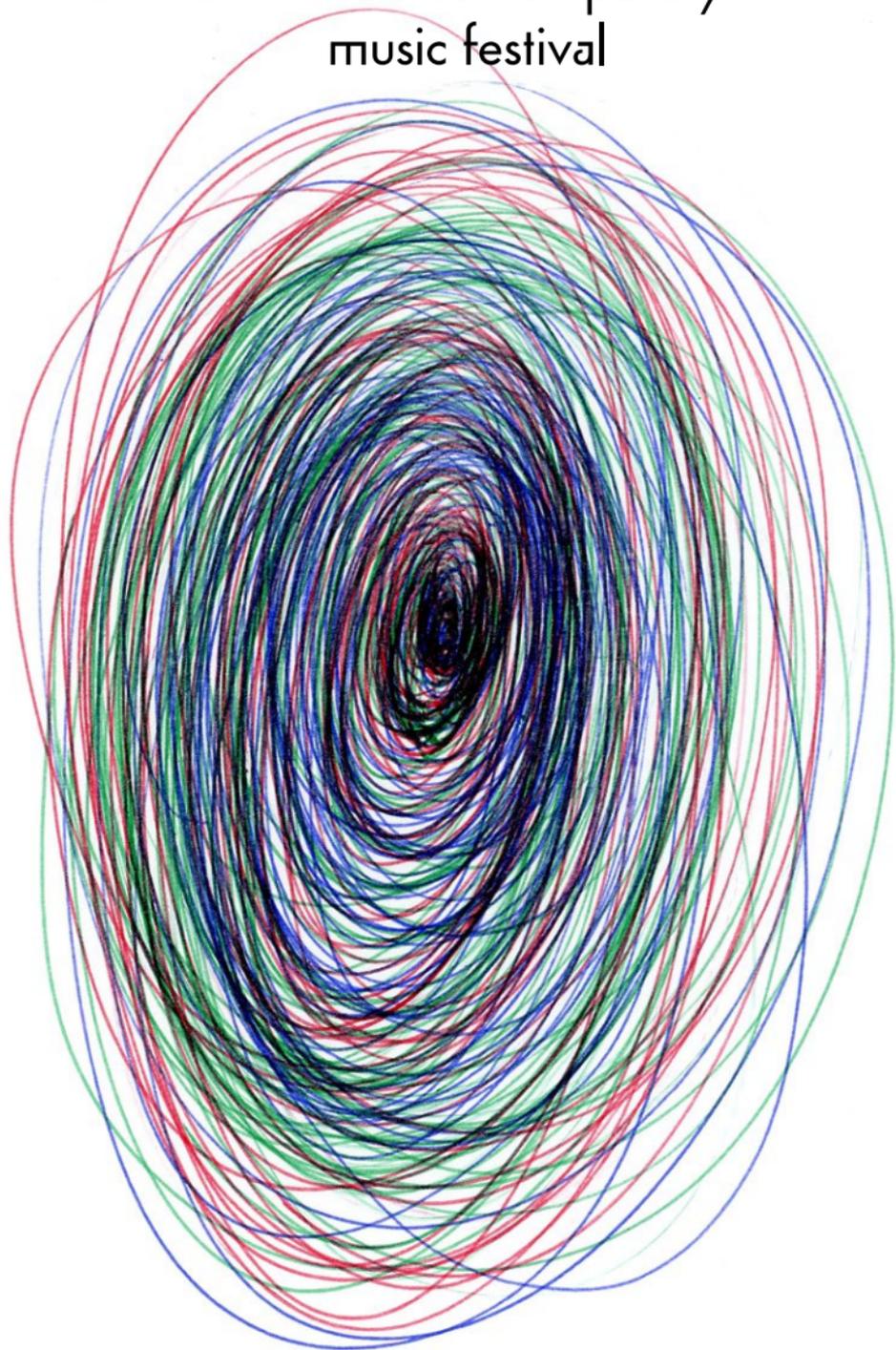


ultima

oslo contemporary
music festival



7-16 september 2017

wednesday 6 september

17:00 Jana Winderen
p. 6 *Rats – Secret Soundscapes of the City*
Nylandsbrua

thursday 7 september

17:00 Thora Dolven Balke
p. 36 *All That Respires, Conspires*
Unge Kunstneres Samfund (UKS)

19:30 Heiner Goebbels
p. 7 *Eislermaterial*
(Opening concert)
Nationaltheatret

22:00 Opening night afterparty –
p. 9 Dwarfs of East Agouza
SALT

friday 8 september

13:00 Eliane Radigue –
p. 10 *Virtuoso Listening*
Ultima Academy
Sentralen/Vinterhagen

17:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

19:00 Eliane Radigue OCCAM
p. 13 Emanuel Vigelands museum

19:30 Synne Skouen *Ballerina*
p. 15 Den Norske Opera & Ballett

21:00 Death to The Machine
p. 16 Sentralen

saturday 9 september

12:00 Ultima Academy
p. 18 Det nye Nasjonalmuseet/
Mellomstasjonen

13:00 Koka Nikoladze
20:00 *Urban Liturgy*
p. 19 Youngstorget

14:00 Christian Blom *Sing*
p. 20 Sentralen/Hvelvet
14:30, 16:00, 16:30

15:00 Cikada
p. 21 Filidei / Pesson / Lang
Sentralen/Forstanderskapssalen

17:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

19:00 Maja S. K. Ratkje
p. 22 *Revelations (This Early Song)*
Kulturkirken Jakob

19:00 Eliane Radigue
p. 14 OCCAM RIVER
Emanuel Vigelands museum

20:00 Ryuichi Sakamoto + Fujiko
p. 23 Nakaya + Min Tanaka +
Shiro Takatani
a-form
Det nye Nasjonalmuseet

22:00 Supersilent anniversary concert
p. 25 Sentralen/Marmorsalen

sunday 10 september

12:00 – 16:00
p. 27 Ultima Children's Day
Sentralen

17:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

18:30 Synne Skouen *Ballerina*
p. 15 Den Norske Opera & Ballett

monday 11 september

16:00 Forecast
p. 29 Ultima Academy
Sentralen/Gymsalen

19:00 Barrett / Holsen / Radigue
p. 30 Sentralen/Marmorsalen

20:00 Supersilent installation
p. 31 Emanuel Vigelands museum

21:00 asamisimasa
p. 32 Pisaro / Lang
Kulturkirken Jakob

tuesday 12 september

11:30 Ultima Academy
p. 33 Different venues

17:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

19:00 Thora Dolven Balke
p. 36 *All That Respires, Conspires*
Sentralen/Hvelvet

19:30 Synne Skouen *Ballerina*
p. 15 Den Norske Opera & Ballett

21:00 ensemble ascolta
p. 37 Francesco Filidei
Kulturkirken Jakob

wednesday 13 september

12:00 Lunchtime concert
p. 38 Alpaca Ensemble
Sentralen/Forstanderskapssalen

13:00 Ultima Academy
p. 39 Sentralen/Gymsalen

17:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

18:00 Ultima Academy
p. 39 Sentralen/Gymsalen

19:00 Becker/Langgård NEW SKIN
p. 41 Black Box teater

19:00 REOLÔ
p. 40 Riksscenen

19:30 Synne Skouen *Ballerina*
p. 15 Den Norske Opera & Ballett

20:00 Yarn/Wire
p. 42 Lamb / Lucier / Vine
Jace Clayton
J. Eastman Memorial Dinner
Kulturkirken Jakob

thursday 14 september

12:00 Lunchtime concert
p. 45 Tøyen Fil og Klaffer
Sentralen/
Forstanderskapssalen

16:00 Compagnie Furinkai
p. 46 *Origami*
Christian Frederiks plass

17:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

19:00 Becker/Langgård NEW SKIN
p. 41 Black Box teater

19:00 Apartment House
p. 47 Julius Eastman
Femenine
OCA

21:00 Ensemble Musikfabrik
p. 48 Saunders / Tenney /
Feldman / Reich
Kulturkirken Jakob

friday 15 september

12:00 Lunchtime concert
p. 50 Kahrs / Moe
Sentralen/Forstanderskapssalen

14:00 Ultima Academy
p. 51 Sentralen/Gymsalen

16:00 Compagnie Furinkai
p. 46 *Origami*
Christian Frederiks plass

17:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

18:00 Supersilent installation
p. 31 Emanuel Vigelands museum

18:00 Supriya Nagarajan
p. 52 *Lullaby Oslo 2017*
Furuset bibliotek og
aktivitetshus

19:00 Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra
p. 54 Sentralen

21:00 Charlemagne Palestine
p. 56 Kulturkirken Jakob

saturday 16 september

12:30 Arne Nordheim
14:30 *Dråpen (The Drop)*
p. 57 Bekkelaget rensesanlegg

13:00 Compagnie Furinkai
p. 46 *Origami*
Christian Frederiks plass

14:00 Lunchtime concert
p. 58 scapegoat / Améi Quartett
SALT

14:00 Verdensteatret
p. 11 HANNAH
Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

16:00 Ultima Academy
p. 59 Sentralen/Vinterhagen

17:00 Ultima Academy
p. 60 KHiO

18:00 Håkon Berge
p. 61 *bare en stillhet som kaster meg
ut i universet av ensomheten*
Oslo Sinfonietta og
Oslo Domkor
Oslo domkirke

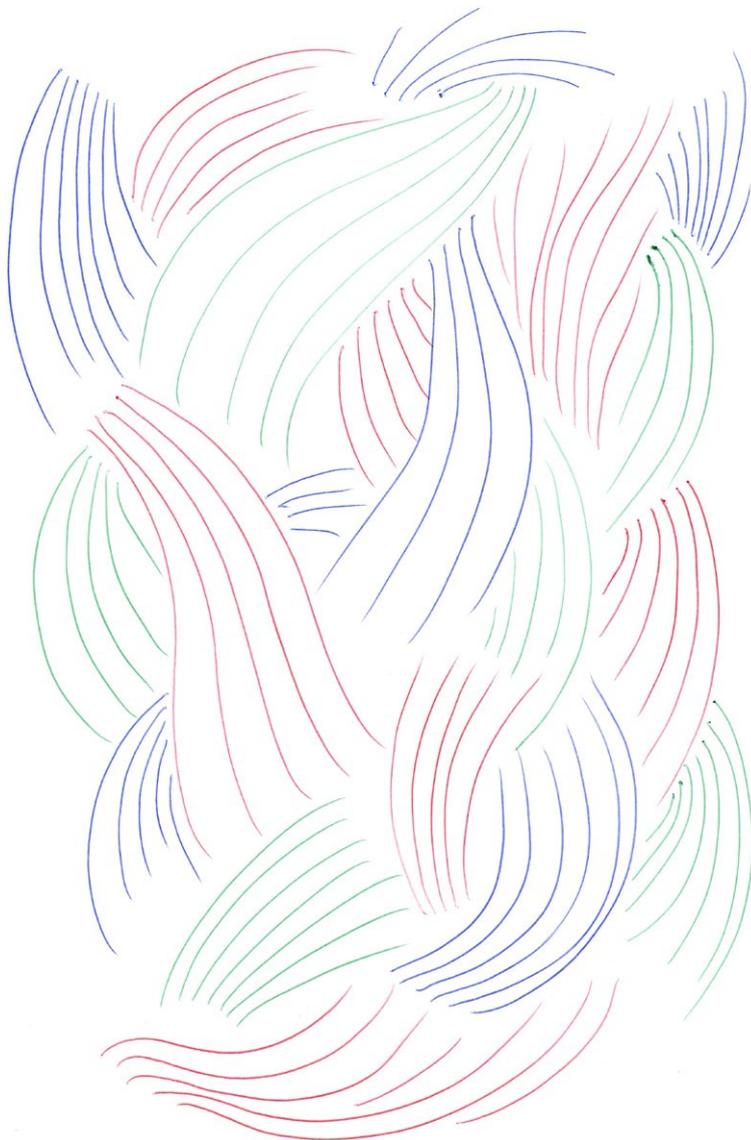
18:30 Synne Skouen *Ballerina*
p. 15 Den Norske Opera & Ballett

20:00 KORK (Closing concert)
p. 62 Sentralen/Marmorsalen

sunday 17 september

14:00 Verdensteatret HANNAH
p. 11 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

18:30 Synne Skouen *Ballerina*
p. 15 Den Norske Opera & Ballett



An Open Ending

Rituals are often defined as actions which have symbolic significance, and which are repeated in a particular, predictable manner. They can be connected to important transitional moments in people's lives, or practices linked to social upheavals. After leading Ultima through eight editions, it feels natural to finish with a programme which revolves around precisely such rituals and upheavals.

A while ago, I was asked by the German magazine *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* about the thinking behind the Ultima programme. This resulted in ten thoughts, ten ambitions, which in many ways sum up Ultima's strategy during the years I have been running the festival. A strategy which can be boiled down to one main point: daring to be weak and unsure.

We don't always know what good music is, at least before we have heard it. A continual discussion about what is artistic quality lies at the core of Ultima Festival's operations. My work has not been first and foremost about acting as a tastemaker, but about searching for necessary projects where something seems to be at stake. The challenge has often been to resist the temptation to conclude.

In an increasingly commercialised environment where truth is fought over in tabloid headlines, we have tried to provide a space for complexity, ambivalence, imperfection and transience. We have tried to create an open festival which does not put forward solutions, which is not dead certain, but which remains open to alternatives. A festival based around the attitude which Oslo's musical life is known for: not giving a damn about conventions.

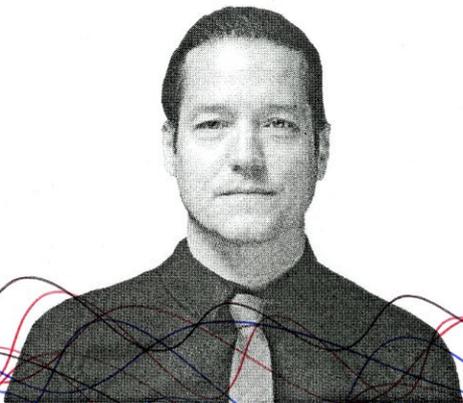
We wanted to present music lovingly, in a direct, pure form. Our objective has been a festival that's sensitive to its surroundings and which challenges and develops the music in dialogue with the world around it. Collaboration has been the key. The entire field, from the biggest institutions to the tiniest clubs; local, national and international players; everyone has helped give experimental music more impact. Now, as we currently experience a growing, younger audience, international interest and awards for our work are the results of enormous efforts by Ultima's members, partners and employees – going right back to the beginning in 1991.

The German magazine I mentioned earlier was founded by Robert Schumann in 1834, as a place for discussion of new musical trends and ideas. In the course of a long and fractured story, the project continues to this day, and shows how this music is bound up with history, continually developing.

Ultima Festival is a part of this tradition and has demonstrated its own ability to keep renewing itself. It has been a pleasure to contribute to its progress, and I wish the new leader, all staff, members and partners success in their important work.

Thank you.

Lars Petter Hagen
Artistic Director



ultima.no

Hear the full spectrum!
Check ultima.no
for expanded event info,
buy tickets online,
build your own favourites list,
and more...

wednesday 6 september



Jana Winderen *Rats* – *Secret Soundscapes of the City* (wp)

Munchmuseet i
bevegelse, Bjørnvika
Nylandsbrua
Time 17:00
Ticket Free entry

Opening 6 September
(stand till 14 October)

Parallel to the world of people is another bustling society – a world of rats. Some of their communication with each other cannot be registered by human ears, as it is located in an ultrasound frequency range – over 20.000 Hz.

A stone's throw from the white-marbled Opera house, and based on the hypothesis that rats serenade one another with love songs, Jana Winderen will record the ultrasonic landscape of Bjørnvika and slow the sound down to human hearing levels. Based on her fieldwork and findings, she creates a new multichannel composition for Munchmuseet on the Move 2017 with spatial audio software by Tony Myatt (University of Surrey). The new, multi-channel sound piece will be installed at the mouth of Akerselva, where the river meets the sea in this rapidly developing district of Oslo.

thursday 7 september



Heiner Goebbels *Eislermaterial* Ensemble Modern

Nationaltheatret
Time 19:30
Ticket 550-100 NOK

Pre talk with Heiner Goebbels
in Nationaltheatrets
publikumsfoaje at 17:45

Heiner Goebbels
Eislermaterial (1998)
With Ensemble Modern and
actor Josef Bierbichler

The art of Heiner Goebbels is not quite opera and not quite theatre, but occupies a unique position between the two. With a background straddling avant garde composition and progressive/radical rock in the 1970s, Goebbels is now a prolific composer and stage director of multimedia works that have been performed all over the world. His staging of Harry Partch's *Delusion of the Fury* was one of Ultima's all-time triumphs when it was performed at Oslo's Nationaltheater in 2013. In 2012 the German composer and director received the prestigious international Ibsen Award.

Now Goebbels returns to Ultima with a concert version of *Eislermaterial* (1998), an enchanting and passionate tribute and deconstruction of one of his greatest musical heroes. Hanns Eisler (1898-1962) was best known for his lifelong association with the dramatist Bertolt Brecht. →

Opening concert

Josef Bierbichler
— Soloist
Heiner Goebbels
— Composer/director
Norbert Ommer
— Sound director
Jean Kalman
— Lighting Designer
Barbara Weesternach
— Lighting technician
Felix Dreher
— Sound technician
Stephan Buchberger
— Director's Assistant

Ensemble Modern:
Dietmar Wiesner
— Flute, alto flute, piccolo
Antje Thierbach
— Oboe
Roland Diry
— Clarinets
Matthias Stich
— Bass clarinet, tenor saxophone
Johannes Schwarz
— Bassoon
Valentín Garvie
— Trumpet
Sava Stoianov
— Trumpet, Flugelhorn,
Wagner tuba
Uwe Dierksen
— Trumpet, euphonium,
helicon
Rainer Römer
— Drum kit
Hermann Kretzschmar
— Piano, harmonium
Ueli Wiget
— Piano, sampler
Freya Ritts-Kirby
— Violin
Megumi Kasakawa
— Viola
Michael M. Kasper
— Cello
Joachim Tinnfeld
— Double bass/electric bass

← Heiner Goebbels *Eislermaterial*

Banned by the Nazi party, Eisler relocated to the USA in the second world war, before being in turn condemned by the McCarthy investigations in the Cold War and sent back to East Germany, where he among other works composed the socialist country's national anthem.

Combining elements of folksong, popular national music, military marches and haunting atmospheres, Eisler's music has been important for Heiner Goebbels right from his beginnings as a composer. In *Eislermaterial* he uses the entire breadth of Eisler's oeuvre – a staged concert featuring some of Eisler's most famous songs which Goebbels edited and arranged for performance by Ensemble Modern (who premiered the work in 1998) and juxtaposed with original Eisler audio files in a collage. In this concert version of *Eislermaterial*, its bitter-sweet melodies are performed by the work's original vocalist, the actor Josef Bierbichler, whose voice is unmistakably unaffected and simultaneously touching.

In collaboration with Nationaltheatret. Commission from Musica Viva, Munich. Co-production between Musica Viva/Bayerischer Rundfunk, Hebbel-Theater Berlin and Dresdner Zentrum für zeitgenössische Musik. Supported by Deutsche Bank Stiftung.

thursday 7 september



A steamy night of Egyptian psychedelia – in a sauna!

Dwarfs of East Agouza

SALT/Árdna (sauna)

Time 22:00

Ticket 100 NOK

NB: Ticket holders for both *Death to the Machine* (8 September) AND *Supersilent* (9 September) get Free entry to *Dwarfs of East Agouza*

Maurice Louca
— Keyboards and electronics
Sam Shalabi
— Electric guitar/synth
Alan Bishop
— Guitar, sax, vocals

This opening night after-party takes place at SALT, a nomadic art project currently situated on Oslo's shoreline. SALT's spectacular wooden constructions cover a total of 5000 m², and include the Árdna sauna. (NB: The sauna venue will be warm, but not super-hot. Light clothing recommended!)

friday

8 september

ultima
academy

Eliane Radigue *Virtuoso Listening*

Sentrallen/
Vinterhagen

Time 13:00
(65 min)

Ticket Free entry

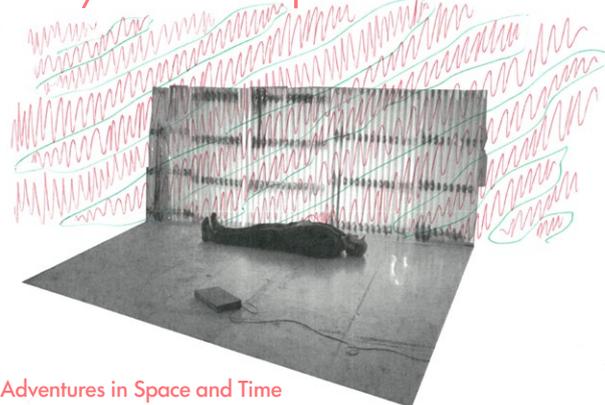
Ultima Academy is a series of workshops, talks, lectures and panel discussions and is free and open to anyone interested in knowing more about the ideas that underlie the general festival programme

Screening of Anaïs Prosaïc's documentary about the life and music of Eliane Radigue. The French composer, born in 1932, has emerged from the 1960s school of musique concrète and electroacoustic music to create her own monumental, meditative and epic synthesizer compositions that engage with enormous questions of life, death and existence, mediated through her strong Buddhist faith.

Since 2001 she has stopped using electronics and has composed exclusively for acoustic instruments, and this intimate portrait film also includes contributions from musicians who have become regular players of her recent compositions, including Charles Curtis, AGF, Kaffe Matthews, Rhodri Davies, Kasper Toeplitz and more.

friday

8 september



Adventures in Space and Time

Verdensteatret *HANNAH* (wp)

Henie Onstad
Kunstsenter
Premiere:
8 September
Time 17:00
Ticket 300/200 NOK

Performances from 8–17
September (except 11
September)

With:
Asle Nilsen
Piotr Pajchel
Eirik Arthur Blekesaune
Torgrim Torve
Niklas Adam
Janne Kruse
Ali Djabbar
Martin Taxt
Elisabeth Carmen Gmeiner
HC Gilje

Thanks to:
Espen Sommer Eide
Sofia Jernberg
Magnie Finnsdatter Nilsen

For the world-renowned Norwegian performance group Verdensteatret, the present is a memory in motion. Each of their powerful, immersive and unforgettable multimedia theatre works explores transitional states and journeys through challenging physical and emotional terrain.

Verdensteatret are currently working on a new production that will premiere as a live performance at Oslo's Henie Onstad Art Centre. In this brand new work, Verdensteatret will explore ideas about geological time and attention fatigue. As they put it: 'There has never been so much past as there is right now.'

In November 2016, the Verdensteatret collective went on a research trip to the Mekong Delta in Vietnam, a location they first visited ten years ago. Their research, in a place they were already familiar with, was particularly focused on the nature of repetition, and they began questioning whether *repetition* is even possible. →

friday

8 september

← Verdensteatret *HANNAH*

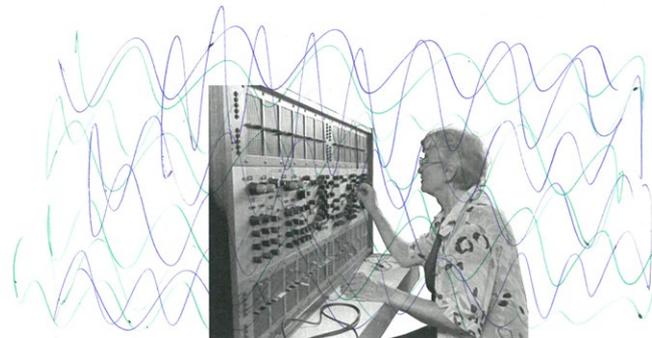
In their new piece, Verdensteatret will create a series of elaborate audio-visual compositions – generated via an electronic feedback system – designed to absorb the audience into the performance space. Inspired by the immense span and slow unfolding of geological time, the material acts as a kind of sedimentation process, drawing attention to slow changes and the way physical objects can affect their surroundings over extremely long time-spans.

As well as being an incredible experience, new Verdensteatret production is always considered an important event in the arts calendar. At Ultima 2014 they premiered the acclaimed *Broen over Gjørme* (*Bridge Over Mud*), about which Klassekampen's critic wrote: 'The group transforms its stage... into a dramatic body, pulsating between its visual and audiovisual elements, and all the fragments that float by have a certain dream-like expression.'

In collaboration with Verdensteatret, Henie Onstad Kunstsenter and Black Box teater. Supported by Kulturrådet.

friday

8 september



Éliane Radigue *OCCAM* *OCCAM RIVER*

Emanuel Vigelands
museum

Time 19:00

Ticket 200/100 NOK

OCCAM RIVER will be
performed Saturday 9
September.

OCCAM XIII
for bassoon
OCCAM XVIII
for contrabass-recorder
OCCAM I
for solo harp

Rhodri Davies
— Harp
Pia Palme
— Contrabass-recorder
Dafne Vincente-Sandoval
— Bassoon

Éliane Radigue is one of the composers in focus at Ultima 2017. Three concerts plus a seminar and screening will examine her life and music, and reaffirm her status in contemporary music.

At the age of 85, Radigue is one of the last surviving generation of French electronic musicians whose careers were profoundly influenced by musique concrète pioneers such as Pierre Schaeffer and Pierre Henry. Using an Arp 2500 modular synthesizer, Radigue quickly discovered her own unique style in the early 1970s, combining technology with a strong Buddhist faith. The resulting music – works such as *Adnos I-III*, *Trilogie de la Mort*, and *Île Re-sonante* plunged deeply into long, slowly evolving drone forms that probed the mysteries of death and the afterlife, and opened up transcendental and meditative spaces. →

friday

8 september

OCCAM RIVER XIII
duo for bassoon and harp
(wr)

OCCAM RIVER VI
duo for contrabass-recorder
and harp

Rhodri Davies
— Harp
Pia Palme
— Contrabass-recorder
Dafne Vicente-Sandoval
— Bassoon

← Éliane Radigue *OCCAM / OCCAM RIVER*

Since 2001 she has focused more on acoustic instruments, often working closely with specific performers.

These concerts will display a total of five works in her *OCCAM* series (including one world premiere), composed in the past decade for harp, contrabass recorder and bassoon, solo and in combination. In the astonishing acoustics of the Emanuel Vigeland's museum, with its long reverberation time, Radigue's mystical and deeply resonant work can be heard at its very best.

friday

8 september



World premiere of Synne Skouen's new opera

Synne Skouen *Ballerina* (wr)

Den Norske Opera
& Ballett, Scene 2

Time 19:30

Ticket 395–100 NOK

Also performed 10, 12, 13,
16 and 17 September

Pre-concert talk
Saturday 2 September
15:00–16:00

With Silje Marie Aker
Johnsen, Hege Høisæter,
Ketil Hugaas, Dagfinn
Andersen, Vigdis Unsgård,
Tone Kummervold / Ensemble
from the Opera orchestra

Synne Skouen
— Music
Oda Radoor, based on
Arne Skouen's original play
— Libretto
Bjarne Sakshaug
— Musical rehearsing
Hilde Andersen
— Director
Bård Lie Torgersen
— Set and costume designer
Ingrid Tønder
— Lighting designer
Jonas Forsell
— Dramaturg

In *Ballerina*, Norwegian composer Synne Skouen conducts us inside the private world of Malin, a teenage girl with autism. There you will find the deep pond and the big bird, the circus horse, Herr Carl the eucalyptus, Uncle Anton the creaky gate, and Mrs Ludovica the millstone. All of them have 'blue voices'.

Synne Skouen is one of Norway's foremost contemporary composers. Her new chamber opera is based on a play of the same name written by her father, Arne Skouen, in 1976. It has been adapted as an opera libretto by Oda Radoor. Amid the difficult dramas of a crisis-racked family, which includes her former ballerina mother Edith, Malin's inner life is expressed via music.

Performed in Norwegian with Norwegian and English subtitles.

Produced by DNO&B.

friday

8 september



Death to The Machine

Sentrallen

Time 21:00

Ticket 350/250 NOK

NB: Ticket holders for both *Death to the Machine* (8 September) AND *Supersilent* (9 September) get Free entry to *Dwarfs of East Agouza* (7 September)

Sote with Tarik Barri,
Behrouz Pashaei &
Arash Bolouri –
Sacred Horror In Design
Time 21:00
Location Marmorsalen

Torgny with
Willibald Storn (w/r)
Time 22:00
Location Gymsalen

Stian Westerhus +
Forsvarets Stabsmusikkorps
Tod den maskinen (w/r)
Time 23:00
Location Marmorsalen

Probing the man-machine interface: Norwegian artcore, radical Persian electronics and amped-up wind bands

Sacred Horror in Design is a new audiovisual project offering a rare glimpse into the underground world of electronic arts in Iran. Digital musician Ata Ebtekar aka Sote (who has released music on Warp, Sub Rosa, Opal Tapes and Digitalis among others) collaborates with celebrated audiovisual composer Tarik Barri (Monolake, Thom Yorke, Nicolas Jaar) and performers Arash Bolouri (santoor) and Behrouz Pashaei (setar) on a project merging electronics with traditional acoustic instruments for a 'Persian techno apocalypse': a magical, textural multi-timbral environment.

Former hardcore vocalist Torgny Amdam has marked himself out as a solo artist with an electronic, rhythmic and vocal based music which hurtles from aggression to beauty and melody. →

friday

8 september

He has released two albums and created the soundtrack for films including *Oslo, 31 August*. This year Torgny is wheeling out his new project – *Cut & Run* – with a new album, videos and performances. At Ultima Torgny will be accompanied by the legendary confrontational artist Willibald Storn, now in his eighties, as well as vocalist Maria Due and others. He will occupy the inter-zone between a deconstructed rock concert, performance art, vocals and dance, with references to consumerism, sexuality, dreams and the future.

In an encounter between the Forsvarets Stabsmusikkorps and guitar innovator Stian Westerhus, *Tod den maskinen* reflects the growing struggles between human consciousness and artificial intelligence. In the age of machine learning, algorithms and behaviour analysis, the very concept of intelligence is becoming less artificial, and circuits are defining the structures of human individuality. As machines are programmed to learn in much the same way as humans are taught, we see a new consciousness developing with increasing rapidity. This piece will express the conflict of automation versus human will, and merges ceremonial wind bands and innovative music making in a high-volume, high-energy 45 minute performance. The performance of *Tod den maskinen* at Ultima is a premiere in collaboration with the South Netherlands Philharmonic.

Letters Sent from Heaven Ultima Academy Seminar

Det nye
Nasjonalmuseet,
Mellomstasjonen,
Vestbanen

Time 12:00–15:30

Ticket Free entry

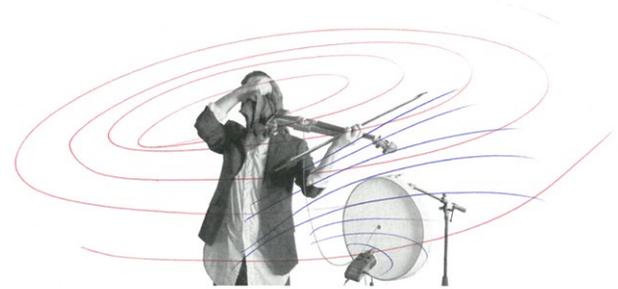
The seminar will be held in
English

The seminar is made in
collaboration with the
Biodynamic Society,
Norway

In accompaniment to the event (page 23), Oslo Kunstforening will present a unique exhibition, displaying the photographs of Fujiko Nakaya's father, Ukichiro Nakaya.

Letters Sent from Heaven is an exhibition of experimental Japanese physicist Ukichiro Nakaya's photographs of snow crystals and electrostatic discharges. This is the first time Ukichiro Nakaya's (1900–1962) work is presented in Europe in connection with the fog sculptures by his daughter. This is also the first time Ukichiro Nakaya's work is presented in Norway.

As part of this, a seminar will be held at Mellomstasjonen as part of Ultima Academy. Invited speakers are artist and critic Kenjiro Okazaki, climate historians Peder Anker and Sverker Sörlin, curator and artistic director of Oslo Kunstforening Marianne Hultman and agriculturist and director of the Biodynamic Society in Oslo, Dag Blakkisrud.



Experience Youngstorget transform into giant percussion instrument

Koka Nikoladze *Urban Liturgy* (w/p)

Youngstorget

Time 13:00 and
20:00

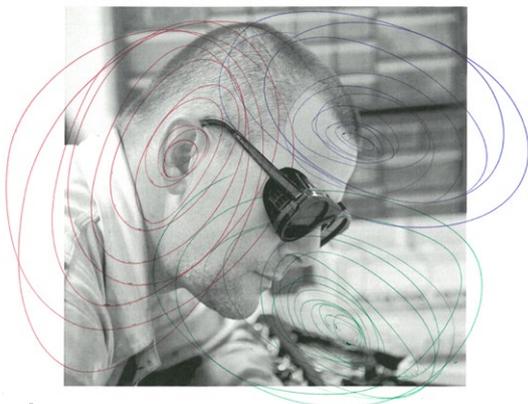
Ticket Free entry

Koka Nikoladze returns to Ultima with an interactive installation and performance inspired by religious rituals. The Oslo based Georgian composer/sound artist has invented his own set of beliefs, customs and traditions and will invite members of the public to join him in worshipping in an unfamiliar religious system.

Nikoladze will install a series of automated musical sources built by himself, including self-strumming string instruments, self-hitting drums, computerised voices reading Google Translate passages from the internet, and more, in a public space, amplified by hidden speakers.

saturday

9 september



Christian Blom *Sing*

Sentrallen/Hvelvet

Time 14:00, 14:30,
16:00, 16:30

Ticket 100 NOK

NB: Tickets for the *Cikada* concert in the Forstanderskapssalen in Sentrallen (15:00) include Free entry to Christian Blom's installation

Sing, by Oslo based sound sculptor Christian Blom, is a set of mechanical instruments that are activated in response to the human voice. Blom's beautiful, intricate and precarious constructions have previously been presented to Ultima's audience, and this year he has built a set of instruments that react and are animated by being sung to. The music of *Sing* is a combination of the organic voice and the mechanical movement it triggers. Thus, there is no fixed audience for this work – only participants.

'The word *persona* comes from Latin, and means mask,' says Blom. 'It is speculated that it could be related to *per sonare*, which means something like *sounding through*. As if we are persons through the sound of our voice. We are also continuously coming into being through our relation with the world, and hearing is a very important part of this. In *Sing* I try to couple these ideas: being a person through the sound of your voice, and being created through hearing.'

saturday

9 september



The familiar made strange

Cikada

Sentrallen/
Forstanderskapssalen
Time 15:00
Ticket 250/150 NOK

NB: Tickets for the *Cikada* concert include Free entry to Christian Blom's installation *Sing* in Hvelvet

Francesco Filidei
Cuorde Vuote
Francesco Filidei
Two Songs Without
Gérard Pesson
Nebentstück
Klaus Lang
Schumanns geister

The familiar made strange in *Cikada*'s intriguing modern chamber programme Francesco Filidei's *Cuorde Vuote* (*Open Strings*, 2010), is mostly played, as the title implies, on strings that are not held down on the neck of the instruments. This places more listening focus on the rich and subtle range of tones and textures that emanate from a single string. *Two Songs Without* was written specially for Norway's premier contemporary chamber ensemble *Cikada*. Inspired by Mendelssohn's *Songs Without Words*, these have a freshness and simplicity that recalls the most memorable pop music, while also using the empty-string technique.

The programme also includes two works that transform well known classical piano pieces. Klaus Lang's *schumanns geister* (2014) is based on Robert Schumann's *Ghost Variations*, his final piano work. *Nebentstück* (1998), by Gérard Pesson, takes Johannes Brahms's *Ballade* op. 10 no. 4 and 'filters' it via clarinet and string quartet.

saturday

9 september



Startling Revelations

Maja S. K. Ratkje / Aasne Linnestå *Revelations (This Early Song)* (w/p)

Kulturkirken Jakob
Time 19:00
Ticket 250/150 NOK

Marianne Beate Kielland
— Soloist
Engedårkvartetten:
Arvid Engedgård
— Violin
Alex Robson
— Violin
Juliet Jopling
— Viola
Jan Clemens Carlsen
— Cello
Ingrid Skanke Høssøien
— Lighting design

Maja S. K. Ratkje
— Music
Aasne Linnestå
— Libretto

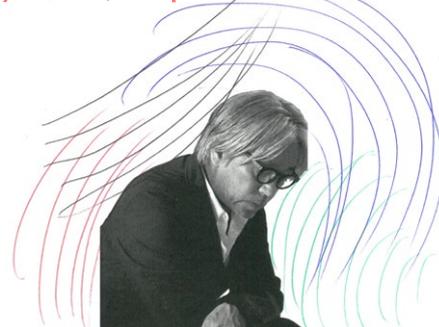
In difficult times, as mankind struggles with a failing nature and with political unrest on the rise, we naturally look for signs of hope. Maja S. K. Ratkje's new concert performance aims to offer just that.

In *Revelations (This Early Song)*, Ratkje with author Aasne Linnestå search for the essence of existence and for the beauty in the here and now. They also investigate the way language shapes who we are.

Principal soloist is mezzosoprano Marianne Beate Kielland, who will be accompanied by four-musician ensemble Engedårkvartetten. She will sing a text that is based on some of the oldest and most enduring words in all of the world's languages – those words that express the most fundamental and important elements of what it is to be human. As Aasne Linnestå puts it: 'Find, connect, bind together. And then put it out there, in the work.'

saturday

9 september



Fog sculptures, a Japanese synth pioneer, avant garde dance, and the view from the roof of Oslo's new National Museum

Ryuichi Sakamoto + Fujiko Nakaya + Min Tanaka + Shiro Takatani *a•form*

Det nye Nasjonal-
museet (Vestbanen)
Time 20:00
Ticket 500/400 NOK

Debut live union of world
famous Japanese artists in
an exclusive first taste of a
major new Oslo landmark

Fujiko Nakaya (born 1933) created her first public fog sculpture at the World Fair Expo '70 in Osaka. Since then Nakaya has exhibited her fog- and cloud sculptures at major art venues all over the world, including the Guggenheim in Bilbao, San Francisco Exploratorium and Tate Modern in London. At Ultima she will install a fog sculpture on the roof terrace on the construction site of the new National Museum building in front of the City Hall, the harbour and the fjord, marking the first occasion for the public to get access to this spectacular site.

Responding to the sculpture will be two legends of Japanese contemporary music and dance. **Ryuichi Sakamoto** will play an exclusive keyboard recital as an atmospheric sonic accompaniment to Nakaya's fog, while choreographer and dancer Min Tanaka will perform his *Body Weather* movements with Nakaya's fog piece. →

In accompaniment, Oslo Kunstforening will present an exhibition, displaying the photographs of Fujiko Nakaya's father, Ukichiro Nakaya. *Letters Sent from Heaven* (25.08-24.09), is a unique exhibition of experimental Japanese physicist Ukichiro Nakaya's photographs of snow crystals and electrostatic discharges. This is the first time Ukichiro Nakaya's (1900-1962) work is presented in Europe in connection with the fog sculptures by his daughter, Fujiko Nakaya. They were first shown at the Sapporo International Art Festival in Japan curated by Ryuichi Sakamoto in 2014

← a·form

Sakamoto achieved fame in the late 70s in Yellow Magic Orchestra, Japan's first synth pop band, and went on to a huge international solo career as a pop artist, composer and multimedia entrepreneur. His electro and techno music has been hugely influential, and his collaborators over the years have included David Sylvian, Carsten Nicolai, Youssou N'Dour and Fennesz. His Oscar and Grammy Award winning soundtracks include *Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence* (1983), *The Last Emperor* (1987), *The Sheltering Sky* (1990) and *The Revenant* (2015); and he created music for the opening ceremony of the Barcelona Olympics in 1992. Earlier this spring, Sakamoto released his 20th solo album, *async*, where one of the tracks is a tribute to Fujiko Nakaya.

Min Tanaka (born 1945) is an experimental dancer, performance artist and film actor. His unique 'hyper-dance' involves a complete unity of mind and body, and he often dances in an improvised response to a place or music. He has collaborated with composers such as Luciano Berio, Hans Werner Henze, Toshi Ichiyanagi, improvisers such as Cecil Taylor, Milford Graves, Derek Bailey, John Cale, Aki Takahashi, visual artists Karel Appel, and Richard Serra, and the writer Susan Sontag. Since 2004, he has performed a series *Locus Focus* in numerous places including Indonesian islands, in favor of the outdoor space.

Shiro Takatani has created the lighting design for the event.

The project was initiated by Oslo Kunstforening, developed in collaboration with Ultima, Statsbygg, Dansens Hus, National Museum and Ekebergparken.



Supersilent 20 years anniversary concert at Ultima

Supersilent anniversary concert

Sentralen/
Marmorsalen
Time 22:00
Ticket 300/200 NOK

NB: Ticket holders for both Supersilent (9 September) AND Death to the Machine (8 September) get Free entry to Dwarfs of East Agouza (7 September)

For the past 20 years, Arve Henriksen (trumpet/vocals), Ståle Storløkken (composer/keyboards) and Helge 'Deathprod' Sten (electronics) have improvised a music that exists at the meeting point of avant garde, noise and jazz. At Ultima, the trio – who never discuss what they are about to play on stage or record – mark their 20 year anniversary with a concert at Sentralen's Marmorsalen, and an installation at the Emanuel Vigeland's museum.

Supersilent has its roots in Norway's late 90s jazz scene, growing out of the trio Veslefrek, while Helge Sten had been a member of rock group Motorpsycho. The explosion of energy released when free music collided with digital processing has made Supersilent one of the most revered Norwegian acts on the international stage. They played a packed-out theatre at the Big Ears festival in Knoxville, Tennessee this spring. →

saturday

9 september

← **Supersilent anniversary concert**

A typical Supersilent session will move from meditative and mysterious ambience to violent, angry soundclashes between the three members. At Ultima this year you'll be able to witness a classic Supersilent live set in the stunning surroundings of the Marmorsalen.

Plus, along with artist Pekka Stokke the group will be invading the Emanuel Vigeland's museum to create an unforgettable installation (page 31) – secret as a deadly weapon – designed to take full advantage of the unique building's dark, heavy atmosphere and murals depicting the cycle of birth and death.

sunday

10 september



Barnas Ultima-dag (BUD)

Sentralen

Time 12:00–16:00

Ticket 100 NOK

bud

Barnas ultima-dag

Ultima's very own children's contemporary music fest is taking place for the fourth year in a row. Once again it's a packed day of musical activities, making stuff, listening to crazy sounds and experiencing new worlds.

Six guides, from eight to twelve year old, lead the way through a day of adventurous sound and music and fun activities.

Featured in this year's BUD:

Guitarist and musician **Bare Egil** (Bare Egil Band, Hurra Torpedo, etc) & **Aslag** with their 'super-popular kids' show', featuring quirky songs and anarchic humour.

Puppet character **Zook** from the popular Norwegian sci-fi series *Kometkameratene*, teams up with **Maren Elle** and some of her colleagues from the **Norwegian Radio Orchestra** and their own brand of illogical humour, slapstick comedy and infectiously cool songs. →

← **Barnas Ultima-dag (BUD)**

A special installation created for BUD by the improvising quartet **SPUNK** (Maja S. K. Ratkje, Lene Grenager, Hild Sofie Tafjord and Kristin Andersen).

Sing, by Oslo based sound sculptor **Christian Blom**, is a set of mechanical instruments that are activated in response to the human voice, and react and are animated by being sung to.

Infinite Chaos Stop Motion by **Next Life** with **Hai Nguyen Dinh** (guitar) is a dynamic audio visual concert/performance based on digital imagery, lights and choreography.

A series of exciting hands-on sound sculpture workshops set up by innovative Oslo collective **Drivhuset**. Activities include making four-storey high long-string instruments; a wall-hanging percussion monkey; a musical ski lift; an interactive theremin-woman; and the ever popular sonic crafting table full of mechanical and electronic gizmos to build.

Forecast – Presentation at Ultima Concert with Stefan Maier and Jennifer Walshe

Sentralen/Gymsalen
Time 16:00–18:00
Ticket Free entry

In collaboration with
The Forecast Platform

Ultima Academy is a series of workshops, talks, lectures and panel discussions and is free and open to anyone interested in knowing more about the ideas that underlie this year's festival programme

We are delighted to include a presentation of the Forecast platform – based on the idea of mentorship in creative areas – as part of this year's Ultima Academy. At this presentation you can meet the programme's artistic director Freo Majer, as well as Irish composer and vocal improviser Jennifer Walshe, who has been acting as one of this year's mentors. Her mentoree, Stefan Maier, will encounter her in an improvised concert and afterwards the two will discuss their collaboration.

monday

11 september



Electronic music for 24 'loudspeakers'

Barrett / Holsen / Radigue

Sentralen/
Marmorsalen
Time 19:00
Ticket 250/150 NOK

Natasha Barrett
Involuntary Expression (w/)
Hilde Marie Holsen
Prikle (w/)
Eliane Radigue
Arthesis

Natasha Barrett's new acousmatic electro-acoustic composition explores the idea of music emerging from the microscopic movements of hundreds of people, including performing musicians and crowds attempting to stand still. The body's tiniest movements are recorded using a high-speed, high-res 3D tracking system; they are then blown up and converted into audible spatial sound structures.

Hilde Marie Holsen combines trumpet and electronics, usually in an improvised setting. *Prikle* is a new piece for trumpet, live electronics and 3D surround sound. "Prikle" is the Norwegian term for transplanting seedlings from the nursery to their permanent place of growth. In this piece, the various trumpet sounds act as sonic seedlings whose conditions for growth are enhanced by electronic processing.

French veteran Eliane Radigue's music is featured several times at this year's Ultima, and here the 1973 ARP synthesizer piece *Arthesis* is performed by François J. Bonnet, aka electronic musician Kassel Jaeger.

In collaboration with Notam. Supported by Kulturrådet.

monday

11 september



Supersilent mark their 20 year anniversary at Ultima (part two)

Supersilent installation

Emanuel Vigelands
museum
Time 20:00-22:00
Ticket Free entry

The installation will be open
from 19:00-22:00 Monday
- Saturday during Ultima

In addition to the concert (page 25) in the stunning surroundings of the Marmorsalen 9 September, Supersilent will be invading the mausoleum at the Emanuel Vigelands museum to create an unforgettable installation – secret as a deadly weapon – designed to take full advantage of the unique building's dark, heavy atmosphere, extreme reverberation and murals depicting the cycle of birth and death.



A pair of works that are best experienced lying down

asamisimasa

Kulturkirken Jakob

Time 21:00

Ticket 250/150 NOK

Michael Pisaro
Asleep street pipes tones
 Klaus Lang
Bright darkness.(morning)
 (wv)

asamisimasa present a pair of works that are best experienced lying down.

Austrian composer Klaus Lang aims to ask how time changes the perception of sound, and vice versa, with a soundworld that resembles the sensation of form and colour that occur when you close your eyes.

American composer Michael Pisaro places an exceptional focus on timbre, duration and the quality of microscopic sound. *Asleep, Street, Pipes, Tones* is part of a series that deliberately attempts to replicate the feel of a dream state. Imagining what it would be like to experience the world only through the ears, this piece challenges the listener to tune into to its slow accumulation of detail and become increasingly aware, just as your eyes gradually get used to the dark.

Lie back and enjoy it!

Ultima Remake

Fyrstikkalleen
 videregående skole
 Time 11:30–15:00
 Ticket Free entry

Opening 12 September
 (stands till 15 September)

In collaboration with the
 Ulysses Network and the
 Creative Europe programme
 of the European Union

This year's Ultima Remake is a collaboration with Fyrstikkalleen Videregående skole in Oslo. Over four workshops, second year students from media and communication will develop an audio-visual installation based on the theme *Ritual*, inspired by the interdisciplinary works of Verdensteatret

The project is a collaboration with composer Magnus Bugge, video artist Ove Alexander Dahl and teacher Richard Grimnes Nygård, Trine Dahl and Jon Tolo Hausberg from Fyrstikkalleen vgs. Project Coordinator is Gyrid Nordal Kaldestad. Remake is a part of the international Ulysses Network, promoting contemporary music in Europe.

tuesday

12 september

ultima
academy

Lullaby Oslo 2017 (installation)

Furuset bibliotek og
aktivitetshus

Time 12:00–18:00

Ticket Free entry

Opening 12 September
(stands till 15 September)

In collaboration with
Notam and Furuset bibliotek
og aktivitetshus

Supriya Nagarajan has been travelling with her «Lullaby Booth» recording lullabies from different cultures in the district of Alna in Oslo. At Ultima the result of the collected lullabies is presented in a sound installation at Furuset bibliotek og aktivitetshus. The audience can listen to soundscapes of voices and sounds that is inspired by the participants' childhood memories. Nagarajan and her assistant Erlend Bilsbak collected the sound material in May 2017. Nagarajan will produce the installation in collaboration with Cato Langnes from Notam.

During the festival Nagarajan and Duncan Chapman will perform several concerts for invited kindergardens and a concert open to the public in collaboration with Haugerud Strykeorkester and Mari Ystanes Fjeldstad as a part of Oslo Cultural Night at Furuset bibliotek og aktivitetshus.

Sverm-Resonans

Sentrallen / Vanessa
Bairdrommet

(fourth floor)

Time 12:30–15:30

Ticket Free entry

The installation is the result of the art/science research projects Sverm and MICRO, supported by University of Oslo, Norges forskningsråd and Kulturrådet

Opening 12 September
(stand till 14 September)

Stand still. Wait for the sound. Stretch out your arm. Don't move. Hear the tension. Feel the muscle movements. Relax. Turn around. Stand still. Listen to the silence. Feel the line between the known and unknown, controllable and uncontrollable. Where the body meets the mind. Where the mind meets the body. What can you hear?

Sverm-Resonans is a new sound installation by Alexander Refsum Jensenius, Kari Anne Vadstenvik Bjerkestrand, Victoria Johnson, Victor Gonzalez Sanchez, Agata Zelechowska, Anna Linh Berg.

tuesday

12 september

ultima
academy

Robotic Revolution

Sentrallen / Gymsalen

Time 13:00–14:00

Ticket Free entry

Panel
Christian Blom,
Koka Nikoladze,
Eirik Blekesaune (sound
designer, Verdensteatret)

Moderator
Nathaniel Budzinski

We are constantly told that robots are our future, and some of the biggest philosophical discussions are currently around the ethics of artificial intelligence. It's only natural that AI is playing a bigger role in the art world too. In this panel, three composers and artists will discuss the role of robotics, automation and mechanics in their own practice and debate the ideological borderlines between human consciousness and machine intelligence in the coming technological era.

Nathaniel Budzinski has written for magazines including *The Wire*, *Frieze*, and others. His last film, *9 Futures*, premiered at CPH:DOX in 2015. He has recently relocated to Oslo after several years in Copenhagen. Before that he studied fine art in London, and worked as online editor at *The Wire* magazine. He is currently working on a new film satirising the contemporary art world.

Composition Seminar with Michael Pisaro

Norges musikkhøg-
skole / room 139

Time 13:00–15:00

Ticket Free entry

Where is the composition? A discussion of the origin and location of compositional decisions.

The composer Michael Pisaro was born in Buffalo in 1961. He is a composer and guitarist, a member of the Wandelweiser Composers Ensemble and founder and director of the Experimental Music Workshop, Calarts. His work is frequently performed in the U.S. and in Europe, in music festivals and in many smaller venues.

tuesday

12 september



Thora Dolven Balke *All That Respires, Conspires*

Sentralen/Hvelvet
Time 19:00
Ticket Free entry

NB: UKS will present an extended version of the radio series through an exhibition - displaying installations of archive material, works and objects from the contributors from 7 September - 8 October

A radio series and exhibition by Thora Dolven Balke in collaboration with Erik Balke, Dominic Barter, Camilla Rocha Campos, Trine Falch, Dr. Karl-Heinz Frommolt, Millford Graves, Gaby Hartel, Musa Michelle Mattiuzzi and Amilcar Packer

All that respires, conspires reflects on the act of 'conspiring'—the act of breathing together. The radio series explores sound's relationship to circulation and movement, following sonic movement through physical spaces, social spaces, interdisciplinary spaces, and political spaces. Compiled and edited by Thora Dolven Balke, the work combines interviews, field recordings, archival footage and commissioned compositions from Brazil, Norway, Germany, the UK and US. Contributors from the varying disciplines of natural science, social activism, justice, performance, medical research, and music share their insights, research and work on what it is to transmit meaning, what is necessary to allow action and exchange to take place. Episodes will be streamed online, as well as played live during this listening session event.

tuesday

12 september



Four Scenes and a Funeral

Francesco Filidei *Opera (forse)*

Kulturkirken Jakob
Time 21:00
Ticket 250/150 NOK

Works by Francesco Filidei
I Funerali dell'Anarchico Serantini
Esercizio di Pazzia I
I hate mirrors (wp)
Esercizio di Pazzia II
Opera (forse)
Piano Intermezzi by
Alfredo Catalani
Ruggero Leoncavallo
Giacomo Puccini

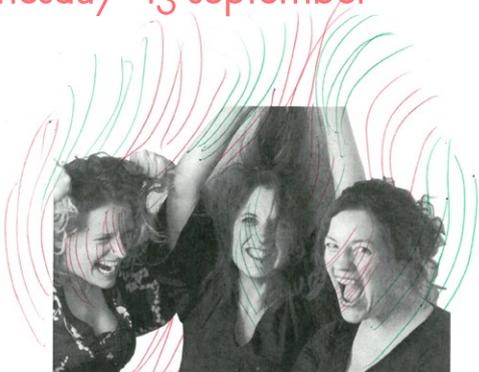
ensemble ascolta
Rob Young
— Speaker for *Opera (forse)*
Matthias Rebstock
— Staging
Florian Hoelscher
— Piano, conductor
Julian Belli
Erik Borgir
Andrew Digby
Boris Müller
João Carlos Pacheco
Markus Schwind

Italian composer and organist Francesco Filidei (born 1973) has gained a reputation for questioning the fundamental values of music itself. Is there music in a singer's drawing of a finger on a violin string? Where does music begin, and can it ever end? These are the starting points for his large body of work that includes *Opera (forse)* (2009), scored for an ensemble of six.

Filidei studied in Florence under Salvatore Sciarrino and the organist Jean Guillou, but his own compositions are rougher around the edges than his mentors. *Opera (forse)*, which translates as *The Work (Maybe)*, requires two tables with birds, pots and various other objects, and instrumental and percussive passages are broken up with announcements from the musicians.

ensemble ascolta are a new music ensemble based in Stuttgart, established in 2003.

I hate mirrors is commissioned by the Ernst von Siemens Foundation.



Lunchtime concert

Alpaca Ensemble

Sentrallen/
Forstanderskapssalen
Time 12:00
Ticket 100 NOK

Karin Rehnqvist
Långt borta och nära
(solo clarinet version)
The Beginning
In Orbit

Else Bø
— Piano
Sigrid Elisabeth Stang
— Violin
Marianne Baudouin
— Cello
Rolf Borch
— Clarinet

In 2016 Alpaca Ensemble celebrated their 20th anniversary by commissioning a new work from composer Karin Rehnqvist. *In Orbit*, for piano, violin, cello and clarinet, was premiered at last year's Stangvik Festival. It was developed via collaboration and improvisation with the musicians, and involves different positions and movements around a space which leads to the feeling that the music is 'in orbit'.

As well as this new quartet work, the concert will also include one of her earlier works for piano trio, *The Beginning*, and a solo instrumental arrangement of her clarinet concerto.

Alpaca Ensemble is a musical cooperative based in Trondheim, led by Else Bø.

Improvisation: Chaos or Control?

Sentrallen/Gymsalen
Time 13:00–14:00
Ticket Free entry

Panel
Ivar Grydeland
Maja S. K. Ratkje

Moderator
Rob Young

The dialogue between different types of music is becoming increasingly frenetic, and boundaries between practices and approaches more and more fluid. Improvisation is often an integral part of composed work, while jazz and free music often involve partly composed strategies. What can each learn about the other? Three musicians with a foot in each approach come together to discuss the freedoms and limitations. Norwegian guitarist Ivar Grydeland has recently researched hidden structures within recorded improvisations with the aid of digital analysis. Maja S. K. Ratkje has worked with both freely improvised techniques in her solo work and in SPUNK, as well as more formal compositions such as choral and operatic pieces.

Balanseprat #6

Sentrallen/Gymsalen
Time 18:00–19:00
Ticket Free entry

Panel
Natasha Barrett
Rune Rebne
Karin Rehnqvist

Moderator
Peter Meanwell

Balansekunst is dedicated to examining and boosting the role of women in contemporary culture. In this panel discussion, composers Natasha Barrett, Rune Rebne and Karin Rehnqvist will discuss how the role of the composer has developed, and how this role has been specifically influenced by women working in the field. The moderator is Peter Meanwell, Artistic Director of the Borealis Festival in Bergen. Introduction by Guro Kleveland from Balansekunst.

wednesday 13 september



REOLÔ

Riksscenen

Time 19:00

Ticket 220/175 NOK

Anders Erik Røine

— Guitar/mouth harp/
langeleik

Hans Hulbækmo

— Percussion/mouth harp

Hans Kjørstad

— Fiddle

Rasmus Kjørstad

— Fiddle

Inspired by the supposedly strange characteristics of folk fiddlers – who seemingly have a close relationship with both nature and the subterranean – two duos, brothers Hans and Rasmus Kjørstad and Anders Røine/Hans Hulbækmo, have created *Reolô*. Traditional melodies in new garb, newly composed tunes, collisions and conversations in fresh new shapes are the starting point for this new piece, originally commissioned by Hilmestemnet.

Folk music has often gone wandering across wide open spaces before, and *Reolô* rolls across West Africa and India on its journey through the valleys of the homeland. This well known quartet come at the music from a wide variety of musical directions in folk, jazz and contemporary music.

wednesday 13 september



Signe Becker / Ingvild Langgård NEW SKIN (wp)

Black Box teater

Time 19:00

Ticket 250/100 NOK

Runs on the 13 and

14 September

Signe Becker

— Space

Ingvild Langgård

— Sound

Created in collaboration with

Tilo Hahn

— Lighting designer

Kjersti Alm Eriksen

— Scenography assistant

Pernille Mogensen

— Producer

A requiem for the future. A ceremonial presentation of a disembodied history. Skeletons, limbs, paintings, sounds and melodies emerge from the dark and form new constellations. *NEW SKIN* is a concert/installation performance by composer/musician/artist Ingvild Langgård and scenographer/artist Signe Becker.

Two living bodies and a dozen corpses will lead the audience back to the future, while symbols familiar from pop culture, mythology, metal, and chakra healing will be channelled out of the darkness and into the spotlights.

There's something rotten in the state of Man. We have stared so long at screens. We have gaped in dread at the news. We have smelled the stink of apathy. Let's take a step back, recollect our mojo, and propose a new path into the future.

In collaboration with Black Box teater. Produced by Becker/Langgård. Co-producers: Black Box Theatre and BIT-teatergarasjen. Supported by Kulturrådet and Fond for Lyd og Bilde. 41

wednesday 13 september



Julius Eastman: The Minimalist that Time Forgot

Yarn/Wire / Jace Clayton

Kulturkirken Jakob

Time 20:00

Ticket 300/200 NOK

Yarn/Wire

Catherine Lamb

Curvo Totalitas (2016)

Anthony Vine

distance/absence (2016)

Alvin Lucier

Oases (2016)

–

Jace Clayton

Julius Eastman

Memorial Dinner

There's a second chance to hear Julius Eastman's music on the following night, when one of the great enigmatic works of 20th century music will be reconstructed by the British group Apartment House (p.47)

wednesday 13 september

Yarn/Wire

Laura Barger

Russell H. Greenberg

Ning Yu

Ian M. Antonio

Jace Clayton

– Concept, arrangement,

electronics

Arooj Aftab

– Vocals (via Skype)

David Friend

– Piano

Emily Manzo

– Piano

played in real time by two pianists. Behind the project is DJ, electronic musician and author Jace Clayton, aka DJ /rupture, whose book *Uproot: Travels in 21st Century Music and Digital Culture* explores the sweeping changes digital music is undergoing in remote corners of the planet.

This concert also includes a rare appearance in Norway by the New York based percussion and piano based quartet Yarn/Wire. They will play three recent works of US minimalism: Catherin Lamb's *Curvo Totalitas*, Anthony Vine's *distance/absence* and Alvin Lucier's *Oases*, all from 2016.

This year, Ultima festival investigates the enigmatic figure of American minimalism, Julius Eastman.

The reputation of American composer/singer Julius Eastman (1940–90) is undergoing a rapid rediscovery. Eastman's outsider status (as a black, gay, uncompromising avant gardist) was cemented by titles such as *Gay Guerrilla* and *Evil Nigger*, but his style of repetitive minimalism is being newly appreciated by fans of Steve Reich and Charlemagne Palestine, and his achievements as a vocalist included recording Maxwell Davies's *Eight Songs for a Mad King*.

In *The Julius Eastman Memorial Dinner*, Eastman's work is presented in a semi-lecture context.

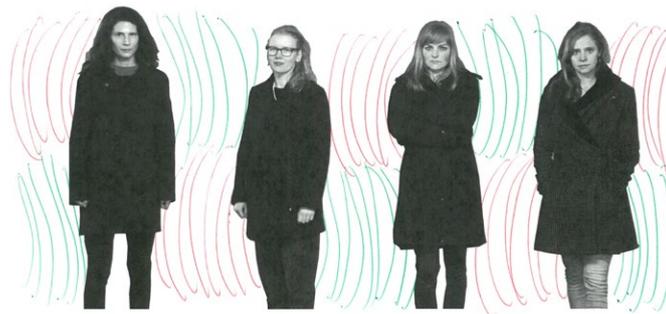
Playing with the notion of Eastman as a postmodern trickster, *Julius Eastman Memorial Dinner* is framed as a job application for the role of the composer in a celebration of his life, with spoken interludes and electronic treatments of the compositions →

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Hear the full spectrum!
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build your own favourites list,
and more...

thursday

14 september



Lunchtime concert

Tøyen Fil og Klafferi

Four premieres of new Nordic music.

Introspective and meditative sounds, field recordings from Icelandic summer landscapes, childhood memories of listening to shortwave radio, a scratching DJ dog, the political rage of Pussy Riot, and links between visual art and music: all of this and more will be explored by the Oslo group Tøyen Fil og Klafferi in this diverse program of Nordic premieres.

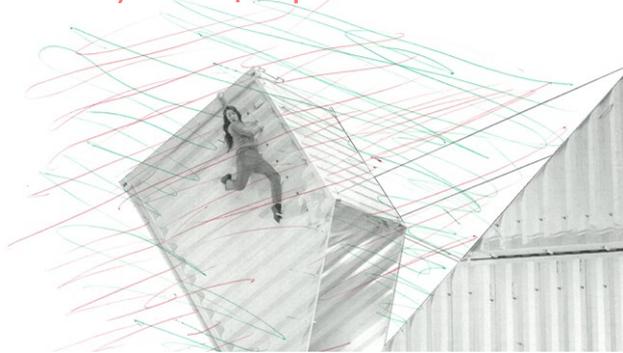
The list of compositions includes three by members of the Icelandic S.L.Á.T.U.R. collective, whose practice involves animated notation with computer graphics, interactivity, experimental sounds and tunings and performance art, as well as the development of isolated musical universes.

Sentralen/
Forstanderskapssalen
Time 12:00
Ticket 100 NOK

Hafdís Bjarnadóttir
Sumar / Summer (wp)
Bergrún Snæbjörnsdóttir
BAE / Before Anyone Else
(wp)
Lars Skoglund
Radio Days
Guðmundur Steinn
Gunnarsson
Leyfðu Barninu (wp)
Kristine Tjøgersen
Gegen die Natur (wp)

Tøyen Fil og Klafferi
Hanne Rekdal
— Flutes, bassoon
Kristine Tjøgersen
— Clarinets
Eira Bjørnstad Foss
— Violin
Tove Margrethe Erikstad
— Cello

thursday 14 september



Origami: Woman and Machine in Perfect Harmony

Compagnie Furinkai *Origami*

Christian Frederiks
plass (Sjøsiden/
Jernbanetorget)
Time 16:00, 17:30
Ticket Free entry

Friday 15 September
at 16:00 and 17:30
Saturday 16 September
at 13:00

Satchie Noro and
Silvain Ohl
— Project, concept
Sylvain Ohl and Eric Noël
— Construction
Satchie Noro
— Dance
Fred Costa with the voice
of Maia Barouh
— Original music
Thierry Arlot
— Lighting and stage
managing
Karine De Barbarin
— Costumes

Origami is a striking performance art piece and sculpture that combines acrobatics with a modified shipping container. A container, familiar from the global transport industry, is cut into unusual segments and unfolds before your eyes into something resembling a paper origami shape. As if hatched out of a gigantic steel egg, from inside emerges performance artist Satchie Noro – who proceeds to contort herself into a succession of poses and shapes as the entire structure morphs and unfolds. Balancing on tightropes, trapezes and specially modified foot-and handholds, and swinging an axe around her head, Noro's precarious aerial choreography will leave you holding your breath.

thursday 14 september



Apartment House Julius Eastman *Femenine*

OCA
Time 19:00
Ticket 250/150 NOK

Also check out Jace Clayton
*Julius Eastman Memorial
Dinner* in Kulturkirken Jakob
13 September (page 42)

The second chance to hear Julius Eastman's music on this year's Ultima Festival, when one of the great enigmatic works of 20th century music will be reconstructed by the British group Apartment House.

Femenine (1974) almost did not survive its own creator. Eastman never left a complete performance score (and may not have even written one down), and the work was only performed a handful of occasions in his lifetime. Anyone wanting to perform it today must reconstruct it from the memories and descriptions, and bring their own inventiveness to the work.

British new music ensemble Apartment House have spent more than 20 years promoting avant garde composition. They have previously performed this spellbinding piece at the London Festival of Contemporary Music.



Ensemble Musikfabrik

Kulturkirken Jakob
Time 21:00
Ticket 250/150 nok

Rebecca Saunders
stirrings still II
Rebecca Saunders
Fury
James Tenney
Form 4 im memoriam
Morton Feldman
Morton Feldman
De Koening
Steve Reich
Radio Rewrite

Ensemble Musikfabrik
Helen Bledsoe
— Flute
Peter Veale
— Oboe
Carl Rosman
— Clarinet
Heidi Mockert
— Bassoon
Christine Chapman
— Horn

Renowned German Ensemble Musikfabrik present a thoughtfully chosen programme representing the quiet passion of contemporary music. The music of Rebecca Saunders (British, based in Berlin) has been described as 'violent stillness', and these two works display her focus on the materiality of sound from acoustic instruments. The title *stirrings still* is quoted from Samuel Beckett, whose connections with Morton Feldman were very close.

Feldman is remembered in James Tenney's elegiac *Form 4*, and the Ensemble additionally perform two American works which also take their cue from pre-existing artists and artworks. Morton Feldman's *De Koening* was composed as the soundtrack to a film on the abstract expressionist pioneer, and is scored for horn, violin, cello, piano and percussion.



Markus Schwind
— Trumpet
Bruce Collings
— Trombone
Melvyn Poore
— Tuba
Christopher Brandt
— Ebass, eguitar
Mirjam Schröder
— Harp
Ulrich Löffler
— Piano
Benjamin Kobler
— Piano
Dirk Rothbrust
— Percussion
Rie Watanabe
— Percussion
Hannah Weirich
— Violin
Diamanda Dramm
— Violin
Axel Porath
— Viola
Dirk Wietheger
— Violoncello
Florentin Ginot
— Double bass
Paul Jeukendrup
— Sound direction

Steve Reich's more recent *Radio Rewrite* is the composer's tribute to the British rock group Radiohead, and incorporates some of the melodies and riffs from the songs *Everything In Its Right Place* and *Jigsaw Falling Into Place*.

friday

15 september



Lunchtime concert

Kahrs/Moe

Sentrallen/
Forstanderskapssalen
Time 12:00
Ticket 100 NOK

Sven Lyder Kahrs
*Wie Blüten sind ja
Silberne Walken (w)*
Ole-Henrik Moe Adagio
*quasi una coda,
quasi una corda (w)*

Kari Rønnekleiv
– Violin
Ole-Henrik Moe
– Viola
Kaja Aadne
– Cello

The trio Pitches in Regalia performs Ole-Henrik Moe's new work. In addition, there will be a new solo cello piece by Sven Lyder Kahrs, performed by Kaja Aadne on cello.

friday

15 september

ultima
academy

Fartein Valen Valevåg's Local Universalist

Sentrallen/Gymsalen
Time 14:00–16:30
Ticket Free entry

This event marks the conclusion of a research project begun in 2012, funded by Norsk Forskningsråd. In partnership with UiO

'A famous Norwegian composer', wrote *Dagbladet* newspaper when a statue of Fartein Valen was vandalised in Sveio in spring this year. But who was this artist who, despite his silent character, managed to provoke and disturb so many during his lifetime, both in Norway and abroad?

Astrid Kvalbein (UiO), Arnulf Mattes (UiB) and Ivar Roger Hansen will discuss Valen in his own time, and the nationalism and modernism that created waves of opposition between Norwegian composers both before and after the second world war. Why did David Monrad Johansen lambast Valen, his friend and mentor, in Oslo's Theatrekaféen in 1938, and did he really say that 'Atonal rhymes with amoral'?

We will also see the film that has been used to promote Valen and his violin concerto internationally, and hear how Britain's Princess Margaret came to be presented with the work's score at a big concert in London in 1952.

About the contributors:
Arnulf Mattes and Astrid Kvalbein are both connected to the research project Fartein Valen – Atonal Pioneer and Modern Traditionalist, at the University of Oslo (as leader/researcher and PhD candidate). Ivar Roger Hansen is the author of the biography of David Monrad Johansen, *Mot fedrenes fjell*.

This event marks the conclusion of a research project begun in 2012, funded by Norsk Forskningsråd. In partnership with UiO.

friday 15 september



Lullaby Oslo 2017 – Concert

Furuset bibliotek og aktivitetshus

Time 18:00–20:00

Ticket Free entry
(Oslo kulturnatt)

With Supriya Nagarajan,
Duncan Chapman and
Haugerud Strykeorkester
conducted by Mari Ystanes
Fjeldstad

The British-Indian singer and composer Supriya Nagarajan has been travelling around in Oslo with her 'Lullaby Booth' recording lullabies from different cultures. |At Ultima the result is presented in a sound installation at Furuset bibliotek og aktivitetshus. At Oslo cultural night you Nagarjan and sound artist Duncan Chapman do a concert with lullabies from around the world, mixed with soundscapes of nature and citylife. Haugerud Strykeorkester will perform a piece specially composed for them by Supriya Nagarajan.

In collaboration with Haugerud strykeorkester, Notam and Furuset bibliotek og aktivitetshus.

100 year jubilee!
Congratulations to
the Norwegian Society
of Composers on
a century of creativity
and nurturing talent!

friday

15 september



Celebrating 100 years of Norwegian Society of Composers

Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra

Sentralen

Time 19:00

Ticket Free entry
(Oslo kulturnett)

Kl. 19:00
Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra
Christian Eggen
— Conductor
Elise Båtnes
— Violin

Maj Sønnevold
Fest-ouverture
Fartein Valen
Violin Concerto
Arvid Kleven
Lotusland

Kl. 20:30
Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra
Lars Erik ter Jung
— Conductor
Ellen Ugelvik
— Piano
Jan Erik Mikalsen
Just For You (wp)

In this evening celebrating a century of creativity and nurture of talent, Oslo Philharmonic presents a programme that not only spans the NCA's lifetime but looks to the future.

Kicking off with a rousing fanfare by Swedish born Norwegian adoptee Maj Sønnevold (1917–96) in the Marmorsalen, the orchestra will perform several jewels from the Norwegian orchestral repertoire, including the vintage tone poem *Lotusland* (1922) by Arvid Kleven; the violin concerto of one of its best known composers abroad, Fartein Valen (1887–1952); and a new piano concerto by Jan Erik Mikalsen (born 1979).

In addition, the programme includes Barratt Due Junior Orchestra, who will premiere commissioned pieces by Henrik Hellstenius, Nils Henrik Asheim and Peder Barratt-Due. →

friday

15 september

Barratt Due Junior Orchestra
(Artistic director Soon-Mi
Chung Barratt-Due)
Henrik Hellstenius
Up and away (wp)
Peder Barratt-Due
*¶ A new train of
thought (wp)*
Nils Henrik Asheim
In Short (wp)

The evening will also include a screening of *The Composer*, a film about Arne Nordheim, the towering figure in Norwegian contemporary music after the war. And a 'Meet the Composer' session.

A packed evening that's the perfect way to soak up the sheer eclecticism and vitality of several generations of Norwegian modern composition.

This concert forms part of the 100 year celebration of the Norsk Komponistforening (Norwegian Society of Composers)

friday

15 september



A night of hypnotic organ trance

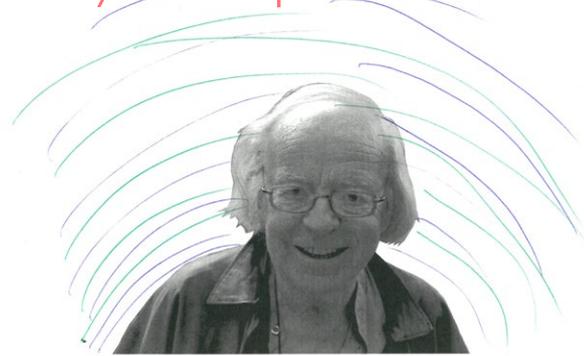
Charlemagne Palestine

Kulturkirken Jakob
Time 21:00
Ticket 250/150 NOK

US experimental musician, performance artist and composer Charlemagne Palestine is a living legend. Active since the heyday of the post-war avant garde, he emerged in the artistic milieu of mid-60s New York alongside Tony Conrad, Pandit Pran Nath and film maker Kenneth Anger. He has spent his life pioneering and developing his unique and eccentric long form, mesmerizing minimalist works for piano, organ, carillons and his self-built Spectral Continuum Drone Machine. His appearances can be unpredictable, with piles of cuddly toys stacked on his pianos, unexpected speech outbursts and ritualistic gestures. Having played in the Emanuel Vigeland's museum a few years ago, he returns to Oslo to fill Kulturkirken Jakob with his shimmering clouds of multi-timbral sound.

saturday

16 september



Arne Nordheim – *Dråpen* (The Drop)

Bekkelaget
Renseanlegg
(Purification Plant)
Time 12:30, 14:30
Ticket 100 NOK

Bus from Youngstorgtet

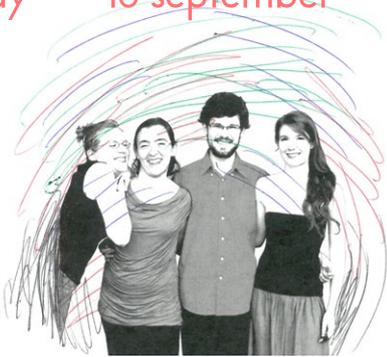
Lars Mørch Finborud (author of *Ozenfant*, *Ozenfant* and curator at Henie Onstad Kunstsenter) will act as your guide, donning his hard hat and outlining Nordheim's vision. Process engineer Thomas Aubell (Bekkelaget Vann AS) will explain the technical side

In the late 90s, when a mountain cavern underneath Ekeberg was designated to be hollowed out to house a sewage purification plant for eastern Oslo, Arne Nordheim saw it as an opportunity to create the world's largest interactive composition. He wanted it to resonate around the sewage pools: 32 loudspeakers, 2500 metres of cable and 12 sound programmes running through 500 million variations would be controlled by signals received from the purification systems. So, whether they like it or not, whenever an Oslo resident takes a shower or flushes the toilet, they are co-composing and shaping the sound within the plant. It was especially after morning ablutions and the evening news, Nordheim remarked, that the mountain hall really began to sing.

Dråpen is a unique work, and one of Oslo's hidden gems. During Ultima he public will once again have the opportunity to explore this excremental edifice, the only time in the year when the plant is open to the public.

saturday

16 september



Lunchtime concert

scapegoat and Améi Quartett

SALT

Time 14:00

Ticket Free entry

Scapegoat
 Pierluigi Billone
2 Alberi (wr)
 Michelle Lou
Opal (wr)
 Mauricio Pauly
The Threshing Floor

Améi Quartett
 Rebecka Sofia Ahvenniemi
*Wuthering modes
 (not moods) (wr)*
 Diego Ramos Rodríguez
*Diferentes figuras de
 inspiración (wr)*
 Mioko Yokoyama
Folklore (wr)

scapegoat
 Joshua Hyde
 — Saxophone
 Noam Bierstone
 — Percussion

Améi Quartett
 Corinna Canzian,
 Diego Ramos Rodríguez,
 Aglaya González and
 Esther Saladin

This concert is part of Ulysses, a European programme dedicated to supporting the work of young performers and composers.

Joshua Hyde brings his experimental saxophone/percussion duo scapegoat from Paris to present world premieres by groundbreaking composers Michelle Lou and Pierluigi Billone, as well as *The Threshing Floor* by Mauricio Pauly.

Composers Mioko Yokoyama, Diego Ramos and Rebecka Ahvenniemi have written new works for the up and coming Améi Quartett, mentored by Maja S. K. Ratkje.

The ensemble will have an open general rehearsal at 13:00 September 15 in Hvelvet at Sentralen.

With the support of the Ulysses Network and the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.

Composition commission by scapegoat for Pierluigi Billone and Michelle Lou is funded by Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation.

saturday

16 september

ultima
academy

Curtain Call: Lars Petter Hagen & Rob Young in conversation

Sentralen/
 Vinterhagen
 Time 16:00
 Ticket Free entry

This year, Ultima's Artistic Director Lars Petter Hagen is leaving the post after eight editions. In this relaxed conversation at the end of his last Ultima Festival, Hagen will relive the highs and lows, the goals and achievements, and the behind the scenes drama that goes into producing Northern Europe's biggest contemporary music gathering.

saturday

16 september

ultima
academy

Triologen – Opera Lab II

KHIO

Time 17:00–20:00

Ticket Free entry

Participants: John Willhite (double bass), Kristoffer Almås (drums), Finn Lunker (text), Bernhard Bornstein (composer), Nora Oleanne Sårheim (soprano), Mikkel Fjeld Skorpen (tenor), Andreas N. Angell (accordion), Live Berger Brekke (accordion), Tze Yeung Ho (composer), Eilert Egil Taugbøl Hasseldal (baritone), Tina Tuven (soprano), Linda Gabrielsen (text), Andjela Brankovic (scenographer), Emil Havald Næshagen (bass baritone), Maja Linderorth (composer), Marcela Randem (mezzo-soprano), Aseta Koloeva (harp), Bojana Sovilj (piano), Tale Næss (text), Edo Hayek (horn)

Directors:

Silje Aker Johnsen (Research fellow at Operahøgskolen, KHIO), Erik Dæhlin (Research fellow at NMH), Carle Lange (professor of scenography at KHIO), Henrik Hellstenius (professor in composition at NMH), Kai Johnsen, professor of stage direction at Teaterhøgskolen, KHIO)

Project leaders:

Anna Elisabeth Einarsson (Opera Academy, KHIO)
Henrik Hellstenius

Once again, KHIO and the Norwegian Music Academy collaborate on a project where students and postgraduates join forces in a workshop setting, working towards the production of three short pieces of music theatre. Singers from the Opera Academy, composers and trainee musicians from the Music Academy, and playwrights from the Theatre Academy, have formed three groups in order to develop some musical stagings as part of Ultima Academy.

In connection with *Triologen – Opera Lab II*, there will also be a seminar about music theater and opera with composer Rolf Wallin, composer Trond Reinholdtsen, opera director Susanne Øglænd and the Artistic Director of The Norwegian Opera & Ballet Annilese Miskimmon. These four significant players in the field of music theatre and opera will comment and reflect on the state of these creative art forms today.

saturday

16 september



Celebrating 100 years of Norwegian Society of Composers

Håkon Berge

bare en stillhet som kaster meg ut i universet av ensomhet (wp)

Oslo domkirke

Time 18:00

Ticket 250/150 NOK

Oslo Sinfonietta &
Oslo Domkor

Vivianne Sydnæs
— Conductor
Isa Katharina Gericke
— Soloist

This concert forms part of the 100 year celebration of the Norsk Komponistforening (Norwegian Society of Composers)

The title of Håkon Berge's 2006 work translates as *just a silence that casts me out into the universe of solitude*. Designated as a Requiem by its creator, the piece is a moving paean to the life of 13 years old Palestinian Ima Darweesh al Hams, who was shot multiple times in cold blood by an Israeli army officer in 2004. The controversial damages and libel case went on to be a major sensation in Israel, with the officer eventually acquitted of any wrongdoing. Berge's moving piece focuses on the human tragedy at the heart of it all – the unjust and senseless death of an innocent child unlucky enough to be caught in the thick of military action on the Gaza Strip. Using tape recordings of her father's testimony about his daughter, it is an emotional commemoration of one ordinary life – and the lives around her – transformed by the unending Arab-Israeli conflict.

saturday

16 september



Celebrating 100 years of Norwegian Society of Composers

KORK (Norwegian Radio Orchestra)

Sentralen/
Marmorsalen
Time 20:00
Ticket 250/150 NOK

Pauline Hall
Cirkusbilleder
Jan Martin Smørdal
My Favorite Thing 3 (wp)
Therese Birkelund Ulvo
Please Don't Hesitate
Arne Nordheim
String Quartet op. 1,
'Epitaffio' (last movement)
Rolf Wallin &
Nils Petter Molvær
Glacial Speed

Ingar Bergby
— Conductor
Hasse Hope
— Master of ceremonies

This concert forms part of the 100 year celebration of the Norsk Komponistforening (Norwegian Society of Composers)

It's time to party in celebration of the centenary of the Norwegian Society of Composers! This lively programme of orchestral works showcases the eclecticism of Norway's contemporary music, from modernism to jazz.

The second of two several events celebrating 100 years of the Norwegian Society of Composers. This lively programme of orchestral works showcases the eclecticism of Norway's contemporary music and its web of connections from modernism to jazz.

Pauline Hall and Arne Nordheim played hugely influential roles in Norway's early take-up of contemporary music; Hall when she founded nyMusikk in 1938, and Nordheim as an internationally renowned electronic music composer and populariser of the avant garde. Hall's orchestral piece *Cirkusbilleder* (1933) is inspired by the French 20th century music she loved. →

saturday

16 september

Nordheim's early string quartet (1956) is one of his most impassioned works, and its final movement, 'Epitaffio', is arranged here for string orchestra.

Jan Martin Smørdal – co-founder of Ensemble neoN – will produce a new instalment of his *My Favorite Thing* trilogy about music that sparks the imagination of a musician for the first time.

As well as *Please Don't Hesitate*, an expansive, welcoming piece by Therese Birkelund Ulvo inspired by Geir Tveitt, the evening will be completed by a sparkling 2011 collaboration between composer Rolf Wallin – himself a former trumpeter with Holy Toy – and jazz trumpeter Nils Petter Molvær.

TV presenter and comedian Hasse Hope will ensure the whole fiesta goes with a swing. Please don't hesitate!

Official festival programme

Ultima Oslo Contemporary
Music Festival

7–16 September 2017

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Music Festival

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John Abercrombie Quartet
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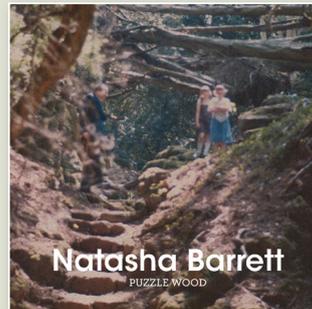
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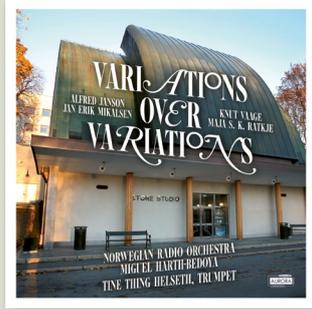
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Norwegian Radio Orchestra · Poing
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Dalia Stasevska, conductor
Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor
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PUZZLE WOOD

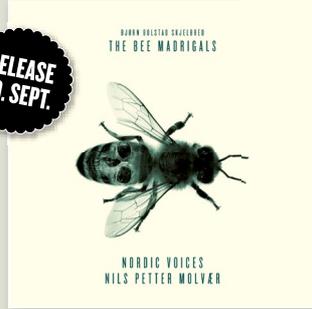
Little Animals · Earth Haze · Racing Unseen · Animalcules · Puzzle Wood
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Norwegian Radio Orchestra
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4 Den Norske Opera & Ballett

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5 Det nye Nasjonalmuseet

Vestbanen, 0250 Oslo

6 Emanuel Vigelands museum

Grimelundsveien 8, 0775 Oslo

7 Furuset bibliotek og aktivitetshus

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8 Fyrstikkalléen skole – F21

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9 Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

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15 Nylandsbrua

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16 OCA

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17 Oslo domkirke

Karl Johans gate 11, 0154 Oslo

18 Riksscenen

Trondheimsveien 2, 0560 Oslo

19 SALT

Langkaia 1, 0151 Oslo

20 Sentralen (alle arenaer)

Øvre Slottsgate 3, 0157 Oslo

21 UKS

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22 Youngstorget

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