



Presseinformation

Frankfurt am Main, 12.09.2022

In celebration of Heiner Goebbels' 70th birthday - Upcoming Ensemble Modern Events

Heiner Goebbels, born in Frankfurt in 1952, is a fixture in contemporary musical theatre and renowned for his creative compositions, merging text, music and stage action in a grand whole. He has been a close and valued collaborator of Ensemble Modern for more than 35 years. In mid-August, the composer celebrated his 70th birthday. Ensemble Modern performs three works by Heiner Goebbels in various European cities during the coming months.

On **September 14** the Ensemble Modern Orchestra performs the much-acclaimed, evening-length cycle "A House of Call. My Imaginary Notebook" (2020) as part of the festival FRATOPIA at the main auditorium of the **Alte Oper Frankfurt**. This large scale work has been developed, from the outset, in cooperation with the Ensemble Modern "I've done many projects with them that I could not have done with any other ensemble. There was this great trust from the beginning: they never resisted the risk of doing something new. As I'm not a virtuoso in dealing with large scores, I prefer to react to what I hear, so I can develop a sound that emerges during rehearsals, while working with individual musicians or the ensemble. Having this possibility is incomparable and I have made much use of it." "A House of Call" is a cycle for large orchestra featuring calls, appeals, invocations, speeches and poems. On **November 19** "A House of Call" will be performed as part of Wien Modern at **Vienna's Volkstheater**. This acoustic "life diary" featuring sounds from all genres and voices from all over the world has also recently been released on CD by ECM Records (ECM New Series 2728/29). Goebbels' earlier recordings with Ensemble Modern in the ECM New Series include "Red Run/Befreiung/La Jalousie", "Eislermaterial" and "Landschaft mit entfernten Verwandten".

On **September 23 and 24** a performance of "Schwarz auf Weiß" (1995/96) follows at the Festival Musica at the **Théâtre du Maillon in Strasbourg**. And on **November 4, 5 and 6**, the musical theatre work returns to the place of its world premiere, the **Bockenheimer Depot in Frankfurt**. In 1995/96, Goebbels wrote his first musical theatre piece, tailoring it to Ensemble Modern's strengths, so to speak. Here, the collective of the ensemble itself is the protagonist. The musicians are the actors as well, conquering the full breadth of the stage. Tennis balls land on a gran cassa drum, tender sounds of a koto are heard, a kettle whistles along with a complex flute melody. The scenes and events continuously flow into one another, and the lighting spaces ingeniously devised by Jean Kalman contribute their own dramaturgy.

Freedom of action – "**Liberté d'action**" (2021) – on stage and in life is the subject of Heiner Goebbels' latest, eponymous work, a staged concert, a contest between the performer David Bennent and Ensemble Modern's pianists. The work focuses on the oeuvre of a maladjusted maverick and outsider: Henri Michaux, an outstanding painter and also a highly modern poet of powerful eloquence. First performed at the Kunstfestspiele Herrenhausen in 2021, the work will be revived on **September 25** at the Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome, on **September 28** at the **Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris** and on **November 27** in **Cluj, Romania**.

Pressekontakt Ensemble Modern

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Geschäftsführung: Christian Fausch

Dates

23.09.2022, 20.30 Uhr

24.09.2022, 19 Uhr

Straßburg, Maillon, Théâtre de Strasbourg, Grande Salle

Festival Musica

Heiner Goebbels: Schwarz auf Weiß (Musiktheater) (1995/96)

Ensemble Modern

Heiner Goebbels Konzept, Regie, Komposition, Dirigent

Jean Kalman Bühne/Licht

Jasmin Andrae Kostüm

Norbert Ommer Klangregie

25.09.2022, 17 Uhr, Rom, Auditorium Parco dell Musica, Petrassi Hall

28.09.2022, 20 Uhr, Paris, Théâtre du Châtelet, Grande Salle

27.11.2022, 20 Uhr, Cluj/Rumänien

Heiner Goebbels: Liberté d'Action – szenisches Konzert mit Texten von Henri Michaux (2021)
(Italienische/Französische/Rumänische Erstaufführung)

David Bennent Performer

Mitglieder des Ensemble Modern (Neus Estarellas, Hermann Kretzschmar, Sophie Patey, Ueli Wiget
– zwei Klaviere, alternierend)

Heiner Goebbels Musik, Regie, Bühne

Willi Bopp / Paul Jeukendrup (alternierend) Sounddesign

Heiner Goebbels und **Marc Thein** Lichtdesign

Florence von Gerkan Kostüm

Diego Ramos Rodríguez Musikalische Assistenz, Transkription

04./05./06.11.2022, 20 Uhr

06.11.2022, 15.30 Uhr

Frankfurt am Main, Bockenheimer Depot

Heiner Goebbels: Schwarz auf Weiß (Musiktheater) (1995/96)

Ensemble Modern

Heiner Goebbels Konzept, Regie, Komposition, Dirigent

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Eine Kooperation mit dem Schauspiel Frankfurt. Gefördert durch die Kulturstiftung des Bundes und die Gesellschaft zur Verwertung von Leistungsschutzrechten (GVL).

19.11.2022, 21 Uhr

Wien, Volkstheater

Wien Modern

Heiner Goebbels: A House of Call. My Imaginary Notebook (2020)

Ensemble Modern Orchestra

Vimbayi Kaziboni Dirigent

Heiner Goebbels Lichtdesign

Norbert Ommer Klangregie