

Curriculum Vitae Stefan Heckel



Stefan Heckel was born in 1969 in Graz/Austria. He grew up in a musical family. The father was a choral conductor, the mother played piano, guitar and sang in the choir. He graduated with a Master in Jazz Piano and Instrumental Pedagogy from Graz Music University and continued to study at London's Royal Academy of Music for another year (post graduate diploma in jazz composition). After two more years of working and living in London he returned to Austria and started to work with Serbian bassist Nenad Vasilic playing and recording music from former Yugoslavia in a jazz context. He founded the Stefan Heckel Group and played with English saxophonist Julian Argüelles. With this group he recorded three albums. He founded and led the „Vienna Improvised Music Nights“ over several years. He participated in the Sounding Jerusalem Festival from 2006-2011, played in Israel and Palestine and co-founded the Mélange Oriental project with cellist Erich Oskar Huetter. The ensemble performed at festivals such as Pablo Casals (F), Boswil Summer (CH), Bach Festival Riga (LV) and Steirisches Kammermusikfestival (A). In 2010 Stefan became member of the AEC Pop&Jazz Platform's working group and chaired it from 2012-2017. Since 2018 he is a member of the AEC working group for Diversity, Identity and Inclusivness under the SMS project. Stefan was commissioned to write music for Graz Cultural City of Europe 2003, Styria Cantat (children's choir) and Studio Percussion Graz. He won the first Al Quds Composition Award of East Jerusalem's Al Quds University and the Harry Pepl Jazz Award.

Stefan Heckel is married to bassoonist Maria Gstaettner and has three children Gabriel, Flora and Laura. He lives and works in Vienna and Graz.

He teaches at Kunsthochschule Graz and at Jam Music Lab Private University Vienna.

Works:

- Szenen für E-Gitarre und Orchester (New Classic Community Eisenstadt 2006)
- Konservatorium Wien Privatuniversität: Playground für Solisten (Frank Gratkowski (D)/Klarinette) und Big Band
- Kreuzklänge für Orgel, Fagott, Einspielungen und Oboe; nach Stationen der Kreuzweg-Skulpturen in Mitterdorf/Mürztal, *SKE Kompositionsförderung*
- Im Auftrag der Europäischen Kulturhauptstadt Graz 2003: *Traumreise am Ragnitzbach* für Trompete, Orgel und Zuspielungen
- Im Auftrag des Festivals: Sounding Jerusalem Festival 2007: *Possible Music*
- Wiener Zieharmonisches Orchester (Ltg. Otto Lechner): *Ringelnattern Unter Sich*
- Styria Cantat 2010: *Der König und das Meer* / für Kinderchor (Text: Heinz Janisch)
- Missa Pater Noster / für SSAATTBB, Xylophon und Crotales im Auftrag von *Austria Cantat*
- Steirisches Kammermusikfestival: *Der Duft des Erdinneren*; UA in der Lurgrotte Graz
- *Wie Breit der Tag* für Chor und Perkussion, Auftrag des Ensemble Studio Percussion Graz; *SKE-Kompositionsförderung*
- *AI Quds Composition Award 2013*
- *ALLEZEIT. Segenslied nach einem Text von Edith Stein.* Im Auftrag der Diözese Graz-Seckau zum Jubiläum 2018. UA im Juni 2018 mit dem Grazer Domchor und dem Steirischen Jugendblasorchester.

Aufnahmen / Recordings:

Stefan Heckel Group

- *Horch* (Extraplatte 1998)
- *News From The Royal Alpine Music Factory* (Extraplatte 2004)
- *Lifeline* (Session Work Records 2011)
- *Zehn Kleine Elefanten. Kinderlieder auch für Onkel und Tanten* (sessionwork 2013)
- *Heute Will Ich Zum Meer Gehen* (sessionworkrec 2017)

Mélange Oriental (Extraplatte 2010)

Trio Gstättner/Heckel/Sahmaoui – *LAVA* (Cracked 2010)

Maria Gstättner & Ensemble: *Dew Drops* (2011)

Nenad Vasilic Balkan Band: *Folk Songs* (Extraplatte 2001) und *Joe Jack* (2003)

Belofour Akkordeonquartett: *Belofour* (emap records) und *Die Suiten Suite* (Galileo 2022)

Irina Karamarkovic Band – *Songs From Kosovo* (2009)

mit: Aniada Noar – *Summawind* (2019)