

Winners of the Giga-Hertz Award 2013 selected by the jury

Awards Ceremony in the context of the IMATRONIC Festival on November 30, 2013

The winners have been selected for this year's Giga-Hertz Awards. The presentation will take place on November 30, at the ZKM | Karlsruhe: the Giga-Hertz awards, each endowed with 10.000 euros, for electronic music and conferred jointly by the ZKM Karlsruhe and SWR Experimentalstudio Freiburg, go to John Chowning and Francis Dhomont. The production prizes, each endowed with 8.000 euros, go to Daniel Blinkhorn, Leo Hofmann, Alexander Schubert, Ying Wang and Roque Rivas. The winners of the ZKM Sound-Art Award, conferred for the first time this year, and with prize money amounting to 23.000 euros, will be announced at a later date.

The presentation forms part of the IMATRONIC Festival, which will take place from November 27–30, 2013 at the ZKM | Karlsruhe.

The jury stated:

"In the 1970s, composer and scientist John Chowning set new standards in electronic music. Through the method of spatial simulation he developed, he advanced one of Stockhausen's integral fields of activity. He recorded the laws of digital frequency modulation and used these systematically for the synthesis of specific spectra of instrumental timbres. He summarized these insights in his pioneering composition "Turenas", which appeared twelve years after "Kontakte". The patent which emerged from the digital FM sound synthesis went on to revolutionize the world of music. After the patent for Djerassi's contraceptive pill, it advanced to become one of the most lucrative patents Stanford University ever realized. The experimental music and, above all, the 1980's pop music would be unthinkable without the FM synthesis. It may therefore be considered as key aspect of twentieth century culture."

"Francis Dhomont is honored for his influence on modern sound language. After a long period of activity in the aesthetic milieu around Pierre Schaeffer, the composer took up a position in Montreal in 1979. Here, he developed his own style, where he not only drew substantial attention in the field of Musique Concrete: Through his university work he became one of the most influential teachers in the Canadian scene, which was one of the most successful scenes worldwide. Dhomont's style, poised between word and sound composition, is one of kind. Over the course of his creative activity, Dhomont perfected Schaeffer's idea of the tonal icon and conferring on it a forcefulness that was to later culminate in the concept

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The »Giga-Hertz-Award 2013« is presented by ZKM | Karlsruhe and the SWR EXPERIMENTALSTUDIO



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'cinema for the ears'."

Among the prize winners for production are young international artists who have drawn attention to themselves in the field of electronic music. The awards for production are directed at new works that yet to be realized.

Daniel Blinkhorn (*1973)

The compositions and audiovisual works by the composer, sound and media artist from Sydney are presented with increasing frequency at numerous international festivals. Blinkhorn is active in various creative, academic, research and teaching contexts. He is an enthusiastic sound researcher specializing in site-specific field recordings, a field which has taken him on journeys into the Amazon region, the West Indies, to North Europe, the Middle East, Australia, and through the Arctic and North Pole region of Spitzbergen. As autodidact in the field of electro-acoustic music, Sound Art and media art, he studied at the Australian University College of Fine Art, at the University of New South Wales, and at the University of Wollongong, where he gained his doctorate for composition with distinction, in 2007.

Leo Hofmann (*1986)

The composer and media artist from Bern, Leo Hofmann, experiments with radio play formats, and often creates compositions based on the human voice. He creates and interprets arrangements combining musical performance and staged concerts. With his intermedia collages of words, sounds and gesture—often by using sensors attached to the body—he analyzes the altered conditions and potential of musical and scenic design. His work also includes music for theater productions, radiophone pieces and sound installations.

Alexander Schubert (*1979)

Schubert had already been active as musician and composer in various contexts while studying computer and cognitive science at Leipzig. He has been researching for a doctorate in the field of sensor supported electroacoustic performance in 2011; he teaches at the Lübeck Academy of Music, and works as a free-lance composer. In principal, his focus is on the interface of acoustic and electroacoustic music. Formally written, live electronic compositions and audiotape works belong no less to his field of work than does the design of software setups and sensor-based extension of instruments for intuitive operation in an improvised context. One of his enduring areas of specialization is the combination of improvised and written music on both structural and aesthetic levels. Diverse works indicate multimedia and graphic elements, for example, in the case of

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pieces for soloists and live video, and in interactive installations.

Ying Wang (*1976)

A native of Shanghai, Ying Wang initially studied composition under Xilin Wang, Gang Chen, and Daquen Jia at the Conservatory in Shanghai. She pursued advanced studies in Germany under York Höller at the Academy of Music in Cologne, in 2003. She has been studying electronic composition under Michael Beil since 2008. She is currently taking classes Rebecca Saunders and Johannes Schöllhorn while preparing and taking concert examinations in composition. Ying Wang's works are written in different formations, from solo pieces and electronic music, chamber music and orchestral works.

Roque Rivas (*1975)

Roque Rivas, born in Santiago, Chile began his career in music as a jazz musician. After his studies at the conservatory of music in Santiago, he relocated to France, where he studied electroacoustic composition and computer music in Lyon, and at the Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Paris. He studied composition and computer music at IRCAM from 2006 to 2008. He current field of specialization is in live electronics. He has received numerous composition contracts, among others from Ensemble Intercontemporain, the London Sinfonietta, Ictus Ensemble and Remix Ensemble. His works have been performed worldwide at renowned festivals and in museums.

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