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Austrian Newsletter

February – March 2019





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February

Royal College of Music Lunchtime Concerts

Music Monday 4 & 18 February and
4 & 18 March, 1.05pm, ACF London

Students from the Royal College of Music continue their series of lunchtime concerts at the ACF London.

Habsburg's Dark Continent: k.u.k. 'postcolonial'

Talk Literature Wednesday 6 February,
7pm, ACF London

It is a mantra of Habsburg Studies that Austria-Hungary was not a colonial power due to its lack of overseas colonies. In his new monograph Dr Clemens Ruthner challenges this common narrative. Via a combination of literary studies and cultural history, he reveals colonial fantasies and allegories in Austrian literature of the nineteenth century. The author will be in conversation with Professor Rüdiger Görner, Queen Mary University London.

Wolf Suschitzky Photography Prize Exhibition

Visual Arts Private view: Tuesday 12
February, 6.30 – 8.30pm, ACF London

Exhibition continues until Saturday 27 April

The ACF has launched a new photography prize in tribute to the late Austrian émigré photographer Wolf Suschitzky. Reflecting the dual nature of Suschitzky's identity, the prize was aimed at photographers based in both the UK and Austria. We are now delighted to present an exhibition

Dear ACF guests and readers
of our newsletter,

After a year of remembrance in 2018 we dedicate a part of our upcoming 2019 programme to exploring and discussing questions relevant to our European identity and shared future. In this context I am happy to announce that Robert Menasse, one of Austria's most important contemporary writers and winner of the German Book Prize 2017, will be in London in February to discuss his book *The Capital* alongside his pronounced views on the European Union. We will also look at historic events, such as the fall of the Iron Curtain 30 years ago, which have shaped contemporary Europe.

As our regular programming reflects, we continue the important task of highlighting and presenting the work of female artists, especially those who are not yet known to the wider public. In addition to numerous concerts featuring female musicians, we are pleased to present an evening dedicated to accomplished female classical composers from the past and present.

In addition to this year's thematic focus, our varied programme promises to have something for everyone, from the latest film releases to a new photo exhibition series and award-winning writers. We look forward to welcoming you at our upcoming events.

Tünde Huber
Director, ACF London

of work by the winning photographers Paul Hart (UK) and Marylise Vigneau (Austria) alongside the shortlisted photographers: From Austria: Kathrin Delhougne, Mario Kiesenhofer, Naa Teki Lebar and Siegmund Skalar and from the UK: Lilli Burrige-Payne, Chris Gunson, Anita Strasser and Alice Zoo.



Marylise Vigneau, *Desperately Seeking Water in Havana CUBA*, May 2016

Refuge, The Art of Belonging

Visual Arts Friday 15 February – Saturday 29 June, Abbot Hall, Cumbria

This exhibition tells the story of artists who entered Britain as a result of Nazi occupation alongside a community project exploring the lives of refugees living in Cumbria. The show features works from Lakeland Arts' collection including Hilde Goldschmidt, Hans Coper, Lucie Rie, Lucian Freud, Frank Auerbach and Kurt Schwitters.

Abbot Hall Art Gallery & Museum of Lakeland Life & Industry, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 5AL
www.lakelandarts.org.uk

Franz West

Visual Arts Wednesday 20 February – Sunday 2 June, Tate Modern, London

Ironic, irreverent, yet profoundly philosophical, Austrian artist Franz West (1947–2012) was a key figure of European art in the late twentieth century. He brought a punk aesthetic into the pristine spaces of art galleries and his abstract sculptures, furniture, collages and large-scale works are direct, crude and



Epiphanie an Stühlen 2011, Franz West Privatstiftung, © Estate Franz West, © Archiv Franz West

unpretentious. This major retrospective is organised by Tate Modern and the Centre Pompidou, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris.

Tate Modern, Bankside, London SE1 9TG
www.tate.org.uk

The Gift of Music: Milein Cosman Collection

Visual Arts *Music* Wednesday 20 February, 7.30pm, Royal College of Music, London

The RCM presents an evening of art, music and history to celebrate the eminent artist Milein Cosman. The specially curated programme includes works by some of the renowned musicians Milein sketched, alongside a fascinating recording talking about her life and creative process. There will also be a free pre-concert talk before this event.

Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Rd, Kensington, London SW7 2BS; www.rcm.ac.uk

Milein Cosman: Lifelines

Visual Arts Saturday 23 February – Wednesday 17 April, Clare Hall, Cambridge

To coincide with Hans Keller's centenary in March 2019, Clare Hall presents its second exhibition of the art of Milein Cosman, who during her long life drew

many of the leading cultural figures of the twentieth century.

Clare Hall, University of Cambridge,
Herschel Rd, Cambridge CB3 9AL
www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk

Great Classical Women

Music Tuesday 26 February, 7pm,
ACF London

A concert celebrating classical female composers living and historical. Mezzo-soprano Andrea Schwab and pianist Joanna Niederdorfer perform and moderate a programme featuring works by Maria Theresia Paradis (1759–1824), Alma Mahler-Werfel (1879–1964) and Anita Lelewer (1915–2012) among others.

Carry on Europe: Robert Menasse in Conversation

Literature Thursday 28 February, 7pm,
Dulwich Books, London

Two major European novelists, Robert Menasse and Jonathan Coe, will be discussing their new novels and the state of Europe. Robert Menasse's *The Capital*, winner of the 2017 German Book Prize, is presented on the eve of Brexit. It has at its heart the most powerful pro-European message: no one should forget the circumstances that gave rise to the European project in the first place.

Dulwich Books, 6 Croxted Rd, London
SE21 8SW; Tickets: hello@dulwichbooks.co.uk



Robert Menasse, photo by
Wolfgang Schmidt

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March

Insiders/Outsiders

Visual Arts Music Theatre Film Literature
Conferences March 2019 – March 2020

This year-long nationwide arts festival celebrates the impact of refugees from Nazi Europe on British culture. The festival brings together a programme of exhibitions, concerts, dance and theatre performances, film screenings, walks, lectures and literary events. Initiated by art historian Monica Bohm-Duchen.

insidersoutsidersfestival.org

→ 30 Years after the Fall of the Iron Curtain 1989

Last Days in Old Europe

Literature Talk Tuesday 12 March, 7pm,
ACF London

In his memoir *Last Days in Old Europe* former *Times* correspondent Richard Basset recounts the last echoes of the Habsburg Empire and the fall of the Communist regimes in the 1980s and beyond. The author is joined by Tony Barber, Europe Editor at the *Financial Times* for a Q&A following a reading from the book.

In the Middle of Things

Music Friday 15 March, 7pm, ACF London

An exciting concert to launch a new CD of chamber music by British composer Michael Zev Gordon on Resonus Classics. The CD features leading international performers, the Fidelio Trio and clarinettist Julian Bliss.

In Memoriam Helga Michie: I am Beginning to Want What I Am

Visual Arts Talk Tuesday 19 March, 7pm,
ACF London

Helga Michie, twin sister of Ilse Aichinger, came to London with a Kindertransport in 1939. In the mid-1960s she began working as a visual artist, creating multifaceted, expressive graphic work in which past horrors of persecution and displacement return almost like dreams. This illustrated talk presented by Christine Ivanovic, editor of *Helga Michie. I am Beginning to Want What I Am*, and other experts honours the artist, who passed away in September 2018.



Helga Michie, *Untitled*, 1975, mixed media print © Hugh Rix

Jazzexchange

Music Tuesday 26 March, 8pm,
Servant Jazz Quarters, London

This series of concerts initiated by the ACF London and curated by Vienna-born, London-based Jazz musician Guido Spannocchi showcases various groups from Austria supported by UK-based artists. Launching the series is Vienna-based trio BLACKSitter around Gina Schwarz on double bass, Judith Schwarz on drums and Primus Sitter on guitar. They are supported by the multi-award-winning Maria-Chiara Argirò and her trio.

Servant Jazz Quarters, 10a Bradbury Street,
London N16 8JN; servantjazzquarters.com



BLACKSitter, photo by Sam Berger

Essay Film Festival: Günther Peter Straschek Short Films

Film Saturday 30 March & Monday 1 April,
12pm–3pm, Birkbeck Cinema, London

This two-day focus dedicated to Austrian film director and historian Günther Peter Straschek (1942–2009) will be the first UK presentation of his radical short films made between 1966 and 1970. Straschek's seminal five-part series *Film-emigration aus Nazi-Deutschland* (1975) made for German television will also be screened.

Birkbeck Cinema, 43 Gordon Square,
London WC1H 0PD; www.essayfilmfestival.com



Essay Film Festival, G.P. Straschek *Hurra für Frau E*

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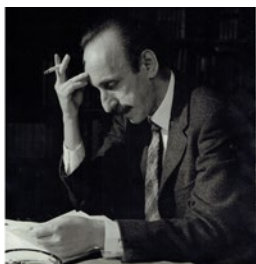
Film Music Literature Talk

The ACF and other European cultural institutions are planning events in the context of the intended Brexit deadline of 29 March 2019. Please see our website for further details.

Hans Keller Centenary 2019

2019 sees the centenary of the birth of the remarkable Austrian émigré musician, writer, broadcaster, critic, teacher, Hans Keller, who was a central figure in British musical life from the 1940s to the 1980s.

Full details www.hanskeller100.org



Hans Keller, photo by Lotte Meitner Graf

Hans Keller (1919 – 1985): A Musician in Dialogue with his Times

Music Literature Monday 4 March,
6pm, Guildhall School of Music
and Drama, London

Authors Alison Garnham and Susi Woodhouse present their new centenary biography of Hans Keller in an evening of music and readings with students from the Guildhall.

Guildhall School of Music and Drama,
Silk St, London EC2Y 8D; www.gsmd.ac.uk

Recollections of Hans Keller

Music Conferences Film
Saturday 9 March, Wigmore Hall, London

Hans Keller's biographer Alison Garnham gives an introductory lecture at 11am, followed by a panel discussion chaired by Keller's friend and long-term colleague Julian Hogg. A Music Workshop at 2.30pm is followed by a rare screening of the re-mastered documentary film 'The Keller



Hans Keller at work, oil painting
by Milein Cosman

Instinct' by Anton Weinberg at 6pm.
The day will conclude with a special
concert by the Elias String Quartet.

Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London
W1U 2BP; www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

Hans Keller's 100th Birthday Concert

Music Monday 11 March, 1pm,
Wigmore Hall, London

On what would have been Keller's 100th birthday, the Belcea Quartet perform Britten's last quartet – dedicated to Keller – alongside an intricate work from Haydn's final complete set of 1797–8.

Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London
W1U 2BP; www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

Cambridge University Hans Keller Day

Conferences Music Saturday 16 March,
Cambridge University

Following the launch of the Hans Keller Archive at Cambridge University a special concert will be held with students from the Yehudi Menuhin School, where Hans Keller directed the string quartets following his retirement from the BBC.

Clare Hall, University of Cambridge, Herschel Rd,
Cambridge CB3 9AL; www.clarehall.cam.ac.uk

CineClub Horror Season:

In 2019 CineClub will investigate the relationship of Austrian cinema and genre. We continue our descent into the darker spheres of horror, obsession and suspense. A selection of films spanning the silent era to the present day will showcase varied approaches to this genre.

The Dark

Tuesday 5 February, 7pm, ACF London

Part Gothic fairy tale and part chilling horror, director Justin P. Lange's debut feature balances rich imagery with a brutal and bloody story of unlikely kindred spirits who must defend themselves against the villainous powers of the 'normal' world.

Austria, 2018, 94 min, German with English subtitles, directed by Justin P. Lange

Cine Concert: Joyless Street (Die freudlose Gasse)

Thursday 14 February, 7pm, ACF London

Joyless Street (1925) is a silent film based on the novel by Hugo Bettauer and directed by Georg Wilhelm Pabst in Germany, and starring Greta Garbo in her second major role. Pianist John Sweeney returns to the ACF with a live musical accompaniment.

Germany, 1925, 151 min, directed by Georg Wilhelm Pabst

Hagazussa

Thursday 21 February, 7pm, ACF London

Lukas Feigelfeld's arty folk-horror debut is a grim fairy tale about women shunned and vilified as witches during Europe's Dark Ages.



Still from the film *Hagazussa*

Austria/Germany, 2018, 102 min, German with English subtitles, directed by Lukas Feigelfeld

Attack of the Lederhosen Zombies

Tuesday 5 March, 7pm, ACF London

CineClub hosts a special Fasching screening of this comedy horror. It's zombies in the Alps! A group of young snowboarders are stuck in a remote mountain ski resort, where an all-night après-ski party soon turns into a hellish nightmare of zombie mayhem. Lederhosen and zombies welcome.

Austria, 2016, 78 min, German with English subtitles, directed by Dominik Hartl

Blutgletscher (Blood Glacier)

Thursday 21 March, 7pm, ACF London

At a climate research station in the Austrian Alps scientists are stunned as the nearby melting glacier starts to leak a strange red liquid. It quickly turns out to be a special substance – with unexpected genetic effects on the local wildlife.

Austria, 2013, 96 min, German with English subtitles, directed by Marvin Kren



Attack of the Lederhosen Zombies

