

Nikolaus Gerszewski

* **1964**, lives and works in Hamburg.

1985–91 studies visual arts, at HfbK Hamburg and at Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, with Gotthard Graubner and A.R. Penck.

In the 90s lives in Budapest, works as an art critic and translator of hungarian poetry; plays various musical instruments (guitar, piano, trumpet, violin) as an improviser, conducts a freejazz orchestra; as a droughtsman and painter investigates in informal and geometric abstraction, and draws up theories on *nonrepresentational art*.

Since 2003 takes up autodidactical studies in modern composition.

2005 performs indeterminately notated music (by *Cardew, Cage, Wolff*) with the ensemble *serve music*; starts writing music, mainly for piano.

Since 2005 organizes concerts of current music, happens to be one of the major organizers of *Blurred Edges*, festival of current music in Hamburg, has worked with: *Keith Rowe, John Tilbury, János Négyesy, Christian Wolff, Peter Ablinger, Sven Åke Johansson, Eugene Chadbourne, Alvin Curran, Gustavo Aguilar, Christoph Herndler*, et.al..

Since 2007 experiments with indeterminate notation (setting limits for improvising musicians): in prose, diagrams and patterns, developing his own musical idiom: *Ordinary Music*.

Since 2008 several premieres of *Ordinary Music*, in Europe and the USA.

2009 during a 3 months stay in Calcutta, "Ordinary Music Vol.19" (for three tabla players and conductor) originates, with support and advice by *Tanmoy Bose*.

2010 starts the concert series "to&fro", connecting the cities of Hamburg and Berlin.

Ordinary Music is published at *Ariadne Buch & Musikverlag*, Vienna.

CDs: *serve music* performs "Treatise" by Cornelius Cardew (*nurnichtnur*, 2005)

"Ordinary Music Vol.3" (for string trio & doublebass) (on *Creative Sources Records*, 2008).

Premieres (selection):

2006 "Passagen", for piano, performed by Tatjana Prelevic, at *Blurred Edges Festival*, Hamburg

2007 "Mechanismen", for piano, performed by the composer, at *Blurred Edges Festival*.

2008 "Ordinary Music" (for bassclarinet and doublebass) performed by Niese & Österheld at *Forum Neue Musik*, Hamburg.

"Hardbitten" Collaboration with the dancer *Diego Chamy*, at *Miscelanea*, Barcelona and at *Stralau 68*, Berlin.

"Ordinary Music Vol.3" (for string trio & doublebass) by members of *Variable Geometric Orchestra*, featuring the composer, at *Goethe Institiut*, Lisbon.

"Ordinary Music Vol.6b" (for 4 electric guitars), by
Imig/Demand/Österheld/Gerszewski, at *Golden Pudel Club*, Hamburg.

"Quartet" (for doublebass, french horn, flute & cello) performed by *Lemur*
(Oslo), *Golden Pudel Club*, Hamburg.

2009 "Ordinary Music Vol.13" (for percussion sextet) performed by *Akros*
Percussion Collective, at *University of Akron*, and at *University of*
Cincinnati.

"Ordinary Music Vol.14" (for string trio) performed by *Ensemble Eis*
(Vienna), on *Blurred Edges Festival*, Hamburg.

"Ordinary Music Vol.15" (for any sound sources), performed by
Schöberl/Bancsich/Weichselbaum/Gerszewski, at *Amann Studios*, Vienna.

2010 "Textures" (for mixed ensemble and live-electronics), performed by
Variable Geometric Orchestra, at *Fabrica Braco de prata*, Lisbon.

"Solo or Duo for strings" performed by *Williams & Chang*, at *Hörbar*,
Hamburg.

"Conference" (for percussion sextet) performed by *Akros*, at *Kent State New*
Music Festival.

"Ordinary Music Vol.16" (for string Quartet), performed by *Ensemble*
Resonanz, on *Blurred Edges Festival*, Hamburg.

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