



haydn

the progressive

“HAYDN, THE PROGRESSIVE“

In the second half of the 20th century Arnold Schoenberg's famous essay “Brahms, the Progressive“ showed Brahms' creative work in a new light.

With the project “Haydn, the Progressive“ the Joseph Haydn Conservatory wants to make a sustainable contribution to the

dismantling of the stubbornly persistent image of Haydn as this father-like figure and to gain a proper standing for the entirely new and particularly unique way of composing.

In fact Haydn developed a grammar of music as a world language, due to his new handling of musical material, which was deeply rooted in the spirit of the enlightenment. This also formed the basis of the development of the so-called “absolute music“. This far-reaching influence appears, not only in the following generations (Beethoven, Brahms), but is even still effective in contemporary modern music.

The knowledge of this art of composing and special musical way of thinking opens up a whole new spectrum of unforeseen possibilities in interpreting and adopting the work of Haydn, as well as contemporary music, in a totally new way.

The special concept of “Haydn, the Progressive“ consists of a theoretical and aesthetical examination of Haydn's composition with a direct and immediate reference to a practical tonal realisation, but also of a confrontation with works of the 20th and 21st century. The artificial differentiation between theory and practice will thus be removed. Historic distances will be recognized as insignificant on an intellectual, artistic level.

Questions of progress in art will consequently also become an issue. The humanist status of music, which puts ethical significance on a par with aesthetic significance, will be discussed. This was a matter of course for Haydn, but is a necessary step for the contemporary world of art.

Events:

Haydn – explained: Analysis and discussion of works

Haydn – in dialogue: Comparison and confrontation (“Haydn and...”)

Haydn – in context: Historical surrounding, cultural atmosphere, daily life in the time of Haydn

Haydn – in progress: Workshops and rehearsals (realizing one's understanding)

Haydn – in concert: Concerts

Haydn – tracked down: Study tours to the sites where Haydn lived and worked (Eisenstadt, Wien, Rohrau, Fertöd,...)

Experts on music theory and history of music, composers, and musicians work on different aspects and music programmes in lectures, workshops and rehearsals. The results are then presented during various concerts.

A cooperation in the framework of the ERASMUS intensive programme between Joseph Haydn Conservatoire of the Province of Burgenland/Austria, The I. J. Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznan/Poland, Academy of Performing Arts (VSMU) in Bratislava/Slovakia, Conservatorio di musica "Arrigo Boito" in Parma/Italy and International Haydn Festival Eisenstadt/Austria.

The first session will take place in Eisenstadt between 27/4/2009 and 9/5/2009.

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