

FREUNDE GUTER MUSIK BERLIN e.V.

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40 Years

Freunde Guter Musik Berlin e.V.

1983 – 2023 Adventures in Listening

Concerts • Performances • Events • Sound Art • Lectures • Parties

Established in 1983, Freunde Guter Musik Berlin e.V. (Friends of Good Music) is a non-profit association dedicated to the presentation and dissemination of new music and music in new forms. Numerous Berlin-based, German, and international artists were invited to present their works at selected venues throughout the city. Most of these artists and their works defy the usual categories of given music scenes; they operate at the experimental margins of traditional genres and in the borderlands between music, visual, and performance art. Composer-performances, minimal music and its various offshoots, free improvisations, music rooted in ethnic and folk traditions, music made with newly invented, re-invented, and mutated instruments, live electronic music, and also sound art – acoustic installations, environments, sound sculptures, and musical media art – outline the working domain of Freunde Guter Musik. With their activities they played a pioneering role in Berlin's music and art scene preparing the ground for a large number of artists facilitating the premiers of many, and helping to launch several international careers – but mark as well the beginning of a remarkable development that, over the past 40 years, has solidified in an expansive network for the promotion of advanced art.

From the very beginning, thematic work at the threshold between music and visual arts has been at the core of their activities. Already in 1983, the year of its founding, the association was invited to conceive an accompanying program for the Berlin exhibition of Harald Szeemann's "Der Hang zum Gesamtkunstwerk" (The Tendency Toward the Total Art Work). Since 1996, Freunde Guter Musik had regularly collaborated with the Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin. In addition to singular events, they had curated comprehensive programs of live performances for, among others, the 1998/99 "Sensation" exhibition of emerging British artists and musicians. Freunde Guter Musik initiated and curated – in cooperation with the Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof and other partners – the event series "Musikwerke Bildender Künstler" (Works of Music by Visual Artists), presenting music and installation projects by Hanne Darboven, Yves Klein, Hermann Nitsch, Rodney Graham, Stephen Prina, Lawrence Wiener / Peter Gordon, Christian Marclay, Käthe Kruse, Carsten Nicolai, Janet Cardiff & Georges Bures Miller, Cory Arcangel, Egill Sæbjörnsson & Marcia Moraes, Ryoji Ikeda, Susan Philipsz, Saâdane Afif, Ari Benjamin Meyers, Jorinde Voigt, and Cevdet Ereğ.

Board of Directors:

Ingrid Buschmann, Matthias Osterwold, Vilém Wagner

www.freunde-guter-musik-berlin.de

www.musikwerke-bildender-kuenstler.de