

Women Composers

The project „Women Composers“ is the artistic focus of the mezzosoprano Andrea Schwab. Her successful concert series was founded in 2006 together with the Japanese Pianist Asako Hosoki. Meanwhile the pianist *Joanna Niederdorfer* has joined the project and will be performing with Andrea Schwab in London. It is the artists' great objective to introduce the most beautiful and interesting works of female composers from various parts of history at home and abroad. The artists will present musical pieces by women composers of the time of Mozart and Haydn going over to Alma Mahler and Lisa Maria Mayer up to contemporary works of living Austrian female composers, such as Katharina Kreuz and Silvia Sommer. The singer herself will be moderating in English. Andrea Schwab and Joanna Niederdorfer have the vision to expand the outreach of their concerts on the works of women composers internationally.

Curriculum of the artists:

Andrea Schwab – Mezzosopran, moderation

Born in Vienna, Phd in Philosophy, Fulbright Research Grant recipient for studies at UCLA (University of California Los Angeles) education in classical singing by *Alfred Kaufmann*, piano with *Elzbieta Wiedner-Zajac* at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Master Course with *Cornelia Prestel*, training by *Norman Shetler*. Concerts in Germany, Switzerland, Israel, and Poland, etc. Her artistic focus lies on the project *Women composers*. Delegate at the Conference “The European Salon” in Maynooth/ Ireland 2.-4. October 2015 (supported by the Austrian Embassy in Dublin). In 2011 she founded together with the pianist *Asako Hosoki* the society on Women Composers in Vienna. Meanwhile *Joanna Niederdorfer* and other musicians joined the project that has been sponsored by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Due to her concert series and research she visits schools introducing her project. As a descendant of Theodor Herzl, she created the project: *Remembering Theodor Herzl* based on a documentary by the Israelian TV/ Channel 2 where she participated with her mother and her pianist Asako Hosoki. *Remembering Theodor Herzl* is sponsored by the Future Fund of the Republic of Austria. She also publishes on musical

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topics, her family and Theodor Herzl for the ILLUSTRIERTE NEUE WELT (*Dr. Joanna Nittenberg*) and has a teaching assignment for Voice Training and Participatory Cultural Work at the Teacher Training College Baden – Lower Austria. (PH-Baden – NÖ)

Joanna Niederdorfer – Piano

was born in Łódź/Poland. Her first piano teacher was her mother, who herself was a singer and pianist. Mrs. Niederdorfer got her first piano lesson at the age of three. After having graduated High School she studied at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Łódź and passed her diploma with honors in 1974. Postgraduate studies with Viktor Mierchaw from Moskva, furthermore studies with Arthur Rubinstein and Hélène Boschi in France, 1981 postgraduate stipend with Alexander Jenner at the Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, she won several prizes among them the Award of the Int. Chopin-Society, Promotion Prize of Poland, several Awards for chamber music competitions. Since 1983 she has been teaching in Graz at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Radio and TV-broadcasting and concerts as a soloist and *Duo Niederdorfer* she started an international career in France, Germany, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Norway, Sweden, Israel, Spain and the UK, London, Paris, Berlin, Prague, Warsaw, Zagreb, Munich, Peking, Shanghai, Manila, New Delhi, Vienna and Rome, Asia and at festivals. She was and is still holding Masterclasses in summer, mostly together with the internationally well-known soprano Joanna Borowska.