

Futurs Composés, national network for new music Charter

Involvement in the changing contemporary music scene

For half a century now there has been an increasing trend towards interaction between contemporary music based on composition for instruments, voices or electroacoustics and other areas of musical and audio research and experimentation: improvisation, the sound arts, multimedia, etc., and a host of collaborations with the other performing arts disciplines.

Furthermore, new contemporary music has benefited from the aesthetic crossovers that have resulted from this growing number of interactions, pushing back the divisions separating the academic and popular spheres, subverting for good the idea of identified genres such as jazz or traditional music from different parts of the world, and inventing new ways of converging and enriching their own languages.

Aware of these changes, the various members of this national network are working to ensure that new contemporary music is able to benefit from its 20th-century musical heritage so that it can enrich and renew its own approach today, one that embraces a tradition of innovation and finds its inspiration and *raison d'être* in the aesthetic, artistic, cultural, political and social movements of today's world.

A national professional network

As part of this approach towards the future of music, Futurs Composés is keen to develop its role as a national professional network representing musical bodies and centres involved in making, producing, publishing, disseminating and introducing musical and cultural initiatives, instrumental groups and groups of performers and composers, all dedicated first and foremost to producing new musical works.

The objective of the network is to bring together all contemporary music professionals, in association with other networks in Europe and abroad, to focus on the current issues in the creation and production of contemporary music, its place in the changing current artistic movements and how audiences relate to them, and its development in the cultural, economic and media landscape on a regional, national and international level.

It considers that pooled thinking, experience sharing and implementing collective strategies and initiatives are essential if more weight is to be given to the artistic and cultural relevance of new music in both professional practice and public policy, not only in the composition and production of new works but also in how they are received by audiences and in passing on musical knowledge to future generations.

What unites us

The members adopt shared practices which unite them, giving them a collective identity within the network :

- > Commissioning new works and supporting their production and dissemination
- > Taking artistic risks and adopting a free and independent editorial stance
- > Supporting the career development of composers and musicians
- > Developing music technology to foster musical creativity
- > Helping to train young musicians and pass on musical knowledge
- > Raising cultural awareness and broadening the scope of new audiences
- > Encouraging cooperation, partnerships and artistic exchanges both nationally and internationally
- > Any initiative aimed at raising the profile of new contemporary music

Priority objectives

At a time when the powers that be are redefining their cultural policy, the government is scaling back its involvement in the cultural sphere and reducing performing arts grants, Futurs Composés has ambitions to become the national network for contemporary music professionals, similar to musical networks that exist in jazz, modern music and world music but something that is currently lacking in French music.

Drawn from a broad and representative base, its members are initially focusing their efforts on three main objectives of the network :

- > To create direct and mutually beneficial professional links, experience-sharing and information-sharing between its members, associated with reflection on the aesthetic, artistic, institutional and economic aspects of new contemporary music.
- > To pool, collate and make available to its members all information and analyses of the sector that are useful to their interests, developing their involvement in performing arts and implementing any collective initiatives that can help promote and raise the profile of their actions.
- > To represent, defend, support and promote its members and the artistic spheres and cultural actions they represent in all collective initiatives with respect to professional, institutional and media partners, regionally nationally and internationally.