



georg f. klein

Professor for Sound Art

Composition | Media Art | Art in Public Space

* 01 | 03 | 1964 in Germany

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Georg Klein, based in Berlin, lived in Munich, Rome, Los Angeles and Istanbul. With a background in composition, he has developed a multi-faceted artistic practice, in which he works with sound in combination with video, text, or photography. In his installations and interventions – in particular those in public spaces – he intensifies visual, acoustic, situational and political aspects of a space into an area of tension, the so-called "Spannungsraum", in which visitors become involved, either on an interactive or participatory basis.

Since 2013, he has been a lecturer at Berlin University of Arts and other Universities (HfG Karlsruhe, Bilgi Istanbul, etc.). Since 2022 he is professor for sound art and director of the master's programme 'Sound Studies and Sonic Arts' at the University of Berlin.

Artistic and technical education

- 2003 Berlin University of the Arts (UdK): Education in video art (M.J.Lafontaine), Video Programming / Jitter (D.Busch) and Music Theater (R.Häusermann / M.Tsangaris)
- 1998 - 2001 Electronic Studio of the TU Berlin: composition studies / programming courses in Studio technology / electron. Music (Folkmar Hein), electron. Composition (H.-M. Olbrisch), audio software MaxMSP (Th. Seelig), supercollider (St. Pope), network music (Golo Föllmer)
- 1996 Self-employed composer. First release on CD (presented at Berlinale Film Festival 1997)
- 1992 - 1998 Free University Berlin: Studies Philosophy of Religion / Cultural Studies / Psychoanalysis with Prof. Heinrich and Vgl. Musicology with Prof. Kuckerz (not graduated)
Student representative / member of the study regulation / examination committee
- 1991 - 1994 Member of the DFG research project "Visualization of Speech Language for the Deaf", Head: Dr. Klaus Hobohm, TU Berlin
- 1988 - 1992 violin lessons (K.Landsberg), piano lessons (G.Klose), music theory (W.Bendel)
- 1987 - 1991 Technical University Berlin: continuation of studies in sound engineering: studio technology, acoustics, electronics, digital technology, music / communication science; Diploma with Prof. Manfred Krause
- 1983 - 1986 Technical University of Munich: Studies of electrical engineering / acoustics, intermediate diploma with Prof. Zwicker. Practical work in Ingenieurbüro Müller BBM (room / concert acoustics, acoustics in urban space, frequency analysis procedure)

Awards & Stipends (public funding)

- Academy of Fine Arts Berlin, 2021
- Neustart Kultur / BBK, 2021
- **Audio Walk Award**, Berlin 2020
- Residency at Villa Aurora, Los Angeles, USA, 2019
- Working Stipend by Senat of Berlin, 2018
- Project Space Award Errant Bodies / Errant Sound, Berlin 2016
- **First Prize in the Sound Art Competition for IGA 2017**, Berlin 2015
- **EMAF Dialogue Award by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany**, Osnabrueck 2015
- Curator in Residence at quartier21, MuseumsQuartier, Vienna, 2014
- Artist in Residence in Taranto, Italy, 2013
- Artist in Residence at Schloss Werdenberg, Switzerland, 2013
- Artist in Residence at quartier21, MuseumsQuartier, Vienna, 2012
- Residency at BM Contemporary Art Center Istanbul, Scholarship by Senat of Berlin, July-Dec 2010
- **Media-Space-Award 2006**, Skulpturenmuseum Marl / NRW
- Residency at Deutsche Akademie Rom (Villa Massimo / Casa Baldi) 2006
- Stipend Stiftung Kulturfonds 2003
- **German Sound Art Award 2002**, Skulpturenmuseum Marl, NRW and WDR Köln
- Stipend Künstlerhaus Schloß Wiepersdorf 2002
- Sound Art Stipend by Senat of Berlin 2000
- **International Gustav-Mahler-Composition Prize** 1999, Austria

Curating & Organization

- 2020 curator international sound art festival DYSTOPIE Berlin-Brazil (with Laura Mello et. al.)
- 2018 curator international sound art festival DYSTOPIE Berlin-Istanbul (with Dr.Golo Föllmer, Prof. Jeremy Woodruff, Dr. Ebru Yetiskin)
- since 2017 Chairman Errant Sound e.V. (together with Prof. Kirsten Reese and Mario Asef)
- 2014 curator of the exhibition and discussion series Stadt-Klang-Text, Errant Sound Berlin
Curator of the exhibition PCFS at MuseumsQuartier Wien, freiraum international (together with Sven Kalden)
- 2013 Co-founder of the Errant Sound Project Space Berlin (formerly Errant Bodies)
- 2008 Curator at the Berlin Senate / Dept. of Art and Culture, district Kreuzbg./Friedrhain.
- 2003 - 2012 Managing Director KlangQuadrat GbR - Office for Sound and Media Art (together with Julia Gerlach), production of sound, media art and concert projects in Germany and abroad
- 2001 - 2005 Chairman of the Berliner Gesellschaft für Neue Musik (bgnm, together with Dr. Christa Brüstle) Organization and curating of discussion and concert series: 2002: music | politics, 2003: reflex zones, 2004: migration, 2005: video concerts

Solo Exhibitions / Projects

2021

Dark Matter, Interactive audiovisual-installation, Errant Sound Gallery Berlin, Aug-Sep 2021, funded by Neustart Kultur (Musikfonds/BBK)

2020

NILAND, Video triptychon with 4-channel sound, in coop. with Ulrich Krieger (Los Angeles). Kunstpunkt Berlin, July 2020

2016

permeiamo - Interactive listening station with 5 light horn speakers and telephone
Fassadengalerie Kunsthaus KuLe, Auguststr., Gallery-Weekend Berlin.

2014

tracing Godwin Partizipative photo and sound installation in public space. Kunsthaus Aussersihl, Zürich (SUI) Jan. 2014.

2013

toposonie : : spree Permanent sound walk (german/english/french), Berlin (GER) since July 2013. Supported by INM (Senat of Berlin), Bezirksamt Berlin-Mitte, DeutschlandRadio Kultur.

2012

Der gelbe Klang^{TS} Sound and poster installation at MuseumsQuartier Wien, Tonspurpassage. Vienna (AUT) Nov. 2012 – Feb. 2013.

GNADÉ Four interactive installations in public space of Mannheim and installation 'Media Altar of Mercy' at Schloss Schwetzingen (GER) July 2012. Supported by Staatstheater Mannheim, City of Mannheim, BASF, Roche.

2010

Cuts and Creeds Video, sound and text installation, at project space 'Labor' Berlin (GER) Feb.-March 2010), supported by INM (Senat of Berlin), and 'apartman projesi' Istanbul (TUR) Nov.-Dec. 2010, supported by BM Contemporary Art Center Istanbul.

smile atatürk Website with manipulated photographs of Atatürk (founder of modern Turkey) as a download service for offices, shops and tea houses in Turkey. First presentation in Istanbul (TUR) Oct. 2010.

2011

borderlines Solo exhibition in the Gallery écart at European Media Art Festivals (EMAF): *Cuts and Creeds*, *turmaute.2 : watch tower (soundpicdoc)*, *Ramallah Tours (soundpicdoc)*, *Make me wild – Godwin (tracing Godwin)*, Osnabrück (GER) April - May 2011

2006

TRASA 06 Simultaneous video and sound installation in public space, in Hannover (GER) + Poznan (POL) (Jan.-Feb. 2006) and Darmstadt (GER) + Płock (POL) (March-Apr. 2006), Supported by Auswärtiges Amt (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany), Stiftung für Deutsch-Polnische Zusammenarbeit, Üstra, Remondis, arte, Gazeta Wyborcza, Cities of Hannover / Poznan / Darmstadt / Płock.

turmlaute.1 – Hungerturm Video and sound installation, Mousonturm Frankfurt (GER) Sept. 2006, Olevano Rom. (ITA), Sept. 2006. Supported by Villa Massimo / German Academy Rome.

2008

venture doll Performance intervention and advertisement video with a robot doll in coop.

with Steffi Weismann. Several super markets in Los Angeles (USA) Oct./Nov. 2008. Supported by Villa Aurora Los Angeles.

2004

TRASA warszawa-berlin Simultaneous video and sound installation in public space, in Warsaw (POL) and Berlin (GER). Sept.-Nov. 2004. Supported by Hauptstadtkulturfonds, Goethe-Institut Warschau, City of Warsaw, BVG, INM Berlin, Metro, Stiftung für Deutsch-Polnische Zusammenarbeit, Siemens, QSR, arte, Gazeta Wyborcza.

2005

pick-up Performance intervention / interactive installation in a kiosk in coop. with Steffi Weismann. Mark Blonds Projekt, Bern (SUI) March-April 2005.

2003

Imperial News Video sound installation in the *Red City Hall* (Rotes Rathaus) Berlin (GER) Oct. 2003, supported by BBK Berlin, and at project space *ausland*, Berlin (GER) Nov. 2003.

2001

transition - berlin junction Interactive installation in Richard Serra's Sculpture *berlin junction* at the Berlin Philharmonie (GER) March-Oct. 2001 and April-Oct. 2002. Supported by Sound Art Scholarship (Senat of Berlin), Philharmonie Concert Hall, Richard Serra, Podewil, Elektronisches Studio TU Berlin. CD *transition* (lim.edition).

Group Exhibitions / Projects

2021

Sound Art Festival IntraRegionale 2021: **passage**, Interactive sound installation Burgdorf, June. 2021, Region Hannover

Musikfestival Witten / WDR: **3 neue Schwestern**, sound installation in 3 parts, Schwesternpark Witten / Ruhrgebiet), April 2021,

2020

DOKFEST Kassel: **NILAND**, Video triptychon with 4-channel sound, in coop. with Ulrich Krieger (Los Angeles), Nov.2020

2019

Exhibition "Tracks in a Box" and "sonomemo": **toposonie :: engelbecken**, GPS guided Sound Walk in public space, Luisenstädtischer Kanal, Berlin. , in coop. with Deutschlandfunk Kultur, supported by MusikFonds. Permanent since Sept. 2019. **Audio Walk Award 2020**

2018

DYSTOPIE sound art festival Berlin: **Fog Zone** - Audio visual installation in a fog space, Großer Wasserspeicher Prenzlauer Berg Berlin, funded by Senat of Berlin, Sept. 2018

Exhibition "*Facing North Korea*": **The Sound before Silence** - Audio visual installation in an isolated, pentagonal chamber, funded by INM Berlin. Kunsthaus Meinblau, Berlin, Nov. 2018

2017

Kunstmuseum Horsens: **EuropeanBorderWatch / DanskGraenseOvervagning** at "Horsens Happening", Denmark, Cur. Ellen Fries, Henrik Vestergaard

International Garden Exhibition Berlin (IGA), **Grün Hören / Listening Green**, interactive sound installation in two parts. First prize of the international sound art competition on IGA 2017. Special project of the exhibition "*Sichten einer Landschaft / Views of a landscape*",

Curat.: Katja Assmann / ZKR)

2016

Gangjeon Contemporary Art Festival, **Deep Difference Unit**, sound sculpture in two parts, Daegu, Südkorea, Curat.: Okreal Kim

Exhibition "*Q:kju - Art meets Science*", **Ungrounded**, interactive sound video installation, NordLB Gallerie Hannover, Curat.: Eckhart Liss

2015

European Media Art Festival Osnabrück (EMAF), **European Border Watch Organisation**, awarded with the Dialogue-Award of Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Auswärtiges Amt)

Errant Bodies, Berlin: **kein sound ist illegal**, Interactive sound installation

Tag der Relativität, **Im Gang der RaumZeit**, interactive, audiovisual installation, Tag der Relativität, Leibniz-Universität Hannover

2014

Festival 'transmediale' / errant bodies: **Unsounds – Listening sounds which don't exist.** Tutorial, 15 pages / 7 pictures, sound art project space *errant bodies* Berlin (GER) Jan. 2014.

Exhibition 'correnti seduttive' : **Le Due Forze di Taranto / Two Powers of Taranto**, Photo and sound installation in public space, Ponte Girevole, Taranto (ITA) March 2014.

Medienkunstpreis Horb : **sonic parole** Video installation at a market place, Horb/N. (GER) May 2014.

Exhibition 'PCFS - Post-colonial Flagship Store': **UNzuRECHT Fall A** Video and sound installation in coop. with Steffi Weismann, freiraum MuseumsQuartier Wien (AUT) Oct.-Nov. 2014.

2013

Exhibition Schlossmediale Werdenberg : **UNzuRECHT Fall A: Finanz / Fall B: Justiz** Two Installations in coop. with Steffi Weismann. Werdenberg (SUI) May-June 2013. Supported by Kanton St. Gallen, proHelvetia, UBS Kulturstiftung, ArsRhenia.

Exhibition Media Facades Gwangju : **sonic parole** Video installation at a media facade. Supported by Gwangju Cultural Foundation South-Corea (KOR) Aug.-Sept. 2013.

2012

Festival 'Musik.Zeit.Geschehen' : **BMF Interventionen** 3 installative interventions in the Bundesfinanzministeriums (Federal Finance Ministry of German), Berlin (GER) June 2012.

Exhibition 'Sound Art. Klang als Medium der Kunst' : **Der gelbe Klang²** Sound and light installation in public space (royal park of Karlsruhe), Zentrum für Kunst und Medien ZKM Karlsruhe (GER) March-Aug. 2012.

2011

Festival YEAH! Hörbare Umwelten : **OS school projects: trashesounds & TRIADIO** Installation with interactive bins, communicative radio project at 3 schools in Osnabrücks (GER) Nov. 2011. Supported by Netzwerk Junge Ohren, Bundesumweltstiftung.

European Media Art Festival (EMAF) : **Make me wild, Godwin** Photo and sound installation in public space. Osnabrück (GER) April-May 2011,

Exhibition/Conference 'tracing mobility' : **tracing Godwin** Partizipative photo and sound installation in public space, Haus der Kulturen der Welt Berlin (GER) Nov-Dez. 2011.

2010

Exhibition 'SINOPALE Intern. Biennial for Contemp. Art' : **mirrorsongs** Installation at a prison facade, Sinop (TUR) Aug.-Sept. 2010. Supported by Avrupa Kültür Derneği, Goethe

Institut.

2009

Exhibition 'Shared.Divided.United' : **NaNa** Interactive installation, NGBK Berlin (GER) Oct.-Nov. 2009, Kunstverein Hildesheim (GER) Dec. 2009 - Jan. 2010. Supported by Asia-Pacific Weeks Berlin (funded by DKLB).

Exhibition '29km' : **RamallahTours** Intervention with a palestinian taxi in Israel and website. Umm el Fahem Art Gallery (Israel) June –Oct. 2009. Supported by Goethe-Institut Tel Aviv, Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (ifa).

Exhibition 'klangstaetten | stadtklaenge' : **Sprich mit mir** Interactive installation in a red light district in public space, Braunschweig (GER) May-June 2009. Supported by Konsumverein Braunschweig, Stiftung Nord/LB, Nieders. Ministerium für Wiss. und Kultur.

2008

Media Facades Festival Berlin : **sonic parole** Video installation at the media facade of the O2-Arena, Berlin (GER) Oct./Nov. 2008). Supported by Hauptstadtkulturfonds.

Hermannshof Hannover : **Peregrinatio Paradiso** MP3 sound walk through 3 types of gardens with blind and deaf-blind people, Hannover (GER) since June 2008. Supported by Stiftung Kulturregion Hannover.

Villa Aurora LA: **wel-come|bien-venue|will-kommen** Stereo sound installation, Los Angeles (USA) Oct. 2008.

2007

Europäisches Zentrum der Künste Hellerau : **meta.stasen** Sound and light installation in a tram wagon, Dresden (GER) Sept.-Oct. 2007. Supported by EZKH (21. Dresdner Tage der zeitgenössischen Musik), DVB.

MaerzMusik Festival : **turmlaute.2 – Wachturm** Interactive sound and video installation in a GDR border tower and website, Schlesischer Busch, Berlin (GER) March-April 2007. Supported by Kunstfabrik am Flutgraben, MaerzMusik, Bezirksamt Treptow.

2006

Exhibition 'sonambiente - International Sound Art Festival': **takeaway** Interactive installation in coop. with Steffi Weismann in public space, Schlossplatz Berlin (GER) June-July 2006.

2005

Exhibition 'Urban Art Stories - Berlin Alexanderplatz' : **warten | waiting** Video and sound installation in public space. Berlin (GER) Apr.-May 2005. Supported by Hauptstadtkulturfonds.

2002

Exhibition 'Deutscher Klangkunstpreis' (German Sound Art Award) : **Ortsklang Marl Mitte. Blaues Blach. Viel Kunst. Wenig Arbeit.** Sound and light installation in public space, Marl/NRW (GER) Oct.-Nov. 2002. Supported by Skulpturenmuseum Marl, WDR, Deutsche Bahn, Werbeplakate Hellwich.

Kunststiftung Künstlerhaus Wiepersdorf : **wel-come|bien-venue|will-kommen** Sound installation in the Royal Park of Wiepersdorf (GER) Aug. 2002.

Concert pieces / radio works:

1996

amor fati Suite for piano (prep.), cello (prep.) and flute. Music for a germ.-belg.-hungar. documentary by Sophie Kotanyi, 1996. Premiere at Berlinale - 47th Int. Filmfestspiele Berlin

(GER) 1997, CD *amor fati* (LC 3334).

1998

three short pieces For cello and accordeon. Premiere at Klangwerkstatt, Ballhaus Naunynstr., Berlin (GER) Nov. 1998.

1999

Spiegelgespräch I Solo-Duet for violine and phrase sampler. Premiere at BKA / Unerhörte Musik, Berlin (GER) Jan. 1999.

Li.. und die Erde Two songs after *Li T'ai Po* for contralto, ensemble and phrase sampler. Intern. Gustav-Mahler-Composition Prize 1999. Premiere at Musikforum Viktring Klagenfurt (AUT) July 1999.

Spiegelgespräch II Solo-Duet for bass flute and phrase sampler. Premiere at BKA / Unerhörte Musik, Berlin (GER) Sept. 1999.

2000

asphalt electronic piece with transformed street noise and computer generated sounds. Premiere at club Marienstraße, Berlin (GER) Sept. 2000.

2001

transition for saxophone Solo piece with live electronic and 8 channel tape. Premiere at Festival Ultraschall Berlin (DeutschlandRadio), Berlin (GER) Jan. 2001.

2003

Ankündigung der Wirklichkeit Stereo piece with news trailers during the war on Iraq.

2004

Peer Gynt New stage music on the drama 'Peer Gynt' by Henrik Ibsen. Director: Peter Zadek, main actors: Uwe Bohm, Angela Winkler. Premiere at Berliner Ensemble: April 2004, Berlin (GER). Music conductor during 2004 - 2008. Guest performance in Vienna, Edinburgh, Bochum, Thessaloniki, Budapest, Lisbon.

2005

auf jeden fall Audiovisual Performance for two players in a double container, in coop. with Steffi Weismann. Premiere at Festival Rümelingen (SUI) Aug. 2005.

2006

DADayama Concert performance for 4 vocal performers and 4 loudspeakers, with live-electronic, in coop. with Tetsuo Furudate. Premiere with the maulwerker at 'arts birthday', TESLA / DeutschlandRadio, Berlin (GER) Jan. 2006.

sixis – Sextett (flute, violine, viola, clarinet, cello, piano) with 6 mirror loudspeakers and 6 channel tape. Premiere at Konzerthaus Berlin (GER) Feb. 2006

2008

Peregrinatio Paradiso: Wege am Paradies entlang. Texts: Ovid (Das goldene Zeitalter), Interviews with blind and deaf-blind people. Voices: Angela Winkler, Steffi Weismann. CD *peregrination paradiso* Oct. 2008, radio version for Datscha-Radio Berlin (GER) Aug. 2012.

wel-come|bien-venidos Stereo sound piece, Musica Viva Festival Portugal, Lisbon (POR) Oct. 2008.

2010

Lautsprecher und Leisesprecher Concert performance for 4 vocal performers and 4 loudspeakers. Premiere with the maulwerker at Villa Elisabeth, Berlin (GER) Sept. 2010.

2013

toposonie : : spree Zwischen Tourismus und Lobbyismus, german radio version 25min.

DeutschlandRadio Kultur (GER) Oct. 2013; french radio version 55min., Radio France Culture (FRA) Nov. 2013.

2014

The Interactive Piano Interactive concert installation with MIDI grand piano. Premiere at Festival '25 Jahre Klangwerkstatt', SophienSaele, Berlin (GER) Nov. 2014.

2015

Music for the theatre project **Back to Black** by Auffahrt/Lorey, Deutsches Theater Berlin

Catalogs (Monograph)

Catalog **transition - berlin junction** *eine klangsituation* ; German, Pfau-Verlag, 2002

Catalog **TRASA warszawa-berlin**, Ed. Julia Gerlach, German/Polish, Kehrer, Heidelberg 2004

Catalog **borderlines - Auf der Grenze**, Ed. Prof. Sabine Sanio, German/English, Kehrer, Heidelberg 2014, www.georgklein.de/borderlines.html

Press articles / Scientific articles

www.georgklein.de/press-articles.html

www.georgklein.de/press-essays.html