



**christian wolz**

vocal art • composition • performance



• **projects** 2013 - 2014

**WOLZ** - anniversary CD / release 15.07.2013

**ecencia** - anniversary performance / UA: 19.10.2013

**ecencia** - live-CD / release 15. März 2014

• **vocal art**

Christian Wolz combines new styles of singing and language with the musical structures of medieval and non-European cultures to form a new means of communication for avant-garde art, hereby applying electro-acoustic means. Originally intended as tools for assistance, things such as microphones and effect processors become unique musical instruments. His way of working uses both methods of composition and improvisation combined into one. The result is a huge room of association where communication is developed as a deep, emotional and pristine form of conveyance. Christian Wolz's vocal art is a self-developed vocal technique borrowed from forms of glossolalia (speaking in tongues). Glossolalia stems from the field of the psychology and is a self-created language of symbols, new word creations (neologism) and lingual sounds. The combination of such avant-garde vocal techniques with conventional styles of music makes his compositions one of a kind.

Christian Wolz is not a vocal performing show-off, but rather a convinced artist in a symbiosis of art forms: photographer, instrumentalist, singer, actor and director all in one. For years Christian Wolz has been fine-tuning his own form of expression. Bizarre, avant-garde, experimental, emotional and intimate. An allegory of his soul and his life. Living in Berlin, his work deals with the cycle of birth, life and death. Regardless of whether it's a performance on stage, a photo exhibition or a CD, every artistic detail is a facet of this basic theme and is embedded into his complete works, which deal with daily existence and its customary madness.

• **biography**

Since 1988 Christian Wolz created numerous concerts, vocal performances, sound installations, radio plays, CDs and multimedia-performances. In 1995 he founded „Wolz – New Music Theatre“ and collaborated with various musicians, choreographers and directors. He created compositions for dance companies and theatre productions. He performed and worked in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Netherlands, Poland, Belgium, Luxemburg, France, Greece, UK, Spain, Italy, Denmark, Canada and New Zealand.

## • solo works

**Stalgico** - solo production and studio work / 2011-2012 (premiere together with Lazaro 2012)  
**Lazaro 2012** - solo performance / premiere: 17.06.2012, Zwölf-Apostel-Kirche Berlin (twelve apostles church)  
**EMOTION 15** - solo production / concert and CD release / 2011 / premiere: 21.09.2011, Villa Elisabeth-Berlin  
**RAUSCH R2** - sound- and video-installation, exhibition in September 2010 / K-Salon Berlin.  
solo project **Rausch Research** improvisational concert for voice and electro acoustics - start up of the work in progress  
**RAUSCH**(Intoxication) a project in different phases / 22.April 2010 in Berlin.  
performance „**Associare-Acustica**“ – 2007-UA: St. Johanniskirche Würzburg  
stereo-acoustics-performance „**Atropa Bella Donna**“ / 2006-2007 – UA: Arenbergschouwburg Antwerpen  
solo-piece und studiowork „**SILVAN-the man from the woods**“ / 2005 – UA: Schwankhalle Bremen  
performance „**StimmUngen ST3**“ / 2005 – UA: Tanzfabrik Berlin  
studio work „**Rätarr**“ / CD release 2003  
performance and studio work „**StimmUngen ST1**“ / 2003 – UA: Schwankhalle Bremen  
solo-piece „**HIV+2**“ / 2002 – UA: Theater am Halleschen Ufer, Berlin  
studio work „**Todaycom**“ / 2001 / also as the music for a dance piece by Norbert Kliesch – UA: Tanzfabrik Berlin  
radio play „**organic-blood**“ / 2001 / produced for Deutschlandradio Berlin  
studio work „**E INOM RAH**“ / 2000  
radio play „**aquitatus**“ / 1999 / produced for Saarländischer Rundfunk Germany  
stereo-acoustics-performance „**NO/30.98**“ / 1998 – UA: Schloss Bröllin  
solo piece „**Schmerzarie**“ / 1997 – UA: Theater am Halleschen Ufer, Berlin /  
also as a radio play for Deutschlandradio Berlin  
stereo-acoustics-performance „**ASPHYXIE**“ / 1995 – UA: Theater am Halleschen Ufer, Berlin  
avantgarde - opera „**COR – the heart**“ / 1994 – UA: Theater am Halleschen Ufer, Berlin  
studio work and performance „**devil intus mestra de la fore–Lied eines Wahnsinnigen**“ / 1993 – UA: Paradiso Amsterdam  
studio work and concert „**EL CASTATA**“ / 1992 – UA: Documenta X Kassel  
performance „**Ägide Aggression**“ / 1991 – UA: HDK Berlin  
multi-media-project „**ISOLABELLA**“ / 1990  
multi-media-project „**Exekution**“ / 1989  
multi-media-project „**O-CIAN-E / Die Mutter Der**“ / 1989  
multi-media-project „**CO DORA**“ / 1988  
multi-media-project „**CITOMA**“ / 1988  
(all multi-media-productions were presented at Atelier GIFT and in several Berlin based galleries)

## • discography

„**WOLZ**“ **das Jubiläumsalbum 2013**  
*published by vocalart international*  
„**EMOTION 15**“ 2011  
*published by vocalart international*  
„**Associare-Acustica**“ 2007  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**SILVAN (der aus dem wald kommende)**“ 2006  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**StimmUngen ST1**“ 2004  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**Rätarr**“ 2004  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**HIV+2**“ 2002  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**Todaycom**“ 2001  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**E INOM RAH**“ 2000  
*published by Prikosnovenie, Clisson / Frankreich*  
„**no / 30.98**“ 1998  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**Aza-DOMANA/H/ERTUM - wir leben und sterben**“ 1998  
*published by Kip-Records, im Vertrieb von: NRW Vertrieb*  
„**schmerzarie**“ 1997  
*published by vocalart berlin*  
„**COR - Avantgarde-Opera**“ 1994  
„**devil intus mestra de la fore - Lied eines Wahnsinnigen**“ 1993  
*Danse Macabre Sampler II –"Ba' chain"* 1992  
„**EL CASTATA**“ 1992  
*published by Danse Macabre Rec., Bayreuth distributed by EFA Medien GmbH, Hamburg*

## • cooperation

**Gilles Aubry** – Switzerland / Berlin – composer and musician  
**Hermann Beesten jr.** - Berlin – percussionist / Das Holz  
**Katrine Faber** - Aarhus - Denmark - performer, vocalist and musician  
**Susanne Fröhlich** - Berlin - recorder player  
**Spyros Giasafakis** – Greece/Athens – musician (greek ancient instruments)  
**Jeff Henderson Henderson** – New Zealand – musician (Saxophone)  
**Eva Karzsag** – USA – choreographer / Trisha Brown  
**Alice Kemp**- UK/Dartington – composer and musician  
**Norbert Kliesch** – Berlin – choreographer  
**Christian Komorowski** – Berlin – musician / Deine Lakaien / Das Holz  
**Irena Kulka** – Schweiz – dancer for butoh  
**Melinda Kumbalek** – Berlin – pop musician  
**Helge Letonja - Steptext Dance Project** - Bremen – choreographer  
**Ivan Marcos** – Spain / A Curuna – choreographer and performance artist  
**Norbert Mauk** – Berlin – director and choreographer  
**Rudolph Moser** – Berlin - percussionist - Orchester Obscure / Einstürzende Neubauten  
**Martin Müller** – Würzburg – artist of fine arts  
**Morgan Nardi** - Düsseldorf – choreographer  
**Rubato** – Berlin – dance company  
**Bernd Schultheis** – Berlin – composer and musician  
**STROMA – international Chamber-Orchestra Wellington** / New Zealand  
**Susanne Thomas** – Seven Sisters Group – London – choreographer / dance company  
**Unit Control** – Luxembourg – dance company  
**Michael Ziffels** – Berlin – composer and musician (electronic music)

## • teaching

**Royal Academy of Music** / Aarhus / DK  
**New Zealand School of Music** / Wellington and Canterbury / NZ  
**Deutsche Staatsoper / Operleben** (Junge Staatsoper) / Berlin / D  
**University of Art - UDK** (Department of music) / Berlin / D  
**Career & Transfer Service Center** UDK Berlin / D  
**Exploratorium** (institution for improvised music and creative musical education) / Berlin / D  
**University of Wales** / Aberystwyth / UK  
**College of Dartington Arts** ( music and choreography – performance arts and theatre) / Dartington / UK  
**Tanzfabrik Berlin** / Berlin / D  
**Dejma** (University of music - Department of Jazz) / Lausanne / CH  
**Schwankhalle** / Bremen / D  
**Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt** / Weimar / D

## • statements

Christian Wolz's voice practice unites cutting edge voice work with technology in a refreshing and invigorating way. His work is not mere singing with digital sound; it is a true dialogue between the extended voice and music technology, and in that sense is unique in today's constellation of live performance.' 'It was very nice to see electronic music and digital art approaches to working with the voice where the voice is in dialogue with technology, rather than where the technology takes over the voice'.

*Yvon.Bonenfant - Vocal artist and Senior Lecturer, Performing Arts,  
Faculty of Arts University of Winchester (2008)*

...ALL for this world you built between organic and electronic, between oral traditions from the world and avant-garde music. Yes, I think it is a very sensitive and intelligent way of getting inspiration from the original sources but transcending and transgressing them BREAKING THE POST CARD in one or another way avoiding to become a cake and therefore inviting to reflect about it. Congratulation my dear. It is really a serious way. There is fresh improvisation but there is structure and unity among all the tracks and I really like this effort and rigor that exists less and lessssss in the new music....

*Fatima Miranda , Vocal artist – Madrid/Spain (2008)*

- **stage echoes**

It's unbelievable what this man's got in his throat -weeping children, buzzing saws, medieval monks, tortured victims, Arabian lamentation. Of course with a little help of modern technology. But whoever has the opportunity to listen to a Christian Wolz vocal performance would probably think that this man's got at least four vocal cords. Christian Wolz moans and groans, screams and whimpers, hackles, coos, wails and grumbles, and adds his own sound mixes ranging from ambient to touches of Arabian or Gregorian chanting.  
**(Der Tagesspiegel-Berlin)**

crying animal • Christian Wolz turns every cavity of his body into a musical sound box. Once he's found his rhythm, the whisper of the softest breath can turn into a last desperate scream. The 30year-old has created a huge spectrum of musical forms of expression. Often his exhausting vocal experiments darkened by a touch of doom have been compared to Diamanda Galas' heavily orgiastic style. However this comparison suffocates Wolz' search for authenticity. Wolz treads new paths and opens the spectrum of sensual perception to take in more of life. Electronic voice processing creates such a thick sound reminding one of an opera in a dramatic and overkill kind of way.

**(Die Tageszeitung)**

Hey, there's someone screaming out all the suffering of the world - vibrating vocal cords singing tenor, bass and countertenor all in one, reaching dizzying heights and ecstatic depths. Wolz is an exceptional soul in the deep valley of male singers in a vocal landscape in which usually only women live and work. He doesn't really fit in anywhere - he left behind the dark wave and gothic scene long ago, and in the avant-garde scene his extreme emotional outbursts strike light lightning, leaving behind perplexed faces.

**(Jazzthetik)**

Wolz creates an extremely effective relationship between the photographs and his person. He provokes voyeurism and sexual attraction while at the same time appearing open and vulnerable. His vocal work remains in the foreground, ranging from animalistic grunting to imploring melismatic singing to cries of desperation. With the help of studio recording and technology, his voice is distorted and multiplied in an orchestral effect, and the highly subjunctive release of his sensations embodies the quality in addition to his sensory power of incredible authenticity.

**(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)**

Whoever's had the opportunity to experienced him on stage was either deeply impressed by the performance or left the room not having the slightest idea what hit him. What the Berlin vocal artist can do with his voice breaks all sound barriers the ear is normally accustomed to.

**(artefakt)**

- **Information & Kontakt**

christian wolz >

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