

ENSEMBLE NU:N

brief information and biographies

“From what seed did our western music spring? How can we transform the historically transmitted sources into our contemporary musical universe? What personal tales can we, as musicians, tell with it?”

In order to understand this question musically, the guitarist **Falk Zenker**, who lives in Weimar, founded in 2003, together with the Berlin saxophonist **Gert Anklam**, *ensemble Nu:n*. Since then, the ensemble has given concerts in important medieval churches, cathedrals and concert venues all over Germany, has been a guest at renowned festivals and has been invited to perform in Poland, Canada, Austria and Denmark. In 2011, **Cora Schmeiser**, well up in both medieval and contemporary music, joined the ensemble. In a trio setting, the *Nu:n* ensemble remained true to its original principle: converting the timeless beauty and spiritual power of early medieval vocal music into contemporary sounds and improvisations in three-dimensional sound spaces. Historical repertoire was skilfully interpreted and respectfully redesigned from an own personal musical perspective. Through the expressive vocal improvisations of **Cora Schmeiser**, the modern, powerful and virtuoso saxophone playing of **Gert Anklam** and the spacious, enchanting sound streams of the guitarist **Falk Zenker**, music from days gone by is revived in an authentic and surprising way in the here and now.

The soprano **Cora Schmeiser**, who is originally German, but who lives in Rotterdam switches with astonishing ease from the historical performance practice of medieval and baroque music via the vocal experiment of contemporary repertoire to the cool subtlety of the performance art and vice versa. She gained extensive experience with renowned ensembles for medieval music and solo projects with contemporary music.

<http://www.coraschmeiser.nl>

With his virtuoso guitar playing, his unprecedented ability to improvise and his refined use of live looping electronics, with which he weaves complex soundscapes, **Falk Zenker** deserves a place among today's leading German guitarists. Starting as a student of the East German free jazz guitarist **Joe Sachse**, he developed a highly individual musical cosmos, to which his studies classical- and jazz guitar in Weimar, his regular study trips to Andalusia, his international tour with the Chilean songwriter **Oscar Andrade** and his numerous projects on areas of electro-acoustic music, sound art and film music, contributed. Finally, the search for his own Central European roots led him to the study of the music of the Middle Ages and its integration into his musical world. Falk composes for film and television; as a sound artist he creates numerous multi-art projects and sound installations and gives concerts in duo or trio form in Germany and abroad.

<https://www.falk-zenker.de>

With his own jazz, world and experimental music projects, the Berlin saxophonist and composer **Gert Anklam** traveled through Japan, China, India, Africa and the United States. He gave solo performances in remarkable places such as the Forbidden City in Beijing or the United Nations General Assembly Hall in New York. He underwent his first musical socialization in the free jazz scene of the late GDR: *Manfred Schulze Bläserquintett*, and became known in the 1990s for his spectacular baritone solo concerts: *koncert für b, Völkerschlachtdenkmal*. In recent years, in addition to radio play music: *Die wunderbare Welt des Jean-Henri Fabre*, he has mainly realized intermediate projects together with his partner **Beate Gatscha** (dance, percussion and 'Wasserstich-organ'). Gert is regularly invited by musicians from Asia: **Wu Wei, Kuai Le Lü Xing**. His music arises in the field of tension between traditional Asian music and his own European roots, between beautiful sound, experiment and improvisation.

<https://www.gert-anklam.de/>