



# **The Central European Chamber Orchestra**

## **Mitteleuropäisches Kammerorchester**

**Presentation of the Orchestra**

**Review of HERMES 2008-2009**



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## 1. The Central European Chamber Orchestra | Mission statement

The Vienna-based Central European Chamber Orchestra was founded in 2005. It came into being owing to the enthusiasm and adventurous spirit of students. By now, many of these young musicians have matured into excellent instrumentalists, committed composers, experienced arrangers, and promising conductors.

This gathering of artists from different countries, with different musical and educational backgrounds, made possible a great deal of flexibility in terms of repertoire. In addition to its work on pieces from New Music and familiar disciplines, the ensemble aims at establishing a close co-operation with artists with background in performing and visual arts.

The mission of the ensemble is to establish itself as a interregional significant musical entity which does not see Vienna as its sole area of activity, but rather as an important centre, the focal point of a realm of Central European culture which transcends national borders. The Central European Chamber Orchestra has given two international guest performances in China, where careful introduction of interesting, extravagant pieces resonated well with the audience.

The latest project has chosen itself the name of **hermes** for the season 2008/09, the god connecting and mediating between the divine and the human worlds. The concerts were held in the cities of eastern and central Europe connecting cultures and generations and create a link between performers and audiences. In this project, the group was scheduled to visit four cities in four countries: Vienna, Budapest, Bratislava and Bucharest. Each concert featured, besides works by young composers with ties to the group, pieces by musicians of significance in European contemporary music. Each concert was enriched by the visual experience of video installations and projections by artists from the Viennese visual arts scene.



Image1 orchestra



Image2 string section



Image3 conductor Ajtony Caba

## 2. The Central European Chamber Orchestra | The conductor Ajtony Csaba



Image4 Ajtony Csaba

Ajtony Csaba was born in Siebenbürgen, where he took a degree at the conservatoire in cello performance, piano performance, solfeggio, and composition. He went on to study conducting and composition at the Ferenc Liszt academy in Budapest (Zoltan Jeney, Tamas Gal).

From 2001 until 2007, he studied orchestral conducting at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna with Uroš Lajović, composition with Dieter Kaufmann, musical coaching with Konrad Leitner, as well as media composition with Klaus Peter Sattler.

In 2007 he received a triple MA in two countries, and earned distinction for his graduation recital with the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra in Musikverein.

As a conductor and composer, he has given numerous concerts, both at home and abroad, performing new works as well as classical repertoire. This includes performances in Acanthes, France, with the Hungarian UMZE Chamber Orchestra (Varese, P. Eötvös, A. Csaba) in 2001, in Szombathely, Hungary (Bartók) in 2004, and with the Wroclaw Symphonic Orchestra in the Wroclaw Philharmonics Building in Poland (Liszt) in 2006.

He has conducted performances of works by Stravinsky, Puccini, Bizet, Brahms, Sibelius and Debussy amongst others in Vienna and Budapest.

He has received prizes at numerous competitions, including the Theodor Körner prize of the City of Vienna.

During his studies, he benefited from valuable opportunities to put his ideas into practice. In 2005 he worked as an assistant for modern productions at the Hungarian National Philharmonics, where the premiere of his opera "Gentle Birth" was given.

In 2005/2006 he worked as a musical supervisor at the Hellerau European Arts Centre (Festspielhaus). In addition, he was in charge of numerous operatic productions by the Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts at the Neue Studiobühne. He has served as Head of the Central European Chamber Orchestra, with which he toured China in 2006 (seven performances, including those in Shenhén, Lanzhou and in the Parliament in Beijing). The second Chinese tour followed in 2007. Ajtony Csaba has been Head of the Viennese Jeunesse Chor since 2007.



### 3. The Central European Chamber Orchestra | Review

2005

J. Varga.: Klavierkonzert, B. Bolcso: Fluid  
Music Academy Budapest

2006

P. Maxwell-Davis: Miss Donnithorne's Maggott  
Studiobühne, Penzing, Vienna  
Vivaldi: Gloria ed Imeneo  
Studiobühne, Penzing, Vienna  
Mozart: Symphony g-minor KV 550  
J.S. Bach: Suite in H-moll  
Reformierte Stadtkirche, Vienna  
Purcell: Dido and Aeneas  
Studiobühne, Penzing, Vienna  
Sibelius, Brahms, Bizet, J. Strauss, ...  
First Tour to China, 7 Concerts  
China / Shenzhen, Lanzhou, Beijing Parliament, ...

2007

Mozart: Trinitatismesse  
Donaufelder Pfarrkirche, Vienna  
A. Csaba, Th. Skweres, J. Kretz, J. Varga, ...  
Alte Schmiede, Wien  
TRAFO theater, Budapest  
Mozart: Missa brevis in G (KV 140)  
Dom, Brunn am Gebirge  
J. Cage, Mendelssohn, Bizet, Brahms, ...  
Second Tour to China, 15 Concerts  
Shenzhen, Hangzhou, Beijing, Xi'an, Chengdu, ...

2008

B. Bartók: The Castle of Duke Bluebeard /A. Schönberg: Erwartung  
Studiobühne Penzing, Vienna

A.Schönberg: Erwartung (Karaew-Fassung) /Rautavaara : Octet for Winds  
Schönberg Center, Vienna

### **HERMES concert cycles 2008-2009**



free style hermes, Vienna

#### **free style hermes** (Oct. 2008)

F. Riederer: Iniciao

Romitelli: Trash TV Trance

J. Varga: Auge

C. Czernowin: Six Miniatures and a simultane Song

J. Sarwas: Queen-tet

Autumn Festival, Budapest / Collegium Hungaricum, Wien /

Music Academy, Bratislava

Visuals by *4youreye*

#### **Vertical Concert** (Jan. 2009)

with works by

Jonathan Harvey

Ajtony Csaba

Balint Bolcso

Wolfgang Liebhart

Tomasz Skweres

Piotr Skweres

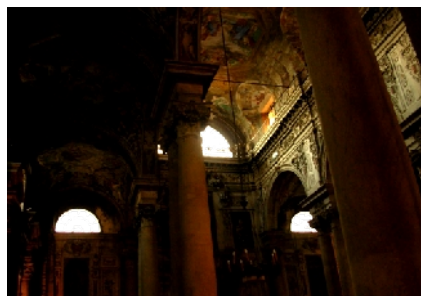
Alexander Kral

Olga Neuwirth

Ivan Buffa

Juraj Vajo

church Farnost Sv. Rodiny, Bratislava / reformed church Fasori, Budapest



Vertical Concert, new sacred music without words



haydn.reflected, Vienna

### haydn.reflected (Feb. 2009)

Joseph Haydn: Symphonie Nr. 6, "Le Matin"

Reflections on "Le Matin":

Jana Kmiřová: Motto

Ivan Buffa: ...wieder Morgen...

Balazs Horvath: Tak

Balint Bolcso: Good Morning

Witold Lutoslawski: Grave.Metamorphoses



haydn.reflected, Bratislava

Collegium Hungaricum, Vienna / Palais Pálffy, Bratislava / Music Academy Franz List, Budapest  
Visuals by *4youreye*

### aperghis.play (May 2009)

Samuel Gryllus: Le Chef-d'oeuvre inconnu

Fausto Romitelli: Blood on the Floor, Painting 1986

Georges Aperghis: Recitations

Philippe Hurel: Loops

Matthias Kranebitter: spreu und scherben

Aperghis: La Nuit en Tête

Wolfgang Liebhart: Octet

Collegium Hungaricum, Wien / Palais Pálffy, Bratislava /  
Óbudai Társaskör, Budapest / Sala Enescu, Bucharest

Visuals and video-installation by *Sarah Rechberger*



aperghis.play, Vienna



aperghis.play, Bucharest



#### 4. The Central European Chamber Orchestra | Partnerships

##### Partner

**Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Kultur Österreich**

**The Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic**

**Österreichische Kulturforen in Bratislava, Budapest und Bukarest**

**Stadt Wien – Kulturabteilung (MA7)**

**3. Wiener Gemeindebezirk / Landstraße**

**2. Wiener Gemeindebezirk / Leopoldstadt**

**Collegium Hungaricum Wien**

**Polnisches Institut Wien**

**OESTIG**

**SKE-Fonds**

##### Hosts

**Civil Association for Spiritual, Cultural, Social Development and Cooperation  
Bratislava (SK)**

**Quasars Ensemble (SK)**

**The Budapest Autumn Festival (H)**

**Danubia Jugendorchester Budapest (H)**

**ASUNMB Bukarest (RO)**



## 5. The Central European Chamber Orchestra | Contact

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