

Holger Maik Mertin

A SOUND-MOVER PERFORMER & AUTHOR IN ARTS AND SUSTAINABILITY



PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Place and Date of Birth:

Olpe, Germany 14.05.1977

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FORMAL EDUCATION:

- Ethnomusicology / Sociology / Philosophy / Music-Therapy (1997 - 2006)
- University of Frankfurt
- University of Cologne
- SOAS London

Master Thesis:

- "Davul in the Turkish Music Scene of Cologne"

WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA:

www.holger-maik-mertin.com

www.youtube.com/c/HolgerMertin

www.facebook.com/holger.mertin.1?locale=de_DE

www.instagram.com/holgermaikmertin/?hl=de

RECENT PROJECTS (2022 - 2020)

Capetown (S.A.) A one year Artistic Research & Performance Residency (since 01.2022)

"Guilt I?" 36 h Performance at AVA (in June)

„Grün Unterwegs“ Tour for Goethe Institute in Greece and Bulgaria (12.2021 & 01.2022)

3 weeks Artistic Research Tour about Sustainability

Çanakkale, Turkey - Artist In Residency at SUB (11. & 12.2021)

2 weeks Artistic Research and Performance about Sustainability and Queerness in Art

Prishtina, Kosovo, Artist in Residency in (07.2021 - 10.2021)

- "[The \(Recycling\) Ball](#)" Performance&Documentary (funded by Goethe Zentrum Prishtina)
- "[Sounds of Prishtina](#)" Video Series (funded by Goethe Zentrum Prishtina)
- "Sounding Architecture" Workshop for University Prishtina with ReMusica Festival
- "Mikro Makro" Performance as a part of ReMusica Festival.

"The Transformation Space" Berlin (Zionskirche) 5 h Performance (06. 2021)

One Month Artistic Research “Sounds of Berlin” (05 2021)
Istanbul, Turkey, Kunststiftung NRW Artist in Residency (10.2020-03.2021)

- ["Anabala Pasaji"](#) Video Series
- ["Sounds of Corona"](#) Video Series for Goethe Institute Istanbul
- "Our Analogue Me" Performance in Barin Han

„Niederrheinisches Museum" Performance in Kevelaer, Germany, (09.2020)

“Structural Change for 2” Duo Mertin/Niznik & friends

Research&Performance about Energy Transition - in Poland & Germany (09.2020) funded by the Cologne Cultural Office and German-Polish Society Berlin

“Spazier Klänge” Essay Book Project (since 04 2020)

Together with Philosophen Volker Kühl - Essays about Change and Utopist Approaches

Cologne, Germany, “The Transformation Space” in „St. Gertrud Church”

Performances & Recording (for WDR Radio) (11.2021 - 02.2022 & 06.2020)

SCHOLARSHIPS / RESIDENCIES / AWARDS

- Capetown S.A. - Artist in Residence at AVA (Association for Visual Arts) (since 04.2022)
- A one year Research Fellowship & Residency by Kunststiftung NRW for „Path Finding Travel“ in South Africa and other African Countries (2022)
- „Grün Unterwegs“ Tour Research Fellowship by Goethe Institute (12.2021 & 01.2022)
- „SUB“ Artist in Residence in Çanakkale (Turkey) (11.2021)
- NRW Corona Artist Support Scholarship (05.2021)
- NRW Corona Artist Support Scholarship in (09.2020)
- Scholarship / Artist Residency of the Kunststiftung NRW Foundation in Istanbul, Turkey (10.2020 - 03.2021)
- Artist Residency with Duo Mertin Niznik at “Barnes Crossing” Cologne (2019)
- Nomination for Best New Production in "Opernwelt" for "Djaizad Al Salam / Peace Prize" with "Music Debate Cologne" (2014)

UNIVERSITY LECTURER

- University of Prishtina (Kosovo) Music & Architecture Departments „Sounding Architecture“ Workshop (09.2021)
- German Sports University Cologne - „Multidimensional Performance" Workshop at the German Sports University Cologne (2019)
- Musical Director of DAAD Project ["The Atlas Workshops of Agdz Morocco"](#) (2016 - 2019)
- A three year Scientific-Cultural Research Project with five Universities from Germany & Morocco
- Co-Initiator & Co-Curator of Symposium “Transformative Practices” at the Cologne University of Music and Dance (2018)
- Lecturer for "Practical Music Studies" and "Interdisciplinarity" at the Cologne University of Music and Dance (2010 - 2019)

DISCOGRAPHY - LABEL AND BROADCAST *(Excerpt)*

- Sound-Art Composition “The Transformation Space” for WDR Radio (02. 2020)
- recorded in the St. Gertrud Church by architect Gottfried Böhm in Cologne
- [“The Immersive Project”](#) by Holger Mertin & Michael Koko Eberli & Marco Riederer " - Spezialmaterial Records (2017)
- Percussion soloist at Fazil Say's "Grand Bazar" with the WDR Radio Orchestra (2017)
- Composition & Recording of WDR-Radio-Production [“14 Tagebücher des 1. Weltkriegs”](#) (2017)
- ["Akşak"](#) by Jaki Liebezeit & Holger Mertin - Staubgold Records (2014)
- "Lila" by mÄÄr – EPG Records (2008)
- Soloist in Dance-Film Project "I'm Crazy But That's OK" (2008) directed by Berlinale winner Ali Samadi Ahadi
- ZDF Television / 31st Evangelical Church Congress in Cologne (2007)
- Duo with dancer Robina Steyer at Cologne

FURTHER PROJECTS

“Drums And More”-Series: Curator & Founder & Performer (2009-2019)

Interdisciplinary Performances with artists from several fields, e.g. [AnnenMayKantereit](#), [Milan Sladek \(pantomime\)](#), [Jaki Liebezeit \(World Drumkit\)](#), Hayden Chisholm (saxophone)

Performance Locations a.o.: Salon Freiraum Cologne, Culture House Osterfeld in Pforzheim, Blieskastel Monastery, Neviges Culture Centre

Monthly columnist for percussion magazine "STICKS" (2007-2017)

Co-founder of Artistic Research "Modes of Presentification" (2013&14)

"InProjekt" in Israel and Germany (2008)

Duo with Michal Hirsch (dance) in Tel Aviv at Suzanne Dellal Dance Centre with Research Trips to Jerusalem and Haifa

Instrument Developer (since 2008)

With companies Rohema, Tres Lados Percussion, Konklang (including the signature stick - "H.M. Capstick"), Afroton, Hess Klangkonzepte and Meinl Percussion („Percussion Hi Hat“)

Barbados (03. & 04.2006)

Music Research and Performing/Recording with local artists Mike Cheeseman, Andre Donawa, Wayne Poonka Willock, Mr. Impact

ADDITIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Fine Arts: Klaus Gündchen, Klaus Mannebach

Musicians: [Eberhard Kranemann](#) (founder of "Kraftwerk"), [Jonas Burgwinkel](#), [Josef Suchy](#), Gerd Dudek, Ali Haurand, DJ Marcelle, Maria Jonas, Schälsick Brassband

Artist Collectives, Theaters: Ballett Theater Pforzheim, Musikdebatte Köln, Istanbul-Berlin, Armata Cinema (Prishtina Kosovo)

Dancers / Performers: Martin Sonderkamp, Jan Burkhard, Heide Tegeder, Nina Hähnel, Echo Ho, Phuong Tuong, Rick Kam, Photini Meletiadis

EARLIER WORKING PHASES - CONCERTS, PERFORMANCES AND ARTISTIC COLLABORATION (Excerpt)

2017 - 2013

- Solist with WDR Radio Orchestra (Fazil Say: Grand Bazar & Violin Concert) (2017)
- Solo Performance at Cologne City Dance (2016)
- "Mitumba" (2013 - 2015) – Intercultural Dance Music Happening by Dance Company "Mouvier" with European and East African artists. Mutual Exchange Project with Performances in Germany (ZKM Karlsruhe, Tanzhaus NRW Düsseldorf), Tanzania and Kenya.
- Improvisation Soloist with the Nuremberg State Philharmonic Orchestra at "Phil & Chill" (2014)
- Solo and Duo Performance at the Percussion Festival in Gaines (Alicante), Spain (2014)

2012 - 2005

- Solo Performances and Workshops at the Frankfurt Music Fair (2010 – 2012)
- "Equilibrium" (2012) - collaboration of Theaters Luxemburg, Trier and Bytom in Germany, Luxembourg and Poland
- Solo at the "Meinl Drum Festival" (2010)
- Musician at the "Schauspiel Köln" for the play "Robin Hood" - a total of over 50 performances
- Performance action with Japanese Butoh dancers in the Cologne Theater im Hof (2005)