



musikforum
KLAGENFURT

GUSTAV MAHLER COMPOSITION PRIZE

The **Musikforum Klagenfurt** hereby announces the

23nd International Gustav Mahler Composition Prize of the City of Klagenfurt

Composers of any nationality and without age limit are invited to submit compositions (**duration max. 10 minutes**) for **saxophone, marimba, accordion and electronics**.

The international artists Michael Krenn, Rupert Struber, Alexander Bauer and Michael Schwarzenbacher will present the award-winning works in a **world premiere on July 11th 2026** at the Musikforum Klagenfurt. In addition, the works will be recorded and broadcasted by the **Austrian National Radio Station Ö1**.

Instrumentation & Requirements

Submitted works must be composed for the following instrumentation:

Saxophone, Marimba, Accordion, and Electronics

(all instruments may be used solo or in any combination)

The Gustav Mahler Composition Prize has existed since **1995** and—true to the spirit of Musikforum—is characterized by **openness to all musical directions**. Experimentation and the exploration of new boundaries are explicitly encouraged. The integration of **improvised elements** is also possible.

Electronics

The electronic part may consist of **live electronics, fixed media or a combination of both**.

Its duration may vary and may also consist only of **short electronic sequences**.

Essential is that the electronic component forms an integral part of the artistic concept and is organically integrated into the acoustic ensemble.

Technical Requirements

- A **standard setup** (laptop, audio interface, stereo loudspeakers) will be provided by the organizer.
- Any **additional or specialized technical requirements** must be communicated in advance and will be reviewed jointly for feasibility.
- In the case of **fixed media**, a **stereo audio file** (48 kHz, 24 bit, WAV) must be provided.
- For **live electronics**, a **clear signal-flow and stage plan** is required.

Notes on Playability

The jury will pay particular attention to works that, despite contemporary playing techniques, are **practicable for the ensemble** and **realizable within the available rehearsal time**.

In Kooperation:



Partner:





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PRIZES:

- **1st Prize (sponsored by Privatstiftung Kärntner Sparkasse):** € 3.000,--
- **2nd Prize (sponsored by the Province of Carinthia):** € 1.500,--
- **3rd Prize (sponsored by Musikforum Klagenfurt):** € 500,--

Jury

- **Michael Krenn**, Chair (AUT)
- **Angéolina Castelló** (MEX, AUT)
- **Sarah Nemtsov** (GER)
- **Nina Šenk** (SLO)

The jury's decision will be made at the end of May 2026 and is final.

SUBMISSION:

Compositions must be submitted **electronically by e-mail** as a **PDF score**.

The score must be **anonymous**; the composer's name or any identifying references must not appear on the score.

To facilitate the jury's work, composers are kindly asked—if possible—to also submit an **audio recording** (MIDI realizations are acceptable) in **MP3 format**.

The PDF and MP3 files will be forwarded to the jury by Musikforum **anonymously**, identified only by a number.

In addition, the e-mail must include the **completed and signed registration form** as well as a **biography**.

All materials must be submitted **no later than April 30th, 2026** by e-mail to:

office@musikforum.at

The composers of the selected works commit to being **present at the world premiere** (travel and accommodation costs up to **€ 240** will be covered by Musikforum).

Submitted works must **not have been published or publicly performed** prior to the submission deadline or before the prize-winners' concert.

Composers must provide the **performance materials** (score and if necessary, parts) **free of charge** and in a timely manner.

Each participant may submit **one work only**.

Checklist

- PDF score (anonymous) and cover page with title of composition
- MP3 audio realization (optional) with composition's title as file name
- Filled out and signed registration form (see attachment or website)
- Biography

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In Kooperation:



Partner:

