



g e o r g k l e i n

sound | video | media art art in public space

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Born 1st of March 1964, lives in Berlin.

Study of sound engineering at the Technical University in Munich and Berlin, later on philosophy of religion and ethno-musicology at the Free University of Berlin. From 1991-94 assistant in a project on the visualizing of sound for deaf people at the Technical University of Berlin.

Since 1996 he has worked freelance as composer, with film music („*amor fati*“, Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin 1997), solo works with live electronics, works for ensembles (International **Gustav-Mahler-Composition Prize** 1999, Austria), and also music for theatre (*Peer Gynt* with Peter Zadek / Berliner Ensemble, 2004-2008).

In 2000 founding of „**comaberlin** production of inter-medial art | investigation, development and realisation of sound situations“. He developed an origin concept of site-specific art in public space („sound situation“) with sound, including light, texts and later also video („*transition*“ 2001, „*Ortsklang Marl Mitte*“ **German Sound Art Award** 2002, „*Imperial News*“ 2003).

In 2003 founding of „**KlangQuadrat / Sound Square - office for sound and media art berlin**“ with Julia Gerlach for organizing and producing sound and media projects at home and abroad. He created new concepts of interaction and participation in sound art and visual art („Interactive variation“). With his project „*TRASA*“ (2004/2006) he extended public space by connecting two cities in an intermediate way by an internet live stream between Germany and Poland. With the swiss performance artist Steffi Weismann he develops dialogical, interactive installations in public space („*pickup*“ 2005 in Switzerland, „*takeaway*“ 2006 in Berlin, „*venture doll*“ 2008 in Los Angeles).

In 2006 he was awarded with the **Media-Space-Award** and the Scholarship of the German Academy in Rome. There he produced the audiovisual installation „*turmlaute.1 : starvation tower*“ (2006). The second part „*turmlaute.2: watch tower*“ (2007) in a GDR watch tower in Berlin was working with a fake by founding a new organisation for private surveillance (www.europeanborderwatch.org) which provoked strong reactions in public. In 2008 at the Media Facades Festival in Berlin he presented a video installation at the O2-World Arena projecting pseudo-revolutionary slogans at the advertisement board.

In 2009 two of his most delicate works were realized: „*Sprich mit mir*“ in the Red-Light-District of Braunschweig and „*Ramallah Tours*“ in Israel, this work dealing again with a fake in public space and the internet (www.ramallah.tours.info). In 2010 he showed a dual audio-visual installation on oriental and occidental assassins: gunmen and martyrs („*Cuts and Creeds*“) in Berlin and Istanbul, using the self-manifestations of young, male assassins.

Borders and their violation – politically and mentally – are the central topic in his exhibition „*borderlines*“ (European Media Art Festival EMAF 2011) including his work „*Make me wild – Godwin*“ with an illegal immigrant from Nigeria appearing in the streets of different European cities. With his work „*GNADE / MERCY*“ (Mannheim, 2012), installed in front of banks and job centers, the work „*UnzuRECHT / UnorJUSTICE*“ (Switzerland, 2013) and „*toposonie::spree*“ (Berlin, 2013) he takes up current social themes in order to expand on them in a confusing and ambivalent manner, challenging the viewer/listener to confrontational examination.

Since 2013 Georg Klein is lecturer at the University of Arts Berlin (UdK, Studium Generale). In 2014 he also worked as a curator at MuseumsQuartier Wien (Vienna), producing a highly remarked show with the title "PCFS - Post Colonial Flagship Store". 2015 he presented his thematic catalog *borderlines* in a solo exhibition at Kunsthaus Meinblau, Berlin, and at the **European Media Art Festival** (EMAF 2015) he was awarded with the **Dialogue Award** by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his work *European Border Watch*.

Awards / Scholarship

- First Prize in the Sound Art Competition for IGA 2017, Berlin 2015
- EMAF Dialogue Award by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany, Osnabrueck 2015
- Curator in Residence at quartier21, MuseumsQuartier, Vienna, 2014
- Artist in Residence in Taranto, Italy (2013)
- Artist in Residence at Schossmediale Werdenberg, Switzerland (2013)
- Artist in Residence at quartier21, MuseumsQuartier Wien, Austria (2012)
- Residency at BM Contemp. Art Istanbul, Scholarship by Senat of Berlin, Turkey (2010)
- Media-Space-Award 2006 (NRW, Germany)
- Scholarship/Residency German Academy Rome (Casa Baldi / Villa Massimo), Italy 2006
- Scholarship Stiftung Kulturfonds 2003.
- German Sound Art Award 2002, Skulpturenmuseum Marl, NRW, and WDR Köln
- Scholarship Künstlerhaus Schloß Wiepersdorf, 2002.
- Sound Art Scholarship of Berlin, 2000
- International Gustav-Mahler-Composition Prize 1999, Austria