

Center for Popular Culture and Music, University of Freiburg,
Germany
Institute of Musicology, University of Vienna, Austria

Popular music theatre under socialism

Operettas and musicals in the Eastern European States 1945 to 1990

Little is known yet about the development of operettas and musicals after 1945 under the social and ideological conditions of socialism in the East European countries. Did the uniform (prescribed) worldview lead to identical plays, or are there – in spite of a transnational ideology – national specific differences? If so, what are they? Were there specific aesthetic phases of national development? What influence did the import of works from abroad, from the "fraternal socialist countries", or the capitalistic West have on the national productions? What about the classical repertoire? In what proportion does it stand to the new works? Were certain operettas banned from the stages? Were there any textual and / or musical revisions? Were there new staging strategies? What influence had the abolition of the private market to the emergence and distribution of works? Were there any governmental guidelines for authors and composers? When and under what conditions changed the repertoire to the musical? How was the reception? What about the cultural and political debate? Which social, cultural and political value was measured by the state to the popular musical theater? Who were the most important authors and composers? What were the most successful pieces? How was the export organized abroad? Was there a "socialist operetta", a "socialist musical", and what political, social and ideological issues were negotiated in the form of popular musical theater on stage?

These are just some, albeit central questions that come up on the planned symposium. On the basis of national research a new perspective should be opened on a European history of popular music theater under the conditions of socialism.

Organizer

Center for Popular Culture and Music, University of Freiburg, Germany, together with the
Institute of Musicology, University of Vienna, Austria

Venue and time

Friday and Saturday, 24th and 25th February 2017

Center for Popular Culture and Music

Rosastraße 17-19

D-79098 Freiburg im Breisgau

Germany

Contact for content-related questions

Dr. Wolfgang Jansen (Berlin)

wolfgang.jansen@web.de

Abstracts

Please send your abstracts to the following addresses:

wolfgang.jansen@web.de

michael.fischer@zpkm.uni-freiburg.de

fuhrmannwolfgang@gmail.com

The deadline is May, 31.

Speeches

Provided are a 30-minute presentations, which are followed by 15 minutes discussion. It is expected that the lecturers are present during the entire session.

Languages

English and German

Costs

The Center for Popular Culture and Music takes over the hotel expenses in Freiburg for the lecturers. Please inquire at your academic institution to apply for travel funding. We will try to cover the expenses by independent funding, but cannot ensure that.