

GES-2:-----V Music

On 23 January, the *Music (Hi)stories* series of concerts starts at GES-2 House of Culture

What does music talk about? What can be the content of an art that lacks the semantic concreteness inherent to literature and painting? At various times, the meaning and the value of music have been sought in its unique internal form, inexpressible in any other way, in its ability to convey feelings and metaphysical ideas, or in the possibility of using it to address real-life tasks. The history of music is the history of attempts by musicians to maintain the identity of their art under the pressure of economic relations, philosophical interpretations, and technological progress. The curatorial series *Music (Hi)stories*, which will run from January to June 2025 at GES-2 House of Culture, traces some key stages in this process.

The sociologist Howard Becker noted that works of art are made where creative individuals and social relations intersect. This concept manifests throughout eleven concerts in the *Music (Hi)stories* series: from the vocalisations of merchants, mendicants, coachmen, and street spectators of early eighteenth-century London in Intrada vocal ensemble's programme, to the collaboration between Prussia's King Frederick II and Johann Sebastian Bach in Out Ensemble's inaugural performance, to Richard Strauss's monodrama *Enoch Arden* in philosopher Gustav Shpet's Russian translation, premiering under the direction of Viktor Ryzhakov, Sergei Kasprov, and Dmitry Volkostrelov.

The series highlights include world premieres of new compositions by Alexey Sysoev and Anton Svetlichny, commissioned especially for *Music (Hi)stories* by GES-2 House of Culture, alongside Russian premieres of works by contemporary European composers Michael Beil, Pierre Jodlowski, and Johannes Kreidler.

Dmitry Renansky, Music Programmes Curator, V-A-C Foundation and GES-2 House of Culture:

"The programme explores the various modes of musical communication with audiences, performers, and patrons, examining the ethical and economic dimensions of creative processes, alongside art's self-reflexive investigation of its production methods and questions of authorship. Music (Hi)stories weaves together composers spanning four centuries into a cohesive narrative, wherein Johannes Kreidler, a prominent figure in contemporary musical conceptualism, presenting the Russian premiere of Outsourcing, emerges as a natural successor to Ludwig van Beethoven and his seminal Diabelli Variations from two centuries past."

23 Jan

Alpha and Omega

Giya Kancheli, György Ligeti, Alexey Sysoev
Elene Gvritishvili, Fyodor Lednev,
Moscow Contemporary Music Ensemble, N'Caged Vocal Ensemble
Yaroslav Timofeev *concert host*

13 Feb

The Musical Offering

Johann Sebastian Bach
Out Ensemble
Yaroslav Timofeev *concert host*

22 Feb

Enoch Arden

Richard Strauss, Alfred Tennyson,
Gustav Shpet

13 Mar

Contrabass-2

Grigory Krotenko, Olga Bochikhina,
Alexey Zolotovitsky

26 Mar

Outsourcing

Michael Beil, Pierre Jodlowski,
Johannes Kreidler
Moscow Contemporary Music Ensemble

GES-2: Music

Music (Hi)stories

Concert programme
23 Jan–24 Jun 2025
12+

Press materials

Tickets

Curator

Dmitry Renansky

Authors

Johann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven, Michael Beil, Luciano Berio, Richard Doering, Orlando Gibbons, Pierre Jodlowski, Giya Kancheli, Alexander Knaifel, Johannes Kreidler, György Ligeti, Anna Romashkova, Gustav Shpet, Richard Strauss, Anton Svetlichny, Alexey Sysoev, Alfred Tennyson

Performers

Ekaterina Antonenko, Elene Gvritishvili, Sergei Kasprov, Fyodor Lednev, Viktor Ryzhakov, Arseny Tarasevich-Nikolaev, Dmitry Volkostrelov, Moscow Contemporary Music Ensemble, Intrada, N'Caged, Out Ensemble, Pratum Integrum

Concert hosts

Bogdan Korolek, Yaroslav Timofeev

Producers

Ekaterina Arkhipova, Marina Badudina, Ksenia Makshantseva, Yana Romashkina

GES-2 House of Culture
15 Bolotnaya Embankment
Moscow, Russia
ges-2.org

Entry to the House of Culture is free of charge, by prior registration

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Press contact

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Music

16 Apr

The Cries of London

Orlando Gibbons, Richard Dering,
Luciano Berio
Intrada Vocal Ensemble,
Ekaterina Antonenko

27 Apr

Sacred Spring 2025

Alexey Sysoev
World premiere
Commissioned by GES-2
House of Culture
Moscow Contemporary Music
Ensemble, Fyodor Lednev
Yaroslav Timofeev *concert host*

20 May

Agnus Dei

Alexander Knaifel
Moscow Contemporary
Music Ensemble

31 May

***33 Variations on a Waltz
by Anton Diabelli***

Ludwig van Beethoven
Piano recital by Arseny
Tarasevich-Nikolaev

7 Jun

Music (Hi)stories

Anton Svetlichny
World premiere
Commissioned by GES-2
House of Culture
Moscow Contemporary Music
Ensemble, Fyodor Lednev

24 Jun

Coffee Cantata

Johann Sebastian Bach

A

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