

# MONIKA WERKSTATT







## WELCOME

Let's get together. Get to know each other. In the studio. In the kitchen. Unpack our equipment and get the salad into the fridge. Detangle the cables. Set it all up. Live and work. Organize. Station to station. More suitcases. Some come, some go. Fresh food. Go for a walk and adjust to the quietness. Taking Pictures. Here is the herbgarden, there are the apple trees, the park, the pond with the weeping willow. Food is on the table. Tech. Talk, laugh and unwind. Studiotime. Make music together. The sound is in the air. Improvise. Invent. Some take over, some add to it. Playing with the toys. Coffee or tea. Late at night we discuss popmusic. We are free. We are here together. We can make it. Lets do this. MONIKA WERKSTATT.

Gudrun Gut, Sternhagen Gut JANUARY 2017

01 –

BARBARA MORGENSTERN

+ Werkstatt

„Grow“ ( 4:28 )

—

Mixed & produced by Barbara Morgenstern @ BM Studio

using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Barbara Morgenstern, Islaja,  
AGF, Beate Bartel & Pilocka Krach  
Vocals by Barbara Morgenstern & Islaja  
Text by Barbara Morgenstern

02 –

NATALIE BERIDZE

+ Werkstatt

„Doodle“ ( 3:40 )

—

Mixed & produced by Natalie Beridze  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Lucrecia Dalt, AGF &  
Beate Bartel  
Vocals & Text by Natalie Beridze

03 –

GUDRUN GUT

+ Werkstatt

„Green Rain“ ( 4:54 )

—

Mixed & produced by Gudrun Gut  
@ Stern Studio,  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Barbara Morgenstern,  
Beate Bartel, Pilocka Krach, AGF, Islaja &  
Lucrecia Dalt  
Vocals by Gudrun with the Star Choir —  
Barbara Morgenstern, Uta Alder  
& Mara von Kummer  
Text by Gudrun Gut

04 –

LUCRECIA DALT

+ Werkstatt

„Blindholes“ ( 2:50 )

—

Mixed & produced by Lucrecia Dalt  
using samples from the last day of the  
WERKSTATT performed by Sonae, AGF, Islaja &  
Lucrecia Dalt

05 –

BEATE BARTEL

+ Werkstatt

„Feuerland“ ( 4:20 )

—

Mixed & produced by Beate Bartel  
@ Cosmic Garbage Studio  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by AGF, Barbara Morgenstern,  
Islaja, Pilocka Krach & Beate Bartel

06 –

PILOCKA KRACH

+ Werkstatt

„Sternhagen“ ( 2:08 )

—

Mixed & produced by Pilocka Krach  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Barbara Morgenstern,  
Islaja & AGF

07 –

SONAE

+ Werkstatt

„Between Two Worlds“ ( 3:58 )

—

Mixed & produced by Sonae  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Sonae, Danielle de Picciotto,  
Islaja, AGF & Pilocka Krach

08 –

DANIELLE DE PICCIOTTO

+ Werkstatt

„Ikarus“ ( 4:30 )

—

Mixed & produced by Danielle de Picciotto @  
Studio 65  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Danielle de Picciotto,  
AGF & Sonae  
Vocals & Text by Danielle de Picciotto

09 –

GUDRUN GUT

+ Werkstatt

„Repetition“ ( 3:54 )

—

Mixed & produced by Gudrun Gut  
@ Stern Studio  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by AGF, Pilocka Krach & Sonae  
Vocals & Text by Danielle de Picciotto & Islaja

10 –

BEATE BARTEL

+ Werkstatt

„M B T“ ( 3:32 )

—

Mixed & produced by Beate Bartel  
@ Cosmic Garbage Studio  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Beate Bartel & AGF  
Vocals & Text by Danielle de Picciotto & AGF

11 –

PILOCKA KRACH

+ Werkstatt

„Who's Afraid of Justin Bieber?“ ( 4:35 )

—

Mixed & produced by Pilocka Krach  
using samples from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Pilocka Krach,  
Danielle de Picciotto, Islaja & AGF  
Vocals & Text by Pilocka Krach

12 –

ISLAJA

+ Werkstatt

„Sappho's Gifts“ ( 1:05 )

—

Mixed & produced by Islaja  
using samples from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Islaja & AGF  
Vocals & Text by Islaja



13 —

NATALIE BERIDZE

+ Werkstatt

„Hit Bottom“ ( 4:14 )

—

Mixed & produced by Natalie Beridze  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Danielle de Picciotto, AGF, Islaja, Sonae & Pilocka Krach  
Vocals & Text by Natalie Beridze & Danielle de Picciotto

14 —

AGF

+ Werkstatt

„Ninjaness“ ( 3:42 )

—

Mixed & produced by AGF  
using samples from the WERKSTATT  
performed by AGF, Barbara Morgenstern, Islaja, Sonae, Danielle de Picciotto, Pilocka Krach, Beate Bartel, Lucrecia Dalt & Gudrun Gut

15 —

DANIELLE DE PICCIOTTO

+ Werkstatt

„Desert Fruit“ ( 4:31 )

—

Mixed & produced by Danielle de Picciotto @ Studio 65  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Danielle de Picciotto, AGF, Sonae & Islaja  
Vocals & Text by Danielle de Picciotto & Islaja

16 —

ISLAJA

+ Werkstatt

„Lainaa Lause“ ( 5:02 )

—

Mixed by AGF  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Islaja, AGF, Danielle de Picciotto & Beate Bartel  
Vocals & Text by Islaja

17 —

SONAE

+ Werkstatt

„Witchcraft“ ( 5:03 )

—

Mixed & produced by Sonae  
using material from the WERKSTATT  
performed by Sonae, Danielle de Picciotto, Islaja, AGF & Pilocka Krach  
Vocal sample by Danielle de Picciotto









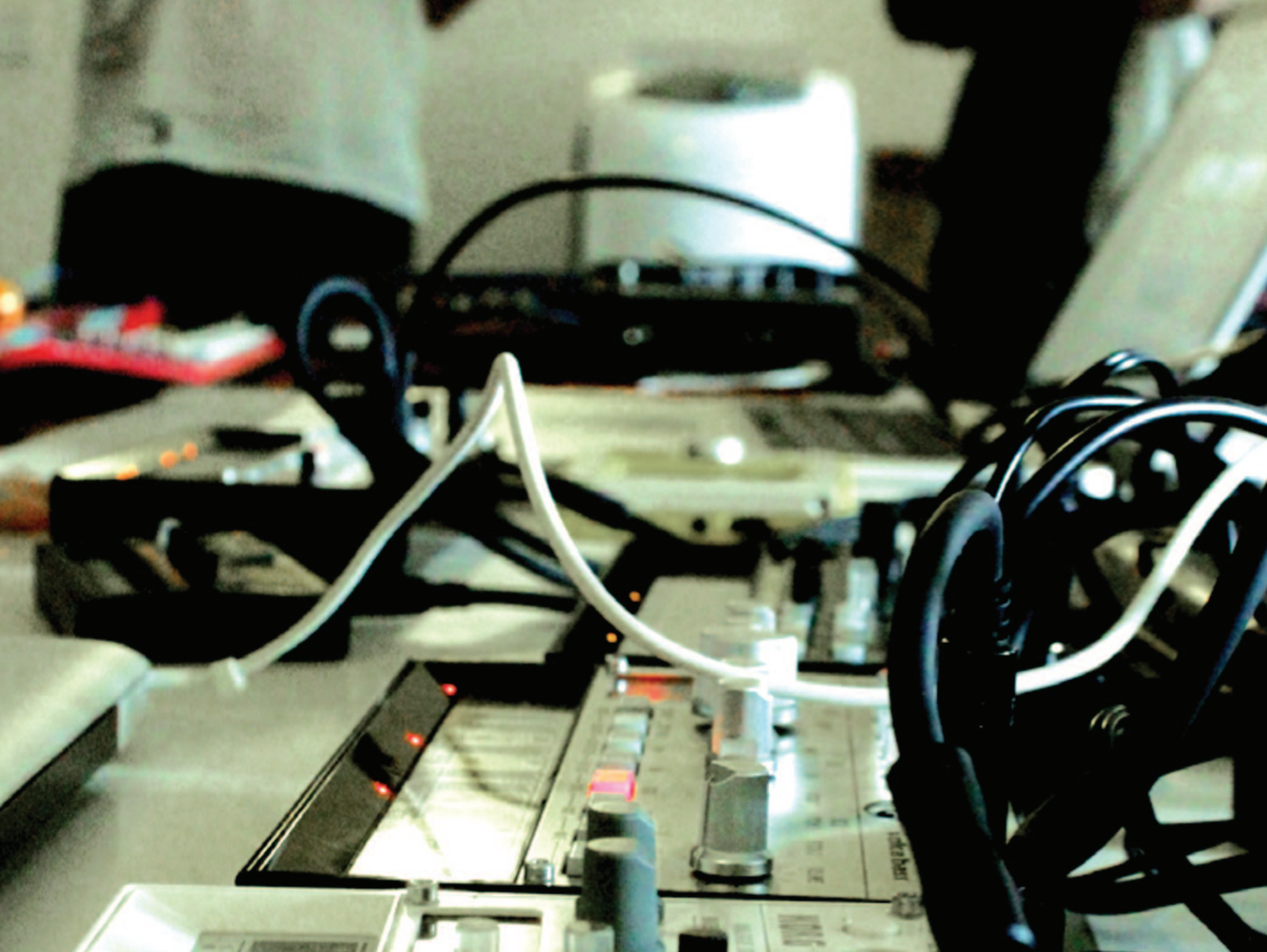














Harrisburg | Chernobyl  
- Fukushima -



SHUT DOWN  
ALL ATOMIC PLANTS

TOLERATE  
REALITY.



SCULPTRESS  
OF  $\nabla$  SOUND

NO ARTIST



TAPCO



## NOTHING LESS THAN ABSOLUTE TOTAL FREEDOM

Are you for real? Does anyone out there really think that artists could be involved in a project that bestows total freedom in 2017? Isn't today's reality that society and what remains of creativity are being forced to bow to the pressures of neo-liberalism and are being undermined by politicians with their largely awful agendas? Hasn't creativity been reduced to wages and money versus time and art?

However, it's too easy to just peek out of our caverns at a world overshadowed by dark clouds and leave it at that. Because at the same time, don't we still believe that, against all odds, anything is still possible if you surround yourself with an exemplary group of like-minded people?

Gudrun Gut, the artistic powerhouse behind labels Monika Enterprise and Moabit Musik is a musician with an extraordinary legacy – be it as a member of Berlin's legendary act Malaria, Ocean Club, her acclaimed solo projects or a collaboration with Faust's Hans Joachim Irmler. Gut has a proven track record of successfully connecting with like-minded artists on unusual paths of creativity. She's an outstanding example of someone who refuses to compromise their artistic vision.

And now she presents us with one of her most ambitious projects, MONIKA WERKSTATT – a loose collective of female artists set up to enable each of them to achieve new goals through collaboration. MONIKA WERKSTATT will ensure that their artistic output increases visibility in an art context still too dominated by men.

MONIKA WERKSTATT has its origins in collective workshops and shared interactions. By sharing their own challenges and later on their achievements with an audience, they opened a gateway to further feedback

and creative dialogue. Every moment, every gesture, every communication has been about empowerment, both individually and as a group.

History has a weakness for coincidences – the release of MONIKA WERKSTATT falls on the twentieth anniversary of Monika Enterprise. A fantastic landmark and a means of celebrating the tremendously talented collective that Gudrun Gut has orchestrated.

So what is this release really about? Gudrun's fellow Monika members – AGF, Beate Bartel, Lucrecia Dalt, Danielle De Picciotto, Islaja, Barbara Morgenstern, Sonae and Pilocka Krach – travelled from Berlin and assembled in the creative oasis of Uckermark. The goal was to create and record without any of the usual pressures and distractions that you'd anticipate in a group context. To keep the focus, Mo Loscheider cooked, Manon Pepita assisted with the day-to-day and Lupe was filming.

Uckermark became a kind of utopia for them. Between recording and jamming, their days were filled with music, eating, short walks in the fields and forests resounding with inspiring talks and discussions. Without any restraint or rules, they opened up new forms of interaction and creative dialogue which found themselves falling into a process without any clear beginnings or ends. The result? Hours and hours of new music from this uplifting gathering.

Once the recordings were complete, representatives of the group were delegated roles for a finished production – some sequenced and mixed the recordings into their own tracks, while others built their own from the material recorded successfully showcasing the community as a group, as well as portraying singular pieces of art derived from a collective process.



Berlin-based Barbara Morgenstern opens up the album with „Grow“ – a hypnotic jam recalling the beauty of Kate Bush and lyrically captures the MONIKA WERKSTATT atmosphere perfectly.

„And the light will fall onto us  
And the wind will blow for us  
And we will grow with us  
And the landscape will form us  
And the night will wait for us  
And the rain will sing with us  
And we will grow for us  
And we will grow with us“

From a melange of ambience, improvisation and song we are treated to a double album that features twenty-five shining stars. Keeping to their motto of total freedom, the range of styles and sounds are very diverse. Some of the contributors prefer to reflect room and space such as like Natalie Beridze (invited as a producer) with „Doodle“ and „Hit Bottom“ or „Feuerland“ by Beate Bartel, others walk on industrial ground like Lucrecia Dalt with „Blindholes“.

Beate Bartel's other contribution „M.B.T.“ is prime for the club whereas AGF continues to prove herself as one of electronic music's coolest musicians with „Ninjaness“. Gudrun Gut takes listeners on a magnificent journey into dub with „Repetition“, whereas Danielle De Picciotto delivers mighty sound collages with „Ikarus“ and „Desert Fruit“ – taking a powerful lyrical approach that feels that you are listening to the gospel of nature.

And then there is „Between Two Worlds“ by Sonae – its hard to believe that its only 4 minutes long as the story one hears appears to be so much longer and bigger. The piece recalls Blow Up by Michelangelo Antonioni – an amplified excursion that multiplies the sounds of a meadow. Listeners can pick up

on all the noises and scratches that emit from under her feet. A natural drone symphony. Changing pace for the second half of MONIKA WERKSTATT, Pilocka Krach asks a crucial question with „Who's Afraid Of Justin Bieber?“, right before Islaja starts making mystical gestures with „Sappho's Gifts“.

Try as you might, you'll not be able to second guess a moment of MONIKA WERKSTATT. By giving everyone, both group and individual, freedom of creativity these musicians have really charted new territory. I would be lying if I said I wasn't jealous to have not been on Sternhagen Gut while the magic happened.

There is so much more that could be said about the feelings, ideas and stimulations within this inspiring collection but its time for you to take a listen for yourself. These are only my thoughts and they count no more than your own. Working together, we get a bigger understanding of this picture called life. And remember, we all have the right to live according to our dream of total freedom. Life is too short to be told what we should or should not do when it comes to art. Or indeed, anything else.

So, meet the creative collective, and feel the empowerment that goes by the name of MONIKA WERKSTATT

Thomas Venker, Cologne JANUARY 2017

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**Eierkeller**

A photograph of a wooden door set into a brick wall. The door is made of light-colored wood and features two vertical panels. Above the panels, the word "Eierkeller" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The door is framed by a white border. On the left side of the door, there is a dark handle. On the right side, there is a metal latch. The brick wall surrounding the door is made of reddish-brown bricks with visible mortar.



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 + Werkstatt  
 „Grow“ ( 4:28 )  
 —
- 02 –  
NATALIE BERIDZE  
 + Werkstatt  
 „Doodle“ ( 3:40 )  
 —
- 03 –  
GUDRUN GUT  
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 „Witchcraft“ ( 5:03 )  
 —

## CREDITS

Creative Director & Driver – Gudrun Gut  
 Technische Leitung – Antye Greie ( AGF )  
 Werkstatt Artists –  
 AGF, Barbara Morgenstern, Beate Bartel,  
 Danielle de Picciotto, Lucrecia Dalt,  
 Gudrun Gut, Islaja, Pilocka Krach & Sonae  
 Special Werkstatt Guest on Air –  
 Natalie Beridze  
 Cooking – Mo Loschelder  
 Helping Heart & Hand – Manon Pepita  
 Helping Hand & Filming – Lupe Carranza  
 Recorded in June 2016  
 @ Stern Studio / Uckermark  
 Mastered by Mike Grinser  
 @ Manmade Mastering / Berlin  
 AGF, Gudrun Gut, Islaja, Natalie Beridze &  
 Sonae are published by Golden Good / Budde  
 Barbara Morgenstern is published by  
 Maobeat / Budde  
 Lucrecia Dalt is published by Secretly  
 Canadian Publishing  
 Pilocka Krach is published by  
 Random Noize / Budde  
 Danielle de Picciotto is published by Freibank  
 Design – Ian Anderson @ MITDR™  
 with Things & The Barron of Meat  
 Cover – „Summer with Monika“ ( detail )  
 by Gudrun Gut & Ian Anderson  
 Original Photography by Lupe Carranza,  
 Sonae, Pilocka Krach, Manon Pepita  
 & Found Images / Readymades  
 Treatments – MITDR™

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 88MONIKA90CD / LC01806

Made in Germany  
 Distribution – Morr Music  
 US Distribution – Forced Exposure

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Supported by Initiative Musik GmbH with  
 project funds from the Federal Government  
 Commissioner for Culture and Media