

COLLECTION
BBVA FOUNDATION - NEOS**Wolfgang Rihm**
Vigilia

Born in 1953, **RUPERT HUBER** is a distinguished Austrian composer and conductor for whom singing is the most immediate form of music. Although he works with many major orchestras in contemporary and classical music, and has conducted over one-hundred world premières by the leading composers of our time, his main focus falls on working with vocal ensembles. From 1989 to 2000 he headed the SWR Vokalensemble Stuttgart, and today he is principal conductor of the WDR Rundfunkchor Köln. Since October 2008 he has been artistic director of the ChorWerk Ruhr, placing an emphasis on musical installations and the further development of this outstanding vocal ensemble. As a composer he is especially interested in the impact of music and its ability to alter perception (e.g. through contact singing). He devotes special attention to the way music unfolds in time and its immediate impact on audiences and singers. Huber teaches various theoretical subjects at the Conservatories in Salzburg and Graz, also holding a professorship at the latter institution (1996–98). Part of his range of activities also includes intensive field research with shamans in Nepal.

Rupert Huber has worked with the North German, West German, Southwest German, and Bavarian radio choruses (NDR, WDR, SWR, BR). From 2002 to 2005 he headed the 'Konzertvereinigung Wiener Staatsopernchor' and was choirmaster at the Salzburg Festival. He has conducted the WDR Symphony Orchestra Cologne, the SWR Sinfonieorchester Baden-Baden und Freiburg, the Stuttgart RSO, the BR and ORF Radio Symphony Orchestras, and many ensembles, including musikFabrik NRW, Ensemble Modern, Ensemble Recherche, Concerto Köln, Ensemble Resonanz, and Klangforum Wien. Productions under his direction have taken place at such festivals as the Salzburg Festival, Festival d'Automne (Paris), Wien Modern, Donaueschinger Musiktage, ECLAT (Stuttgart), Warsaw Autumn, Wittener Tage für neue Kammermusik, the Munich and Venice Biennales, MaerzMusik (Berlin), and Steirischer Herbst (Graz). Among the world premières he has conducted are works by Karlheinz Stockhausen, Luigi Nono, Toshio Hosokawa, Beat Furrer, Klaus Lang, Klaus Huber, and Jani Christou.

The CHORWERK RUHR is one of the top ensembles in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. It was founded in 1999 as a project of the state's regional cultural policy with the aim of creating a vocal ensemble that not only takes into account the qualifications of its singers but enhances the region's cultural image. Until 2003 its artistic director was Frieder Bernius, after which the ensemble worked regularly with a wide range of leading conductors such as Rupert Huber, Bruno Weil, Christopher Moulds, Hans Zender, Reinhard Goebel, Peter Neumann, Robin Gritton and Sylvain Cambreling. Since October 2008 the Austrian composer and conductor Professor Rupert Huber has been the chorus' new artistic director. Its membership includes 16 to 100 singers depending on the scale of the music involved and the conflicting demands of style and performance practice. This has resulted in a pool of more than 180 choristers with whom the ChorWerk Ruhr has mastered over 50 projects and appeared at more than 100 concerts and events.

In its many projects the ChorWerk Ruhr has worked up a wide-ranging choral repertoire, always with the aim of conveying the full stylistic range of vocal music to its members and audiences at the highest possible artistic level. In its work with renowned orchestras such as Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Ensemble Resonanz, musikFabrik NRW, Schönberg Ensemble Amsterdam, Cappella Coloniensis, Ensemble Modern, Neue Düsseldorfer Hofmusik, Junge Deutsche Philharmonie and SWR Sinfonieorchester Baden-Baden und Freiburg, the ensemble has succeed time and again in thrilling its audiences. Equally important to the sound of the chorus and the qualifications of its singers are its frequent highly demanding *a cappella* projects. It has steadily drawn increasing acclaim from critics and listeners alike and is by now firmly established among the region's top artistic drawing cards. This is also apparent in its many recordings with West German Radio (WDR) and Deutschlandfunk as well as its coproductions with the Ruhrfestspiele Recklinghausen and the Klavier-Festival Ruhr. Each year the ChorWerk Ruhr enters special cooperative ventures and coproductions with the RuhrTriennale.

The ChorWerk Ruhr is a project of Kultur Ruhr GmbH with funding from the Minister-President of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia and the European Regional Development Fund.

Founded in 1980 and based in Frankfurt am Main since 1985, the **ENSEMBLE MODERN** is one of the world's leading ensembles for contemporary music. At present it consists of 18 soloists from a wide range of countries: Argentina, Bulgaria, Germany, India, Israel, Japan, Poland, and Switzerland make up the group's provenance. The Ensemble Modern is known for its internationally unique working methods and organization: it has no artistic director, and its projects, coproductions, and financial affairs are selected and borne jointly by the entire group. Its inimitable breadth of repertoire encompasses music theater, dance and video projects, chamber music, ensemble recitals, and orchestra concerts. Its tours have already taken it to Russia, South America, Japan, Australia, India, Korea, Taiwan, and the United States. The Ensemble Modern appears regularly at major festivals and outstanding venues such as Lincoln Center Festival (New York), Festival d'Automne (Paris), Holland Festival (Amsterdam), Lucerne Festival, Klangspuren (Schwaz), Salzburg Festival, Alte Oper (Frankfurt), Frankfurt Opera, the Cologne Philharmonie, Berlin Konzerthaus, MaerzMusik/Berlin Festival, Essen Philharmonie, and Baden-Baden Festival Hall. The Ensemble Modern gives approximately 100 concerts each year. It strives to achieve maximum authenticity by working closely with the composers themselves. The musicians

rehearse an average of 70 new works every year, 20 of which are world premières. Since its earliest years the Ensemble Modern has maintained ties of friendship and co-operation with Wolfgang Rihm. It has premiered and recorded several of his works and taken part in the emergence of compositions such as *Jagden und Formen*. In 2003 the Ensemble Modern was nominated for top funding from the German Federal Cultural Foundation (Kulturstiftung des Bundes). As a result, since 2004 it has received a three-tier funding package for the Ensemble Modern Orchestra, the International Ensemble Modern Academy, and selected projects for a five-year period. The Ensemble Modern is funded by the Federal Cultural Foundation, the City of Frankfurt, the Deutsche Ensemble Akademie e.V. through the State of Hessen, the GEMA Foundation, and Germany's GVL society for performing and mechanical rights. The members of Ensemble Modern wish to thank the Aventis Foundation for financing one of the ensemble's desks. Its media partner is Frankfurt Radio (hr2-Kultur).