



ART ZOYD

studios

forward!

On May 4th, 2018, Gérard Hourbette, composer, leader of Art Zoyd and director of Art Zoyd Studios, left us.

There was no other option for us than to bounce back, and ensure that the wonderful and unique tool that is Art Zoyd Studios would survive, not as a museum or as object frozen at a given point in time, but as a tool to serve past, present and future creation with, necessarily, a renewed attention and position.

I quickly came up with the «Forward!» project, which has just been given the green light by all our institutional partners, and so, Art Zoyd Studios will go on living, in their time and in accordance with their legacy!

Art Zoyd is a name charged with musical history, and there is no question of forgetting that.

«Forward!» consists of two main axes – one is about memory, heritage and the passing of knowledge, the other about young creators involved in electroacoustic musical creation, favouring collaborative writing.

The digitising and archiving of all works produced by Art Zoyd Studios are both a necessity and a priority. Indeed, 20th and 21st century music using electronics is entitled to enter the repertoire and be performed again. However, in the current context of continually changing technology, this is impossible. Still, letting an entire area of musical creation be sacrificed would be really damaging.

It should be made possible for these works to be passed on to

students in music academies, for example, or current music, as well as to players in general. How can this music survive if academies cannot even take hold of it?!

The other part is concerned with young creation, and will take the form of a three-year mentoring scheme with a composer, hopefully a young composer, not just to glorify youth but to try and shake the edifice, knock it down, introduce new practices, aspirations and collaborations.

We will issue an call for applications in February, with a view to starting up in September for the 2019/2020 season.

The artist will produce, select the artists in residence from 2020, and will also be involved in drawing up a 3-season mediation plan.

Art Zoyd Studios still defines itself as a space of production. Two productions are planned for 2020: «Et avec votre Esprit – la Forêt de samplers» («And with your spirit - the Forest of samplers»), a tribute concert for Gérard Hourbette, with Jérôme Soudan as musical director, and «Inferno», music by Gérard Hourbette, directed by Éric Travers. Next to be presented will be the associate composer's own productions, as well as works created during the residences we will be mentoring.

«Forward!» also puts the emphasis on educational methods and the adjusted and varied mediations developed by Art Zoyd Studios, from our electroacoustic and multimedia composition

sessions to initiatives in rural areas, and specific initiatives led in high schools aimed at specific classes (SEGPA, ULIS...)

«Forward!» aims to be an open, generous project, a creative meeting place, and with this in mind, I have assembled an artistic board whose role will be to suggest possible production and residences, with a view to preserving the specificity of Art Zoyd Studios - to be a place which welcomes all musical aesthetics, as long as they are creative and use electronics, with particular attention paid to emerging technologies and hybridisations.

I would like to thank my Board of directors, who have supported me in what must be called a hardship, and thanks also to you, whom we called CHEF ! for everything you taught me, all the knowledge you have passed on to us, your courage and determination, which for me, apart from love, will forever remain an example to follow!

I hope that all of you, whether audience members, composers, students, musicians, artists or locals, will find in «Forward!» a way for you to appropriate our beautiful tool! I hope that music will be with you!

I wish you all a great season, and now, let us head towards new adventures!

Monique Hourbette-Vialadieu
Directrice d'Art Zoyd