



## International Composition Competition ACHT BRÜCKEN

In the framework of the festival **ACHT BRÜCKEN | Musik für Köln 2025** composers up to 35 years can submit up to three works from their existing oeuvre, as well as a conceptual idea for a new piece for ensemble. Based on these submissions, the jury will select two composers who will each receive a € 6 500 composition commission for the 2026 festival edition. The compositions will be premiered by Ensemble Musikfabrik. A recording of the concerts by WDR for radio broadcast is intended.

### § 1 Basic data of the competition

The jury will select two composers from the submissions who will be invited to compose a new work for the 2026 festival edition (30.04-10.05.2026)

The jury consists of the following members:

- Helen Bledsoe, Flötistin bei Ensemble Musikfabrik
- Patrick Hahn, Redakteur WDR
- Florentin Ginot, Kontrabassist bei Ensemble Musikfabrik
- Prof. Brigitta Muntendorf, Leitung Institut für Neue Musik Instrumentale Komposition

### § 2 Conditions of participation

1. All current or former composition students born on or after 30 November 1989 are entitled to participate.
2. Deadline for the submission of applications is **30. November, 2024.**
  - The application should include the following artistic material,

I. Existing sheet music of up to three compositions (for ensembles of 4 or more musicians)

II. A concept (1 page) for a new work for Ensemble Musikfabrik that takes into account the unique capabilities and qualities of the ensemble. The concept may include visual and media elements for the work, but it must clearly demonstrate that the composition is also suitable for purely auditory perception (e.g., for radio broadcast).

- Maximum instrumentation: 2 Violins, Viola, Cello, Double Bass / Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon / Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Tuba / Percussion / Piano, without electronics (The jury will decide individually on the acceptance of submissions that deviate significantly from this instrumentation).
- Duration: 10-15 minutes.

Ideas for the content of the concept:

Descriptions, score (sketches), instrumentation, duration, etc.

- In addition to the composition the following information must be attached to the email:
  - I. The completed application form
  - II. A certificate of study or diploma certificate of the degree program

- III. A copy of the applicant's passport or ID Card (Please blacken all personal information except your name and date of birth!)
  - IV. A short biography including a work list
3. The compositions and the concept are to be sent as PDF by e-mail to [yfanti@achtbruecken.de](mailto:yfanti@achtbruecken.de).

Candidates must ensure that nothing that could make it possible to identify them appears anywhere on the scores or the concept.

Applications that do not meet the formal requirements and those mentioned under point 3 will be excluded from the selection process.

In case that the works are published online in any form in connection with your name, please choose an alternative name or abbreviation for the work in the application and the score.

The applications must be submitted in English or German.

### § 3 Decisions of the jury

1. The jury will select the three finalists based upon its own artistic estimation by **March 30, 2025**. In case of a high quantity of applications throughout the jury is entitled to appoint an assistant jury. This does not restrict the jury's power of decision.

The jury's decision is final and cannot be legally changed.

### § 4 Benefits for the finalists

1. The prize winners will receive a commission from ACHTBRÜCKEN GmbH to compose a new work to be premiered at a concert within the 2026 festival edition. The deadline for the submission of the performance material for the new work will be agreed individually. In addition, the documentation of this concert by the Westdeutscher Rundfunk is intended.
2. Composers and commissioners intend for the presence of the composer at the concert. ACHTBRÜCKEN GmbH is responsible for the organisation of all travel and hotel requirements during the rehearsal and concert period and will bear all costs involved.

### § 5 Agreement

1. Non selected materials will not be utilized by ACHTBRÜCKEN GmbH; potential archival use will remain unaffected. Printed scores sent in will only be returned on request.
2. By participating in the competition, the finalists cede to ACHTBRÜCKEN GmbH, free of charge:  
the right to communicate to the public all performances of the finalist's works within the context of **ACHT BRÜCKEN | Musik für Köln**, by all available communication media (television, radio, internet etc.), both in Germany and abroad.

**Deadline for entries: 30. November 2024**

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