

OJAIMUSICFESTIVAL JUNE 10-13, 2010

THOMAS W. MORRIS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

GEORGE BENJAMIN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

ENSEMBLE MODERN

Founded in 1980 and situated in Frankfurt am Main since 1985, the Ensemble Modern (EM) is one of the world's leading ensembles of New Music. Currently, the EM is comprised of 18 soloists from Argentina, Bulgaria, Germany, India, Israel, Japan, Poland, and Switzerland, all of whom provide the ensemble with its rich cultural background.

The Ensemble Modern is famous for its special working and organizational form, which is unlike any other in the world. All the members are responsible for jointly selecting and dealing with projects, co-productions and financial matters. Its unique and distinctive programme consists of music theatre, dance and video projects, chamber music, ensemble and orchestral concerts. In past years, the Ensemble Modern has gone on tour to Russia, South America, Japan, Australia, India, Korea, Taiwan, and the United States. It regularly performs at renowned festivals and outstanding venues, such as the Lincoln Center Festival in New York, Festival d'Automne à Paris, Holland Festival in Amsterdam, Lucerne Festival, Klangspuren in Schwaz, Salzburg Festival, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Oper Frankfurt, Kölner Philharmonie, Konzerthaus Berlin and MaerzMusik | Berliner Festspiele, Philharmonie Essen and the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden.

The Ensemble Modern gives approximately 100 concerts each year. The ensemble strives to achieve the highest degree of authenticity by working closely with the composers themselves. The musicians rehearse an average of 70 new works every year, 20 of which are world premieres.

In 2003, the German Federal Cultural Foundation nominated the Ensemble Modern as one of Germany's »beacons« of contemporary culture. With this honor, the Ensemble Modern received a five-year funding package from the German Federal Cultural Foundation in 2004 to support three important pillars of the Ensemble Modern – the Ensemble Modern Orchestra, the International Ensemble Modern Academy and eminent projects of Ensemble Modern.

The Ensemble Modern is funded by the German Federal Cultural Foundation, the City of Frankfurt, the German Ensemble Academy Assoc., the state of Hesse, the GEMA Foundation and the GVL. hr2-kultur – cultural affairs partner of the Ensemble Modern.