

Kimmig–Studer–Zimmerlin

Harald Kimmig: violin (www.haraldkimmig.de)

Daniel Studer: double bass (www.danielstuder.ch)

Alfred Zimmerlin: cello (www.alfredzimmerlin.ch)



Photo: Dominic Büttner

In classical music, string trios class among the most common chamber music formations. They are very rare in jazz. Thus, the freely improvising string trio is an exception, an exception in more than one respect since it distinguishes itself from the classical string trio by bringing together violin, cello, and double bass. The fact that violinist Harald Kimmig, cellist Alfred Zimmerlin, and contrabassist Daniel Studer extend the traditional sound of their instruments by unusual playing techniques makes this Swiss and German string trio truly outstanding, going far beyond everyday improvisation. Having worked closely together for many years, the three musicians develop multifaceted sound ranges, structures, and forms.

Reinhard Kager, SWR

concerts in Switzerland, Germany and Austria among others at Kunstverein Karlsruhe recorded by SWR (2011), Ulrichsberger Kaleidophon (2010)

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Harald Kimmig (www.haraldkimmig.de)

Harald Kimmig received a classical education from 1966 bis 1974 and completed his studies with David Baker, B. Muneer Fenell, John Tchicai and Cecil Taylor. Since 1984, the violinist is a professional musician. He plays solo concerts, from 1984 to 1995 he played in the group 'kxutrio' (with Georg Wolf, double bass, and H. Luke Lindenmaier, drums), is co-leader of the big-band 'The F-Orchestra', which featured guest musicians as Buddy Collette, Peter Kowald, Steve Lacy, among others. Harald Kimmig worked as a soloist with John Tchicai, Lee Konitz, Irene Schweizer, Maggie Nicols etc. The years of cooperation with Cecil Taylor are documented in the two CDs 'Legba Crossing' and 'Corona: Looking' (both on FMP). He is currently working a.o. in a trio with Alfred Zimmerlin cello and double bass Daniel Studer (SWR Recordings 2011), in a duet with Ephraim Wegner, electronics and with Christoph Schiller, spinet.

In collaboration with dancers / choreographers Harald Kimmig created performances such as 'Untitled Memories Gate 7' and 'Heaven and Earth' (with Lilo Stahl), 'The Crocodile' (with Anzu Furukawa), 'Once in a Lifetime' (with Pretty Ugly Dance Company / Amanda Miller), 'A VOID', 'Lost Dog' (both with Hideto Heshiki), etc.

The music&movement solo performance 'bewegtes schweigen' by Harald Kimmig had its premier in April 2007 in Freiburg. Together with the artist Axel Malik he created in 2008 the performance, 'tectonics – schicht um schicht', and in January 2010, the performance, '„Auch Paradiese müssen vermessen werden“' with Annette Peht, Anja Gysin, Marko Hefe, Mark Demmel. In 2011 during a one month stay in Cairo, Egypt he took part in the artistic research project 'CairoRoundabout' together with media scientist Daniel Fetzner.

As a composer Harald Kimmig writes music for film and theater, as well as string quartets and choral and orchestral works ("Der Lauf des Lichtes und der Dunkelheit" oratorio, 1999; 'Aura Cristina 2004; Sei:Stille, 2009).

Harald Kimmig is: artistic Director of the annual festival, 'Raumklänge' in Pulheim Stommel (www.raumklaenge.de/) teacher music theory for dancers at Freiburg TIP/ teacher for improvisation at the Musikhochschule Trossingen/ teacher for music theory and musical group working on the KH Freiburg/ member of 'mbody', a group of artists, scientists, therapists a.o. who work on artistic research

Daniel Studer (www.danielstuder.ch)

Was born in Zürich in 1961, lived and worked in Rome from 1981 to 1995, is now living with his family in Zurich. Master of arts in Music Pedagogy, was guest composer at the Elektronisches Studio in Basel, studied composition with Johannes Schöllhorn. Award from the city of Zurich 2011 (Werkjahr der Stadt Zürich). Since 1993 he has been teaching improvisation at several institutions, since 2006 'improvisation-composition' at the Bern University of the Arts.

Daniel Studer's focus lies on free improvisation and mixed forms of improvisation and composition. He participated in various projects involving space – and projects with live electronics; further fields of interest are music and language, music and dance, music and video poetry. The constant exploration of his instrument has led to performances as a soloist, too. For years he has been working with Peter K Frey, Mischa Käser, Katharina Klement, Giancarlo Schiaffini, Dieter Ulrich and Alfred Zimmerlin.

Presently he is part of the double bass duo Studer–Frey, the string trio Kimmig–Studer–Zimmerlin, the Trio III–VII–XII (with Mischa Käser and Urs Haeggli), In Transit (with Michael Jefry Stevens, Jürg Solothurnmann and Dieter Ulrich).

He played at festivals, gave concerts and played for radio recordings in different formations in Europe and in Japan. Among others he played with Lester Bowie, Jacques Demierre, Michel Doneda, Paolo Fresu, Steve Grossmann, Barney Kessel, Hans Koch, Riccardo Lay, Joëlle Léandre, Mike Melillo, Evan Parker, Antonello Salis, Irene Schweizer, Tony Scott, Sebi Tramontana, Massimo Urbani, Urs Voerkel, Alfred Zimmerlin, Bobby Watson and many other Swiss and Italian musicians.

Records with the Kontrabassduo Studer-Frey, the Giancarlo Schiaffini Quintet, Solo, In Transit, Eichenbergers Domino, Day & Taxi, Käppeli-Lüscher-Studer, Streichtrio Coen-Penazzi-Studer auf den Labels ARTPur, STUCD, EMANEM, STV/AMS-UNIT, Percaso, AltriSuoni.

Alfred Zimmerlin (www.alfredzimmerlin.ch)

was born in Zurich, on April 12th, 1955, and grew up in Schönenwerd (canton Solothurn). He studied musicology and ethnomusicology at Zurich University under the tutelage of Kurt von Fischer und Wolfgang Laade, music theory under the tutelage of Peter Benary, and composition under the tutelage of Hans Wüthrich and Hans Ulrich Lehmann. He attended the Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik in Darmstadt. He has taken an active part in the "Werkstatt für improvisierte Musik" (WIM, Workshop for Improvised Music) Zurich since 1980. In 1982 and 1984, Alfred Zimmerlin was awarded grants by the canton of Aargau, including a residency in Paris, in 1986 he received the music prize of the C. F. Meyer foundation, and in 1988 he was awarded a grant for composition by the city of Zurich. In 1999 he was again awarded a grant by the canton of Aargau and in 2001 he was invited by Pro Helvetia (Swiss Culture Foundation) on the Cairo Residency Programme. In 2005, he received the prize of the UBS Culture Foundation.

Alfred Zimmerlin's ample oeuvre comprises pieces for piano, chamber music (with and without live-electronics), vocal music, orchestral music, music for theatre, and works for radio and film. The most important are: "Gezeiten der Zeit" (for string orchestra), "Cueillis par la mémoire des voûtes" (saxophone quartet and string orchestra), "Euridice singt" (a chamber opera), three string quartets, "Neidhardlieder" (for soprano and four Renaissance recorders), the "Cembalo-Buch", "In Bewegung (Nature Morte au Rideau)" (for piano, string orchestra and soundtrack), "Weisse Bewegung" (for violoncello, piano, and percussion), Quintet for clarinet and string quartet, or "Zerstreut in Arbeit mit Wörtern" (for soprano, piano, and soundtrack).

As an improvising musician and cellist, Alfred Zimmerlin has taken part in various formations in Europe and the US. Since 1983 he has been active member of KARL ein KARL, improvising and composing in cooperation with Peter K Frey and Michel Seigner, the distinctive feature of this trio being the fact that all compositional decisions are being made and accounted for collectively. Alfred Zimmerlin's work as improvising musician as well as the works of KARL ein KARL are available on numerous recordings.