

## Biography

# Christine Schöpf

### **Artistic Co-Director of the Ars Electronica Festival**

Christine Schöpf (AT) has a Ph.D. in German & Romance languages and literature. She is a radio & TV journalist; 1981-2008, director of cultural/scientific reporting at the ORF – Austrian Broadcasting Company’s Upper Austria Regional Studio. In 2009, she was made honorary professor at the Linz Art University. Serving in numerous capacities since 1979, she has played a key role in the development of Ars Electronica: 1987-2003, conception and organization of the Prix Ars Electronica; since 1996, artistic co-director (with Gerfried Stocker) of the Ars Electronica Festival.

With queries, please contact

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## Biography

# Gerfried Stocker

### **Artistic Co-Director of the Ars Electronica Festival**

Gerfried Stocker was born on January 26, 1964 in Judenburg / Austria. In 1991, he set up the x-space team to carry out interdisciplinary projects. Out of this came numerous installations and performance projects at the nexus of interaction, robotics and telecommunications. Stocker was also responsible for the conception of radio network projects and the organization of worldwide "Horizontal Radio." Since 1995, he has been CEO of the Ars Electronica Center and, since 1996, jointly with Christine Schöpf, artistic director of Ars Electronica.

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## Biography

# Hannes Leopoldseder

### **Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors and Co-Founder of Ars Electronica**

Hannes Leopoldseder (AT) is a Ph. D. and professor. He has worked as a publisher's reader (1965), a television reporter for ORF Vienna (1967), managing director of ORF Upper Austria (1974 - 1998), a lecturer for audiovisual media at the University of Vienna (1975) and information director of ORF Vienna (1998). He co-founded Ars Electronica and the Linzer Klangwolke (1979), initiated the Prix Ars Electronica (1987) and had the idea for the Ars Electronica Center (1991). In 2009, he was made honorary professor at the Linz Art University. He has published works in connection with the Ars Electronica, Prix Ars Electronica and the Linzer Klangwolke.

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## Biography

# Diethard Schwarzmaier

### **Financial Director Ars Electronica**

Diethard Schwarzmaier was born on August 20, 1955 in Wels, Austria. He has been the financial director of Ars Electronica Linz GmbH since July 1, 2009. He attended the University of Linz from 1975 to 1980, graduating with a master's degree in economics. He then completed Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program: The International Senior Managers' Program. Diethard Schwarzmaier was an officer in the lending division of Creditanstalt Bank from May 1982 to February 1983. He then moved to Austria Tabak AG, where he initially served as chief executive assistant (March 1983 to December 1987) before being promoted to general secretary and member of the corporation's Executive Committee and expanded Board of Directors of (January 1988 to December 2001). Beginning in January 2002, he was a management consultant at Schwarzmaier Invest KEG, and CEO of VeloMeter Verkehrsmesstechnik GmbH beginning in February 2004. From January 1 to June 30, 2009, Diethard Schwarzmaier served as interim financial director pursuant to a unanimous vote by Ars Electronica's Board of Directors.

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