



Ars Electronica Festival 2012

## Rupert Huber: TEARDROPS

Saturday, September 1, 2012 / 2 PM-5 PM, 8 PM-12 Midnight / St. Mary's Cathedral

(Linz, August 16, 2012) A musical highlight of this year's Ars Electronica is a work by Viennese musician/composer Rupert Huber. TEARDROPS is a 10-hour music installation and concert the sound artist will stage and perform on September 1<sup>st</sup> from 2 PM to 5 PM and from 8 PM until 12 Midnight in St. Mary's Cathedral in Linz. Admission to TEARDROPS is free of charge.

### Music installation ...

A piano and devices connected to it to produce audio effects, the cathedral's organ as well as its architecture and acoustics go into the making of Rupert Huber's TEARDROPS. The sound installation begins at 2 PM. The tones produced by a piano—both in their original, acoustic form and as electronically modified—will resound like audible tears amidst the monumental silence of the cathedral and, reflected by the walls and ceiling, echo throughout its interior.

### ... and concert

These sounds will then serve as the acoustic foundation of a piano and organ concert from 11 PM to 12 Midnight. Rupert Huber will play a concert grand piano set up at the end of the nave directly in front of the altar, whereby the piano's striking force triggers—by means of a specially developed technique (including noise gates, an audio effect in which sound below a preset volume level is suppressed)—filtered electronic real-time re-contextualizations of the piano's sounds. An essential parameter in the piece is the actual distance that the sound waves travel within the church. In the second half of TEARDROPS, the cathedral's architecture and its physical dimensions will be explored in greater depth by integrating its organ (played by organist Tobias Chizzali), whereby piano and organ become intertwined, withdraw from this interwoven relationship, and finally settle into a complementary symbiosis.

### Dimensional Music

"Dimensional music" is what Rupert Huber calls the musical format he has developed over the years, in which he takes (most often electronic) music and the sound it produces in a particular physical space and uses this as the acoustic basis for subsequent compositions. Showcases of Rupert Huber's dimensional music have included the Wiener Festwochen (private exile, 2004), the Centre Pompidou (sonic process, 2002) and Ars Electronica (radiotopia, 2002).

### Rupert Huber

Rupert Huber was born in 1967 in Mödling, Austria, and studied composition at Vienna's University for Music and Performing Arts. He plays piano, synthesizer, guitar and bass, is a

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freelance composer, and, since 1989, has been producing his music in his own sound studio. Since 1994, he has collaborated with Richard Dorfmeister on Tosca, which was honored with an Amadeus Austrian Music Award in 2001 as the year's best Pop/Rock group. In 1997, Rupert Huber was a guest of the DAAD-German Academic Exchange Service's Berlin artists program. In 2007 and 2009, he was a Prix Ars Electronica juror. In 2009-10, he was a member of the Austrian Music Fund. Rupert Huber was a 2010 nominee for a World Technology Award.

## Ars Electronica Festival 2012: THE BIG PICTURE

THE BIG PICTURE is the theme of the 2012 Ars Electronica Festival running August 30-September 3 in Linz. The focus will be on images of a world with a viable future, images that capture the progressive globalization and networks interlinking our planet's inhabitants, and take into account contradictions and discontinuities as well as the extent to which humankind is growing together. This year's conclave will showcase inspiring best-practice examples from art and science in calling for a new, open perspective conducive to the development of a viable vision for our future. The Festival is an inquiry into what it takes to compose such a Big Picture and just how it can be implemented.

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Rupert Huber: <http://www.ruperthuber.com/>

Ars Electronica Festival 2012: <http://www.aec.at/thebigpicture/en/>

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