

Press Release  
April 2010

## **SPOR Festival dissects music and lets Fidel Castro speak through a piano**

Friday 7– Sunday 9 May in Aarhus, Denmark

- Experience one of [Fidel Castro's](#) famous speeches from his revolutionary days transformed into a piece of music.
- Listen to sounds from Aarhus' aquatic environment.
- Hear a number of premieres – from [Bent Sørensen](#) to [David Helbich](#) and [Kasia Glowicka](#)

For the sixth time the city of Aarhus will host the sound and contemporary music festival SPOR. SPOR thematizes, actualizes and mediates Danish and international contemporary music and sound-art and is supported by, amongst others, The Danish Arts Council, Region Mid Jutland and the municipality of Aarhus.

The festival, which collaborates with a new guest curator each year, is curated this year by the British composer [Joanna Bailie](#), who has a long list of compositions and awards to her credit. The program offers everything from a speech by [Fidel Castro](#) to the premiere of the latest movement from [Bent Sørensen's](#) string trio 'Gondoli' and can be viewed at [www.sporfestival.dk](http://www.sporfestival.dk)

### **Back to the revolution with Castro**

The Austrian artist and composer [Peter Ablinger](#) is one of this year's main attractions. [Ablinger](#) is known for turning all kinds of sound and noise into music. At the SPOR festival he sets himself the task of transforming a classic speech by the Cuban revolutionary and president [Fidel Castro](#) into a piece of music. On a technical level this is achieved by transcribing the spoken words into impulses that, via a midi interface, activate the keys of a piano. The public hears a strange and remarkable mixture of tones and recognizable words as spoken by Castro. See a clip from one of [Ablinger's](#) previous compositions at [here at YouTube](#)

[Peter Ablinger's](#) piano-installation can be experienced at the Exhibition Space Spanien 19C from Friday 7 May – Sunday 23 May.

### **Periscopes in front of the Concert Hall**

One of the year's more spectacular contributions is that of the Swedish sound-artist [Åsa Stjerna](#). She has erected a number of periscopes on the square in front of the Aarhus Concert Hall and here passers-by can listen to sounds from Aarhus' aquatic environment – the stream that runs through the town, its lakes and the Kattegat.

'SubAqua' can be visited throughout the weekend and [Åsa Stjerna](#) will be present at the installation on Saturday and Sunday from 13:00-15:00.

### **Premieres – from Venice to Headphone Festival**

On Friday evening the latest movement from Danish composer [Bent Sørensen's](#) string-trio 'Gondoli' will be performed by [Trio Aristos](#). On Saturday afternoon the focus is on young Danish electronic composers when the Town Hall Park will be transformed into a festival for headphones - with live concerts by, amongst others, young Danish electronic composers like [Morten Riis](#), [Jonas Olesen](#), [Karsten Pflum](#) and [Rune Søchting](#).

Saturday evening as well as Friday offers premieres by international young artists and composers:

Kaj Aune, David Helbich, Kasia Glowicka/Emmanuel Flores and Páll Ivan Pálsson/Monica Frycová

### **ARoS gets its own concert-installation**

On Saturday the 8th of May there will be two performances by the Aarhus Sinfonietta of the British composer Christopher Fox's concert-installation 'Everything You Need To Know'. Christopher Fox has created a version of the work especially for AROS – Aarhus' art museum, where the musicians are integrated into the museum's architecture and the sounds and background noises that are found in it.

WELCOME TO SPOR 2010!

For further information contact:

Anne Marqvardsen, SPOR festival: +45 2896 8263 or [anne@sporfestival.dk](mailto:anne@sporfestival.dk)

Christian Møller, Have Kommunikation: +45 3325 2107 or [cmo@have.dk](mailto:cmo@have.dk)

Rasmus Navntoft, Have Kommunikation: +45 3325 2107 or [rasmus@have.dk](mailto:rasmus@have.dk)

Collaborators and sponsors of SPOR 2010 festival:

Aarhus E, Aarhus Kommune Kulturforvaltningen, Aarhus University Department for Aesthetics and Culture, AROS, Augustinus Foundation, Central Denmark Region/Region Midtjylland, Danish Art Council, Danish Composers Society and KODA's Nationale Midler, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, Eskimology and Arctic Section - University of Copenhagen, Geiger, Goethe-Institut Dänemark, Kulturgesellschaft Århus, Musikhuset Aarhus, Piano Værkstedet Mattsson & McGehee, The exhibition space and artist collective Rum46, SNYK, The Exhibition Space Spanien 19C, The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Copenhagen, Toyota Foundation, Wilhelm Hansen Foundation and all ensembles, musicians and artists participating.

SPOR festival

Strandlodsvej 9A, 1.

DK-2300 Copenhagen S

[www.sporfestival.dk](http://www.sporfestival.dk)