

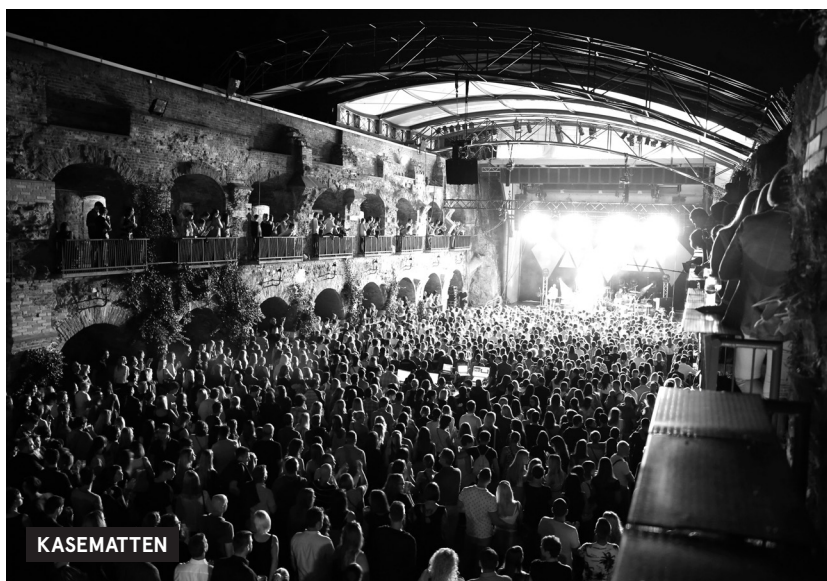
ELEVATE

MUSIC, ARTS AND POLITICAL DISCOURSE

ELEVATE 2018 UNVEILS ITS MUSIC PROGRAMME - HEADING TOWARD NEW SHORES

Daytime open air at Schlossberg, Avantgarde in church and A/V performances at Orpheum - a whole bunch of changes will ring in the second Elevate spring edition from February 28 to March 04 2018.

Just in time for the blossoming of spring, the Elevate Festival for Electronic Music, Art and Political Discourse will once again take place in early March, this time boasting significant innovations. A daytime open air stage in right atop the Grazean Schlossberg invites guests to indulge in techno delights during the day. Gentle and cryptic sound art permeates tranquil moments of silence, breaks in form and harmony in the magnificent halls of the Mausoleum. The Orpheum will play host to a commissioned interdisciplinary work, alongside A/V performances and experimental concerts.



Schlossberg daytime open air - two decades of techno culture with DJ Koze, Roman Flügel and Steffi

This year, Elevate is launching its new open air stage atop the Schlossberg with three of the most distinguished ambassadors of techno: none other than *DJ Koze*, *Roman Flügel* and *Steffi* will transform the *Kasematten* stage into an epicentre for hedonistic techno culture from the early afternoon onwards until just before midnight. This whole thing is made possible by the *We Are Europe* festival collaboration, within which 8 different European festivals have been col-

laboratively developing programme items since 2016. The festivities high atop the city are the result of close collaboration with the Greek *Reworks Festival* which will be visiting Graz in 2018. The exquisite daytime disco will be kicked off by the Dutch producer *Steffi*, who has been marrying hard-hitting underground techno with colourful house culture as a Berghain *Panorama Bar* resident since 2007 as well as on her acclaimed albums on *Ostgut Ton*. **Roman**



DJ KOZE



ROMAN FLÜGEL



STEFFI

Flügel, perhaps still fresh on people's minds as one half of the duo *Alter Ego*, is responsible for some of the most vibrant club bangers of the 00's as well as being a DJ live act, label boss, and producer since the 90's. His several solo releases on labels like *Cocoon*, *Playhouse*, and *Dial* as well as his latest mix for the *Fabric* compilation have solidified his status as a significant curator of nocturnal discourse for over two decades now. At Elevate, he will pave the way for an equally well-known mediator between the worlds: DJ Koze, possibly one of the most dazzling figures of techno and house, a self-deprecating bird of paradise from the

biotope that is the Hamburg Poodle Club, a bridge-builder between hip hop, schlager, minimal techno, discourse pop and the *Kompakt* universe, will be playing a set of several hours, which will show the cheerfully optimistic and furiously danceable side of the DJ of the year as he has been selected several times by SPEX and Co. Whoever does not leave this stage with a smile on their lips, was not there.



B.FLEISCHMANN

Festival-Opening with Waelder, B.Fleischmann and Sánchez-Chiong/Koenig

The opening of the Festival will take place on the 28th of February, for the first time at Orpheum. The opening speeches will be intermitted by sound of the classically trained composer and virtuoso turntablist **Jorge Sánchez-Chiong** together with **Lukas Koenig** on drums. Also on stage will be the electronica duo **Waelder**. They be showcasing their organic and vital ambient folk, post-dubstep and lo-fi pop soundscapes. One of the most distinguished local electronic musicians, **B.Fleischmann**, whose music was once described as a romantic evening stroll through a factory, will be bringing along his band as well as his new album „Stop Making Fans“.



SCHALLFELD ENSEMBLE



BEN FROST



PETER BRODERICK



FENNESZ

Multimedia at the Orpheum, Modern Classical and Electronica at the Mausoleum the day before

On Friday, the gates open to a new A/V-focused portion of the festival which, in cooperation with *TodaysArt Festival* from The Hague, will show four works at the intersection of spatial installation, wall of sound and visual arts at the *Orpheum*. Once again, the nucleus for the cooperation with *TodaysArt* is also the festival partnership *We Are Europe*, celebrating its conclusion in 2018. None other than the Iceland-based Australian composer and producer **Ben Frost** will let his cascading, classically minimal and industrial drone-influenced sounds meet the light sculptures of Marcel Weber aka **MFO**. The Berlin-based lighting designer developed special projectors equipped with movable mirrors for this purpose. Suspended from the ceiling in various places, they scatter light beams and videos on fog patches that replace a frontal cinema screen. The performance of the Graz-based **schallfeld ensemble** together with the Venezuelan composer, improviser, and turntablist **Jorge Sanchez Chiong** will also be very spatially orientated. Together with the Zagreb-based media artist **Onoxo**, who is well known for generative designs and programmed stage sets, they stage a kind of concert installation created especially for *Elevate*. Based on the piece *fluid disorder*, which combines five works of New Music with video projections and light changes to form a flowing sound stream, the interaction between hammering rhythm and trance-like states of consciousness is to be made perceptible here. Sound art OG **C. Fennesz**, together with media artist **Lillevan**, will also provide an atmospheric contribution to the newly installed, AV-focused Friday at Orpheum. The light-flooded Fennesz compositions, which, like musical telescope footage of distant rainforests, make phenomena of bustling nature seem very close, correspond with the moving images by Lillevan, who often re-contextualizes tape fragments from cinema archives for his short films.

The day before, the multi-instrumentalist and Eferklang collaborator **Peter Broderick** will sensitize the listener to softer sounds with a gentle sound calibration. As one of the most prominent figures of the London-based avant-garde label *Erased Tapes*, he will immerse the venerably morbid aura of the Graz Mausoleum in a meditative, chamber music ambiance. After a new piece of the Graz based soundart-duo **Stereoist**, who invite the audience on a journey through field recordings and soundscapes made by complex synthesis techniques, the Bosnian-Swiss accordionist **Mario Batkovic** plays on of his rare concerts in Austria. The internationally celebrated instrumentalist, whose idiosyncratic style was discovered by none other than the Portishead mastermind Geoff Barrow, utilizes fragments of classical and contemporary music to push the envelope of his instrument.

On the same day, Australian avant-garde drummer **Will Guthrie** will play an extremely rare Austrian show for the Forum Stadtpark-curated "Dunkelkammer" series, this time in total darkness. **Rashad Becker** from Berlin will be presenting a sound piece that was composed specifically for the 3D sound system IKO - a premiere performance in cooperation with the Graz based soundmanufacture sonible under the umbrella of the newly founded transnational production platform **Re-Imagine Europe**, which *Elevate* is a part of since 2018.



NOSAJ THING



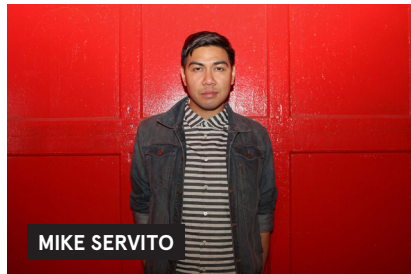
KAMAAL WILLIAMS



IGLOOGHOST



OBJEKT



MIKE SERVITO



UMFANG

LGBT hip-hop from New York, Cloud Rap and Polyrhythmic Techno - Friday night on two floors

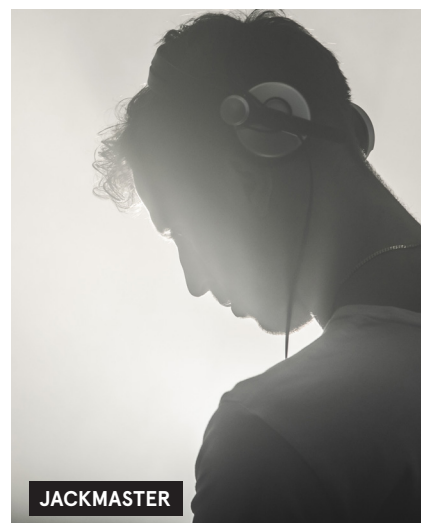
Friday night at the Elevate Dom im Berg is all about hip-hop, beats and cloud rap. The artist **Nosaj Thing**, originally from Korea, will be flown in from sunny California. Known to a wider audience as a producer of hip-hop heavyweights like *Kendrick Lamar* and *Busdriver*, he will grace Graz with a laser show that creates a kind of temporary sculpture of light and fog to accompany highly advanced club sounds, wide-ranging basses, and flashy hip-hop cuts. Also from the States - Brooklyn to be precise - comes the young shooting star **Cakes da Killa**, who, rapping at Busta Rhymes-speed, has been conjuring up the fingernail-coloured brilliance of a queer avant-garde in US hip-hop since 2015. Also on stage: The newcomer and Flying Lotus protégé **Iglooghost**, the Viennese cloud rap star **Wandl** and the South London keyboard player and producer **Kamaal Williams**, who will be presenting his new album that drops that very day, backed by his live band. The head behind the duo *Yussef Kamaal* is currently regarded as one of the most energetic musicians in UK fusion jazz. Gilles Peterson quickly got him onto his

label Brownswood Recordings; an energetically captivating, melodically urban highlight on stage.

Simultaneously, the second stage, the *Tunnel*, provides a space for acid, techno and wave. Making their Austrian debut, for example, the resident of the New York club The Bunker **Mike Servito** and the co-founder of the Discwoman collective Emma Olson aka **Umfang** will share a stage. Emma Olson is widely known as co-founder of the **Discwoman** collective, an outlet which challenges the still-to-be-widely-acknowledged exclusive male power in contemporary club culture with their amorphous, polyrhythmic techno sound. You can also look forward to the detailed, eruptive sound designs of the young producer **Objekt**, who lives in Berlin. With his fragile beats, the technically extremely agile DJ has been infiltrating all kinds of techno conventions for some time now, without foregoing a good mix of EBM, Acid House & Electro.



CAKES THE KILLA



JACKMASTER

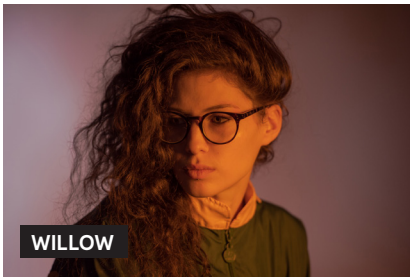
The final club night on Saturday: Unconditional party euphoria, Ghetto House and Industrial on three stages at Dom im Berg

If you want to warm up after the techno summit on Saturday's open-air stage, you can walk from the top of the *Schlossberg* mountain to the warming walls of the Dom Im Berg tunnel in just a few minutes. This is where the **Numbers Label Night** will go down. The legendary label, which has propelled artists such as *Jamie XX*, *Hudson Mohawke* and *Rustie* to fame, has been influencing the world of bass music with psycho-exotic magic and unconditional party euphoria via Glasgow since 2003. Head honcho and label founder Jack Revill aka **Jackmaster** is second in the world ranking of the most sought-after DJs according to Resident Advisor. And indeed, the Scotsman and particularly his eclectically versatile sets is omnipresent on the world's stages, which puts not only his label but also himself amidst a whole flood of legends. In addition to him, the musician **Willow**, whose debut *Feel Me* provided decisive impulses at the interface between Ambient Techno, Left-Field and House back in 2015. Equally crucial to this lineup is the Italian techno pioneer **Marco Passarani**, who is also known to some as half of the disco duo *Tiger&Woods*. Another vital part of the label night is **Errorsmith**, who will be packing his first album after a 13-year hiatus. High-energy Samba leanings meet wild synth drones, riding up and down spectral tones like a computer-animated wave ride. The Berlin club veteran

Eric Wiegand - Errorsmith's government name - has actually been experimenting with compositional principles for years, which are based on the *Musique Spectrale* by modifying the timbre of the entire sound spectrum - a rare listening experience made all the more thrilling by the live club setting.

Hailing from the United States, ghetto house pioneer **DJ Deeon** will be bringing the raw, sample-heavy Chicago tracks with which he propitiated house and hip-hop culture on his Dancemania label back in the 90s. Saturday at Elevate, he can be found on the *Tunnel* stage, which is dedicated entirely to the crossover genre of ghetto house, which he played a decisive role in shaping. He is accompanied by Teklife member **DJ Taye**, who will present his latest rap-footwork album, due for release on Hyperdub in February. Also on board is the Portuguese artist **Nidia**, whose work is strongly influenced by Kuduro rhythms and whose latest album *Nidia é Má, Nidia é Fudida* has received euphoric reviews from such diverse music magazines as *The Wire*, *Pitchfork* and *The Quietus*.

On Saturday, the third stage of the final club night - the *Dungeon* - presents the legendary formation **Nurse With Wound** made up of Steven Stapleton, Andrew Liles, Colin Potter and





NURSE WITH WOUND



CATERINA BARBIERI



ANA THREAT



GREG FOX

Sarah Redpath, which was last seen in Austria more than 10 years ago. Their 100+ releases combine loop-based industrial music with pulsating hypnotic psychoacoustics. Frontman **Steven Stapleton** has been musically active for 30 years alongside artists and formations such as Sunn O))), Eberhard Kranemann (Kraftwerk) and David Tibet (Current 93). As Nurse With Wound, he and his band colleagues unite musique concrète, krautrock, free jazz and ambient.

Banging basses will then propel the accelerated industrial sounds of the former Napalm Death drummer **Mick Harris**. After more than 20 years he recently released another solo album. At Elevate, he will present a live A/V show under the pseudonym **FRET**. Alongside him: a new solo project by jazz musician and Kompost3 bassist Manu Mayr named **schtum**, experimental works from Graz by disco404 resident **Awo Ojiji** and the finest in polyrhythmics by the aspiring Italian minimalist musician and composer **Caterina Barbieri**.

The final chord of the 14th Elevate Festival will be struck by the almost traditional closing concert at the Orpheum on Sunday evenings. In addition to the already announced, exclusive Austrian concert by John Maus, Ana Threat and Greg Fox will join the stage. **John Maus**, the existential philosopher among synth-poppers, will be presenting his long-awaited fourth album "Screen Memories" after a 6-year hiatus. The playfully acerbic end-of-days mood that the political science Ph.D. composes with his homemade algorithms and analog modular synths, is staged live as a humorous and chaotic punk rock show. A rare stage experience! The stage will be fittingly set by **Ana Threat**. By day, as Kristina Pia Hofer, she develops lectures with titles like "Introduction to Gender Studies for Economics" or "Materiality and Theories of Cinematic Representation", by night she slips into the role of a riot punk who herself delivers the ironically broken substructure of her music performance: ghostly Lo-Fi-Garage-Sci-Fi-Disco-Trash is what she calls her music; performed live, the whole thing is a Tour de Force in a one-woman show - eccentric, anarchic, unpredictable. The preceding album presentation of the exceptional New York drummer **Greg Fox**, who is involved in numerous projects, including the cathartic expressive Ex-Eyes or the bone-dry freecore duo Guardian Alien, fits snugly between the likes of Ana Threat and John Maus. At Elevate, he presents his latest album: Bearing the graceful title "*The gradual Progression*" it dances between barely derailing improvisation, tribalistic devil worship and surprisingly catchy jazz grooves while retaining the primordial elements far out in the self-forgotten Nirvana, outside of ourselves, where rhythm and heartbeat are peacefully united in the infinite meter of the cosmos, where nobody can hear them.

Regular advance tickets released

Presale tickets are available now in several variations at elevate.at/tickets and ntry.at/elevatefestival2018 - while supplies last

**ELEVATE FESTIVAL
28. FEBRUARY - 04. MARCH 2018
GRAZ / AUSTRIA**

**KASEMATTEN / DOM IM BERG / ORPHEUM / MAUSOLEUM /
TUNNEL / DUNGEON / FORUM STADTPARK**

WITH

**DJ KOZE, BEN FROST W/ MFO, NOSAJ THING, JOHN MAUS, STEFFI, KAMAAL WILLIAMS,
ROMAN FLÜGEL, NURSE WITH WOUND, JACKMASTER, DJ DEEON, OBJEKT,
PETER BRODERICK, SOFIE, ERRORSMITH, MIKE SERVITO, NÍDIA, MICK HARRIS/FRET,
IGLOOGHOST, WILLOW, GREG FOX, UMFANG, DJ TAYE, MARCO PASSARANI,
CAKES DA KILLA, CATERINA BARBIERI, ANA THREAT,
SCHALLFELD ENSEMBLE W/ ONOXO, MIA ZABELKA & TINA FRANK, STEREOIST,
WANDL, ISON, FEELIPA, SPENCER, SHTUM, AWO OJIJI, FENNESZ + LILLEVAN LIVE AV,
B.FLEISCHMANN & BAND, MARIO BATKOVIC, WILL GUTHRIE, RASHAD BECKER,
KÖENIG & JORGE SÁNCHEZ-CHIONG, WÆLDER, HEAP & BOCKSRUCKER,
FOEHN & JEROME, JUJU LOVE RECORDS, PUSCHMANN,
ADRIANA CELENTANA, COLUMBUSH, FRANCOIS LA MER**

Further information:

<https://elevate.at/kontakt/presse>

Photos of locations, artists, guests and the recent festivals:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/elevatefestival/sets>

Links:

elevate.at

weare-europe.eu

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FURTHER INQUIRIES

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