

Curriculum vitae

Ulrike Ruf works as a musician, author and director combining the worlds of contemporary music, performance and theatre. The experience she has gained from working with these different genres led her to unconventional, interdisciplinary music theatre, where she combines sound, language and video with precise but minimalistic choreography.

Born in Berlin she studied violoncello at the Hochschule für Musik 'Hanns Eisler' Berlin with Michael Sanderling and Joseph Schwab. She played regularly with the Konzerthaus Orchester Berlin, performed as a soloist and with several chamber ensembles and orchestras in Germany, for example at the Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival, the Maerzmusic Festival and toured several other European countries.

A significant moment in her professional career was the encounter with Johann Kresnik and his choreographical theatre. For his productions *BSE – Garten der Lüste* and *Picasso* at the Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, she was engaged as cellist and actor/performer. She experienced Kresnik's unique stage language with his radical ways of expression and also had the opportunity to develop her parts in cooperation with the director.

In the piece *Mexotica 2002*, she performed together with the Mexican-American performance artist Guillermo Gómez-Peña at the Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz and gave her first free improvised cello performance.

Between 2007 and 2009 she participated in the KangKunstBühne with Ruedi Häusermann and Michael Lentz and experimented with different forms of experimental theatre music, sound poetry and text-sound compositions.

Since 2009 she has performed in the series *Improvisation* with Renate Graziadei, Susanne Linke, Anna Huber and members of „Sasha Waltz & Guests“ in the Laborgras studio.

She was nominated for the prize of the jury for the performance *Soupversion* at the “Arena Festival...” in 2009 in Erlangen (restaging 2010 at HAU 2 Berlin).

In 2010 she was awarded the Elsa-Neumann-Scholarship by the state of Berlin for her research on the music theatre project *SORORI*.

SORORI was performed on stage in 2011 in cooperation with the Vocalconsort Berlin as part of the festival Klangwerkstatt Berlin.

With Trio XelmYa, an ensemble for contemporary music, she was invited to the festival “mathias spahlinger at 70” in Chicago (2015).

In 2016 she was selected for the Research Scholarship of the Berliner Senat.

For the project *SMER – The Riot of Seduction*, that was shown on the Klarafestival in Antwerp she worked together with the Solistenensemble Kaleidoskop.

In 2017 the premiere of her documentary music theatre project *Volk unter Verdacht* about the secret service of the former GDR got a lot of media attention. It was a cooperation with the composer Iris ter Schiphorst and the Vocalconsort Berlin in Radialsystem V Berlin.

In 2020 the concert/performance/installation *Viola Solo* had its premiere.

The music film *STIMMENüberLEBEN* was awarded the OPUS KLASSIK 2021.

She is member of ZMB (Zeitgenössisches Musiktheater in Berlin).