

## ***Electronics mixed with classical at Christiania***

*Over the four music-packed days from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September when Nordic Music Days is presenting a succession of the most exciting composers in the Nordic countries, you can say goodbye to all the hoary traditions about how a classical concert should be experienced. The scene is set for live electronics, DJ-lounge, the Danish National Girls' Choir in its Christiania version, samplings of Vivaldi, and good food and drink in easygoing Copenhagen surroundings.*

For Nordic Music Days the aim is clear: the festival wants to reach out to a new public and show that contemporary Nordic composers have a lot to offer them. So all the traditions have been turned on their heads: you won't be going to the concert hall, but to Borups Højskole, Christiania or the Copenhagen Music Theatre. You don't have to know anything about the music in advance, since there are hosts who guide the audience through the evening's programme. You can take a 'breather' along the way and eat in the bistro or chug a large beer. As an extra bonus for the audience, talk shows have been arranged with composers and musicians, where they present their own works and the ideas behind the music. This way audiences can be introduced to music that isn't necessary everyday fare for everyone.

Peter Bruun, artistic director of Nordic Music Days, says: *"At Nordic Music Days we are presenting artists who are cool, experiment with an electronic sound and classical instruments, interpret our time and seek a dialogue with the world around them. We want to create a framework you don't normally associate with classical music, but which we think in many ways suits it better. At the festival it will be fun, congenial and relaxing for people to meet one another and together experience some brand new music."*

### **Nordic festival – this year in Copenhagen**

The festival of contemporary music Nordic Music Days is held every year in one of the Nordic countries. This year it is Denmark's turn to host the festival. The programme includes the composers Kaija Saariaho, Malin Bång, Rolf Wallin, Sunleif Rasmussen and Bent Sørensen, who are among the most interesting Nordic composers today. You can also meet exciting young composers like Dygong or Simon Steen-Andersen, the latter of whom recently won the International Grand Prix for Composers in Lisbon with the work *Overtures*. His work *Next to beside besides* is to be played at the Nordic Music Days 2010 by the Swedish ensemble Peärns Before Swine Experience, who will also be receiving the Prize of the Council of Nordic Composers 2010 during the Nordic Music Days.

### **DR Concert Hall to be filled with children and classics**

A special focus area for this year's Nordic Music Days is the encounter of New Music with children and Youth. Third-to-fifth graders from all over Denmark have been working throughout the past year with five selected works. On 10<sup>th</sup> September they will be performed in a grand concert in the DR Concert Hall, where more than 3000 children will be able to experience the music they have been working with during their lessons. In addition the festival programme is presenting a series of workshops and concert projects for and not least with children and young people from all over the Nordic countries.

**Explore the full programme for Nordic Music Days 2010 at [www.nordicmusicdays2010.org](http://www.nordicmusicdays2010.org).**

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**About Nordic Music Days**

The festival Nordic Music Days was held for the first time in 1888 and is one of the world's oldest and most respected festivals of contemporary music. Nordic Music Days is distinctive in the sense that it is the composers themselves who organize the festival, and that each it year it tours to one of the five Nordic countries. Nordic Music Days 2010 is organized by the Danish Composers' Association for the Nordic Composers' Council.

This year's focus is on forging closer links between music and the public. This focus is evident not only in the structuring of the many concerts, but also in the seminars, workshops etc. Over the four days the festival lasts it is expected that more than 6000 guests from Denmark and abroad will attend the many different events. – including 2000 children who will either be participating in school concerts and workshops or will themselves be playing music at the festival. Read more about the festival at [www.nordicmusicdays2010.org](http://www.nordicmusicdays2010.org)