

CONTEMPORARY
COMPOSED
MUSIC
IN THE CZECH
REPUBLIC
ENSEMBLES
FESTIVALS
CONCERT SERIES
2025

FORFEST

FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY ART WITH A SPIRITUAL FOCUS

forfest.cz

Forfest first appeared on the international scene in the mid-1990s, with the aim of connecting progressive trends in contemporary music and visual art, both of which embrace new and current approaches to profound spiritual themes in the history of art. Since then, the festival has maintained a singular focus. Its programming features works by international composers within a relatively broad philosophical framework. In doing so, it creates a space for a vital dialogue between art and our predominantly consumerist society, as well as a conversation among the major world religions addressing the pressing issues of today.

Forfest is a recipient of the Award of the Czech Music Council and has been a member of the prestigious European Conference of New Music for over three decades. In 2015, the festival joined the association Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe. The event features numerous exhibitions and concerts, including premieres of works by contemporary composers, and showcases leading soloists, ensembles, and artists from Europe and North America.

An important part of the festival for many years has been POSTFEST, a course for young composers featuring an international teaching team, as well as informal meetings between musicians and artists in the Garden Studio. In 2025, the course will be led by composers Pavel Zemek Novák, Radim Bednařík, and Vojtěch Mojžíš. For the general public, there are the Conversations on Music, which provide opportunities for composers from Czechia and abroad to present their music.

The 2025 edition was produced in collaboration with leading Czech and international institutions and artistic associations. Performers included Nicola Baroni, Massimiliano Messieri, Ondrej Olos, VOX IUVENALIS, Ensemble OYO San Marino, the Sedláček Quartet, Jozef Lupták, Hana Ryšavá, Milan Pařa, Lukáš Herůdek, Pavel Popelka, Barbara Sabella, Jan Meisl, Barbora Šteflová, and others.