

# WIENER FEST WOCHEN

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AKADEMIE  
**ZWEITE**  
MODERNE

GLOBAL WOMEN  
COMPOSERS PLATFORM

February 6th, 2024 (10–11 AM)

## OPENING PRESS CONFERENCE AND PROJECT LAUNCH

Austrian Cultural Forum New York  
11 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022

austrian cultural forum<sup>nyc</sup>

With

**MELINA TSIAMOS**

Deputy Director Austrian Cultural Forum New York

**MILO RAU**

Artistic Director Wiener Festwochen

**JANA BECKMANN**

Concept, Dramaturgy Wiener Festwochen

**DUYUN**

Composer & Pulitzer Prize Winner

Please confirm your attendance by February 2nd,  
via email to [suzieflores0130@gmail.com](mailto:suzieflores0130@gmail.com)

February 7th, 2024 (6:30 PM)

## BEYOND THE 2% – A MANIFESTO RAISING THE BAR FOR WOMEN COMPOSERS

Segal Theatre, GC CUNY

Elebash Recital Concert Hall,  
365 Fifth Avenue, AT 34th street New York

With

representatives from New York art institutions,  
Vienna Festwochen Festival artistic director Milo Rau,  
and others.

Please register under: <https://t1p.de/ggqf1>

WIENER  
FESTWOCHEN  
IN NEW YORK

**DID YOU KNOW THAT ONLY 2% OF THE WORKS INCLUDED IN CONCERT SUBSCRIPTIONS HAIL FROM WOMEN? DID YOU KNOW THAT ONLY 7.7% OF WORKS PERFORMED BY ORCHESTRAS WORLDWIDE HAIL FROM WOMEN?**

If the development towards equality continues to progress at the same rate as in the past decades, an equitable future will remain a distant prospect.

With the start of the new artistic directorship under Milo Rau the Wiener Festwochen found the *Academy Second Modernism*, a global platform that demands and promotes the visibility of women composers.

Vienna is considered the capital of modernism, exemplified in music by Arnold Schönberg's revolutionary soundscape. Yet, this modernity remains incomplete: eurocentric, masculine, elitist.

The Wiener Festwochen, with Nuria Schoenberg Nono as patron, are globalising modernism, making it more female and lead it into the present. Second Modernism wants to make good on the promise of modernism at long last, as a global platform of women composers in Vienna.

The aim of the *Academy Second Modernism* is the voluntary commitment of theatres, operas, festivals, concert halls and ensembles to significantly increase the proportion of works by women composers in their programmes.

For each of the 50 female composition students of Schönberg who were forgotten or unheard in the past, the Wiener Festwochen will work together with Arnold Schönberg Center to welcome contemporary women composers from the whole world – in accordance with the number of Schönberg's female students: 10 per year of the course of 5 years, starting from 2024.

As ambassadors of Second Modernism the invited composers will present their compositions on two evenings (June 8 and 9). They will be performed by Klangforum Wien. During the day, the women composers develop strategies of visibility, form networks together and, as initiators of the music and theatre landscape, engage in public discourse with experts on this topic.

February 6th, 2024 (10–11 AM)

Press conference, Austrian Cultural Forum, NYC

**ACADEMY SECOND MODERNISM**

**GLOBAL WOMEN COMPOSERS PLATFORM IN VIENNA**

Presenting the global women composers platform, the members of the international Academy Second Modernism jury and the first women composers whose pieces will be performed by Klangforum Wien in Vienna in 2024. One of the participants american composer, performance artist, activist and winner of the Pulitzer-Prize Du Yun will be present at the conference.

February 7th, 2024 (6:30 PM)

Panel, Segal Center, NYC

**BEYOND THE 2% – A MANIFESTO\***

**RAISING THE BAR FOR WOMEN COMPOSERS**

Vienna Festwochen Festival and the Segal Center will host a panel in New York on Feb. 7th, 6:30 PM calling for action to address the devastating current state of representation when it comes to women composers in music spaces especially in opera houses and in concert halls. Join us to create and sign a global manifesto demanding immediate change and decolonization in a still deeply entrenched patriarchal field resisting to change. With representatives from New York art institutions, Vienna Festwochen Festival artistic director Milo Rau, and others.

\* A 2021 study discovered that only 2 % of music in subscription concerts in Germany has been created by women.

**NO EXCUSES  
ANYMORE**

„We bring together women composers and cultural institutions worldwide as ambassadors of the Second Modernism. Together we want to change structures of inequality in the music world.“

**JANA BECKMANN**

„When someone is actually meaning to take action, there is a way.  
No excuses anymore.“

**NURIA SCHOENBERG NONO**

„This percentage shows how things really stand in the concert business, namely in terms of gender equality and diversity in general: extremely bad. Two percent female representation is so shamefully low that there is only one thing left to do as cultural institutions: truly undertake everything we can to change this.“

**MILO RAU**