

DUO GROSS & SCHOUTEN

cello & (bass)clarinet

2025/26



Kollisionen

Doina Rotaru (1951): *Masks* for cello and bass clarinet, 1989/ 2023
Rozalie Hirs (1969): *bee sage* for cello & (contrabass)clarinet, 2023 **
Gerhard Stäbler (1949): *5 Capricci* for cello solo, 2022 (part of Katharina Gross' project cellomondo)
Kunsu Shim (1958): *12 Things*, 2005/rev. 2016
Enno Poppe: *Holz* for bass clarinet, 1999/ 2015 (composed for Fie Schouten)
Seung-Won Oh (1969): *Modular 3 for Two*, cello & bass clarinet, 2022 **
Tolga Tüzün (1971): *Dyssynchrony*, cello & bass clarinet, 2023 **
Füsün Köksal (1973): *Word by Word*, cello & bass clarinet, 2023 **
Dimitris Andrikopoulos (1971): *When you see...*, cello & bass clarinet, 2023 **

** written for Duo Gross & Schouten

In the concert program *Kollisionen*, the audience gets to feel and hear a contrasting program up close. In her composition *Modual 3 for Two*, Seung-Won Oh explores the boundaries of the audible. The result of her curiosity is a fascinating "silence" that can be experienced almost meditatively by the audience thanks to the extremely subtle sounds and noises on both instruments. This perception is also captivated by the spatial concept of the work, as the two musicians sit far apart in the room. The work of Istanbul-based composer Tolga Tüzün also likes to experiment with spatial concepts. His new work lives up to the motto "collisions", as rhythmic overlapping, microtonal progressions and contrasting individual chords and tones collide in his exciting composition style. The concept of collision also flows into the new work by Dutch spectral composer Rozalie Hirs.

Verduin & Jakober

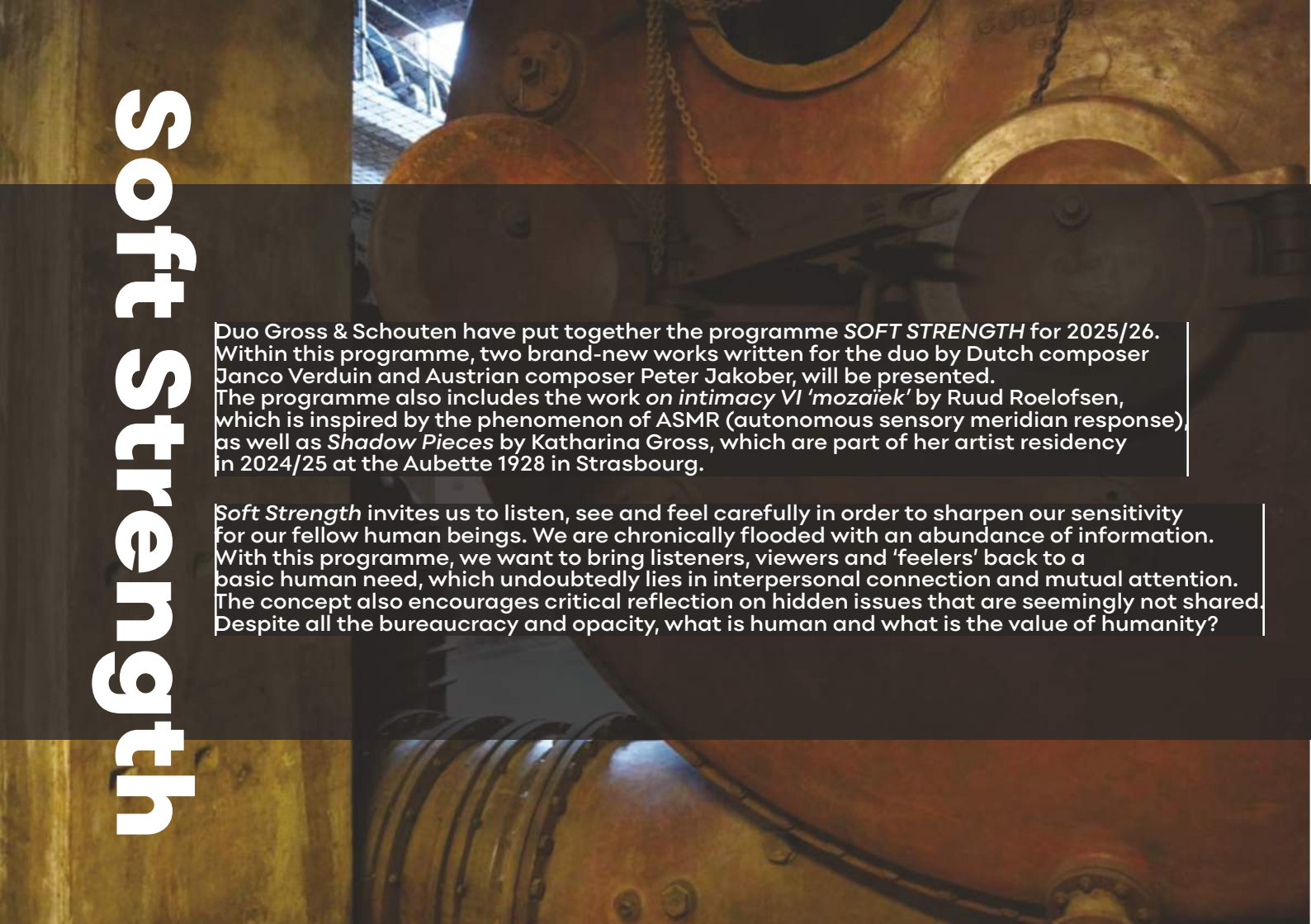
"Recently I have been engaged in swift and bat research, and I want to express these experiences in a piece for bass clarinet, cello and soundtrack, with the working title a night at the outdoor museum. In the new piece for cello and bass clarinet, on the one hand, I want to create a subjective, poetic sounding of the experiences during a typical evening, night and morning: the swifts scurrying around and searching for their nests around sunset, the bats just waking up and flying out. On the other hand, I want to make the "inaudible" of the night audible: bats use (ultrasonic) echolocation to navigate and hunt insects. The insects in turn try to disrupt this by making ultrasonic anti-echolocation sounds. With a so-called batlogger, I made recordings of these sounds and these, transposed to human range, will serve as the basis for the piece. In addition, I want to make ultrasonic recordings of both instruments and see if there is anything in the inaudible part and make it audible.

JANCO VERDUIN

"In my music, pre-recorded material is often juxtaposed with human playing. The technique I often use, in which the human plays with clicks (mostly tempopolyphonically layered), also points to a central parameter of my work: the human tries to react to the precisely constructed click of the "machine", but can never be as exact as it. Somehow also a kind of dehumanization. Not only as a pessimistic vision, but for me as an exciting sonic exploration of the transitions. In my new work for cello, (bass)clarinet and tape, prerecorded progressions are continued in increasingly rapid alternations of the live instrument in a slightly changing tempo. This leads to acousmatic processes where it is no longer possible to clearly assign artificial and live sound: the cause and effect of the sound seem to separate from each other."

PETER JAKOBER

Soft Strength



Duo Gross & Schouten have put together the programme *SOFT STRENGTH* for 2025/26. Within this programme, two brand-new works written for the duo by Dutch composer Janco Verduin and Austrian composer Peter Jakober, will be presented. The programme also includes the work on *intimacy VI 'mozaïek'* by Ruud Roelofsen, which is inspired by the phenomenon of ASMR (autonomous sensory meridian response), as well as *Shadow Pieces* by Katharina Gross, which are part of her artist residency in 2024/25 at the Aubette 1928 in Strasbourg.

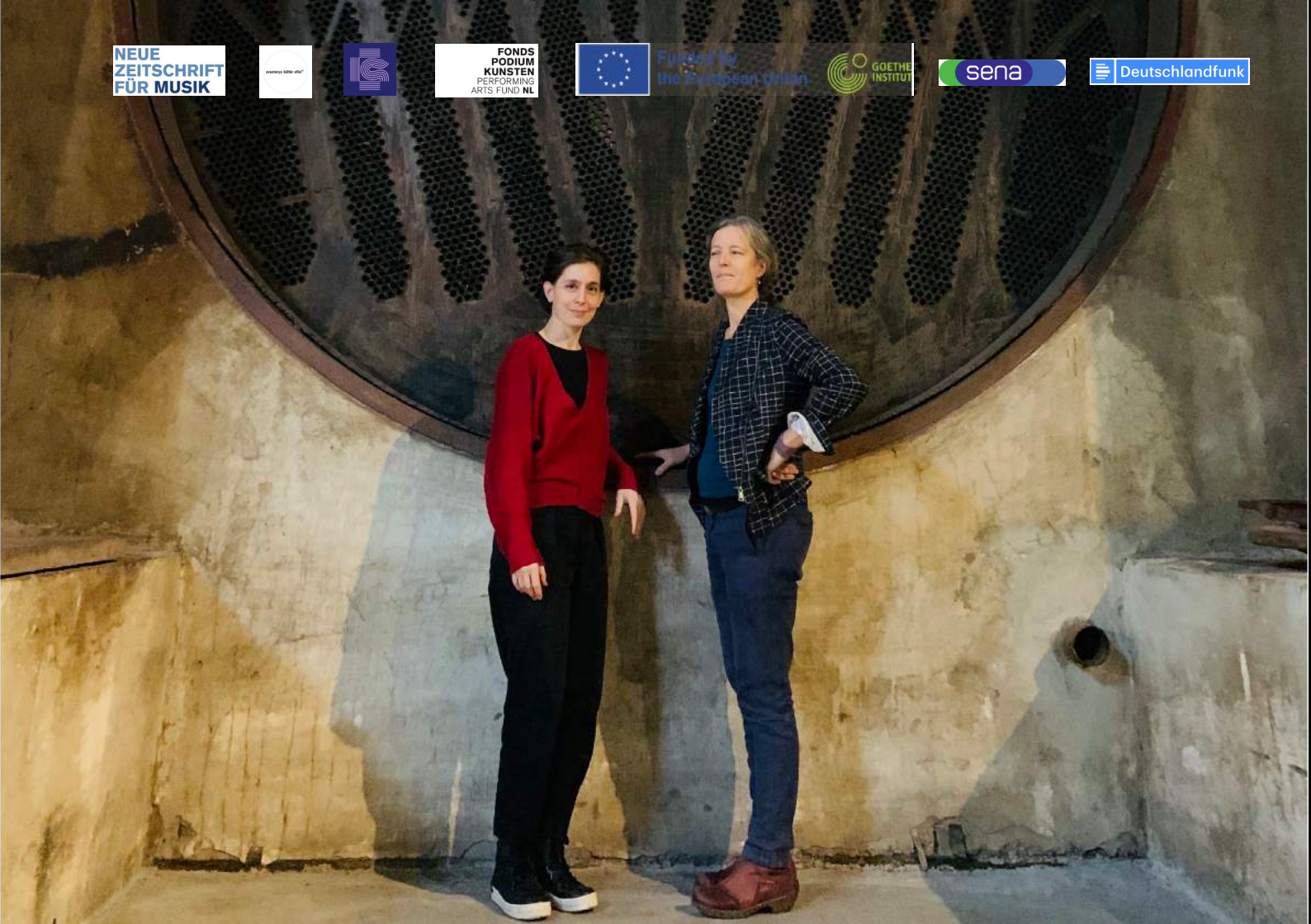
Soft Strength invites us to listen, see and feel carefully in order to sharpen our sensitivity for our fellow human beings. We are chronically flooded with an abundance of information. With this programme, we want to bring listeners, viewers and 'feelers' back to a basic human need, which undoubtedly lies in interpersonal connection and mutual attention. The concept also encourages critical reflection on hidden issues that are seemingly not shared. Despite all the bureaucracy and opacity, what is human and what is the value of humanity?



Helmut Lachenmann: *Allegro sostenuto* (1987/88)
for clarinet/bass clarinet, cello and piano
Wolfgang Rihm: *Chiffre IV*
for bass clarinet, cello and piano (1983/84)

with guest Ji-Youn Song, piano

Allegro Sostenuto



Duo Gross & Schouten

The duo consisting of bass clarinetist Fie Schouten and Katharina Gross is dedicated to a contemporary, international repertoire that treats the instruments in a gestural and primal way and celebrates low frequencies and near-speech sounds with a particular delight in creaking, buzzing and clattering in order to cast them in experimental forms. The duo starts their first concert season with new works written for the duo by Dutch composers Seung-Won Oh and Jan van de Putte. New works by Rozalie Hirs, Füsün Köksal, Tolga Tüzün and Doina Rotaru followed. The duo performed on tour in Austria in October 2022, supported by the Performing Arts Fund NL, followed by concerts in the Netherlands (nieuwe noten amsterdam, Moderne Muziek Nijmegen a.o.) and concerts and master classes/workshops in Turkey, Portugal and Germany a.o.

Dates

May 2025 Interdisciplinary Artist Residency @Lademoen KunstnervestederTrondheim, Norwegen
25 April 2025 Soft Strength @Aubette 1928 Strasbourg (collaboration with Association Theo van Doesburg)
15 April 2025 Soft Strength @De Link Tilburg
13 April 2025 Soft Strength @Nieuwe Noten Amsterdam
29 Nov 2024 Allegro Sostenuto @Sounds of Music Festival Groningen
17 Nov 2024 Moderne Muziek Nijmegen
8–10 Nov 2024 Soft Strength @Meridian International Festival Bucharest

July 2024 CD registration „bee sage“ for label Attacca
26 May 2024 neue musik st. ruprecht, Vienna
30 April 2024 Unerhörte Musik Berlin
Dec 2023 Portugal: concerts at Dias de Música Electroacústica & master classes in Lisbon, Porto & Seia
8 Dec 2023 European Clarinet Congress Tilburg (NL)
Nov 2023 Turkey: concerts at New Music Days Izmir, Bilgi New Music Festival; workshops at Bilgi University (Istanbul)
8 Oct 2023 Gaudeamus, Utrecht

Info

<https://www.katharinagross.at/project/duo-fie-schouten-katharina-gross/>

<http://fieschouten.nl/projects/grossschouten/>