

Biography

Maximilian Wolfgang Schwarz was born in Vienna in 1997. He started playing the drumset in Geneva at the age of five. When he was seven, the family moved to Bielefeld, where he expanded his musical spectrum to include classical percussion at the music and art school. He played in numerous bands and won various awards at classical music competitions. Between 2015 and 2020, he studied percussion/pop and world music with classical music at the Rostock University of Music and Theatre under Prof. Dietrich Wöhrlin and Prof. Jan-Frederick Behrend. Max Schwarz studied classical percussion there with Prof Jan-Frederick Behrend, Prof Henrik Magnus Schmidt and Prof Torsten Schönfeld until 2022. From 2022 to 2024, he studied classical solo percussion with Prof. Alexej Gerassimez at the HMT Munich, where he has been continuing these studies in the postgraduate programme 'Excellence in Performance' since 2024.

Max Schwarz gained further inspiration in various masterclasses with international greats such as Benny Greb, Hakim Ludin, Robby Ameen, Zoro The Drummer and David Friedman. He gained a deep insight into Latin American music in a tango workshop with bandoneon virtuoso and Grammy award winner Raul Jaurena. This was followed by a joint concert. Maximilian also received private lessons from Simone Rubino in preparation for his participation in the German Music Competition in 2021.

Max Schwarz is interested in the exchange with other arts, he is a two-time winner of the 'hmt-Interdisziplinär' competition and has participated in several theatre plays as a stage musician and musical director/composer. Since 2016, he has not only been active as a percussionist, but also as a composer and producer in the fields of classical music, film and avant-garde pop. His most important compositions to date are the sonata 'Transition Void I - III' and the concertino 'zeiten(w)ende'. Max Schwarz is co-founder and drummer of the neurofunk/post-rock band CozmicRip (since 2016) and the new music/electronica trio maTrigal (since 2019).

Since participating in Edition Svitzer's first edition of their composition competition 'STELLAR Composition Competition' in 2021, where Max Schwarz won second prize for his marimba solo 'Constellations I', his works are published with Edition Svitzer. Since 2023 he has also been working as a producer for the associated newly founded label Svitzer Music.

"It's the best piece I have ever come across that explores sound effects on the marimba in a really musical way. It is the essence of the piece rather than an 'addition'. Maximilian is absolutely superb and the video work is really well done."

- Dame Evelyn Glennie about "Constellations I"

In 2022, Edition Svitzer released 'Tricolon C' for set-up solo and electronics, the marimba set-up trio 'Beyond Kafala' - which he composed on the occasion of the invitation to participate in the artistic programme of the German Pavilion at the 'World Expo 2021' in January 2022, in protest against the catastrophic working conditions of the workers there - and the snare drum solo 'Fast Radio Bursts'. In March 2023, his first solo EP was released on Svitzer Music, distributed by The Orchard and available on all streaming platforms. His latest work for multi-percussion set-up solo 'Echoes A (Memories of Agbogbloshie)' followed in 2024 as a critique of globalised over-consumption and its serious consequences.

www.maxschwarz.eu