



Stichting Ensemble Resilience

Policy plan 2022-2024

Introduction

Stichting Ensemble Resilience is the legal body of the cutting-edge Amsterdam-based music group Ensemble Resilience. The Stichting addresses its activities towards the research, development and sharing of contemporary music and the use of the most recent innovations in music technology. To pursue its goals, Stichting Ensemble Resilience organises concerts (both with a national and international scope), produces audio/video recordings and other forms of (digital) media, and collaborates with composers, dancers, writers, directors, and other art disciplines.

Collaboration

Since its formation in 2019, Ensemble Resilience has set up informal and open collaborations with composers. The musicians are engaged from the first stage of music creation in a fearless and open-minded dialogue between composer and performer. Through this informal approach, already several personal and artistic relations with composers have been established. These composers are more than happy to keep creating music for the extended sound potential of Ensemble Resilience.

Ensemble Resilience offers (young) composers a friendly place to expand the limits of their imagination, unlock a potentially limitless palette of sounds, and discuss, develop and experiment with their musical ideas. Such an approach allows Ensemble Resilience to present a comprehensive array of music, ultimately benefiting and enriching the Dutch cultural life.

The Stichting supports this idea by seeking collaboration with higher education music institutes locally and abroad.

Audience

Contemporary music should not be a scary proposition for audiences. The performances of Ensemble Resilience are always informal; short introductions to the music guide the listeners through mesmerising musical landscapes and offer them a remarkable artistic experience.

The importance of the “Live composition project”

Together with composer Rubens Askenar, Ensemble Resilience has recently developed a software that allows one or more composers to manipulate prepared musical material in real-time. The

musicians read and interpret visual images used as "score input", combining video graphics with traditional musical notation, improvised in performance by the composers.

This project aims to prove that there are opportunities to rethink the social role of the artistic process: technology can make it widely accessible within society. We want to make this software a tool for amateur musicians and young aspiring composers (of any age) to approach musical creation through an intuitive new method of composition, respecting the collaborative and collective nature of human beings. The interface is adaptable to any level of complexity, making this process suitable for workshops addressed to students and amateur musicians.

How we operate

Ensemble Resilience is a collective of highly trained musicians who have already distinguished themselves playing in prestigious classical and contemporary music festivals. It forms a powerful, dynamic, and democratic team, working flexibly, informally, and efficiently.

The ensemble members are responsible for the various management tasks alongside their musical performance. Natálie Kulina plays the violin and manages social media and PR activities. Marco Danesi plays the clarinets and coordinates financial procedures with the accountant. Tomek Szczepaniak plays MATER and is responsible for seeking out new composers. Composer Pablo Galaz is our sound designer responsible for technical matters and sound engineering. Paolo Gorini plays the keyboards, and he is the group's founder. Composer Gerardo Gozzi assists Pablo Galaz, and he is responsible for coordinating the artistic projects together with Paolo Gorini.

Paolo and Gerardo function as artistic directors, creating a bridge between the musicians and the outside world, as well as with the Stichting board.

Artistic profile

Ensemble Resilience is an innovative project group that aims to bring a new sound concept to the contemporary music landscape. Its uniqueness stems from the synergy of three of the most elegant and expressive acoustic instruments, violin, clarinet and piano, and two recently invented electronic instruments. These are Seaboard® by Roli (London) and MATER, a percussion set created by the ensemble members. The sound world of Ensemble Resilience fluctuates on the thin line between acoustic and electronic; the group's activities explore the relation, dialogue, and contrast between the analogue and the digital world, pursuing a musical interaction between human and machine.

Business profile

Incomes

Stichting Ensemble Resilience has three main sources of income.

Concert venues and music festivals hosting the group provide a buy-out sum. Besides that, grant applications to public and private funds, both local and international, are a structural part of the Stichting funding. Finally, the group aims to attract private donors by organising special events and offering unique perks to create a long-lasting "fan base".

Special events include close door concerts for donors, and perks include free tickets for performances and free merchandise

Assets' management

The organisation uses its assets to realise artistic projects according to its stated objectives, thus facing various expenses.

The most tangible items are the artists' wages and production costs. The latter include, for example, travel and accommodation of musicians and collaborators coming from abroad, and the renting of rehearsal space.

Through paid advertisements in various media such as newspapers, radio and television, billboards, social media, and printed promotional material, Ensemble Resilience seeks to expand the visibility of its activities and increasingly attract the public's attention.

Moreover, the Stichting want to invest in musical equipment to widen the technical possibilities and slowly become independent from rental companies. The Stichting also aims to create a financial buffer to deal with unforeseen expenses.

Depending on the nature of the project, the Stichting collaborates with professionals from other artistic fields. For instance, if the group undertakes a theatre-based performance, a stage director is hired, or a light designer when a project's visual aspect is crucial. The Stichting also employs external professionals, such as a video maker, to realise a professional video recording or an engaging promotional video.

Short term projects

Gaudeamus festival

Ensemble Resilience initiated a collaboration with one of the most established contemporary music festivals and organisations in Europe: Gaudeamus.

The goal was to select a group of composers via a Call-for-scores and invite them to write for Ensemble Resilience. After receiving more than fifty applications, the group's final selection fell on five artists with robust musical personalities and distinct compositional approaches. Ensemble Resilience will perform the five brand-new compositions during the Gaudeamus festival on September 11th.

Residency at Conservatorium van Amsterdam

In line with the educative aspect of the group, the Stichting wants to offer the composition students of the Conservatorium van Amsterdam the chance to work and create with the unique sound blend of Ensemble Resilience. The plan features regular meetings/workshops with the interested students throughout the academic year 2022/2023, aiming to realise a new composition for their final artistic portfolio. Moreover, working alongside young creators allows the group to spot and foster new and long term collaborations.

Board

The board of Stichting Ensemble Resilience encompasses professionals with vast experience within and knowledge of the Dutch cultural and entrepreneurial sector.

The board meets with the artistic directors twice a year, or more if needed, to evaluate all the aspects of the organisation; these include the financial status, the artistic vision and the organisational developments, alongside all other ongoing matters. The board has shown unconditional support and provided precious support in the first year of activities.

The board features Arnold Marinissen, chairman and coordinator of new music, Master research, and Creative Performance Lab at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam; Ike Overdiep, Treasurer/ Secretary, amateur cellist and founder of the organisation Opus 8; Paul Op de Coul, board member and Professor Emeritus of Musicology at Utrecht University.

Stichting Ensemble Resilience is legally registered at the Chamber of Commerce in Amsterdam since June 17th 2021.

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