

PRESS RELEASE

BESCHALLUNGSFREI – THE CAMPAIGN TO STAMP OUT ACOUSTIC POLLUTION

No Music Day 2009 with Bill Drummond

On November 21, the loudspeakers get switched off in Linz

“A day completely without music is an unattainable utopia, something highly desirable and, at the same time, an absolute nightmare,” is how **Bill Drummond** describes No Music Day. The British musician, artist and activist who’s best known as one of the stars of the pop group The KLF launched No Music Day in 2005 by initiating a 5-year plan that’s about to expire. Since its inception, there’s been growing participation in and public observance of a day without music held annually on November 21—the day before the feast of St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music.

At the invitation of Linz09’s **Acoustic City** initiative, Bill Drummond is spending the last No Music Day that he’ll be coordinating personally in Linz. Thus, Europe’s 2009 Capital of Culture will be the epicenter of international No Music Day activities. “On this day without music, everyone is invited to give some thought to the role music plays in his/her life by dispensing with it for a day,” is the agenda of Acoustic City mastermind **Peter Androsch**. No Music Day Linz will be accompanied by a **program of events**.

Bill Drummond in Linz

At the next installment of the “**Vom Hören der Welt**” (On Hearing the World) discussion series on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 7 PM in **Wissensturm Linz**, Bill Drummond will be chatting with music journalist/musician Rainer Krispel. Admission is free!

The lead-in to the day without music begins at 8 PM on Friday, November 20, 2009 in the **Solaris Bar of the OK Center for Contemporary Art**, with none other than **DJ DSL** (Hamburg/Vienna) hosting a set. The high point comes at the stroke of midnight, when Bill Drummond officially kicks off No Music Day.

Activities on No Music Day get underway early Saturday evening. Bill Drummond invites one and all to enjoy a bowl of the **soup** he’ll be cooking up personally beginning at 6 PM in the

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OK Center for Contemporary Art. This casual culinary get-together also provides a great opportunity to engage in the fine art of conversation with the artist himself.

Movimiento Cinema will be screening two totally **music-free films** by outstanding American director James Benning: “Ten Skies” at 6 PM and “13 Lakes” at 8. At 10:30, Bill Drummond will **discuss** No Music Day at the Solaris Bar in the OK Center for Contemporary Art. Admission is free. Finally, at the stroke of midnight, No Music Day will conclude and Solaris’ turntables will begin spinning again. The musical honors go to a prominent guest: **Michael Fakesch** (Funkstörung).

Participants in Linz

Numerous Linz enterprises and organizations, shops, food & beverage establishments and cultural facilities have accepted the invitation extended jointly by Bill Drummond and Acoustic City to unplug their speakers on the occasion of No Music Day on November 21, 2009. Following the lead of BBC Radio Scotland, Linz’s **Radio FRO** has confronted its programming directors with the big challenge of coming up with nonmusical content for an entire broadcasting day. **Life Radio** will be airing an approximately two-hour-long special.

The soundscape at a number of the city’s commercial establishments will be a bit quieter than usual on November 21, 2009. A total of 122 **SPAR** supermarkets and all **Maximarkt** locations in Upper Austria will be observing No Music Day. Numerous merchants and managers of stores along Landstraße, Linz’s prime shopping street, have announced their support for a day without music. The list includes such leading retailers as **Peek & Cloppenburg, Diesel, Hugo Boss, Vögele, Eiler, Kleiderbauer** and **Gregor H+D**.

At **St. Ignatius’ Church (Old Cathedral)**, worshippers are celebrating Mass without the organ, a choir or liturgical music. The LED façade of the **Ars Electronica Center** will be publicizing No Music Day. Participating Linz cultural institutions include the **Brucknerhaus, Posthof** and **Stadtwerkstatt**. Other facilities observing a musical fast day are the approximately 140 **music schools of the Province of Upper Austria** as well as a number of Linz’s hippest cafés—**Strom, Druzba** and **Rother Krebsen**.

Invitation to Join In

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Bill Drummond and Acoustic City cordially invite the people of Linz to take part in No Music Day. The official website **www.nomusicday.com** offers you the opportunity to post remarks on your individual mode of observing—or intentionally violating—this music-free day. Participants are respectfully requested to make their participation in No Music Day known via e-mail to info@hoerstadt.at.

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