

Ansgar Beste, born 1981 in Malmö / Sweden, has studied composition at 7 music academies in 4 countries. His music has won several major international prizes and has been played in 17 countries, at 26 festivals, by 16 radio stations.

Ansgar Beste is focusing his musical material on complex sounds and noise elements produced on conventional musical instruments in an unconventional, purely acoustic (non-electronic) way: By de-familiarizing the instruments' familiar sound world with a wide array of extended playing and vocal techniques and newly discovered preparations, he likes to play with the listeners' expectation, perception, experience and comprehension.

His three main concerns in composing are: innovative sounds that bring music history forward, structuring of these sounds to clear processes as well as theatricality that enhances the live experience of music to a more holistic sensory perception.

Ansgar Beste's education includes an exam in church music 1996-98; exams in "kapellmeister", composition (Michael Obst), piano, music theory and arts management from the music academy of Weimar (Ger) 2002-10; a master and a soloist diploma degree in composition (Luca Francesconi) from the Malmö academy of music (Swe) 2007-12, comprising exchange studies with Adriana Hölszky in Salzburg (Aut) and with Wolfgang Rihm in Karlsruhe (Ger); as well as a soloist diploma degree in composition (Hanspeter Kyburz) from the Academy of Music Hanns Eisler in Berlin (Ger) 2011-13, comprising exchange studies with Beat Furrer in Graz (Aut). 2011-15 he attended PhD studies with Arnulf Mattes and Lasse Thoresen at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo (Nor).

Besides, he has received masterclass or private lessons from conductors like Jorma Panula, Howard Arman and Sylvain Cambreling as well as composers like Carola Bauckholt, Pierluigi Billone, Chaya Czernowin, James Dillon, Brian Ferneyhough, Helmut Lachenmann, Claus-Steffen Mahnkopf, Rebecca Saunders, Simon Steen-Andersen and Ming Tsao.

At competitions, Ansgar Beste won prizes like the 1st prize (*probability*: 1,21%) at the 55th Composition Prize of the State Capital Stuttgart 2010 (Ger), the 1st prize (1,59%) at the 6th International Composition Competition of the Christoph Delz Foundation in Basel 2015 (Sui), the ZEITklang award 2011 (6,94%) (Aut), the 2nd prize (9,52%) at Uppsala Composition Competition 2012 (Swe) and the 3rd prize (23,1%) from the Vokal Nord Chamber Choir 2015 (Nor).

He got competition commissions from the ISCM Austria 2011 (24,24%), from IRCAM and Ensemble intercontemporain / Tremplin (Fra) 2012 (4,79%), from the Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation (Ger) 2013/2015/2016, from SNIM (Aut) 2014 (12,5%) and for the Acusticum Organ (Swe) 2014 (3,8%).

In addition, he has received scholarships from institutions and foundations like Friedrich Ebert Foundation 2004-2009 (Ger), Royal Swedish Academy of Music 2008-2010 (Swe), STIM 2009/2011 (Swe), Annik & Lars Leander Foundation 2009 (Swe), Anders Sandrews Foundation 2011 (Swe), Alvar Krafts minne 2011/2012 (Swe), Villa Concordia Bamberg 2011 (Ger), 46th International Summer Course for New Music Darmstadt 2012 (Ger), Künstlerhaus Lukas Ahrenshoop 2012 (Ger), State of Lower Saxony 2014 (Ger), Akademie Schloss Solitude Stuttgart (Summer Academy) 2015 (Ger), Konrad Adenauer Foundation (EHF 2010) 2015 (Ger) as well as Künstlerdorf Schöppingen 2015 (Ger).

At concerts or workshops, Ansgar Beste's music has been played by the Arditti String Quartet (workshop), L'arsenale, asamisimasa, Athelas Sinfonietta Copenhagen, Avanti! Chamber Orchestra, Badische Staatskapelle, Collegium Novum Zürich, El Perro Andaluz, ensemble:hörsinn, Ensemble intercontemporain (w), Ensemble Platypus, Ensemble Recherche (w), Ensemble Schwerpunkt, Ensemble U, Eric Ericson Chamber Choir (w), Esbjerg Ensemble, Kairos Quartett, Solistenensemble Kaleidoskop, Garth Knox, MAM. Manufaktur für aktuelle Musik, Mivos Quartet, Musica Vitae string orchestra, Orchestra J Futura, Oslo Sinfonietta, Peter Sheppard Skærved, Swedish Wind Ensemble, Studio Musikfabrik, SWR Vocal Ensemble Stuttgart, Uppsala Chamber Orchestra, Gary Verkade, Jeunesse Chamber Choir Vienna.

Recordings or interviews by radio stations ABC (Aus), ORF (Aut), ERR (Est), YLE (Fin), DLF, DRadio, SWR & WDR (Ger), RUV (Isl), RAI (Ita), RTP (Por), RTV (Slo), SRF (Sui), SR (Swe) as well as WQXR (USA).

Video broadcasts by Essl Museum / rehearsal (Aut), nmzMedia / live recording (Ger) and Athelas Sinfonietta / interview (Den).

His music has been performed at festivals and concert venues like Venice Biennale (Ita) 2009, Druskomanija (Ltu) 2010, Young Nordic Music (Fin / Den / Isl) 2010-12, Music and Art Around Copenhagen/Malmö (Den/Swe) 2010, ZKM Karlsruhe 2011 (Ger), ECLAT / Theaterhaus Stuttgart (Ger) 2011 / 2016, Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe (Ger) 2011, Connect Malmö (Swe) 2010 / 2011, Skånes Dansteater Malmö (Swe) 2011, Darmstadt Summer Course (Ger) 2012 / 2016, Donaueschingen Festival / Off-Concert (Ger) 2012, RadioKulturhaus Vienna (Aut) 2013, Young Euro Classic / Konzerthaus Berlin (Ger) 2013, Ars Nova Choele Choele (Arg) 2013, Bienal Música Hoje in Curitiba (Bra) 2013, Nordic Music Days / Helsinki Music Centre (Fin) 2013, Estonia Concert Hall Tallinn (Est) 2013, Radialsystem V Berlin (Ger) 2013, Wien Modern / Wiener Konzerthaus (Aut) 2013, ISCM World (New) Music Days (Aut / Slo) 2013 / 2015, MATA New York (USA) 2014, Aktuelle Musik Nürnberg (Ger) 2014, new talents-biennale cologne (Ger) 2014, Oslo Chamber Music (Nor) 2014, New Directions Piteå (Swe) 2015 / 2016, Lucerne Festival / KKL (Sui) 2015, Ultima Oslo (Nor) 2015, KlangZeit / Theater Münster 2016 (Ger), Borealis Bergen (Nor) 2016, NDR Kleiner Sendesaal Hannover 2016 (Ger), Time of Music Viitasaari (Fin) 2016.