New SoundLab in the Ars Electronica Center

(Linz, May 16, 2012) The Ars Electronica Center’s brand new SoundLab makes its debut on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 7 PM. It’s a setting for five sound installations, and also features a fully functional sound studio including six workstations equipped with audio software for recording, remixing and producing. On the opening night lineup are a live jam and workshops designed to give an impression of the amazing possibilities available to visitors. Over the coming weeks, the SoundLab will be dedicated to preparations for the upcoming voestalpine Klangwolke and production of Klangwolke Miniatures.

A Sound Studio Designed for Hands-on Learning

The SoundLab’s core element is a sound studio with six workstations at which novices can get started in the field of sound production but that also offer seasoned pros some sophisticated new features to discover. Here, you can work independently or as part of a crew recording and mixing sounds, making music with everyday objects, and getting into the fascinating world of digital sound processing.

Sound Installations

Visitors to the SoundLab also have the opportunity to experiment with various sound installations. “Sancho Plan” lets users play electronic drums that bring animated figures to life. “Hidden World of Noise and Voice” turns your larynx into a musical instrument and generates animated graphics whose form, color and movement correspond to the pitch, timbre and intensity of the sound you produce. Visitors to “Freqtric Drums” touch each other to create drumming sounds. “La Pâte à Son” provides shaped pipes and vents that let you modify sounds and create interesting pieces of music. The color sensor built into “Scribblephone” scans drawings and converts the visual information into sounds, their pitch, melody and rhythm attuned to the corresponding qualities of the drawings.

Klangwolke Miniatures

Calling all creatives, young and old alike—everyone’s invited to pitch in on this year’s voestalpine Klangwolke. SoundLab will periodically host workshops at which you can produce so-called Klangwolke Miniatures. After finishing your sound file—heartbeat, guitar riff, poem recital, drum groove, whatever—you can upload it to the www.aec.at/klangwolke website. The submitted Klangwolke Miniatures will then form the basis of a Klangwolke Episode by composer Marco Palewicz. On Sunday, September 2, the day after the Klangwolke extravaganza, the Miniatures will be featured in a show of their own in which the Klangwolke’s 250,000-watt sound system sends them soaring throughout Linz’s Donaupark.

Soundcloud Meet-Up Day and SoundLab Premiere

May 17 is not only opening day at the new SoundLab; it’s also the Global Meetup Day of Soundcloud, the world’s most important online audio file distribution platform. On this day, musicians and sound enthusiasts are getting together in 544 cities around the globe, and
one of these get-togethers is the setting for the opening of SoundLab. Kicking things off will be a general presentation at 7 PM. Next up is a live jam with sound artist Marco XY and Viennese electronic duo GelbGut. Then SoundLab is open to all comers, who are cordially invited to experiment with sounds or put the final touches on their Klangwolke Miniature.

**Workshops**

At the workshops on the following dates, expert assistance is available while you create your Klangwolke Miniature:

- Long Night of the Stages (Saturday, June 2, 2012, 6 PM-12 Midnight)
- Family Days (Saturday & Sunday, June 23-24, 2012, 10 AM-6 PM)
- Family Night (Friday, July 13, 2012, 6 PM-12 Midnight)
- Klangwolke Weekend Special (Saturday & Sunday, July 28-29, 2012, 10 AM-6 PM and Saturday & Sunday, August 18-19, 2012, 10 AM-6 PM)
- At the Summer Camp and Interactive-Creative Days during summer recess, kids and young people work on their own personal Klangwolke Miniatures.

Ars Electronica Center: [http://www.aec.at/center/en/](http://www.aec.at/center/en/)