



WALTER STACH
(1946, Vienna / Austria)

MA degree; artist and art mediator; studied at the Academy of Fine Arts and at the University of Vienna, graduated 1971; previous professional work: Academic Secondary School, University College of Teacher Education, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, University of Vienna, University of Applied Arts Vienna, University of Klagenfurt, Museum of Modern Art Vienna, Museums Education Service, Office for Cultural Mediation, KulturKontakt Austria and at numerous social, educational, cultural and art initiatives and NPO action groups often in foreign residencies, mostly with practitioners from other artistic disciplines; book- and other publications. He lives and works predominantly in Vienna.

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MARCUS NEUSTETTER
(1976, Johannesburg / South Africa)

earned his undergraduate and Masters Degree in Fine Arts (2001) from the University of the Witwatersrand. As an artist and cultural activist he is interested in cross-disciplinary practice, site-specificity, socially engaged interventions and the intersection of art and activism. Neustetter has produced projects, performances and installations across Africa, Europe, America and Asia that search for a balance between poetic form and asking critical questions. As artistic director, facilitator, researcher and strategist to various creative industry areas, he finds himself building opportunities and networks that develop interest beyond his personal artistic practice and across artistic disciplines. He currently moves between studios in Johannesburg and Vienna.

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NOTATIONS I & II

an
Austria-Japan

participative
intercultural
dialog

art project

for the
EXPO 2025
Osaka

WALTER STACH
MARCUS NEUSTETTER

NOTATIONS - I

This project uses visual art and music as forms of artistic communication between Austrian visual artists and Japanese musicians resulting in intercultural dialogue artworks as part of the Austrian contribution to EXPO 2025 in Osaka and subsequently in Vienna.

The course of the project

Phase 1 In Vienna

Japanese musicians in Vienna are asked to play 'greetings' to be sent to Japan. Neustetter and Stach artistically notate this message live on paper with the intention of transmitting the recorded musical and visual outcomes to Japan.

Phase 2 In Osaka

Neustetter and Stach present the musical and artistic 'greetings' they have brought with them to Japanese musicians in Osaka. These musicians are asked to 'respond' to both the visual and audio experience of the first message with the own sounds. The visual artists again produce a live artistic notations.

Phase 3 In Osaka

The resulting notation drawings are printed in analog form on postcards (incl. QR code for the pieces of music) and will be available for free on card stands in front of the Austria Pavilion at the EXPO 2025, or presented as original drawings, accompanied by the sound recordings of the dialogues, in or in front of the Austria Pavilion.

Phase 4 In Vienna

The artworks, musical recordings, film documentation and images of the dialogue are exhibited with a possible third live musical and notation response performance.

NOTATIONS - II

Visual artists Neustetter and Stach draw a live notation as a live painterly-calligraphic commentary on the performance of the Vienna Sängerknaben and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra on Nations Day in the Nations Hall at the EXPO 2025

Version 1

The visual artists live produce their drawn notations in the hall between the stage and the audience (on a long roll of paper with brush and ink, creating an independent score). This action is filmed and projected live onto a large-format screen in the hall.

Version 2

The live drawing notation action happens in an adjacent room or outside the concert hall and filmed and transmitted to a large-format screen into the hall.

Version 3

The live drawing notation is produced digitally on a touchscreen with the digital outcome projected live onto a large-format screen in the hall.



The costs of the NOTATIONS I + II project amount to € 25,500

Including:

artist and musician fees, flights, accommodation, artistic materials and equipment, on-site expenses, assistants, documentation equipment

Excluding:

Phase 4 In Vienna (approx. € 6 - 8,000)



NOTATIONS is aligned with

the EXPO general theme
"Designing Future Society for Our Lives"
the EXPO general theme
"Connecting Lives"
the Austrian pavilion theme
"Composing the Future"
and the EXPO 2025 theme week
"Co-creating Cultures for the Future"