



THEATER BREMEN



»NOperas!« 2021/2022

Call for Projects by *Fonds Experimentelles Musiktheater (feXm)*

What is feXm? The *Fonds Experimentelles Musiktheater (feXm)* was founded in 2006 as a joint initiative of the NRW KULTURsekretariat and the Kunststiftung NRW. It is the only initiative to promote new forms of music theatre in the German-speaking world. The feXm enables theatre practitioners from the Independent theatre scene to realise music theatre projects at German city theatres. In this way it aims to support innovative concepts within the independent scene as well as to provoke debate within municipal theatres on contemporary forms of music theatre. A jury of experts decides on the basis of an open call for proposals.

What is "NOperas!"? Within the framework of the feXm's new funding initiative, which was launched in 2019, several theatres join together under the label "NOperas!" for three seasons at a time to form a network. Together they realise a project in each season, which is shown at all theatres. The participating theatres alternately provide the initial and follow-up production sites. In addition to the resources provided by the theatres in terms of stage personnel, technology, trades and other infrastructure, the feXm, together with the theatres, provides a production budget for each production.

Which projects have prospects for funding? As a funding initiative, the feXm is oriented towards a broader understanding of music theatre. Concepts that develop performative forms of questioning the relationship between musical sound and space, language, theatrical action and digital media have the prospect of funding.

Who can apply? Teams that are jointly responsible for the interaction of the theatrical levels (composition, text, direction, stage) can apply from all over Europe. The group must include a production manager who is responsible for organizational matters and for the administration and accounting of financial resources.

Working mode. Within the framework of a process involving several phases of work, the funding programme takes account of changes in production methods in the field of current theatre forms. The selected production team is thus to be given the opportunity to work in a process-related way on the development of a theatre performance linked to rehearsals. Applicants are free to use this space according to their own needs. Projects may use the different work phases to work towards a single presentation before transferring it to the other two theatres, or the project itself may be designed to consist of several autonomous parts from the outset, combining each rehearsal phase with an independent performance. The number, timing and duration of periods of theatrical work will be determined by the selected team in consultation with the theatres, with a guideline of up to five production phases of two to three weeks for performance at the participating theatres.

Several houses - one project. It is expected that the theatre project will take into account the different circumstances of the participating theatres. The performances at the subsequent theatre should explicitly not just be a guest performance, but rather a separate, site-specific arrangement, for which a corresponding work phase will again be granted.

Performances of feXm and the two participating theatres Bremen and Oper Wuppertal. The Theater Bremen will provide its existing infrastructure (crew, rehearsal spaces, a defined period in the workshop, available technical equipment, etc.) to a defined extent as well as musicians and singers to be agreed upon accordingly. The Wuppertal Opera participates in the transfer with its resources according to what is necessary. From the production budget, the production teams are responsible for financing everything else (see below). The amount of this sum will be determined by feXm together with the participating theatres within the framework of preparatory agreements.

Role and other services of feXm.

Within the specific framework of "NOperas!", feXm not only acts as a funding body but also as co-producer, working together with the theatres participating in the alliance. It provides organisational help, its own dramaturgical support and will carry out its own PR, reinforcing contemporary means of communication such as social media, the integration of digital media, as well as an interactive dialogue between the producing parties and the audience.

Jury. A jury decides on the selection. It consists of representatives of the participating theatres, three independent expert jurors and a representative from feXm. The jury will reach their decision by way of a two-step process that includes in-depth discussions with a group of finalists. Prior to these discussions, the finalists will have the opportunity to connect with the theatre to sound out available possibilities and specifications.

Call for Applications 2020.

- All performances take place in the 2021/22 season. By arrangement, rehearsals can begin as early as the 2020/21 season.
- The administration of the granted production budget is carried out by a GbR to be founded by the production team. With the application, a preliminary budgeting of the project within the financial framework of the funding amount of up to 170,000 Euros is expected. These funds are to be used to finance:
 - Fees, travel and accommodation costs of the production team (including production management) and other guests involved in the work. For the calculation, a number of three performances at each of the participating theatres is to be taken as a basis. The current recommendations of the Bundesverband Freie Darstellende Künste (BDFK) provide guidelines for the lower fee limit:
 - Rehearsals: 105 Euro per day (with KSK membership) / 130 Euro per day (without KSK membership)
 - Performances: 250 Euro per performance (with KSK membership) / 280 Euro per performance (without KSK membership)
 - stage design material
 - technical equipment, if not regularly available in the theatres

Application. Applications should be sent to noperas@nrw-kultur.de. Please adhere to the subdivision and naming of files mentioned below. Please integrate all your application material into the five individual files mentioned. Do not attach any additional files (audio, video, scores, lyrics) to your application. If your application requires additional explanations, explain these in your e-mail in the form of a personal cover letter.

- **Form** (file name: **1_formular**).
Please fill in the download PDF and scan it.
- **Short description** (file name: **2_kurzbeschr**).
No longer than max. 3,000 characters including spaces.
- **Detailed project description** (file name: **3_ausf_beschr**).
Text not longer than 20,000 characters (incl. spaces). The number of pages is unlimited - if desired, images, score sections etc. can be integrated.
→ In addition to a meaningful presentation of your project, this file should also contain a sketch of a considered work process in connection with the available rehearsal phases (see above) for piece development. The aim is that the later performances in Wuppertal, beyond possible necessities for changes of cast, should be a further development of the project, for which further rehearsal time is available. Please indicate where, in the context of this further development, site-specific factors also play a role in your project.
- **Short biographies** of the team and, if applicable, the participating guests (file name: **4_cv**)
- **Links** to works by the participating artists* and, if applicable, to their websites (file name: **5_links**)
→ Please use this file exclusively to provide links to work samples (video or audio excerpts) that will give the jury an impression of the work of the participating artists. Explain the links where it seems necessary for a more detailed understanding. If the members of your team have worked together before or have a strong working relationship, links to joint works are of particular interest.
- **Preliminary budgeting** within the feXm budget (file name: **6_kfp**)
See above for details.
→ The openness of the intended work process requires flexibility in the coordination between the production team and the theatres. Accordingly, the cost and financing plan required with the application can only be an initial indication of mutual orientation for both sides, which would have to be concretised or revised in more detailed discussions during the two-stage jury process.

Further inquiries. All questions will be gladly answered by the dramaturgy of feXm (quitt@nrw-kultur.de) represented by Roland Quitt. Please state a telephone number where you can be reached.

Deadlines. The deadline for this call for proposals is **15 March 2020** and the decision on the award of the project will be communicated in July 2020.