



Alfred Smudits (Ed.)

Roads to Music Sociology

Series: Musik und Gesellschaft

- About the insights into societies by music sociology
- Music Sociology and its function in the sociological discourse
- Prominent and international

Music sociology occupies a special position in the social and cultural sciences. The terminology alone – in German it is 'Musiksoziologie' and not 'Soziologie der Musik' – indicates many possible approaches: Is 'music sociology' a subdiscipline within sociology or musicology? Or is it a discipline on its own, espousing significant differences from sociology and musicology alike? On the occasion of its 50th anniversary, the Department of Music Sociology at the mdw – University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna – probably the only one in the world to bear the name as a separate department – decided to clarify the state of music sociology. Some of the world's most prominent representatives of the discipline were invited to participate in this project and present their own viewpoints on the various approaches to music sociology. Their contributions address the particular research objects of music sociology (institutions of musical life; production, distribution and consumption of music; music-making; 'works', genres and repertoires; etc.) as well as the different methods of research (stock-taking, surveys, interviews, music analysis, biographical research, etc.).

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