**Ensemble Biography:**

At the beginning of 2009, composer Brigitta Muntendorf founded Ensemble Garage as a platform for musicians, composers and other artists to explore and display new ideas, concepts, and works. Since its creation the ensemble has focused on bringing the works of younger composers to life through the process of collective and cooperative rehearsing.

Each of Ensemble Garage’s concerts is united by a universal concept. Within the frame of this overall concept, the content and performance situations of individual works interact to constitute so-called ‘staged’ presentations.

Through its work, the ensemble seeks to answer questions about ‘our’ generation: Who does it consist of? Where does it congregate or belong? What does it think and do? What does it use and create, and, most importantly, hear and want others to hear? Theatrical and multimedia approaches to new music are at the core of the ensemble’s approach. Since its foundation, Ensemble Garage has worked closely with the conductor Mairano Chiacchiarini. This relationship has consistently guaranteed a dynamic interplay and a collective musical development.

The Ensemble’s debut concert was featured as part of a series produced by the ON-Netzwerk für Neue Musik Köln in Cologne. This annual innovative series has since become an essential part of the ensemble’s regular work. In 2009 the ensemble also produced concerts in conjunction with the Kölner Gesellschaft für Neue Musik and the Landesmusikrat NRW.

In 2011 Ensemble Garage independently presented concerts both within and outside of Germany, all of which combine the works of young composers with important pieces in the contemporary repertoire at large. In a concert for the festival “Acht Brücken – Musik für Köln,” the ensemble presented works by young French composers alongside Pierre Boulez’s “Improvisé – pour le Dr. Kalmus”. During preparation, the members rehearsed in person with Boulez. “Einfahrt Frei” curated and displayed miniature and staged pieces by composers from Germany and Holland and a concert for Reihe M experimented with various performance concepts for instruments and electronics. The Ensemble Garage will conclude 2011’s varied concerts with an event at the Goethe Institute in Paris displaying the fruit of an exchange project, “Collision” between young French and German composers.

Ensemble Garage’s interpretations of new works have been broadcasted on the Hessischen Rundfunk and Deutschlandfunk. Among these broadcasts was a full concert recording on WDR3 in 2011.

In 2012/13 the Ensemble Garage was invited by the Donaueschinger Musiktage, Tonlagenfestival Hellerau, ‘aXes Festival Krakau, Acht Brücken Festival Köln (multimedia program), InFront Festival Aachen and realized a musictheatre in Cologne with pieces of Manos Tsangaris, Brigitta Muntendorf and Michael Beil with the art director Thierry Bruehl. The multimedia music theater project HALBZEIT! directed by Thierry Bruehl (including productions with musikfabrik, Ensemble Modern, Klang Forum Wien) rounded off the concert season of 2012. Besides this Ensemble Garage made various concerts in different museums (Bundeskunsthalle Bonn, KOLUMBA MUSEUM, Kölnischer Kunstverein with Stephen Prina) and was invited to play in the Philharmonie Cologne with a portrait concert of Peter Eötvös.

CD Productions with Jagoda Szmytka (portrait concert at the Deutschlandfunk) and Brigitta Muntendorf, broadcastings on WDR3, different artist cooperations (Thierry Bruehl, Erik Bosgraaf, Jagoda Szmytka, Michael Beil), invitation by Ultraschall Festival Berlin  and the performance of People/Time by Pierre Jodlowski (Philharmonie Cologne – Tripclubbing) are additional highlights in 2013/14.

**Short Ensemble Biography:**

At the beginning of 2009, composer Brigitta Muntendorf founded Ensemble Garage as a platform for musicians, composers and other artists to explore and display new ideas, concepts, and works. Since its creation the ensemble has focused on bringing the works of younger composers to life through the process of collective and cooperative rehearsing.

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The Ensemble’s debut concert was featured as part of a series produced by the ON-Netzwerk für Neue Musik Köln in Cologne. Since then the Ensemble has presented unusual concert formats throughout Germany , in Poland and Holland, been invited with music theatre productions to Festivals in Cologne,Krakau,Donaueschingen,Dresden/Hellerau , and have been interviewed and recorded by West-German Radio, Hessen Radio, and German Radio .