



the global composition 2026

connective resonance for (post)humans

3 – 6 September 2026

Darmstadt UAS/Media Campus Dieburg, Germany

Press Release

The Global Composition 2026 Explores How Listening Can Shape More Sustainable Futures

International Conference on Sound, Media and the Environment

3–6 September 2026 | Dieburg Media Campus, Germany

Dieburg, 1 July 2026 – As societies grapple with ecological crises, technological transformation, and increasing social fragmentation, *The Global Composition (TGC) 2026 – Connective Resonance for (Post)Humans* invites an international community of artists, researchers, and practitioners to explore the role of listening in shaping more sustainable and inclusive futures.

The conference adopts a posthuman perspective, approaching listening as a relational practice that connects humans, technologies, other species, and environments. Keynote lectures by Mohammed Boubezari, Diane Schuh, and Barry Truax address questions of sonic environments, technological saturation, urban ecologies, and posthuman perception. Supported by the Hessian Film and Media Academy (hFMA), keynote workshops by Avan-Nomayo Ikponmwosa, Hildegard Westerkamp, and Lasse-Marc Riek offer participants opportunities for collaborative, practice-based exploration of active listening.

A special program highlight is **The Club of the Future**, an experimental evening event at Centralstation Darmstadt, developed within the framework of World Design Capital Frankfurt RheinMain 2026. Through immersive 3D-audio soundscapes that respond to visitors' presence and interaction, the club becomes a temporary laboratory for collective listening and new forms of togetherness.

The international Call for Proposals attracted a strong response from artists and researchers around the world. The programme was shaped through a rigorous double-blind peer review process, resulting in a high-quality selection of scientific and artistic contributions. Around 100 experts from across the globe are expected to participate in the conference. Alongside keynote lectures, paper sessions, workshops, soundscape compositions and sound installations, the conference offers immersive listening experiences across Dieburg and Darmstadt, inviting participants to encounter sound as an artistic, ecological, and social practice.

The conference is chaired by Prof. Sabine Breitsameter and Prof. Judith Bihr. It is hosted by the International Media Cultural Work (IMC) programme and the Research Center dkmi at Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences (European University of Technology alliance), in collaboration with Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, Hochschule Fulda, the Hessian Film and Media Academy (hFMA), Centralstation Darmstadt, Internationales Waldkunst Zentrum (IWZ), and World Design Capital Frankfurt RheinMain 2026. The conference is endorsed by the World Forum for Acoustic Ecology (WFAE).

Registration is open until **8 August 2026**.

Conference website: <https://tgc2026.medienkultur.eu/>

Preliminary programme: <https://tgc2026.medienkultur.eu/program/>

The Club of the Future: <https://wdc2026.org/de/frames/der-club-der-zukunft-koerper-im-klangraum>

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