Annex – Brief biography of Dr Peter Tornquist



DR PETER TORNQUIST

Dr Peter Tornquist is a composer based in Oslo, Norway. He is from the Norwegian Academy of Music where he served as Principal from 2013 to July 2021. Prior to this, he was the Head of Composition, Theory and Music Technology from 2007. He was Associate Professor in Composition from 2008 to 2013. Dr Tornquist received his Master of Music in Composition (M.Mus) from the Royal College of Music in London in 1991 and went on to earn his Higher Diploma in Composition (Cand.Mus) in 1993. He obtained his PhD in Artistic Research in 2007.

Dr Tornquist has had major works performed by ensembles such as the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and the London Sinfonietta. His work focuses on the interaction between composers and performers through live electronics and improvisation. The theories and methods associated with this approach pioneered the development of artistic research in Norway.

His academic experience covers the fields of composition, electronic music, improvisation and music theory. He has also contributed extensively to the development of phenomenological approaches to music analysis based on the writings of Pierre Schaeffer. He also has extensive experience in teaching at undergraduate and graduate levels, curriculum development, and graduate student supervision.

As Principal of the Norwegian Academy of Music, Tornquist has contributed to the development of higher music education through a widening network of strategic national and international partnerships, and helped position the Academy as one of the highest ranked institutions in the Performing Arts globally. He has been awarded Honorary Fellowships by the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the Royal Northern College of Music in recognition for his services to music. An active voice in political and organisational aspects of the Norwegian society throughout his career, he has served as president of Ny Musikk (the Norwegian section of the International Society for Contemporary Music) and as vice chairman of the Norwegian Composer's Association and of TONO (the Norwegian Performing Rights Society). He has repeatedly been elected for public office at local and regional levels.