

Radio feature

About the composition "DESERT"
(translation: Julia Hertäg)

in **SWR 2** , 13.06.2005 in the emission "Kultur im Land" by Bernhard König (4'20)
about the festival "next generation", electronic music at the ZKM
in the very beginning the audiovisual composition desert is being reviewed (by the time
the first version of it was performed under the title of "Pixelinvasion")

"Next generation" - the title of the event defines the programme. The ZKM in Karlsruhe invited the artistic offspring for 4 days. Numerous music academies in Germany, The Netherlands and Swiss send their talents. The aim of the event: To cultivate exchange, as electronic music is growing in significance since its origins in the 1950ies at festivals but also in classical concert establishment - thanks to Karl-Heinz Stockhausen. Bernhard König assisted to the festival "next generation" (it is now being heard an excerpt from "desert" by Ellen Fellmann. After 15 seconds it is tuned down and the voice of Bernhard König starts.)

"What here sounds like the breath sound of Darth Vader from the movie Starwars is a composition by Ellen Fellmann. The composer has recorded sounds of a viola and a cello inside the studio of the Technical University in Berlin. Sounds that are created by bowing not on the strings but on the corpus of the instrument. Loudspeakers project these sound faces to the public from all sides. On a big screen you can see a recording of grainy brown desert sand. The structure of the sand surfaces is changing in the course of the piece. A game of fuzziness, overlapping and contortion. Ellen Fellmann: "Well, communication between image and sound is very important to me. Both are reacting to each other, there are changes that are hardly remarkable, you don't know, does it really change or doesn't it? Is it just the sound that suggests that the image is changing, or is it really changing?" Like Ellen Fellmann many composers use the sounds of conventional music instruments as a basis for their compositions...