

Press release, 26.3.21

**steirischer herbst '21: New festival dates for the 54<sup>th</sup> edition  
9.9.–10.10.21**

steirischer herbst festival is announcing new dates for its 54<sup>th</sup> edition: the festival will take place from 9.9. to 10.10. this year, two weeks earlier than usual.

This change and the decision to extend the festival duration is due to the—at present—still unpredictable epidemiological situation in autumn and the concomitant measures to contain the pandemic that will be in place in September and October. It seems safer to focus on outdoor formats this year, which, of course, are dependent on weather conditions.

steirischer herbst director and chief curator Ekaterina Degot:

*For the 2021 festival production, we are facing almost the same questions and challenges as last year. With Paranoia TV we found a timely and effective answer to the pandemic. A simple revival of this concept is out of the question, since the parameters and circumstances have changed after living with COVID-19 for over a year, which, of course, affects how people are thinking and feeling. Moreover, it is in the festival's DNA to continuously reinvent itself.*

*Adapting the festival dates and duration is nothing unusual in the history of steirischer herbst. Past editions have also experimented with moving them. The pandemic now forces us to rethink matters in this regard once again.*

The concept and participating artists of steirischer herbst '21 are announced in June.

As festivals-within-the-festival, ORF musikprotokoll and *Out of Joint*, the literary festival in cooperation with Literaturhaus Graz, naturally also take place within the new dates.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

steirischer herbst Press Office  
press@steirischerherbst.at  
t +43 316 823 007 61