**Symposium *Sound and Music in the Lived Experience of Infants, Babies and Vulnerable Groups***

**Ljubljana, Slovenia, 24–26 August 2023**

You are kindly invited to the symposium *Sound and Music in the Lived Experience of Infants, Babies and Vulnerable Groups*, which willtake place 24–26 August 2023 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

The symposium is part of the international festival Nights in Old Ljubljana Town, and will be enriched by lively musical activities relating to its topic.

The topic of the symposium is the role of sound and music during sensitive life periods and situations, such as in the earliest developmental stages or in vulnerable situations (e.g., marginalised individuals and groups, senior citizens, those with various conditions, asylum-seekers).

The discussion will take place within the framework of a broad interdisciplinary meeting and will focus on questions such as: How does music enter and cocreate the human experience from the earliest ages onwards? Why do we even create in the first place? How can we address the largely overlooked parts of the audience and encourage listeners and those involved in music – especially creators and performers of music, sound artists and producers – in the broadest sense? What are the dilemmas arising from the desire to satisfy the aesthetic expectations of the young listener, on the one hand, and the necessity for an ethical, profound and lasting relationship between the artist and young audiences, on the other? How can an individual become a dialogue partner in hearing the inner world of another person? What are the concepts and experiences of medical ethnomusicology or applied ethnomusicology with regard to the role of music among children and underprivileged individuals and groups? What social or psychological effects are encouraged by including such people in musical activities?

The topic of the symposium is closely related to the three-year project B-Air, which is supported by Radio Slovenia and connects nine partner organisations from eight European countries. The project involves research into the role of sound in the development of the human being in the earliest period of human life. It includes the close collaboration of artists and renowned international experts in the fields of developmental psychology, neurophysiology, neuropsychology, psychoacoustics, music therapy, music pedagogy, anthropology, and so on. An important part of the project is the production of new radiophonic and musical works for the youngest and most vulnerable individuals and groups.

We invite you to submit the abstract of your contribution in English by 15 May 2023. The abstract should contain 250–300 words, your first and last name, the title of your institution and your email address. Please send it to: [b-air@rtvslo.si](mailto:b-air@rtvslo.si)

After receiving the abstracts and designing the programme, we will inform you about the additional details regarding the symposium.

The symposium will take place in the organisation of Ustanova Imago Sloveniae – Podoba Slovenije, Radio Slovenia, Academy of Music of the University of Ljubljana, The Institute of Ethnomusicology of the Scientific Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (GNI ZRC SAZU), Department of Musicology at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, KED Folk Slovenija

Programme Committee:

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