



From the performance «Liturgy of Paralysis» in Nidaros Cathedral with composer Eirik Havnes, curator Maria Veie Sandvik, Only Connect 2021. Photo: Bjørn Ante.

The Art Liturgy - On the Limits of Art

Kunstliturgien – om kunstens grenser

Name: Liv Kristin Holmberg

Institution: Norwegian Academy of Music / Norges musikkhøgskole

Department: Conducting, Voice and Church Music Department

Starting year: Autumn 2019

Project title: Kunstliturgien – om kunstens grenser

<https://nmh.no/en/research/projects/art-liturgy>



From the performance «Liturgy of Paralysis» in Nidaros Cathedral with composer Eirik Havnes, curator Maria Veie Sandvik, Only Connect 2021. Photo: Bjørn Ante.

My artistic background as a church musician and performance artist is the core of a long-standing stage art-, and performative practice, in which I investigate the cantor's role as a ritual master.

Kunstliturgien can be described as a ritualistic music theatre based on utopian philosophy, in which I develop self-made liturgical elements aiming at life's existential questions and transitions; creating a fundament for a metaphysical reality-theatre.

The Boundaries of Art. This project is both performative and discursive: as well as an examination of the potential of the church room as an artistic arena, it will also test its capability as a transformative and powerful public space.

The performative potential of church musicians. The project is simultaneously an examination of church musicians and their performative potential. I have an ambition to develop and extend the role of the organ player, and hence lay down the general outlines for a performative aesthetics, based on my own and others experiences regarding varying interpretations of liturgical organ music and artistic experiments of ritualistic musical drama.

The development of liturgical music. As part of the artistic research, a collaboration with two to three composers is initiated, where we mutually (jointly) will develop a concept and the musical material, specially composed for the project with me as a performer.

Art and religion. The church was once the natural venue for music and art. Is this still the case or does the church operate in an aesthetic vacuum? In the light of the Reformation Jubilee 2017, and as an overarching idea, the project will reflect over existing as well as non-existing parallels between church art and contemporary art since the reformation, in a Norwegian context.

Kunstliturgien is an artistic research on the relation between belief and art, religion and aesthetics, with an spiritual and existential ambition to discover possible, transformative dimensions in art.

Idéskisser for ulike liturgiske element / eksperiment for *Kunstliturgien* 2019 - 2022:

Avvigslings liturgi

Liturgi for dovenskap

Matteuspasjonen Reversert

Søvnens liturgi

Liturgi for stemødre

Pustens liturgi

Tårenes liturgi

En juleliturgi for vår tid

Gravferdsliturgi for levende mennesker

Kroppsliturgiske eksperimenter

Paralysens liturgi

Liturgi uten Fellesskap



From the performance «In the Dark Hour» 2022, Paulus Church / Black Box Teater (Oslo). With Ruth Wilhelmine Meyer. Photo: Alexander Munzos.



From the performance «Liturgy of Paralysis» in Nidaros Cathedral with composer Eirik Havnes, curator Maria Veie Sandvik, Only Connect 2021. Photo: Bjørn Ante.

“We do not obtain the most precious gifts by going in search of them but by waiting for them.”¹

Holmberg invites her colleagues and fellows to St. Petri church for a meditation.

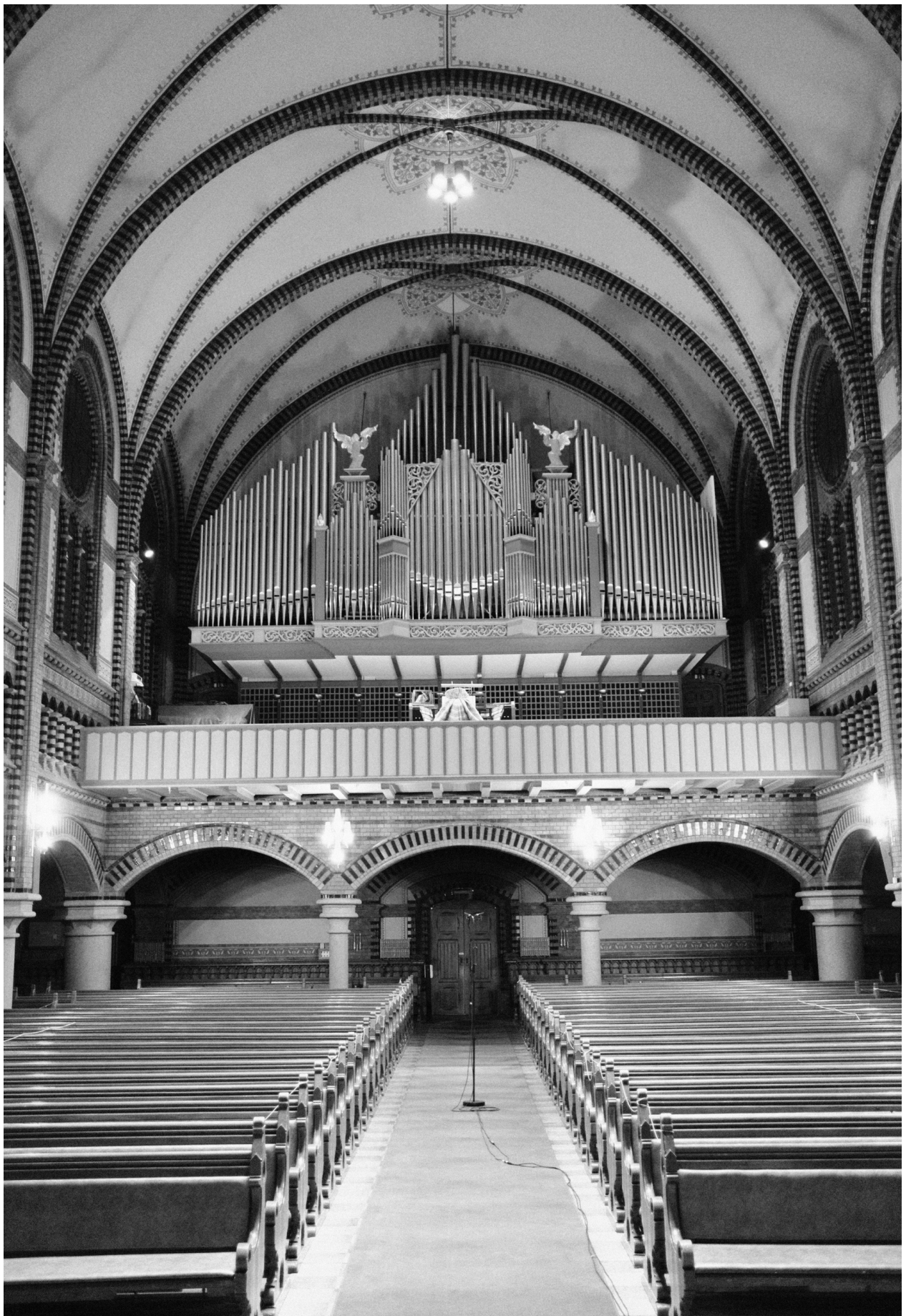
A meditation on doubts, dreams and struggles within her artistic processes and artistic research.

3rd year presentation

Language: norsk

Place: St. Petri Church: Adress: Rektor Steens gate 7, 4010 Stavanger **se kart**

¹ From «Love in the Void» of Simone Weil (Ploough publishing house 2018)



Recording of the organrequiem for an empty space for 20 organs of composer Eirik Havnes, in the church in my hometown, Skien, during the lockdown. Photo:Kristian Larssen



From the research travel on the countryside in my homecounty, Telemark during the pandemic times. Photo: Kristian Larssen.

Short bio:

Holmberg works with ritual theater often based on utopian philosophy and performing arts in churches and art spaces focusing on the relationship between art and faith.

She has a master of Fine Art from Kunsthøgskolen i Oslo / Kunstakademiet. She is also trained as a classical pianist and organplayer from the Norwegian Academy of Music, Academy of Music in Gothenborg, Music Conservatory in Kristiansand and the Sibelius Academy (Helsinki). Academical studies in philosophy, history of ideas, psychology and musicology from the University of Oslo and the Humboldt-Universität (Berlin).

Selected exhibitions / performances: Berlin Art Week, Høstutstillingen, Only Connect, Nikolaj Kunsthall, Spriten Kunsthall, Borealis Contemporary Music Festival, NoSPHERE Arts (NY), Stamsund International Theaterfestival, Akershus kunstsenter, Greenlight District, Fylkingen, Østlandsutstillingen, Happy Days, Black Box Teater, Kulturkirken Jakob, PAB Open, Den Frie Festival (DK), Mago Eidsvoll Verk, Skulpturbiennalen, Fotogalleriet, Autocenter Gallery (Berlin) m.m.

<https://nmh.no/en/contact-us/employees/liv-kristin-holmberg>
www.livkristinholmberg.no