

***2008 fair music Award: artists and fans are asked to nominate exemplary music companies and labels.***

**Cannes/Vienna, 29 January 2008: The nomination deadline for the second *fair music* Award approaches. Composers, musicians and fans are invited to nominate enterprises, initiatives and service providers for the *fair music* Award. This prize is awarded for exemplary conduct in the music business. The submission deadline runs from 15 February to 15 June 2008. Candidates can be nominated at [www.fairmusic.net](http://www.fairmusic.net).**

On the occasion of the MIDEM, the world's largest music trade fair in Cannes, the invitation to participate is extended by Peter Rantasa, managing director of mica - music austria, vice-president of the IMC (International Music Council), the music umbrella organisation founded in 1949 by UNESCO, and the initiator of *fair music*, and Franz Patay, general secretary of the IMZ (International Music + Media Centre) and managing director of the 2009 Haydn Year.

The jury comprises international experts and representatives of music organisations, e.g.:

**Klaus Ager**, President of the Austrian Composers Association (ÖKB) and President of the European Composers' Forum (ECF),

**David Ferguson**, Spokesperson of the European Composer and Songwriter Alliance (ECSA) and Acting President of the British Academy of Composers and Authors (BACS),

**Cornelia Kutterer**, Senior Legal Advisor, European Consumers' Organisation (BEUC),

**Benoit Machuel**, Secretary General of the International Music Federation (FIM),

**Franz Patay**, Managing Director of Joseph Haydn Burgenland GmbH,

**Peter Rantasa**, Executive Director of mica - music Austria,

**Walter Reicher**, Intendant of Haydn Festspiele Eisenstadt / Haydn Year 2009,

**Silja Fischer**, Executive Officer, IMC - International Music Council,

representatives of the music industry and other organisations.

The prize giving ceremony for the best submission will take place in September 2008 during the Haydn Festival before an international audience in Eisenstadt, Austria. Last year the prize was received by, among others, the Internet platform Tonga.Online / Zimbabwe, the German Freibank publishing house and the Austrian Extraplatte – a label, sales and record shop in one.

### **Fair music initiative**

The *fair music* initiative promotes more fairness and transparency in the music business. In the interest of both, consumers and artists, it aims at “a seal of quality” will be created for enterprises and initiatives that are distinguished by their responsible business practice.

*fair music* is committed to artistic freedom, fair payment and profit share for musicians, as well as to equal opportunities for small labels, producers worldwide and especially for musicians from the countries of the global south. The *fair music* initiative builds upon the experience of the fair trade organisations in their dealings with foods, and translates it into the world of cultural goods and services.

“We are currently working on a ‘Code of Conduct’” for the music business using CSR models as a basis. Together with the International Music Council, and many acknowledged NGOs from the culture and music spheres, the initiative develops *fair music* standards for the certification of fairly produced and fairly marketed music. The stakeholder consultations introduced for these purposes are being intensively continued at this time in Cannes,” says Peter Rantasa.

More detailed information regarding the submission and nomination criteria is available from 8 February 2008 at [www.fairmusic.net](http://www.fairmusic.net).

### **mica – music austria**

Founded in 1994, mica - music austria serves as an independent non-profit expert organization to promote Austrian music of all genres around the globe.

mica - music austria is an important platform and contact point for producers, music professionals and listeners in Europe. It provides a link between policy makers and the music sector, and is a forum for different stakeholders.

It's services include music news at [mica.at](http://mica.at), an Austrian composers' database, service and know-how transfer for music professionals, as well as the “[manymusics.org](http://manymusics.org)” download platform.

As a member of the international music scene that includes such NGOs as IAMIC and IMC, mica - music austria takes an active part in a global music network.

### **Queries and Contact**

The *fair music* initiative press centre

Tel: +43 1 524 43 00-70, 74

Mobile: +43 (0) 699 1 752 47 78

Mail to: [birgit.brandner@trimedia.at](mailto:birgit.brandner@trimedia.at)