Angelika Messner

Born in Vienna, raised in Burgenland, studied the violin, musical and theatrical sciences in Vienna. From 1993 to 1995 she worked as an assistant to Frank Castorf at the Berlin Volksbühne. Since 1995 she has lived and worked in Vienna as a director, dramaturg and playwrite.

She has written numerous libretti and plays. Her works have been shown in the Teatro Arriaga in Bilbao, Festspiele Erl, Marinskij Theater St. Petersburg, Theater an der Wien and the Musiktheater Linz, among others. Her long-standing collaboration with composer and arranger Christian Kolonovits resulted in more than 60 performances of their shared works "Antonia und der Reißteufel" (Antonia and the Greedy Devil) and "Vivaldi – die fünfte Jahreszeit" (Vivaldi – the fifth season) at the Wiener Volksoper. She also wrote the libretto to José Carreras' opera "El Juez".

Her dramaturgical engagements have spanned the Mondsee Tage, the festival Osterklang Vienna, the festival Loisiarte, Arsonore Graz, from 2014 to 2022 the Sommerspiele Perchtoldsdorf, since 2022 the Festspiele Reichenau, as well as several others. She also compiled a multitude of musical and literary programs for renowned actors such as Nicole Heesters, Maria Happel and Michael Degen, among others.

Her directorial work led her to the Volkstheater Wien, dietheater Wien, the Kosmos Theater Wien, the Offenes Haus Oberwart and several more.

For many years Angelika Messner has worked in theatre pedagogy and as an educator. She has served on several juries, for instance for the State Culture Prize and as a member of the advisory board of Burgenland. In 2016 she was decorated with several honours, that of the state Burgenland and the literary prize of the Theodor Kery Foundation in recognition of her service to the state.

In the last few years Angelika Messner has increasingly devoted herself to the adaption of material. Hence, she created a revised version of the operetta "Das Dreimäderlhaus" (The House of Three Girls) for the Musiktheater Linz. Her most recent work, an adaption of "Iphgenia" by Goethe, was set to debut in autumn of 2022 at TAG, Theater in der Gumpendorferstraße, under her own direction.

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