

## FLUX

By Turkar Gasimzada and Avital Cohen

During our eight years of collaboration, we developed our own unique audiovisual language, which was used in all our projects focusing on the environmental challenges we are facing nowadays. To name a few projects: Breath, Pain(t) (<http://www.avitalcohen.com/projekte>) as well as this project: Flux.

Our concert programs and projects were presented in various international festivals, events and media, including TV-shows broadcasted nationwide. Our work is stemmed from the collaboration of two music organizations: Cadenza Contemporary Orchestra and Avital Cohen & Company.

The Cadenza Contemporary Orchestra (Turkar Gasimzada, Artistic Director) is supported by the Ministry of Education, and is affiliated with the Azerbaijan State University of Culture and Arts. The Orchestra is very popular among the young generation of musicians in Azerbaijan, and is working very intensively with public K12 schools and universities. Avital Cohen & Company (Avital Cohen, Artistic Director) in Bern strives to become the first house for Art and artists that create Audiovisual Art / Interdisciplinary art / Expanded Theater at the very present.

Our Project Flux reflects upon a constant change that is observed globally with our planet, cultures, and arts. While promoting positive change in all spheres of human life and in the life of our planet Earth, we crave to bring into light the benefits of the influences of our artistic cooperation.

Through our art we believe we could raise political and social awareness on topics such as climate change, fostering education, creating and maintaining stability, and promoting peace.

## **Brief description of our collaborate Work and the Bern - Baku connection:**

The cooperation between the composer Turkar Gasimzada and the flutist and sound artist Avital Cohen started in 2014, while Avital was working on Turkar's piece 9 Rubai for the performance at the Qara Qarayev — Internationales Festival für zeit- genössische Musik, Baku, Azerbaijan with the support of the Pro Helvetia. The concert took place in the Erlöserkirche, Baku, at 21. April 2015. By then, and long before the Covid-19 pandemic, Turkar and Avital started to work together remotely online and ever since they continued to collaborate.

on March 17th, 2022, Cadenza Contemporary Orchestra, together with the flutist and sound artist Avital Cohen and under the artistic direction of Turkar Gasimzada, performed live on the morning show through the MƏDƏNIYYƏT TV – “Culture TV”, a national TV channel, broadcasted across the entire country. This performance took place two days after playing a recital at the prestigious International Mugham Center Concert Hall in Baku on March 15th, 2022. At this concert, Avital played, among other pieces, the concerto for flute and orchestra by Arif Melikov.

The last movement of 9 Rubai by Turkar Gasimzada (<https://vimeo.com/419894286>) is a solo flute part in which the composer indicated a notation for indeterminate Sounds that inspired the flutist Avital Cohen to invent a new breathing language. Avital's invention of such language served as a segue for collaborating on another piece. Turkar composed the three-movements mono-opera for a flutist, lights, and electronics, Breath, based on this newly-invented sound language. The first movement of the opera received performances three times in Switzerland, the first time being in the presence of the composer on May 28th. 2016 (Hauptbühne Hochschule der Künste Bern, Theater).

on August 20th, 2021, the entire piece was performed in full version for the first time. This was executed in the composer's presence and as a part of the Soapbox concert series framework by PAKT BERN / Progr. room 013, Bern. In this event, another new piece, Pain(t), was performed as well, also in Progr. room 13 (in front of the Bern Art Museum). Turkar and Avital worked together intensively for more than five years to bring both projects to light. More about this collaboration you can find at the [Index](#) about our Project Flux