



## „Jazz instead of Stress“

# Everyday Life and Music in GDR Jazz Communities under State Socialism

### Poster Abstract

My poster's theme will be the diverse panorama of musical, social and cultural practices of, with, and around jazz in everyday music life in the state socialistic German Democratic Republic. Various photos and pictures of documents I came across during my PhD research project will be shown and briefly contextualised. I plan to include the following sections:

- 1) life and practices of the jazz communities: photos, self-published documents ("zines"), logos, etc.
- 2) musician's individual appropriations of jazz music: self-invented polyphonic jazz notation, examples of transcriptions, performance photos
- 3) live performances of international and national jazz musicians
- 4) official party documents
- 5) Additional (video and/or audio) material via QR code

My research focusses on GDR jazz clubs and their historic actors as well as local jazz musicians as a widespread informal network under state socialistic frameworks. A multimedia approach to my dissertation seems fruitful, as almost all of the used photos and documents have not been published before and give insights into these local and interconnected jazz communities.

Although I will not be able to attend personally, the *Documenting Jazz Conference* at BCU in 2020 is a great opportunity to show these documents to interested colleagues via poster. It will probably go alongside the intended publication of my PhD thesis by the end of 2020. I welcome critical feedback regarding the material very much!

### CV

Martin Breternitz, born in 1987, studied musicology in Leipzig and Weimar (Germany), as well as jazz saxophone under various professional players. M.A. in musicology with specialization in history of jazz and popular music at Weimar Music School FRANZ LISZT 2015. PhD project on jazz in the GDR since 2016 in Weimar and Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena.