

# Quid pro quo concert organizing

*Or how to keep a group of enthusiast professionals aligned on the same target*



*7th November 2015  
#fscons  
Hans de Raad*

# Great to be here!

- Many thanks to the organization!
  - Already looking for an excuse to visit Goteborg again!



# Who am I?

- Company owner
  - OpenNovations
    - Open source, open standards, security
    - Have an idea, find a client
- Event organiser
  - OpenSUSE Conference, Kolab Summit, Observe Hack Make, DrupalJam
  - Business manager of the Bachkoor Holland
- Classical music lover
- Classic car enthusiast



# Classical music FTW!



Everybody loves classical music they just don't know about it yet.

— *Benjamin Zander* —

AZ QUOTES

# Similarities between music styles



# Kinds of concerts

- Sit down and shut up
- Participate



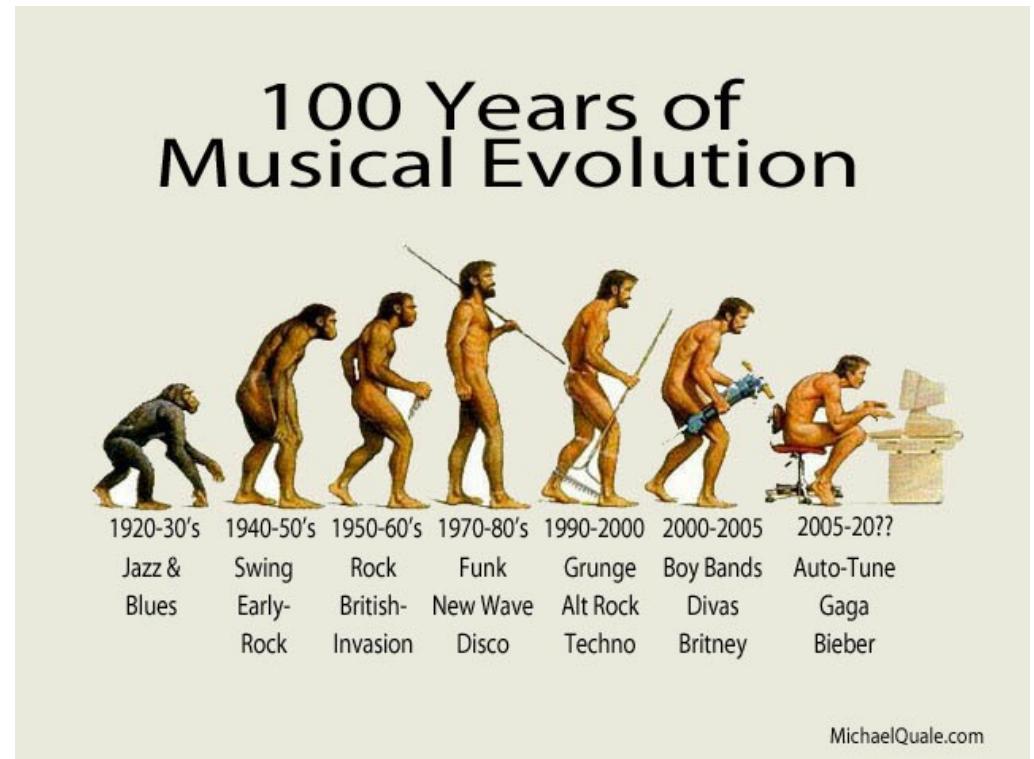
# Hackerfestival OHM 2013

## Kimiko Ishizaka



# Traditional musician career

- Study, conservatory
- Get job in orchestra / choir / ensemble
- Play a lot
- Retire.



# New generation of musicians

- Earn their own living
  - Performing, teaching, etc
- Orchestra's and choirs are financially no safe bet anymore
- Even organize their own concerts



# The Cast: Oper Macht Spaß



THE CAST

# Social media

- Enourmous reach
  - Virals
- Proactively engage
- Issues with copyright
  - Creative Commons



# Cologne Calling

- Coalition of the willing!
  - The Cast
  - Kimiko Ishizaka
  - And others!
- Sharing a passion for classical music
  - And a desire to involve more people into their passion!



# Cologne Drupal community

- How does open source tie into this?
  - Passion
  - Personal ambition
  - Used to organize things
- Happen to also be professional musicians



# And some Dutch help

- Liaison to local orga's
  - Venue
  - Promotion
  - Etc.



# Target audience

- “Serious” music lovers
- New and young audience
- And everyone else

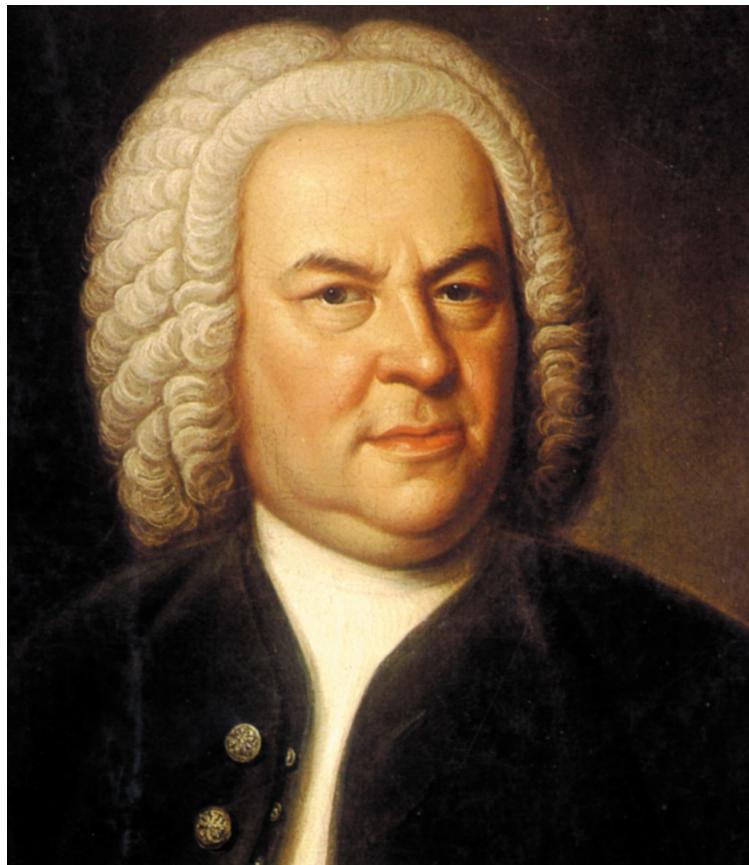
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# A “wholesale” approach

- Provide an entire evening out
  - Experiences sell.
- Not passive but active
  - Engage in performances (yes, even sing along)
- Food, drinks and music used to work together quite well



# Some more similarities



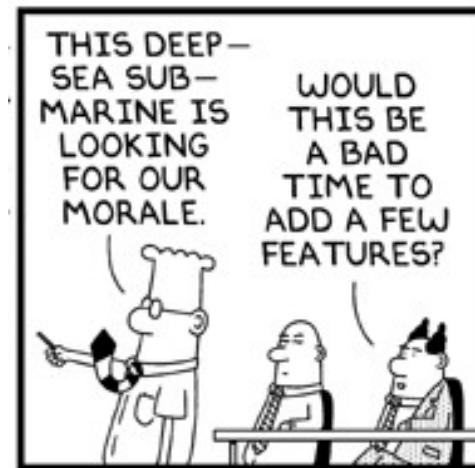
# What do you need?

- Scope / ambition
- Commitment
- A venue
- A date
- Promotion
- Funding
- Tools
- A proces



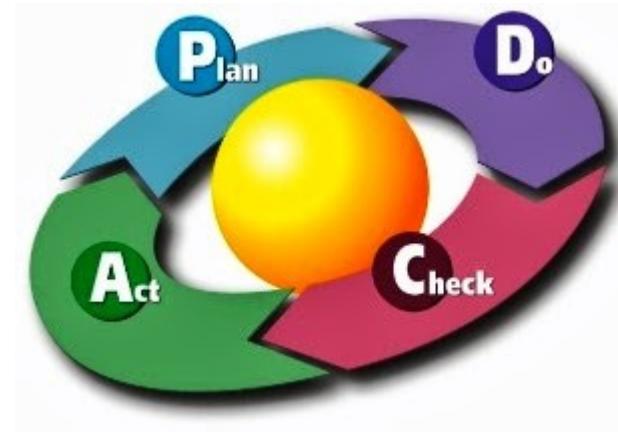
# Scope / ambition

- What do you want / need to achieve
  - Audience attendees?
  - Sponsorships?
  - Publicity



# Commitment

- Coalition of the willing
  - Keep something in it for everyone
- Shared values and shared targets
- Agile approach
  - Individuals and interactions over processes and tools
  - Responding to change over following a plan



# Venue

- Requirements
  - Size (seats)
  - Acoustics
    - (echooooooo)
  - Atmosphere
  - Logistics



# Venue: Logistics

- Instruments can be heavy



# Venue: Accessibility

- Be inclusive



# Date

- Easier said than done
  - Other concerts
  - Other festivities
    - National/regional holidays
  - Personal engagements
  - Etc, etc.



# Promotion

- There is no such thing as bad publicity
- But you should have a plan
  - Social media
  - Radio / television
  - Newspapers
  - Music schools
  - Museums
  - Etc, etc, etc.



# Funding / money

- Fundraising
  - Crowdfunding
  - State / government funds
- Ticket sales
- (personal) sponsors
- THIS TAKES TIME!



dreamstime.com

# Tools

- Website
  - Promotion
  - Ticket sales
  - Newsletters
- Communication
  - Mailgroups
  - Videoconf



# Process

- Time boxed activities
  - Almost agile/scrum
- Adapt when necessary
  - Circumstances can change
- Have a principal project lead
  - And a backup
    - One === none



# Collaborate

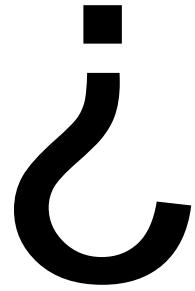
- Find partners in crime
  - Co-align with music schools
  - Get local support
- Integrate the new concept with existing concerts
  - Practice makes perfect
  - 3 R's
- Try to have others promote your message
  - And do so like wise (network effect)



# And then



# Questions?



# Thank you for coming!

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