



14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
in the music youth hostel Wernigerode

Guest of Honour:  
**Leslie Hudson**

&

Toastmaster:  
**Franklin Gunkelmann**

**Progress Report 1**

# Hello and Welcome!

## CONtrapunkt? What is that?

A (C)Kontrapunkt (German word for counterpoint) is the harmony of two or more different voices, which are rhythmically and melodically independent.

No, seriously now - it's a con, isn't it?

Of course it is 😊

Just like the previous cons in autumn, this is

a special con for all bards of the future, minstrels of the past and musicians of the present. A con for music-loving Science Fiction and Fantasy fans with a liking for folky sound, handmade music, but also for parodies or Rock'n Roll rhythms.

Workshops about music (and sometimes even more unusual subjects) are likely to catch your attention. Be surprised! A con to sing along or to kick back, listen,

watch and have plenty of fun! Due to circumstance, FilkCONtinenta will not be happening in 2018. Therefore, CONtrapunkt, which is organized by Katy Dröge-Macdonald and assisted by a



*The music house of the youth hostel*

great team of helping hands, is a convention to bridge the creative pause of FC and make sure there will be a filk con happening in autumn 2018 in Germany.

We will happily hand over the baton again as soon as FC comes back. So – while we will be “*rhythmically and melodically independent*” we will still work together.

So much for the similarities. But there will also be a few differences.

Likely, our concert programm will be a little less full, with more time for circles. Also, we will run this with a lot less tech. But overall, there really won't be a whole lot of changes, and I hope that you will join us!

A major difference at CON-trapunkt is that we will not be using the Filk Fund. All potential surplus funds this year as well as the auction proceeds of this convention (which is planned as a one-time-event) will be donated

in full to the foundation Kinder-Hospiz Sternenbrücke ("Star Bridge" childrens hospice care). The Filk Fund is still well filled, especially after the last amazing auction result, and will next be used for guests for FilkCON-tinental.

I know that filkers have a big heart – let's do some good together!

I am looking forward to seeing many familiar faces and maybe also new ones in autumn 2018 in Wernigerode!

**Yours,  
Katy**



*Musikraum V (our main function space)*

# Leslie Hudson

Leslie Hudson is a powerhouse performer and prolific songwriter bringing rock, jazz, metal, blues, folk, filk and funk to conventions and venues across (so far) North America.

dirt, traversing the shadows and bringing the truth to light. There's a Goddess Revolution going on and this rebel redhead is voicing the stories of characters who continue to



*Photo by Karl Stahl*

This is her first trip to Europe and we are ecstatic to have her!

The body of her work illustrates the mosaic of the feminine spirit across culture, history and myth, digging into the

inspire it, from archetypes to Inhumans, without apology.

Hudson's influences glide from Tori Amos to Loreena McKennitt, Metallica and S.J. Tucker to Simon & Garfunkel, woven into her voice and her fingers

on the keys. Armed with a synesthetic palette, she invites her listeners to see through the eyes of heroines, villains, lovers and liars alike, as she breathes new life into stories less often told.

In 2017 Hudson embarked on a six-month North American tour with stops in more than 25 states and provinces.

On tour as at home her performances range from solo shows to singer-songwriter showcases to 10-piece band showstoppers.

Collaborating with musicians and producers around the world, her recent albums are rooted in the diversity of sci fi, pop culture, folklore, myth, and the lessons life brings.

## Discography

The Wanderlings Volumes One & Two (2017)

Midwinter EP (2016)

Yeoman on the Bridge (2016)

The Redhead League (2016)

The Wanderlings Volume Two (2016)

Into the Mirror (2015)

The Wanderlings Volume One (2015)

With "Copy Red Leader": Crossing The Streams (2014)

With "Copy Red Leader": Pirate Elves In Space (2013)

Snips and Snails (2010)

Shades of Winter EP (2010)

Dance In The Rain (2002)

Rebirth (1998)

Listen at her Bandcamp page: <https://lesliehudson.bandcamp.com/>

# Franklin

He's been filking since the late 80s of the previous millennium (Wow, how's that for sounding ancient – but he is only 52!). Even though he has a lovely baritone singing voice, you

throwing out all possible and impossible puns!

In 2002, Franklin got to be the Interfilk guest at Consonance in San Francisco, 2007 the GoH



*Photo by Walter Korynciewicz*

have likely more often heard and seen him in his function as the Master of Ceremonies for FilkCONTinental (and even at a British filk convention) -

at Harmuni 3 in Cambridge. His biggest moment as a filker- so he said - was his induction into the "Filk Hall of Fame" in 2006 at FilkONtario.

The songs he writes are most of the time funny ones (well, he thinks so) that you would put into the parody category. But occasionally, his serious side and musical talent shines through when he writes beautiful ballads or translates his favourite English filksongs into German. While he can accompany himself quite passably on the piano, his "weapon of choice" is often the "karaoke-filk", also because it gives him more freedom to arrange a fun performance.

Furthermore, he stood out time and time again due to his daring and bold costumes – just remember, if you will, his cosplay of "Franklin Further", "Sailor Moon" or "Knight in White Satin".

Once in a while, he will form "filk alliances", for example

with Alexa as "Lord Merciless", but there have also been co-operations with Urban Tapestry, Puzzlebox and his "brother in puns" Steve Macdonald. His wife Molly and his children Fabienne and Frederik are occasional music partners, as well.

His first and so far only CD "Seven of Mine" was produced for his GoH appearance at Harmuni, but he could not do it without sneakily adding a "secret" track; a love song for his wife Molly.

*by Katja Morbiducci*

P.S. Franklin's real life name is actually Frank Gunkelmann, which almost no-one knows! –But it's not necessary, either!

**Contra Punk!**

# Travel

We are looking forward to seeing you all in the Youth Hostel Wernigerode! Of course, we want you to find our location easily. Therefore, we have written up some detail information below to help you get there.

Kultur-Jugendherberge Wernigerode

Am Eichberg 5

38855 Wernigerode

<http://wernigerode.djh-sachsen-anhalt.de/>

Coordinates: Latitude: 51° 49' 33,37" / Longitude: 10° 45' 13,38"

## How to travel to the hostel

### – by plane:

The nearest airports are Hannover (HAJ) (approx. 130 km), Leipzig (LEJ) (approx. 130 km) or Berlin (BER/TXL) (approx. 260 km)

The airport that has the easiest connection is Hannover Langenhagen (HAJ). From there, take the train to Hannover Hbf and change there towards Wernigerode (for some connections, you need to change trains at Braunschweig Hbf / Vienenburg, some go directly from Hannover without a train change). See below (by train) for more details.

### – by train:

Hannover → Wernigerode direct connection with Regional Express (RE) approx. 1:50 h

Leipzig → Halle/Saale – Wernigerode, approx. 2:00 h

Berlin → Magdeburg → Wernigerode, approx. 3:00 h

Detail information/booking: <http://www.bahn.de/j/view/USA/en/index.shtm>

Ticket sales for journeys in September usually start around end of June 2018.

Take the train to station “Hauptbahnhof Wernigerode”

There, take the “Citybus” Number 1 (hourly, last dept. about 5pm) or Number 4 (hourly, last dept. about 7pm) to the stop “Hochschule Harz”. Travel time is about 15 – 20

minutes. Detailed timetables (German only) can be found here: <http://hvb-harz.de/stadtverkehr-wernigerode/>

From the bus stop “Hochschule Harz” it is about a 500 meter walk to the youth hostel. There is signage.

### – by car:

Since space in this PR is limited, we recommend to trust the navigation system of your choice or visit our website for further details! ☺