

ES-DUR

SO THAT OTHERS WILL HEAR FROM YOU



ES-DUR Tonstudio pdf english



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Since 2014 the recording producer Karola Parry took over ES-DUR Tonstudio which had been set up in Hamburg by Eberhard Schnellen in 1987. The ES-DUR Tonstudio (Tonstudio means recording studio) specialises in classical music, the spoken word, and mastering. High-profile audio book editions and recording labels, as well as radio and television broadcasting stations, have been profiting from the ES-DUR service ever since.

Qualified recording engineers make up the ES-DUR team, providing expert advice in all musical and technical questions. ES-DUR productions are created in an atmosphere of cooperation and critical, concentrated listening.

The studio operates in all areas of the audio sphere, listed here in the sections:

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CONTACT

ES-DUR is located in the heart of Hamburg-Altona, an ideal production venue close to the Altona mainline station (seven minutes on foot) and the A7 motorway. Its setting in a small commercial complex makes for an undisturbed working environment. Sufficient parking spaces are also available. The numerous small cafés and shops in the Ottensen quarter are in closest proximity to the Studio.





ALL IN ONE HAND / SEAMLESS SERVICE

You want to record a CD, DVD or SACD for commercial or promotion purposes?

ES-DUR offers you an all-round service:

We start by advising you on your choice of recording venue and repertoire and arrange all the details to cater for your particular needs, from premises to piano tuner. You then obtain your complete recording, editing and mastering, as well as the graphic design if desired, from one and the same source. Many years of experience and uncompromising professional commitment guarantee fast and effective production to the very highest standards.

ANY SIZE, ANY PLACE

In line with your wishes and budget, your recording can be a live concert, a production recorded over the course of several days, or a combination of the two. And we are just as flexible when it comes to our equipment: Depending on whether chamber music, orchestral music or opera is involved, we employ mobile equipment of varying dimensions, or our outside broadcast vehicle. But the same principle always applies: Our equipment is of the highest quality and can be implemented anywhere in the world, in concert halls and churches or, as the case may be, in stables, cafés, barns... in fact anywhere that there can be music-making.

ES-DUR has made recordings across the entire spectrum of classical music, for smaller and larger labels, in and outside Germany. And we are also in our element in the world of jazz, as well as in folk music, shanties, wind bands and bigbands – and we always relish the new and the unexpected.

PACKAGES

You can combine individual items selected from our range of services – recording / editing / mastering / equipment size / extent of manufacture etc. – to make up your ideal package, taking into account the particular circumstances, your ideas and wishes, and your budget. This enables you to make advance calculations for your project.

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Artist portrait on DVD with tone, images, and navigation menu	page 11





AUDIO BOOKS, AUDIO THEATRE, AUDIO GUIDES AND MORE

From the very start, ES-DUR has been an active player on the audio book production market.

As qualified recording engineers, we are not only creative partners to our clients in all technical questions, but also critical listeners in the process of creating media-compatible productions of literature, features, and children's books as well as audio theatre, audio guides, and podcasts. Based on our numerous contacts to narrators and actors, we gladly offer our assistance in selection of speakers.

In our hands, the final editing and mastering of your recordings can be done within the shortest conceivable period of time, or the broadcasts can go out live via ISDN/phone line – which thanks to our mobile unit, is possible from any venue, wherever the location. Radio presenters frequently opt for the ES-DUR Tonstudio for conducting their interviews because of its personal atmosphere and the spacious recording studio. Our own in-house sound archive and close cooperation with composers, musicians, and sound designers enable us to offer a complete service right through to the finished article, the CD, even for highly complex productions.

SPOKEN WORD STUDIO

Our 20-square-metre studio for the spoken word, which is not only large but also light, is acoustically optimized for speech recordings and can accommodate several speakers with ease. Four brand new (built in December 2007) adjustable speaker's desks which are acoustically optimized, acoustic partitioning, eye contact with the producer, and a pleasant room where you can unwind between takes over a fresh cup of coffee: All this makes for a smooth production process.

Centrally located in the lively quarter of Ottensen, the studio nevertheless enjoys the quiet environment of a small commercial complex with plenty of parking space. Our proximity to the Hamburg-Altona mainline station and the A7 motorway makes it easily accessible from all directions.

CALCULATION

With ES-DUR, even before the recording gets underway you know the project costs of your audio book or audio guide production in advance – definitively and bindingly. This is because our calculations are based on net minute prices or fixed all-inclusive amounts at the client's own choice. For clients with large-scale assignments, our tiered price scale is particularly attractive.





THE ULTIMATE SHINE FOR YOUR MASTER

No matter what stage the master process is at when we come into the process – mastering must enhance the whole spectrum of sound possibilities contained in the recording. For us, mastering doesn't just mean taking your material to produce a master in line with the technical specifications.

We give your material the finishing touches by careful and targeted use of filtering, optimization of level, dynamics and balance, reverbing, removal of noise, adjustment of the stereo basis and, not least, shaping the dramaturgy of the pauses. All this calls for a high degree of aesthetic sensitivity and fine judgment.

The excellent listening-in facility provided in our sophisticated production control room equipped with reference B & W loudspeakers provide the ideal basis for sound judgment and high-precision handling.

SERVICES:	Stereo-Mastering for CD
	Stereo-Mastering for SACD
	5.1-Mastering for SACD / DVD-A / DVD-V
	Upmix from Stereo to 5.1 Surround
	Compilations
	Copies and reformatting (see list of formats)
	„First Aid“ for Audio: Removal of noise, clicks, distortion, hum, hiss etc.
	Remastering

We work with the following formats:

DIGITAL:	CD, DVD-A, DVD-V, SACD
	DAT, DAT 20-bit Jünger c06
	Hi-8 (Digital – multitrack)
	Wave-files of all bits and sampling rates from media or via FTP servers
	U-Matic; Beta / F1
	MP 3, MiniDisc
	ANALOG:
	Multitrack analog tape
	Vinyl (LP)
	MusiCassette





RESTORING THE SPLENDOUR OF MUSICAL TREASURES

Remastering is a complex and highly individual process in which knowledge of traditional recording methods and the particularities of the various analog audio media has to be united with expertise in cutting-edge technology, informed aesthetic perception, and a finely tuned ear.

Digitizing the material is one of the crucial steps. To ensure that no data is lost, however small, we carry out the analog-digital conversion with the highest possible resolution.

On the digital level, we have a whole range of professional equipment which we use to bring out the recording's former glory. Paying the utmost attention to detail, little by little we carefully remove hissing, clicks and other noise, iron out distortion and other tonal impurities, add spatiality if desired, repair sub-standard editing and much more besides. As we do this, our fundamental principle is respect for the original musical and tonal statement.

The end-product in its new "finery" can be supplied in any format, whether as a CD, DVD, or SACD, or in the form of a hard disk file.

We are also experienced in remastering large sound archives, having returned far more than 1,000 hours of music from the ARD archives (Consortium of public broadcasters in Germany) to its former glory.





DYNAMICS, HIGH DEFINITION AND NEW MEDIA

Faster computers and new, exceptionally large-memory media make it possible to record and edit audio signals in far higher definition than was possible with the CD up to now. With a dynamic range of up to 120 dB, not only can you hear the proverbial pin drop, but you can also make out the finest of tonal nuances. At ES-DUR you obtain the recording, editing and mastering in high-definition reference quality with a sampling rate of 96 kHz/24-bit or in DSD. Your finished media product can be a DVD-Audio, DVD-Video or SACD.

A hybrid SACD, the Super Audio CD (SACD) unites high-definition multi-track sound with the traditional CD, as in addition to the multi-track sound it has a stereo layer which can be played on a standard CD player. The SACD uses the DSD format (Direct Stream Digital), a 1-bit process with the extremely high sampling rate of 2.8 MHz – 64 times higher than the sampling rate of a CD! More information on the SACD is available on wikipedia.

DVD-Audio is a highly variable high-definition multi-channel format using the PCM-format familiar from the CD. It can contain surround-sound in definitions up to 96 kHz / 24-bit, or pure stereo recordings. Furthermore, images can be accommodated sound-synchronized, such as the score, or information on artists and composition.

DVD-Video was developed for the image domain, with the result that due to the large amount of video data only limited capacity is available for high-definition audio. The multi-track sound is therefore DolbyDigital or DTS-coded, but the quality remains excellent.

The great advantage of DVD-Video is its very wide distribution: Almost everyone is now in a position to play DVD-Videos at home and many people can also listen to surround-sound. This makes it an ideal medium for our film, cultural documentary and opera recording work, where we team up with our partners in the image domain.





WHAT IS SURROUND?

Surround is a generic term for various multi-channel sound processes. Back in the 1960s, experiments were being made with so-called quadrophony to reproduce the spatial impression of sonic occurrences. But it was not until the technical possibilities recently became available to reproduce several discrete channels on a user-friendly medium that multi-channel sound became marketable. 5.1 Surround has in the meantime become established as standard: Five loudspeakers and an optional additional bass loudspeaker surround the listener. The media on which 5.1 Surround sound can be sold and heard are SuperAudioCD, DVD-Video and DVD-Audio.

Everyone knows the phenomenon: a CD recording, even a first-class one, never comes up to the concert experience, because what is happening in terms of sound always remains limited to the area between the two loudspeakers. The impression of sitting in a concert hall and not in a living room can be created much more fully by a sound that also comes to us from behind – since it is the sound reflections from back and side walls that give us that special spatial impression one gets in a concert. The impression generated is, as the name suggests, one of being “surrounded” by sound.

Surround offers a whole range of new options – for instance with multi-choir music where ensembles are positioned spatially apart.





DVD-VIDEO PRODUCTION

To present yourself publicly as an artist or as an ensemble, you may want others not only to hear from you, but also to have the chance to experience you directly – on stage and as a personality. We offer you a platform for just this: In the form of a DVD-Video production.

The tone is recorded and edited by ES-DUR to our usual high standards – in surround, if you so choose. We produce the film material in collaboration with renowned film production teams at the venue of your choice and bring the two together giving the utmost attention to precision. Information such as your biographical or repertoire details can be shown on the navigation menu of the DVD.

As a further option, ES-DUR image will also produce a feature on you and your work. Finely tuned direction and skilled editing, plus a team of first-class audio and video specialists, ensure that your artistic profile has strong media impact. The three elements – music film, feature and text information – combine to create a highly effective marketing tool with great distribution potential, thanks to the high market acceptance enjoyed by DVD-Video. We will be happy to make you an offer based on the individual elements.

FILM MUSIC

The ES-DUR handling of film-music recording and mastering makes films and video productions into success stories. The ES-DUR recording engineers have many years of experience in the field of radio, as well as being specialists for orchestral recordings on the open market. Our studio is completely video time-code coupled. With our outdoor broadcast vehicle we can record up to 64 tracks digitally, also in high-definition formats up to 96 kHz and in surround.





RECORDING ES-DUR compact

You are starting out on your career or would like to reach the public with a CD production – or you simply require a demo CD for promotion purposes?

We know that a reference-quality recording made on a professional basis has its price. This is why ES-DUR has worked out a way to reduce the technical and time factors to a minimum while maintaining the quality – with the aim of giving musicians on a limited budget the chance to make an entry into the professional music world. On request we will gladly send you our terms.

LIVE RECORDING ES-DUR

We offer a complete live-recording service for events and concerts, not only for radio broadcasting.

ES-DUR covers:

- Preparation – advance coordination with the organizers, the venue, the producers, the musicians
- Recording, using our outside broadcast vehicle if required, also for live broadcasts, or using our range of mobile equipment anywhere throughout the world
- Team: recording producer/tonmeister, engineers and technicians
- Material
- Mastering

Our complete live recording service means: On the basis of all-inclusive terms, you can calculate costs reliably and in advance. Simply tell us who's to be recorded where and when, plus the date when you need the result – and we'll do the rest!

Please call for current offers!





SOUNDDESIGN ES-DUR

To help give your audio book or your film its own unmistakable 'audible stamp of identity', you're looking for an acoustic atmosphere, sound effects or tailor-made music written especially in line with your ideas?

ES-DUR's experts are trained in the areas of classical and electronic composition, jazz and sound design. They will realise even your most original of audio ideas. Here, your imagination need know no bounds – the acoustic conversion of a bubbling pot of lentils into a whispered trumpet solo? The deafening sound of a wrist watch as heard from the aural perspective of a mosquito? For us, all these are can-do ideas. To get there, we employ the most modern samplers, synthesizers and software on the market today. And whenever needed, we can turn to our studio's own pool of musicians.

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ES-DUR Tonstudio outside broadcast vehicle

ES-DUR mobile

Since the autumn of 2000 we have had at our disposal the ES-DUR mobile, a new recording and transmission vehicle meeting the needs of both CD productions and of radio broadcasts. The analog basis is provided by our tried-and-tested Calrec mixing consoles, built at the frontiers of physics and fulfilling our wishes 100% in terms of sound, flexibility and operational reliability. Set on this firm foundation is a digital level consisting of Matrix, DSP system and mixing engine and a Magix Sequoia 64-track recording and editing system: So we use the best of both worlds.

A sophisticated communications system from Clearcom enables us to record and control complex structures, with the spectrum extended by the inclusion of a commentator unit. Using a telephone hybrid, on-air link-ups to guests can be made in live programmes. Live broadcasts make use of the phone line amplifier and a Codec MusicTaxi VP pro with 2 S. interfaces. We can also handle complex events such as shows or TV tone, thanks to the elaborate command paths available.

EQUIPMENT

Transmission vehicle	Mercedes Sprinter C 313
Mixing consoles	Yamaha DM 2000 VCM
Condenser microphones	Neumann, Schoeps, Sennheiser, Microtec Gefell
Dynamic microphones	Shure, Electrovoice, BSS DI box, 16 way split box
Cable lengths	125 m.
AD/DA converter	Yamaha AD/DA 824 24-bit
Hard disk recorder / Workstation	Magix Sequoia with RME HDSP MAD1 (64ch-I/O card) and RME ADI-642 (24-bit/192 kHz MAD1 to AES converter)
Media players	Merging Pyramix 2 Sony CD players Denon Tuner
Reverb equipment	Lexicon 300 Lexicon PCM 70
Multi-effect equipment	tc. Finalizer plus 24-bit / 96 kHz
Monitoring	Genelec 1030 A
Headphones	Stax Lambda Pro Sennheiser HD 580
ISDN Codec	Dialog4 MusicTaxi VP pro
Communication	Clear-Com PLPro with radio-telephone and commentator unit connections
Hybrid	Gentner DigitalHybrid HD 20





STUDIO

Our sophisticated 30m² production control room is fitted out with reference loudspeakers from the B & W 800 series. It provides a superb listening-in environment and is equipped with state-of-the-art technology. A 20m² spoken-word studio with daylight and enabling eye-contact with the producer is adjoining.

Mixing console	Yamaha O2R with external 24-bit A/D converters Yamaha AD824
Microphones	Neumann, Schoeps, Sennheiser, Microtech Gefell
Hard disk recorder / Workstation	Merging PYRAMIX Virtual Studio incl. digital effects and Algorithmix NoiseFree/ScratchFree Magix Sequoia
Media player	Denon DN-C680
Reverb	Lexicon 300 t.c. Electronic 4000
Monitoring	Lake People DAC F46 B & W 801-II- Bryston B4 Spendor BC 1 A
Earphones	Stax Lambda Pro Sennheiser HD 580 Sennheiser HD 25/1 Sennheiser HD 25-1
Analog technology	Telefunken M21 with Dolby A, SR and Telcom c4
ISDN Codec	Dialog4 MUSICTAXI VP Pro

No materials consisting of mineral wool were used for acoustic or insulation purposes

Should you have special requests or requirements concerning technical equipment or microphones not found here, please call us: Through our long-standing networks with the leading suppliers and agencies, we can obtain everything you need for your production – inexpensively and fast.





ES-DUR mobile equipment

Our mobile range enables us to adjust the scale of the equipment to suit the recording venue.

Mixing console	Yamaha DM1000 with external 24-bit / 96 kHz AD converters
Microphones	Neumann, Schoeps, Sennheiser, Microtech Gefell
Hard disk recorder / Workstation	Merging PYRAMIX Native Media Bundle / Magix Sequoia with RME Multiface II, RME HDSP MADI (64Ch-I/O-card) and RME ADI-642 (24-bit/192 kHz MADI to AES converter), D.O.TEC EXBOX.UMA 32 channel USB Audio Interface 4 ADAT Ports, optical MADI Port
Reverb equipment	Lexicon 300 t.c. electronic 4000 Lexicon PCM 70
Multi-effect equipment	t.c. Finalizer plus 24/96
Monitoring	Spendor BC 1 A
Headphones	Stax Lambda Pro Sennheiser HD 580

