

Media release, 15 January 2025

Upcycling Music - A hands-on exhibition

16 January – 29 June 2025

How does a gong made from an oil drum sound? Or a rattle crafted from computer keys? South Tyrolean musician and instrument maker Max Castlunger transforms used objects and materials into extraordinary musical instruments. His creations will be featured in the special exhibition "Upcycling Music", on display from 16 January to 29 June 2025 at the Musikmuseum. Visitors can not only experience the sounds of these instruments but also play them and discover how their distinctive tones are produced.

Castlunger's inspiration for the instruments came from his travels around the world, where he explored the sounds and cultural backgrounds of traditional music. "I am fascinated by how people all over the world create sounds, rhythms and melodies using simple objects and natural materials," says Castlunger.

In the history of mankind, there are numerous examples of musical instruments that were made from waste products or everyday objects. The term "upcycling", which emerged in the 1990s, describes the creative transformation of waste into new, valuable products. In contrast to "recycling", the old does not lose value but is given new life.

A diverse programme accompanies the exhibition. In addition to interactive guided tours and workshops for children, there will be a live concert by Castlunger's upcycling band. A musical experience for families and anyone who enjoys making music. The exhibition opening will take place on 15 January 2025 from 6 pm in the Musikmuseum.

Max Castlunger (born 1978 in Bolzano, Italy) is a multi-talented musician. He builds instruments, plays the drums, leads bands, teaches, invents and entertains. His unusual instruments are often made from found objects that he discovers on the roadside. In 2021, he developed the "Upcycling Music" project and has presented it in several exhibitions.

Basel Historical Museum - Musikmuseum

Im Lohnhof 9, 4051 Basel

Wed - Sun 11 am - 5 pm

<https://hmb.ch/upcyclingmusic>

Press material:

<https://www.hmb.ch/service/presse/>

Further information:

Bettina Lotz, Head of Communications, bettina.lotz@bs.ch+ 41 61 205 86 25

<https://www.hmb.ch/>

The exhibition was made possible thanks to the generous support of:

Foundation for the Basel Historical Museum

Canton of Basel-Stadt

Scheidegger Thommen Foundation

other patrons who do not wish to be named.