



Here in this house in the Berggasse of the city of Teschen Viktor Ullmann was born of 1st of January 1898. His father Maximilian Ullmann was from his profession a military officer. During this time the city of Teschen was the place of the high command of of the k.u.k. Wehrmacht, the imperial and royal army of the Hapsburgempire. And Maximilian Ullmann worked in this time there. Today the city of Teschen is a parted city along the river Olsa between the Republic of Poland, Cieszyn, and the Czech Republic, Český Těšín.

## 1.1.2025 20.00 CET PERFORMANCE

"The Emperor of Atlantis or The Disobedience of Death" Play in one act  
Music and Libretto by Viktor Ullmann on the 127th anniversary of his birthday

On the 1st of January 1898 Viktor Ullmann was born in the city of Teschen. Teschen was not the hometown of his parents, but his father, the professional military officer Lieutenant Colonel Maximilian Ullmann, served at this time in the city of Teschen. At this time the city was the place of the High Command of the k.u.k. Wehrmacht, the imperial and royal army of the Hapsburgempire. There Viktor Ullmann attended the elementary of school of the Teacher Training Institute at Teschen, and he attended also the first class of the gymnasium, the I. B-Klasse, before he moved over to Vienna with his mother Malvine Ullmann into the third district of Vienna, there he attended the Rasumofsky-Gymnasium. At the city of Teschen Viktor Ullmann learned also playing the piano with training one time in a week. As a child he saw and heard concerts of military bands and he heard also the musical military signals of the k.u.k. Wehrmacht, which he heard and saw during marches and parades, especially in the year 1906, as in this year the military maneuver for the emperor Franz Joseph I. took place at Teschen. There he saw for his first time in his life the emperor. And Franz Joseph I. was also the Duke of Auschwitz in this time. This first musical impression will be found later also in the anti-war opera "The Emperor of Atlantis" written Viktor Ullmann himself in libretto and music.

**January 1st 2025, Performance 20.00 CEST on the  
127th birthday of the composer Viktor Ullmann  
live broadcasted from the Breloque Theatre (Austria)**



*"The Emperor of Atlantis or The Disobedience of Death" directed for puppet theatre performed on January 1st 2022 on the 127th anniversary of the birthday of Viktor Ullmann May 8th 2020 and on October 18th 2020 to the 81st anniversary of the murder of Viktor Ullmann at the annihilation camp of Auschwitz with the poison gas "Zyklon B" in a live stream performance from Vienna from the Theater Spielraum directed and produced by Herbert Gantschacher the curator of the exhibition "Viktor Ullmann - Witness and Victim The Apocalypse", who is also the director and with Dževad Karahasan as the dramaturg of the production of Ullmanns anti-war opera for puppet theatre with handmade props and puppets of the visual artist Burgis Paier performed by Rita Luksch and Markus Rupert.*

## **Viktor Ullmann "The Emperor of Atlantis or The Disobedience of Death"**

The title of this anti-war opera "The Emperor of Atlantis or The Disobedience of Death" is also the shortest form of the content of the opera. The Death disobeys to the Emperor his service during the war. Based on his personal war experiences from the First World War Viktor Ullmann works from 1917 to 1944 in timeline of 27 years on the libretto and the music. Viktor Ullmann's father Colonel Maximilian Ullmann was responsible for the security of the emperor from the Archduke of Hapsburg Charles during the 12th battle in the theatre of War on the river Isonzo. Emperor Charles was personally at the battlefield and was the highcommander too. The use of musical military signals in the composition of this anti-war opera shows us also the sources. It is a sign of great courage to finish an anti-war opera in the years 1943 and 1944 in the concentrationcamp of Terezin surrounded by death. Viktor Ullmann became as a soldier in the First World War a witness of the gas attack in the theatre of war at the river Isonzo on 24th of October 1917, there he saw the gas attack with the poison gases green cross and blue cross. As a person of Jewish origin Viktor Ullmann was transported on the 16th of October 1944 from the concentration camp of Terezin to the death camp of Auschwitz. There he was murdered with the poison gas Cyclon B, which is related to the poison gas blue cross. Both poison gases are based on the so called Prussian Acid. The 1st of January in the 127th anniversary of the birthday of Viktor Ullmann.