

## Abstract PhD project: Li Hsin-yi

### **“學琴的孩子不會變壞”( „Children who learn piano won't become bad“) - A Case Study of Taiwanese Students of Music in Germany and Taiwan**

Current research in the social sciences has already emphasised that people are living today in transnational social spaces with emergent global imagination. Transnational mobility, in this respect, often acts as agency generating and spreading new forms of culture, and leading to “cultural diversity” and “multiple modernities”.

The central aim of this project is the transcultural music practice of internationally mobile university students, using Taiwanese students of music in Germany as a case-in-point. My research interest focuses on everyday experiences of these students, in order to explore the cultural process of how the meanings and forms of “Western classical music” have been adopted, redefined and reinterpreted by them in their everyday life as well as in perspective on their employment opportunities.

Investigating this complex form of transnational mobility, this project draws upon discussions of innovative theories and methodologies in anthropology that respond to the impact of globalization on local communities. As a multi-sited ethnography, engaged with interdisciplinary work, including media and cultural studies as well as social and historical analysis, the project finally attempts to track the actors’ strategies. It aims to highlight in which ways and through which networks these Taiwanese students of music move and in which (potential) areas of conflict they might be located.