Music plays a crucial role in Tolkien’s mythology and his tales contain many songs as well as mentions of musicians and instruments. The Book MUSIC IN MIDDLE-EARTH (Walking Tree Publishers 2010) i.e. MUSIK IN MITTELERDE (Edition Stein und Baum 2014) focused on the importance and nature of music in Tolkien’s work. It contained

“... four sections that highlight the variety of perspectives [and thus offers] a considerable spectrum of different views on the role of music in Tolkien’s work and his reception.”

(Thomas Fornet-Ponse, Inklings-Jahrbuch 28, 2010)

“The breadth of subject-matter ... is accordingly large and varied, demonstrating approaches to the theme that range from the metaphysical to the scientific to the creative.”

(Margaret Hiley, Hither Shore 7, 2010)

A follow-up volume with the same topic and the title MUSIC AND MIDDLE-EARTH/MUSIK UND MITTELERDE will be published by the above mentioned publishing houses in English and German in 2018. Edited by Dr. Julian Eilmann and Friedhelm Schneidewind the book will be presented at the Tolkien Seminar of the German Tolkien Society in the same year.

The topic “Music and Middle-earth” provides ample scope for academic exploration of various aspects of the significance and nature of music in Tolkien’s legendarium. As music is deeply connected to poetry, song and their (musical) presentation and reception these art forms as well as specific instruments can be covered as well. As the title of the book suggests the editors are especially looking for papers that deal with the adaptation of Tolkien’s musical ideas in our world from the perspective of musicology, music-history and practical musical interpretation. Authors who already contributed to volume one can expand on their former topic. Welcome are also sheet music, illustrations and references to musical recordings. Interested authors are invited to contribute on topics of their choice within this framework.

Please send an abstract with a brief bio-/bibliography (no longer than one page or 2500 characters) until October 31st 2016 to musik@friedhelm-schneidewind.de or:
Friedhelm Schneidewind · Schlossgasse 51 · 69501 Hemsbach · Germany

The list of contributions will be finalized until the end of 2016. Papers should be handed in until May 31st 2017. Papers in English and German would be appreciated.

Walking Tree Publishers – www.walking-tree.org
Edition Stein und Baum im Verlag der Villa Fledermaus – www.stein-und-baum.de

Content of MUSIC IN MIDDLE-EARTH

Creation and Music: “Behold Your Music!”: The Themes of Ilúvatar, the Song of Aslan, and the Real Music of the Spheres · Tonalità, Atonalità and the Ainulindalë · Ainulindalë: Tolkien, St. Thomas, and the Metaphysics of the Music in Tolkien’s World: A Speculative History of the Music of Arda · “Bring Out the Instruments!”: Instrumental Music in Arda · The Harp in Middle-earth · Embodying the Voices

Influences of our World on Tolkien’s Music: Music, Myth, and Literary Depth in the ‘Land ohne Musik’ · Strains of Elvish Song and Voices: Victorian Medievalism, Music, and Tolkien · J. R. R. Tolkien and the German Romantic Tradition · Soldiers’ Songs of World Wars I and II and of Middle-earth Compared and Contrasted