# Cultural festivals: A new success formula for regional development?

Mag.<sup>a</sup> Elisabeth Mayerhofer, MBA City of Vienna, Office of the Executive Councillor of Cultural Affairs, Science and Sports "It is difficult to define which cultural activity is a festival and which is not.

A particular festival may embody a number of quite different types of performances and may take place in various locations."

Bruno Frey 2011

### Demand for festivals (side of the consumer)

- Growth of income and leisure time
- Lower cost of attendance
- Lower transaction costs
- Special groups deriving monetary advantages
- Political rent-seeking

## Supply for festivals (side of the producers)

- Lower cost of staff
- Lower cost of venues
- Avoiding restrictions
- Overcoming artistic ossification
- Stimulus for regional development in an economic sense
- Rebranding process

### **Cultural sustainability**

- Innovation within the arts system
- Reflection
- Establishment of tradition (i.e. initiating a new genre)
- Tradition

### Conclusion: Structured catalogue of questions

- Main artistic goal & benchmarks
- Co-operations
- Audience/target groups
- Media
- Infrastructure
- Context