



MUSIC IN THE CIRCLE

A CREATIVE EUROPE COOPERATION PROJECT 2023-2025

musicinthecircle.eu







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It was in 2021, at the end of the previous project 'Nufolk Global Connections', that we felt the need to embark on a new, even broader adventure, both artistically and managerially, to address issues in the arts and music sector that had become even more urgent during the pandemic.

We wanted to continue to make our small contribution to creating and strengthening relationships between people, and in creating opportunities for exchange between different cultures, different arts, different experiences.

We then put together a diverse partnership consisting of cultural organisations from Hungary, the Netherlands, Serbia, with whom we had already collaborated on other projects and/or festivals, and a new Latvian partner introduced by another partner organisation. A Ukrainian organisation, which is a great example of resilience and resistance in the cultural sector, was also involved in some of the actions.

We had the opportunity to meet the partners before writing the project and to organise a round table with them to discuss the priorities we wanted to address.

This is how the structure of MiC-Music in the Circle was born, with two parallel ways of cooperation: one managed by and addressed to cultural operators and music industry professionals: MiC Professionals; and another addressed to musicians: MiC Open Orchestra.

In view of the difficulties that arose during the pandemic, we felt the need to broaden the composition of the



orchestra to include local artists who, for social, economic, health and/or geographical reasons, have fewer opportunities to make a living from music and art.

This choice has proved to be extremely enriching, leading to the construction of an open, plural, multicultural, dynamic and inclusive orchestra, in line with the society we wish to build through our creative actions.

Our journey does not stop, so not only will we be doing MiC again, but we have already structured its further development.

Stay tuned!

Project Manager Mariaelena Urso

Mode la







LEADER

ASSOCIAZIONE CULTURALE DARSHAN, ITALY

Associazione culturale Darshan is a non profit organization active since 1998 in the creative field of music and events.

From the outset, its aim has been to play a leading role in the promotion of local culture on the international music market, on the one hand by representing artists in order to increase their opportunities for professional growth, and on the other by creating a year-round concert season with a wide range of artistic content.

It has also organised international classical, folk and world music festivals for more than 20 years, including Alkantara Fest, Classica & Dintorni, Meltin'Folk, Raizes, Zampognarea.

Darshan management also made numerous musical productions and it organized national and international tours of some Sicilian folk groups.

Throughout the year, the Darshan team offers workshops, educational activities and training for young people in the music sector. From 2019 Darshan is the organiser of Ethno Sicily, an international youth gathering for folk and world music promoted by JMI, which takes place every year in July for one week in Sicily.

INFO: WWW.ASSOCIAZIONE-DARSHAN.IT





MEDIAEVENT

MediaEvent has been active for almost 15 years as an organiser of cultural events, festivals, concert tours, and as a management and booking agency for Hungarian and international bands. All the company's events are designed with a strong focus on international cooperation and cultural education. MediaEvent is professionally known for its close cooperation with various cultural institutions, organisations and venues in Hungary and abroad.

The company coordinates the international Babel Arts Management Network, which currently has 5 Babel offices in Europe: Barcelona, Amsterdam, Belgrade, Vienna, Balatonboglár and Budapest. It is a widespread and growing international network of professionals across Europe, covering all relevant roles in the music industry: musicians, producers, bookers, event managers, communications and PR agents, and fundraisers.

The aim of MediaEvent and Babel Arts Management is to present and represent the values of cultural diversity through the arts and to support artists from different countries and cultures in a variety of ways: to support cultural and artistic education for all generations; to support interactive encounters between different cultures and different art forms; to support artists in building bridges by creating a network of professional and cultural relationships; to encourage creative cooperation and personal encounters; to support artists in being true representatives of their countries and nationalities; to create lasting works of art by providing both organisational, technical and financial support to selected artists.

Mediaevent runs a special venue, the Babel Camp in Balatonboglár, near Lake Balaton, the largest lake in Central Europe, which hosts the Babel Sound Festival, music events and artistic residencies.

INFO: WWW MEDIAEVENT HIL





SKANUMAJA-HOUSE OF SOUND

"Skaņumāja" biedrība (House of Sounds) is a non-governmental organisation and a venue with 15 years of experience in active cultural work. The aim of "Skaņumāja" is to support the processes of instrumental folk music. Research, popularisation, organisation of musical events, educational activities - courses, master classes, production of musical instruments, international cooperation.

The association organises an annual folk music music festival "Dzīvā mūzika" (Live Music). At each festival special instrument playing tradition from Latvia and neighbouring Latvia and neighbouring countries. Older and younger musicians, ethno music specialists from Latvia and abroad take part in several concerts, lectures and concerts, lectures and master classes. The association also organises other folk music events - concerts, folk festivals, entertain entertaining and educational events.

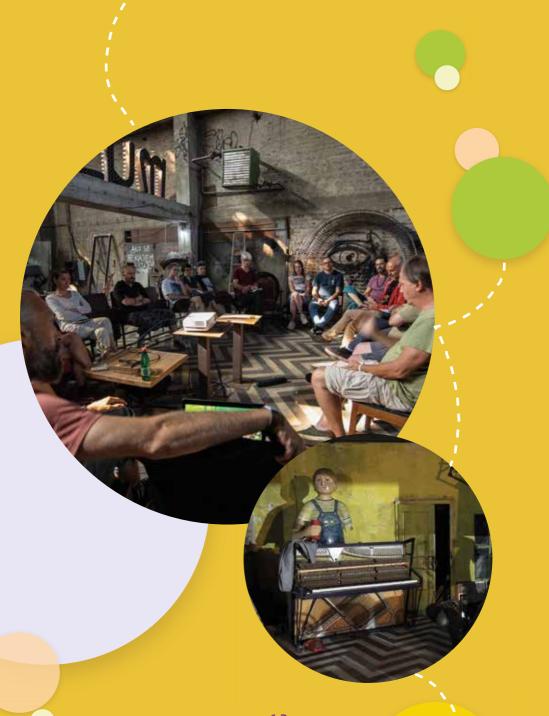
The association regularly organises instrumental lessons for adults with no previous knowledge of music. It uses its own unique teaching method, which makes it possible to learn the basics of playing an instrument in a short time, as well as playing experience and theoretical knowledge.

There are also regular master classes to improve the skills of traditional instrumentalists.

Specialists from the association visit schools and other educational institutions with lectures and demonstrations of the instruments.

The focus of the association's work is to preserve the playing of endangered traditional instruments in today's cultural environment. The main directions of this work, apart from training courses, are research and and documentation as well as the production of musical instruments in a specially instruments in a specially created workshop.

INFO: HTTPS://WWW.MUZIKANTI.LV/



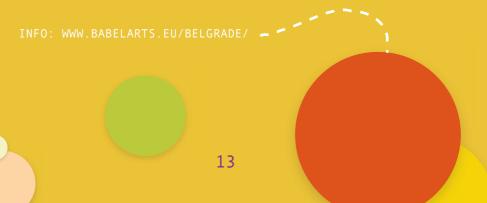


BABEL ARTS MANAGEMENT BELGRADE

Babel art management Belgrade is a company that is specialized in cultural production such as music records, cultural events and international touring. In the last 3 years, they have organized and promoted music events as Festival Devet in Belgrade where they had opportunity to present bands from Chile, India, Hungary, Spain.

The company is responsible for the development of the international music career of the band Naked. The band has been touring extensively all over Europe, as well as overseas countries such as South Korea, South America, North America, Israel, and more. Due to their extensive work in promoting world music on an international scale, the owners of the company who are respective musicians and cultural producers, received a high recognition by the Republic of Serbia and therefore became holders of the title of cultural ambassadors of the Republic of Serbia worldwide.

The organization operates a venue, Ciglana, a former industrial plant reconverted in a multidisciplinary cultural centre on the outskirts of Belgrade. A dacade ago the place was abandoned. Then with the enthusiasm of a few local artists it was transformed into a cultural venue. It hosts cultural events such as showcase festivals, live performances and concerts, workshops, and urban festivals.



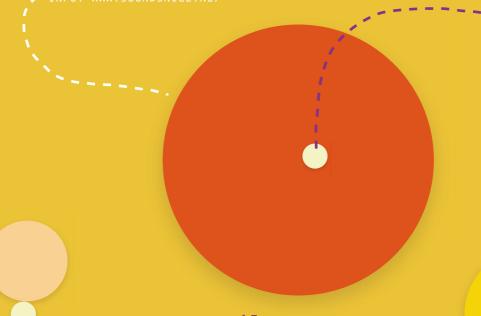




SOUNDSNICE!

Soundsnice! is an Amsterdam based booking agency, specialized on the Eastern-European and Balkan music market. Its goal is to help to create connections through music and street art between different countries and cultures, including world music, underground and alternative music as well as jazz or big bands.

It offers houseboat concerts in Amsterdam and is experienced doing that and also at the venue Zaal 100 in Amsterdam.







ASSOCIATE PARTNER

IZOLYATSIA

Izolyatsia is a non-profit non governmental platform for contemporary culture founded in 2010 on the territory of a former insulation materials factory in Donetsk, Ukraine. On 9 June 2014, the territory was seized by the militia of the self proclaimed 'Donetsk People's Republic'.

Since then, Izolyatsia has relocated to a shipyard in Kyiv and continues to present cultural projects and support socially active artists and creative producers in Kyiv, throughout Ukraine, and worldwide, as well as serving as a resource for international curators, scholars, artists and ambassadors. The foundation's mission is to inspire positive change in Ukraine by using culture as an instrument. Izolyatsia is a platform for cultural initiatives. It is a multidisciplinary cultural project open to all genres of creative expression. It is a point of intersection for all those who are passionate about cultural and social change.

Izolyatsia has three intertwined areas of activity: art, education and projects geared towards activating Ukraine's creative sector. Izolyatsia has rather unique experience in working in post-conflict areas near ongoing war zones. They support cultural, artistic and civil activities in those areas and they have experience in recreating cultural spaces after these have been taken by foreign militia. They also have experience of preserving and digitalising Soviet industrial heritage and rethinking it into new artforms.

INFO: WWW.IZOLYAISIA.ORG/EN/





ABOUT MIC-MUSIC IN THE CIRCLE

MiC-Music in the Circle is a Creative Europe funded project, running from February 2023 to January 2025.

The aim of the project was to promote transnational mobility and circulation of cultural operators and music professionals in order to encourage the sharing and exchange of good practices and skills, and of musicians and artists in order to develop their creative skills in an international environment and to reach an international audience.

These objectives have been achieved through two parallel cooperation paths: one managed by and aimed at cultural operators and professionals of the music industry: MiC professionals; the other, aimed at musicians, MiC open Orchestra.







Through the implementation of four artistic residencies, MiC Open Orchestra aims to create a dynamic and inclusive orchestra, with no boundaries in terms of music genres.

The Orchestra is composed by a core group of three musicians plus three professional musicians subject to change at each residence, and three local artists with fewer opportunities of any artistic discipline.

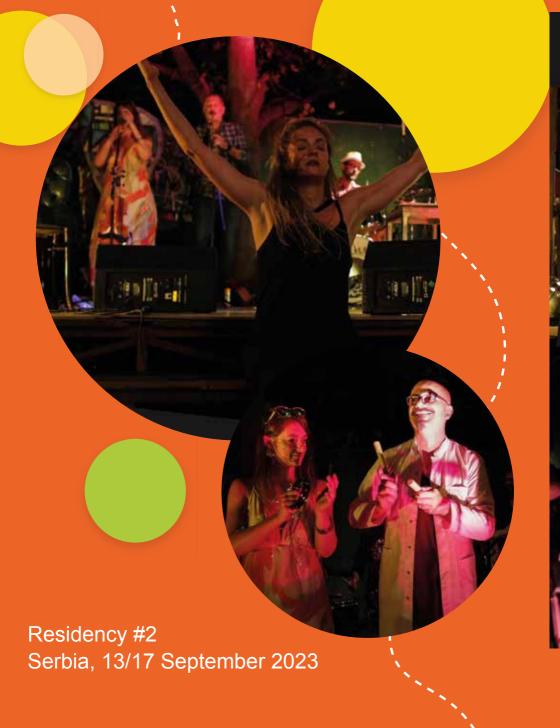
Each residency involved composing, arranging, rehearsing and performing live the newly produced pieces in each venue.

The working method also involved the use of 'the conduction', a technique whereby the musical coordinator coordinates and directs the collective improvisation in real time using predetermined gestures and signals.

MiC Open Orchestra

Residency #1 Latvia, 17/21 May 2023







Residency #3
The Netherlands, 8/12 November 2023











ALFREDO GIAMMANCO (ITALY) LIVE ELECTRONICS AND CONDUCTION



GORAN MILOSEVIC (SERBIA)



ROBERTO FIORE (ITALY)





ISSA ZINA (THE NETHERLANDS) PERCUSSION



HASHEM KABREET (THE NETHERLANDS) PERCUSSION





KIEK BOSCH (THE NETHERLANDS)



ELECTRIC BASS







VIOLA ÉVA OKOS (HUNGARY) VIOLIN



OLGA MARINČUKA (UKRAINE)



MARIJA ZENKOVA (UKRAINE) VISUALS



ANIA BRZEZINSKA (THE NETHERLANDS) TRUMPET



PĒTERIS NARUBINS (LATVIA) GUITAR



DĀRTA DRAVA (LATVIA) VIOLIN AND VOICE



ELTAJ MURADLI (HUNGARY) GUITAR AND VOICE



DANA VASILIEVA (LATVIA) **VISUALS**



TAMAS KOVACS (HUNGARY) GUITAR



ANDREA GYÖRGY (HUNGARY) VIOLIN



VINCENZO CASTELLANA (ITALY)
PERCUSSION



LUCA KEZDY (HUNGARY) VIOLIN



KOEN BOEIJINGA (THE NETHERLANDS) **SAXOPHONE**



MAHMOUD HAMAD (JORDAN) OUD AND PERCUSSION



KATERINA PITS-VJKET (UKRAINE) VISUALS



SAXOPHONE



DANCE



KONSTANTIN SOLOMATIN (RUSSIA) SCULPTURE



The activities of MIC professionals consisted of four parallel transnational meetings of cultural operators, professionals, artists and organizers to discuss some of the current issues facing the music sector.

Each meeting was organised into two days of work plus one day of study visit to inspiring cultural spaces, festival venues and cultural institutions in the host cities, to explore different music management models and to receive input from external professionals, especially in the field under discussion.

MiC professionals

Transnational Meeting #1 Latvia, 17/21 May 2023



Music and Refugee Integration

Music as an opportunity for social inclusion of refugees. How much music in each country responds to refugees' integration needs? How music participation can contribute to refugees' well-being?

There was a shared agreement on the idea that artistic and cultural inclusion encompasses several dimensions that need to be addressed collectively: this means that migrants and minorities must be able to visit cultural venues and participate in artistic performances, but also, and crucially, to (co)design cultural offerings and have a say in what is planned and funded.

Transnational Meeting #2 Serbia, 13/17 September 2023



How can we reach new audiences? Since the radical changes in the way of music consumption, how can we attract a younger audience?

Adopting audience-centred approaches is a big challenge for a cultural organisation, especially for small and medium sized ones, which often don't have the time and resources to deepen this process. That's why it's essential to create opportunities for training and exchange on the subject, and that's what this network aims to do with MiC Expo.



Transnational Meeting #3 The Netherlands, 8/12 November 2023



Musicians today are constantly looking for funding opportunities to tour abroad, but often have very little knowledge and skills to access this funding and often end up giving up.

The needs that emerged from the meeting led us to invite to the final Expo event a few speakers from international organisations who have carried out studies and mapping of funding opportunities for musicians and artists.

MiC professionals



Transnational Meeting #4 Hungary, 17/21 May, 2023

Developing professional networks in the music sector How can we strengthen and improve the capacity of the music professionals, musicians and organizations to develop more active links among them?

> Today, being part of a network can really make the difference in building a music career, both as an artist and as a music professional/organiser. Networking means wider access to new and valuable information, get support, exchange ideas, improve management skills, get access to job opportunities, create valuable partnerships to obtain funds for our projects.





MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN MUSIC SECTOR

CATANIA 11-15 SEPTEMBER 2024

CONFERENCES ~ SEMINARS WORKSHOPS ~ SHOWCASES ~ ARTISTIC RESIDENCIES ~ FINAL CONCERT



event of the project, held in Catania

MIC

MiC Expo is the final event of the project, held in Catania from 11 to 15/09/24.

The initial idea of a storytelling event of the project has

The initial idea of a storytelling event of the project has developed into a successful international networking event for all those involved in the music industry, and a training event for young artists and organisers with conferences, workshops, showcases, artistic residencies.

The programme touched on several key issues in the music industry, from learning about funding opportunities for culture and music, to legal tips for musicians, producers, publishers and composers; from exchanges on audience development, artist mobility, sustainable live music events models to social inclusion in music.

There were also guests representing various international music organisations and networks that play different roles for the development and resilience of the sector, such as European Music Council, World Music Charts Europe, Piranha Arts, Bimhuis, Music Export Ukraine, Sicily Music Conference, Hangveto, European Folk network, Italiafestival.







CATANIA SICILY, IT 11-15/09/2024

MUSIC IN THE CIRCLE CLOSING EVENT COOPERATION PROJECT CREATIVE EUROPE



WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

CUT-CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO TEATRALE PIAZZA UNIVERSITÀ 13

10:00-11:00

Official Opening

11:00-13:00

Europe for Culture: Funding Opportunities for Culture and Music

Seminar by Enrico Proietti - Project Officer Creative Europe Desk Italia - Ufficio Cultura, IT Morena Rizzo - Università degli Studi di Palermo, IT

MiC Project Presentation

by Mario Gulisano, MiC Project Coordinator and Mariaelena Urso, MiC Project Manager, IT

16:00-16:30

Country Presentation #1: MiC Serbia

by Branislav Radojković - Babel Arts Management Serbia, RS

16:45-17:15

Expert Talk: Audience Development & Green Touring

with Tami Toledo Matuoka - Better Live Music/Bimhuis, NL

17:15-17:30

Q&A

17.30 _19.00

MiC Workshop: Creating Inclusive and Engaging Music Experiences

by Oleksandra Khalepa - Izolyatsia/Carbon Art Residency, UA

20.00

Opening party: live with Sambazita

TRAME DI QUARTIERE VIA PISTONE 59

16:00-18:00

MiC Street: Workshop about Spray Painting & Stencils by artist Gabel and Ass. Cult. Senza Fissa Dimora

(Italian-language - registration required)

ALL EVENTS - FREE ENTRY





CATANIA SICILY, IT 11-15/09/2024

MUSIC IN THE CIRCLE CLOSING EVENT COOPERATION PROJECT CREATIVE EUROPE

DAY2

THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

CENTRO FIERISTICO LE CIMINIERE VIALE AFRICA 12

10:30-10:45

General Introduction

by Eric E. van Monckhoven, MiC Facilitator

10:45-11:15

Country Presentation #2: MiC Latvia

by Ilmars Pumpurs - Skaņumāja, LV

11:30-12:15

Expert Talk: Social Inclusion of Foreign Artists with Tanya Stadnyk - Music Export Ukraine, UA

12:15-12:30

Q&A

15:30-16:00

Country Presentation #3: MiC Hungary

by Peter Vazarhelyi - Mediaevent

16:00-16:30

Experts Talk: European Music Council

with Andrea Murzi - EMC

16:45-17:45

Discussion Panel - European Music Networks

with Veronika Vajda - European Upbeat

Platform/Hangveto, HU

Daina Zalāne - European Folk Network, LV

Maurizio Cuzzocrea - ItaliaFestival, IT

18:00-19:00

Legal Tips for musicians, producers, publishers and composers

Seminar by Avv. Gianmaria Le Metre - Note legali

(Italian-language - registration required)

21:00

Showcase: Cico Messina (Sicily) Tinni Tinni Arts Club (via Scuto 19)

TRAME DI QUARTIERE VIA PISTONE 59

16:00-18:00

MiC Street: Workshop about Spray Painting & Stencils by artist Gabel and Ass. Cult

& Stencils by artist Gabel and Ass. Cult.

Senza Fissa Dimora

(Italian-language - registration required)

ALL EVENTS - FREE ENTRY

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MIC EXPO

CATANIA SICILY, IT 11-15/09/2024

MUSIC IN THE CIRCLE CLOSING EVENT COOPERATION PROJECT CREATIVE EUROPE



FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

CENTRO FIERISTICO LE CIMINIERE VIALE AFRICA 12

10:30-10:45

Welcome by Eric E. van Monckhoven, MiC Facilitator

10:45-11:15

Country Presentation #4: MiC Netherland by Joost Naber - Soundsnice, NL

11:30-12:15

Experts Talk: Artist Mobility with Fanny Bouquerel - Cimetta Fund/On The Move. IT/FR

12:15-12:30

Q&A

15:30-16:00

Country Presentation #5: MiC Italy

by Mario Gulisano and Mariaelena Urso - Darshan, IT

16:00-16:30

Launch of the MiC Distribution Platform

by Giuseppe Strazzeri - Mhodì Music Company, IT

16:45-17.15

Expert Talk: Sicily Music Conference Mark Dieler (SMC Residency Program)

17 · 15 – 18 · 15

MiC Expo Video Session

with Luca Jacob - Piranha Arts/Womex, DE Giuseppe Strazzeri - Mhodì Music Company Oleksandra Khalepa - Izolyatsia, Carbon Art Residency

Milan Tesar - World Music Charts Europe, CZ

TRAME DI QUARTIERE

VIA PISTONE, 59

10.00_20.00

MiC Street: Workshop & Final Exhibition

Aperitivo & Live Music

21.00

Showcase: Quartetto Areasud (Sicily/Calabria)



ALL EVENTS - FREE ENTRY





CATANIA SICILY, IT 11-15/09/2024

MUSIC IN THE CIRCLE CLOSING EVENT COOPERATION PROJECT CREATIVE EUROPE

DAY4

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

10:00-13:00

City Tour (registration required)

10:00-12:00 - CENTRO FIERISTICO LE CIMINIERE

Play it Loud! Crescendo - Focus Group: Women 24-30 yo involved in Music-related Activities

(Italian-language - registration required)

19:00-20:30

Aperitivo & Live Show by Vkraina Traditional Music & Dance from Ukraine

21:00

Grand Finale: MiC Open Orchestra in concert

DAY 5

SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

MONK JAZZ CLUB, PIAZZA SCAMMACCA 1

10:00-13:00

Networking Party: Aperitivo & Live Music by Associazione Algos

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MiC EXPO-Secretariat & Info musicinthecircle@gmail.com

ALL EVENTS - FREE ENTRY

MIC TEAM



COORDINATOR



PROJECT MANAGER



ERIC VAN MONCKHOVEN FACILITATOR



OLEKSANDRA KHALEPA FACILITATOR



PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA



ANDREA DIPASO VIDEOGRAPHER



GRAPHICS



STEFANIA GALAZZO WEBSITE



COORDINATOR FOR SKANUMAJA



BRANISLAV RADOJKOVIC COORDINATOR FOR BABEL ARTS BELGRADE



JOOST NABER



COORDINATOR FOR SOUNDSNICE COORDINATOR FOR MEDIAEVENT

Sign Up Now!





MiC Distribution platform

MiC distribution platform is a digital music service designed to help artists to promote their music and make it available on the main music stores such as Spotify, Apple Music, <u>Deezer</u>, etc.

It will allow users, through autonomous registration at https://dashboard.musicinthecircle.eu, to access a panel that will allow them to upload the music and see a detailed overview of their music available online.











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Città Metropolitana di Catania



Università di Catania



MiC EXPO Info musicinthecircle@gmail.com www.musicinthecircle.eu

LEADER



PARTNERS















