
LIVE DMA EUROPEAN NETWORK OF LIVE MUSIC VENUES AND FESTIVALS

Live DMA
European Network

Linking Initiatives & Venues in Europe (Developing Musical Actions)

www.live-dma.eu



<http://www.live-dma.eu/>

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Who are we?

Live DMA is an ongoing network reflecting the will of European popular music professionals. Live DMA is an umbrella association made up of 10 networks of venues and festivals.

Its members are ACCES – Spain; ASACC – Catalunya, Spain; Club circuit – Flanders, Belgium; Court Circuit – Wallonia, Belgium; Dansk Live – Denmark; FEDELIMA – France; Live Musik Kommission – Germany; VNPF – Netherlands; PETZI – Switzerland; Norsk Koncertarrangør - Norway.

Live DMA represents today 1300 venues and festivals of popular music in Europe.

Our work?

The network is a cooperative framework of professionals, organised around an ethical charter, a shared philosophy and goals with political, artistic and economic objectives. This text is a binding framework, allowing us to define a common identity, and to direct our activities. By signing this document, the organisations are expressing a formal commitment to the philosophy, the goals and the work that LIVE DMA network is seeking to achieve.

The three main working themes are:

On the artistic, cultural and social fronts:

- To sustain and participate actively in artistic discovery, emergence and innovation
- Playing a key role in facilitating the mobility of artists
- Being a major contributor to the dynamic of artistic renewal on a local, regional, national and international scale
- Basing its activities on a global approach toward artistic and cultural practices, both amateur and professional
- Promoting circulation of artistic productions, artists, populations who support our projects, professional staff and the relevant political decision makers

On the political front

- Being governed by considerations of cultural development and general interest
- Working together to gain legitimacy in the European political field, in order to provide a forum for actors in bodies which influence legal and legislative decisions concerning popular music in Europe
- Expressing their strong commitment to enter a process of joint public policy preparation with the representatives of the countries concerned

On the economical front

- Defending the diversity of initiatives and economical models.

- Believing in a plural economy and through their numerous and increasingly diverse work, are signing up to an intermediary economic dimension, the so-called 'third sector' or to a social and interdependent economy.

Milestones

2007

ACCES – Spanish network and La Fedurok (now FEDELIMA) started working together. The Spanish network was in a structuration process and needed to share information and experiences with some popular music organisations in Europe. This meeting set the grounds for a future international collaboration between a French and a Spanish network of popular music venues. These two organisations shared common values and formalised their relations with a cooperation protocol.

2008

ACCES and La Fédurok signed the cooperation protocol during the Mercat de la Musica Viva in Vic, Spain. ACCES has professional relationships with a Portuguese association, d'Orfeu, via an artistic circulation scheme called Outonalides. Fédurok, through its members from the North of France met Belgian networks Court Circuit and Clubcircuit. The connections with these three networks were easy going, as they shared common missions such as professionalisation, promotion of live music venues and practices, and were facing the same issues. The network is then extended to Belgium and Portugal.

2009

La Fédurok and ACCES met several European organisation during « The Euro Regional Music Meeting », organised by RAOUL (French regional network), Court Circuit and Clubcircuit. This professional meeting allowed them to meet two Danish organisations (ROSA and Spot Festival). These same organisations put them in contact with [Spillesteder.dk]. In December, a Danish delegation was invited to join a meeting during the Trans Musicales festivals in France. They were very interested in the project itself and its work dynamic and decided to join this cooperation process.

All partners applied to a Culture Programme – European Commission funds – with a project called Live DMA – Linking Initiatives and Venues in Europe – (Developing Musical Actions). They did not succeed at first, but this application proved the beginning of a strong cooperation dynamic. The name Live DMA also became the official name of this informal cooperation network.

The common will of the partners to continue to work at European level is formalised by the writing and signature of the Ethical charter of Live DMA (see appendix). The Danish and Flemish partners then introduced the Dutch association VNPF to the Live DMA network.

2011

With the network growing fast, members decided to hire a coordination assistant. This hiring was made possible thanks to the support of the French Ministry of Culture. The coordinator is in charge of the secretariat of Live DMA. The network also file its application to a new European project – the Leonardo Da Vinci partnership, lifelong Learning Programme – and set up the project MUSICATION: Music & Education. This new project aims at professionalising the work force in charge of educative activities in live music venues.

2012

Live DMA now has an official legal existence, as agreed by the members during the Spot Festival in Aarhus, Denmark. Live DMA is formalised as a non-profit association under French law. German association Live Musik Kommission joined Live DMA in May. In the same year Live DMA lost its Portuguese partner, with the orientations of Live DMA deemed too distant from their daily preoccupations and their self-perceived lack of structure at national level. However, Orfeu remains a silent partner of the network and will stay involved until the end of MUSICATION.

2013

Live DMA file its application to a new European project – the Leonardo Da Vinci partnership, lifelong Learning Programme – and set up the project Lighthouses. This new project aims at professionalising the work force in charge of artistic programmation, artistic direction and communication management in Live Music venues. The network is also chosen as an expert by the European commission working group ESCO (European Skills and Competencies and Occupations). Live DMA strengthens its basis, but also tries to develop new partnerships. Through its members, the network met some potential new partners, Norsk Rockforbund in Norway, El Salon in Turkey, Kulturfabrik in Luxemburg and Petzi in Switzerland. Live DMA faces new challenges, its statutes says that the members of the network must be association of venues and/or festivals. However, most of the structured associations are already part of Live DMA. The network decides to have a new mission, help the structuration of national association.

2014

Live DMA is autonomous in a process of extension and is evolving. The mission and works made by the network is redefined in October 2014, during its General Assembly. The next step of the network is to strengthen the network, open it to new countries, improve its visibility and the exchanges between members. Lighthouses and the Survey are two important projects for the network to continue, and the network also prepare European professional meetings. This will allows Live DMA and its members, to develop and its activities, and highlight the role of popular music venues and festivals regarding the cultural diversity.

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Our activities

Live DMA is carrying common works and activities about sectorial knowledge, training, and the circulation of artists and professionals in the live music sector. Our activities are centred on the three axes of the ethical charter. We set up several working groups in order to match our member's needs.



Survey Committee

- Collect and analyse data about live music sector (economical and social data)
- Development of our own questionnaire
- First survey launched on 2011's data
- Next step 2013's data with some changes in the methodology
- Quick surveys about specific topics (sound management, VAT, Author rights...)



Circulation of artists and professionals

- Support the circulation of emerging bands (European focus in Trans musicales, bilateral cooperation and tour support)
- Lighthouses project, european training and good practices exchanges for in house promoters.



Support to our members

- Reaction to European policies
- Monitoring
- Enhance and facilitate the cooperation between members
- Expert on the ESCO working group

Live DMA is currently working on its activities' project for the upcoming years. The working plan for 2015- 2017 has been defined during its general assembly in Berlin in October.

To have more information on our works and activities, we invite you to check our [website](#) and our [Facebook page](#).

Our past and current projects



Summary

MUSICATION is the first common project of Live DMA members. It was made possible with the support of Leonardo Da Vinci Funds – Lifelong Learning Programme.

The partners took into account a simple fact: new categories of jobs have been appearing in European live music venues for a few years now. Alongside their main activity, which is the organisation of concerts, many of them also develop educative and social activities, meaning that new types of professionals are working in these venues. Partners identified this as a major issue for the venues, for the professionals who work in these organisations, for the audiences: what does this mean in terms of professionalisation, and what is the impact on the audiences, the venues' projects and the territories?

The aim of MUSICATION is to build a cooperative framework for professionals of educative activities in Europe. The heart of the process are professionalisation, exchange of experiences and good practices.

For two years, four thematic seminars were organised in each partner's country.

- Seminar 1 – Amateur Practices – Brussels
- Seminar 2 – Teaching, pedagogy and audience awareness
- Seminar 3 – Volunteers, identification of professional needs
- Seminar 4 – Production of tools : Tool box, job description

There were several works completed during the project:

- Definition phase : work on a common terminology
- Exchange of good practices and experiences
- Identification of professionals needs – Training and tools
- Jobs description
- Explanation of European funds – Creative Europe, ERDF, ESF, LLP-

This project ended in July 2013

You can read more about this project on the [website](#)

You can also [download the report of the project](#)



Summary

Live DMA and some of its members – ACCES, Court Circuit, Club Circuit, Dansk Live, FEDELIMA and VNPF- Are involved in a new Leonardo da Vinci partnership, lifelong learning programme.

LIGHTHOUSES is a professional training programme. The targeted audiences are artistic professionals (in house promoters, artistic directors and communication managers).

This project aims to identify the skills and abilities needed in artistic professions on the European scale; through international workshops.

Partners will organise 7 three-day training seminars on several topics linked with the needs of the professionals: communication management and tools; Development of voluntary environment; artistic leadership and the art of programming and concept development; the place of artistic emergence in the project of European venues linked with territorial issues; how to build an artistic programme that engages a wider audience and a seminar about innovative web communication.

Partners identify a need of training on a European level regarding these issues. The purpose of LIGHTHOUSES is to define a European nomenclature, shared by these 3 categories of jobs. In order to identify the scope of employability on a European level, we will produce job descriptions and focus on the skills and abilities needed by these professions. This work will be done by professionals in the cultural field, and it will end with the creation of a “quality label”. Most of the skills and abilities of the cultural actors still come from the “field”. Many professionals in the live music sector agree on the fact that one does not learn how to become a professional, but that one becomes a professional by learning his trade in the field. LIGHTHOUSES will be a first step to answer the question: What will be the future of our venues and occupations in the following years?

The first seminar took place in France during Trans Musicales festival its topic was how to work with the notion of “Emergence”, how to programme in our venues dealing with our territories issues.

The next seminar will stand take place in Amsterdam from 2nd to 4th April 2014, and will be part of the Trans Europe Halles’ conference ‘The Future Is Not What It Used To Be’.

You can read more about the project on the [website](#)

You can also like the [Facebook Page](#)

You are interested in our work and you want to join us?

- To be a full member you must be a network of popular live music venues and / or festivals
- You must read and accept our ethical charter ([download it here](#))
- If you recognise yourself in our philosophy, you should send us a “cover letter” presenting your organisation and why you want to be a member of the network.
- The Board Members will contact you and invite you to one of our meetings, you should attend two meetings, before being accepted as a full member.
- The final decision will be done during the General Assembly.