

## ERASMUS+ 2024-25 New CALL for

### *House of Europe International Songwriting Project*

#### **HKU – Utrecht Konservatorium, Netherlands – Autumn 2024**

#### House of Europe

**Utrecht Konservatorium, Netherlands** will host the **House of Europe** project in the Autumn semester of 2024. The idea of the international **House of Europe** songwriting project is to bring together European higher music education students and musicians from outside Europe. The students and the guest musicians work together for a week in small teams writing and performing new songs they have written together. The intensive week of the project is in turn hosted by each of the six participating music institutions: Metropolia University of Applied Sciences (Helsinki, Finland), HKU Utrechts Conservatorium (The Netherlands), Conservatorio di Musica "Luisa D'Annunzio" (Pescara, Italy); Música Creativa (Madrid, Spain), Vienna Music Institute (Austria) and University of Tartu, Viljandi Culture Academy (Estonia). The project has already been implemented since 2018 by the same Institutions.

The **House of Europe** project was established to allow music students and musicians from non-European backgrounds to get to know each other, learn from each other about songwriting and collaborative music making, to learn from each other's cultures, and to network. So far, the new songs created in the project have told us stories about life in Europe, both through the eyes of those born here and those who ended up here for one reason or another. We have heard stories of everyday life, celebration, love, misfortune, dangerous journeys, the shelter of one's home – that is, of everything human that unites us and also sometimes separates us. Each intensive writing week culminates in a public concert where the new songs are performed by the participants of the Intensive Week. The concert will be recorded in multi-track audio and multi-camera video.

#### HoE Periods

The project will consist of three periods. If you attend the Intensive Week, you're obliged to attend **all three periods**:

#### Period 1: Introductory course (IC)

The online **Introductory Course** that precedes the Intensive Week deals with the skills and knowledge necessary for today's songwriter. The introductory course is open to all students of the House of Europe partner schools, and **if you attend all four of them** it has an extent of 1 ECTS. If you attend only 1,2 or 3 of these clinics, it's up to your own institute to decide how to register the study activity. Please contact your institute for this.

The teaching days are:

- October 4: 'your lyrics your story'

Annemarie Maas (HKU Utrecht University of the Arts)

- October 11: 'cultural overview of musical cultures in Europe: is there a national identity?'

Giuseppe D'Argenzio (Conservatorio di Musica 'Luisa D'Annunzio' Pescara)

- October 18: 'From cultural differences to cultural synergy: how to navigate cultural differences and similarities and use intercultural communication to open up new creative possibilities'

Ronen Abas (HKU Utrecht University of the Arts)

- October25: 'basic principles of songwriting'

Jere Laukkanen (Metropolia University of Applied Sciences Helsinki)

**All teaching days of the introductory course are Friday afternoons from 1 pm to 4 pm CET** (2 pm – 5 pm EET). Links to distance learning classes will be announced later. Prior to the online teaching sessions, participants should familiarize themselves with the learning material shared by each teacher in advance. *It is possible to participate in the introductory course without participating in other project events.*

### Period 2: Intensive Week (IW)

**The Intensive Week will be organized on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024** (Sunday 3rd and Saturday 9th are travel days.)

3 or 4 students from each institution will be selected for the intensive week, who will have the opportunity to work with students from other partner schools and visiting musicians. A total of 18–20 students from six different countries will take part in the Intensive Week. Eligible students must have previous experience with writing songs, preferably in teams as well. Those who register for the Intensive Week must also participate in the Introductory Course and the Post-production period. The Intensive Week is coached by teachers from the participating music institutions. There is a joint workshop on Monday, where all participants get to know each other through music, set common goals, and are introduced to the activities for the week. The actual writing of the songs takes place in daily changing teams from Tuesday to Thursday. At the end of each writing day there is a common feedback session, where the teams give and receive constructive peer feedback on their work and possible development suggestions for further elaboration on their songs. On Friday there will be rehearsals during the day and a joint concert in the evening. In addition, if possible, one or two social evenings/workshops will be organized during the week, where the participants can get to know each other more deeply and share their thoughts and experiences in a more relaxed atmosphere.

### Period 3: Post-production period (PPP)

**The intensive week will be followed by a remote Post-production period:** Nov 15, Dec 13, Jan 17 (13-16h CET). The idea of this period is to produce songs written during the Intensive Week further, aiming at publishable quality. Only students who participated in the Intensive Week can participate in this period. The working methods of the Post-Production Period will be announced later.

**The working language of the project is English.** However, participants in the Intensive Week are encouraged to write lyrics in their own mother tongue as well.

Students applying to participate in the Intensive Week will be selected based on merit and linguistic competence. Priority will be given to undergraduate students. Given the topics covered, the project is preferably open to students in the Pop Rock Compositional Techniques for Composers classes.

Applications must be received by e-mail to: [relazioni.internazionali@conservatoriopescara.it](mailto:relazioni.internazionali@conservatoriopescara.it) and in c/c to [stefania.franchini@conservatoriopescara.it](mailto:stefania.franchini@conservatoriopescara.it) **by 12.00 on 4 September 2024** with:

- short motivational letter in English,
- curriculum vitae,
- language certification (optional)
- at least 2 pieces complete with music and text composed by the candidate and performed in simple form (attach link to video)
- application form

The ranking list will be published on the Institute's portal.

Full participation in all the planned activities will allow the recognition of 5 credits (1+2+2).

Based on the intensive weeks that have already taken place, it is safe to say that this is a really great opportunity to meet new people, learn more about other cultures and increase your skills in writing music and networking professionally. *Music is the language that unites us all!*

**For more information** please contact the Erasmus coordinator Prof.ssa Stefania Franchini, M° Giuseppe D'Argenzio or M° Vincenzo Core.

IL DIRETTORE

M° Roberta DE NICOLA

*Firmato digitalmente da*

Roberta De Nicola

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