

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)**LIVE DMA SUMMER NEWS**

For several months now, we see a global trend rising in the European live music sector, jeopardising the small and medium live music venues, clubs and festivals' activity: the concentration of the sector around big major companies. But what is it really? What are the consequences of this trend? How to safeguard the independence of the live music sector? Let's dive into the subject in this new letter!

Enjoy your read!

- The Live DMA team





**What is the effect of concentration of the European live music sector? How can we explain it?**

These 10 past years, the European live music sector saw the **growth of big major companies** like Live Nation, Vivendi, and CTS Eventim, who are nowadays dominating the market. This **concentration of power limits opportunities for independent artists and promoters, affecting cultural diversity**: the dominance of these giants often results in higher ticket prices and less variety in events, making it hard for smaller players to compete.

Being aware of these challenges, The European Union is **working on the regulation of the live music sector in order to support the smaller actors** and promote innovation: programs such as Creative Europe or Music Moves Europe provide funding for live music projects, support artistic development or professional training. The need for stricter regulations to ensure the European music scene remains diverse and inclusive is a priority.

Live music is highly important for the European culture, from which the **necessity of maintaining an ecosystem where all artists, whether big or small, have the opportunity to express themselves and reach their audience.**

Photo credit: Helge Brekke

### TO GO FURTHER...

- Article "**Unveiling Europe's Live Music Scene: Market Dominance and Cultural Diversity**"
- Podcast "**Independent Voices Face High Ownership Concentration: Mapping the Cultural Landscape**"
- Proposals and outcomes: **Reset! Atlas of Independent Culture and Media**
- Map "**Music Festivals: Who owns what?**" by Matthieu Barreira



### **Cancelation of small and medium festivals: between monopolization and lack of resources**

These past few months, we assisted to a **growing crisis in the music festival sector**, particularly in the Netherlands, Spain and the UK where a significant number of festivals have been canceled. Key issues include **rising operational costs, shortages of materials and workers, and increasingly strict regulatory policies** at both municipal and national levels. Many events were also canceled at the last minute due to **insufficient ticket sales**, creating a real void for organizers, artists, and workers in the industry.

In Amsterdam, a new permit policy and the increase of the tax rate for the cultural sector are creating further difficulties. The **situation is exacerbated by the concentration of festival ownership in the hands of large investment funds**, potentially leading to a monopolized market where smaller, independent festivals are pushed out. The ongoing popularity of major festivals can be seen as positive but it let **less space for the small/medium festivals** to shine and rise.

In Denmark, **Dansk Live's worked with the government to reduce bureaucratic hurdles for festivals**. They are now introducing measures to streamline regulations, including allowing festivals to **obtain multi-year permits instead of reapplying annually**. These changes aim to alleviate the burdens on volunteer-run festivals, enabling organizers to focus more on creating cultural and musical experiences. The initiative is part of a broader effort to simplify rules that hinder voluntary work in Denmark.

Without government intervention and support, the trend of festival cancellations is

Photo credit: Lila Azeu

TO GO FURTHER...

- Article "At Least 60 Dutch Festivals cancelled in 2024"
- Article "Más de 100 festivales de música cancelados, ¿se ha pinchado la burbuja?"
- Article "40 UK festivals have now been cancelled this summer – with over 170 disappearing in five years"
- Article "Dansk Live backs bid to cut red tape for festivals"



**Revelland** FIND US AND OUR ARTISTS AT:

Roskilde Festival	29 June - 06 July
Colours of Ostrava	17-20 July
Sziget	07-12 August
Cooltural Fest	15-18 August
KeepON LIVE FEST	25-26 September
ESNS	15-18 January

Logos: POSSIBILIZE, GWB, KEEPON, LIVE, DISABILITY STUDIES, Herta & Paul Amirson Foundation, VITAMIN, EASPE, Co-funded by the European Union

**Revelland concerts around Europe**

Six bands, six festivals: from June 2024 to January 2025, the Revelland artists strated bringing their multisensory livesets to some of big European live music festivals. After months and months of intense study, experimentation and rehearsals the band are finally sharing the results of their work.

**[READ MORE](#)**

- Reeperbahn Festival (20 Sept): **Accessibility At European Festivals: From a burden to a fun multisensory experience! + CUT\_concert**
- Keepon fest (26 Sept): workshop on Accessibility 2.0, for live music professionals only + Revelland shows
- Ireland music week (4 Oct): workshop "Immersion & multi-sensory aspects of a live show: creative solutions towards greater accessibility" + **CUT\_concert**
- MaMA convention (17 Oct): panel "From limitation to enrichment – How to make festivals more accessible"

**News**



The applications of the 2nd open call are currently being evaluated by the Jury Team. The results will be released by September 23. Applications for the 3rd and last call will open at the beginning of November. **MORE ON LIVEMIX**



This new episode of "Sounds Of Music Venues" brings you to Brussels, the capital city of Belgium. It takes you to Botanique, one of Brussel's most iconic venue. The 40 years old venue encompasses three concert halls going from 200 capacity to 650 capacity, as well as a museum area and a unique view on the Brussel botanical gardens. **LISTEN**

**Where to find us?**

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

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"Place, perspective and Popular Music"

Presentation of the Study on booking Practices

### **SYMPOSIUM BOURNEMOUTH (UK)**

12-13th of September

Women and leadership in the CCIs

### **REEPERBAHN, Hamburg (DE)**

20th of September

Panel "Strengthening the European Music Ecosystem - together"

### **KEEPON LIVE Fest, Palermo (IT)**

25/26th of September

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For any question or inquiry regarding Live Style Europe II project and activities, please contact the Live DMA team : [contact@live-dma.eu](mailto:contact@live-dma.eu)

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Live DMA receives support from Creative Europe 2017 - 2024



Co-funded by the  
Creative Europe Programme  
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