

Info-pager: Live Incubator 2027, information for artists

What is Live Incubator?

Live Incubator brings together a new generation of the European music industry to come up with ideas for international live music projects, develop them and raise funding for them. It's run by SPOT Festival (DK), Trondheim Calling (NO) and Waves Vienna (AT), and funded by Erasmus+ Youth.

This year, we're opening the programme to solo artists. You know the music industry from the inside: the closed doors, the unwritten rules, the pressure on early-career musicians, and the independent venues and festivals fighting to survive. Live Incubator gives you the space, support and network to do something about it.

What you'll do

You'll be part of a team of 9 people: 3 solo artists, 3 emerging professionals and 3 festival directors. Over the year you will:

- Explore the challenges facing the live music scene in your country and across Europe
- Develop one project idea with your team, from first spark to tested concept
- Learn how to plan, budget and find funding for a project
- Pitch your project to industry professionals at the partner festivals
- Leave with a concrete plan to keep the project going after the programme

What could your project be about?

Anything that makes the music industry better, for example:

- Fairer and more open access to networks and opportunities
- Mental health and sustainable working conditions for musicians
- Strengthening independent venues, festivals and local scenes
- Environmental or social change through live music

Curious what past teams created? Browse the Live Incubator book → [\(link\)](#)

Who you'll work with

The directors of Trondheim Calling, SPOT Festival and Waves Vienna join the workshops as participants, not just as speakers. They share their networks, experience and honest feedback, and they work on the projects alongside you.

Timeline

- January '27: Online session #1
- February 3-7: Camp 1, Trondheim Calling (Trondheim, NO)
- March: Online session #2
- May 5-9: Camp 2, SPOT Festival (Aarhus, DK)

- September: Online session #3
- October 6-10: Camp 3, Waves Vienna (Vienna, AT)
- November: Online session #4

Between sessions, you'll meet online with your project team to keep the work moving.

Who can apply

- Solo artists, or artists who regularly perform solo
- Aged 18-30 for the full programme (January-November 2027)
- Based in Denmark, Norway or Austria
- All genres are welcome, except classical and traditional jazz, which fall outside **some** of the festivals' programming
- At an emerging stage: you have some recognition at home and you're ready to take your first steps into the European market

Live Incubator is open to every artist who meets the criteria above. We know the music industry hasn't always made room for everyone, so if you're underrepresented, whether as a woman, a gender-diverse or LGBTQIA+ artist, an artist of colour, an artist with disabilities, or someone from a working-class or rural background, we'd love to hear from you.

What we're looking for

- Motivation to develop projects that make a difference
- A vision for the future of the music industry
- Curiosity about working across borders with ambitious, like-minded people

You don't need a finished project idea. What matters is the drive to create one.

What's included

- Travel and accommodation for all three camps
- Food and drinks on workshop days
- Conference access at all three festivals
- A showcase at Trondheim Calling, SPOT Festival and Waves Vienna, with basic backline provided

Selection

Applications are reviewed by representatives from the three partner festivals, the Live Incubator project manager, and the festivals' programmers. We'll select one artist per country.

Deadline and contact

Applications close Monday 9 November, 12:00 CET. We'll announce the selection by 18 November.

Questions? Contact project manager Sita at sita@spot-festival.dk