



TIMES

THE INDEPENDENT  
MOVEMENT for  
ELECTRONIC SCENES

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# **THE INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT for ELECTRONIC SCENES: BRINGING TOGETHER 10 EUROPEAN FESTIVALS DEDICATED TO ELECTRONIC MUSIC AND DIGITAL ARTS**

The Independent Movement for Electronic Scenes (TIMES) brings together 10 European contemporary music festivals and forums mainly dedicated to electronic music and visual arts.

They collectively work to create original performances, promote emerging artists and diverse lineups, and improve sustainable practices in the European music sector.

Building on the experience of the 6-year joint project We are Europe, TIMES is the next step aspiring to promote artistic and creative transnational collaborations, to actively link up contemporary music scenes throughout Europe.

# WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN THE EUROPEAN MUSIC SECTOR

In an era dominated by live music giants and the surge of hegemonic phenomena, where a trend towards rising operating costs prevails, ten European festivals have opted for cooperation over competition. This proactive approach, aimed at introducing long-term practices, will foster greater collaboration, ensuring sustainability across various dimensions. It will also cultivate conditions for increased solidarity within the sector and enhance opportunities for electronic scenes.

By connecting emerging with established artists and disseminating the resulting work within the ten music festivals, the 11 partners share the ambition to amplify voices of contemporary artists and creators.

“For our team, TIMES represents a shift towards cooperation in the ultra competitive music industry. It's the only method for enhancing sustainability in all its dimensions, from the artists' creative process to the festivals' organisations.” — Juliette Josse (TIMES coordinator, Nuits sonores)

## CREATING ORIGINAL PERFORMANCES COMBINING MUSIC AND VISUAL ARTS

Over 3 years, festivals will commission 3 original performances, developed by a selection of artists and researchers from different countries and disciplinary fields.

Performances will reflect contemporary subjects and forms of art, connecting visual arts and innovative music.

As a result to this transnational collaboration, residencies and shows will therefore take place in the homelands of all festivals taking part in the project, thus increasing cultural exchanges and diversity in the European scenes.

“We are always looking for reasons to stimulate the creation of new works and the pairing of artists from different contexts, so the chance to be able to do this through collaborations with some of Europe's premier institutions makes a lot of sense for us. We're excited to get started.”—Harry Glass & Laurens von Oswald (Directors, Berlin Atonal)







# CURATIONS TO BOOST DIVERSITY OF EUROPEAN LINEUPS

Each year, festivals will host 3 partners' artistic curations. With an emphasis on promoting a balance between headliners and emerging artists, mixing local, national, European and international artists as well as a variety of backgrounds, TIMES aims to foster diversity in festival lineups.

By bringing new aesthetics to festivals, encouraging trans-disciplinary works and supporting local scenes, TIMES will create a ground for knowledge-sharing and experimentation between artists.

# TOWARDS FURTHER INCLUSIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE MUSIC FESTIVAL SECTOR

TIMES is committed to provide partner festivals with the opportunity to self-assess their practices and train their teams to better address contemporary challenges.

In addition to TIMES activities, the partners will also reflect on how to integrate sustainable practices in their own projects.

By defining collective values and methodologies, through peer exchanges and training programs, the partners will work on improving practices towards environmental sustainability, eco-awareness, accessibility and inclusivity.

# DOCUMENTING CREATIVE PROCESSES

To promote TIMES' artistic work, the project will produce documentary films that will chronicle the creative evolution of collaborations and artistic performances. This documenting work, unprecedented in European contemporary electronic music scenes, is coordinated by Arty Farty and Sónar.

TIMES will also be teaming up with various European media outlets and journalists to cover its activities. The pieces will be disseminated through the 'We are Europe' media, deepening and spreading the conversation around the artistic transnational works.

“Sónar is especially motivated by the opportunity to work in a collaborative framework with a group of European festivals and institutions who we admire and respect. Expanding the reach of culture has always been part of our ethos and TIMES will allow us to work together to achieve a bigger impact.”—Sónar's team



# FESTIVALS

A large crowd of people is seen from behind, looking towards a stage area. Several bright, narrow beams of light, primarily in shades of green and blue, cut through the dark air, creating a dramatic atmosphere. The lights appear to be coming from above, possibly from stage rigs. The crowd is dense, and the overall scene suggests a high-energy music or art festival.

## **BERLIN ATONAL** BERLIN, GERMANY

Berlin Atonal is one of the most influential festivals for sonic and visual art internationally. Renowned as a leading platform in the field of experimental music and art, the festival has a sharp focus on presenting new work and has hosted over 900 world premiers and commissions—making it one of the leading platforms in the field. Since its relaunch in 2013, Atonal has become one of the most visible German and international independent institutions that focuses on the intersection between art and music.



# FESTIVALS

An aerial photograph of a dense forest. In the lower center, there is a circular garden with concentric rings of different plants and a central green area. The garden is surrounded by a path and more trees.

## **TERRAFORMA** MILAN, ITALY

Threes Productions is a creative agency committed to cultural sustainability. It was founded in 2012 in Milan with the belief that art and culture can generate virtuous circles of inclusion and environmental awareness. Threes develops and promotes experimental projects in the artistic domains with a conscious approach to ecology. Threes' central project is Terraforma, an international music festival embodying the core mission of Threes Productions: sustainability, as well as environmental, social, and cultural regeneration.



# FESTIVALS



## **LE GUESS WHO?** UTRECHT, NETHERLANDS

With the motto of Listening is the Way Forward, Le Guess Who? is widely considered to be one of the most forward-thinking festivals around. Le Guess Who? exists to promote sounds that are often overlooked, and to platform fresh perspectives on what is possible in music. Artists from all over the world push the boundaries of expectations and offer an insight into the unprecedented diversity of human creativity. Over the years, Le Guess Who? has grown into becoming a leading international festival, notorious for the inspiring way in which groundbreaking music is presented.



# FESTIVALS

A large crowd of people is seen from behind, looking towards a stage. A bright yellow light beam emanates from a disco ball hanging from the ceiling, illuminating the scene. Several stage spotlights are also visible, creating a dynamic and festive atmosphere.

## **NUITS SONORES** LYON, FRANCE

Nuits sonores festival is a cultural, artistic and urban laboratory founded in 2003, Lyon, France, by Arty Farty. It's a cross-generational, unifying, and accessible project. For over 20 years, the festival has been taking place all over the city, transforming Lyon into an ephemeral space for celebration and conviviality. As France's leading electronic and independent music festival, Nuits sonores offers a cutting-edge, eclectic, and inclusive programme. Alongside the festival is the Nuits sonores Lab forum, powered by European Lab, offering debates, conferences, and training sessions on culture, creation, and contemporary issues.



# FESTIVALS



## **ELEVATE** GRAZ, AUSTRIA

Elevate is an annual interdisciplinary festival held in various venues in Graz, Austria, with a strong focus on cultural and socio-political topics. In addition to performances, concerts, installations, and DJ sets, the interdisciplinary program offers workshops, film screenings, lectures, and discussions. With its unique combination of critical-political discourse and art, contemporary electronic music, and audio-visual experiments, the festival opens up a space for innovative content.



# FESTIVALS



## **INSOMNIA** TROMSØ, NORWAY

Supported by a dedicated and passionate team since 2002, Insomnia remains a festival fueled by love that has forged friendships worldwide. The festival is community-run and strives to reflect the ambition and dedication of its local experimental music scene. Its location, right above the arctic circle, on the edge of Scandinavia, provides a brilliant vantage point for artistic curiosity. It welcomes challenges, and puts on emphasis on curiosity, as being part of the festival's DNA—Insomnia itself is an experiment, established because the north was in need for a gathering point for electronic music and contemporary sounds.



# FESTIVALS



## **REWORKS** THESSALONIKI, GREECE

Reworks is more than just a fusion of sounds and concepts; it's a vibrant convergence of voices, a platform for dialogue, and a gateway to the future.

Based in Thessaloniki, Greece, its mission is to showcase the diverse landscape of contemporary music through the works of both local talents and global artists. From experimental compositions to advanced electronic beats, from seasoned performers to rising stars, Reworks promises five days and nights brimming with music, discourse, and dance.



# FESTIVALS



## **SEMIBREVE** BRAGA, PORTUGAL

Semibreve is an exploratory electronic music and digital art festival taking place in Braga, Portugal. Since 2011 Semibreve has consistently presented a forward-thinking programme featuring some of the most revered electronic music and cross-disciplinary work by artists from around the world, as well as maintaining an active role in the promotion of digital arts in Portugal. Semibreve prides itself on curating a carefully-considered programme that is challenging and accessible.



# FESTIVALS

A person in silhouette stands next to a large, burning wooden structure at night, with smoke rising into the dark sky. The scene is illuminated by the bright orange and yellow flames of the fire, which is contained within a wooden frame. The person is standing to the left of the fire, looking towards it. The background is dark, with some distant lights visible.

## **UNSOUND** KRAKÓW, POLAND

Founded in 2003, in Kraków, Poland, Unsound focuses on a broad swath of contemporary music—emerging, experimental, and leftfield—whose sweep doesn't follow typical genre constraints. Influential, it has developed a reputation for always being ahead of the curve and serves as an annual industry meeting – a platform for an exchange of artistic ideas for musicians, visual artists, curators, journalists, record label owners and booking agents.





## **SONAR** BARCELONA, SPAIN

Sónar is a pioneering festival that has reflected the evolution and expansion of electronic music and digital culture since its first edition in 1994. Each year, Sónar converts Barcelona into a focal point for music lovers, artists and professionals from across the world, drawn to the multiple stages and venues of the Fira Barcelona by the festival's innovative content, format, and celebratory atmosphere.



# TIMES CURATIONS

Ryoji Ikeda<sup>JP</sup> Colleen<sup>FR</sup> Petra  
Hermanova<sup>CZ</sup> Hassan Abou Alam<sup>EG</sup>  
Animistic Beliefs<sup>NL</sup> Memorials<sup>UK</sup>  
Sleek Fata<sup>FR</sup> 2k88<sup>PL</sup> Ziùr<sup>DE</sup> w/ Elvin  
Brandhi<sup>UK</sup> & Sander Houtkruijer<sup>DE</sup>  
Rama<sup>EG</sup> 33EMYBW<sup>CN</sup> Ale Hop<sup>PE</sup> &  
Laura Robles<sup>PE</sup> Toé<sup>FR</sup> Salò<sup>IT</sup> Paquita  
Gordon<sup>IT</sup> b2b Marco Shuttle<sup>IT</sup> Toupaz<sup>AT</sup>  
Zoe McPherson<sup>UK</sup> Iglooghost<sup>IE</sup>  
Darwin<sup>CA</sup> JakoJako<sup>DE</sup> Sofia Kourtesis<sup>PE</sup>  
Mala<sup>UK</sup> TORO: softchaos<sup>ES</sup>  
Engalanan<sup>ES</sup> & Wicboyx<sup>ES</sup> Blck  
Mamba<sup>BE</sup> Iceboy Violet<sup>UK</sup> & Nueen<sup>ES</sup>  
Valentina Magaletti<sup>UK</sup> & Theresa  
Baumgartner<sup>DE</sup> Coco Em<sup>KE</sup> Olof  
Dreijer<sup>SE</sup> & Diva Cruz<sup>CO</sup> Hildreth  
England<sup>SE</sup> Ida Faldbakken<sup>NO</sup> Laurent  
Bigarella<sup>FR</sup> Pep Salazar<sup>ES</sup> Simone  
Ross<sup>US</sup> Zuraida Buter<sup>DE</sup> Caterina  
Barbieri<sup>IT</sup> Margarida Mendes<sup>PT</sup> Tutto  
Questo Sentire<sup>IT</sup> Kelman Duran<sup>DO</sup> &  
more...



# TIMES

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ELEVATE

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SEMIBREVE

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GUESS  
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## FOLLOW US

Web: [times-movement.eu](http://times-movement.eu)

Instagram: @timesmovement

## CONTACT

Juliette Josse, coordinator · ArtyFarty

[juliette@arty-farty.eu](mailto:juliette@arty-farty.eu)

[hello@times-movement.eu](mailto:hello@times-movement.eu)

## PHOTO CREDITS

Kevin Buy, Lisannë Lentink, Alexandros Kournoutis,  
Ariel Martini, Zuza Sosnowska, Clara Wildberger