

Surge in UK cultural organisations receiving Cooperation Projects funding through Creative Europe

UK cultural organisations are keener than ever to work with their European counterparts following the EU referendum, new figures have revealed.

Data released by Creative Europe – the European Union's funding programme to support creative sectors – shows that the number of selected cultural projects with UK involvement has risen by 30 per cent since the UK's vote to leave the EU.

The call for applications to Creative Europe's Cooperation Projects came after the EU referendum in June 2016, with the increase in UK involvement highlighting a renewed commitment to collaborate with other European partners.

In total, 35 creative, cultural and heritage organisations from across the UK have since been awarded €3.2 million in funding for their cross-border projects, with 30 of the 79 successful applications involving UK organisations. This compares to 28 UK organisations benefiting in the previous year as part of 24 projects.

Successful applicants range from national institutions such as the **Royal Opera House, the Hay festival and the Royal College of Art** to regional and grassroots organisations such as the **Independent Arts Council, Liverpool Sound City and Writers' Centre Norwich**. Six universities including **Manchester, Sussex and Cardiff Metropolitan** will also receive funds.

Some of the projects awarded funding are:

- [Welsh National Opera, Opera North](#) and [Royal Opera House](#) are three of the partners in *Opera Vision*, led by Opera Europa and awarded **€1,993,000**. Building on the success of Creative Europe-supported *The Opera Platform*, it offers a free online curated season of European Opera in partnership with 30 theatres from 19 countries.
- Cambridge-based theatre organisation [New International Encounter](#) is leading on a Large Cooperation Project awarded **€812,046**, titled *I Will Be Everything...* with partners from Spain, Norway, Denmark, Poland, Germany and Austria. *I Will Be Everything...* is a theatre and participation project that asks children to imagine their future selves and future world.
- London-based [PRS Foundation](#), leads *Keychange*. Awarded **€200,000**, it is a new talent development initiative to empower networks of female artists and innovators to showcase and collaborate at music industry festivals. The project's partners are in Estonia, Germany, Iceland, Spain, Sweden, Canada and the UK.

Vanessa Reed, Chief Executive of PRS Foundation, said: *"I'm delighted that we've succeeded as lead partner in our application to Creative Europe in spite of uncertainties posed by the UK's decision to leave the European Union. European and international collaboration is essential to the creative and business development of individual artists and the industry as a whole. Keychange's focus on giving talented women access to international networks and new markets at critical stages in their career will help them realise their potential as future leaders of an industry that is ready for change. I'm proud to be working with such an*

impressive line-up of festivals and music organisations to realise this ambitious European project which is based on shared values and a joint commitment to shifting the status quo.”

More information on results can be found at: <http://www.creativeeuropeuk.eu/news/2017-cooperation-projects-success-uk-participation-30>

Notes to Editors

Creative Europe Desk UK is led by the British Council and the British Film Institute (BFI) in partnership with Arts Council England, Creative Scotland and the Welsh Government, with support from the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the European Commission.
<http://www.creativeeuropeuk.eu/>

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Full list of UK organisations in 2017 Cooperation Projects

Leads:

- Quarantine
- ArtReach
- Crying Out Loud
- D&AD
- Performing Right Society Foundation (PRS Foundation)
- New International Encounter
- Abandon Normal Devices

Partners

- Royal College of Art
- Creative Skillset
- Performing Arts Network & Development Agency - PANDA
- Liverpool Sound City
- Opera North
- Royal Opera House
- Welsh National Opera
- Writing West Midlands
- Cardiff Metropolitan University
- OpenUp Music
- University of Manchester
- Lighthouse Arts & Training
- Hay Festival of Literature and the Arts
- Liverpool City Council
- Not Just a Label
- Teeside University
- Creative Kernow
- Yorkshire Dance Centre Trust
- Ironworks
- Kirklees Theatre Trust
- Gravity & Levity
- Writers' Centre Norwich
- University of Wolverhampton
- Independent Arts Council
- University of Sussex
- Festival of Fools
- Furtherfield.org
- Leeds Beckett University

Creative Europe is the European Union's programme to support the cultural, creative and audiovisual sectors. From 2014-2020, the EU is investing €1.46 billion in the creative industries through one unified programme, Creative Europe, which replaces the two previous Culture and MEDIA programmes. Creative Europe supports European projects with the potential to travel and find audiences beyond their national borders. Launched in 2014, Creative Europe brings together a Culture sub-programme, which provides funding for the cultural and creative sectors to collaborate across borders, and a MEDIA sub-programme, which

invests in cinema, television, new media and games. Match funding is required by participating organisations. Creative Europe is open to all EU Member States plus 10 non-EU countries.

Cooperation Projects

There are two types of Cooperation Projects. Small Cooperation Projects involve a partnership of at least three organisations from different eligible countries and up to €200,000 can be applied for. Large projects bring together a partnership of at least six organisations from different eligible countries and up to €2 million can be applied for. The Cooperation Projects strand supports cross-border projects between cultural and creative organisations within the EU and beyond, which can cover one or more cultural and creative sectors and can be interdisciplinary. These projects must be shown to support capacity building, audience development or cross-border mobility, and achieve results that are more than the sum of the activities in the different countries.

Creative Europe and the outcome of the EU Referendum

[Following the EU referendum](#) result there are no immediate material changes to the current arrangements for those who have successfully applied, are currently being assessed, or are planning to apply for Creative Europe funding. The UK will continue to participate in Creative Europe as normal until it leaves the EU (until the leave negotiations reach a conclusion or two years from the invoking of Article 50 – whichever is earlier). The European Commission has confirmed that there is no negative bias against UK applicants. The UK Treasury has provided reassurance that it will underwrite the payments of multi-annual projects selected for support while the UK is still a member of the EU even if the projects continue beyond the UK's exit from the EU. Benefits that Creative Europe brings to the UK include: developing the creative sector's capacity to innovate, reach new audiences and share skills; fostering collaboration; and building international networks.

Creative Europe Desk UK

In each country that takes part in Creative Europe, there is an information and promotion office which supports potential and current stakeholders with their applications. The team members of **Creative Europe Desk UK** are based across the UK, in London, Manchester, Glasgow and Cardiff. Creative Europe Desk UK is led in the UK by the British Council and the British Film Institute, in partnership with Arts Council England, Creative Scotland, Welsh Government, and with support from the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the European Commission.

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