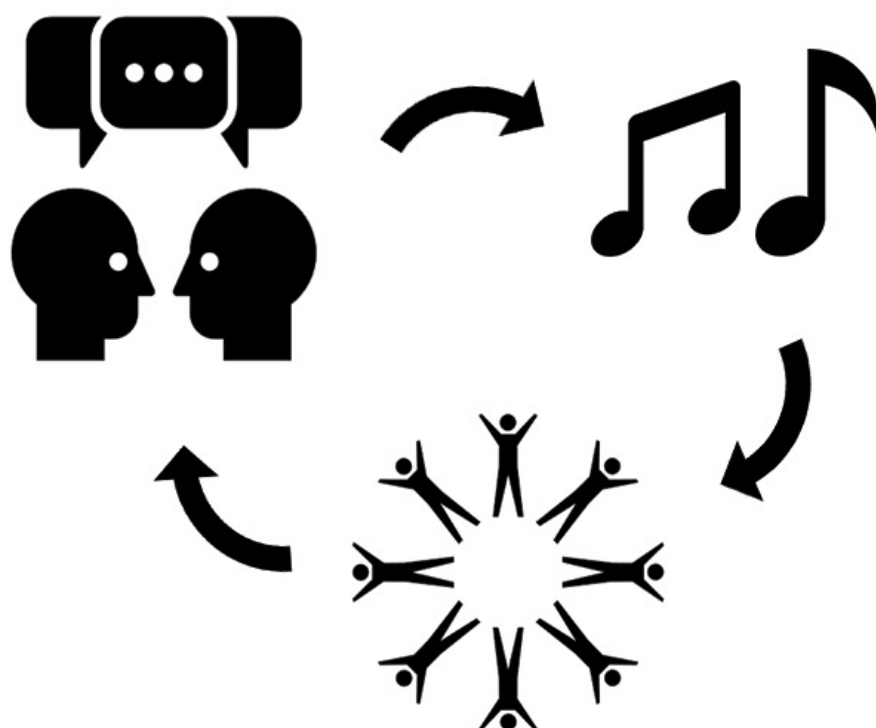




SWINGING EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



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Introduction

The year 2017 pointed towards international collaborations as far as Swinging Europe's continued work with network-establishing projects within the international cultural world. Not only in terms of our projects, but also in the creation of collaborations across geographical borders, exciting developments took place both at home and abroad.

Regionally, we participated again in the annual cultural event of Kulturgården, Culture in the Dark, where the artist Lord B spoke about sustainability for children and those young at heart, while the InVITation Lab initiative continued to travel around the central and western Jutland municipalities to involve young people to active citizens and creative problem solving in the local communities. Similarly, the large-scale festival - Off Road Festival - was celebrated in April, where Swinging Europe contributed to the musical events in the form of the trio Migrant Music and the new pilot project PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC, who performed a number of concerts.

Nationwide, we focused on the involvement of young people in culture and the issue of integration: Migrant Music performed two concerts in Kibæk and Selde, where opportunities for better social inclusion of immigrants were addressed as topics in the following debates. Swinging Europe was also represented at the Cultural Summit in the form of the idea concept InVITation Lab, where young people were invited to voice their proposals for improving the Cultural Summit.

Internationally, we launched more collaborative projects that made use of the unexplored areas of interdisciplinary disciplines; the Erasmus + project Culture ShoX, which took place in Cyprus and in Herning, tested the possibilities of theatre and music as a communicative tool between young Europeans and immigrants. The results and experiences of the intercultural project were subsequently presented at the Tools conference in Herning from 29th – 30rd November, where we participated as collaborators. During the two conference days, a film collage from the two youth camps was shown to a wide-spanning audience, consisting of national and international representatives from the cultural field.

The audio-visual project Sound Becomes Life combined Ukrainian natural history with added live music performances. The Nordic talent development project, PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC, toured Denmark, Sweden and Finland at the start of the year and the international network project, NIMPE, took off in the form of a kick-off meeting in Volos, Greece, for further development.

Swinging Europe's goal is not only to engage in international cultural work, but also to emphasise regional and local levels. Our goal is to gather and expand the existing cultural network around Herning and facilitate new opportunities for further cooperation between the institutions. A desire to engage in and to have even more visible presentation in Herning has been concretised, as Swinging Europe is a cultural institution, which has something significant to offer – both in Herning, outside of Herning and with a direct red line tracing back to Herning in the rest of the world.

We will continue to implement sustainable projects and significant partners to the municipality, thus helping to ensure a flourishing cultural life locally, while strengthening Herning's cultural links, at both national and international levels. A continued focus on talent development and the unexplored opportunities, which exist in interdisciplinary cultural collaborations, is particularly in Swinging Europe's interest. Our mission is to create cultural synergy across both cultural, social and geographical borders, and we are convinced that with our strong foundation in Herning and good international relations, we can continue to bring the municipality to the world – and not least the world to Herning.

Happy reading!

Executive Director - Marie Lilholt

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Marie Lilholt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

1 About DSI Swinging Europe

1.1 The Board

In 2017, changes in relation to the distribution of the posts in Swinging Europe's board took place: Knud Jeppesen disputed the post as Chairman of the Board from 1st of January to 22nd August 2017, after which board member Niels Overgård fulfilled the role. Martin Pihl contested the role of Vice Chairman from January 1st January to 22nd August the same year, after which board member Birgit Jonassen replaced him. In addition, Swinging Europe's board received additional members in the form of Morten Mosgaard, as well as Nicolas Jespersen, who were welcomed by the other board members on the 22nd August and the 10th October 2017, respectively.

Chairman	Knud Jeppesen (from the 1st January – 22nd August 2017) Niels Overgård (from the 22nd August 2017 –)
Vice Chairman	Martin Pihl (from the 1st January – 22nd August 2017) Birgit Jonassen (from the 22nd August 2017 –)
Board Member	Anne Damsgaard
Board Member	Nicolas Jespersen (from the 10th October 2017)
Board Member	Martin Pihl
Board Member	Morten Mosgaard (from the 22nd August 2017)

1.2 Team

Executive Director (Maternity leave from August 2016 – July 2017)	Marie Lilholt
National producer and project coordinator	Cüneyt Pala
Project manager and fundraiser	Mette Pilgaard Nielsen
Acting-Head from August 2016 – July 2017 (Maternity leave from October 2017 – August 2018)	
Project coordinator	Steen Norman Storm Mikkelsen
External bookkeeper	Kristina Lindberg / Lindberg Økonomi
Project manager and fundraiser	Anne Sophie Parsons

1.3 Contact

DSI Swinging Europe

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E-mail: jazz@swinging-europe.dk

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4.1 Collaborative Partners and Network

Local Collaborative Partners

The Jutland School of Singing	Folk School Skærgården	Fermaten
Herning Municipality	Fællesbo in Gullestrup	Herning Music School
Herning Library	Herning Art School	Huset No. 7
Cultural Consultation Herning	Scene 7	SceneKunstSkolen
MoorJazz	The Museum of Central Jutland	Skovsnogen Artspace
Carl-Henning Pedersen & Else Alfelts Museum		

Regional Collaborative Partners

Cultural Centre Da Winti	Hammerum Folk School	Remisen Brande
Central Denmark EU Office	Nørre Nisum High School	Holstebro Music School
Asylum Centre Thyregod	Asylum Centre Jelling	Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality
Sønder Felding Folk School	Struer Municipality	Ikast-Brande Municipality
Holstebro Municipality	Lemvig Municipality	Skive Municipality
Kulturhuset Skanderborg		

National Collaborative Partners

Aarhus Jazz Festival	Copenhagen Jazz Festival	The Rhythmical School in Båring
VerdensKulturCentret	Jazz Danmark	Sankt Annæ High School
Spil Dansk		

International Collaborative Partners

TheatrEtc	The State Museum of Natural History i Lviv	
Riksförbundet Unga Musikanter	Korsholm Music Institute	Music Institute Legato
Associazione Assomusica	Technopole Quimper-Cornouaille	Root Music Ltd
Drustvo Studentski Kulturni Center - SKUC		M.E.S.O. Music Events
Fridhems Folkhögskola	Teaterstudio Lederman	Scalateatern
Södra Latins High School	Frans Henrikssonssalen	Läppfjärds Folkhögskola
Närpes High School	Cultural Centre Korsholm	The Doo-Bop Club

Network

Culture Action Europe
Europe Jazz Network
Cultural Consultation Herning
Kulturgården
Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland
Tandem Network
Oracle Cultural Network

2 National Projects

In 2017, Swinging Europe participated in Central and Western Jutland's largest cultural festival to date, Off Road Festival, which took place from 11th April to 6th May. The festival was kicked off with a celebration in Herning, where we contributed with our bands, PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC and Migrant Music on the opening day. The latter band, Migrant Music, proceeded to perform concerts at Skovsnogen Artspace in Kibæk and Kulturhuset Da Winti in Selde, where the meeting between Danish and non-Danish cultures was the focus of the two performances; the trio was Swinging Europe's musical and intercultural project, which we contributed with, exploring the theme of "being off road" in the geographical and societal understanding of the festival's overall theme.

True to form, we participated again in the local cultural life, when the exploration happened in a small format, when Kultur i Mørket (Culture in the Dark) unfolded on 17th November, which had 'sustainability' as its theme this time around.

Our traveling workshop concept, InVITation Lab, continued to travel to central and western Jutland, to inspire young people to take active part in democratic citizenship. InVITation Lab also represented our institution at the Cultural Summit from the 24th – 26th August, where young participants voiced their suggestions as far as bettering initiatives in the context of the Cultural Summit – which lead to a manifestation as far as the Signed Post Wood (Skilteskoven).

Swinging Europe was also represented at various national meetings and conferences, all of which concerned the status quo of culture and music in a modern European society; at the end of 2017, we facilitated and planned the Tools conference from the 29th – 30th November, which presented cultural organisations, institutions and stakeholders locally, regionally and from abroad to the results of international Erasmus + projects together with Herning Library, Kulturhuset Skanderborg and Central Denmark EU Office in Brussels. We also participated in a Jazz Denmark Representative Board Meeting.

2.1 Off Road Festival

Off Road Festival, which took place from 11th April to 6th May was Central and Western Jutland's biggest festival in recent years, as well as the fourth instalment in a series of regional cultural festivals; The theme was "off road" and several cultural institutions explored it through different approaches, such as the unfamiliar, cross-border as thematic frame, and being far away and close at the same time. The cultural festival Off Road was launched by the Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland and was supported by Aarhus 2017: it took place in the seven municipalities of the Culture Cooperation, which consist of Lemvig, Struer, Holstebro, Skive, Ringkøbing-Skjern, Herning and Ikast-Brandeb.

Swinging Europe actively participated during the opening show in Herning, which had the headline "Closer to Magic": Everything from dance, theatre, street art to poetry was presented to the audience. Our contribution consisted of concerts from our Nordic youth orchestra, PLAY! GROUND LIVE NORDIC, and the intercultural trio, consisting of Bilal Irshed, Yohan Ramon and Rasmus Møldrup under the project title, Migrant Music. Migrant Music moved around in Herning's city centre to chosen locations, where they played while PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC performed at the Fox and Hounds pub and at the big final concert on Torvet, rounding off the festivities of the day. PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC appeared together with famous names like Erann DD and the electronic music star, Trentemøller.



In addition, PLAY! GROUND LIVE NORDIC was mentioned in the list of performing artists in the marketing material for Off Road Festival, on printed flyers and were written about locally in the form of an online post on Herning Folkeblad's website.

2.2 Migrant Music

Migrant Music was a project that wanted to establish contact between refugees, migrants and local citizens through culture and respectful dialogue. Swinging Europe arranged for two events to take place on the 30th of April at the art exhibition site Skovsnogen Artspace in Kibæk and the Da Winti Cultural Center in Selde. The events were a combination of concerts with migrant musicians followed by public debates about politics, the EU and the refugee situation.

As DSI Swinging Europe's contribution to the Off Road cultural festival played around Denmark, it was under a clear sky and the twitter of birds when Bilal Irshed's trio shared good energy through their concerts. Migrants and refugees pass national borders and search for places other than their own homes in order to escape – the subject can be perceived as controversial, as it evidently divides opinions. This was exactly the point, which Migrant Music wanted to focus on during the day through indoors and outdoors events. After the concerts, the audience was invited to public debates where everyone was free to express their own opinion on the subject.

Based on a selection of anonymous political statements regarding migration, the participating audience covered the subject from different angles: from the difference in which role the state plays in the Nordic and Eastern countries to people's perception of it, what effect trauma has on a person's ability to implement themselves successfully in a community and which opportunities are stored in small villages in relation to the issue of integration were all put forth.

The desire for a more direct focus on integration work, where the immediate meeting between refugees and Danes can unfold was considered and discussed. So was the efforts which could possibly be put into action on both a smaller and larger level in small local communities, as well as cities, to achieve the best results.

Musician Bilal Irshed supplemented with his own experiences, which he has made through in the music world; music is an artistic field, where people from wide variety of cultures can be brought together through creativity, he pointed out. In music, there is no language barriers, no cultural differences and no reservations, when tunes fill the air.

Migrant Music was Swinging Europe's traveling musical contribution to the Off Road Festival, which interpreted the overall theme of the festival in concrete terms: the trio Migrant Music was not only 'off road' by performing concerts in remote places, which included an outdoor concert in a forest and in the streets of Herning, but also in relation to the subject, which was illuminated through migrants' experiences of being 'off road' as far as European society's expectations and prejudices regarding them.



2.3 Kultur i Mørket

On the 17th of November, Kulturgården invited children, parents and everyone else up for it to experience the various represented cultural institutions housed in Nørregade. The theme of this year's Kultur i Mørket (Culture in the Dark) was 'sustainability':

We contributed with a children's event, which featured children's author Hans-Henrik Juhl in collaboration with Scene 7.

The event consisted of a drawing contest that resulted in illustrated parrots. The event was a great success:

Hans-Henrik Juhl presented his new children's book *The Legend of Lord B*, after which musician Kim Munk read aloud from the book.



A couple of Lord B songs were played as well.

2.4 Cultural Summit

The initiative InVITation Lab, which involves young people in its development concept, represented Swinging Europe at the Cultural Summit at Mors in the shape of an open workshop, which led to a live and spontaneous evaluation of this year's Cultural Summit.



Based on the youth's attitude and observations regarding the Cultural Summit's programme, an opportunity to contribute with creative measures and suggestions were voiced and concretised. A brainstorming session resulted in the physical "Skilteskov", which consisted of ideas written on small signs, which were placed around the Cultural Summit.

Constructive criticism and thoughts were written on the signs, and as a result formed a concrete overview of the wishes of young people for next year's Cultural Summit.



2.5 InVITation Lab

InVITation Lab is a cultural agreement project under the cultural cooperation in Central and Western Jutland. We collaborate with Team Teatret and Herning Library, the latter acting as project manager of InVITation Lab. Project manager and facilitator Cüneyt Pala from Swinging Europe and Marianne Illum Sørensen from Team Teatret plan and facilitate all workshops in collaboration with local libraries in the 7 municipalities that are part of Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland. During the four workshops, young people working with democratic processes and methods of culture attempt to find out what the group in unison thinks their local community needs and how they can respond effectively to this need.

In 2017, InVITation Lab workshops took place in Ikast-Brande Municipality, Skive Municipality, Lemvig Municipality and Holstebro Municipality, with a subsequent political youth-focused tour in collaboration with Kunstpartiet that visited the municipalities mentioned. In Ikast-Brande Municipality, a small number InVITation Lab workshops resulted in a H. C. Andersen mural on Ikast-Brande Library, as well as several initiatives to generate more activity in the city, while young participants from the vocational college from Marienlyst (Produktionshøjskolen i Marienlyst) in the municipality of Skive decided that they would like to help create a meeting place in Skive Park: the place would be able to embrace children, adults and youth, and wishes involved everything from parkour-facilities to various outdoor games, which would physically activate people.

In Lemvig Municipality, 13 students from the Northwest Jutland Production School discussed the possibilities of positively changing Lemvig and its surrounding area as a result of a workshop, which took place in Bovbjerg Lighthouse in April. Later that month, the participants got together again and expanded on the ideas that ranged from more buses to a pancake car. InVITation Lab ended the year with workshops taking place in Holstebro in collaboration with Holstebro Library and the 7th and 8th grades from Holstebro Private School creating a free room where 13 - 16 year-olds could enjoy themselves and be creative, as well as a touring electoral happening in the shape of youth-focused and entertaining equivalent to the local elections.

Together with KunstPartiet, InVITation Lab invited students from Ikast-Brande, Skive, Lemvig, Holstebro and Herning Municipality to create their own fictional political parties with names like the Birch Democrats, the Linden Party and the Oak Party, and subsequently to engage in debates about social and local problems, as well as their solutions to these aforementioned dilemmas, in a whole new form of engaging election campaign.

InVITation Lab went on a study trip to Manchester and York from 4th – 6th December 2017, as well, where a total of 14 young participants from Central and Western Jutland went to the two English cities, where different institutions working with citizen involvement and engagement on different levels were visited.

Representatives from the 7 libraries in the municipalities will have a joint meeting on the 29th January 2018, where a follow-up meeting for the core team will take place on the 16th March to further work on a draft as far as how the project can continue until the end of 2019, potentially.



InVITation Lab workshops in 2017

#InVITation Lab 1:

November 2016 - Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality

InVITation Lab #1:	the 31st of October 2016
InVITation Lab #2:	the 7th of November 2016
InVITation Lab #3:	the 14th of November 2016

#InVITation Lab 2:

Ikast-Brande Municipality

InVITation Lab #01:	the 2nd of February
InVITation Lab #02:	the 10th of February
InVITation Lab #03:	the 22nd of February
InVITation Lab #04:	the 24th of February

#InVITation Lab 3:

Skive Municipality

InVITation Lab #01:	the 21st of March
InVITation Lab #02:	the 22nd of March
InVITation Lab #03:	the 28th of March
InVITation Lab #04:	the 29th of March
InVITation Lab #05:	the 31st of March

#InVITation Lab 4:

Lemvig Municipality

InVITation Lab #01:	the 5th of April
InVITation Lab #02:	the 19th of April
InVITation Lab #03:	the 24th of April
InVITation Lab #04:	the 8th of March

#InVITation Lab 5:

Holstebro Municipality

InVITation Lab #01:	the 20th of September
InVITation Lab #02:	the 11th of October
InVITation Lab #03:	the 12th of October
InVITation Lab #04:	the 24th of October

#InVITation Lab 6:

Struer Municipality

InVITation Lab #01:	the 27th of October
InVITation Lab #02:	the 3rd of November
InVITation Lab #03:	the 1st of December

#InVITation Lab 7:

January 2018 - Herning Municipality

InViTation Lab Election Campaign 2017:

Workshop #01

The 6th of November:

Herning

Workshop #02

The 7th of November:

Ringkøbing-Skjern

Workshop #03

The 8th of November:

Lemvig

Workshop #04

The 9th of November:

Struer

Workshop #05

The 10th of November:

Ikast-Brande



2.6 National Meetings and Conferences

2.7 Information Provision and the Exchange of Knowledge about EU-applications – 5th of January

Swinging Europe was represented in the shape of project manager and fundraiser Mette Pilgaard Nielsen at this year's first meeting regarding knowledge-based information as far as writing EU applications at Herning Library on 5th January. Lone Leth Larsen from Central Denmark EU Office talked about EU applications, while Sara Jørgensen from Herning Library and Mette Pilgaard Nielsen from Swinging Europe shared their experiences with the application process in connection with the Erasmus + programme.

2.8 Two-Day Course: Digital Communication Strategy the 15th and the 23rd August

Project manager Steen Mikkelsen and project manager and fundraiser Anne Sophie Parsons represented Swinging Europe at a two-day course focusing on digital communication strategies for the individual cultural institutions in the Central Denmark Region on the 15th and 23rd August. The digital ecosystems of the institutions were analysed, investigated and brainstormed for measurable future improvement, which was outlined. During the two-day course, participants were given theory, inspiration – and above all practical exercises – leading the participants through a reflected digital strategy process.

The course was facilitated by Seismonaut and took place at Gimsinghoved Art and Culture Centre in Struer.

Represented Institutions at the Course:

- Mississippi
- Odin Teatret
- Cultural Centre Struer
- Kultursamarbejdet
- Music School Ringkøbing-Skjern
- Museum Midtjylland
- Frilandsmuseet Hjerl Hede

2.9 Cultural Leader Meeting from the 2nd – 3rd November

Swinging Europe was represented in the form of Executive Director Marie Lilholt from Swinging Europe took part in the cultural leader meeting in Nørre Vosborg from the 2nd to the 3rd November. The meeting concerned the challenges cultural management offers today and in the near future. Søren Friis Møller, PhD in Cultural Management and Educational Development Manager at the Film School, gave insight into his experiences and knowledge concerning the subject.

In groups, the participants focused on strategic challenges, initiatives and opportunities in cultural leadership – additionally, the status quo of the Cultural Cooperation's work was presented.

2.10 Jazz Danmark Meeting in Aarhus on the 9th of November

On the 9th of November, Swinging Europe participated in Jazz Denmark's meeting, which featured the election of the representatives of the board and the winner of the national competition Jazzaktion! at the Aarhus Conservatory of Music. The contest wanted to send their best jazz ideas in the country, promising a financial prize as a starting aid in order to realise the winning project. Together with stakeholders from the national jazz and music scene, we partook in electing the representatives of Jazz Denmark, and voted for the winner of the Jazz Action! contest in the form of project manager and fundraiser Anne Sophie Parsons.

In Aarhus, Ole Kjær from Gladsaxe Jazz Club, Lisbeth Havndrup Nielsen from Rytmisk Musikforening and Henrik Schultz-Petersen from Jazz Company in Aarhus were chosen. The three finalists in the Jazzaktion! Contest consisted of electronic musician Rasmus Rehyl, Ole Kær from Gladsaxe Jazz Club and Peter Suwalksi from Suwalksi's Latin Quarter. In Aarhus, music entrepreneur Rasmus Rehyl won the prize: his idea consisted of building a community for future jazz musicians and to facilitate a meeting between the creative grass roots scene within the world of jazz. The project had as its goal to bring together new players within jazz and facilitate meetings between jazz as a music genre and other relevant music genres.



3 International Projects

Back in 2016, the creative seeds were planted and furthermore watered in order for a number of our international projects to be carried successfully out this year. They were therefore also part of the agenda during 2017, where art disciplines were both combined to explore the possibilities for better integration through the Erasmus+ project Culture ShoX, and also to reinterpret the theme of evolution in the audio-visual collaboration project Sound Becomes Life. Both projects possessed their very own distinct interdisciplinary approach to a problem. The touring pilot project PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC, which offered a melting pot consisting of talented young musical talents from Denmark, Sweden and Finland, went on its maiden voyage through the three neighbouring countries, while the musical network concept, NIMPE, was planned to even greater extent through Skype meetings with all partner countries involved.

Swinging Europe also participated in international meetings and conferences abroad where the European status quo in relation to culture was discussed, new partners were contacted and seminars dealing with youth-to-youth learning, involvement of young citizens, and how non-formal learning may be implemented in the work of the institution provided important insight in the context of Swinging Europe's future focus.

3.1 PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC

The long-running successful talent development orchestra, PLAY!GROUND LIVE, entered the new year in its Nordic version for the first time with the title PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC. Twelve musicians from Denmark, Sweden and Finland in the age group of 15 - 22 were combined and went on a tour from 28th February to the 9th of March.

The pilot project was developed in collaboration with the Swedish National Music Association – Rytmske Unga Musikanter (RUM) – in Sweden, the Music Institute Legato and Korsholm Music Institute in Finland, as well as Swinging Europe in Denmark as lead partner with composer and musician Bo Stief as associate conductor. The young musicians from the three Nordic countries played 18 concerts at music schools, colleges, venues, cafés and even an asylum centre.

The project started with an intensive boot-camp lasting three days in Herning from 25th – 27th of February. During these three days, Bo Stief instructed the young musicians in handling their instruments, solo performances, their interaction and to perform together as a harmonic orchestra.

Learning by doing was a ruling principle during PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC, which wished to send young musical talents into the real world and give them a new cultural insight into the Nordic neighbouring countries, as well as practical experience as professional musicians during the Nordic tour.



Another aspect of the tour included the implementation of workshops and mini-seminars presented to music teachers and music students: We wanted to share experiences and generate new knowledge about talent development in the Nordic region for shared use.

After the tour, PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC furthermore performed at Central and Western Jutland's big Off Road Festival on the 11th April in front of the Fox and Hounds pub, and then as part of the final concert.

PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC Tour 2017

28th February:	15:00	Folk School Skærgården
	20:00	Premiere Concert: Fermaten
1st March:	09:00	Nørre Nissum High School
	11:00	Holstebro Music School
	16:00	Asylum Centre Thyregod
	20:00	The Rhythmical School in Båring
2nd March:	12:00	Sankt Annæ High School
	18:00	VerdensKulturCentret
3rd March:	10:40	Fridhems Folkhögskola
4th March:	09:00	Teaterstudio Lederman
5th March:	17:00	Scalateatern
6th March:	09:30	Södra Latins High School
7th March:	19:00	Frans Henrikssonsalen
8th March:	09:00	Lappfjärds Folkhögskola
	14:00	Närpes High School
9th March:	13:15	Cultural Centre in Korsholm
	19:00	The Doo-Bop Club

11th of April: PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC performed at the Off Road opening in connection with Aarhus 2017, where the band played two concerts in Herning at the Fox and Hounds pub and during the final concert on Torvet.

3.2 NIMPE

NIMPE is the abbreviation of *Network for Internationalization of Music Producers in Europe* and is an EU-funded project under Creative Europe, which runs from 2016 to 2019, aimed at supporting the internationalisation of live music and especially young and up-and-coming music producers in Europe, so they may better assess the market and promote their international musical activities. The Italian organisation, Assomusica Associazione, is project manager of NIMPE and Swinging Europe is collaborative partner, together with four other organisations from Greece, Great Britain, Slovenia and France, respectively.

NIMPE also wishes to create a network of music producers, technicians and stakeholders in the field to develop cross-sectorial education and cooperative activities. NIMPE wishes to develop a workbook – an online database and a printed working tool that covers all of the manufacturers' international needs, as well as facilitate NIMPE Factory, an international event aimed at creating networking opportunities and accommodating an interested audience.

Together with the French partner, Technopole Quimper-Cornuaille, and Slovenian partner, Drustvo Studentski Cultural Center, Swinging Europe will coordinate the research work in relation to collecting information for use in a specific online NIMPE database. We will be associated with the various task phases that intend to provide information and provide practical tools for new international strategies directed at music producers and venues dealing with live music.

Along the way, NIMPE has resulted in various SKYPE-meetings, focusing on idea exchanges, challenges and summary of the course. In addition, various reports should be completed in relation to time and status updates.

By 2018, Swinging Europe will be hosting NIMPE on the 16th - 18th of April. In this connection, representatives from the five other partner countries to Denmark, together with representatives from the main partner, will be representing Assomusica in Italy. At the meeting of partners and various initiatives will be followed up since the meeting in Slovenia from 9th to the 11th October 2017. The joint meeting was part of the development process towards the final outcome in 2019. NIMPE is in constant dialogue and reporting back to Creative Europe.

The meeting was a combination of exchanging experiences and knowledge from the respective partner countries and ideas in relation to further initiatives and individual implementation of the project in the six countries. In addition, a targeted plan for NIMPE Factory for LINECHECK Music Festival was agreed upon.

NIMPE Factory will take place in Milan from 21st to the 26th of November 2018 in conjunction with the LINECHECK Music Festival and includes a full program of concerts and musical live shows with internationally renowned artists. Linecheck Music Meeting and Festival is a music festival and a meeting place for music industry professionals. The music meeting will be an extension of the programme with lectures, showcases, discussions and developments.

At NIMPE Factory in Milan, our goal will be to expose more Danish music producers and managers to discussions, dialogue and network connections with stakeholders from the rest of Europe.



3.3 Culture ShoX

Culture ShoX is a European collaborative project in the context of the Erasmus+ programme. Integration and intercultural dialogue were put on the agenda during two youth camps, where it was examined how young Europeans and young newcomers were able to relate to each other specifically through art and culture as shared mouthpiece. We wanted to build awareness, understanding and relationships between young European people and newcomers through informal, as well as youth-to-youth learning with the arts, exemplified through theatre and music.

Swinging Europe is the main partner and has developed the project in collaboration with the Cypriot theatre organisation, TheatrEtc. The project enabled young Europeans and refugees to meet and participate in two 10-day youth camps with daily workshops in each country. Each youth camp in Culture ShoX resulted in two final performances, where the participants themselves were responsible of facilitating and planning the last creative performances through teamwork.

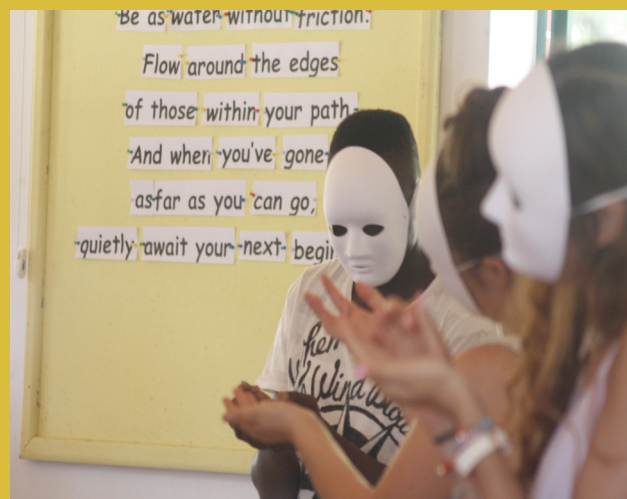
During Culture ShoX, participants took part in theatre and music workshops, social cultural events, exchanged lived experiences with each other and tested their own artistic skills, despite lingual and cultural differences.

By diving into the music and theatrical worlds as unifying tools, participants gained social and professional skills during an intense 10-day course, but they also learned more about each other's cultures through shared cooking, local community sightseeing and social events in the evening, where the different nationalities were represented.

From the 28th of July to the 6th of August 2017, the first intercultural youth camp took place in the village of Kampos in Cyprus. Here, 27 participants from Denmark, Cyprus and various other countries participated in daily workshops that focused on theatre as a means of communication. Through theatre workshops, the participants examined the possibilities of carrying out conversations with each other, despite language barriers and cultural differences through physicality. During the evenings, participants were invited to intercultural evenings: During the events, small groups presented the various represented nationalities through creative performances through culinary experiences, dance, role playing or quiz questions. Nationalities present consisted of Somalia, Gambia, Senegale, Cameroon, Bangladesh, Denmark and Cyprus.

From the 12th to the 22nd of October 2017, Culture ShoX's second youth camp took place in Tjørring, Herning Municipality, where 27 participants participated in music workshops in a rented scout-house for ten days. By using music as a common language, participants were able to creatively interpret questions about national identity, the EU and what it means to move from one country to another regarding questions touching upon love, friendship, economy and war through music and spoken word poetry. Nationalities present consisted of Iran, Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Central Africa, Denmark and Cyprus.

As part of the preparatory planning work, Swinging Europe also hosted TheatrEtc's cultural team leader for an Advanced Planning Visit (APV) from the 17th –18th of March, where we discussed and planned the framework for the upcoming youth camps and preparatory boot camps for the intercultural project, Culture ShoX. Among the discussed subjects were the selective criteria for participants, social leaders and their roles, the campsites and the activities.



3.4 Sound Becomes Life

Sound Becomes Life was a collaborative project developed with our Ukrainian partner, the National Museum of Natural History in Lviv. By combining culture and natural sciences, an interdisciplinary result was created, which had the opportunity to produce and interpret the theme of evolution in a completely unique audio-visual way.

Five young musicians that Swinging Europe contributed with, as well as artists and researchers from the National Museum of Natural History in Lviv, Ukraine, created all together an audio-visual experience that interpreted evolution in a sensational experience for the audience. Through music and visual accompaniment, it resulted in two live performances – in Herning and Lviv in Ukraine, respectively.

The musical performances were performed by five young musical talents between the ages of 15 and 25, while Signe Bisgaard fulfilled the role of the associated music composer and conductor in the project. By visiting each of the respective countries in the form of representatives from the two institutions, both Swinging Europe and the State Museum of Natural History have gained insight into, as well as a better understanding of the individual organisation's cultural life. Sound Becomes Life took place on the 27th of May in the Textile Museum, associated with Museum Midtjylland, and subsequently in Ukraine in Lviv on the 31st of May.

The collaboration between Swinging Europe and the National Museum of Natural History in Lviv was facilitated by the Tandem project. Tandem Ukraine is a cultural cooperation programme, which wishes to strengthen the civilian population and relations in Europe, as well as neighbouring regions in the form of cross-border cooperative projects. There are five Tandem programmes that deal with their own region and topics: Tandem Europe, Tandem C & P, Tandem Ukraine, Tandem Turkey and Tandem Shaml. Swinging Europe has been associated with the Tandem Ukraine project, through which we established a work relationship with our partner.



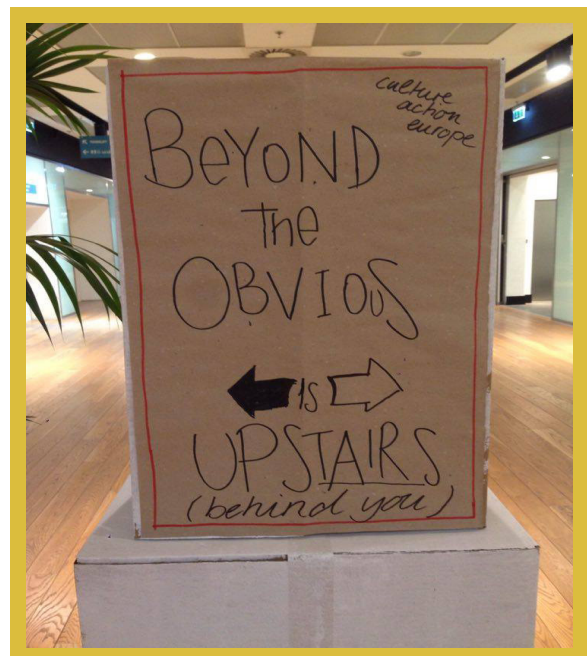


3.5 International Meetings and Conferences

3.6 Culture Action Europe: the 24th – 26th January and the 14th – 17th November

Culture Action Europe (CAE) is a European network of cultural organisations and individuals dedicated to promoting culture as a necessary condition for sustainable development, both locally and in a European context. CAE, and Swinging Europe believe culture is the pillar of sustainable societies and that a democratic EU essentially is a cultural project in itself.

Project manager and facilitator Cüneyt Pala attended and represented Swinging Europe at the General Assembly in 2016 and subsequently the European cultural conference, Culture Action Europe, which took place in Budapest from the 24th to the 26th of January 2017, which presented the theme: *Europe, Quo Vadis?* Project manager and fundraiser Anne Sophie Parsons represented Swinging Europe at the end of the year at the General Assembly in 2017 and at the subsequent cultural conference from the dates of 14th – 17th of November in Rome, where the theme was: *Belonging and Becoming*. The question of what it means ‘to be’ and ‘to become’ in a European cultural point of view was discussed through a selection of lectures and workshops. The challenges and current status of European cultural heritage, identity and future prospects were discussed during the three days.



3.7 NIMPE Meetings: the 2nd – 4th February and the 9th – 11th October

From the 2nd – 4th of February 2017, a kick-off meeting took place for the international networking project in Volos, Greece, where project manager and fundraiser Mette Pilgaard Nielsen, as well as project manager Steen Mikkelsen, participated. It was the first given opportunity to meet and talk about the project, the strategy, the development of the network and the set milestones for the future collaboration. During the meeting, the Volume Music Showcase Festival took place – a two-day conference with debates and live music. We participated in the conference as experts in two panel discussions regarding NIMPE and Swinging Europe's music work in Europe.

We also participated when the NIMPE partners met for the second time during the 9th – 11th of October 2017 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Project manager Steen Mikkelsen represented Swinging Europe at the meeting. Following the philosophy of NIMPE's initial kick-off meeting in February in Volos, the meeting combined the NIMPE partners' project representatives with a series of meetings with the local Slovenian music scene. In addition to the administrative and operational goals of the events, the partners' first steps in the collaboration were also evaluated, while the upcoming NIMPE Music Factory activities and the next steps in the development of the NIMPE project were discussed.

In addition, an in-depth analysis of the project was carried out, the final activity plan was prepared, including scheduling, monitoring of activities and review of reports, as well as debates concerning the forthcoming initiatives and different tasks to partner countries. It was furthermore planned that Swinging Europe will host the other NIMPE partner countries in spring 2018 for one of the meetings.

At the NIMPE meeting, a preliminary draft plan for NIMPE Music Factory was also established, which will unfold in 2018.

3.8 Tools Conference the 29th - 30th of November

From the 29th – 30th of November, Swinging Europe presented the results of the Erasmus+ project Culture ShoX during the Tools Conference: Rethinking Culture, Learning and Methodologies - Using Europe to Develop New Methods and Tools, which took place on Huset No 7 House 7 and Herning Library. We initiated and arranged the two-day conference in collaboration with Herning Library, Central Denmark EU Office and Kulturskolen Skanderborg. Together with other Erasmus+ projects – Art Equal, Our Democratic Europe and RETHINK Folk Music – executive director Marie Lilholt presented a Pecha Kucha slideshow with results and experiences derived from Culture ShoX as a collaborative Erasmus+ project. As a result of the conference, Swinging Europe was able to reach a new group of audience, who gained knowledge and insight into our work with an international collaborative partner. During the course of the conference, a film collage from the youth camp was also shown to an audience consisting of national and international representatives from the cultural field.

The programme consisted of discussions, workshops and project pitching, which involved everything from concerns participating in a European collaborative project, how local society was able to benefit from an international project, European citizenship to the testimony of participants and new ideas for Erasmus+ projects.

3.9 InVITation Lab - Study Trip to Manchester and York the 4th– 6th of December

From the 4th – 6th of December, project manager and facilitator Cüneyt Pala went on a study trip to Manchester and York with employees from institutions that are part of the InVITation Lab project in collaboration with Swinging Europe: Team Teatret, Herning Libraries, and libraries in the 7 municipalities participating in the Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland. Here they visited various institutions that work with audience involvement on different levels, as well as to be inspired for further development of the project.

The participants visited, among other places, Contact, Exchange Theater, York Municipality, Home and Manchester International Festival for sharing experiences and network connections.



3.10 SALTO Seminars - 21st – 27th November and 10th – 15th December

The SALTO training course “Destination: Youth Participation” from the 21st –27th of November in Athens focused on how to involve young people to be active and co-citizens in today’s society –seen from an EU-defined, as well as locally-based angle. During the ten days, the training course participants were able to experience the different ways in which young people can be activated in relation to projects. By looking at Swinging Europe’s work with young participants, specifically in relation to talent development and cultural projects, we gained a better understanding of asking essential questions about what ‘active youth’ meant and how this specific group could be involved in meaningful projects .

The training course “The Power of Non Formal Education” in Budapest from the 10th – 15th of December offered daily workshops that questioned the different types of learning that exist and what these meant in relation to young people’s involvement in society , in democracy and in the context of inclusion and decision-making projects.

Swinging Europe was represented at both training courses in the shape of project manager and fundraiser Anne Sophie Parsons at both training courses, which dealt with how non-formal learning and activation of young volunteer participants can be implemented most effectively in future initiatives.



4 Collaborative Partners and Network

Swinging Europe puts a lot of effort into local, national and international networking. We do this to get and provide sparring, ensure the exchange of culture and experience, and because we know that through cooperation we can realise more of our goals and help others realise theirs. Locally, our goal is to facilitate and expand existing and new cultural networking links around Herning. In this way we want to ensure a continued flourishing and innovative cultural life.

At the same time, we weigh the international network high, as we are convinced that international cooperation is beneficial to both the local community and the transnational relations in general.

Here we will give an overview of our local, national and international networking and collaboration partners:

4.1 Kulturgården

Kulturgården in Herning is made up of the various various cultural institutions housed specifically here. They count Scene 7, Herning Music School, the Jutland School of Singing, Herning Art School and House No 7, in addition to Swinging Europe. In a joint collaboration between the institutions, the annual cultural event, Kultur i Mørket, takes place at the various institutions in November. Each institution invites the public inside in order to experience cultural events, as well as give them the opportunity to meet and hear more about what each institution represents. This creates a concept that is unique to Kulturgården as a creative hangout place.



4.2 Cultural Consultation Herning

Kulturelt Samråd Herning (Cultural Consultation Herning) is an umbrella organisation, covering cultural institutions and associations in Herning and their purpose is to support the local cultural scene. Swinging Europe is represented in the Executive Committee by Marie Lilholt.



4.3 Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland

The main objective of Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland is to create good conditions for a thriving cultural scene in Central and Western Jutland, as well as highlight cultural initiatives in both a national and international context. By means a cultural network founded in the region, municipalities and individual cultural stakeholders can strengthen and expand cultural action and interaction in the local areas together. Swinging Europe is represented on the Board of Directors in the Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland through Marie Lilholt.

In 2017, Cultural Cooperation in Central and Western Jutland was behind Off Road Festival, which we participated in as a contributor.

Kultursamarbejdet Midt- og Vestjylland

4.4 KunstPartiet

Since January 2016, the citizens of Jutland's municipalities have been able to meet with a special "Party", which consists of 31-year-old Italian artist Giuseppe L. Bonifati, alias "Jeppe" and his Hungarian "First Lady" Linda Sugataghy from den international DOO Performing Arts Group. The goal is to get people together through art, and that is why Giuseppe has established KunstPartiet: In collaboration with Holstebro Municipality and other municipalities in Jutland, Danish Art Foundation, Aarhus 2017 European Cultural Capital and Nordic Theatre Laboratory, KunstPartiet carries out interactive performance events.



4.5 Skovsnogen Artspace

Skovsnogen Artspace is an art exhibition site in Kibæk, which is not defined by walls and roofs, but which can be experienced under an open sky in a western Jutland forest.

Skovsnogen Artspace confronts traditional ideas about the meeting between art and the audience and conveys contemporary art to new audience groups, as well as gives artists new opportunities to create and present their works.



4.6 Cultural Centre Da Winti

Caf   and cultural centre Da Winti is a converted fodder store, which houses art exhibitions and concerts in Selde. In 2009, the renovation of the building began, and Da Winti opened its doors on the 1st of May 2011, Art Factory opened as an art room with studio in 2012 and the complete and furnished art residency was presented in 2013, and has since functioned as an artistic and active establishment in Selde.

Galleri Da Winti

4.7 Museum of Central Jutland

The Museum of Central Jutland is a state-renowned cultural history museum, which conveys and recreates the history of Central and Western Jutland as part of a local, but also national narrative.

Through research, innovative exhibitions and informative experiences, the central and western Jutlandic cultural history is made alive in the case for both young and old.

The Textile Museum is located in Herning Clothing Factory's old industrial plant. The Textile Museum has information about Central Jutland's past with textile production in cellars, backyards and large modern factories.



4.8 Genvej til Europa

Genvej til Europa (Shortcut to Europe) wishes to ensure an international dimension to Central Jutland's cultural scene. Genvej til Europa is financed by Aarhus 2017 and Region Central Jutland. Genvej til Europa targets all cultural institutions in the region and all who work with culture and creativity – museums, organisations, schools, colleges, municipalities, companies, associations and other institutions.

Genvej til Europa is coordinated by the Central Denmark EU Office (CDEU) in Brussels.



4.9 Europe Jazz Network

Europe Jazz Network promotes creative modern jazz music and musical exchanges across European countries. There are over 100 member organisations in the network distributed across 31 countries. Europe Jazz Network advocates for increased cultural activity and transnational collaborations, as well as exchanging information across borders.

Europe Jazz Network was also responsible for the European Jazz Conference, which took place on the 22nd - 25th of September. Swinging Europe participated in order to network and spar with potential partners, as well as to tell about our institution's visions and objectives.



4.10 Creative Europe Desk Denmark

Creative Europe is a program that aims to strengthen the circulation of cultural industries, artistic business and cultural heritage on a transnational level.

Creative Europe Desk Denmark is responsible for the program in Denmark.

Swinging Europe is part of Creative Europe Desk Denmark's network. They wish to establish an open, collaborative and culturally strong Europe.



4.11 Music Institute Legato

Music Institute Legato is an artistic education institution founded in 1990.

Legato is also a member of the Association for Finnish Music Schools



4.12 Korsholm Music Institute

Music Institute Korsholm (Korsholm Musikinstitut) is a municipal music institute, which offers music education and dance. Korsholm is a member of the Association of Finnish Music Schools, which is an umbrella organisation for music schools and conservatories with 100 members all over Finland.



4.13 Riksförbundet Unga Musikanter (RUM)

Riksförbundet Unga Musikanter is an organisation for children and youth who play musical instruments, sing, dance or do performing art. With 40.000 members and 400 local organisations it offers a wide variety of musical and artistic activities. RUM offers courses, concerts, workshops and festivals for its members.



4.14 The State Museum of Natural History in Lviv

The State Museum of Natural History in Lviv opened to visitors in 1870 and offers museum-, research and educational activities for visitors. The museum has a large collection of stones and minerals, tropical insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles and birds, as well as taxidermied mammals.



4.15 TheatrEtc

Non-profit organisation TheatrEtc consists of a group of theatre teachers, who joined forces through their mutual interest in developing initiatives that promote the use of expressive art in educational and social environments.

The organisation supports involvement and collaboration between artists and teachers through creative approaches that concern any problems, which may be associated with people at an educational and social level.



TheatrEtc has been active since the beginning since the beginning of 2010 and its members are open to ideas, thoughts and suggest to projects that deal with the modern Cypriot reality with a creative drive.

4.16 Associazione Assomusica

Associazione Assomusica is an association of live music producers and organisers. The association has more than 100 members all over the country, covering 80 % of live concerts in Italy. Since its founding, Associazione Assomusica has promoted thousands of concerts and events with millions of viewers.



4.17 Drustvo Studentski Kulturni Center - SKUC

Drustvo Studenstki Kulturni Center – ŠKUC Association – is one of the leading organisations to promote non-profit artistic activities in Slovenia. The organisation was established in 1972 as the ŠKUC Student Cultural Centre, although its origin can be traced back to the radical Ljubljana student movement from 1968. In the late 1970s and 1980s, ŠKUC was one of the most important supporters and initiators of alternative culture. ŠKUC is an independent producer in several artistic areas and an important player in civil society.



4.18 Technopole Quimper-Cornouaille

Technopole Quimper-Cornouaille is invested in the economic development of business innovation. Technopole facilitates collaboration between companies, research institutions, higher education, technical centres, funding for innovation and technologic transfer structures.

They prioritise economic sectors, such as agricultural food, fisheries, aqua-culture and the use of marine biotechnologies.



4.19 M.E.S.O. Music Events

M.E.S.O. (Music Events Coordination Organisation) is a non-profit organisation involved in organising, facilitating and producing special music and cultural events. The core areas are the national coordination of the European Music Day's organised network in Greece and the development of sustainable cultural projects with trans-regional and transnational cooperation.



4.20 Roots Music LTD

Root Music was formed in 2011 by producer and art director Jeremy Davies, who works across art and creative industries and has worked nationally and internationally with festivals, tours, as well as locally engaging projects.

Root Music creates new projects with high-profile artists from all over the world, while supporting the development of new art organisations and artists. Root Music works collaboratively with international groups and artists, and has broad experience in project management.

Root Music specialises in developing partnerships with a wide range of institutions and individuals.



4.21 Culture Action Europe

Culture Action Europe is a transnational cultural network organisation, which views culture as being part of their public agenda and believes that culture can form the basis for an innovative and democratic development.

Swinging Europe is a member of Culture Action Europe and participated in Culture Action Europe's international conferences, *Beyond the Obvious*, in Hungary at the start of 2017 and at the end of 2017 in Rome in order to network with other organisations and institutions.



4.22 Oracle Cultural Network

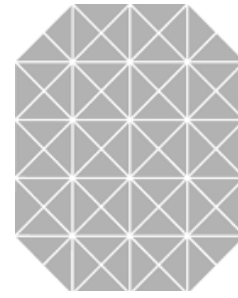
Swinging Europe is part of the Oracle Cultural network
Network, founded in 1993 by actors from

Organization Association Marcel Hicter.

Oracle Cultural Network is a network of European
cultural actors focusing on transnational projects and
currently has members from 41 countries.

Oracle Cultural Network weighs the intercultural
work across borders across Europe and wants to
promote cohesion through knowledge sharing and
acceptance of cultural diversity.

This is done through cultural enlightenment,
networking and initiatives in the shape of seminars,
workshops and residencies.



**ORACLE
CULTURAL
NETWORK**

5 Epilogue - Looking Back at 2017

Pervasive initiatives and projects were carried out during the year and have contributed to point towards a bright coming year for Swinging Europe. Swinging Europe is always looking forward the proverbial horizon, which means there are already new international and national projects that are being planned and developed. Examples consist of a new Erasmus+ project that also wants to explore opportunities for better integration, while the further development of NIMPE and PLAY!GROUND LIVE NORDIC as projects continues. In addition, exciting Creative Europe projects such as Liberty and Mosaic are ready to be expanded and explored in the coming years.

National and international network connections are also nurtured and Swinging Europe is already planning to participate in future conferences, meetings and seminars that will continue to help us develop, strengthen and qualify our work and engagement in culture, both locally and globally.

Our work cannot and should not be carried out alone, and therefore we wish to thank our collaborative partners and all the stakeholders in our network, all working to influence the cultural agenda.

We are looking forward to developing the new initiatives in 2018, as well as to further dive into the inspiring and amazing cultural projects, we create in cooperation with other European organisations, as well as individually.