

[www.musicville.org](http://www.musicville.org)

**“Opera is medium in which art forms collide and transform one another”**

*The Impossible Art: Adventures of Opera – M. Aucoin*

## WHAT IS MUSICVILLE?

**Musicville** is a project between Slovenia, Croatia and Austria running from 2023 until end of 2024 that aims to transform the classical European musical form of Opera into a new, innovative, and creative collaboration inspired by environmental awareness, nature, local crafts, and traditions. At the heart of the project are sustainable, participatory and interdisciplinary artistic practices with the aim of activating different communities and audiences.

### **It strives to answer the questions:**

**How** can resources and knowledge from the field of art and sustainability be combined? **How** can contemporary cultural production be presented in rural areas? **How** can artists be helped to create new business opportunities while protecting the environment?

It provides a framework for connecting an international group of artists of different disciplines (music, theatre, architecture, visual arts, design, performance...) to work together with the local expert communities (agriculture, arts & crafts), environmental professionals, and cultural, and scientific experts.

## WHAT IS THE IDEA BEHIND THE PROJECT?

The idea behind the project is to improve the resilience and well-being of artists by learning new skills in a practical and peer-to-peer approach, enabling artists to collaborate with young and experienced professionals from a variety of artistic and non-artistic backgrounds to create new and unexpected venues for contemporary music production and presentation.

## FINAL PRESENTATION – GREEN EUROPEAN OPERA

**Green European Opera** is the final presentation of the collaboration between artists/participants and mentors, and the merging of all events during the project. The opera is presented through a series of three audio/visual performances in a smaller rural places of the partner countries (Austria, Slovenia, Croatia) which are formed into an opera in three acts and bring together artists from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds. One of the important goals is to contribute to the development of tourism and refreshment of the economic and social life of rural areas.

### Press Contact

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**This project is commissioned by the EU.**

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## WHO CAN APPLY?

We are looking for **15 creative professionals or aspiring artists** who are active in the fields of:

- architecture, set design
- classical, experimental, electronic music
- performing arts, circus, theater, dance, acting
- screenwriting, direction, dramaturgy
- costume design, fashion design, textile
- multimedia, video, installation
- painting, sculpting, graphic design

APPLY HERE

**\* Practices with an environmental focus are encouraged. In this sense, also natural science practitioners with artistic inclinations are invited to apply.** Artists and creative professionals that are residents of the countries Austria, Slovenia and Croatia are eligible to apply. All artist participants must be over 18. Travel logistics and costs will be covered by the project organisation. Selected participants will get a €500 stipend at the end of the project.

## WHAT DOES THE PROJECT ENTAIL?

### 1. STUDY VISITS | SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2023

Selected participants will participate in the 3-day study visits to 3 countries (Slovenia, Austria, Croatia). The study visits will thematically follow the concept of the project, focusing on land art, site-specific installations, research approaches and interdisciplinarity. Their main objective is to determine the sites of artistic research and final performances.

### 2. ONLINE WORK | NOVEMBER 2023–JUNE 2024

Considering the international aspect of the project, participants will work together with their mentors in a series of online lectures, workshops and meetings, in order to develop the concept for the final production. [More info here](#).

### 3. ART RESIDENCIES AND FINAL PRESENTATIONS | AUGUST–OCTOBER 2024

Musicville's residency program brings participants and their mentors together in three rural locations in Slovenia, Austria and Croatia. Lasting up to 10 days per location depending on the specific tasks, they serve as an exchange of ideas, experiences and artistic expressions of the participants, merging them into a coherent whole. The residency program culminates in the final performance of one act of the opera in each country.

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## LOCATIONS



### 1. THE MUSEUM OF MADNESS AT CASTLE CMUREK, TRATE, SLOVENIA

Life in Cmurek Castle, which lies on the banks of Mura river, on the border between Austria and Slovenia, has been ongoing since the 12th century. Between 1949 and 2004 it has been an asylum for mentally ill and since 2013, the castle has turned into the Museum of Madness, a civil society organization, which preserves historical layers and testimonies from the institution's time.



### 2. VOJNIĆ, PETROVA GORA, CROATIA

Petrova Gora is a mountain range in Karlovac County. It represents a unique forest ecosystem whose main feature is great stability and durability. This mountain massif is an exceptional habitat for a large number of plant and animal species. It is regarded as one of the most beautiful and best-preserved mountain wooded landscapes in Croatia.



### 3. MURA-DRAVA-DANUBE AND VULKANLAND, AUSTRIA

The part of South-Eastern Styria between "Pavlova hiša" and "Die Klause" bridges a landscape from the river Mur to the river Raab. With active Volcanoes in ancient times, hot springs today, it's always been a cultural meeting point. The past 30 years it has been developing a new identity based on agriculture, excellent craft, tourism, and arts.



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## CREATIVE DIRECTION



VASKO ATANASOVSKI | SLOVENIA

Vasko Atanasovski is a composer, musician, producer and art manager from Maribor. “Musicville inspires and challenges me. I’m always interested in researching and creating something new, relevant and extraordinary.”

[www.vaskoatanasovski.com](http://www.vaskoatanasovski.com)



SARA RENAR | CROATIA

Sara Renar is a musician and architect from Zagreb. “I see Musicville as an excellent platform for research and new artistic practices. My advice for participants is to be open-minded and free-spirited, to listen and create.”

[www.sararenar.com](http://www.sararenar.com)



KAROLA SAKOTNIK | AUSTRIA

Karola Sakotnik is a culture developer, artistic director, culture manager, speaker and coach. “Art touches people, inspires them and encourages them to address new directions. Musicville enables young artists to explore and express their own approach to it.”

[www.karolasakotnik.com](http://www.karolasakotnik.com)

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## CONTACT

For interview requests or if you have any questions, please contact the respective press contacts below.

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