

European Commission and Goethe-Institut celebrate three years of Culture Moves Europe

Since 2022, the EU's largest cultural mobility scheme has supported over 7.000 artists from 40 countries. On 3 April 2025, representatives of the European Institutions, the Goethe-Institut and the cultural sector gather in Brussels to celebrate the achievements of the first project phase.

3 April 2025, 16:00 – 22:30h

Royal Flemish Theatre (KVS), Rue de Laeken 146, 1000 Brussels

See below for the full programme and registration.

Brussels, 03 April 2025 – In a world marked by rapid geopolitical change, art and culture play a crucial role in creating space for international dialogue and understanding. As the global community navigates growing political tension, the tremendous effects of the climate crisis and the rise of right-wing populist movements, artistic freedom and autonomy face increasing pressure. It is therefore even more important to promote international exchange and artistic cooperation across borders.

With *Culture Moves Europe*, the European Commission and the Goethe-Institut make a significant contribution to this effort. The first project phase ran from 2022 to 2025 with a budget of €21 million provided by the EU. Implemented by the Goethe-Institut, it enabled over 7.000 artists and cultural professionals from 40 countries to collaborate internationally. In concrete terms, this amounts to over 160,000 days dedicated to strengthening cultural networks and international cohesion—not only among the 27 EU member states but also with neighbouring countries such as Serbia, Georgia, Tunisia, and Ukraine.

Johannes Ebert, Secretary General of Goethe-Institut emphasizes the importance of cultural cooperation in times of crisis:

"Culture Moves Europe is the key programme for European artistic mobility and an important contribution to European cohesion. It enables artists and cultural professionals to share their unique perspectives and experiences across borders. This exchange fosters mutual understanding and provides valuable impulses for the work of artists and cultural managers. In this way, sustainable European networks of collaboration and trust are created."



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A demand-led scheme committed to sustainability and inclusion

Culture Moves Europe is directed at artists and creatives in the fields of architecture, cultural heritage, design and fashion design, literature, music, performing arts, and visual arts. Participants either receive funding for their own projects or take part in residency programmes supported by *Culture Moves Europe*. With a demand-led and accessible application process, the scheme responds to the realities of the cultural sector, placing particular consideration on supporting emerging artists and cultural professionals.

Sustainability and inclusion are at the heart of *Culture Moves Europe*: Encouraged by financial incentives, more than 50% of grant recipients to choose environmentally friendly transport over air travel. Dedicated resources support the development of sustainable projects. Artists facing particular barriers to participating in international mobility receive additional support, including for people with disabilities, visa costs, or participants with children.

Culture Moves Europe will continue

80% of participating artists report that they would not have been able to carry out their projects without the support of *Culture Moves Europe*, 99.6% would recommend the programme to others. Building on this success, *Culture Moves Europe* will continue with a second project phase, which is expected to launch in mid-2025.

On 3 April 2025, the achievements of the first project phase will be celebrated at Royal Flemish Theatre (KVS) in Brussels in the presence of representatives from EU institutions, Goethe-Institut, cultural organisations, and Culture Moves Europe grantees.

The event consists of an official ceremony (invitation only) and a public celebration with performances from Culture Moves Europe grantees. **If you are interested in attending, please email Magdalena Rausch at magdalena.rausch@goethe.de.**

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More information: [Culture Moves Europe Celebration](#)



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Programme

Official Ceremony

- 16:00 Welcome drink
- 16:30 Interventions
- Normunds Popen** – Deputy Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission
- Natalia Kempa-Paplińska** – Representative of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- Marie le Sourd** – Secretary General, On the Move
- Deborah Claire and Milica Rasic** – Culture Moves Europe grantees
- Johannes Ebert** – Secretary General, Goethe-Institut
- Moderation: **Wendy-Jasmin Henchich**
- Culinary Art Intervention by Culture Moves Europe grantee **Asli Hatipoglu**

Public Celebration

- 18:00 Welcome drink
- 19:00 *Trashes* by **Hye Young Sin** with Q&A session
- 20:00 *about:blank* by **Manuela V. Colacicco**, performed by **Giacomo Graziosi**
- 20:30 DJ Set by **Titi Calor & Wedding Scammer**

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Culture Moves Europe provides mobility grants for artists and cultural professionals in all 40 Creative Europe countries. It covers the sectors of architecture, cultural heritage, design and fashion design, literary translation, music, performing arts and visual arts. The scheme consists of two action lines: Individual Mobility and Residencies. Specific measures are taken to encourage green mobility and ensure access for everyone active in the cultural and creative field. Funded by the European Union, Culture Moves Europe is implemented by the Goethe-Institut.

The Goethe-Institut Brussels

The Goethe-Institut Brussels is the regional institute for the south-western region of Europe which features 14 locations. From its head office in Brussels, it contributes to strengthening the European integration process and convey European cultural diversity at a political and strategic level. Its cultural, educational and information programmes in Belgium promote exchange and cultural engagement, as well as interest in the German language, Belgium's third national language.



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