

OPEN CALL
for the application of project proposals aimed at defining the SHOWCASE programming of the
EUROPEAN JAZZ CONFERENCE 2025 (Bari, September 25-28, 2025)

1 - PREAMBLES

The Regional Government of Puglia, in order to outline its cultural development strategy and, therefore, the actions for the enhancement, innovation, and promotion of the entire cultural system, as well as intervention priorities, has developed a cultural strategic plan for Puglia 2017-2025: PIIL - product, identity, innovation, enterprise, work.

In line with what has emerged from this document, the Regional Government of Puglia and Puglia Culture collaborate to enhance, relaunch, and promote the system of cultural and live performance activities, providing operators with the tools to strengthen and qualify cultural demand and offer, improve the artistic and professional skills involved, their capacity for national and international market presence, and consequently their competitiveness. A set of activities for promoting the "cultural system" and, therefore, the region's tangible and intangible heritage.

Puglia Sounds project, promoted by the Region of Puglia and Puglia Culture, is the strategic initiative for the enhancement and promotion of the regional music sector. As part of Puglia Sounds activities, Puglia Culture is one of the partners of the Europe Jazz Network, the association representing 202 European and non-European organizations, including producers, promoters, and organizations specializing in creative music, contemporary jazz, and improvised music.

One of the main activities promoted by the Europe Jazz Network is the European Jazz Conference, an annual event for professionals in the jazz sector. The 2025 edition of the conference will take place in Bari from September 25 to 28 and will represent an important occasion for reflection and exchange on a crucial theme such as the positive contribution that migrants - and global movements of people - have played in the development of culture and diversity, and the vital role culture plays in tackling societal challenges.

During the three days of the event, more than 400 professionals from the sector, including promoters, agents, and public and private cultural operators from over 30 countries, will have the opportunity to participate in panels, keynote speeches, workshops, informal work sessions, and showcases to exchange ideas, build new projects, and strengthen international collaborations.

2 – SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

With this Call, Puglia Culture, within the Puglia Sounds project, intends to conduct a survey of music projects with the characteristics specified in the following Article 3- ELIGIBLE PROJECTS, in order to define a programming of 7 showcases to be scheduled in Bari on Friday, September 26 and Saturday, September 27, as part of the European Jazz Conference 2025.

Eligible projects will be included in a "Parco Progetti" (Projects Folder) from which a dedicated Commission of Experts will select 7 showcases to be scheduled during the EJC2025, with a minimum of 4 national projects and a maximum of 3 regional projects.

National projects are defined as those featuring ensembles consisting of at least 50%+1 Italian artists, or those led by an Italian artist whose name is included in the ensemble's name. For the purposes of this definition, "Italian" refers to individuals born and/or residing in Italy as of the publication date of this notice. Regional projects are defined as those involving ensembles composed of at least 50%+1 artists from Puglia,

or those led by an Apulian artist whose name is included in the ensemble's name. "Apulian" refers to those born and/or residing in Puglia as of the publication date of this notice.

An additional eighth showcase will be added featuring the winner of the Zenith Awards, SC'ÖÖF (Switzerland).

Selected artists will perform a 30-minute showcase in front of regional, national, and international programmers.

3 – ELEGIBLE PROJECTS

To be eligible, the proposals must:

- be related to jazz, creative music, or improvised music genres;
- involve ensembles composed of at least 50%+1 Italian artists, or led by an Italian artist whose name is included in the ensemble's name (born and/or residing in Italy at the date of publication of this notice);
- have released at least one discographic production in the last two years (from January 1, 2023, to the date of submission). Discographic production includes any official music product released to the public and distributed through official channels, such as:

ALBUMS (LP, CD, vinyl, or digital format) with a minimum duration of 20 minutes and at least 6 tracks, or EP with at least two original tracks;

Albums and/or EP distributed through private or amateur channels are not eligible.

An Artist/Band can only be the subject of one proposal. If multiple proposals (even from different proponents) are received for the same Artist/Band, only the first proposal will be accepted, and the others will be excluded. Eligible proposals must involve no more than 6 artists.

Considering the logistical and financial conditions related to the potential of international bookings, technical requirements will also be taken into consideration. Complex technical riders and demanding backline requests may impact the international booking potential of the projects

4 – ELEGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible Applicants are regional, national, or international organizations with any legal form, who meet the following requirements:

- hold a VAT number with an ATECO/NACE code related to the music industry. Non-European organizations must provide documentation demonstrating their activity in the music industry.
- complying with current labour legislation and collective labour contracts in force in the country of origin of the Applicant;
- having no arrears in the payment of social security contributions to National Social Security;
- not to be in one of the situations of exclusion from the participation in the Calls pursuant to articles 94-95-96-97 of Legislative Decree del D. Lgs no.36/2023 Codice dei Contratti.

Failure to meet any of the above requirements will result in ineligibility of the Applicant.

5 – HOW TO SUBMIT PROJECT PROPOSALS – TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A maximum of 1 project proposal may be submitted by each Applicant.

Eligible applicant, as defined in Section 4, shall submit their project proposals by and no later than **Tuesday 25th February 2025 at 13:00**, by filling in the *online form* published on the Puglia Sounds website page dedicated to this Call and attaching the required documentation listed below:

- **Declaration** of the legal representative confirming eligibility requirements;
- Chamber of commerce certificate or **VAT registration certificate**, indicating the type of activity, with ATECO/NACE code for European organizations or equivalent documentation for non-European organizations;.
- A copy of the legal representative's valid **ID**;

- **Two audio files in MP3 format.**
- **One video link.**
- **Two high-resolution photos** of the artist/band (300 dpi).
- **Technical rider and stage plan.**

Puglia Culture – Puglia Sounds reserves the right to request documentation proving the statements, data, and information contained in the project proposal, as well as to suspend the evaluation until the deadline for submitting the requested documentation, including original copies. If this deadline passes without compliance, the project proposal will be excluded from the evaluation.

Puglia Culture – Puglia Sounds reserves the right to carry out checks, even randomly, regarding the truthfulness of the statements made by the Applicants.

6 – AVAILABLE RESOURCES

As part of the available resources for the implementation of the “European Jazz Conference 2025” and pending formalization with the Regional Government of Puglia, it has been established to allocate a budget of **€18,400.00 plus VAT** for the showcase programming.

For each of the 7 projects identified through this notice, Puglia Culture will grant a fee, as detailed below:

- **NATIONAL PROJECTS:**
€450 plus VAT (where applicable by law) per musician, for a maximum of 6 musicians per band
€100 plus VAT (where applicable by law) for a maximum of 1 tour manager
- **REGIONAL PROJECTS:**
€350 plus VAT (where applicable by law) per musician, for a maximum of 6 musicians per band
€100 plus VAT (where applicable by law) for a maximum of 1 tour manager
Additionally, Puglia Culture will provide for each scheduled artist and any tour manager
- **HOSPITALITY**
1 night in a 3-star hotel
1 dinner on the day of the showcase
- **TECHNICAL SETUP and basic backline** (guitar amp, bass amp, drum kit, keyboard).
It is specified that the details regarding the available equipment will be communicated at a later stage.
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Puglia Culture reserves the right to increase the fee for the realization of the “Showcase EJC2025” programming under this procedure (in cases where special conditions apply, such as artists residing in other countries, in which case a fee of €550.00 plus VAT where applicable by law will be granted).

7 – ELIGIBILITY CHECK

The eligibility check of the proposals concerns:

- legal and formal compliance;
- adherence to submission deadlines;
- possession of the requirements set out in the call related to the applicant and the proposed project;
- completeness of the requested documentation;

Proposals deemed eligible will be included in the "Parco Progetti" (Projects Folder). Inclusion in the "Parco Progetti" does not imply any commitment for Puglia Culture to schedule the proposed project.

8 – DEFINITION OF THE "EUROPEAN JAZZ CONFERENCE 2025" SHOWCASE PROGRAMMING

Among the project proposals included in the “Parco Progetti,” the Commission of Experts appointed by Puglia Culture will define, at its sole discretion, the Showcase programming “European Jazz Conference 2025” based on the following criteria, provided that only those proposals that score at least 12 points on each criterion will be considered:

- 1 **QUALITY OF THE ARTISTS' CURRICULUM**, with a description of national and international experiences gained between 2022 and 2024;
- 2 **QUALITY OF THE PROPOSED MUSICAL PROJECT**, particularly in relation to the representation of the contemporary Italian jazz scene;
- 3 **GENDER INCLUSION**, promoting an environment where all artists, regardless of gender, can fully and equally participate, free from discrimination or prejudice;
- 4 The project's **POTENTIAL FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPORT**.

Each evaluation criterion will be assigned a score from 0 to 20. The scoring will be based on the following parameters, according to the panel's qualitative assessment. Please note that a “non-evaluable” judgment will be given when the project proposal lacks any element related to the subject of this notice:

20 - Excellent
18 - Very good
16 - Good
14 - More than Satisfactory
12 - Satisfactory
6 - Insufficient
0 - Non-evaluable

Additionally, the following bonus points may be awarded:

- points if the project involves at least 50%+1 **young artists** (under 35 years of age at the time of the application).

Projects included in the “EJC2025” showcase programming cannot be scheduled during the Medimex 2025 or other promotional events organized by Puglia Culture during this year.

9 – OBLIGATIONS OF THE APPLICANT

The Applicant of the project proposal that will be programmed commits to:

- 1 Hold the showcase on the day and at the time communicated by the production office of Puglia Culture;
- 2 Provide a copy of the ex-Enpals certification, or equivalent documentation, for all musicians for the performance day no later than September 25, 2025, under penalty of non-performance.
- 3 Not to announce participation in the EJC 2025 showcase through any channel (press office, website, social media, newsletter, etc.) before receiving authorization from the press office of Puglia Culture;
- 4 Include the phrase “Programming Puglia Sounds – EUROPEAN JAZZ CONFERENCE 2025” and the mandatory marks of the intervention mentioned above in any online and/or offline promotional and communication materials related to the program, using exclusively the logos provided, along with the usage guidelines, by the Puglia Culture Communication Office specifically for this assignment;
- 5 Tag the profiles of Puglia Culture, Puglia Sounds, and project partners in social media content (posts, stories, reels) published. The social kit to be used is as follows:

@pugliaculture #PugliaCulture;
@pugliasounds #PugliaSounds;
@europejazznetwork #EuropeJazzNetwork;
#weareinpuglia;
#europeanjazzconference.

Partial or non-fulfillment by the applicant of one or more of the above obligations may result in a reduction of the payment or termination of the contract with Puglia Culture.

10 – PAYMENT TERMS

The amount awarded and specified in the agreement will be paid within 30 days of the presentation of the standard invoice, to be sent in electronic format in accordance with the regulations in force, payable to:

PUGLIA CULTURE

Sede legale - Via Imbriani, 67
70121 Bari - P.IVA 01071540726
certified e-mail: pugliaculture@pec.it

The invoice must include the words "Showcase programming – EJC2025" followed by the name of the artist or band.

The invoice must be submitted only after Puglia Culture has verified the completeness, accuracy, and regularity of the following documentation sent to the address pugliasounds@pec.it:

- a. Self-certification (non-attested affidavit) attesting to possession of the eligibility requirements (Annex 1 sent together with the Agreement);
- b. The traceability of financial flows form (Annex 2 sent together with the Agreement);
- c. Screenshots of the online communication showing the use of the marks mentioned in Article 9;
- d. Screenshots of the social media communication showing the use of the hashtags mentioned in Article 9;
- e. A copy of the valid identity document of the Legal Representative."

Puglia Culture reserves the right to suspend payment of the CONSIDERATION in order to carry out checks, also on a sample basis, regarding

- the authenticity of the documentation submitted
- the truthfulness of the declarations made by the Applicant.

Partial or complete failure by the Applicant to fulfill one or more of the above duties will at any time result in either a reduction in the amount of the sum awarded or termination of the agreement subscribed to with Puglia Culture.

Pursuant to Article 17-ter of Presidential Decree no. 633/1972, as amended by Article 3 of Decree-Law n. 148 of October 16, 2017, which became law with amendments on December 4, 2017, no. 172, Puglia Culture is one of the entities under the " split payment " regime and will therefore retain the amounts due by way of VAT as indicated on the invoice and pay them to the National Revenue Office in the manner and terms provided for by current legislation.

Applicants who meet the requirements of special tax regimes or the existence of favorable and specific legal conditions that exempt them from the obligation to provide to issue electronic invoices or from the application of the split payment rules must be mentioned on the invoice.

Pursuant to art. 48-bis of Presidential Decree no. 602/73 and Ministerial Decree 40/2008, before paying the consideration for the services to be provided, Puglia Culture shall verify the Applicant's compliance with the rules governing the payment of contributions to the public administration by sending a specific request to the competent authorities (Revenue Agency – Collection Office), if the conditions are met.

In accordance with Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003, by participating in this Call for Proposals, Applicants consent to the processing of the data provided, which may be communicated to third parties for the purposes of fulfilling legal obligations and for the sole purpose of this Call for Proposals.

Participants in this Call hereby declare that they are aware of the provisions of Legislative Decree No. 231 of June 8, 2001, and subsequent additions, as well as of the provisions of the Code of Ethics and those

provided for in the Form 231 adopted by Puglia Culture, and published in the section “Amministrazione Trasparente” of the institutional website www.teatropubblicopugliese.it. As a result, participants are required to behave in line with the aforementioned Code of Ethics and Form 231, for the parts applicable, and in any case they must behave in such a way as not to expose Puglia Culture to the risk of the application of the sanctions provided for by the aforementioned Legislative Decree. Failure to comply with the aforementioned obligations shall constitute a serious breach of the agreement and shall entitle Puglia Culture to terminate this agreement with immediate effect, pursuant to and for the purposes of Article 1456 of the Civil Code, without prejudice to compensation for any damages.

11 – TRACEABILITY OF PAYMENTS

Each expense must be made in compliance with the regulations on 'Payment Traceability' pursuant to Article 3 of Law 136/2010 and its amendments, which are fully incorporated herein. Expenses must be made via bank transfer or another payment method suitable for ensuring the traceability of the financial flow, under penalty of inadmissibility. The use of cash is expressly prohibited, except as provided by the relevant regulations, which are fully incorporated herein. Puglia Culture will be responsible for communicating the CUP and CIG codes in case of programming.

INFORMAZIONI

Puglia Culture-Puglia Sounds provides its coordination staff, to support the Applicants achieve the best results. Enquiries and/or requests for appointments aimed at acquiring information about this Call can be sent to the following email address: maddalena.ciocca@pugliaculture.it – +39 080 5414814"

Bari, 03/02/2025 – Prot. 0551/CS/mc

OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE CALL

Puglia Culture Director and Officer in charge of the Call: Sante Levante

<p>Regional Projects and Cultural Strategies Manager Puglia Culture <i><u>Claudia Sergio</u></i></p> <hr/>	<p>Puglia Culture Director and Officer in charge of the Call <i><u>Sante Levante</u></i></p> <hr/>
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