

2024



Leveraging Music as a Tool of Inclusion for Migrants and Refugees

Examples of good practices



LEVERAGING MUSIC
MUSIC FOR INCLUSION



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Foreword

This document presents a collection of good practices showcasing the transformative power of music as a tool for social inclusion. It has been developed within the framework of the KA210 Erasmus+ project 'Leveraging music', which focuses on fostering intercultural dialogue and inclusion for young migrants and refugees across Europe and beyond. Through this initiative, partners from France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Turkey have come together to exchange knowledge, share innovative approaches, and celebrate the role of music in creating more cohesive and inclusive communities.

The featured practices highlight diverse methodologies and contexts, reflecting the unique cultural and social landscapes of each participating country. In France, we explore projects that use music workshops to help young migrants express their stories and develop linguistic skills essential for integration. From Belgium, the document delves into initiatives that bring together migrant and local youth through community orchestras and collaborative musical creations. Luxembourg offers insight into programs focused on therapeutic music interventions designed to support the mental health and emotional resilience of refugees. Meanwhile, Turkey contributes compelling examples of how traditional music can serve as a bridge between displaced populations and host communities, fostering mutual understanding and appreciation.

This collection serves as both an inspiration and a practical resource for practitioners, educators, and policymakers seeking to harness the unifying power of music. By documenting these good practices, the project aims to contribute to a broader dialogue on the role of arts and culture in addressing some of the most pressing challenges of our time: integration, inclusion, and social cohesion.

REFUGEES OF RAP

Syria/Palestine/France



Rap and Hip-Hop workshop in the middle school in the town of Trévières

Refugees of Rap is a music initiative founded by brothers Yaser and Mohamed Jamous. Originally formed in the Yarmouk Refugee Camp in Syria, the group has been active in France since 2013, using hip-hop as a tool for cultural expression and integration. Their work focuses on engaging refugee and local schoolchildren through rap music, creating spaces for dialogue, creativity, and mutual understanding.

The initiative seeks to foster cultural exchange between refugees and local communities while promoting freedom of expression. It empowers young participants to express their experiences and dreams through rap music, spreading messages of peace and tolerance. Additionally, it aims to facilitate the social integration of refugees and raise awareness about their stories and resilience.

One of the primary activities of Refugees of Rap is conducting rap workshops in schools. These sessions guide students through the process of composing and performing their own rap songs, focusing on rhythm, lyrics, and storytelling. The workshops also serve as a platform for cultural sharing, where the Jamous brothers discuss their personal journey from Syria to France and the role of music in overcoming challenges.



Participants have the opportunity to share their newly created compositions through public performances, showcasing their creativity and building their confidence. These performances also act as a bridge, fostering connections between diverse communities and encouraging dialogue.

The project has had a profound impact on participants, helping them gain confidence and develop their communication skills. It fosters inclusion by bridging cultural gaps between refugee and local youth, creating a deeper understanding of shared humanity. The workshops also highlight the contributions and stories of refugees, challenging stereotypes and fostering empathy within the broader community.

Additionally, participants acquire valuable skills, including musical and linguistic abilities, that can be applied in other areas of their lives. By connecting young people through music, the project builds lasting relationships and a stronger sense of belonging.

One challenge faced by Refugees of Rap is overcoming language barriers among participants. Music, particularly rhythm and melody, serves as a universal tool to transcend these limitations, enabling effective communication. Another challenge is building trust with participants, which the Jamous brothers address by sharing their personal stories. This approach creates a safe and relatable environment, encouraging open expression and engagement.





Refugees of Rap has been recognized by the UNHCR as a model for innovative refugee integration practices. Their work has been featured in local and international media, drawing attention to their unique approach to using hip-hop for social inclusion and empowerment.

Refugees of Rap demonstrates the power of music as a universal language capable of transcending cultural and linguistic divides. It highlights the importance of creativity as a means of empowerment, allowing participants to find their voice and share their stories. By fostering mutual understanding and respect, the project creates a sustainable impact on the lives of young people and their communities.

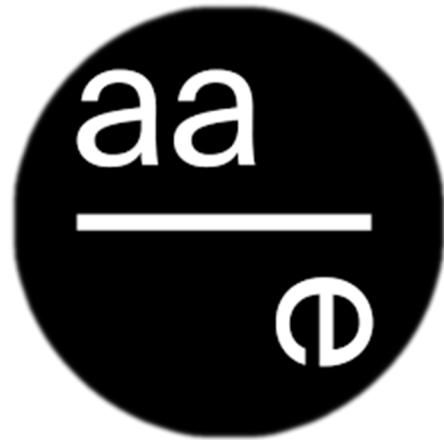
For contact and more information, you can explore the [UNHCR article on Refugees of Rap](#) or check out their page : <https://www.facebook.com/RefugeesOfRap/>



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Artistes en Exil

Aubervilliers, France



Atelier des Artistes en Exil Music Workshop for Young Migrants

Over the course of two months, 14 young migrant minors participated in a transformative music workshop led by three professional artists, themselves in exile. Organized by the association 'Atelier des Artistes en Exil' as part of the 'Visions d'Exil' festival, this initiative culminated in a public performance at 'Le Point Fort d'Aubervilliers' on November 1 2023.

The workshop provided participants with training in percussion, music production using computer software, and song writing, fostering both artistic and personal growth.



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The primary objective of the project was to support the social and cultural integration of young migrants into French society. By engaging them in creative practices, the workshop aimed to:

- Reduce the stress of recent arrivals in a new and unfamiliar environment.
- Encourage self-expression by exploring their personal stories, childhood memories, and cultural rituals.
- Enhance their proficiency in French, a skill crucial for navigating daily life, such as hospital visits, administrative tasks, and public transport.

Under the guidance of Congolese artist Chériff Bakala and two other exiled musicians, the participants explored different aspects of musical creation. They learned percussion techniques, experimented with computer-assisted music production, and crafted original lyrics.

A unique thematic approach was adopted, focusing on the concept of rituals. Participants drew inspiration from their childhoods, evoking memories of lullabies, recipes, and other cultural traditions. For example, Abigaëlle, a 16-year-old recently arrived from Congo, chose to sing a traditional song about a woman leading her village, allowing her to connect with and share her heritage.

The project also featured a professional recording session, enabling the participants to experience the process of creating music in a studio environment.

This initiative had a profound impact on the young participants. By sharing a common experience of exile with their mentors, they formed a natural and organic connection that required no mediation. According to Judith Depaule, the director of the 'Atelier des Artistes en Exil', this shared history fostered an environment of mutual understanding and solidarity.

The workshop allowed participants to express their identities and stories, building their confidence and easing their transition into French society. For many, it was an opportunity to reclaim joy and creativity in the midst of significant personal challenges.



Every year, the 'Visions d'Exil' festival highlights the contributions of exiled artists and the power of creative practices in fostering inclusion. This music workshop serves as a model for how art can bridge cultural divides and support refugees' integration into their host communities.

The workshop demonstrates the potential of music and storytelling to help young migrants navigate the complexities of life in a new country. By providing a safe space for artistic expression and linguistic development, the initiative not only eases their integration but also celebrates their resilience and cultural heritage.

For contact and more information, visit the [Atelier des Artistes en Exil](#) website

Or explore the [Visions d'Exil festival](#).

You can also listen to the Radio France Podcast about this project [HERE](#).

La Cimade

La Cimade
L'humanité passe par l'autre

Lille, France

Musiques au-delà des Frontières: Fostering Integration through Collective Musical Practice

"Musiques au-delà des Frontières" is an initiative launched by La Cimade, a French organisation dedicated to supporting migrants and defending their rights. In collaboration with Attacafa, an association promoting universal nomadic music, the project brings together exiled individuals and local musicians in the Lille region to share and create music collectively. The sessions are open to all, encouraging participants to bring their cultural backgrounds, sensitivities, and instruments to enrich the shared musical experience.

The primary objectives of the project are to:

- Facilitate social integration of exiled individuals through collective musical practice.
- Create a welcoming space where cultural expressions are shared and valued.
- Build social connections between migrants and local residents, fostering mutual understanding and solidarity.

The project organises regular musical gatherings where participants sit in a circle, introduce themselves, and collaboratively perform songs or melodies. Each person contributes their unique cultural perspective and musical talent, enriching the collective experience. Participation is flexible, allowing individuals to join sessions as they are able. Initially, attendees were primarily students from La Cimade Lille's French language courses, but over time, the circle has expanded to include individuals from various networks, thanks to partnerships with organisations like the University of Lille, Pangea, Banta, and RAIL.

Since its inception, the project has conducted multiple half-day musical sessions, engaging over 45 participants. These gatherings have provided a platform for cultural exchange, personal expression, and community building. Participants have reported increased confidence, a sense of belonging, and improved language skills. The initiative has also facilitated the creation of "sound capsules"—recorded pieces that are broadcast on platforms like Radio Campus and used in educational outreach to raise awareness about migration and the reception of foreigners in local communities.

The project has navigated challenges such as fluctuating participation and the need for sustainable funding. By securing a grant from the RECITAL territorial fund and support from Liens Coopération, the organizers have been able to expand the initiative and plan future sessions.

This project exemplifies how collective musical practice can serve as a powerful tool for social integration, cultural exchange, and community building. By providing a space where exiled individuals and local residents can share their musical heritage, "Musiques au-delà des Frontières" fosters mutual understanding and solidarity, contributing to a more inclusive society.



For [contact](#) and more information, visit [La Cimade's official website](#):

You can also listen the recordings of the project [HERE](#)

International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation



International
Yehudi Menuhin
Foundation

Brussels, Belgium

"Artistic Residency for Young Refugees"

The International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation organized a musical residency aimed at fostering the social inclusion of young newcomers in Belgium. Held from October 4th to 9th at the Domaine de Farnières in Vielsam, this residency was part of the Creative Europe programme: UCREATE. The initiative provided music creation workshops led by professional musicians to ten young aspiring musicians from various asylum reception centres. The primary objective was to facilitate social connections between local populations and newcomers through artistic creation, offering development and learning opportunities for the participants. The residency served as the beginning of an artistic training process, aiming to empower participants to eventually conduct musical co-creation workshops themselves. Workshops included multi-sensory communication to enhance group cohesion and music co-creation sessions to foster artistic exchange.

Key Components of the Good Practice

- ☞ **Multi-Sensory Communication Workshops:** Facilitated initial communication and group cohesion through movement and improvisation.
- ☞ **Music Co-Creation Workshops:** Enabled participants to collaboratively create music, sharing their cultural backgrounds and artistic expressions.
- ☞ **Long-Term Artistic Training:** Offered opportunities for continued musical education, aiming for participants to lead future workshops.

Good Practices for Inclusion and Integration:

- ☞ **Cultural Exchange:** Encouraged sharing of diverse musical traditions, promoting mutual understanding.
- ☞ **Skill Development:** Provided artistic skills that enhance self-esteem and social integration.
- ☞ **Community Building:** Created a supportive environment where newcomers and locals could connect through shared artistic experiences.

For contact and more information, visit the [UCreate project's page](#)

You can also visit the [International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation's page](#) about the project.



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Muziekpublique

MUZIEK PUBLIQUE



Brussels, Belgium

"Refugees for Refugees (now Refa)"

Muziekpublique initiated the "Refugees for Refugees" project, bringing together ten musicians who had found asylum in Belgium from countries such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tibet. The ensemble developed an original repertoire that blends their diverse musical traditions, symbolizing a journey along the former Silk Road. The project aimed to showcase the talents of refugee musicians, promote cultural exchange, and facilitate their professional integration into the Belgian music scene. Over five years, the group released two albums, performed over a hundred concerts, and received critical acclaim, including top rankings in the Transglobal World Music Charts and a Klara award for best Belgian world music album. In 2019, the ensemble rebranded as "Refa," emphasizing their identity as musicians beyond their refugee status..



Key Components of the Good Practice

- Collaborative Music Creation: Fostered collaboration among musicians from diverse backgrounds to create a unique musical fusion.
- Professional Development: Provided platforms for performances, recordings, and media exposure, aiding in professional integration.
- Cultural Promotion: Highlighted the rich musical traditions of the participants' countries of origin.



Good Practices for Inclusion and Integration

- Public Engagement: Performed in various venues, reaching diverse audiences and promoting cultural appreciation.
- Identity Empowerment: Shifted focus from refugee status to professional musicianship, enhancing self-esteem and societal perception.
- Networking Opportunities: Connected refugee musicians with the local music industry and community.



For contact and more information, you can explore the [Muziekpublique's webpage](#)

Canvas (Belgian tv channel)



Brussels, Belgium

"Imagine Home – Music Lessons for Refugees"

"Imagine Home" is a music donation project initiated by the Belgian television channel Canvas and its war reporter, Rudy Vranckx. The project aims to provide young refugees in Belgium with the opportunity to engage in music by donating musical instruments and offering music lessons. Recognizing the therapeutic and integrative power of music, the initiative seeks to help young refugees express themselves, build confidence, and foster a sense of belonging in their new environment. By facilitating access to musical education and instruments, "Imagine Home" supports the social inclusion of young refugees, enabling them to share their stories and cultures through music.

Key Components of the Good Practice

- Instrument Donation: Collecting and distributing musical instruments to young refugees.
- Music Lessons: Providing access to music education tailored to the needs and backgrounds of the participants.
- Cultural Expression: Encouraging participants to share their musical heritage, fostering mutual understanding and cultural exchange.

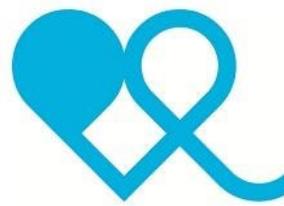
Good Practices for Inclusion and Integration

- Empowerment through Music: Enabling self-expression and personal development among young refugees.
- Community Engagement: Building bridges between refugees and local communities through shared musical experiences.
- Therapeutic Support: Utilizing music as a tool for emotional healing and coping with past traumas.



Contact and more information [HERE](#)

Fondation EME



Fondation EME
Écouter pour
Mieux s'Entendre

Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

Music for Inclusion: Empowering Refugees Through Creative Musical Workshops

The Fondation EME uses music as a universal tool to foster social inclusion and solidarity, with a particular focus on marginalised communities such as young refugees in Luxembourg. By transcending language and cultural barriers, music offers a unique and [innovative way to unite diverse groups](#) and empower individuals.

The "Music for Inclusion" initiative provides high-impact musical workshops and activities in social institutions where access to music and creative arts is often limited. These workshops, which utilise non-formal education methods, participatory activities, and public performances, create safe and empowering spaces for young refugees. Through these activities, participants are able to build confidence, improve communication skills, and develop a sense of belonging in their new environment.





The key components of the initiative include a range of musical experiences aimed at promoting personal growth and community engagement. Music professionals, therapists, and facilitators lead interactive group workshops, where participants engage in instrument-playing, singing, improvisation, and composition. These workshops encourage teamwork and self-expression, enabling refugees to share their personal and cultural stories through music. Activities such as cultural music storytelling, group-based jam sessions, and the creation of original songs that blend diverse cultural backgrounds are core elements of the program.

In addition to workshops, the initiative features choir and performance projects that bring together refugees and local youth. These community choirs meet regularly for rehearsals, culminating in public performances that celebrate multicultural music. Performing for an audience helps participants build self-esteem, pride, and a sense of accomplishment, while also showcasing their talents to the wider community.

Music therapy is another important aspect of the initiative, with professional therapists guiding sessions to help young refugees process trauma, stress, and isolation. Methods such as rhythmic exercises to alleviate anxiety, music listening and lyric-writing for emotional expression, and group drumming circles for unity and stress relief are central to the therapeutic process.

To further empower participants, the initiative introduces digital music creation tools like GarageBand and FL Studio. These platforms allow young people to create their own musical pieces, blending modern beats with their cultural influences. This offers them a creative outlet to express their identity while developing valuable technical skills.

The initiative has several key impacts and benefits. First, it promotes cultural exchange by bringing refugees and the local population together, fostering intercultural understanding and breaking down stereotypes. It also aids in skill development, equipping participants with creative, social, and technical skills that can enhance their education and career prospects. Through music, young refugees gain a sense of empowerment, resilience, and community, while public performances and group activities help reduce social isolation and foster positive relationships with local youth and the broader community. By highlighting the talents and contributions of refugees, the initiative also plays a role in shifting the mindset of the host society, challenging stigmas and promoting inclusivity.



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To ensure the success and sustainability of these programs, the Fondation EME collaborates with a wide range of stakeholders, including NGOs, public institutions, and private sponsors. These partnerships provide essential resources such as funding for instruments, facilitators, and other materials, as well as visibility through advocacy campaigns and public performances. Additionally, training for youth workers and facilitators helps build capacity and allows the model to be replicated in other settings.



For contact and more information, you can explore the webpage of Foundation EME

Axwai A.s.b.l.



Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

Empowering Youth Through Music Production and Workshops

Axwai A.s.b.l. is an innovative organization committed to empowering young artists and musicians in Luxembourg, with a particular focus on youth, including young refugees. Through a variety of initiatives and workshops, Axwai provides a safe, inclusive, and creative environment for participants to develop their skills in music production, performance, and other artistic pursuits. The organization's approach emphasizes empowerment, inclusion, and skill development, aiming to help young people build confidence, establish social connections, and foster a sense of belonging.

Axwai offers a unique space where youth can explore music production and creativity. Participants engage in hands-on training in areas such as audio recording, beat-making, lyric composition, and music production. The workshops are designed to be flexible, with both individual and group sessions that are tailored to the needs of the participants. Additionally, the organization provides support for spontaneous music projects, encouraging collaboration among young people from diverse cultural backgrounds. This environment allows participants to practice intercultural dialogue while gaining practical skills in music production, all within a youth-friendly, pressure-free space that promotes creative growth.



In collaboration with various youth organizations, youth centres, and schools, Axwai also conducts regular workshops. These weekly sessions focus on beat-making, DJing, recording, and lyric writing, and are complemented by personalized mentoring and guidance for participants. Axwai works closely with educators to ensure the sustainability of these music programs, providing training

that enables local staff to continue offering these creative opportunities even after the organization's direct involvement ends.

actively promotes youth-created music through public events such as the Fête de la Musique, Roots Town Festival, On Stéitsch, and Beat Battle Competitions, which are held in partnership with Rocklab. These events provide young musicians with a platform to showcase their work to a wider audience, helping to further their development and connect them to the local music scene.

The core values of Axwai's programs centre around empowerment through creative expression, skill development, and community building. By helping young people build confidence through music, the organization fosters a sense of agency and encourages them to take ownership of their creative processes. Participants also acquire technical skills in music production, which can open up new educational or professional opportunities. Through group activities and collaborations, Axwai strengthens intercultural dialogue and teamwork, bridging gaps between young people from diverse cultural and social backgrounds. Furthermore, by training local youth workers and educators, the organization ensures the long-term sustainability of these programs, creating lasting support for young artists and musicians in Luxembourg.

Contact and more information [HERE](#)

Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University

Istanbul, Türkiye



Sounds Beyond The Borders: empowering Syrian refugees through music

As Syrian refugees' migration experience in Turkey sways between transience and permanence, the culture of coexistence can only occur with the refugees and the locals getting to know one another. Like any cultural/artistic production, music provides a fertile ground for this interaction. Sounds beyond Border Interview Series strive to understand Syrian musicians' experience of migration through music. As a response to homogenizing and exclusionary perspectives, the Series aim to draw attention to the refugees' talents and practices, the diversity they bring to our geography and the possibilities of a common cultural world. Consisting of video interviews, Sounds Beyond the Border project focuses on the relations between migration and music based on the experiences of Syrian musicians living in Turkey. Following the screening of the video, which is presented as a thematic summary of the project, a conversations and workshop held with the participation of Syrian musicians and decision makers.



The 'Sounds Beyond the Borders' project is centred on fostering cultural coexistence between Syrian refugees and local Turkish communities through music. By using music as a bridge, the project highlights its role in fostering dialogue and challenging exclusionary narratives. A key element of the initiative is a video interview series featuring Syrian musicians living in Turkey, which explores their migration experiences and the influence of music on their identity and integration. These interviews showcase the talents and cultural contributions of Syrian musicians, emphasizing the diversity they bring to their new communities. The project culminates in a synthesized video presentation, serving as a thematic summary of the musicians' narratives, making their stories accessible to a broader audience. Interactive workshops and conversations further enrich the initiative by bringing together Syrian musicians and decision-makers, facilitating dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collaborative cultural efforts. The project advocates for an inclusive society by emphasizing shared cultural connections and the possibilities of co-creation between refugees and locals. It also provides a platform for policymakers to engage directly with Syrian musicians, reflecting on integration policies informed by these cultural experiences. Through its efforts in raising awareness, dismantling stereotypes, and promoting sustainability, the 'Sounds Beyond the Borders' project contributes to lasting cultural inclusion and mutual understanding.

The Sounds Beyond the Borders project has had a significant impact in Istanbul by fostering cultural integration and cohesion between Syrian refugees and local communities. By using music as a medium, it bridges social divides and promotes a shared sense of community. The initiative empowers Syrian musicians, providing them with a platform to share their stories and cultural heritage, countering stereotypes and highlighting their valuable contributions to Istanbul's cultural diversity. The project raises public awareness through video interviews and workshops, encouraging empathy and understanding among residents and decision-makers alike. It enriches the city's vibrant cultural tapestry, introducing new artistic perspectives and fostering collaboration within the local arts scene. The interactive workshops enable meaningful dialogue between Syrian refugees, locals, and policymakers, fostering inclusive policies that address the needs of refugee populations in the city. Additionally, the project enhances economic opportunities for Syrian musicians by increasing their visibility and professional prospects within Istanbul's cultural industries. By strengthening social bonds and showcasing the unifying power of music, the project contributes to greater social harmony in a city navigating the complexities of migration. Ultimately, it serves as a model for inclusive practices, demonstrating the potential for cultural and artistic initiatives to promote integration and coexistence in diverse urban settings.



Stakeholder Engagement ensures the active participation of all groups impacted by or influencing the project. Key stakeholders in this initiative include Syrian musicians, local Turkish communities, policymakers, cultural organizations, and NGOs working on migration and integration. Engaging these stakeholders allows for diverse perspectives to be represented, ensuring the project addresses both the cultural and social needs of participants. Decision-makers play a vital role in creating policies informed by the workshops and discussions, while cultural organizations and NGOs help facilitate implementation and advocacy. By involving all stakeholders, the project promotes inclusivity, builds trust, and enhances its long-term impact on fostering coexistence and cultural exchange.



AVRASYA GENÇLİK GELİŞİM DERNEĞİ



Kocaeli, Türkiye

GET CLOSER: PROMOTING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND CREATIVITY THROUGH ART FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

The GET CLOSER project addresses the social risks faced by young refugees and migrants due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including depression, anxiety, social isolation, and the development of negative habits. To counter these challenges, the project creates a free and accessible online learning platform designed to promote social inclusion and personal development through art and creativity.

By integrating European folkloric values with innovative educational content, the project encourages cultural exchange, fosters intercultural dialogue, and empowers disadvantaged youth, including refugees and migrants. The platform provides young people with an opportunity to engage in non-formal education through creative activities, helping them develop a sense of belonging, personal growth, and cultural awareness.

The primary goal is to empower young refugees and migrants, helping them overcome social exclusion by building confidence and skills while fostering a sense of belonging. The platform promotes creativity and skill development through interactive video tutorials and courses, focusing on artistic expression, while integrating European cultural heritage. The project also raises awareness of Erasmus+ opportunities, opening access to educational and cultural exchange programs.



GET CLOSER offers a dynamic and interactive learning environment through video tutorials and creative courses in various art forms, including music, visual arts, and crafts. These tutorials encourage self-expression, creativity, and the development of soft skills, such as communication and problem-solving.

The project employs non-formal education methods, ensuring flexible and accessible learning. Young people can explore their artistic potential in a supportive, inclusive environment that promotes social integration and mutual understanding. The platform also emphasizes cultural integration, allowing participants to engage with European art traditions and promoting respect for diverse cultural backgrounds.

The project primarily targets young refugees and migrants who face challenges in accessing education and social integration. These young people often experience social isolation, and GET CLOSER provides them with the tools to connect with their communities.

In addition, the project involves youth workers, educators, and art practitioners, helping to build their capacity to use non-formal education methods to support social inclusion. The initiative engages a range of stakeholders, including parents, teachers, NGOs, and municipalities, fostering community engagement and promoting a culture of civic participation.

GET CLOSER aims to improve social integration by providing young refugees and migrants with the opportunity to express themselves creatively and build connections in their new environments. The project helps participants develop both artistic and soft skills, which contribute to their personal growth and long-term integration.

The project also promotes active citizenship, encouraging young people to engage with their communities and become agents of change. By raising awareness of Erasmus+ opportunities, the project expands educational and cultural horizons for young refugees and migrants, enabling them to participate in European exchanges.

In addition, GET CLOSER fosters intercultural dialogue by integrating European folkloric traditions into the learning content, promoting mutual respect and understanding between young people from different cultural backgrounds.

The GET CLOSER project is a transnational initiative involving multiple European partners, each bringing unique art traditions to the project. This collaboration results in the creation of innovative, culturally diverse learning materials that enhance the educational experience.

For contact and more information, you can explore the webpage of the project [GET CLOSER](#)



Petra Nachtmanova

Turkey and worldwide



FILM SAZ

'Saz' is a film about the power of music and the scope of the world, unity, simultaneously a road movie and a quest for meaning, a breathtaking trip in the border region between Europe and Asia, which shows that despite conflict and crisis, there is a human everyday life out there, as well as something special that holds us together. Saz is an instrument that has different variations through out the Europe and Asia and this documentary emphasize how humanity is united, similar and sharing the common values through an instrument and music.

The *SazFilm.com* project effectively bridged connections between musicians and music genres across Anatolia and Turkic countries by exploring the shared cultural and historical significance of the saz instrument. By showcasing the various forms and styles of saz used throughout Europe and Asia, the project highlighted how music transcends borders and acts as a common thread linking diverse traditions and people. The documentary illustrated the instrument's versatility and adaptability, revealing its role in different genres and contexts, from folk music in rural settings to modern interpretations in urban areas.

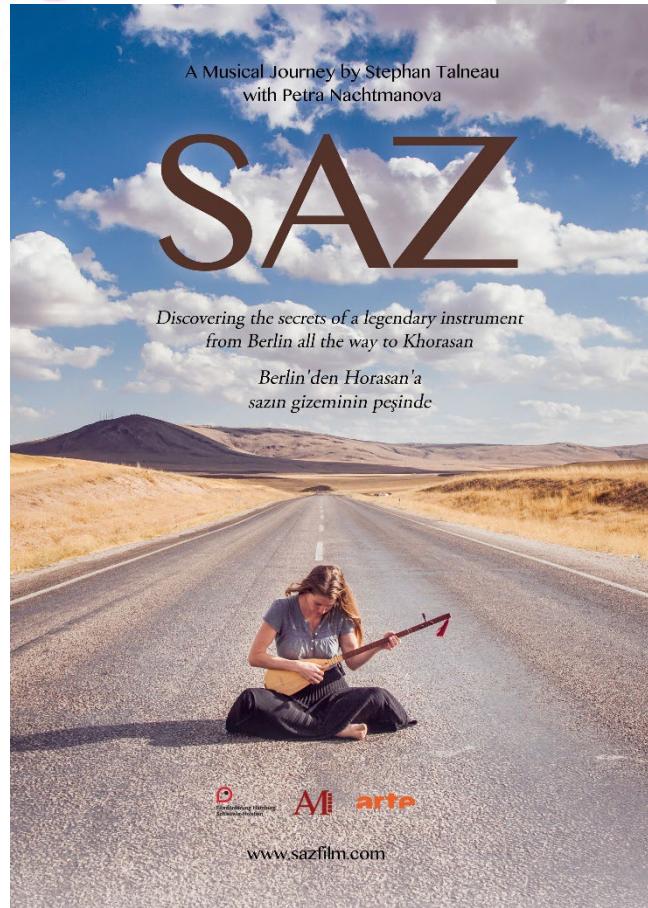
Through this lens, the film emphasized the underlying unity among these cultures, showing that, despite geographical and political divisions, music remains a universal language that fosters shared values and emotions. This approach encouraged greater understanding and appreciation of the cultural richness brought by migrants and refugees. The stories and performances captured in the film demonstrated how



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the saz served as a symbol of continuity and identity for displaced individuals, helping them reconnect with their heritage and integrate into new communities.

The documentary also fostered empathy by portraying the personal and collective experiences of musicians who use the saz to express resilience, hope, and shared humanity. It created a narrative of interconnectedness, emphasizing the importance of preserving traditions while also embracing cultural exchange. By promoting dialogue between cultures and showcasing the saz as a unifying symbol, *SazFilm.com* inspired audiences to see the world through the eyes of others, bridging gaps in understanding and celebrating the diversity and unity of human experiences.



For contact and more information, take a look the webpage of SAZFILM
Or watch the full movie



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Alternative De L'art Et De L'artisanat (Rick Brill)



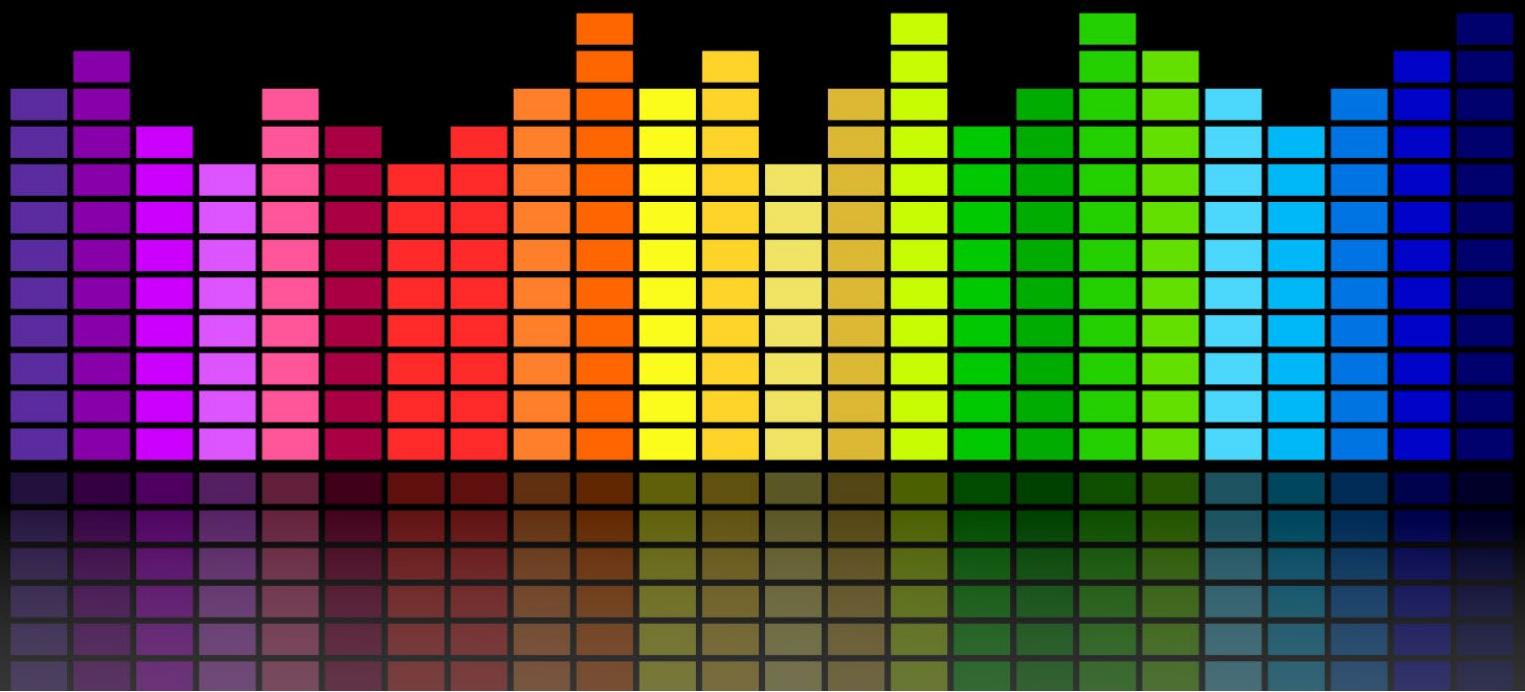
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