



OPERA CREATION JOURNEY

Time and space to develop your innovative opera

www.enoa-community.com



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
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enoa

For the second time, *enoa* launches an open call to find artistic teams to participate in its “Opera Creation Journey”.

The network wishes to support truly exciting projects, with the highest standards of quality, that embrace diversity in all of its forms; from new stories, perspectives, and aesthetics to questioning of the art form itself.

enoa's objective is to find brilliant and innovative projects, in line with its [manifesto](#) and commitments to equality and diversity. Crucially, the project should be in the final stages of development (more details below).

To apply: link to application form [here](#)

Deadline: May 17th, 2022 (11:59pm French time)

If you want to meet us, you can check the *enoa* [who's who](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Sophie or Lucile at info@enoa-community.com.

WHO ARE WE

enoa is the European network of opera academies, composed of [12 members](#), which has been supporting and accompanying artists in training and creation [for 12 years](#). The network firmly believes that the future of opera in Europe depends on the sector being open to a greater diversity of artists as well as being open to exploring innovative operas celebrating stories that reflect the world today.

Since 2009, the network has been working to create the ideal environment to support new opera projects and has encouraged the development of more than 29 projects with [22 coproductions](#), including 17 world premieres!

OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Our priority for the Opera Creation Journey and commitment of the Empowering Opera programme is the uncovering of new stories and showcasing the work of artists as yet untold and unheard in the opera world.

In line with the [enoa manifesto](#), we will be looking for projects that mutually enforce diversity and excellence through these criteria and much more:

- At least one, but preferably more, of the artistic contributors are of different backgrounds
- This project is inclusive of all genders
- This project explores stories/themes rarely told in opera
- This project challenges the traditional forms and aesthetics of opera
- Characters/protagonists rarely seen in opera are placed at the center of the narrative
- This project celebrates an intercultural dialogue
- This project aims to open institutions' doors to new opera audiences
- This project centers disabled artists and/or narratives and ensures disability is not a barrier to participation

> LET PAST AND PRESENT OPERA CREATION JOURNEY ARTISTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES...

Through our first Opera Creation Journey open call (January 21), we have selected and are currently supporting [eight creative teams](#), in their journey to develop their opera project.

- You can [learn more about our Labs](#): how it goes and how artists are working within it or [listen to artists](#) talking about their creative process, career development and experience within *enoa*.
- You could also discover the creative process behind some *enoa*'s opera - from the very first ideas to reaching a World Premiere:
 - [The Sleeping Thousand](#), a political and committed opera by Adam Maor and Yonathan Levy
 - [Be My Superstar](#), an interactive opera about bullying by Simon Voseček and Alexandra Lacroix
 - [To our Sisters, to our Brothers](#), a European diptych directed by Stephane Ghislain Roussel with *En vertu de*, a new work composed by Eugene Birman, followed by *Der Kaiser von Atlantis* composed by Viktor Ullmann

OUR OFFER

We offer time and space to creative teams to develop their innovative opera project on our 'Opera Creation Journey' through mentorship and research and development time ([Labs](#)).

The goal is to support the advancement of six to eight opera projects during 15 months, until February 2024. As the duration of support is only 15 months, we are looking to support advanced projects.

If selected, this journey will be bespoke to your team and built around the needs of your project.

> IMPORTANT NOTE

Selection on the Opera Creation Journey is not a commitment to produce your project - it is the first step on a journey. All artistic teams are strongly encouraged to continue seeking financial support for their projects outside of the *enoa* network.

Creative Support

- ⇒ **Kick-off workshop for the selected teams** - a chance to meet your fellow artists, a workshop to better equip your team to advocate for your opera, support on finding funding, unconscious bias training, the chance to share your projects with each other, space for networking and group discussion, pitch session in front of the *enoa* board, etc. (programme subject to change)
- ⇒ **Mentoring** - you will be paired with a dedicated *enoa* institution who will provide support and mentorship for your project. This mentorship will be adapted to your needs and could take different formats (i.e. regular meetings, review of samples, connection with potential contacts, etc.). You will benefit from a dedicated contact person within the institution.
- ⇒ **Labs** - residential research and development time for your project hosted by one or several *enoa* institutions (from 3 to 10 days maximum). Your dedicated *enoa* institution will support you logistically the organisation of those Labs.
- ⇒ **Pitch opportunities** - there will be the opportunity to pitch your project to the *enoa* Board

Financial/Logistical Support

- ⇒ All international travel and accommodation - for Labs and pitch sessions
- ⇒ **Development fee** - dedicated budget, up to 2.500€ per team, to support the work and development of the project in-between the Labs

Duration: 15 months (November 2022 - February 2024)

If selected, the teams agree to take part in the communication activities of the network.

We want to make this opportunity as accessible as possible. If required, we will provide any successful applicant with an access rider.

We also want the application process to be as accessible as possible so if this format does not work for you then please let us know at info@enoa-community.com and we will do our best to facilitate your needs.

HOW WILL YOUR PROJECT BE ASSESSED?

> CALENDAR OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

17 th May 2022 (11:59pm CET)	Deadline to apply
May to end of June 2022	Analysis of the applications by a reading panel and pre-selection of 50 projects. Non-selected projects will be informed. Teams will receive written feedback in the following months.
July to September 2022	Analysis of the 50 pre-selected projects by the selection committee
Late September 2022	Confirmation of the selected projects
End of October/Nov 2022	Kick-off workshop
November 2022	Beginning of the Opera Creation Journey
February 2024	End of the OCJ support

→ The current COVID-19 health situation can impact the implementation of the programme activities and most of the meetings with the referring institution will be planned online.

> SELECTION PROCESS

First round:

Your application will be reviewed by an external reading panel made up of independent experts:

- Magdalini Giannikou, composer & producer, Spain, more info [here](#)
- Elayce Ismail, director and dramaturg, United-Kingdom, more info [here](#)
- Sjaron Minailo, director, Israel / Netherlands, more info [here](#)

[Tonic](#) will be working with both the network and panellists to ensure equality, diversity and inclusion during this selection process.

The reading panel will assess all the applications and make a selection of up to 50 projects.

Second round:

These projects will proceed to a selection committee composed of *enoa* partners' artistic representatives.

Six to eight projects will be selected to go through the Opera Creation Journey. For a project to be selected, one of the *enoa* partners must commit to accompany the project development.

> FEEDBACKS

The *enoa* network commits to offer every creative team personalised feedback on their application. All the non-selected teams will therefore receive written feedback in a few months following the end of the selection process.

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA YOUR PROJECT WILL BE ASSESSED ON?

✓ Quality: the network is hoping for the highest standards and will assess the three main areas:

- Sound/music
- Idea of staging/space/design
- Libretto/narrative

For each of those, the network will look at the team composition, the ideas presented, the materials shared.

✓ Clear and well-developed concept: the network will be attentive to the coherence of the three previous aspects, the relevance of the subject, the amount of research already done, etc.

✓ Distinctive and unique project: the network is looking for innovative projects that challenge the current opera landscape (form, narrative, music, staging, etc.), with relevant and/or urgent subject-matter.

✓ Diversity: the network wishes to support projects that embrace our equality & diversity, as listed in our *enoa* commitments and manifesto (cf. supra).

✓ Project planning: the network will assess the level of development of the project, in order to evaluate if it can be supported over 15 months.

TEAM COMPOSITION

✓ A diverse team of artists: at least one, but preferably more, of the project team should be from an under-represented group (or groups) in opera.

The network believes that different perspectives foster innovation, creativity and empathy in a way that homogenous teams seldom do.

✓ As a full team is an important element of a developing project, we will not accept solo applications.

✓ A team composed of someone in charge of the sound/music and of other team members in charge of the staging/space/design and/or in charge of the libretto/narrative.

✓ The network is open to every formal or informal artistic background

✓ Team must be able to understand English

✓ Team must be European based

✓ No age limit

The *enoa* network is actively seeking to support artists currently under-represented in the opera world for historical, cultural or social reasons. You can check *enoa* values and statement in [our manifesto](#).

HOW TO APPLY?

Each team is expected to submit a project proposal via an [online form](#), including:

1. Personal information (first names, names, gender identity, professions, nationalities and hometowns, contact details of lead contact)

2. Supporting material for your creative team:

- a short bio of each member of the team (200 words maximum per artist)
- two links or files for each member of your creative team: if possible, samples of the current project (e.g. mood boards, sounds, videos, images, texts, etc.), otherwise you can submit

relevant work/supporting material that you feel best represents your work e.g. sounds, videos, images, texts, etc.

3. Questions about your project planning: please [download this document](#) and answer the questions directly in it.

- Regarding your team composition:
 - Would you consider your team as complete?
 - Do you have ideas of potential members, if some are missing?
- Regarding the progress your project is at: could you share with us at which stage of development are the following elements of your project?
 - Libretto / narrative / text
 - Sound / music
 - Other relevant elements (especially regarding the staging, movement, space, design, cast, etc.)
- Regarding your needs and objectives:
 - You have a total 10 days support in the form of Labs: what would you need to work on during Labs?
- Regarding project trajectory:
 - What is your desired timeline? (e.g. approx.. timeline of events up to production)
 - Do you already have other forms of support (e.g. financial, logistical, producer, etc.)?

4. A project proposal to include:

- A written project presentation (500 words maximum)
- A video of intent (four minutes maximum) for us to meet the team members and to get a clear vision of your project* – e.g. giving information about why you decided to make this project, why now and why opera?

**If you can't create this video, it is also possible to send a covering letter (2 pages maximum)*

Your application must be sent **before May 17th, 2022 (11:59pm French time)**. We will not be able to accept late applications.


> IMPORTANT TO READ BEFORE APPLYING

- **To share those documents:** you'll be asked to upload them all on a platform like [Dropbox](#) or [Google Drive](#) or use file transfer service like [WeTransfer](#) or [Smash](#) and paste the link in the form.

- **Privacy settings:**

- If you are using Dropbox or Google Drive, please, be careful to share a link with public access settings
- If you are sharing videos from YouTube, please be careful to set the privacy settings of the video on "public" or "unlisted"

- *enoa* is a European network and, in order to share every application we receive with our members, we need to have **an English version** of it. Nevertheless, you can submit your video in another language if you add English subtitles to the video

 **WARNING:** After you have clicked on "Submit" in the [online form](#), your application will be send so please, make sure to double check it using the arrows beforehand!

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