



With the support of the Culture
Programme of the European Union

International music producers **Serious** are delighted to announce the launch of **Take Five: Europe**, produced by partners across the continent with the support of the **European Commission**, the **Jerwood Charitable Foundation** and the **PRS for Music Foundation**.

Take Five: Europe is a significant artist development scheme designed to give some of Europe's most talented emerging jazz musicians the exciting opportunity to take 'time out' from their work to develop their craft. The participating artists will be provided with the unique chance to discuss, explore and strengthen all aspects of their future careers.

Following seven extremely successful UK editions of **Take Five** (a **Jerwood Charitable Foundation/PRS for Music Foundation** initiative), the first edition of **Take Five: Europe** will run across 2011 and 2012. A panel of industry experts, including representatives from all partner organisations, have selected two musicians per country – from France, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and the UK. Each candidate was chosen in view of the following: creativity, potential for success on the European jazz scene, style of music, range of influences, geography, cultural background and distinctive contribution to the European music community.

The ten innovative jazz musicians selected for this year's **Take Five: Europe** are:

- **Céline Bonacina**, France (saxophones)
- **Benjamin Flament**, France (vibraphone/percussion)
- **Bram Stadhouders** the Netherlands (guitar)
- **Oene van Geel**, the Netherlands (viola)
- **Gard Nilssen**, Norway (drums)
- **Ole Morten Vagan**, Norway (bass)
- **Maciej Garbowski**, Poland (bass)
- **Maciej Obara**, Poland (alto saxophone)
- **Fraser Fifield**, UK (whistles/pipes/saxophone)
- **Tom Arthurs**, UK (trumpet/flugelhorn)

The participation of UK artists Fraser Fifield and Tom Arthurs is supported by **Jerwood Charitable Foundation** and **PRS for Music Foundation**.

The **Take Five: Europe** programme comprises a number of intensive one-to-one sessions, during which artists will be able to identify their particular interests and concerns. Additionally, a motivating week-long residency in the depths of the English countryside will provide the opportunity for the participants to explore industry topics such as recording and publishing, communication strategy and new media, agency and management, public and private sector funding, as well as hone their composition and improvisation skills with one of the most respected figures in European and world jazz, John Surman.

Collaborations between the artists are strongly encouraged and there will be opportunities to perform at high profile festivals and venues across Europe, including **Jazz sous les Pommiers**, **Banlieues Bleues** and **La Dynamo** in France; **North Sea Jazz Festival** in the Netherlands; **Molde Jazz Festival** in Norway; **Jazztopad** in Poland and **London Jazz Festival** and various venues in the UK.

The knowledge and understanding provided to the musicians will be invaluable at a crucial stage in their careers. In recognition of this, the programme will be documented in words and images and the **Take Five: Europe** website (takefiveeurope.com) will be updated frequently with the latest news and pictures.

“Serious is committed to providing professional development opportunities to musicians of all ages, so we are thrilled to be working with the EC and other European partners to take the extraordinary success of the Take Five scheme to Europe. With inspirational creative and business sessions and exciting opportunities for participating artists, we aim to leave a legacy that will last for years to come.”

John Cumming – Director, Serious

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Notes:

1. **The Culture Programme of the European Union** aims to encourage and support cultural cooperation within Europe in order to bring the European common cultural heritage to the fore. The programme mainly promotes trans- national mobility of cultural players; trans-national circulation of artistic and cultural works and products; and intercultural dialogue and exchanges.
ec.europa.eu
2. **Serious** is one of the UK’s leading producers and curators of live jazz, international and new music. Serious produces events that range from major concerts, festivals and national and international tours through to learning and participation programmes, conferences and specially commissioned bespoke events. Alongside the production of live music events, Serious works in artist and rights management. Serious produces the London Jazz Festival.
serious.org.uk, londonjazzfestival.org.uk
3. **Banlieues Bleues** is an annual jazz festival that has taken place since 1984 in 15 towns in Seine-Saint-Denis, a district of banlieues (suburbs) on the outskirts and north east of Paris. Focused on jazz in the very sense of the word, but also on blues, contemporary and world music, the Festival offers an artistic platform of international repute. Banlieues Bleues also runs its own venue; La Dynamo.
banlieuesbleues.org
4. **Jazz sous les Pommiers** is a jazz festival that takes over the town of Coutances in Normandy every May. The Festival has been running since 1982, and in that time has featured a huge range of international stars and up-and-coming talent. The 31st edition takes place 12-19 May 2012.
jazzsouslespommiers.com
5. **Music Center the Netherlands (MCN)** is the resource and promotion center for the professional music world. Its mission is to propagate and enhance the position of Dutch music (culture), both nationally and internationally. MCN core tasks are promotion, information, documentation and synchronization/coordination.
mcn.nl
6. **North Sea Jazz Festival:** The first edition of the North Sea Jazz Festival took place in 1976 in the Netherlands Congresgebouw in The Hague. In 2006, the festival moved to its current, bigger, location in Rotterdam. The Festival takes place every July.
northseajazz.com
7. **Molde International Jazz Festival** is a week-long festival that takes place every July, presenting all kinds of jazz from New-Orleans style to freejazz, electronic and noise, a mix of international and Norwegian artists.
moldejazz.no

8. **Jazztopad Festival** is an annual jazz Festival in Wroclaw, Poland. It presents unique projects and world premieres of pieces composed exclusively for the festival. Jazztopad showcases Polish and international jazz artists and its 8th edition takes place in November 2011.
jazztopad.pl
9. The **Jerwood Charitable Foundation** is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts in the UK, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. They work with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts.
jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org
10. The **PRS for Music Foundation (PRSF)** is the UK's leading funder of new music across all genres. Since March 2000 it has supported over 4,000 new music initiatives to the tune of over £14 million. Widely respected as an adventurous and proactive funding body, PRSF supports an exceptional range of new music activity by awarding grants and leading partnership programmes to support music sector development.
prsfoundation.com
11. **MusicXport.nl** is a program of Music Center the Netherlands to improve the international position of Dutch bands and to enlarge their possibilities abroad. The program focuses on promotion and support of artists and increased international expertise for artist managers.
MusicXport.nl



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