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RESONATING EXILE

PROJECT RESULT REPORT

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Landesverband der
Musikschulen in
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

“Resonating Exile” connected German, Austrian, Latvian and Estonian music institutions with a goal of bringing awareness to the lives of exiled and displaced people through music. 85 young classical musicians formed a high-quality international symphony orchestra, performed a concert in the cities of Rostock and Neubrandenburg, and learned to attach a deeper meaning to music through international cooperation.

The main activity of the project were two high-quality orchestra concerts. In order to achieve them, students were selected through applications and had to practice beforehand, participate in rehearsals with European teachers, and lectures and discussions were presented about the composer E. W. Korngold who used music to heal from being exiled.

FACTS

The project took place from August 14, 2024 to August 23, 2024 in Rostock, Germany. Under the guidance of the German conductor Daniel Geiss, 85 young musicians from Germany, Latvia, Estonia and Austria participated in intensive rehearsals to play the desired concert program - El Salon Mexico by A. Copland, Violin Concerto by E. W. Korngold and Symphony No. 9 by A. Dvorak. Tassilo Probst joined the project as the violin soloist for the Korngold Violin Concerto.

To give more detailed guidance, group rehearsals in smaller instrument groups with teachers from Germany and Estonia were held from August 15 to August 17. On August 17, 19 and 20, German researchers gave educational seminars to all the participants about exile, its definition, its context in history and nowadays, different coping mechanisms while living in exile, and dived deep into the life of the composer E. W. Korngold who was exiled. On August 18, an informal get-together was held where the students could make small ensembles consisting of different countries and play short excerpts of classical and not-so classical pieces. On August 21, the concert was held in Katharinesaal in Rostock. On August 22, the second concert was held in the Concert Church of Neubrandenburg.

RESULTS

After the end of the project, the students were asked to fill out a questionnaire. 75 replies were received. The meaning of the questionnaire was to validate whether the project objectives had been achieved.

IMPROVING KEY COMPETENCES

OBJECTIVE 1

96%

of participants
improved their
musical skills

77%

of participants
received valuable tips
during the project

Playing in an orchestra is always complex, during the rehearsals I can improve my musical skills - playing together, hearing the balance and working in a team

-Oboe, Austria

It was a great opportunity to practice orchestral skills and overall practice techniques that I don't use in my solo repertoire. I improved listening and coworking skills

-Violin, Estonia

I learned the importance of intonation, good work together and importance of background information

-French horn, Germany

I received some tips on exercises of how to warm up before playing my instrument

-Double bass, Latvia



IMPROVING SOCIAL SKILLS AND INCLUSION OBJECTIVE 2

90%

of participants improved at least one aspect of social skills or inclusion (communication, teamwork, flexibility)

69%

of participants especially highlighted their improvement in communication skills

53%

of participants especially highlighted their improvement in teamwork skills

The project not only strengthened my communication skills (English), but also my musical flexibility and adaptability especially when dealing with different interpretations and ideas from the musicians

-Cello, Germany

Meeting new people helped me for teamworking and multilingualism purposes. We learned about friendliness across multiple regions

-Trombone, Austria

For me what was the hardest was inclusion because I'm a really shy person but it was a great opportunity to overcome that by socializing with a lot of different people. I really developed during this trip.

-Violin, Estonia

I started to feel more confident in society and I think it also developed my English skills

-Violin, Latvia





INCREASING INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OBJECTIVE 3

97%

of participants could name at least one gain from this project being international rather than local

74%

of participants said they gained new friends and/or contacts

53%

of participants especially highlighted their improvement in English skills

It has given me a chance to meet new people, improve on my English and German. Last but not least it has given me a chance to see how people live and study in Germany

-Violin, Estonia

I never had to talk to so many different people. I think my English got way better

-Cello, Latvia

I had the opportunity to make friends and make musical contacts with people of the same age across different cultures and was able to learn a lot as a result. Such a broad network of musicians is very important for our successful professional life.

-Cello, Germany

I've met a lot of new people and get to know their culture. Also by making new friends, I have contacts now not only from my country

-Violin, Latvia

ACQUIRING NEW METHODS

OBJECTIVE 4

67%

of participants could name at least one new method they learned in the project

I learned different exercises for warming up. And learned how to always start together with the conductor

-Oboe, Latvia

The key aspects of conducting, how to take care of your body and mind during a long rehearsal

-Viola, Estonia

I was given great advice on playing double notes

-Violin, Estonia

I gained the feeling of unity in the orchestral playing. Breathing and playing together with the concertmaster and every player was a bit newer for me.

-Violin, Estonia





IMMERSING IN HISTORY & CULTURE OBJECTIVE 5

96%

of participants could name at least three things they learned at the “Resonating Exile” educational seminars

79%

of participants said their view of exiled people in history and in today changed after the educational seminars

I can't imagine how these difficult situations impacted the people and how much the events carried into art such as music or literature. Now I can sympathize more with exiled people. These lectures gave me different views on exiled people.

-Violin, Estonia

I've never really thought about Exile before and now I think that people in Exile were very brave and strong.

-Windwood instrument, Austria

Definitely made me think about this topic a lot more. I am glad that we got to discuss this with others because it's incredibly important and relevant topic in the world with all the wars going on. It made me understand and empathize with the people in exile better.

-Violin, Estonia

I just never thought about about that so deeply before and didn't notice how it reflected on composer's music before

-Violin, Latvia

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Mākslu Izglītības Kompetences centrs “Nacionālā Mākslu vidusskola” Emīla Dārziņa mūzikas skola (LATVIA)

Johann-Joseph-Fux-Konservatorium des Landes Steiermark in Graz (AUSTRIA)

Tallinna Muusika- ja Balletikool (ESTONIA)

Landesverbandes der Musikschulen in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V. (mainly in cooperation with Young Academy Rostock, GERMANY)

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