



**PRESS RELEASE**

## The EU program ISLAND CONNECT will support 10 Performing Arts projects in 2021

The Creative EU-funded project ISLAND CONNECT will support 10 Performing Arts projects from Croatia, Denmark, Ireland, Greece and Spain in 2021. This support will be dispersed via granting residencies and a “SpringLab” in Limerick including different Capacity Building Workshops. ISLAND CONNECT’s goal is to support and assist artistic creation and the mobility of artists. The 2021 call for residencies received 81 applications.

The 8 selected companies are:

- **Kathleen Doherty and Alexandre Duarte** (IR) – residency at BIRCA (Bornholm, Denmark)
- **Christopher McAuley and Emmen Donnelly** (IR) – residency in Cres (Croatia)
- **The Amazing other** (DK) – residency in IACC (Limerick, Ireland)
- **Eirini Tiniakou and Zoi Mastrotheodorou** (GR) – residency at BIRCA (Bornholm, Denmark)
- **Konstantinos Pavlidis** (GR) – residency at C.IN.E. Sineu (Majorca, Spain)
- **Nikolina Komljenović and Irma Unusic** (CR) – residency at C.IN.E. Sineu, (Majorca, Spain)
- **teatreBLAU** (SP) – residency in Cres (Croatia)
- **La ContraPiel Teatro** (SP) – residency in Naxos (Greece)

The 8 companies will develop their projects during a 2-weeks residency in their own country and a second 2-weeks residency in the partner country, flights & coaching/mentorship included. The supported artists distinguish themselves by the richness and originality of their artistic approaches, as well as their aim to experiment.

Furthermore, the program will support this year 2 more projects in the framework of the Islander Focus productions, aimed at more established artists that have already been researching specificities of the insularity conditions. In 2021, a Danish company will travel to Majorca and Greece and a Croatian company will create in Ireland and Denmark. Both will benefit from and a final presentation of their work abroad.

The ISLAND CONNECT program not only supports new emerging companies of the 5 countries, but it also encourages artists’ interaction with the island area and community. Specific community members are contacted to spend a day with the artist on an island field-trip exchanging experiences, practices and reflections. Other public activities are artists’ work-in-progress presentations organised at the end of each residency and presentations of finished works of selected artistic companies in partners festivals. All presentations are followed by an artist-audience feedback session.

### The partners

**BIRCA - Bækkelund International Residency Center for Artists** is located on the Danish island of Bornholm. BIRCA has different farmhouse buildings that have been renovated and modernized to provide optimal working and lodging facilities for national and international residencies. There are two big rehearsal studios and an atelier apartment with a first-floor dormitory/studio in the stable building.

The **Centre d'Investigació Escènica de Sineu (C.I.N.E.)** is an old cinema located in a small village in the centre of Majorca reconverted into a creation space. Its aim is to host, provoke and promote artistic processes, acting as a network with other centres or artists, as well as creating connections between creators and audience.

**Domino** is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation based in Zagreb, Croatia, who's programs focus on minority human rights (LGBTQ), ecological and general socio-political issues concerning the independent cultural scene. Domino perceives independent scene as a space for developing critical social consciousness in the public and media space, consequently the organization produces and presents a range of artists working in performance art, theater and dance, enticing and promoting independent, experimental and research artistic authorship in the local artistic landscape and internationally. Sounded Bodies, Perforations and Queer Zagreb are the festivals Domino organizes.

The **Irish Aerial Creation Centre (IACC)** is located in Limerick, Ireland. A national home and international hub where aerial artistic excellence can flourish, creative collaborations can grow, and where people from all walks of life can learn to fly and allow their creativity to soar.

The IACC is home to Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Company, the founders. The centre has over 700 square meters of space dedicated to nurturing artists and the community.

**ENTROPIA** (Athens, Greece - residency on the island of Naxos) is a non-profit company that presents and produces theatre, live art, interdisciplinary and multimedia performances, promoting the creative dialogue amongst different art disciplines and the exchanges between Greece and the contemporary international Performing Arts scene. The company has initiated and been involved in various projects examining current socio-political issues and the urban environment.

