



**PRESS RELEASE**

# The EU program ISLAND CONNECT awards and supports 7 performing arts projects in 2022

The Creative EU-funded project ISLAND CONNECT will support **7 performing arts projects from Croatia, Denmark, Ireland, Greece and Spain** in 2022. This support will be dispersed via granting residencies and the “Island Connect SpringLab” in Athens (Greece), a 5-day workshop in April 2022 with the aim to provide the companies with tools for development, creativity and sustainability of their artistic projects. ISLAND CONNECT’s goal is to support and assist artistic creation and the mobility of artists. The 2022 call for residencies received 74 applications.

The 7 granted companies are:

- **Danae Wollen & Samuel Arnold Keane** (IE) – residency at ENTROPIA (Naxos, Greece). Project: “Where Seaweed Dances”.
- **Antoinette Helbing & Birgitte Skands** (DK) – residency in Cres (Croatia). Project: “The Laughing Crowd”.
- **Cecilie Schyth Kjær & Marcus Alexander Roydes** (DK) – residency at C.IN.E. Sineu (Mallorca, Spain). Project: “Ode To Y2k”.
- **Anna Javoran, Irma Unusic & Sabrina Fraternali** (HR) – residency at BIRCA (Bornholm, Denmark). Project: “The Secret Garden”.
- **Mak Murtić, Marta Kolega & Filip Borelli** (HR) – residency at ENTROPIA (Naxos, Greece). Project: “Medzotermína”.
- **Marilén Ribot Estelrich** (ES) – residency at IACC (Limerick, Ireland). Project: “Open Armour”.
- **Androniki Marathaki, Natalia Manta & Elton Petri** (GR) – residency at IACC (Limerick, Ireland). Project: “The Lure of Feeling”.

The residencies will take place in the five islands (Bornholm, Cres, Ireland, Naxos and Mallorca) at different times throughout 2022. The 7 companies will develop their projects during a 2-week residency in their own country and a second 2-week 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. This way, the Island Connect Program acknowledges talent, innovation and creativity, supporting the next generation of artists.

The ISLAND CONNECT program not only supports new emerging companies of the 5 countries, but 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 town in the centre of Mallorca 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, whose 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, theatre 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.

