



Project Butterfly

Boosting environmental
awareness in opera creation

PRESS RELEASE

Call for composers is now open for a new opera dedicated to environmental sustainability



As part of the EU co-funded [Creative Europe Project Butterfly: Boosting environmental awareness in opera creation](#) which aims to co-create and co-produce a new opera dedicated to environmental sustainability, an [open call for composers](#) has been launched to engage strong composers who want to be a part of a movement to better understand and highlight the need for greater sustainability in Opera. The deadline for applications is September 17.

We are inviting composers resident in countries participating in the Creative Europe Programme to submit their applications to compose for an original, captivating and ecologically aware opera and participate more widely in an innovative and green project.

The Butterfly Project aims to create a new attitude towards sustainability in theatre and opera houses by exploring new green practices related to opera production and circulation. To do so, the project will go through the entire process of opera co-creation and co-production of a sustainable opera – from the opera commission to the public attendance and the sharing of the sustainable practices experimented with, with a particular focus on engaging young audiences throughout the whole process.

The three selected composers will be in charge of composing the music for this new production which is set to premiere in May 2025 in the theatres of the Project's partners Teatro Pavarotti-Freni Modena (Italy), Opera BOX (Finland) and Opera Bałtycka w Gdańsku (Poland) as well as online.

Information on how to apply and specific guidelines of the application can be found on the [project's website](#) and on within the [Open Call document](#). Supporting materials have been included below, as well as the communications contact point information.

PRESS MATERIAL

[Open Call PDF](#)

[Visual 1](#)

[Visual 2](#)

CONTACT

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MORE ABOUT PROJECT BUTTERFLY AND THE OPERA CREATION PROCESS

[Butterfly: Boosting environmental awareness in opera creation](#) is a project co-funded by the European Commission under the Creative Europe Programme that will run until January 2026.

THE TEAM

It is implemented by a Consortium led by [Teatro Comunale di Modena](#), one of the leading opera houses among the Italian “Teatri di Tradizione”. The Consortium is joined by two other opera theatres – [Opera BOX](#) from Finland and the [Baltic Opera](#) in Gdańsk (Poland). The non-profit association, [AESS](#) from Italy, will bring its expertise in sustainable practices, while [Heimspiel](#), the agency for digital storytelling formats from Augsburg (Germany), will lead the audiovisual production part of the project. [CUMEDIAE](#), a Brussels-based international non-profit agency providing consultancy services in the field of CCIs European-wide, will ensure the project’s communication and engagement with stakeholders and allow for its widest dissemination.

THE PROCESS

The opera created within Butterfly will combine three acts of thirty minutes each (one for each country), comprising three stories dedicated to an environmental theme: water, earth and air. The co-production will involve three composers (and librettists) from the project’s three partner opera houses.

The conception of the work will begin with a co-creation phase implemented by high school students in three partner countries – Italy, Poland and Finland. Selected creators will then work closely with the creative team and the artistic directors of the project to produce three acts of thirty minutes, each dedicated to an environmental theme: water, earth and air. After two years of work, the project will culminate, in May 2025, with the premiere of the newly created opera in the partner theatres Teatro Pavarotti-Freni Modena, Opera BOX and Opera Bałtycka w Gdańsku and online. The final production will strongly rely on advanced digital technologies and showcase the pathways for a more sustainable opera production.

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