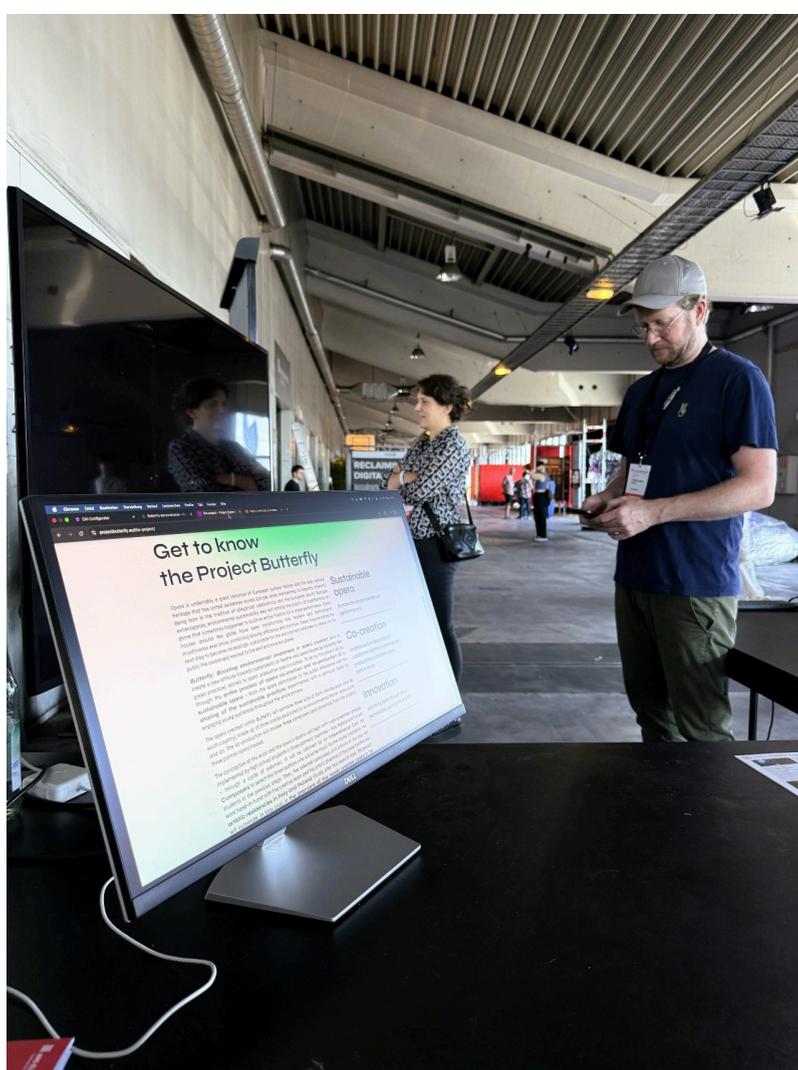


Project Butterfly

Boosting environmental
awareness in opera creation

The Project Butterfly Newsletter
September 2025 🦋



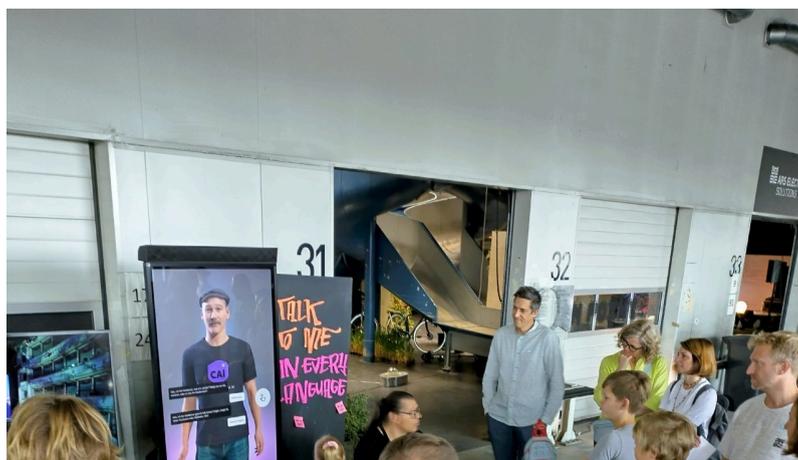
Beyond the Stage: Looking Ahead

As the seasons turn, Project Butterfly continues to inspire audiences across Europe and beyond. From exhibitions that merge art and technology to preparations for our closing chapter, the project remains a celebration of creativity, collaboration, and sustainability. This month, we look back on an extraordinary festival experience and forward to our final gathering in Brussels.

Exploring Innovation at Ars Electronica

Earlier this month, Project Butterfly was presented at the renowned Ars Electronica Festival in Linz, a meeting point for art, technology, and society. Visitors stepped into our immersive exhibition to explore sustainable opera-making: donning VR headsets to discover eco-conscious scenic designs and interacting with an AI-powered avatar that guided them through the creative journey.

Audiences of all ages engaged with curiosity, asking questions and experimenting with the interactive tools on display. For many, it was a glimpse of opera's potential as both a cultural treasure and a space for innovation, environmental responsibility, and youthful imagination.





Mark Your Calendar: The Final Event in Brussels

As Project Butterfly nears its conclusion, we are entering the final phase: analysing results and preparing to share them with our community. The journey is far from over – in fact, it is building toward its culmination.

On 20 November in Brussels, we will host our final event and presentation, reflecting on what has been achieved and unveiling the insights gathered throughout the project. It will be a moment to look back at our shared journey and to look forward to how sustainable opera can continue to thrive in the years ahead.

[Learn more about Project Butterfly here!](#)

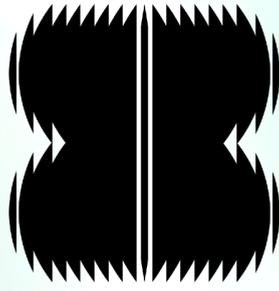
Key Dates in opera, music, and sustainability

Interesting facts and anniversaries to remember

September invites us to reflect on resilience, renewal, and cultural exchange. From the anniversaries of artists who shaped new musical languages to international days dedicated to peace, democracy, and environmental stewardship, September highlights how creativity and conscience can work together to inspire a more sustainable world.

- **8 September** – Birth of Antonín Dvořák (1841) The Czech composer, whose works drew deeply from folk traditions, showed how music rooted in community can achieve universal resonance. His legacy speaks to sustainability's emphasis on cultural heritage and interconnection.
- **13 September** – Birth of Arnold Schoenberg (1874) Schoenberg, a pioneer of modern music, challenged traditional tonality and opened new frontiers of expression. His pioneering method of composition "with twelve tones related only to one another" revolutionised western compositional techniques.
- **16 September** – International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer This UN day urges protection of the atmosphere that sustains life on Earth. It resonates with the performing arts, where light and air are integral to every performance - reminding us that environmental care is inseparable from cultural creation.
- **21 September** – International Day of Peace Observed globally, this day celebrates the power of global solidarity for building a peaceful and sustainable world. This has never been so important at a time of unprecedented challenges. Opera and concerts often serve as spaces where diverse voices can gather, echoing peace's call for harmony across differences.
- **25 September** – Birth of Dmitri Shostakovich (1906) The Russian composer navigated the tensions of his time with works of profound emotional power. His music, often balancing resilience and fragility, reflects the human capacity to endure and adapt - qualities essential to a sustainable future.
- **26 September** – European Day of Languages Celebrating linguistic diversity, this day honours the many tongues in which opera and song are written and performed. It reminds us that protecting cultural and linguistic richness is part of sustainability's broader vision.
- **30 September** – Premiere of Mozart's The Magic Flute (1791) Premiered in Vienna just weeks before the composer's death, this opera blended popular theatre with profound allegory. Its themes of enlightenment, wisdom, and harmony continue to resonate with contemporary ideas of sustainability and human dignity.

[Check out our Instagram for updates!](#)



Project Butterfly



Project Butterfly Team



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