

Invest in culture! Jazz is Diversity



Dear audience!

Music is taking place here on this stage and in this room today because jazz and improvised music, like many other arts, are publicly funded. Even if this venue may not be directly funded: Various funding programs at national and federal state level provide support in a variety of ways:

- They fund or co-finance festivals and concert series.
- Individual venues in Germany receive long-term municipal support.
- Composition and rehearsals of large and complex projects are made possible with project funding.
- Long-standing ensembles receive funding to support management, PR and administration.
- Composition and research projects are made possible through grants for individual artists.
- In some municipalities, there are programmes that subsidize the rental of rehearsal rooms.
- There are touring grants that top up travel costs and fees, making concerts possible at venues that cannot cover the costs themselves.
- There are funding programs that allow venues to curate outside of profit-oriented decisions and thus create diverse programs.
- Venues are supported in terms of their technical infrastructure and environmentally sustainable set-up.
- Prize money enables artists to reinvest in their work.
- Quite a few of the otherwise unsupported clubs and venues can only exist with the APPLAUS venue prize.
- In some cases, productions are co-financed; we all know that a CD production costs more today than it did five years ago, but thanks to streaming services, little or no money is generated.

All this diverse funding has not always been sufficient in the past, but all in all has made it possible, among other things, for you to experience live music here tonight. Musicians and event organizers depend on public money not only being spent on opera houses, theaters and museums, but also on the so-called independent scene. Our music takes place almost exclusively outside state institutions. But the structures of the independent scene in particular are fragile - and under massive threat. At national level, cuts of 50% are on the cards, and radical cuts are also being made in many federal states and locally. This not only means that significantly fewer concerts will take place (possibly only half as many), but also that less innovation can be created and that many musicians will lose their livelihoods in the medium term.

Please inform yourself. Talk to the promoters of your favorite concerts, talk to the members of your federal state parliaments in your election district, to the members of parliament in your region or become a supporting member of an association. We now need the support of our audiences to protest against these cuts and draw attention to the diversity that is in danger.

Cutting structures for culture and education is an anti-democratic proceeding. The consensus that art and culture are an important part of social coexistence is in danger. Please support free music and vote for democratic parties!

➤ jazzistvielfalt.de

Written by the associations of the Jazz and Improvisation Scene in Germany

Deutsche Jazzunion e.V. / Bundeskonferenz Jazz / Bayerischer Jazzverband e.V. / IG Jazz Berlin e.V. / IG-Jazz Brandenburg i.G. / Jazzbüro Hamburg e.V. / JAZZ RLP e.V. / Jazzverband Baden-Württemberg e.V. / Jazzverband Hessen e.V. / Jazzverband Sachsen e.V. / Kölner Jazzkonferenz e.V. / LAG JAZZ Niedersachsen e.V. / Jazzinstitut Darmstadt