

## EUYO Café Bauhaus Awards 2025

The European Union Youth Orchestra is delighted to announce two new **Café Bauhaus Awards** for 2025, as well as four Highly Commended applicants. Café Bauhaus Awards offer **€5000 each of seed funding**, together with **two years of consultancy services** across artistic planning, project management, financial management, and marketing from the EUYO executive team. The Awards are given annually to EUYO musicians and recent alumni to create beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive performances in community settings. Inspired by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's **New European Bauhaus**, Café Bauhaus reaches out to new audiences, and engages with topical societal issues such as **greening, gender equality, and diversity**.

### The 2025 Awards:

**Ensemble Nuovi Orizzonti (ENO)** is a group of young, Italian musicians that was founded in 2021 after the pandemic. Four concerts for communities in Bergamo and Milan will be created during an artistic residency at the Piccole Serve del Sacro Cuore di Gesù, a convent with a wing dedicated to hosting young and creative people. Living, working, and cooking together with local and zero-kilometre products (for example from the community garden Oltre l'Orto), ENO's musicians will explore rhythm, light, movement, and the relationship between musicians and audiences - audiences who will also actively participate. ENO will further collaborate with a sculptor to create papier-mâché masks. The music - from Guillaume Dufay to Scarlatti and Schubert - will be reimaged for present times by the Ensemble's artistic directors and composers **Daniele Bonacina** and **Pietro Micheletti**.

Polish violinist **Dominik Kossakowski** will be working with the Al Pari Quartet to offer school-age music students in Silesia intensive and immersive experiences of contemporary music. Hands-on workshops to get to grips with extended techniques, side-by-side rehearsals, and concerts of solo, chamber and youth orchestra new music will explore the work of **Monika Szpyrka, Przemysław Scheller, Bryce Dessner, and Stephen Thelen**. This repertoire's themes include the refugee crisis of 2016, the loss of Notre-Dame Cathedral's 1000-year-old wood ceiling in 2019, an urgent call to tackle climate change, and questions of gender and environmental exploitation in the fashion industry. From this diverse yet always relevant mix, printmaking artist **Modesta Gorol** will craft a visual narrative: "my idea is to expand the musical layer", says Kossakowski, "giving us a broader way of expressing our thoughts on the state of modern society."

An exceptional number of top-quality applications from throughout the 27 EU Member States saw EUYO name, exceptionally, four Highly Commended projects in addition to the two winners. The Orchestra congratulates Alba Vinti López (Spain), Sofia Perolo (Italy), Eszter Kökény (Hungary), and Paula Skulte (Latvia).

To follow project developments throughout 2024, please contact:

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"Since its beginnings in 2021, Café Bauhaus has now supported 11 unique in-depth projects involving dozens of young creative European artists, for, with and in the regions where they live and work. As cultural practitioners, we know that music is infinitely supple and welcoming, with room for so many ways of life within it. Music, however, cannot improve people's lives if it does not reach them, so we thank the New European Bauhaus initiative for the inspiration it has provided to our young musicians to make work infused with beauty, innovation, sustainability and creativity. This is nothing less than bringing Europe alive. In a year full of many excellent Café Bauhaus applications, congratulations to this year's awardees, and their two extraordinary projects."

**Marshall Marcus, EUYO Executive & Artistic Director**

"We applied to Café Bauhaus because we wanted to challenge ourselves and embrace new opportunities. The values of the Call immediately captured our attention, as they align with our vision of art that harmonises wellbeing, care, and sustainability. These are ideas deeply ingrained in our ethos and that have always been central in our artistic endeavours. We firmly believe that through artistic expression that prioritises sustainability and cultural welfare, we can nurture individuals and communities. We are sincerely grateful for our Café Bauhaus Award and extend our heartfelt thanks to EUYO for their invaluable support in advancing our project and fostering both the human and artistic growth of our Ensemble."

**Ensemble Nuovi Orizzonti, Italy**

"It is a tremendous honour for me to receive a Café Bauhaus Award. It is not only a distinction but also an obligation: an opportunity to share our experiences, stories and passion with the younger generations who are our society's future. Giving the best we have to others is how we contribute to the development of our local environment. Together with the Al Pari Quartet, I have had fantastic experiences with contemporary music - working with composers, accompanying their ideas from the first sketches, and giving premieres. It is an incomparable, unique experience, full of pure joy. I want to reach new audiences by presenting what's best in contemporary music. I can't wait for 2025!"

**Dominik Kossakowski, Poland**

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