EUYO Café Bauhaus Awards 2026

The European Union Youth Orchestra is delighted to announce the winners of **three new Café Bauhaus Awards** for projects to be performed in 2026, and in addition **four Highly Commended** applications.

Cafe 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 who have proposed **innovative, sustainable, beautiful, and inclusive community projects**. Inspired by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's New European Bauhaus, Cafe Bauhaus reaches out to **new audiences**, and engages with **topical societal issues** such as greening, gender equality, and diversity, as well as creating work rooted in **local and community settings**.

2026 Winners

Selkie

Jaime Estévez Moreira (Soprano Saxophone; EUYO 2024), Miquel Flores (Baritone Saxophone; EUYO 2024), Sira Pellicer (Alto Saxophone), and Hugo Lomba (Tenor Saxophone) are the Lítore Quartet. Their Café Bauhaus Award-winning project **Selkie** collaborates with composer Brais González to create a staged tale for saxophone quartet about the **emancipation of women**.



Selkies are mythical seals that, upon shedding their skins, emerge from the water and turn into women. If a Selkie's skin is stolen, they are doomed to live forever with the person who possesses it, unable to return to the sea. The Lítore Quartet's **Selkie** juxtaposes themes of oppression and societal expectation with autonomy and self-determination, and creates a thematic parallel with today's **destruction of marine ecosystems**. The commission from Brais González was begun in 2024 with the support of the INAEM Composition Grants; Café Bauhaus's seed funding will facilitate the expansion of **Selkie's staging and audience participation**, as well as touring to rural parts of the Iberian Peninsula to build **cultural dissemination**. The Quartet note that "The **United Nations' 2030 Agenda sets the goal of reducing inequalities in access to culture and cultural services in rural regions.** For this reason, we believe that initiatives like Selkie, especially with support from European resources like Café Bauhaus, are essential for achieving this goal."

Iter Concordiae

Yuliya Kazimirovich (Violin, EUYO 2022), Barbora Budvynaite (Viola), and Emma Maria Frauenholz (Percussion) will use their Café Bauhaus Award to create **Iter Concordiae**: 'A Journey to Peace'. The three musicians formed a personal and musical bond as the war in Ukraine broke out; three years on, at Iter Concordiae's heart will be a physical and musical pilgrimage through the Austrian Alps, carrying music as an offering to all those who have been forced to leave their homes behind. It contrasts **forced migration** with the **voluntary journey of artists** who seek to bring **peace and connection through music**.





Before setting out on their Alpine trek, the musicians will engage with displaced communities in Vienna, creating a space for artistic exchange and storytelling. Alongside music by Bohuslav Martinů (who himself lived in exile) and Béla Bartók (whose folk melodies transcend borders), melodies and words born in these workshops will travel with the musicians, shaping the performances to come.

Camerata La Stravaganza

Camerata La Stravaganza began life as a student ensemble who wanted to work on classical music with new and special energy, in its members' native Valencia. In developing their activity, the ensemble has drawn on David Ruiz Del Canto (Violin, EUYO 2023-2025)'s EUYO experiences, notably online training and tour residency *MusicLabs* exploring best possible group work, cooperation, collective leadership, and unity.

Camerata La Stravaganza's Café Bauhaus Award now enables the ensemble to offer **free-of-charge concerts in communities of under 1000 people each in Valencia, Castellón and Alicante**. They will premier works by young Valencian composers, promoting connections between neighbouring villages, and **creating regional cultural hubs** in each host town. The project will be structured in a week-long residency working together with the young composers, followed by the concert series with the world premieres and a professional recording for further dissemination.



Highly Commended

Continuing the trend of a large number top-quality applications from throughout the 27 EU Member States, the EUYO also named four Highly Commended projects. The Orchestra congratulates Chris Brewster (United Kingdom; EUYO 2019-2021) | **Connaught Brass**; Marco Cubillas Bolado (Spain; EUYO 2024-2025) | **Alquimia Musical**; Jorge Durana Rebollar (Spain, EUYO 2022) | **Musicians for the Planet**; Tonka Javorović (Croatia, EUYO 2015-2019) | **Giving It Back**.

Press Enquiries and Contact

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