



FLIPPED STUDIO “SUCCESSFUL INNOVATOR” - NOVA

Project No. 2020-1-LT01-KA227-ADU-094751

No Lockdown Transonic Session Poster for Winter 2020-2021



Creator of the good practice, country: *Transcultures: Interdisciplinary Center for digital and sound cultures, Belgium*

Sector: Music

Type of business / employment: Cultural Center

Achievements in CCS before the Pandemic

Transcultures prior to the pandemic was involved in several initiatives and produced several events and festivals in relation to multimedia and digital & sound art works. Also, Transcultures supported young artists studying in Belgium or Europe by exhibiting their work in their events and festivals. In addition, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, Transcultures.

Transcultures welcomed Belgian and international artists for creative residencies in collaboration with local, national, European and international partners, on a regular basis. Prior to the pandemic, Transcultures also organized workshops lead by several artists which were targeted



towards other artists, creatives but also towards youngsters. Moreover, they organized lectures and debates on issues related to the digital cultures and sound arts.

In addition, apart from the lectures, workshops, debates and think tanks organized by Transcultures prior to the pandemic, they also published books, DVDs, CDs and created web contents on these specific topics. Since 2013, Transcultures also launched its own independent label for sound art and experimental music called 'Transonic'.

Furthermore, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, Transcultures organized in 2003 a sound festival called City Sonic where they exhibited sound diversity through urban space. Also, in 2005 they launched a festival which featured various exhibitions relating to digital and media arts.

Lastly, in 2014, Transcultures created a program called Vice Versa which promotes collaborations between digital artists, researchers and programmers. Vice Versa is also an annual itinerant forum of Arts-Sciences meeting point where artists, researchers, and producers are invited to present their innovative projects, and to debate various related topics.

Challenges faced during the Pandemic and innovative solutions to overcome them

During the Covid-19 pandemic, even though artists had to quarantine in lockdowns across Europe and many exhibitions, performances and artistic shows were cancelled or postponed. However, Transcultures claims that during this sadly unique period, many artists all across Europe and in Belgium refused to limit their artistic expressions and expressed the need to connect with their audience. As a result, Transcultures launched the No Lockdown Art – NoLA action to support the re-activism of Belgian and international artists who initiated, during the period containment, interesting audio, video and multimedia projects.

The NoLa Action is designed to be support program open to artists for short, medium or long term projects and aims at supporting artists by providing visibility to differentiated works online. As a result, the No Lockdown Art (#NoLA2020) was launched in mid-April 2020 and called for projects to support a dozen initiatives by artists in confinement. In 2021, NoLA's actions were amplified and many projects / creations found a diffusion, at national and international level, both face to face and online events/festivals.

Some of the projects that fell under the NoLa action included:

- Album No Lockdown Transonic Session Winter 2020-21: sound creators from different countries and adventurous aesthetics are invited to each send a live audio session (like an intimate concert to share online with an unknown public) this will be illustrated with a fixed visual as well as a few lines of presentation of the piece and a short presentation of the artist. The emphasis here is on the travelling quality of the sound work and the mental images that it can generate in the listener).
- Ludovic Medery – Travel without moving! | Creaconnections > NoLA 2020: Traveling without moving ... A montage of field recording made during Ludovic Médery (Belgian



sound artist) travels, walks and site explorations. A sound fiction to listen to with headphones or on hi-fi system in order to make the most of the journey.

- « Érosions – Flux & Densités » – Exhibition Alain Wergifosse – La Chambre Blanche (Qc): Alain Wergifosse (Belgium) has created at a distance what he designates as “a resonating space” in the gallery of the Quebec visual/digital arts centre. To do this, the artist confined to Belgium relies in part on his accomplice in recent months, the art historian and curator Anne-sophie Blanchet (Quebec). In the spirit and respect for their exchanges, she will be, in a way, his eyes and ears during the assembly of this immersive installation combining two corpus of video works: “Erosions” and “Flux & Densities”. Thus, like this residency where the notions of meeting, listening, compromise and letting go have proved to be central, it is a question here of relating recent and older works in order to create a context of experimentation, contemplation and reflection that is both sensitive and critical.

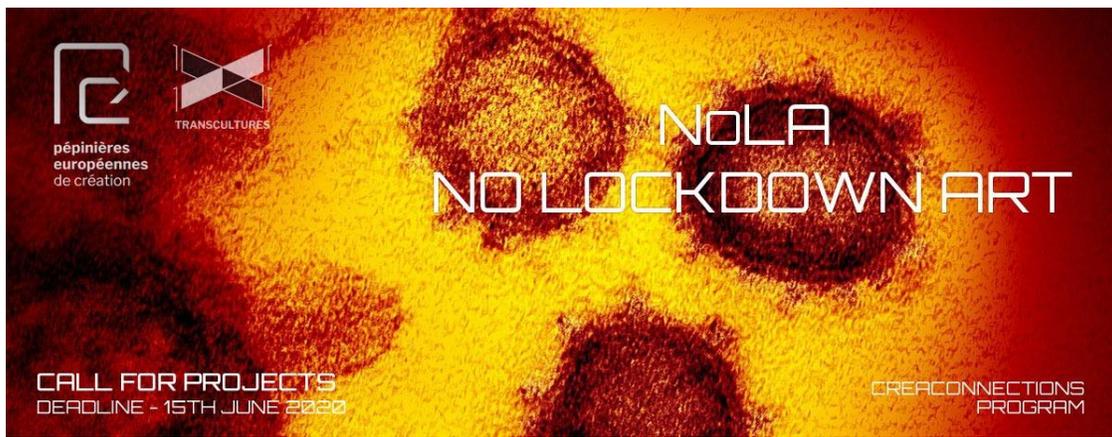


Photo: Poster NOLA

Conditions for the innovativeness and success

In order for this best practice to be successfully implemented or adapted, it is important for the Action to be properly and successfully disseminated in order to attract artists and projects who would be interested in participating. Also, since the best practice is holistically based on digital/ online exhibitions or online presentation of the artists’ work, it is important to have solid digital tools which can support this



Photo: Transcultures poster



Sources:

- <http://transcultures.be/en/transcultures/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/transcultures.be> -

Self-reflection questions

1. How can such a platform attract more artists from other artistic mediums to present online?
2. Can this platform be useful after the Covid-19 pandemic?

This good practice story is prepared by the Center for Social Innovation (CSI).