

RESEO Conference 2026

MAKING NOISE: **THE FUTURE *that* WE WANT** *RESEO at 30*

15 - 17 October 2026

Brussels, Belgium

In partnership with La Monnaie / De Munt

Speaker biographies

Oded Ben-Horin, Vice-Dean for Research / Coordinator, Global Science Opera, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (Norway)

Oded Ben-Horin is Vice-Dean for Research at the Faculty of Education, Arts and Sports. He is a Professor of Music Education and holds a PhD in Arts Education. Oded coordinates the Global Science Opera and is a co-developer of the concept which was initiated as a cornerstone project in the UN-sanctioned International Year of Light 2015.

Tobiasz Sebastian Berg, Choreographer and Artistic Director, Jazdaa Polska! Foundation for Young Creators (Poland)

Tobiasz Sebastian Berg is an interdisciplinary artist, director, choreographer, and founder of the Jazdaa Polska! Foundation. Winner of the FEDORA Audience Award for Swans Vol. 2: On tour, an accessible production combining opera and contemporary dance. He combines artistic innovation with social impact to break barriers, foster empathy, and create space for meaningful cross-cultural dialogue.

Irene Calvís, Head of LiceuApropa Social Programme, Gran Teatre del Liceu (Spain)

Irene Calvís heads LiceuApropa, the social programme of Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu, promoting access to opera and the performing arts for people facing barriers to cultural participation. She joined the Liceu in 2002 and has held roles in public relations, protocol, sponsorship and operations before taking responsibility for LiceuApropa in 2014. She previously worked in museum and exhibition visitor programmes and theatre production. Irene holds a degree in Art History from the University of Barcelona and a master's degree in Tourism and Leisure Management from ESADE.

Silvia Carretero García, President, ROCE (Spain)

Silvia Carretero García is a cultural manager and music educator specialising in music mediation, inclusion and accessibility. Since 2011, she has coordinated MiraDas, the socio-educational programme of the Castilla y León Symphony Orchestra and Miguel Delibes Cultural Centre, reaching more than 8,000 schoolchildren annually. Her projects include Sentir la Música, Social Music Marathons and the participatory cantata Miradas que Suenan. President of Spain's ROCE network since 2020, she promotes collaboration and inclusive cultural policies. She studied History and Musicology, Cultural Management and Applied Research in Music Education, focusing on orchestras and cultural rights.

Sam De Wit, General Coordinator, Leon / Atelier Leon (Belgium)

Sam De Wit is General Coordinator of LEON, a Brussels-based organisation dedicated to participatory dance and artistic encounters. The organisation works horizontally and collectively, where everyone contributes in their own unique way to the creative process within an inclusive community. This creates space for unexpected encounters and new ways of coming together through dance.

Franciska Éry, Stage director (Hungary)

Hungarian director Franciska Éry puts cultural belonging and the audience experience in the forefront of her work. She enjoys building worlds and atmosphere with a special attention to music, and strives for innovation and audience participation. She works in theatre, opera, and also creates site-specific performances. Trained in London, she predominantly works in Europe, and has directed at Opéra-Orchestre National Montpellier, Norrlandsoperan and the Royal Opera House amongst others. Past projects have received the OffWestend Award for Best Opera Production in London, Highlights of Hungary, and nominated for the FEDORA prize in the Digital category.

Bernard Foccroulle, organist and composer (Belgium)

Bernard Foccroulle began his international career as an organist in the mid-70s. He was director of La Monnaie / De Munt from 1992 to 2007 and of the Festival Aix-en-Provence from 2007 to 2018. In 1993, he founded the association Culture and Democracy, which campaigns for widespread participation in cultural life, followed by RESEO in 1996. His opera Cassandra premiered at La Monnaie / De Munt in 2023. He is Doctor Honoris Causa of the Université de Montréal, Aix-Marseille Université, KULeuven and UCLouvain.

Klaus Fruchtnis Durán, Director, Socially Engaged Arts Program / Chair of the Arts and Culture Funders Forum, Fondation Daniel et Nina Carasso / Philea (France)

Klaus Fruchtnis Durán is a French-Colombian visual artist, researcher, and cultural leader. He is Director of the Socially Engaged Arts Program at the Fondation Daniel et Nina Carasso and Chair of the Arts and Culture Funders Forum at Philea. His work focuses on socially engaged, participatory, and collaborative artistic practices, as well as the relationships between art, cultural policy, philanthropy, and social change. He holds a PhD in Art History from the Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour.

Edilia Gänz, Director, FEDORA – The European Circle of Philanthropists of Opera and Dance (France)

Edilia Gänz is Director of FEDORA, a European non-profit organisation supporting innovation in opera, dance, education and digital creation. Since its launch in 2013, she has developed its network of opera houses, dance companies, festivals and philanthropists. She oversees FEDORA's strategic development and initiatives including the FEDORA Prizes and Next Stage, which support emerging artists and promote sustainable, inclusive and digital transformation in the performing arts. In 2019, she was named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 Europe list for Arts & Culture.

Sam Glazer, Cellist, Composer and Founder, Seaglass Arts (United Kingdom)

Sam Glazer is a cellist and composer specialising in co-creating music with non-professional participants. For more than 20 years, he has led projects with orchestras, schools, concert halls and conservatoires, working in settings from nurseries and hospitals to opera houses and libraries. He is founder and director of UK-based Seaglass Arts, which produced the early-years family opera *Catch a Sea Star* (2024–25), touring to the Royal Opera House, Elbphilharmonie and Philharmonie Luxembourg. His practice centres on listening, inclusion and collaboration, and he is developing new early-years opera and hospital-based projects.

Fanny Gouville, Head of Cultural Activities and Educational Development, Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège (Belgium)

Fanny Gouville is Head of Cultural Activities and Educational Development at the Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège (OPRL). She studied percussion and choral conducting at the Caen Regional Conservatoire before pursuing her interest in music education in Tours, where she earned a University Diploma in Music Education in 2010 and a vocational bachelor's degree in Music and Early Childhood in 2011. She has over ten years of experience as a music educator, working in a wide range of settings, including schools, hospitals, special education institutions and nurseries.

Birgitte Holt Nielsen, Producer & CEO, Figaros (Denmark)

Birgitte Holt Nielsen graduated as a classical singer from The Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus, Denmark. Singer, librettist, producer in the field of opera and music theatre for young audiences, she specialises in projects for early years and has been an active RESEO member for almost 25 years. She is the current CEO of Music Theatre Figaros, and is now on the way to retirement.

Rhian Hutchings, composer and Creative Director of Operasonic (United Kingdom)

Rhian Hutchings is a composer, opera director, creative producer and connector with a passion for young people and music. She is the founding director & chair of trustees for Operasonic, a community music company based in Newport, and Chief Executive Officer at Anthem Music Fund Wales. Across her career Rhian has led work at Welsh National Opera, assisted and revived work for English National Opera and Raymond Gubbay Productions, and led workshops in a wide range of contexts.

Tuula Jukola-Nuorteva, Freelance music educator and audience outreach consultant, (Finland)

Tuula Jukola-Nuorteva studied music education at the Sibelius-Academy in Helsinki and the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London. She has worked with the Royal Opera House, English National Opera and Finnish National Opera and Ballet. She is a current member of the RESEO Steering Committee and was its Chair from 2014 to 2016. Tuula is also Vice President of Finnish Society of Music Education (FISME).

Mikko Laamanen, Professor, RESEO Sustainability Champion, Oslo Metropolitan University (Norway)

Mikko is a Research Professor and Head of Research for Technology and Sustainability at Oslo Metropolitan University (Norway). His work in performing arts has looked into evaluation of outreach and inclusion as well as the sharing of sustainable practice in networks of arts organisations. Mikko is a self-proclaimed RESEO Sustainability Champion but only so in close collaboration with several RESEO members and with Lucy Bradley who has been advocating this work alongside him. Mikko is a member of the Executive Committee at the European Sociological Association and chair for Public Sociology, Diversity and Sustainability Standing Committee.

Julia Lagahuzère, Founder & General Director, Opera for Peace (Italy)

Julia Lagahuzère is the Founder and General Director of Opera for Peace – Leading Voices of the World, an international organisation based in Rome supporting exceptional emerging opera artists and empowering them to become Citizen Artists and role models for future generations. With over 20 years of experience in the international opera sector, she has worked with institutions including the Opéra national de Paris, Scottish Opera, Opéra de Limoges and San Francisco Opera. Through Opera for Peace, she has built a global network connecting emerging talents with leading artists, mentors and institutions, creating opportunities beyond economic, geographic and social barriers.

Elena Lombardo, Coordinator corporate & maecenas relations, La Monnaie / De Munt (Belgium)

Elena is a historian with a background in museums and the art world. With a degree in management, she has developed a strong understanding of best practices in the cultural sector, with a particular focus on fundraising. For almost six years, she has coordinated La Monnaie's private donor relations and also helps oversee corporate sponsorships.

Barbara Minghetti, Vice President/Programme director, Teatro Sociale di Como/AsLiCo (Italy)

Barbara Minghetti holds degrees in philosophy and performing arts management. Since 2009, she has been President of Teatro Sociale di Como-AsLiCo (Associazione Lirica e Concertistica Italiana) and is a former RESEO steering committee member. Under her leadership, AsLiCo has taken part in several European projects and created the European project Opera J, realized from 2008 to 2010 in cooperation with Opéra Royal de Wallonie and Teatro Real de Madrid.

Paolo Montemurro, Director, Materahub (Italy)

Paolo Montemurro is Director of Materahub. Since 2008, he has managed EU-funded projects, specialising in capacity building for the cultural and creative sectors and

supporting young entrepreneurs and start-ups in the cultural and social fields. Since 2014, his work has focused on fostering collaboration between the arts and other sectors of the economy and society. He also leads Materahub's engagement with European networks, including the European Creative Business Network, Creative Business Cup Network and European Creative Hubs Network.

Élysée Moon (aka Grégoire Ichou), Opera singer, tour guide, drag artist (France)

Élysée Moon is a drag queen, opera singer, and museum guide who delights in blurring boundaries between femininity and masculinity, between so-called "high" and "popular" culture, and between fiction and reality. Passionate about sharing culture with wide-ranging audiences, she brings opera into drag shows, drag into opera houses, and creates unexpected encounters between these worlds. Her creator and performer, Grégoire Ichou, is a French tenor and museum guide trained at the C.R.R. de Paris conservatoire, Sorbonne University, and the École du Louvre.

Valentí Oviedo, General Director, Gran Teatre del Liceu (Spain)

Valentí Oviedo has been General Director of Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu since 2018. His previous leadership roles include managing performing arts venues in Manresa, the L'Auditori and Barcelona Symphony Orchestra consortium, and Barcelona's Institute of Culture. He began his career in marketing and corporate finance before moving into cultural management. Valentí studied Business Administration and Management at the Autonomous University of Barcelona and completed programmes at IE University and IESE. A member of Opera Europa's board since 2021, he became its Vice-President in 2026. In 2025, he was appointed Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Amaia Pérez Eizaguirre, Artistic Department Coordinator, Reina Sofía School of Music (Spain)

Amaia Pérez Eizaguirre is Artistic Department Coordinator at the Reina Sofía School of Music, where she oversees programming and production connecting students with professional opportunities. A violinist with a doctorate in Education, she has combined performance, teaching and cultural project management throughout her career. She studied in Spain, Portugal and the United Kingdom, including at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, and has performed with orchestras across Europe. Her projects include CAOS (Creativity and Alameda's Orchestra Studies), which promotes creativity and personal development through arts education in Madrid schools.

Lucy Perry, Head of Learning & Engagement, Glyndebourne (United Kingdom)

After graduating with an MA in Arts Administration and Cultural Policy at Goldsmiths College (University of London) Lucy started her career in arts education as the Scottish Chamber Orchestra Connect Director. She has been Head of Learning & Engagement at Glyndebourne since 2012. The award-winning programme supports people to discover opera, co-create new work, and provide opportunities to those who may not otherwise have them to develop their talent. Lucy was Chair of RESEO from 2016 to 2018.

Peter Peters, Professor, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Maastricht University (Netherlands)

Peter Peters is Associate Professor and Endowed Professor in the Innovation of Classical Music at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Maastricht University, and director of the Maastricht Centre for the Innovation of Classical Music (MCICM), founded in 2018. Trained as a sociologist and philosopher, he worked in the field of science and technology studies on topics such as innovation, mobilities, arts and music.

Christiane Plank-Baldauf, Christiane, Dramaturg & Professor for theatre science, Bayerische Theaterakademie and LMU Munich (Germany)

Dr. Christiane Plank-Baldauf worked for ten years as a music dramaturg at various theaters in Switzerland and Austria, most recently at the Nationaltheater and Junger Oper Mannheim. Since then, she has worked as a freelance guest dramaturg in the fields of music theater and concert performance. She is a professor at the Institute for Theatre Studies at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and heads the Dramaturgy program at the Bavarian Theatre Academy August Everding.

Nathalie Poisson-Cogez, PhD in Contemporary Art History / Researcher in socially engaged art, EsäLab | Recherche - Esä | Dunkerque-Tourcoing (France)

Nathalie Poisson-Cogez holds a PhD in Contemporary Art History and is Professor of Art Education at the École Supérieure d'Art | Dunkerque – Tourcoing. Member of EsäLab|Research (Art Society Sciences Nature), she has been conducting research on the artistic presence in territories for several years within multidisciplinary teams. She is particularly interested in the creative process and participatory mechanisms in the context of residencies, which are at the crossroads of the artistic, socio-cultural and political fields.

Jorge Queijo, Coordinator of Educational Program of Orquestra Jazz de Matosinhos (Portugal)

Musician, multi-instrument player, composer, sound artist, producer and teacher /trainer, Jorge Queijo has a degree in Jazz from the Porto School of Music and Performing Arts and completed his master's degree in Music Leadership from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. He develops his musical activity between repetitive minimalism, complex drones, improvisation, free jazz and rock. He composes music for dance, video, sound installations and children's shows.

Raquel Rivera Fernández, Director, Real Teatro de Retiro (Spain)

Raquel Rivera is Director of the Real Teatro de Retiro, part of the Teatro Real Foundation in Madrid. Holding a PhD in Law, she specialises in cultural law and management, combining legal expertise with experience in the performing arts sector. Following an international career in Rome and Berlin, she served as General Manager of the Orchestra and Choir Foundation of the Community of Madrid (ORCAM) from 2018 to 2023. She has also served on advisory bodies, including the Madrid Culture Council and the Spanish Association of Symphony Orchestras (AEOS).

Helena Rodrigues, Associate Professor, NOVA University Lisbon; Co-founder, Companhia de Música Teatral (Portugal)

Helena Rodrigues is Associate Professor at NOVA University Lisbon and co-founder of its Laboratory of Music and Communication in Childhood. Trained in psychology and music,

she studied with Edwin Gordon and researches early childhood music, communicative musicality and the therapeutic potential of artistic practice. She co-founded Companhia de Música Teatral, an interdisciplinary group creating artistic and educational projects rooted in music, and has coordinated initiatives including Opus Tutti and GermlnArte. A former research fellow at the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium, she regularly publishes and leads international lectures and workshops.

Camille Soler, executive director, RamDam (France)

Camille Soler specialises in cultural project development for young audiences. As General Delegate of RamDam, a French national network bringing together over 200 professionals working in music creation for children, she leads advocacy, professional development and national events. She co-founded RamDam in 2017 as a grassroots initiative. She also facilitates philosophical inquiry workshops with children and adolescents. She is currently embarking on a PhD in Theatre Studies at Université Lumière Lyon 2, supervised by Bérénice Hamidi-Kim, exploring the concept of infantism in performing arts for young audiences.

Maia Steinberg, Community artist, VoCreation (Netherlands)

Maia Steinberg is a professional musician (composer & sound artist and opera singer), interdisciplinary & community artist, and researcher. Born in Uruguay and based in the Netherlands, she is the founder of VoCreation, a company creating community and participatory music theatre performances, immersive sound experiences, music interventions in healthcare settings, and community music programs across different neighbourhoods. Connection and the voice are at the heart of Maia's work. Through VoCreation, she invites people of all ages and cultural backgrounds to co-create and explore the transformative power of vocal art.

Emilie Tack, Choir conductor, La Monnaie / De Munt (Belgium)

Emilie Tack is a choir conductor, opera singer and composer with more than 10 years of experience working with vulnerable audiences. She is a facilitator and choir conductor for La Monnaie's social programme, A Bridge Between Two Worlds/Un Pont entre deux mondes, which, for more than 25 years, has brought music to vulnerable audiences through singing workshops in nursing homes, prisons, community centres and within the opera itself.

Frédérique Tessier, Head of the Passerelles department, Festival d'Aix-en-Provence (France)

Frédérique Tessier joined the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence in 2002, working in ticketing and audience relations. In 2007, she helped establish the Festival's education service under the leadership of Bernard Foccroulle. She now heads this service, which forms part of the Festival's Passerelles department alongside its socio-artistic programme. Passerelles aims to make opera accessible to young people and diverse audiences through innovative educational and participatory projects. Its approach continues to evolve through collaboration with teachers, schools, community organisations, artists and educators.

Sophie van der Stegen, Artistic Director, Compagnie Artichoke (Belgium)

Sophie van der Stegen is a Belgian stage director, writer and playwright who founded Compagnie Artichoke in 2011. Based in Brussels, the company creates music theatre productions introducing classical music to young and new audiences through storytelling, humour and visual poetry. Sophie develops interdisciplinary work with musicians, singers, actors, puppeteers and circus artists in collaboration with orchestras, concert halls and festivals. Her productions have received Young Audiences Music Awards nominations. Her work explores imaginative and accessible ways to experience classical music.

Tom Verbeke, Executive Manager, Netzwerk Junge Ohren (Germany)

Tom Verbeke studied cello and chamber music at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels, the Conservatory of Zwolle/Arnhem (Netherlands), and at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen (Germany). He subsequently worked as a freelance cellist with various ensembles and orchestras in Germany and abroad. During this time, he also worked as a teacher of instrumental music for young musicians. During his many years of teaching at the Folkwang Music School in Essen, he increasingly focused on organising and coordinating cultural education programmes such as 'JeKits'.

Rosada Zangri, Choreographer, Artistic Director – Artistic Coordinator of Yallah Danse (France)

Rosada Letizia Zangri is an Italian choreographer, performer, pedagogue, and the Artistic Director of Cie RoZa, based in Paris. Her work explores the body as a space of memory, relationship, and cultural dialogue, combining choreography, research, and participatory artistic practices. Trained at the Accademia Nazionale di Danza in Rome and the Centre National de la Danse (CND) in Paris, she has collaborated with internationally renowned artists and companies, including Wayne McGregor, Ismael Ivo, Emilio Calcagno, and Angelin Preljocaj. She develops projects across Europe and the Mediterranean, fostering intercultural exchange through dance.