

CALL FOR WOMEN AND NON BINARY COMPOSERS

MIND THE GAP “CADAVRE EXQUIS”

[2025–2027]

1/ CONTEXT

The “MIND THE GAP” project, supported by the Creative Europe program of the EU, is dedicated to promoting, highlighting, and amplifying the works of European women and non-binary composers of all ages. Led by [PIANO AND CO](#) (France), [MISO MUSIC PORTUGAL](#) (Portugal), [SANSUSI](#) (Latvia) and [PRO PROGRES-SIONE](#) (Hungary), this initiative creates a space where the work of these composers are given the recognition they deserve.

Through this project, four composers (women and non-binary) are invited to contribute to **a collective musical work based in the form of Cadavre Exquis***, a unique composition method where each part is built upon the previous one without the composers having full knowledge of the complete work.

Scheduled for **performance and live recording in 2026 and a performance in 2027**, this piece will feature eight parts, each crafted by a different composer.

All musicians will come from various ensembles of each country: **TRIO AND CO, Ensemble Links, Sond'Ar-te Electric Ensemble...** conducted by **Rémi DURUPT**.

Four composers have already been selected, and the search is now on to find the remaining four through this open call.

2/ ELIGIBILITY

In line with [our Manifesto](#), the call is open to **women and non-binary composers** of any age, who are **either nationals of, or currently based in France, Portugal, Latvia, or Hungary**.

A precise time framework is imposed by the cooperation: selected composers must be available to compose during one of the scheduled composition slots (see section 3), based on the availability indicated in their application.

They are also **encouraged** to attend the performance and live recording in October/November 2026 and world **premiere in Budapest, Hungary, in January 2027** (see section 8).

3/ COMPOSITION FORMAT & TECHNICAL DETAILS

Each composer will contribute to a chain of compositions where they build their work using only the final moment of the previous one, without full knowledge of the overall piece — based on the concept of “Cadavre Exquis”.

For this, they will compose a **6-minute piece**, incorporating musical elements **from the final 30 seconds**

*Le cadavre exquis is a collective graphic or writing game invented by surrealists, artists, and intellectuals between the 1920s and 1930s. André BRETON, Salvador DALÍ, Marc CHAGALL, Alberto GIACOMETTI, René MAGRITTE, Max ERNST, André MASSON, Joan MIRÓ, Dora MAAR, Man RAY, Meret OPPENHEIM, Dorothea TANNING, Jacqueline LAMBA, and others.

The game consists of having several people compose a sentence or a drawing, without any of them being able to take into account the previous collaboration(s).

The meaning is irrelevant: each participant takes turns writing part of a sentence. The first sentence resulting from this process, and which gave the game its name, was: « Le cadavre exquis boira le vin nouveau ».

of the preceding composition — following the **Cadavre Exquis** methodology [for example, the composer can develop, be inspired, oppose ideas, destructure, take somewhere else the musical material or not, everything is open].

The final concerts will be the live performances of all the 8 new works with or without break between. The prologue to all of this “Cadavre Exquis” is an arrangement by Lisa HEUTE from the Lili BOULANGER works *D’un Jardin Clair*.

Instrumentation:

12-musicians ensemble: flute (also piccolo), oboe, clarinet (also bass clarinet), bassoon, horn, 2 violins, viola, cello, double bass, piano, percussions 1 player [Triangle, Bass drum, 1 Suspended Cymbal, 1 Pair of Cymbals, 1 Tam-tam, 1 Rain stick, 4 Wood blocks, Tambourine, Chimes - high fine seeds -, Crotales, Glockenspiel].

Each composition must be completed within a strict **5-week timeline**, according to the following slots:

- **Slot 1:** January 5 – February 8, 2026
- **Slot 2:** February 16 – March 22, 2026
- **Slot 3:** March 30 – May 3, 2026
- **Slot 4:** May 11 – June 14, 2026

Respecting the assigned deadline is essential to ensure the continuity of the composition chain. Applicants must indicate availability for one or more slots in the application form.

4/ APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be submitted via the [following form](#).

Deadline: June 15th, 2025 (23:59 CET)

We will not be able to accept late applications.

Only applications in **English** will be accepted, as it is the working language of the project.

As part of the Mind the Gap project, we have built a [specific survey](#) which aims to collect data and insights to better understand the professional reality of female and non-binary composers in Europe.

Please contribute and take the time to answer it, it will appear at the end of your application. Thank you for contributing to this essential effort.

5/ SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- **Contact details:** Name, email, phone number, city and country of residence
- **Scores: 2 to 3 music/sound works, including at least one for ensemble** [published or unpublished; performed or unperformed]
- **Recordings:** for each score, 2 or 3 audio or video recordings [MIDI is acceptable only if necessary]
- **Biography:** Artistic/professional biography [max. 300 words]
- **Artistic Intent note** [max. 300 words]

6/ SELECTION PROCESS

Four composers will be selected — Particular attention will be given to ensuring a generational balance among the selected composers.

Phase 1 — Preselection

Each partner institution – PIANO AND CO [France], PRO PROGRESSIONE [Hungary], SANSUSĪ [Latvia], MISO MUSIC PORTUGAL [Portugal] – will each preselect 4 candidates, for a total of 16 shortlisted composers.

Phase 2 — Final selection

An European jury will review the 16 preselected applications and **select the final 4 composers.**

The final selection will be given on Monday 15th September 2025.

Jury composition

- **President of the jury:** [Nathalie NÉGRO](#) [PIANO AND CO, France]
- **1 conductor:** [Rémi DURUPT](#) [France]
- **3 musicians/composers :** [Orsolya KAINCZ](#) [Hungary], [Miguel AZGUIME](#) [Portugal], [Kristis AUZNIEKS](#) [Latvia]

Selection Criteria

- **Artistic quality:** originality, sound, and musical vision.
- **Diversity:** we welcome composers of all backgrounds, experiences, and musical languages, as long as their work is rooted in a contemporary creative approach, and may draw from diverse influences and traditions.
- **Commitment to inclusion:** this project fosters a supportive environment for women and non-binary composers from all generations.

7/ PRESENTATION & RECORDING

Work-in-progress presentations:

- > France [February 2026]
- > Latvia [August 2026]

Final performances:

- > Portugal [end of October or November 2026]
- > Hungary [January 2027]

Recording by MISO RECORDS [Portugal end of October or November 2026]

8/ FEES & SUPPORT

Composition fee: €3,000 per selected composer.

The amount of €3,000 [three thousand euros] paid to the composer for this commission, within the scope of the European project MIND THE GAP, includes with no additional payments:

- 1/ The creation and delivery of the original musical work;
- 2/ The rights for public communication and performance of the work in four public concerts, to be held in France, Latvia, Portugal and Hungary;
- 3/ Authorisation for the recording and physical release of the work in CD format, to be published by Miso Records;
- 4/ Authorisation for video recording and live streaming of the performances.

All other moral and economic rights of the composer remain fully protected under the applicable law.

Fees will be paid in two stages: upon signing the commission contract and upon delivery of the final score.

Travel and accommodation support provided for participation in the world premiere in Budapest, January 2027

9/ QUESTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

The organisers are very open to clarify questions regarding the call, by email to:
eumindthegap@gmail.com

Deadline for inquiries: **June 10th, 2025**



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MISO MUSIC PORTUGAL

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