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PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FESTIVALS

DE CONCERT !

COVID-19: THE FEDERATION MOBILIZED TO DEFEND THE CULTURAL SECTOR

In the wake of the ban on gatherings that is becoming widespread in Europe and around the world, which is having a major impact on our societies, the world economy in all sectors, and more directly on the performing arts and events sector, the **De Concert! federation expresses its solidarity ! First of all, to all those who are suffering, worried for their loved ones and for the future, and secondly more particularly with the cultural actors already affected. The federation expresses its deep concern** about the dramatic consequences for the music industry.

To date, two member festivals had to cancel entirely or partially their next edition (Radio Meuh Circus and Panoramas) and many others are jeopardized, notably in France, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, Canada and Japan. What's more, when they are not cancelled, the events suffer dizzying drops in ticket sales.

While we fully understand the health emergency and the imperative need to protect the health and safety of the population, **we are sounding the alarm to the governments of our respective countries and to the European Union and are calling for exceptional measures** to support the cultural sector.

The abrupt interruption of our activities at the most dynamic time of the year will have devastating effects on this sector, which, in the various countries of the member festivals, brings hundreds of thousands of jobs and represents a direct and indirect economic weight of billions of euros per year. Indeed, **our entire ecosystem is impacted** by the coronavirus crisis: festivals, venues, organizational structures (often associative and with already very little financial leeway), employees and casual entertainment workers, artists, producers, providers, suppliers, etc..

By extension, it is even the economic vitality of our territories that will be hard hit, since our structures generate hundreds of thousands of euros in economic spinoffs each year. **It is therefore a real economic and social tragedy that is looming.**

The federation De Concert! is therefore calling for the creation of support measures by the public authorities in order to support the performing arts and events sector, which is hard hit by this crisis.

We join with all the actors in the cultural sector who have already made their voices heard and remind us of **the need to remain united** so that our places of culture, entertainment and freedom can survive this crisis.

THE 28 FESTIVALS OF DE CONCERT !

BELGIUM DOUR FESTIVAL - LES NUITS BOTANIQUE - ESPERANZAH // **CANADA** : FESTIVAL DE MUSIQUE EMERGENTE EN ABITIBI // **DENMARK**: SPOT FESTIVAL // **FRANCE** : LES VIEILLES CHARRUES - LES EUROCKÉENNES DE BELFORT - FESTIVAL PANORAMAS - LES 3 ELÉPHANTS - ART ROCK - EUROPAVOX - SAKIFO MUSIK FESTIVAL - LES INVITES DE VILLEURBANNE - GÉNÉRIQ FESTIVAL - REGGAE SUN SKA - BARS EN TRANS - MARSATAC - LES ROCKMOTIVES - NUITS SONORES - TERRES DU SON - N.A.M.E FESTIVAL - NÖRDIK IMPAKT - RADIO MEUH CIRCUS FESTIVAL // **GERMANY** : C/O POP // **HUNGARY** : SZIGET FESTIVAL // **JAPAN** : SUMMER SONIC // **SWITZERLAND** : PALÉO FESTIVAL - MONTREUX JAZZ FESTIVAL

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