



PRESS RELEASE

Presenting the Arts and Culture of Katowice (Poland) in Veszprém, Hungary InterUrban 13-26 March

06 March 2023 (Veszprém, Hungary) – Through [InterUrban](#), the amazing melodies, flavours and creative talents of **29 cities from 25 countries** are being brought to Veszprém and the Bakony-Balaton region - the **2023 European Capital of Culture**. Being the 2023 European Capital of Culture offers a unique opportunity to promote the Bakony-Balaton region as a European creative and cultural centre; with Veszprém as its centre. It also provides, through InterUrban, a European, if not a world stage for the cultural riches of Veszprém's fellow UNESCO City of Music cities and its sister cities around the globe. The 29 featured InterUrban cities rotate every two weeks (see calendar below). The fifth city presented in the programme will be fellow [UNESCO City of Music - Katowice, Poland](#). Katowice's InterUrban tenure will last **13-26 March**, which also coincides with **Hungarian-Polish Friendship Day on 23 March**. Featured performers include **100NKA, Joanna Nowicka, Marek Pospieszalski and Sheol**.

'In our city, music is an integral and defining part of everyday life. It is no coincidence that Veszprém was awarded the title of City of Music by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2019. Music and other arts contribute to the lives of individuals and at every level of society. It is important to note that up until now Veszprém's cultural life has already been extremely versatile and colourful. However, with the title of European Capital of Culture, we can organise even more varied musical, artistic and cultural programmes. InterUrban is one of many VEB 2023 projects that reinforces this. We can become more familiar with the musicality of other cultures; but at the same time, we will get a glimpse into the unique world of almost 30 other cities from around the globe. We, from Veszprém would like to use this opportunity to share our own cultural offerings, while welcoming the possibility to experience many other diverse artistic adventures from other cities'. - **Gyula Porga, Mayor of Veszprém**

InterUrban – Katowice Performances:

Date	Time	Event	Place
14 March	18:00-20:00	Joanna Nowicka Photography Workshop	Wine & Vinyl Bar & Store (Veszprém, Szabadság tér 2)
14-30 March	Opening 17:00. 14 March	Joanna Nowicka 'One People Story' Photo Exhibition	Papírkutya (Veszprém, Szabadság tér 9)
19 March	18:00-20:00	Sheol Theatre Performance	Nagy László Művelődési Központ (Ajka , Szabadság tér 13)
22 March	19:00-20:30	Marek Pospieszalski Octet Improvisational Jazz Concert	Hangvilla (Veszprém, Brusznai Árpád utca 2)
25 March	19:00-20:30	100NKA Concert	Zöld Élet Háza (Magyarpolány , Táncsics utca 7)

The [Marek Pospieszalski Oktet](#) is a group of outstanding Polish musicians from the 80s/90s generation of the independent jazz scene. Not just anyone is asked to create a musical panorama of the 20th century. Young saxophonist-composer Marek Pospieszalski selected the most talented musicians of his generation to bring together the past and present of Polish jazz, contemporary music, and sound art. Among other selections,



Pospieszalski will play compositions by György Kurtág specially written for the occasion. The evening promises a world-class concert featuring the jazz heritage of Katowice.

Photographer [Joanna Nowicka](#) has been an professional photographer for 20 years. The essence of her '[One People Story](#)' Photo Exhibition are portraits created using a medium-format analogue camera and black and white film, because working this way helps her to focus, think about what she wants to do and why, and the slow process of image creation makes it easier to establish relationships with the portrayed person. Only one photo is published on Monday every two weeks. At the moment,



the collection consists of over 150 photographs, and growing. She is simultaneously working on another series of minimalist, black and white studio portraits called 'Beautiful People'.

100NKA (pronounced 'stonka') is one of the most exciting Polish jazz trios. They push the boundaries of classical sound with electronics and distorted guitar. The imprint of great jazz predecessors such as Miles Davis, Coleman and Coltrane are mixed with freely pulsating contemporary influences in their music.



Sheol - An on-stage

ritual walking the thin line between the land of the living and the underworld. Monika Wachowicz and Jarosław Fret composed a tangible experience of the biblical journey; one of mythical proportions but as common as personal tragedy. The continued descent of the piece peels away the layers of everyday objects and gestures - our props which mask the abyss. We arrive into the unknown realm from which love provides the only means of return. Music acts as the guide: the sound of a trumpet accompanies the actors on stage as they go down and come up, walking the ceaseless circles of fate. Sheol lifts the thin veil of existence while also crossing the border between viewers and actors: the audience sits in close proximity, feeling and breathing the play.



Background of the InterUrban Project

A photographer from Katowice, a singer from Trenčín, or even a Finnish Moomin from Tampere may move into our neighbourhood; or maybe appear at the nearest railway station. You might unexpectedly run into a flamenco guitarist from Seville, an Ibague fiesta or traditional Colombian folk music and dance in Veszprém, on the shores of Lake Balaton or in a shady Bakony village store. Music is the main focus, but each city will bring something it is particularly proud of. Almost everything is showcased during the year-long programme, from fine arts to sports to gastronomy. What links Veszprém to Seville, Ghent, or Kingston, Jamaica? Music plays a prominent role in everyday life in cities. Not a week goes by without a musical programme for young and old, amateurs and professionals. Around the world, nearly 60 cities proudly bear the UNESCO City of Music label –they are the main protagonists who make up the InterUrban cultural mosaic. [Veszprém earned its UNESCO](#)



City of Music title in 2019. Sister cities with whom Veszprém has a decades-long friendship, and former and future European Capitals of Culture will also arrive to Veszprém to participate.

Hangvető Background Information

InterUrban is a year-long project conceived and carried out by [Hangvető](#) within the overall Veszprém Balaton 2023 programme. Hangvető has been a hub for world music in Central Eastern Europe since 2003. Hangvető builds cultural strategies, consults with cities, organises world and folk music festivals, produces films, and publishes and distributes records. It has worked with several ECoC title holders and candidates, including Veszprém-Balaton 2023. Hangvető is the **leader of several large-scale international projects**. For example, it is the first Hungarian company to ever lead a Creative Europe platform project with [UPBEAT](#), the European Showcase Platform for World Music. [MOST. the Bridge for Balkan Music](#), is another Creative Europe-funded cooperation lead by Hangvető. Hangvető organises local and international world and folk music events such as WOMEX, the Worldwide Music Expo in 2015 in Budapest; the hybrid WOMEX in 2020; and organises [Budapest Ritmo](#) since its launch in 2016, one of the most prestigious world music showcase festivals of Europe. Hangvető represents Veszprém in the City of Music network.

Kaunas, Lithuania - 16-29 January
Ghent, Belgium - 30 January - 12 February
London, Canada - 13-26 February
Timisoara, Romania - 27 February-12 March
Katowice, Poland - 13-26 March
Liverpool, UK - 27 March - 9 April
Bologna, Italy - 10-23 April
Novi Sad, Serbia - 24 April - 7 May
Chemnitz and **Bottrop**, Germany - 8-21 May
Sevilla, Spain - 22 May - 4 June
Nova Gorica-Gorizia, Slovenia - 5-18 June
Tampere and **Rovaniemi**, Finland - 19 June - 2 July
Elefsina, Greece - 3-16 July

Kingston, Jamaica - 17-30 July
Bodø, Norway - 31 July-13 August
Praia, Cape Verde Islands - 14-27 August
Skopje, North Macedonia - 28 August-10 September
Brno, Czech Republic - 11-24 September
Hamamatsu, Japan - 25 September - 8 October
Gyumri, Armenia - 9-22 October
Tartu, Estonia - 23 October - 5 November
Ibagué, Columbia - 6-19 November
Trencin and **Nitra**, Slovakia - 20 November - 3 December
Tel-Aviv and **Tirat Carmel**, Israel - 4-17 December
Bad Ischl, Austria - 18-31 December

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