



PRESS RELEASE – COMUNICATO STAMPA – PRESSEMITTEILUNG – COMMUNIQUÉ DE PRESSE
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The EUYO announces a new seat in Italy and expanded artistic relationships within the EU in a bold plan for the Orchestra's future

The EUYO is today announcing major initiatives to develop its pattern of work in Europe. Following the recent [announcement](#) of the EUYO's expanded partnership with Campus Grafenegg, the Orchestra has accepted an offer from Dario Franceschini, Italian Minister of Culture, and the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism, to establish a legal and operational seat in Ferrara and Rome, and a new broadcast partnership with RAI, alongside its current Italian work in Bolzano. The Orchestra is also announcing a new partnership in Brussels. These arrangements represent the Orchestra's first change of headquarters since it was established in London in 1976.

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- From 2018, Italy, the home of the EUYO's Founding Music Director Claudio Abbado, is to become the Orchestra's legal and operational seat, following the EUYO's acceptance of a proposal from Dario Franceschini Italian Minister of Culture, the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism, the Mayor and Municipality of Ferrara, and RAI-Radiotelevisione Italiana S.p.A.
 - These new relationships will add to the Orchestra's continuing Italian presence in Bolzano as part of the Bolzano Festival Bozen, supported by the Municipality of Bolzano.
 - As part of the new relationships the Orchestra is expanding its 40 years of work with RAI. The Orchestra's legal seat will move to Rome with RAI becoming the Orchestra's first official Broadcast Partner.
 - The EUYO also begins annual spring and autumn residencies in Ferrara at the Teatro Abbado from 2018, with formal and informal symphonic and chamber performances throughout the year. Supporting these activities the EUYO will open an administrative department in Ferrara.
 - The Italian announcement follows Grafenegg and the EUYO's recent [announcement](#) that from 2018 the EUYO is expanding its relationship and work with Campus Grafenegg, the Grafenegg Festival and the Government of Lower Austria, where the Orchestra has been in partnership with Grafenegg in the European Music Campus since 2014. The Orchestra becomes Resident Orchestra at Grafenegg and Partner in Campus Grafenegg, whilst Grafenegg becomes the EUYO's summer home and principal summer venue partner.
 - From 2018, the EUYO will be establishing an office in Brussels following an invitation from the Brussels Philharmonic. The EUYO will assist a consortium of Flemish orchestras, concert halls and conservatoires in initiating the Youth Orchestra of the Flemish Community.

The Italian initiatives are designed to provide the most effective structure, funding, training and performance opportunities for the European Union Youth Orchestra in the coming years, complementing the Orchestra's residency at Grafenegg. They follow the 2016 decision by the European Commission to continue to support the Orchestra as a cultural ambassador with funding from the Creative Europe programme.

"The European Union Youth Orchestra has accepted the offer of the Italian Government to be hosted in our country. This prestigious cultural institution, founded in 1976 with a resolution of the European Parliament and based in London, will find a home in the Teatro Abbado in Ferrara. I thank all those who have worked hard on this important achievement from Undersecretary of State, Ilaria Borletti Buitoni, who personally followed the negotiations, to Silvia Costa, Member of the Culture Committee of the European Parliament, who forwarded the proposal at Community level, to the Mayor of Ferrara, Tiziano Tagliani. I also express my gratitude to RAI, which with its commitment lay the foundations for a fruitful collaboration with the EUYO"

Dario Franceschini, Italian Minister of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism

"As Co Chairmen of the EUYO, we are delighted by the new agreement with the Italian government and the City of Ferrara. This is a major endorsement of the achievements and potential of the EUYO as practical evidence of Europe in action. Combined with our recent agreement with Grafenegg in Lower Austria, constantly underpinned by core funding from the EU, the Orchestra can look forward to a positive and secure future. This is a good day for musical and cultural cooperation in Europe. We are grateful to all parties for their vote of confidence in the European Union Youth Orchestra"

Sir John Tusa, IYF Co-Chairman and Ian Stoutzker CBE, IYF Co-Chairman and EUYO Orchestra Board Chairman

"Today we are announcing the future of the EUYO. Following more than 40 years in London, the new arrangements signal a bold, imaginative and sustainable future for the EUYO, at the same time developing the vision and work of the EUYO's President and Co-founder, Joy Bryer OBE. Our thanks go to everyone who has made this possible, and in particular Dario Franceschini, Italian Minister of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism."

Marshall Marcus, EUYO Chief Executive

"The EUYO is a vital cultural and political resource for Europe and for the EU, and I am delighted that the Orchestra's long term stability has now been effected, and that the Orchestra's artistic profile continues to grow and develop in partnership with friends and colleagues in Italy and beyond. It is a great pleasure to be part of the EUYO team, and I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has worked together to create these new collaborations, and look forward to many more wonderful musical experiences at the head of this inspiring and important institution."

Vasily Petrenko, EUYO Chief Conductor

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The **European Union Youth Orchestra (EUYO)** is one of the world's pre-eminent symphony orchestras. Described by the UK Guardian as having *"gripping, exhilaratingly good orchestral playing, surging with energy, laser-sharp focus and collective daring... [with] a technical prowess that is downright terrifying"*, and by EU commission President Jean-Claude Juncker as *"the best possible ambassador for the European Union"* it has provided an exceptional bridge between music colleges and the professional music world for generations of Europe's finest musicians since its foundation in 1976.

The Orchestra has worked with many of the world's greatest musicians including Daniel Barenboim, Leonard Bernstein, Sir Colin Davis, Herbert von Karajan, Svatislav Rostropovich and particularly its three Music Directors and current Chief Conductor: Founding Music Director Claudio Abbado, former Music Director Vladimir

Ashkenazy, former Music Director and current Conductor Laureate Bernard Haitink, and Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko.

A truly global brand, the EUYO has performed in most of the world's major concert halls and festivals, including notable venues such as London's Royal Albert Hall, New York's Carnegie Hall, the Vienna Musikverein, and Boston Symphony Hall. From Amsterdam to Abu Dhabi, Moscow to Mumbai, Seoul to São Paulo, the Orchestra has appeared in more than two hundred venues across four Continents.

The EUYO's 3,000 alumni have all come through the Orchestra's rigorous, annual audition process conducted in all (currently 28) EU Member States, and many are now notable conductors, soloists, teachers, and instrumentalists working with major orchestras throughout the world, including the London Symphony Orchestra, the Berliner Philharmoniker, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. The EUYO's Summer Home and Principal Venue Partner is Grafenegg, where in 2014 both organisations launched the European Music Campus.

Founded by Joy and Lionel Bryer in 1976, the EUYO has been a Cultural Ambassador for the European Union for more than forty years. The EUYO's Honorary President is Antonio Tajani, European Parliament President, and its Patrons include the Heads of Government of all of the EU's Member States, and the President of the European Commission.

In recent years the Orchestra has strengthened its position with new artistic leadership and Trustees, an Advisory Council, and a new Orchestral Board, as well as a series of innovative learning and performance programmes helping to train its members with the skills necessary to meet the challenges of 21st century society and audiences.



Honorary President Antonio Tajani - President of the European Parliament **Co-Founder & President** Joy Bryer
Founding Music Director Claudio Abbado **Chief Conductor** Vasily Petrenko **Conductor Laureate** Bernard Haitink
Co-Chairman Ian Stoutzker, CBE **Co-Chairman** Sir John Tusa **Chief Executive** Marshall Marcus

Head Honorary Patron Jean-Claude Juncker – President of the European Commission **Honorary Patrons** Federica Mogherini – High Representative of the EU, Vice-President of the European Commission, heads of state and government of the 28 EU member states, President of the European Committee of the Regions



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