

# EXTRA!

Exchange Traditions

## EXCHANGE TRADITIONS – PROJECT OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED



*Romano Suno Groupe (Hungary)*

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'Tibor Lakatos', Romano Suno Groupe (Hungary)

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In the last issue of the EMC magazine "Sounds in Europe" – focusing on intercultural dialogue – the ExTra! project was introduced.

Whereas at the time of introduction funding for the project was not yet clear, it was confirmed that ExTra! will be supported by the EU until 2009 within the framework of its cultural programme.

On July 1 2006 the project period officially started; and the ExTra! steering group met in the inspiring surrounding of the Cité de la Musique in Paris on July 7. The Cité de la Musique is one of the project's cooperation partners and is responsible for the organisation of a summer academy that will take place from July 9 to 13, 2007 at the Cité de la Musique. The summer academy addresses music students from all over Europe. In four different master classes the students will gain in-depth knowledge of Ottoman classical music, Andalusian classical music from Morocco, Music from Transylvania, and Sabar drums from Senegal. The master classes mainly approach music students with very little or no experience in these kinds of music. The aim is to act as a mind-opener towards the variety and richness of the diverse musical traditions that exist within Europe and beyond. As the presented musical traditions belong to cultures in which oral transmission plays a decisive role, the summer academy will provide chances for "classical" music students to discover other repertoires and other ways of learning. The four master classes are led by internationally renowned teachers:

**Ottoman classical music:** Kudsi Erguner (ney flute)

**Andalusian classical music from Morocco:** Taoufik Himmiche (violin and rebab)

**Music from Transylvania:** Csányi Sándor (violin and bass) and his son Adrian Mezei (bratch and dance)

**Sabar drums from Senegal:** Doudou Ndiaye Rose and his son El Hadji Moustapha Ndiaye Rose (sabar drums from Senegal)

Ethnomusicological lectures explore the cultural contexts linked to the music which is taught. The closing concert on July 13, 2007 will present the work achieved in each master class.

In 2006 the ANCT (Association National Cultures et Traditions), ExTra! cooperation partner, already provided two activities bringing ExTra! to the grass roots level. In the small town of Gannat in the middle of the Auvergne, each summer the big festival for traditional music "Cultures of the World" takes place. In the frame of the 33rd annual festival of Gannat, experts discussed the significance of traditional music for the cycles of life. In September the ANCT organised an artist in residence programme for Sinti and Roma currently present in Gannat. The main aim was to build a project of musical creation together with the local population.

Artistic events and lectures follow most of the ExTra! activities, e.g. the cooperation partner Donne in Musica will host a series of lectures and concerts on "Women in Traditional Music". The first lecture-concert will take place on 15 February 2007 in the Quirino theatre in Rome. Musicians from Sri Lanka, Nigeria and Italy will perform songs and ritual dances accompanied by tambourine and drums.

In addition to the artistic activities and the personal encounters, a comparative research study will provide musicological data on the music traditions present in today's multicultural Europe. The research aims to identify music traditions that form a part of the day-to-day lives of European citizens and the minority cultures present in the EU, EFTA and accession countries. Influences from other parts of the world are part of the study. Special interest and attention will be paid to the social aspects of music traditions present in European daily life. Guidelines for the research will be drawn up by a scientific committee that will consist of a heterogenic mix of experts rooted in ethnomusicology as well as the practical field. A first meeting of the scientific committee will take place in March 2007.

The project ExTra! aims to enhance the understanding of the culture of each other's neighbours. ExTra! will stimulate exchange between different music traditions present in today's multicultural Europe. The project focuses on musical traditions of migrants in Europe and their interaction with cultures already existing in the European countries.

In order to achieve these aims, the EMC has gathered co-operation partners\* from different European countries focusing on different aspects in the field of music such as education, production, musicology, socio-culture and new media. With this multifaceted consortium of partners, a broad approach from different perspectives can be guaranteed.

\* Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica, Italy  
Cité de la Musique Paris, France  
Association Nationale Cultures et Traditions (ANCT), France  
International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation (IYMF), Belgium  
Music Information Centre Austria (MICA)  
En Chordais, Greece  
European Music Council



*Child playing the Violin.*

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## ExTra! Activity Plan

**15 February 2007**

Concert and introduction lecture  
“Women in traditional music” in Rome, Italy  
Focus: Tambourine and Drums

**March 2007**

Meeting of the Scientific Committee

**5 to 9 April 2007**

Exchange sessions next to the “Traditional Music Regional Competition” in the Massif Central, France, on “cross-fertilisation music”

**9 to 13 July 2007**

Summer academy of 5 days for students to acquaint them, practically and theoretically, with cultures they are not yet familiar with, Paris, France

**20 to 30 July 2007**

In the frame of the Festivals of Gannat “Cultures from the World”, Gannat, France:  
“Artists-in-Residence” programme on the theme “Passing on the heritage through music”;  
Round Tables on “Traditional Music accompanies the cycles of life and worship”

**October 2007**

Concert and introduction lecture “Women in traditional music” in Rome, Italy  
Focus: String Instruments

Further ExTra! activities are to come: In 2008 the International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation will organise two workshops, “Green Music” will concentrate on the very origins of music and the workshop “Can traditional music be a tool for integration?” will examine the interrelation of musical traditions of migrant cultures and young people with migrant background.

The final event of the ExTra! project period will take place in April 2009 in Thessaloniki in cooperation with the Greek partner En Chordais.

Along with the concrete ExTra! activities comes the ExTra! website at [www.extra-project.eu](http://www.extra-project.eu) and the ExTra! download platform at [www.many-musics.org/extra](http://www.many-musics.org/extra). The website will continuously accompany the project where you may find more details on the cooperation partners, the activities (e.g. the full application form for the summer academy) as well as a calendar listing all ExTra! events. The download platform installed by the Music Information Centre Austria (MICA) will provide related tracks of traditional music, either created in the course of the project or material collected in line with the ExTra! philosophy.

The 2008 thematic year of the European Union will focus on intercultural dialogue. The ExTra! project examines the issue from the perspective of musical exchange: between European countries but also focusing on exchange within one country between the existing diversity of cultures. Cultural diversity is one of the prerequisites for an intercultural dialogue – let us keep the diversity alive and enhance the dialogue.

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**20 to 24 March 2008**

Exchange sessions next to the “Traditional Music Regional Competition” in the Massif Central, France, on “cross-fertilisation music”

**April 2008**

Workshop on “Green Music” in Vilnius, Lithuania

**July 2008**

In the frame of the Festivals of Gannat “Cultures from the World”, Gannat, France:  
“Artists-in-Residence” programme on the theme “Passing on the heritage through music”  
Round Tables on “Traditional Music accompanies the cycles of life and worship”

**October 2008**

Concert and introduction lecture “Women in traditional music” in Rome, Italy  
Focus: Wind instruments

**October/November 2008**

Workshop on „Traditional music as a tool of integration”, Lisbon, Portugal

**9 to 13 April 2009**

Exchange sessions next to the “Traditional Music Regional Competition” in the Massif Central, France, on “cross-fertilisation music”

**April 2009**

Final Event “Traditional Music as an integrating factor for immigrant populations in Europe”, Thessaloniki, Greece