



Associazione culturale BlueRing-Improvisers
C.F. 92070460529
Loc. Stigliano 126 Sovicille (SI) 53018
blueringimprovisers@gmail.com
www.blueringimprovisers.com

BLUERING-IMPROVISERS OPEN CALL

MUSICIANS SELECTION ANNOUNCE:

artistic residency aimed at the production of a discographic project

SECTION A - General guidelines

As for the 2021, BlueRing-Improvisers Cultural Association aims at focusing on creating collaborations between the Association and Italian and European artists from other cultural backgrounds; opening to methodological and artistic synergies with musicians who want to collaborate in the field of musical research.

Over the years, BlueRing-Improvisers has explored the practices of 'non-idiomatic' improvisation and conduction, approaching increasingly to a conception of contemporary-extemporaneous music. This process has been realized through the study and the creation of graphic musical scores and by sharing experiences from visual and performative art, and it can be synthesized with the expression 'Now Music' coined by Blue-Ring collective (<https://blueringimprovisers.com/>).

BlueRing-Improvisers Cultural Association publishes this call for applications with the purpose of selecting up to 5 musicians, shaping an ensemble that will work on the creation of a discographic product through the formula of an artistic residency. This modus operandi has provided a creative and hectic setting for the study and the creation of various musical products.

The aim of the project is to create an artistic research group that - thanks to the mutual exchange of musical and human knowledge and experiences among participants - will transcend the scope of production itself, creating an open, dynamic, and collective set.



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With this in mind, BlueRing-Improvisers intends to actively involve the musicians selected, inviting them to compose, design and structure musical material specifically oriented for the project. In the months leading up to the residency, a path of mutual knowledge and exchange will be created through three or four preliminary meetings (presumably online), whose dates will be established by mutual agreement with the selected winners.

SECTION B - Admission criteria

This application form is intended for individual musicians of all ages, education, and idiomatic backgrounds.

Up to five (5) instrumentalists or singers will be selected to collaborate with musicians suggested by BlueRing-Improvisers.

The knowledge backgrounds required to the candidate are:

- familiarity in the field of improvisation;
- ability to read traditional and non-traditional notation (graphic scores, different notation systems ...);
- good instrumental technique (intended as the ability to articulate one's creative urgency through the development of a personal instrumental expression, not necessarily traditional).

To join the project the candidate must guarantee his/her presence for the entire duration of the residency (see below) since the submission of the application, otherwise the candidate will be excluded from the competition.



SECTION C - Selection Methods

The selection of candidates will take place in two steps.

In the first phase, candidates must send (via private link, WeTransfer or similar) a video (possibly in high quality) containing an improvisation in solo or in group, live or in studio, length no more than 10 minutes.

These videos will be subjected to a pre-selection through evaluation by BlueRing-Improvisers members.

The results of the pre-selection will be individually notified by email.

The second phase will consist of an online interview. The selected finalists will be contacted, within ten days before the deadline, for an individual interview to be held during the first half of March 2021. Platform, date, and time of the interview will be announced at a later stage. BlueRing-Improvisers does not assume any responsibility in the event of failed delivery or any kind of technical malfunctions concerning the competition material.

SECTION D - Evaluation Criteria

The selection of the five musicians joining the project will be determined by sorting some general characteristics while listening to the audio / video material. It will be evaluated in particular: the creativity, listening skills, the instrumental technique, the awareness in extemporaneous composition and in the use of different musical materials.



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In case of candidates with the same evaluation, the selection will prioritize:

- minor age;
- previous record production;
- functionality of the instrument played in relation to the staff resulting from the selection;
- presence of any multi-instrumentalists.

SECTION E – Participation terms and modes

To participate, the following documentation must be sent to the Association email (blueringimprovisers@gmail.com), no later than 01/03/2021, under penalty of exclusion from the competition:

- the registration form (see the end of this document) fully completed in all its components.
- a copy of a valid identity document;
- a video link (YouTube, WeTransfer or similar) for pre-selection;
- a short discursive curriculum, possibly with discography;
- eventual motivational letter;
- eventual text file with other material representative of artistic activity (concerts, records, videos, etc.).



SECTION F - Artistic residency: dates and venues

The residency will last seven days, from 24/05/21 to 30/05/21.

The recording sessions of the duration of 4 days, will take place at the Ex Cinema Aurora, in Viale Ippolito Nievo, 28th in Livorno, Tuscany (Italy).

The recording sessions will take place at the 'Jambona LAB' recording studio, Via del Testaio, 24th in Livorno.

It is therefore understood that the dates indicated are subject to changes, extensions, and suspensions in relation to the development of the epidemiological situation, for which the Association cannot assume any responsibility.

The first four days (24th, 25th, 26th, 27th May) will be intended to the exchange between participants and the rehearsal of music material, with a morning and afternoon scheduled program.

The following two days will be dedicated to the recording (28th and 29th May); the last day (May 30th) will be dedicated to masters and mixes of the recorded material.

SECTION G – Accommodation

The artists will be hosted in double rooms in a dedicated accommodation located near the recording studio, at the expenses of BlueRing-Improvisers.

All lunches and dinners taking place during the residency scheduled program in the accommodation location or in the rehearsal location (depending on the epidemiological situation), will be at the expense of the Association.



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Any extra meal or nights out expenses are not included in the costs covered by the residency program.

Similarly, the travel costs of arrival and departure from the location of the residency, Livorno, will NOT be covered by the Association.

Therefore, no reimbursement of expenses will be provided.

SECTION H - COVID-19 rules

Given the pandemic situation in which we are all living, the BlueRing-Improvisers Cultural Association is forced, in addition to taking on every possible precaution and equipment necessary for the prevention of contagion in compliance with the current regulations, to request forms of prevention also by the winners of this residency program. Therefore, will only be admitted musicians who will adopt one of the following security measures to be proven, under penalty of exclusion:

- molecular PCR test for identification of specific genes for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, performed no later than 48 hours prior to the first day of residence.
- rapid antigenic test for identification of a protein that's part of Sars-CoV-2 virus, performed no later than 48 hours prior to the first day of residence.



SECTION I – Offer summary

BlueRing-Improvisers offers to the winners of this call for applications:

- accommodation for the entire duration of the residency (24th - 30th of May, not including the night between 23rd and 24th and night between 30th and 31st), in an apartment with double rooms;
- meals (excluding extras) for the entire duration of the residency (24th - 30th May);
- 4 days of rehearsals to produce the material;

- 2 days of recording at the 'Jambona LAB' studio;
- 1 day of mixing and mastering at the 'Jambona LAB' studio;
- production and printing of the record with an Italian / European label;
- some physical copies of the disc.

In addition, the staff of the artistic residency will be considered an effective part of the projects born within the BlueRing-Improvisers association, and as such promoted in any live performances both in Italy and abroad (clubs, festivals, reviews etc.), as well as taken into consideration for events and activities organized by the Association.



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SECTION L - Who are we?

Since 2014 BlueRing-Improvisers aims at promoting improvisation and experimentation in the musical and artistic fields.

Founded in Siena and active in Emilia Romagna and in other different areas of the center-north regions of Italy, the Association is composed of dozens of musicians and artists from all over Italy and deals with research and production in the artistic-musical field.

In recent years BlueRing-Improvisers has distinguished itself for the organization of residences, concerts, workshops, interdisciplinary performances, recordings, publications, reviews, and events.

With hundreds of musicians involved, numerous events and workshops, two published discs and dozens of improvisation meetings to its credit, BlueRing-Improvisers is now a benchmark in the young Italian scene of improvisation and experimentation.

BlueRing-Improvisers has taken legal personality as a non-profit Cultural Association in April 2018.



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SECTION M – Contacts

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Bologna, 07/01/2020

Artistic Directors

Tobia Bondesan, Michele Bondesan, Giuseppe Sardina



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Participation form to the announcement for

BLUERING-IMPROVISERS OPEN CALL

I the undersigned _____, born
in _____ on _____,
resident in _____, domicile
(if different from residence): _____,
email: _____ tel.: _____

ask to participate to the 'BlueRing-Improvisers Open Call',

declaring that:

- I will guarantee my presence for the entire duration of the artistic residency, object of the open call, in case of convocation, as well as at the preliminary meetings referred to in the announcement;
- I will accept the unquestionable judgment of the BlueRing-Improvisers commission in the evaluation of the material sent for the open call;
- I will accept the treatment conditions inherent to the residence as specified in the announcement;
- I have sent authentic material and I have not made false statements.

Instrument played: _____

Possible second instrument (multi-instrumentalists): _____

Material presented for the selection: _____

Place and date _____ Signature _____