

# SOUND (ZECH

# SOUNDCZECH

Established in 2017 by ATI (Arts and Theatre Institute), SoundCzech is an organisation committed to supporting the Czech music scene. It is financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and works in close collaboration with dedicated industry professionals.

#### **OUR SCOPES AND OBJECTIVES ARE FOLLOWING:**

- International promotion and support of Czech music
- Training and lectures for artists and business professionals
- Facilitating the connection of these trained professionals with international networks
- Improving the overall performance of Czech music scene
- Creating and maintaining the information platform about the Czech music

For the list of relevant contacts, please see the database at

https://adresar.soundczech.cz/en

## **CHECK THE CZECH ELECTRONIC SCENE!**

Dear fans, professionals and artists. You're holding a special brochure bringing the best of the Czech electronic scene from clubs, festivals, musicians, through promoters, labels, workshops to music awards. We hope it will give you a basic overview about the Czech electronic music scene.

#### Your SoundCzech team

PS: Feel free to share your feedback. Please, contact us at info@soundczech.cz

# CONTENT

| CZECH ELECTRONIC SCE                            | NE BY JANA KOMÁNKOVÁ | 4  |
|---|----------------------|----|
| FESTIVALS                                       | 6                    |    |
| VENUES & CLUBS                                  | 10                   |    |
| CZECH MEDIA INFORMING ABOUT ELECTRONIC MUSIC 12 |                      | 12 |
| ARTISTS, PROJECTS & D                           | JS                   | 14 |
| LABELS  | 15                   |    |
| PROMOTERS                                       | 16                   |    |
| EDUCATIONS & WORKSHOPS 18                       |                      |    |

# CZECH ELECTRONIC SCENE

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The Czech electronic music scene is a small but colourful one. Like many other forms of Czech art it started blossoming after the Velvet revolution and has been going ever since

Unlike rock music, it was not a form of protest and it was not really happening in the 80s or earlier. Its inspiration was British, European and, to a certain extent, American dance music brought to Prague by several DJ squads (Dutch DJs who played some now-defunct clubs, and also sound systems that were running free parties in the open air, not very legal). At the same time, the Czech intellectuals were listening to bands like Kraftwerk, Electronic Body Music or Brian Eno's ambient stuff which was also an influence.

Obtaining equipment to produce music was not easy in the 90s, because computers were slow, expensive and clunky and also there was no Internet to get information from. There were creative types who tried to produce stuff anyway though. In the 90s there were quite a lot of DJs (Bid-

lo. Loutka. Vilém. Aiffel, and several others) but the amount of the bands or solo producers was small for the above-mentioned reasons. Ohm Square, with their soft and artful sound and English singer, were a thing. Liquid harmony were good at producing danceable stuff with some guitars, Risto (who is still going) was producing stuff in his home studio, and there were some hip-hop efforts that were more connected to the dance scene than nowadays. Around 2000 the electronic music grew in popularity in the Czech Republic, but more as a means to dance: there were biager festivals, parties and huge events in sports halls that were more about partying than about the music played. As the technology kept improving, it was also a time when electronic music instruments became much more accessible and quite a lot of people tried their hand at production. Some of those recordings didn't stand the test of time and their respective authors went on to do something else but the landscape certainly changed.

At the same time, existing bands who felt like updating their sound started incorporating electronic music into their guitar-driven sound. This fusion often sounded very British because the musicians were fans of the music from the UK but there were instances of a purely Czech-sounding music influenced, and helped by the electronics. Tata bojs spring into mind, with their Czech puns and original presentation, or several experiments of local singers playing, and also recording, with DJs (Iva Bittová and Javas, Monika Načeva who moved into more electronic sound in 1998 releasing an interesting album called Mimoid). There were also efforts to introduce Czech bands such as Skyline to foreign audiences but truth to be said there was not that much interest. Ecstasy of St. Theresa did manage to enchant John Peel in the 90s but there was just a short bout of international fame.

Some musicians did succeed without any media coverage or help from managers and NGOs though: one such brilliant example is **Mikkim**, a producer influenced by dub, techno and ither genres, who even managed to play the legendary Glastonbury festival.

The current climate is much more diverse and there are beautiful, albeit small pockets of interesting music. Still there are a lot of cases when there is a happy fusion of elements: Floex, for instance, combines electronic music with clarinet, and is a very sought-after artist as he has an impeccable ability to create lush atmospheres.

Magnetik are influenced by darker Euro-

pean tendencies and are still pretty original (as is the ever-controversial Vanessa and the wild Schwarzprior). Midi Lidi make danceable music that reminds one of Underworld and other 90s heroes, HRTL is a modular synth hero who also releases bedroom musicians' efforts. Kubatko is throwing himself into experiments with other music friends, currently releasing music made with three other musicians from Korea.

Subject Lost loves to sound sci-fi. Fiordmoss — an arty electronic Czech/Norwegian band residing in Berlin. dné uses found sounds and is good at film music. Oftentimes, the producers of electronic music go both ways, producing rock and pop artists and making electronic music on the side: such is the case with Boris Carloff who rose to international fame with his own tracks although producing bug name Czech bands is probably more lucrative as a job.

There are new names appearing all the time and keeping track of them requires following a lot of webpages and social media accounts - the names mentioned are the ones who released albums and have been part of the scene for some time. If you are into electronic music, it is worth to start with those and see where the path is leading: the Czech electronic musicians have a lot to offer, that much is certain.



Addict / Prague / www.addictrave.com

Artu Kus festival / Trutnov www.artukus.cz

**Beats for Love** / Ostrava

www.b4l.cz/en

Beseda u Bigbítu / Tasov

www.besedaubigbitu.cz

**Boskovice** / Boskovice

www.boskovice-festival.cz/en

Budějovický majáles / České Budějovice www.budejovickymajales.cz

www.colours.cz Creepy Teepee / Kutná Hora

www.creepyteepee.org

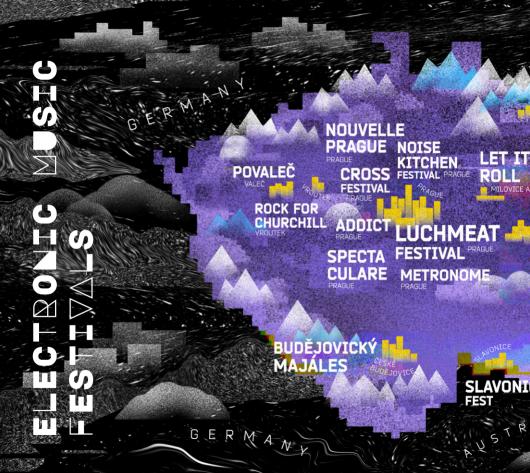
Colours of Ostrava / Ostrava

Cross Festival / Prague www.crossfest.cz

Czech Music Crossroads
Electronic Mission / Ostrava

www.crossroadsmusic.cz/czech/ electronic-mission-program











#### Fléda

www.fleda.cz

#### Kabinet Múz

www.kabinetmuz.cz

#### Klub Alterna

www.alterna.cz

#### **SONO** music club

www.sonomusicclub.cz

#### **Břeclav:**

#### Piksla

www.facebook.com/PIKSLABRECLAV

# České Budějovice: Velbloud

www.velbloud.info

#### Kladno:

#### Auto da Fé

www.autodafe.cz

#### Lysá nad Labem:

#### Patro

www.facebook.com/patroklub



#### Nymburk: U Streička

www.facebook.com/ustrejcka

#### Olomouc:

#### 15 minut

www.facebook.com/15minutclub/

#### Ostrava:

#### **Brickhouse**

www.brickhousedov.cz

#### **Fabric**

www.fabric.cz

#### Plzeň:

#### Anděl music bar

www.andelcafe.cz

#### **Buena Vista Club**

www.buenavistaclub.cz

#### Divadlo pod Lampou

www.podlampou.cz

#### **Papirna**

www.papirnaplzen.cz

#### Prague: Ankali

www.anka.li

#### Café v lese

www.cafevlese.cz/en

#### Chapeau Rouge

www.chapeaurouge.cz/en

#### **Cross Club**

www.crossclub.cz/en

#### Fuchs 2

www.fuchs2.cz

#### Palác Akropolis

www.palacakropolis.com

#### Storm Club

www.stormclub.cz

#### Vila Štvanice

www.vilastvanice.cz

#### **Uherské Hradiště:**

#### Klub Mír

www.klubmir.cz

#### Ústí nad Labem:

#### Hraničář

www.hranicar-usti.cz

All contacts available at

https://adresar.soundczech.cz/en





# ARTISTS PROJECTS DJS

**Iflfsoap** / www.facebook.com/Iflfsoap

A-Cray / www.facebook.com/ACrayCZ

AidKid / www.aidkid.cz

Bratři / www.bratri.live

Dozikur / www.facebook.com/Dozikur

Fiordmoss / www.fiordmoss.com

Floex / www.floex.cz

**Hard to Frame** / www.hardtoframe.cz

**Honey T** 

HRTL

www.bumbumsatori.org/en/artists/hrtl

**Hybris** 

Khoiba / www.khoiba.org

#### Lowmoe

www.facebook.com/listentolowmoe

Mydy / www.mydyofficial.cz

N.O.H.A. / www.n-o-h-a.com

Never Sol / www.neversol.cz

P/\ST / www.facebook.com/pastpraha

**Philip TBC** 

www.philiptbc.bandcamp.com

Project XYZ / www.new.xyzproject.net

Rido / www.ridomusic.com

Roborg / www.facebook.com/mr.roborg

Roman Rai / www.djset.cz/roman-rai

Subject Lost / MOONSPOTTER

www.soundcloud.com/subject-lost

Tea Sofia / www.instagram.com/teasofia

**Touchwood** 

www.facebook.com/touchwoodcz

Ventolin / www.ventolin.cz

Viah / www.facebook.com/viahsings

Zabelov Group / www.zabelovgroup.com

Listen at Spotify:



# **LABELS**

**Bad Names** ¬ www.badnames.org

**Big Boss** ¬ www.biggboss.cz

**Bűkko Tapes** – www.bukkotapes.bandcamp.com

**Harmless Youth** – www.harmlessyouth.bandcamp.com

Krmelec Recordings - www.krmelec.bandcamp.com

**Minority records** ¬ www.minorityrecords.com

Moving Pictures records ¬

www.movingpicturesrecords.bandcamp.com

Nona - www.nonarec.bandcamp.com

**Polí 5** ¬ www.polipet.cz/vydavatelstvi-poli5

**Punctum Tapes** ¬ www.punctum.cz

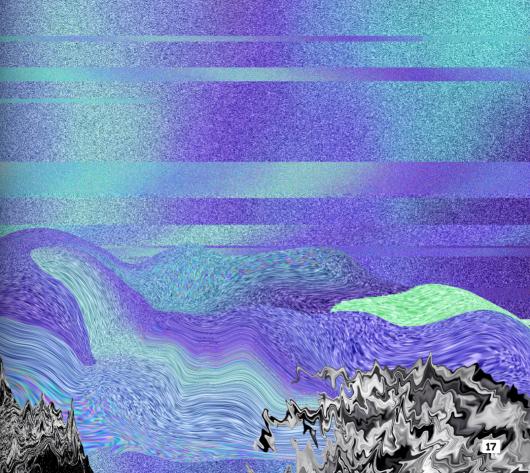
**XION** ¬ www.xionlabel.bandcamp.com

All contacts available at

https://adresar.soundczech.cz/en









## **Czech Music Crossroads**

www.crossroadsmusic.cz

## **Lunchmeat Festival**

www.lunchmeatfestival.cz

## **Noise Kitchen**

www.facebook.com/noise.kitchen.shop

## **Nouvelle Prague**

www.nouvelleprague.com/en

## **Synth Library**

www.zvukpraha.cz/synthlibraryprague

www.zvukpraha.cz



# ARTS AND THEATRE INSTITUTE

The mission of the Arts and Theatre Institute (ATI), a state-funded organization established by the Ministry of Culture Czech Republic, is to provide the Czech and international public with comprehensive services in the field of theatre and partial services from other areas of art — music, literature, dance and the visual arts.

ATI is an information, promotion, educational, counseling and research center. ATI stimulates a strategic approach to culture, promotes and links cultural workers and artists across disciplines and enhances their professional growth on the national and international scene. ATI also implements activities, projects and programs that reflect the current needs of contemporary art and culture, contributing to their development and social prestige.

#### WE CONNECT AND PROMOTE LOCAL ART

On a mandate from the Ministry of Culture, ATI announces twice yearly a tender Go and See for the support of international contacts in the field of professional art. The aim of the short-term mobility program is to support international cooperation and professionalization of Czech art in the field of live art.

ATI is also setting up an information portal, Culturenet, a cultural information website focusing on cultural professionals and the professional public across disciplines; it consists of four sections — news, and three online databases.









