



**INCLUDEART**

# COMPENDIUM OF SUCCESS STORIES



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# THE INCLUDEART TEAM

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# INTRODUCTION

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Due to COVID-19 the education system showed the existing problem of educational discrimination and the weaknesses in digital infrastructure in school education making more visible the digital divide among the poorest students. It also showed a lack of teacher-specific digital competence frameworks. The project aims to support teachers, school leaders and other stakeholders from school environment in the reaching fields to develop more creative and digital skills by using new creative tools such as web radio.

The project activities are about social inclusion that focuses on religion, disability, age, sexual orientation, race and ethnic origins as the main reasons of discrimination. The project wants schools to become effective agents of inclusion, offering “an alternative frame that has been used to help school staff to step out of the cycle of exclusion and act more effectively to foster inclusion”. Teachers have the task to build trust with their students and also to help build trust among the students.

The project wants to improve skills of teachers in the field of inclusion through an innovative methodology, based on the history of music and arts, highlighting integration and success stories of famous (and local) artists from disadvantaged groups. Schools participating in the project will be equipped with web radio and also training in radio broadcasting to reinforce creative activities and promote social inclusion of students through creativity and the arts. Through this, teachers will increase their performances at their work and their professional skills and competences will be improved.



# LOCAL SUCCESS STORIES

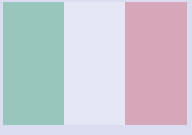




# ITALY

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## PICCIOTTO




Christian Paterniti called Picciotto was born in Palermo in 1983. For 12 years he has been frontman of the group Gente Strana Posse. Almost 300 concerts to his credit and several collaborations with groups such as 99 Posse, Assalti frontali, Zion Train, the Argentine Actitude Maria Marta and the French rapper Keny Arkana. Picciotto's rap is one of the strong social denunciation, born and developed in occupied social centers, expanding and refining over the years on various stages in peninsula and being a consequence of his social commitment.

After beginning to make a name for himself as a rapper in his area, he started rap workshops at the beginning of 20th century.



Picciotto comes from a disadvantaged neighbourhood in Palermo, where poverty and early school leaving is an issue. Amidst dilapidated houses, unemployment, crime and school drop-outs, in Borgo Vecchio even the lives of the youngest are quickly consumed.

Picciotto uses rap to support young people during their social integration. He describes himself as a social worker, rapper and a father. He has been working with children from the city's most deprived suburbs for over 15 years, using hip-hop music as learning tool.



After three records and hundreds of concerts with his band Gente Strana Posse, Picciotto began a solo career. For fifteen years he has been involved in creative writing workshops focusing on rap and in projects to combat school drop-out, working in schools and in various working-class neighbourhoods in Palermo, trying to sensitise minors, ex-convicts and young 'drop-outs' to the art of writing and music as expressive means of strong redemption and emancipation. This is why Picciotto recently founded Lo Stato dell'Arte, a label/collective/incubator that brings together numerous emerging Sicilian talents. Now, Picciotto is a rapper and youth worker who has been fighting for 10 years against early school leaving through sport and music. He won the last edition of "Musica contro le mafie", a national rap contest promoted by the national non-profit association Libera.

"Luck is a geographical circumstance."







# ITALY

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## NABIL SALAMEH



Nabil Salameh was born in Tripoli, Lebanon. He is a son of Palestinian refugees. His father was a UN official in charge of education in Lebanon as an inspector of UNRWA institutions for Palestinian refugees. His family is descended from the thousand-year-old Quraysh tribe (to which Muhammad also belonged). Apart from Nabil, they had two other sons and six daughters.



He studied at a Greek Orthodox boarding school in the Christian quarter of Tripoli, worked as a journalist and correspondent from Italy for various TV and newspaper outlets in the Middle East. In order to continue his studies, he enrolled at the University of Bucharest at the time of Nicolae Ceaușescu, but then continued only in Bari where, in 1983, he moved to study electrical engineering.



Nabil was born in Lebanon from a family of Palestinian refugees and moved to Italy to complete his studies.



In 1988, Nabil formed the world music group Al Darawish, giving birth to the first multi-ethnic music experiences in Italy and thus began a long and rich musical career. After the break-up of Al Darawish in 1997, he founded Radiodervish in the same year. That year he was the first Palestinian singer to be chosen as the interpreter of the anthemic song for the 13th edition of the 'Giochi Del Mediterraneo', held in Bari. In 1998, Radiodervish's first record was released in Italy. The record entitled *Lingua contro lingua* won the prestigious Piero Ciampi award for the best debut record of the year.



From 1998 to 2007 Nabil worked as a correspondent. He is a host of a radio series on Arabic music and on Italian Swiss radio Rete due. Since 2014, he has been a lecturer of Ethnomusicology and History of Arabic music. He translated the anthology *Le mie poesie più belle* by the Syrian poet Nizar Qabbani. He also curated a scenic transposition in a reading for two voices and two languages (Arabic and Italian), *Disegnare con le parole*. He is an artistic director of the Transmediterranean Festival.



"Clear and correct information, both on television and online, can contribute to raising global awareness of the ferocity of war. The important thing is that we never cross the line that divides the real from the virtual".





# SPAIN

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## VANESA MARTIN



Vanesa Martín is a Spanish singer-songwriter who has become one of the most popular and respected artists in the country. She was born in 1980 and began her music career in the early 2000s, writing songs for other artists and participating in local music competitions.



When she was six years old, her father gave her his first guitar and this is how her love of music began. Later, she decided to start her guitar training, through “rocieros” choirs, and soon after she started writing her first songs. At the end of 2003, after completing the degree of Teaching and Pedagogy at the University of Malaga, she stayed in Madrid, where she performed her first concerts.



Vanesa had to face several difficulties on her way to fame. One of the biggest challenges was the lack of resources and connections in music industry. She grew up in a humble family that could not afford to pay for music lessons or expensive equipment. Despite these limitations, Vanesa's passion for music led her to start writing songs and performing at local events. However, she struggled to be noticed by record labels. In fact, she was rejected by several labels before finally getting signed to Universal Music Spain. Another obstacle she faced was the language barrier. Vanesa's music is mostly in Spanish, and she wanted to reach audiences beyond Spain.



Vanesa became famous due to several reasons. One of the main factors was her talent and dedication to music. Despite the obstacles she faced, Vanesa never gave up and continued to pursue her passion for writing and singing.

Another reason for her success was her unique style and sound. Vanesa's music is a blend of pop, rock, and flamenco, which sets her apart from other artists in Spain. Her lyrics are very personal. In addition to her talent and style, Vanesa's success can be attributed to her loyal fan base too.







# SPAIN

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## VANESA MARTIN

Currently, Vanesa is one of the most successful Spanish singers in the music industry. She continues to release new music and tour around Spain and other parts of the world. In 2021, Vanesa released her seventh studio album, which has been well-received by both fans and critics.

Vanesa has also continued participating in various music festivals and events. In 2022, she performed at the Starlite Festival in Marbella and also participated in the Benidorm International Song Festival. In addition, Vanesa has been involved in philanthropic work. She has supported various organizations, including the Spanish Association Against Cancer and the Children's Cancer Association of Malaga. Overall, Vanesa is still actively pursuing her music career and making a positive impact in the world through her philanthropic efforts.



"To all of us who learned to swim with the pink bubble on our backs...Maybe it was not a bubble, but as children, everyone chooses the way of survival."





# SPAIN

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## MARISOL

**Pepa Flores, also known as Marisol, is a Spanish actress and singer who rose to fame in the 1960s and 1970s. Pepa was the youngest of six siblings.**

**As a child, Pepa showed an interest in the performing arts and began singing and dancing at local festivals and events. At the age of nine, she won a children's singing contest and caught the attention of a talent agent who offered her a contract. Pepa made her film debut at the age of 12 and quickly became one of Spain's most beloved child stars. In addition to her acting career, Pepa also pursued a successful singing career under the stage name Marisol.**



**Pepa attended Catholic school in Malaga. She was a bright student and excelled in her studies, but her passion for performing and singing led her to pursue a career in the entertainment industry at a young age. Despite leaving school early to focus on her career, she continued to prioritize education and has been an advocate for children's education and literacy initiatives through her philanthropic work.**



**It is obvious that Pepa was the little girl whose childhood was stolen. It is known that she came from a working-class family and began performing at a young age. She met Manuel Goyanes and he decided that the little girl had to undergo a series of changes. He changed her name and dyed her hair to blonde.**

**Marisol became an object of consumption. Her life was full of work, incessant travel, long days of filming and advertising campaigns. All this was more important than her well-being.**

**She suffered abuse by a photographer, she was forbidden to complain if the photo sessions did not go well and had several suicide attempts. That is why she decided to retire and now she lives away from the media spotlight.**



**Marisol achieved fame in Spain as a child star in the 1960s. She began performing at a young age and quickly gained popularity through her roles in successful films and recordings of hit songs. Her talent, charisma, and charm captivated audiences, and her popularity continued growing throughout her career. Marisol's talent and hard work helped to propel her to fame and cemented her status as an iconic figure in Spanish pop culture.**





# SPAIN

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# MARISOL



**Marisol has not given any interviews in recent years, leading to speculation about her health and well-being. However, in 2020, she was awarded the Gold Medal for Fine Arts by the Spanish government, recognizing her contributions to the arts and culture in Spain. Despite her disappearance from the public, she remains a beloved and iconic figure in Spanish pop culture. Marisol's influence can be seen in the work of many contemporary Spanish artists. Her life story also reflects the changing social and cultural landscape of Spain during the 20th century, and her legacy serves as a reminder of the power of art to inspire and join people.**



**"Develop the little piece of the world that you have to work, pour all your love into that square meter that occupies your existence. Do not give up!"**



# POLAND


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## OLA PETRUS




Ola Petrus is a journalist, stand-upper and singer born with achondroplasia, which main feature is dwarfism.

There is no specific information about Ola's education. She works in an advertising company as a Senior Account Executive. She is interested in pop culture, especially comedy series; Latin American culture and Spanish language; children's literature and the children's industry.



Ola, due to her height, has repeatedly struggled with misunderstandings and hates from her peers and the rest of society. She tried to be a stunt performer but stopped trying for five years because it was hard for her to overcome the comments. She repeatedly struggled with public hate, which forced her to remove herself from social media for a while.

She decided that if the people can't see her much, let her be heard at least. She returned to stand-up, because she has always been characterized by a sense of humor, steadfastness and being a rebel. She took part in the "Mam Talent" program, where she reached the semi-finals. That's how her career took off. She also started writing for independent magazines and web portals.



Today, she is an activist fighting for the rights of all minorities. She defends women, non-heteronormal people and people with disabilities. As she writes about herself: "A lot of energy in a small package. A monster truck in the skin of a toddler. It drives away with sarcasm and directness. I am not afraid of anything and anyone, although often no one sees me. Living proof that God has a sense of humor."

"Today is a special day. At the same time, children's day and the first day of pride month. I think about all the kids who are afraid to be themselves, who are not accepted, and even harassed for standing out in society, who hide their emotions and feelings in fear of rejection. I would love to shout that they are wonderful the way they are. Who they love and who they feel is not subject to any discussion or evaluation. And I will always support them and celebrate their wonderfulness."






# POLAND


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## MICHAŁ SZPAK

 Michał Szpak was born in Jasło, which is a small town in south east of Poland, very conservative area. His family was interested in music, but not in a professional way.

●●●●● Michał graduated from high school in Jasło. He was rejected from Musical Academy in Warsaw because of his make-up and dressing which were too shocking. 

●●●●● Due to his androgynous appearance and love of bizarre clothes, Michał has always been socially ostracized by the community. In particular, he felt it in high school where he met with hate and aggression. He was rescued from oppression by his older brother, in whom he had a lot of support. An example of people's behavior towards him was a performance in one of the talent shows in Poland. When he came on stage, people started laughing at him, he had long hair, a controversial outfit. However, when he started singing, the reaction of the audience changed. When he finished, he received a standing ovation. 

●●●●● There were two things that supported Michał in his life. The first was family. His mother, who emigrated to Italy for work, bought him clothes that were unavailable in Poland in the 1990s. Dad accepted his actions and the fact that he lived above all music. There he also found a second support. He was a member of a heavy metal band, which was a screen for him, behind which he could realize himself. Work and persistence in realizing himself made him successful. 


●●●●● Now, Michał Szpak is a famous vocalist, a juror of a vocal talent show, gives concerts and records albums. He continues his androgynous styling. 

●●●●● "Whoever does not have the courage to dream will not have the strength to fight." 

# SPAIN


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## ROZALÉN



Rozalén is a Spanish singer and songwriter born in 1986. During her childhood, Rozalén lived in a rural environment and grew up in a close-knit family, which influenced her music and lifestyle. From an early age she showed an interest in the music and popular culture of her region, including instruments such as the hurdy-gurdy and the tamboril. In 2008, she moved to Madrid to study psychology, but eventually decided to focus on her musical career.

As for her training, Rozalén has taken singing and guitar lessons since she was young and has also participated in music and theatre workshops. She has also studied music and psychology at the University of Castilla-La Mancha.



Rozalén has had to overcome several difficulties in her career, such as the lack of discrimination because of her humble origins and because she is a woman. One of the most important themes in Rozalén's music is social inclusion and the defence of human rights, especially for people with disabilities. This is partly due to her own experience of growing up with a disabled brother and her work as a psychologist in an association for people with disabilities.

Rozalén began becoming famous thanks to her performances at venues and music festivals in Madrid and other Spanish cities. In 2012, she released her first album, which was well received by critics and public. Since then, she has released more albums. Rozalén has shown a great commitment to inclusion and accessibility in her music, and one of the ways she does this is through sign language. In several of her video clips and live performances, Rozalén has had the collaboration of sign language interpreters who translate her lyrics and music in real time for deaf and hearing impaired people.







# SPAIN

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## ROZALÉN



Nowadays Rozalén is considered one of the most important artists in Spanish music and her work has been recognised with several awards and nominations. In addition to her musical career, she continues to be very active in the defence of the social causes that motivate her, collaborating with organisations such as Amnesty International and participating in awareness and solidarity initiatives.



**"Music is a universal language that allows us all to express ourselves and connect, regardless our background, gender, sexual orientation or ability. I believe that art and culture have a fundamental role to play in the fight for social integration and respect for diversity, because they allow us to better know and understand the different realities that coexist in our society."**





# SPAIN

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## EL LANGUI

El Langui, whose real name is Juan Manuel Montilla, is a Spanish singer, actor and activist born in 1979. El Langui grew up in the Madrid neighbourhood of Pan Bendito, an area with high levels of social exclusion, which has greatly influenced his artistic work and social activism. Before becoming an artist, he worked in various jobs. In 2001, he formed the rap group La Excepción. La Excepción became known in Spain for their lyrics about life in Madrid's poorest neighbourhoods, and the group became very popular on the Spanish music scene.



Despite having no formal artistic education, El Langui has developed a unique and distinctive style in his music and performance. He has also used his platform to advocate for social justice and the inclusion of people with disabilities, as he suffers from a disease called cerebral palsy.



He has been outspoken about the prejudice and discrimination he has experienced as a person with a disability. He has used his music and work as an activist to challenge these stereotypes and promote inclusion and equal opportunities for all people.



Through his music and social activism, he has used his platform to advocate for social justice and inclusion of people with disabilities, and has challenged prejudice and discrimination in Spanish society. His work has been recognised in both music and performance, and he continues to be an important voice in the fight for equality and social justice in Spain.



In 2010, El Langui starred in the movie "Pa Negro" (Black Bread), which won several Goya awards, including Best New Actor for El Langui. Since then, he has continued to act in several movies and television series in Spain. His work has been recognized in both music and acting, and he continues to be an important voice in the fight for equality and social justice in Spain.



"I have always believed that music is a very powerful tool for social integration. When we do concerts, music brings us all together, no matter where we come from or what our social status is."






# CYPRUS



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## MARIOS TOKAS





Marios Tokas was a Cypriot songwriter, musician and singer. He was born in Cyprus in 1954. He started writing music and songs at a very young age while he was a student.

After finishing high school, Marios had to serve in the national guard of Cyprus. Later, he left Cyprus and moved to Greece where he studied a philosophical school. At the same time, he studied music in the National Conservatory of Athens.



During his time of service (38 months), he fought as a soldier against the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. This period was really difficult for the artist which stigmatized him. He said: "It was a period and experience that left me traumatized. That period was full of bitter facts that lead to a difficult life". That period was also a source of inspiration for him. He dedicated a lot of his work to that period.

Marios was deeply concerned about the political situation in his country. Greeks recognized his talent, his passion and his love for his country and they embraced him. During the time in Greece, he started organizing and carrying out concerts to raise awareness about the Cyprus-Issue, to give strength to his Cypriot citizens and to raise money for Cypriot refugees. Nowadays many Greek's well-known artists recognized his talent and pursued collaborations with him.



Marios died in Athens in 2008. His legacy is still alive. He was well-recognized artists and he released many albums and he also wrote many songs for other artists. The former president of The Republic of Cyprus awarded him with a metal of exceptional service for the country.

"I am not a performer who just sings words and plays the notes. I became a human that serves for my country and the sorrow of my fellow citizens."






# CYPRUS


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## ALKINOOS IOANNIDES




Alkinoos Ioannides was born in 1969. From his young age, he showed an interest in music. He wanted to study drama, but at that time there was no teacher like that in Cyprus. That is why he started learning the guitar.

After finishing his service in the National Guard in 1989, he left Cyprus and moved to Greece to study with a scholarship at the National Theatre of Greece.




Alkinoos was just five years old when the coup d'état happened in Cyprus and the Turkish invasion came. The artist said: "When the coup happened and what followed after, I was 5 years old. Those are my first clear memories. The sequel was even more decisive for the course of my life than the war itself. Because growing up a child in a post-war landscape, on an unprotected, divided and semi-occupied island with half the population displaced. With missing persons, with classmates whose parents we didn't know if they were alive." Those times were difficult for Alkinoos. He knows what it is like to be a refugee. He is half Cypriot and half from Mikra Asia (Anatolia, Asia Minor). Both of those two places have passed difficult times with war and suffering.

Alkinoos worked hard during the period in Greece. He finished his studies at the National Theatre and started participating in national plays at Epidavros. In the meantime, he started writing songs and collaborating with other Greek artists. Soon people started recognizing his talent. He also dedicated a lot of his work to his country's issues to raise awareness of the Cypriot issue and refugees.



Nowadays Alkinoos lives and works in Athens. He is married and has three children. He often travels back to Cyprus for concerts. He is really attached to his country. He is a very successful artist, he released many albums which were awarded.

"Growing up with scotch tape on the windows because a lot of people were injured by the shelling from the broken windows. They sometimes ask me what generation I belong to and I say "the war". Unlike my Greek colleagues, who belong to a generation of peace."





# CZECHIA


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## ANNAMÁRIA D'ALMEIDA




**Annamária d'Almeida is a winner of the singing competition The Voice Czech and Slovak 2019. She lives in the Czech Republic; her mother is Slovak, and her father is Benin.**

**She studied Archbishop's Gymnasium. Already there she attended a choir and orchestra.**



**After she won the competition, she banned herself from reading discussions on the internet. After the competition ended, some people thought that she won thanks to her contacts. The other argument was that the Czech Republic wanted to show, how multicultural nation is. Even though she won thanks to the audiences' votes, there were also people who did not understand how the girl with the dark skin could win.**

**The phrase "black human" Annamária does not take as an insult. She says: "I think it is funny, how people still comment on the appearance and how we all look different. I keep telling myself that we live in 21st century, we can take a photo of the black hole in space, but some things do not change. We are constantly dealing with the race and skin colour. But we are all one species."**



**Currently she has performances on weddings, cultural events, and parties with her band The Brownies. She says: "Because of the fact, that I won the competition, I will not stop doing things that I love. However, I want to develop my author's stuff and my solo career."**

**"To comment the amount of pigment is the same as to comment the colour of someones' eyes."**



# CZECHIA


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## YEMI AKINYEMI DELE




Yemi Akinyemi Dele, known as Yemi A.D., is a Czech choreographer, fine artists, and art director, born in 1981 in the Czech Republic. His mother is Czech, and his father is from Nigeria.

During the period when he started to teach dance, he also started to study dance in LA (in very popular Hollywood MaDonny Grimes dance school). He also finished the Art direction and copywriting at Central European Advertising Art Institute.



Yemi considers himself as a representative of Czech and Nigeria first black man who will go around the moon and a member LGBT+ community, which is difficult combination. In the primary school he had problems with dyslexia, but nobody cared. He had psychological problems because of bad grades, and he was bullied too. He got used to, after 40 years, racist comments, but he is worried because of the children, either black, white or other, who will have to face those situations too.

“My value is in the fact that I am gentle, empathetic and vulnerable. Human beings can grow only from vulnerability. My mission is to force all the children and creative people to find out that it does not matter how much money you have, where have you been born, what is the color of your skin, who is your partner. They need to get to know that they can wish for anything they want in the whole world. And if they work on it, they can reach their dreams.”



In his early age he started to teach dance in Netherlands and Sweden. After he came back to the Czechia in 1999, he established JAD Dance Company, which is still nowadays a group of Czech and foreign dancers and choreographers. He is well-known for his cooperation with Kanye West and a music band Charlie Straight and he was also rewarded by MTV Czech. Currently, he is preparing himself for his dream - he was chosen by Jusakua Maezawa from million applicants to go to space on the board of SpaceX.

# INTER NATIONAL SUCCESS STORIES






# DAVE GAHAN

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Dave Gahan, born in 1962, is a British singer-songwriter and musician, frontman of the music group Depeche Mode, with whom he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (2020). He comes from a working-class family and has three siblings. His father with Malaysian origin left the family early and his mother moved with her children to Essex.




He dropped out of high school and took up odd jobs, including selling non-alcoholic beverages and building construction. He became involved in the punk movement, and in 1977 enrolled at Southend Art College in London, where he studied briefly as a designer and window dresser.

While attending school in Basildon, Dave started skipping school, getting into trouble with the police, and was suspended from school before ending up in juvenile court three times for offences ranging from joyriding and graffiti to criminal damage and theft. In the 90's, Gahan further exacerbated his already heavy drug use, so much so that, after attempting suicide in 1995, he suffered a near-fatal overdose in 1996.

Dave decided to seek treatment, remaining under constant medical supervision for several months and undergoing numerous check-ups to prove that he had finally stopped using drugs to avoid deportation from USA. Depeche Mode went on tour (Tour of the Universe) in 2009, however the band was forced to stop before the 3rd concert in Athens due to Gahan's health.

Following routine checks at the hospital, doctors discovered a much more serious problem that would force Dave to suspend live activity and immediately undergo intensive care. In a press release issued in May 2009 Dave announced that he was suffering from bladder cancer. The operation to remove the tumour was successful.



In March 1980, Martin Gore, Andy Fletcher, and Vince Clarke formed the band Composition of Sound. Clarke and Fletcher soon switched to synthesizers. The same year, Dave joined the band after Clarke heard him performing David Bowie's "Heroes". The band was soon renamed Depeche Mode, a name suggested by Gahan after he had come across a fashion magazine called *Dépêche-mode*. The group became successful in 1981, however it took years and numerous live performances before Gahan, initially timid and awkward on stage, found the style that would mark him out as a charismatic frontman capable of capturing the attention of crowds.



# DAVE GAHAN

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Since 28 May 1996, Dave Gahan, twenty-six years later, is in good health and so is his Depeche Mode, which is about to tour the world with their new album, “Memento Mori”.



“To be honest, music saved me.”



# ANGELA DIMITRIOU

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Angela Dimitriou also known as “The Lady” is a Greek singer, born in 1954 in Athens. She is one of the most recognizable Greek artists of Greek pop (Laiko) music. She is also famous in countries in the Middle East. Moreover, she made a lot of collaborations with Arabian and European artists.



Angela never finished school. The truth is, that she only manages to finish primary school.



Angela’s early life was difficult. Her father was abusive. Also, her lack of education was a reason for many people to make fun of her. The lack of financial resources made her life difficult as well. As a young girl, she had to drop out of school and work in order to provide money for her family. Her first job was in the textile industry. However, working there made her stronger and made her look at life in a different way, she was forced to grow up quickly to survive.



While working at the textile factory, at the age of 14, a talent agent discovered her and opened doors for her to nightlife. Angela was a very hard-working person. Along the way accomplished artists of that period discovered her and collaborated with her. But still, it wasn’t easy.. as her fame grew, tabloids kept pointing out the way that she talked, and the mistakes she was doing. But she never gave up, she kept focusing on her goal until she became who she is today.



Today, Angela Dimitriou is 68 years old. She is still an active singer and still one of the most discussed and successful singers of her time. Her songs are still played on the radio while people are still fascinated by her life. She has become an idol and a role model for marginalized women and people in general. She is an example of the fact that if you try hard and are persistent to your goals, everything is possible!




“No one is perfect. Every one of us has a weak spot. Mine was the fact that due to our serious financial problems, I had to choose between helping my family and surviving instead of educating myself.”





# ANDREA BOCELLI

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Andrea Bocelli was born in Tuscany, Italy. His parents were the owners of small vineyard and had a dream about his son becoming a lawyer. He had congenital glaucoma. Moreover, when he was 12 he had an accident while playing football and he lost his sight absolutely.





After completing his secondary education in 1980, he enrolled at the University of Pisa to study law. To earn money, he began to do concerts in pubs and bars and once decided to quit the university and take singing lessons instead.

Despite the support of his parents, Andrea struggled with his eyesight and had many doubts about his future. However, he always emphasized that it was his love of music that pushed him to develop himself. Starting from learning Braille, through university studies, to gradually building a musical career.



The idea of pursuing a career in law belonged to his parents. But the discovery that a passion should also be a profession, is his own. The lack of sight was not an obstacle when he was doing what he loved the most.

Andrea Bocelli has sold millions of records, gives hundreds of concerts, is a happy, fulfilled husband and father. He has also written two books, one of which, entitled "Music of Silence", is a story about family, the past and his own struggles with himself.



“For me, riding a two-wheeled bike was very risky. Counting down the pedal strokes before turning and learning the sounds coming from buildings, grass, and the climbing frame turned it all into basic survival and made sure I didn't end up at the top of the sandbox.”



# SADE

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

**Sade was born as Helen Folashade Adu in 1959 in Nigeria. Her father was Nigerian lecturer and her mother was a British nurse.**



**She graduated from Central Saint Martins school of fashion.**

**When she was 11, her mother left Nigeria and her father stayed there. Neither in Nigeria, where she had a mom, nor after returning to England, she could find her place. In addition, she grew up at a time when punk was very popular in England, while young Sade loved elegance and chic. She decided to go to a fashion school, but it was music that gave her true happiness.**



**Sade was consistent from the very beginning, even though she didn't know exactly what she wanted. She took a lesson from each experience. As a fashion designer, she sold clothes in Camden, but then she realized that fashion was not what would make her happy, because she did not feel the feeling of businesswomen in her. While during one concert she noticed that music can connect generations and different people. She wanted to do something similar. The beginnings were difficult. She had no musical education and did not sing very well. But she didn't give up and kept practicing.**



**Sade is a world-class star. She recorded 10 albums, has a son who was born as a daughter and went through a transition. Nowadays she lives on a farm and still creates.**



**"I know I didn't sing cleanly, but neither did Elvis."**



# AMY WINEHOUSE

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

**Amy Jade Winehouse was born in 1983 into a Jewish family with a musical tradition in jazz. She grew up in the suburbs of Southgate, London.**



**She enrolled in the Susi Earnsh School of Theatre, where she spent four years. At the age of ten, she founded a rap band called Sweet 'n' Sour. Then, at 13, she attended the Sylvia Young School of Theatre, but was expelled three years later for 'not being applied' and having a nose piercing.**

**Amy received her first guitar at the age of 13 and began composing a year later. Soon after, she began performing in small bars in London and later, she became a part of a small female jazz band.**



**From a young age, Amy struggled with addiction problems and eating disorders. Despite her musical talent, her erratic behaviour and her consumption of drugs and alcohol affected her career and health. In 2007, she was hospitalized for an overdose of drugs and alcohol.**

**Despite her problems, Amy continued working on her music and published her second album in 2006. The album was a commercial success and she won five Grammy Awards in 2008.**



**At the age of 16, her boyfriend, the singer Tyler James, delivered a demo of herself to a producer, and that is the moment when Amy's professional career began.**



**Success was not enough. Amy continued with her addictions and mental health, and in 2011 was found dead in her home in London at the age of 27.**

**Despite her short life and personal struggles, Amy left a lasting legacy in music. Her unique style and powerful voice have inspired many artists and her music is still popular around the world.**



**"Life's short. Anything could happen, and it usually does, so there is no point in sitting around thinking about all the ifs, ands and buts."**





# ED SHEERAN

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

Ed Sheeran was born in England in 1991. His father was a curator at Cartwright Hall in Bradford and his mother worked at Manchester city Art Gallery. He has an older brother who works as a composer. His parents are from London, but his paternal grandparents are Irish.



In 1995, he moved with his family to Famlingham in Suffolk, where he attended preparatory school and after that also high school. He began playing guitar and writing songs when he was very young. At 16, he left school and moved to London to pursue his dream of becoming a musician.

During the first years of his career, Ed was forced to become homeless. He was determined to do anything for glory. Ed played in small bars and cafés, and sold his records independently. He began to be seen by more people over the internet through YouTube and his fan base expanded.



Despite everything, Ed kept a smile on his lips. Success was still miles away, however, he was banging on his door daily with his actions. He knew what he wanted and why he wanted it. After publishing an independent EP in early 2011, he caught the attention of Elton John who connected him with Asylum Records and signed a recording deal. In September 2011, he published his first debut album, which was a huge success. His first single, 'The A Team', became a worldwide hit. He won many awards and nominations thanks to it. Since then, he became one of the most popular artists in the world.

Despite his success, Ed has never stopped working hard to improve. He has collaborated with other musicians and has explored different musical genres and has continued playing in small venues and festivals to go on connected with his fans. In addition, he has used a platform to support charitable causes and to talk about important issues such as mental health and gender equality. Through his talent and hard work, he has managed to become one of the most successful and respected musicians nowadays.



"Music is a powerful tool in galvanizing people around an issue. There's no better way to get your point across, than to put it in a beautiful song."

# CESÁRIA ÉVORA

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

**Cesária Évora was born in 1941 in Cape Verde, Africa. Cesária is a world-fame singer, also known as the “Barefoot-Diva” for performing without shoes.**




 **Cesária, lost her father at a very young age. She lived with her mother for two years but afterwards, she was placed at an orphanage because her mother couldn't raise 6 children on her own. Cesária, due to the difficulties, didn't manage to finish school.**



**Cesária came from a very poor family. Her life was not easy. At the age of 10, when she was in the orphanage, she was introduced to the orphanage choir where she started to sing. At the age of 16, she met other singers who taught her folklore music. In the same year, because she was talented, a sailor persuaded her to start singing in a tavern.**



 **Cesária, never stopped trying to get better. Later she decided to start singing on Portuguese cruise ships and she also started singing on the local radio. Until 1980 she was already famous in Cape Verde. But her international recognition came in 1988 when she was discovered by a Portuguese producer. Her song 'Sodade' became the first song in French charts. It means that it was the first non-French song and the first Portuguese song to reach the top in France. Cesária was also awarded a Grammy in the world music category.**



**Cesária, died in 2011, at the age of 70 from respiratory failure and hypertension. She is still famous and loved and her songs are still heard all over the world. Her songs were about slave trade, her country's isolation, about sadness and sorrow and the population loss due to emigration.**



**"May God always keep us this way. In peace, love and affection."**



# RIHANNA

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

Rihanna, born in 1988, is a Barbadian singer, actress and businesswoman. She co-owns the cosmetics company and has a 30% stake in lingerie line.



As an 11-years-old, Rihanna was an army cadet in a sub-military programme in Barbados. Although then she initially wanted to graduate from high school, she chose to pursue a musical career instead.

First time, when she started to experience the difference - or even had her race be highlighted - it was mostly when she would do business deals. “Everyone is cool with a young black woman singing, dancing, partying, and looking hot, but when it comes to negotiate, to broker a deal, she is suddenly made aware of her blackness.” she said. “That never ends, by the way. It’s still a thing.”



Rihanna goes on to say that being 'packaged' a certain way and being judged on their looks is having a huge effect on the lives of black people. “People are judging us because we’re packaged a certain way - people have been programmed to think a black man in a hoodie means grab your purse a little tighter.”

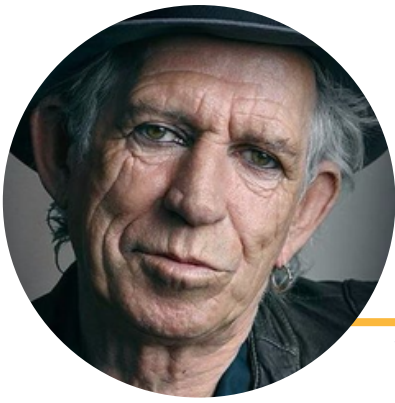


“That’s the thing that makes me want to prove people wrong. I know what they expect, and I can’t wait to show them that I’m here to exceed their expectations.” said Rihanna.

Now she has a child. What needs to be mentioned is, that she organized two Savage x Fenty fashion shows which is combined with exhibition, music concerts and human art installation. She engages wide range of models, from voluptuous to svelte, albino to dark-skinned, young to old, disabled to non-disabled, feminine to androgynous to masculine. That’s why it is said that Rihanna built a space for all by applying this inclusive and intersectional approach.




“You may never be good enough for everybody, but you will always be the best for somebody.”



# KEITH RICHARDS

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

Keith Richards, born in 1943, is an English musician and songwriter who has achieved international fame as the co-founder, guitarist, secondary vocalist, and co-principal songwriter of the Rolling Stones. His songwriting partnership with Mick Jagger is one of the most successful in history. His career spans over six decades, and his guitar playing style has been a trademark of the Rolling Stones throughout the band's career.



Keith studied at the Dartford Technical School and Sidcup Art College. After graduating, Keith befriended Jagger, Bill Wyman, Charlie Watts, and Brian Jones and joined the Rolling Stones. He attended Wentworth Primary School with Mick Jagger and was his neighbour until 1954. By mid-1962 Richards had left Sidcup Art College to devote himself to music, and moved into a London flat with Jagger and Jones.

Keith's notoriety for illicit drug use stems in part from several drug busts during the late 1960s and 1970s and his candour about using heroin and other substances. In 1967 Keith was found guilty for permission of smoking cannabis on his property and sentenced to one year in prison. Both Jagger and Keith were imprisoned at that point. After their release, the appeals court overturned Keith's conviction for lack of evidence, and gave Jagger a conditional discharge.

On 27 February 1977, while Keith was staying in a Toronto hotel, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police found heroin in his room and charged him with an offence that at that time could result in prison sentences of seven years to life under the Narcotic Control Act. For the next two years, Keith lived under threat of criminal sanction.

Throughout this period he remained active in the Rolling Stones. He was tried in October 1978, pleading guilty to possession of heroin. He was given a suspended sentence and put on probation for one year, with orders to continue treatment for heroin addiction and to perform a benefit concert on behalf of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind after a blind fan testified on his behalf.



Keith is one of the greatest guitar players of all times. In 2003, Rolling Stone music magazine ranked him tenth on its list of the best guitarists ever; in the 2011 updated list he jumped to the fourth place.



# KEITH RICHARDS

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Keith's charisma and his legend are universally recognised. On the other hand, it is enough to read his autobiography 'Life' published in Italy three years ago, to understand the exceptional nature of a character who has done so much to promote the love of music. And who, like few, knew how to intervene notes with a refined sense of humour: 'Songwriting? If you want to call it art, OK. But as far as I'm concerned, Art is just short for Arthur'.



 "I was for ten years at number one on the 'List of people close to death'. I mean, I was very sorry when I came off it."





# OPRAH WINFREY

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

Oprah Winfrey was born into poverty in 1954 to an unmarried teenage mother. Oprah is an American talk show host, television producer and actress. She is well-known for her talk show 'The Oprah Winfrey Show'. This show already ran for 25 years.



When she started to live with her father, he made Oprah's education a high priority for her. She began attending Nashville East High School, where she took public speaking and drama courses. Later she received a full scholarship to Tennessee State University after she won a public speaking contest.

From childhood, Oprah felt unwanted. She was shuttled back and forth from her grandmother to her mother, then to her cousin who raped her, what was the reason why she became pregnant at 14 (the baby died shortly after birth). Then she was taken by her father when she was only 14. Oprah had to overcome many challenges and obstacles before achieving the success she enjoys today.



"I am so grateful for my years literally living in poverty." she said. "Because it makes the experience of creating success and building success much more rewarding."

Oprah built her success on her own. She created a monthly magazine 'O, The Oprah Magazine', which has produced a variety of films. She also syndicated television programs, a Broadway musical and was nominated for Best Supporting Actress in a movie 'The Colour Purple'. The CNN has called her the 'World's most powerful woman'. Oprah developed a number of character traits as a result of living through these childhood traumas. "My story just helped define and shape me as does everybody's story." she said.




"Look inward — the loving begins with you."



# LADY GAGA


[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

Lady Gaga, whose real name is Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, was born in 1986 in the United States. As a child, Lady Gaga was raised in an Italian-American Catholic family in New York. From an early age, Lady Gaga showed a keen interest in music and began playing the piano at the age of 4.





At age of 11, she was accepted into the Juilliard School, a prestigious music school in New York, but decided not to attend and instead attended a Catholic girls' school. At the age of 14, she began performing in local nightclubs and at 17, she was accepted into New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she studied musical theatre. In addition to her musical theatre training, she also received training in visual art and fashion design.

Despite her success, Lady Gaga has spoken openly about the difficulties she faced in her youth, including bullying and discrimination based on her appearance and personality. She has also spoken about her battle with depression and anxiety.



However, she has used to these experiences as inspiration for her music and to advocate for inclusion and acceptance in society. In 2012, she founded the Born This Way Foundation to support young people facing social and emotional difficulties.

Lady Gaga is a New York-born American artist known for her pop music and social activism. Despite her social integration difficulties and personal struggles, she has used her music and her platform to advocate for inclusion and acceptance in society.



Lady Gaga's song 'Born This Way' is an anthem for acceptance and equality for all people, regardless their race, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity. The main message of the song is that we are all born in a unique and beautiful way, and that we should celebrate our differences rather than trying to conform to what society considers "normal". The song encourages people to be true to themselves, to accept themselves as they are and to be proud of it. In short, the message of 'Born This Way' is a call for inclusion, equality and acceptance of human diversity.




# FRIDA KAHLO


[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

Frida Kahlo was a renowned Mexican artist born in Mexico City in 1907. Her childhood was marked by illness, as she contracted polio at the age of 6 and had to remain in bed for a long time. She was also involved in a bus accident at the age of 18, which caused her serious injuries and forced her to spend long periods of time in bed again.

It was through painting that she found an outlet and expression for her physical and emotional pain. In 1929, Frida married the famous muralist Diego Rivera, who was an important influence on her life and work.



Although Frida had no formal education in art, she was taught drawing and painting by local artists. Her style is characterised by bright colours and a detailed depiction of her life, emotions and physical pains. Frida became famous in the 1930s thanks to her work. Her artistic style became a symbol of the Mexican art movement.




Despite her artistic success, Frida suffered several failures in her personal life, such as her health problems and her tumultuous relationship with Diego Rivera. In addition, she had difficulties with acceptance by society, as she was seen as an unconventional artist, and also because of her mixed-race background.



Through her work, Frida conveyed her pain and suffering in a very personal way, which made her an iconic figure in Mexican art and a symbol of the feminist struggle and gender equality. Her lessons learned were to use her art as a tool for personal expression and healing.

Today, Frida's work is recognised worldwide and her figure continues to be an important influence in the world of art and popular culture. Her house-museum in Mexico City is a place of pilgrimage for lovers of art and her legacy.



"I used to think I was the strangest person in the world, but then I thought, there is a lot of people like that in the world, there must be someone like me, who feels bizarre and damaged in the same way I feel. I imagine her, and I imagine she must be out there thinking about me too. Well, I hope that if you're out there and you read this you know that, yes, it's true, I'm here, I'm as strange as you are."

# IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS





# ANGELO ADAMO

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

A research technologist at the IASF/INAF in Palermo, a musician and cartoonist-illustrator. He often performs at the concerts and shows based on his publications on astronomical themes. In addition to seven CDs under his own name and numerous participations in works by artists from the pop, jazz, blues, classical and house scene, he has illustrated books by others, published scientific articles and written and illustrated *Pianeti tra le note*.

## Artist's education

A graduate in Astronomy from the University of Bologna, PhD in Physics and Astrophysics from the University of Insubria, obtained a Master's degree in Science Communication at the S.I.S.A. in Trieste. Graduated in Comic Languages at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna, he has previously also collaborated as an illustrator and cartoonist with the computer magazines *Start* and *Mac Win*. In addition to his scientific and graphic studies, he also studied music and piano, composition and arrangement. He graduated with honours in Music for Multimedia Use from the Conservatory of Bologna and in July 2009 won the first prize at the Grand Prix of harmonica players held in Estonia. In addition to collaborating with numerous singers of the pop scene, he plays jazz and classical music.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

"When I was young, it was easy to play in my sector (jazz). Music was everywhere and it was extremely easy to play in many places. It was difficult to stay in the world of music."

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

He moved to Bologna where he had a chance to be a professional musician.

## Present situation – personal integration success

Angelo is an astrophysicist who is active in the field of scientific divulgation using music as a tool for the diffusion of astrophysics.



# ANGELO ADAMO

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



**"Can I be a musician for all my life? Will I get a pension? How do you see yourself in 40 years?"**

## Stakeholders' needs



**"Musicians need to diversify their skills to survive in the music market. Teaching in music schools and being able to be a teacher is nowadays essential to survive. Pandemic times pushed the exigency for musicians to be good teachers or organisers. Musicians should be great self-marketeers and good in public relations."**

## Stakeholders' gaps



**"I lack diplomacy and the skills of focusing only on music. Today musicians travel to teach and do not play. The real problem is not entering the world of music but to stay in this sector. Once upon a time it was sufficient to be a good musicians. Now you must be a good promoter of yourself and a great communicator, a good teacher or available for travelling. The underpayment of artists is a real problem for contemporary musicians."**

## Stakeholders' barriers



**"Once upon a time, being a musician was easy. Nowadays it is more difficult. I moved from the South of Italy to the North. Where I lived, I was considered as a great musician but in the north just one of the many musicians playing around. Till 2000, music was my life, after the accident of Twin Towers the world has changed - the controls and higher prices for travelling destroyed this "travel" segment of the music industry. The internet also changed the market and the video tutorials available created a large number of musicians playing for little money. Professional musicians are penalized by the new ones. They cannot find the right market for their live music. In the past, musicians were used to travel for playing, now they travel for teaching."**



# ANGELO ADAMO

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Stakeholders' strengths

"Having a recording studio, being a teacher or a promoter. Talent and fortune. Focused on music and that's it. Monomaniac. Musicians should be polyhedric, being able to diversify their activities. You also need to be lucky in your carrier."

## Stakeholders' opportunities

Music schools, education are new opportunities for musicians in the 21st century. The internet can be a new horizon for music. Musicians should be active in the search of ever lasting artists to play with.



# ENCARNI NAVARRO

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Encarni considers herself as a girl from the Huelin neighborhood in Málaga, who grew up on the beach. She and her siblings spent their childhood surrounded by nets and sun. That was the place where she used to play, a marine neighborhood. She is the 5th out of 6th siblings. She started in a family business, a fishmonger, and she worked in supermarkets as well. Finally, she realized that singing was what she really wanted. She went with her sister Diana (another Spanish artist), on her 'Don't forget about me' tour as a vocalist and she appeared in her first album. From that moment, she did not get off from the stage.

## Artist's education

She studied secondary education in her neighbourhood.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

Above all, only the little empathy that some people have when they judge someone's physical appearance instead of the art. She protects herself thanks to her sense of humor and then everything flows with the music.

She considers that she has kept concentrated and focused on her goals, despite the difficulties. It's a constant mental constant exercise. People do not always have the tools to be well, but music transforms her and helps her to leave problems aside while she sings on the stage.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

She thinks that in the end you need to have something different from the rest. People sing well, they dance well but...not everyone can make that magical moment that music creates, attract the attention, something that pushes them during the whole show. That is what she usually does and she is very proud of it.

## Present situation – personal integration success

Right now, she is working on a project and she is excited about it. She and her team have been planning it for many years and she thinks it is time to carry it out, but it is still a secret.





# ENCARNI NAVARRO

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



"Love music and forget problems with it."

## Stakeholders' needs



She has had to invest above all, time and money, of course, who did not invest in studies for the future?

Another needs are perseverance, physical exercise and also mental exercise. And regarding the voice, the speech therapist is needed. For her, success is never completed, but she feels satisfied with how everything flows through her life. She considers herself as a 'donor of joy', and that is how she would define her success. That's how she does it.

## Stakeholders' gaps



Knowing that she has to do everything well on stage. It really motivates her.

## Stakeholders' barriers



As she said before, the little empathy that some people have when they judge your physical appearance instead of the art. Even she knows that it is a barrier not in her but in others, she thought it should be mentioned here.

## Stakeholders' strengths



The public and their aplauses.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



For her, opportunities are unpredictable. You set a goal, but you never know when the success will appear. She is satisfied with her career, with the fact of surviving in this difficult world and she is doing what she likes the most - singing and giving joy. You just need to be in the right place at the right moment. If not, just keep trying.



# ANDREAS KAPATAIS



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Andreas was born in Nicosia, Cyprus. He was born in 80s, and he is a musician. He is the lead singer of a very popular band in Cyprus - Minus One. However, before the band started, he has been a member of other successful bands here in Cyprus and in Greece.

## Artist's education

Andreas has always been fascinated by music. He started singing at school when he was 16. That is why, after completing his military training in Cyprus, he decided to leave Cyprus and pursue a music career. He moved to Greece, where he started to sing professionally at the age of 20. Also, he started his music education at Philippos Nakas Conservatorium where he learned to play a piano and guitar, and he was taught about music theory, harmony and acting. But his main instrument was his voice. He loved singing and wanted to be a singer.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

During the studies Andreas met a guy who proposed to him to start working with him in night clubs and music stages. The path he chose was difficult but helped him to be recognizable in the music industry. He collaborated with many famous Greek artists and many international artists as well. His career in Greece was going great but he missed something. He missed his life in Cyprus. That is why he decided to move back. That was not easy for him.

When Andreas moved back to Cyprus everything was different. He had some difficult times fitting back in. He wanted to live in Cyprus and do the things that he loved. But the opportunities in Cyprus in the field of culture are limitless. He needed to start working in different jobs before finding the opportunity to start his music career again. So, while working in different jobs, he started searching for people who were as passionate as he was about music. He formed a new band, Coindrop. With Coindrop he manages to be recognizable again in Cyprus's audience. However the band was successful, it didn't last long but because he was already famous in Cyprus, Minus One claimed him to be part of their band. Now he is the lead singer of Minus One.





# ANDREAS KAPATAIS



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

Andreas truly believes that he is blessed. He has a natural talent that helped him to be successful. Of course, his passion for it and his desire to succeed also helped. He said: "You can't just sit around and wait for things to happen even if you are talented. You always must pursue things and fight for what you want."

## Present situation – personal integration success

Today Andreas is an artist, well known to the Cypriot audience and with good collaborations abroad. He is married and he is a father of two lovely girls. He works full-time as a musician. He plays gigs with Minus One, participates in concerts and collaborates with artists abroad. Also, he composes music and writes lyrics, and he provides vocal lessons.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result

"Music is the best solution to any problem."

## Stakeholders' needs

To always be able to give everything to his family.

## Stakeholders' gaps

Andreas says that personally he doesn't have any gaps that push him back from his goals. But he believes that in Cyprus there are a lot of gaps in the cultural sector - the state should provide more money for the culture to help artists in achieving their dreams. Many Cypriot artists are forced to work in other jobs or leave Cyprus to be able to be full-time artists.

## Stakeholders' barriers

As Andreas said before he doesn't believe that in his present situation there are any barriers that keep him from achieving his goals and dreams.



# ANDREAS KAPATAIS



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Stakeholders' strengths

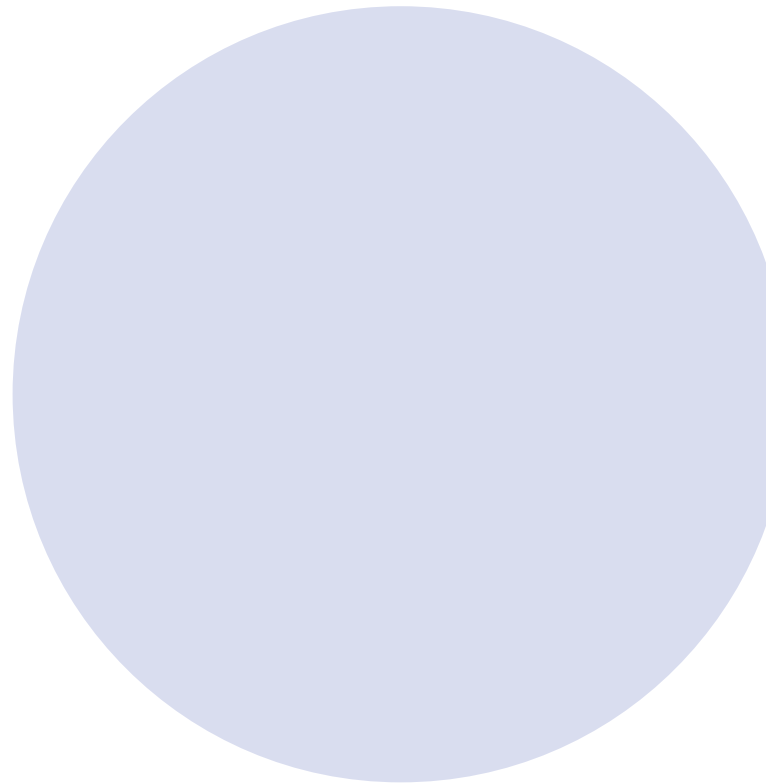


Andreas' natural talent and persuasion are what help him to move forward and achieve his goals. Also love and support from his wife and children are something that gives him the motivation to keep it going.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



Andreas is always ready for new opportunities and collaborations. He always tries to develop new skills and make new collaborations. He said that the Covid period, even it was a difficult helped him to develop new skills. He became more digitally literate and found out more ways how to promote his work. Therefore, during that period, he managed to collaborate with artists from Italy and Australia. He truly believes that in every obstacle that someone finds, he or she can find an opportunity.





# AFU-RA

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Originally born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He says: "I'm so proud to be a New Yorker, however because of the path of my music courses, career, and accolades, I was forced to move away. I'm happy to say that I've had the opportunity to live in several countries such as France, Spain, Germany, Switzerland and now I live in the Czech Republic."

## Artist's education

Throughout the many different experiences connected with him and his family, the AFU-RA's knowledge of life goes deep in areas of health and fitness spirituality and of course song writing ability, team leadership and working with others. Officially through his academic performance in schools in New York City he has a high school diploma which he obtained in 1991 (12 years of High school).

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

"I wouldn't say that I've had many difficulties integrating to live in Europe. Now as a permanent resident in the Czech Republic as well as from the prior countries that I've lived in, I've always found comfort and a seamless way to assimilate into different cultures. The only thing I can mention here in the Czech Republic is that even though my knowledge of the Czech language was improved, it is still difficult for me to speak fluently and to understand. That is still a goal I wish to achieve and have in front of me."

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

"Due to my spiritual connection with the most of all things in the universe, I've always had that innate ability to adapt and realize that my presence and my existence is a guided and blessed one. This may be one of the pillars I always have to resist on in my life. When present situation seems to be other than easy from the outside, my reality is different. I am blessed by supreme intelligence of all existence. At the same time, I'm a cosmic individual with the stars and according to my horoscope I am an Aquarius as well as Chinese zodiac sign a tiger. Those two qualities rarely find difficulty in life."



# AFU-RA

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Present situation – personal integration success

Currently he is a teacher of English with over 150 students. He is working in partnership with a high school as well as two private language schools. At the same time, he manages a music career where he still finds time to record new songs (you can find his playlist on Spotify and other digital music outlets like Apple music). Last, but not least, he is also a head of a beautiful family with wife and two sons.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result

"Slow down, don't rush, I'm here to keep the peace but I'm prepared to bust."

## Stakeholders' needs

Food, clothing, shelter, and a good woman by his side.

## Stakeholders' gaps

AFU-RA would like to continue to assert himself in the music industry for as long as he possibly can. He wants to spread his music to the United Kingdom or Australia, Canada as well as the African continent. Asia has always been a market where it has been difficult for him to find the right business associates for his music career. The live show performances are something that he would like to establish in order to make his career more plentiful in a global sense.

## Stakeholders' barriers

He does not feel that there are any obstacles keeping him away from achieving things that he would like to achieve or need. Maybe his only barrier is associated with laziness. He is almost completely consumed by his own life. The only obstacle in his life is himself and his disability to find a time for doing more activities for personal improvement and future achievements.



# AFU-RA

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## Stakeholders' strengths

AFU-RA's ability to see things how they are and the fact that he is a blessed person and a part of the all powerful and all knowing and omniscient reality of the universe that created all things. It gives him a supreme edge as well as has already given him and will give him in the future. It's only a matter of time before those achievements, that he wishes to have, will come true, he says. The main point of this is to happily live the rest of his days just teaching English and performing music of the eight recorded albums that he has in his artist's catalogue and continue in building his relationship with family.

## Stakeholders' opportunities

The main opportunities he sees is his music career, as he described before. He wants to spread his music to new markets such as Canada, Australia, and Asia. He says that he knows that it is quite challenging vision, so he is quite open and will see what happen in the future.



# KAMIL KACZMAREK



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## Artist's background and origin

He was born in a town Zdunska Wola, raised in construction site of the blocks of flats, very characteristic for the communism in Poland. His perspectives were to be raised and educated (or prepared) for working in one of the textile factories in his hometown, like most of boys at his age. He was escaping from this depressing landscape into the forest, books and music.

## Artist's education

He does not have the formal musical education; he was a diligent good student in grammar and high school. Then he graduated from journalism and pedagogy.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

As a very sensitive person he was regarded as very much different from his school time. Having long hair and in love with music he was perceived rather weird. He was bullied because of being out of a mainstream. When he was 23, his mother died. This was the reason for the mental breakdown. He was fired from his job because he neglected his duties. All he had left was his music.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

While at school music was a form of escape from a hostile environment and an unwelcoming future, at the worst of times, he claims, music literally saved his life. Thanks to it he was able to get out of depression and start all over again. Music was his passion, which he pursues to this day, although it is only a part of his activity.

## Present situation – personal integration success

He says: "Now, I just am. And this is the most important." Today playing the guitar apart from his passion is his job. He works at school and at a community center. He's got a band, named Planets. Their music is played on nationwide radio stations.







# KAMIL KACZMAREK



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## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



He quotes the words of Prince, who as a little boy, watching a group at a concert, said: "Damn, I want this way too."

## Stakeholders' needs



To have a goal that is clear but can be flexible. To have an ability to seek for answers to the questions.

## Stakeholders' gaps



The lack of consistency in action can lead to a halt in development.

## Stakeholders' barriers



Artists sometimes think that they must be outside the mainstream. But sometimes their way of life can be along with the rest of the society.

## Stakeholders' strengths



Being a part of community. Also being a mainstream is sometimes nothing wrong. It is important to have an ability to leave when the path leads somewhere else. And also his ability is to laugh to himself.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



Skip it and be yourself but try not to become a bone in someone's throat. Everyone has their own way, sometimes they cross and sometimes they go parallel.





# KEVIN BORGES

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Kevin was born in 1991 in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. He is a great lover of music from an early age, his grandfather was his inspiration and motivated him to devote himself to music. He has always loved Carnival. This annual event inspired him to delve into the world of "murgas" which is a musical-theatrical genre typical of Carnivals that uses the lyrics of songs to make social claims. He participates in a Canarian "murga" which over the years has made several criticisms of the political situation above all. He currently combines his work with his dedication to music. He is a part of the group known as "A la Múa". A music group that sings live at establishments and social events at a professional level.

## Artist's education

He has not been trained through formal education. His learning has been based on his dedication and interest in music through Canarian music, popular music and his relationships with other musicians.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

The world of music is a highly sought-after and competitive world. This makes it difficult to enter it. Moreover, the view of the different actors who make up the art world is not always inclusive, rather there is a tendency to undervalue people and it even seems like a stroke of luck to succeed. But nothing could be further from the truth - it is essential to keep fighting and trying again and again. This has made Kevin learn that each person is unique, and that in order to face these difficulties you have to believe in yourself, trust in your abilities and talent and do not give up.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

His conviction that one day he made it and found himself where he is right now helped him a lot. Also perseverance, not giving up despite receiving rejections. And last but not least - keep trying and looking for new opportunities.



# KEVIN BORGES

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## Present situation – personal integration success

Currently he is doing great - both on a personal and professional level and feels that he is reaping the rewards of a lot of hard work. He has been able to overcome the difficulties he has experienced and feels satisfied with his personal, social and professional development. He feels that he has found his place and has achieved success. He understands success by dedicating himself to what he is passionate about, which is art, but always with humility and with the desire to continue learning and improving.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result

Although there are no artist quotes that he remembers at this moment, he does express admiration for Manuel Carrasco, a Spanish singer who has a great sensitivity for social causes and is involved in numerous acts and charity projects.

## Stakeholders' needs

Regardless the difficulties or barriers that a person encounter, the fundamental thing is first to believe in oneself, to be clear about the goals. In addition, it is essential to have a support network to stay motivated even there seems to be no way to reach the goals or even in the periods when you always encounter rejections. Kevin thinks that music can help people to connect with their culture or community and provide a sense of belonging.

## Stakeholders' gaps

The main shortcoming is a lack of sensitivity, empathy and emotional intelligence. Kevin argues that currently there is a very closed view on diversity and this creates more difficulties. The problem is not what is different or new, but in the judgmental gaze of the beholder, who is very demanding and not very tolerant.



# KEVIN BORGES

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## Stakeholders' barriers

The biggest barrier to overcome are prejudices. It seems as if society imposes how we have to be, look and feel. Art is about making people feel in all its forms and sometimes such a rigid view forces artists to comply with a socially accepted and commercial image and art. The other barrier is ourselves. We must be convinced that we are worthwhile and capable of achieving our goals. Being in a moment of emotional stability, with high self-esteem is fundamental, otherwise we can become our own main barrier.

## Stakeholders' strengths

Our greatest strengths are the things that make us different. Turning what appear to others to be weaknesses into strengths will bring us closer to success. Other strength is in creating our own identity. When we are clear about who we are and who we want to be as people and artists, that is what I already consider as a success.

## Stakeholders' opportunities

To achieve our goals we have to be humble, sincere, respectful of ourselves and others, and we have to be willing to always improve and learn. This is not only for art but for all areas of our lives. Art gives people the opportunity to be recognized not for their condition, but for their talent.



# PATRYK

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Patryk was born in Łomża, a town with high rate of unemployment and poverty. He was raised, as a lot of Polish kids, in a district of blocks of flats, having little opportunities for developing. He was trying a lot of things: from sport, through emigration. He just had troubles with finding his own way.

## Artist's education

Degree in educational science and social rehabilitation.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

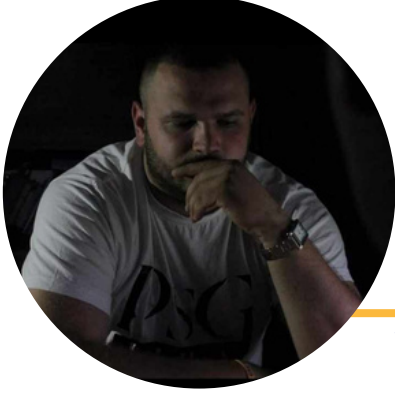
Patryk was a typical boy from the "blokowisko" (block of flats). He tried many things to avoid the hopelessness that many of his peers felt. The result was very different, including homelessness. As he says about himself: "I only managed to avoid prison." Curious about the world, he didn't have much chance to realize himself. It was hard for him to find an idea for himself and for his life.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

Hip-hop turned out to be a salvation. He also began to write texts that allowed him to make his plans more concrete and, above all, to find any way in life. Describing his fate, he began to consider what he could change and improve in his life. Though sometimes temptations were stronger than reason, writing was a form of examination of conscience. However, he emphasizes that hip-hop entails many dangers. It can be aggressive and rebellious.

## Present situation – personal integration success

He is an ordinary man with a hobby which is still music. He has a son and partner. Now he focuses more on family life. This is his priority, although the family has always been in the first place, now with his own offspring he got to know more exactly what it is.



# PATRYK

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## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



He was always on his own, so does not have any quote that may be a guide.

## Stakeholders' needs



To find an own way of life.

## Stakeholders' gaps



Ideology of hip-hop can be dangerous especially when it will not be a way for development but just a way of rebellion.

## Stakeholders' barriers



Lack of motivation to continue in the case of failure.

## Stakeholders' strengths



Turn failure into success and learn from mistakes.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



Open up wider to the world. Be more tolerant. Find something that is so important that without it you feel empty and strive to make it not disappear.



# MIRIAM PALMA

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## Artist's background and origin

Miriam lives in Palermo. In 1993, with musicians G. Gebbia and V. Villa, she formed the trio TERRA ARSA. Since 1997, she has been collaborating with classical pianist Alexander Lonquich on musical and workshop projects, and has presented fragments of the vocal research and experimentation work she carries out in different forms on many occasions. In recent years, she has directed workshops in hospitals aimed at so-called at-risk subjects.

## Artist's education

She graduated in Philosophy of Politics and dedicated herself to vocal research from a very young age, studying different singing techniques. She trained as an actress by participating for several years in theater workshops. Taking into account the therapeutic power of the voice, she began a path between "medicine and art," deepening her knowledge in bioenergetics and postural integration, putting into practice her own technique that combines postural integration, singing and theater. In 1992 she participated in and animated a theatrical research project at the Teatro Nuovo in Naples together with Vincenza Modica that led to the presentation of a show."

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

"Difficulties are important to forget your character and being a strong artist. Difficulties help you being a good artist. Since I was born, I had difficulties to be an artist because of my family. My father had no interest in me being an artist. My family accepted me being an artist when I was able to make a living through music and theatre. Palermo and Sicily are not very welcoming for artists. I had to migrate to other cities to become a well-known artist."

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

I moved to Bologna and Naples where I had the chance to be a professional musician.



# MIRIAM PALMA

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## Present situation – personal integration success



Miriam Palma is a renowned artist, famous for her voice, touring Italy and beyond with her voice and improvisation skills. She is a well-established vocal coach and singing teacher. She is active in the music and theatre field.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



“God is missing, performing arts fill the gap and will never die.”

## Stakeholders’ needs



Artists must be selfish and think about the future. Musicians should go back to the beginnings. To simplify, to the primal steps. A jump back to the origins. Like in literature, old classics are still important. Great innovators in theatre used poetry and musicality in words. So, innovators use old style to innovate... Like in the Greek tragedy where musicality was the basis. Simplicity is the key, is genial.

## Stakeholders’ gaps



Artists live in a precious state. From fragility the artist can find his/her strengths. Palermo is not an easy place.

## Stakeholders’ barriers



In our city artists are alone, not being able to gather and make a team. Palermo artists are isolated.





# MIRIAM PALMA

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## Stakeholders' strengths



**Stubbornness is my strength. Never give up is fundamental. Focus is another important skill. Persistence and self-belief is also crucial. I have to invent any day something new to keep it going. On one hand, it is hard, on the other it makes you a better artist.**

## Stakeholders' opportunities



**“I see many musicians teaching in schools. Many artists are employed... I founded a singing school twenty-seven years ago without any public funding and I only rely on my students. After the pandemic, performing arts are still strong. Religious rites are the examples of this aspect. Crisis is always positive because real artists emerged from the pandemic. So, it was an opportunity to foster resilience. Pandemic highlighted the fake artists who chose their safe jobs. Arts always come from inner sufferance expressing the pain of the artists.”**



# KILIAN VIERA

[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Kilian was born in 1992 and currently he lives in the south of the island, in Arguineguín. His father was also dedicated to the world of music and his grandmother was a singer. Previously he worked in a bar. There he had the opportunity to start playing live, as they needed a musician to play the guitar. After that day he started to have a few hours to play. He has been a professional musician for 5 years. At first he started playing in bars but after the pandemic he began to grow professionally. Nowadays he is working to keep growing professionally, besides doing covers he is starting to write his own songs.

## Artist's education

Although he never had any musical training through the formal education, he always had a great interest in learning to play the guitar. His father had a great influence when it came to learning to play the guitar, however, most of his musical learning comes through watching YouTube videos. As of today he is taking guitar lessons to improve his technique.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

The music industry is a challenging and competitive field, which can pose significant obstacles to entry. Additionally, there is a prevalent lack of inclusivity among the various stakeholders in the art world, often leading to undervaluation of individuals. Success may even seem like a matter of chance, but the reality is that persistence and perseverance are crucial. Through these struggles, one can learn the importance of embracing the individuality and having faith in skills and talents, refusing to surrender to the challenges.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

"To overcome the obstacles along the way, it is essential to surround yourself with people who appreciate you and support you during the process, especially in difficult moments. With a lot of patience I have been creating a network not only of family and friends, but also of good professionals who have believed in my talent. Sensitivity has been a strong point in my process that has allowed me to connect better with people."



# KILIAN VIERA

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## Present situation – personal integration success

According to Kilian, he is currently experiencing a positive and rewarding phase in his personal and professional life. He considers himself successful since he pursues his passions, enjoys the support of people around him, and takes pride in his accomplishments. His skill in empathising with people and expressing himself through art is a significant source of gratification.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result

Although right now there are no quotes of a famous person that he remembers, he claims to feel admiration for Alejandro Sanz, a world famous Spanish artist who at the beginning struggled to gain recognition in the music industry, as he did not fit the commercial moulds of the moment. He has also participated in several charities, which aim to help people in vulnerable situations, promote education and culture, and encourage scientific research.

## Stakeholders' needs

On one hand, the needs that anyone who wants to work in the musical industry has is to learn how to develop artistic skills. On the other hand, we need to be given opportunities that allow us to show who we are and what we want to transmit in public. Also, emotional and psychological support is very important to help us manage emotional challenges. This allows us to stay motivated and focused on our goals.

## Stakeholders' gaps

Some people may lack social skills. Through music, people can develop social skills such as collaboration, communication and self-confidence, which can help them interact more effectively with others. Especially if not previously employed, there may be a lack of job skills. Music can also provide useful skills for the job market, such as creativity, innovation and the ability to collaborate.



# KILIAN VIERA

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## Stakeholders' barriers

Entering and remaining in the music world can be hindered by the lack of a strong support network that includes family, friends, mentors and community members. In addition, individuals may face prejudice and stereotypes related to their social background, age, gender, race, or any other characteristic that makes them different. Also discrimination in the music industry can be a problem, whether because of their social background, disability or other characteristics. It can also be difficult for them to find performance opportunities, exposure and work in the music world, which can limit their ability to improve their careers.

## Stakeholders' strengths

Each person has a unique perspective on the world that can manifest itself in an original form of musical expression. Those who are interested in the art often have a deeper sensitivity to music and its various forms of expression. Music has the ability to connect us to our deepest emotions, which can be especially true for those who have disabilities and have experienced intense emotions. People who have faced difficulties in life have often had to adapt to different situations, which can make them especially adept at improvisation and teamwork in the musical context.

## Stakeholders' opportunities

In the community, there are workshops and activities that promote music and provide opportunities for individuals to interact with other musicians and establish meaningful social connections. In music industry support networks and mentors can be found to provide guidance in developing a music career. Participating in artistic activities can generate a sense of community and connection with other artists. This can have a positive impact on people's emotional and mental well-being. Art can be a powerful tool for empowerment and self-expression, allowing them to share their stories and experiences through their art.



# MARÍA LEIVA

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## Artist's background and origin

María is a 25-year-old piccolo and flautist currently living in Antwerp, Belgium, where she is in her second year of Master's in Piccolo Performance. Since she was a child, music caught her attention. Although her parents are not professional musicians, she has memories of singing with them at home, in the car... And watching her father playing the guitar. She has a younger brother and spent her childhood in a Malaga's typical neighborhood.

## Artist's education

She began studying piano at the age of 8, but in the fourth year, she learned about the transverse flute thanks to a schoolmate and became interested in it. Then her parents made the effort to buy her a flute. Music education consists of fourteen courses. She studied the first course of Translation and Interpretation at university and she prepared herself for the entrance exams to the Higher Conservatory and she achieved her goal. Finally, she decided to leave university and dedicate her life to music. During her musical career she has taken a lot of masterclasses, courses, has attended conventions and has participated in concerts in collaboration with composers. She did the Master of Music Research at the International University of Valencia and did the entrance exams for the Piccolo Master at the Royal Conservatory of Antwerp.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

Musicians who want to dedicate themselves to play in an orchestra have to deal with many "NO's". Sometimes it is difficult to be prepared for an audition. She remembers that in her first year of Master in Belgium she became a semi-finalist for the biggest International Piccolo competition that took place in Chicago. She invested many hours and a lot of money in it. When she arrived there, she really enjoyed the performance, but she did not make it to the final. She was really sad, but she continued working and trying to get better. Despite the difficulties, she has kept motivated thanks to both people and situations in her life. Luckily, she has been always surrounded by great professionals who have inspired her to continue and improve every day. Also, thanks to them, she has achieved lots of things.



# MARÍA LEIVA

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## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

She does not know if there is a concrete way to success but she believes there are certain attitudes that must be part of your life to achieve your goals. You must be constant, never give up and keep working because there are always things to improve. She has worked at her own pace but without pause. Another important aspect is not to neglect your personal life. It is true that you have to be a perfectionist, you have to be a hard worker and be focused on those things that you want to achieve, but after that, you also need to look for other spaces to cultivate other tastes or hobbies and interact with people. You need to develop social skills and a calm character to be able to deal with all kind of people: orchestra directors, composers, colleagues, owners or workers of concert halls, etc.

## Present situation – personal integration success

During last days she workend on an interesting project called 'Beyond Tradition', together with Portuguese composer and tenor Bernardo Beirao. Together they have created a fusion concert of contemporary music, flamenco and fado. With it, they want to bring contemporary music closer to the public through the emotions and feelings that these two traditional kinds of music provoke them. The premiere of the project was on April 26th and it was really successful and emotional.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result

She does not remember any famous quote and neither she has said any until now, but she says: "Step by step." It defines very well how her musical career has developed.

## Stakeholders' needs

"Never give up and keep working because there are always things to improve and new challenges. You need to dedicate many hours to music and you cannot spend so much time with your family. Music students do not rest during the weekends. It is also a muscular work. For this reason, they have to teach their brain and the rest of muscles of the hands and mouth." For Mária, the greatest sacrifice is being away from her family. There is also a big economic sacrifice because musical instruments are expensive. In addition, all the courses and extra training also requires a significant investment.



# MARÍA LEIVA

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## Stakeholders' gaps



Her weaknesses is that she is distracted to many things besides what she is doing - dancing, singing, learning languages, sports, and therefore there are times when she finds difficult to concentrate because she wants to do many things at the same time. On the other hand, she is still a bit insecure, but it is something she is working on and an aspect in which she is gaining more and more confidence.

## Stakeholders' barriers



She believes that all professionals have to overcome obstacles. In her case, one of the obstacles was an accident she had. She was going to examine herself for the higher education tests. This accident caused a fracture of a lumbar vertebra. She was hospitalized for two weeks and had an operation of the back. It took a few months to recover and that part of the body is necessary for flautists to breath. Those were difficult moments for her.

## Stakeholders' strengths



She thinks that one of her strengths would be perseverance. She is a hard-working person who does not give up and who always improve. She thinks these characteristics kept her motivated and eager to continue experimenting with music.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



She believes that all the experiences she is having in her life help her to grow professionally. A musician is a person who expresses through instrument. Meeting orchestra musicians, teachers and different professionals in the field of music is very important and you can learn a lot from them. Sometimes you learn things you did not know how to do.





# DARREN JOHN WILSON



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin



British citizen, from Oxford, England. Darren is English tutor and writer.

## Artist's education



He obtained the degree in Law.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned



Only the language. Czech is challenging, but Darren is trying to do his best in learning the language.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration



He says that he respects Czech customs and traditions, and he also likes the Czech people.

## Present situation – personal integration success



Currently, he can say that he has fitted in well overall.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



"Writing is an alternative to life." Franz Kafka

## Stakeholders' needs



"The only things I need to live satisfactory life are stable employment and a pleasant environment in which I can write. Both Brno, Czech Republic offers quite well."







# DARREN JOHN WILSON



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## Stakeholders' gaps



The only gap he can see is to work full-time. He has to work in order to have enough money to live in the Czech Republic, and that leads to smaller amount of time in which he can write.

## Stakeholders' barriers



Again, here, he mentioned only the lack of time for his hobbies which consists of writing.

## Stakeholders' strengths



"I can easily name my strengths. Those are: discipline, application, determination, meticulousness, vision."

## Stakeholders' opportunities



"The main opportunity which I can see is the use of stimulus of the environment (the city of Brno) to gain ideas for writing."





# SAVVAS PAPADOPOULOS



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Savvas was born in Cyprus. From a young age he was interested in art, and he started to play the guitar and drawing. Now he is a game designer, illustrator/ animator.

## Artist's education

Savvas, after finishing high school, enters the national guard of Cyprus in the artillery. After completing his service (2 years), he moved to England to study. He studied at Birmingham City University, Visual Communication and illustration.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

He lived in England for 4 years. First there was a language barrier that lead to problems in communication, and then it was a new environment and new scenery. However, then everything became easier. He improved his language skills and felt comfortable in the new country. When he completed his studies, he returned to Cyprus, which was a very difficult moment. In England there were many opportunities but in Cyprus there were none. It took him 4 years to find a job in his field. In the meantime, he worked in cafes and restaurants, but he was trying to promote his work on his own. Nevertheless, these 4 years helped him to be more concentrated on his art and developed it.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

Savvas managed to finish his studies because he achieved learning the English language. Also when he returned to Cyprus his determination helped him to find a job in his field. He never gave up in doing what he was passionate about.

## Present situation – personal integration success

Savvas worked for many years in a game designing company but he was not happy. He decided to quit his job and work on his own. At this moment Savvas is unemployed but he is trying to find illustrating job as a freelancer. At the same time he is trying to build a digital platform with visual concept, with a perspective to launch it internationally. He is trying to find sponsors to be able to complete his vision.



# SAVVAS PAPADOPOULOS



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## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



"Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication." Steve Jobs

## Stakeholders' needs



At this moment Savvas is not in a very good financial position. So earning money is one of his main needs and to find sponsors so he can complete his platform.

## Stakeholders' gaps



Savvas does not believe that he has any professional gaps. But he would be glad to have some advice or help in a sense of how to find sponsors and be able to promote his work.

## Stakeholders' barriers



He believes the fact that Cyprus has a small market in anything related with art. People are not willing to invest in art.

## Stakeholders' strengths



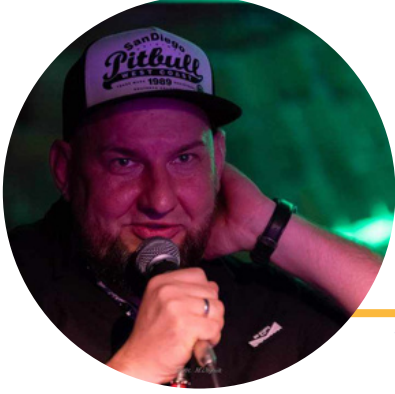
Savvas believes that his talent and determination are his strength. Also, he is a deeply spiritual person, he believes in God, he believes that God is with him in every step on the way and that he will help him and guide him to find his way!

## Stakeholders' opportunities



Sometimes he thinks that he could give more chances in game designing jobs, and attend to jobs interviews. Maybe he could use the money that he earns to complete his work. However, if he will, then he will not have enough time to concentrate on his personal development. That is why at the moment he thinks which ways would be possible.





# PIOTR GORZELAK



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Piotr comes from Bełchatów and has been living in Łódź for nearly fifteen years. He has been singing or writing texts (poems or song lyrics) since the age of fifteen. He was always a part of the bands, broadly understood - rock and roll. Music is his passion. He listens to a lot of music, discovers, looks for new inspirations. He loves acting, he loves the stage.

## Artist's education

Degree in social rehabilitation.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

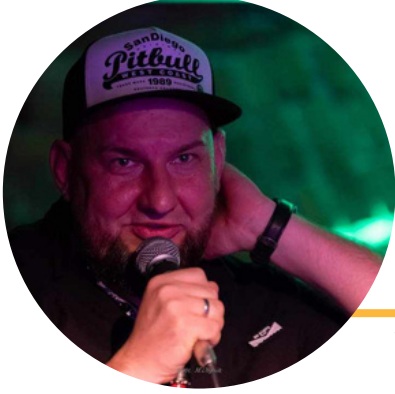
Piotr did not have any big problems at school, just like average student, however, he experienced all failures strongly. Rather, his troubles he experienced later in his life, when he lost his child to a miscarriage and then he got divorced. In every trouble music helped him but also every trouble helped music, because life's problems were inspiring for Piotr.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

Piotr is not the rock and roll type, he tries to keep his feet on the ground. He has always treated music as his passion, but also as a way how to get out of problems. He emphasizes that the role of music in difficult times was to turn depression into creativity.

## Present situation – personal integration success

Music is Piotr's passion, but not a source of income. He is a branch director in one of the largest roofing companies in Poland. He is husband and father. Thrudy - his band - is in the process of recording second album. Sometimes he takes part in recordings of other bands. He thinks about a solo project in a completely different style than before.



# PIOTR GORZELAK



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



Piotr said something that can be quoted: "We are all children of the same Heaven."

## Stakeholders' needs



Searching for passions and interests.

## Stakeholders' gaps



Closing for diversity.

## Stakeholders' barriers



They are in individuals. We all can do what we want to do.

## Stakeholders' strengths



Being open, curious of the world, discovering.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



Loving people, animals and nature. Reading prose and poetry and listening to the music.





# NURIA FERGÓ

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## Artist's background and origin

Nuria was born in Málaga in 1979. She was interested in singing from a young age and began participating in local music competitions as a teenager.

## Artist's education

She finished high school, but she decided to become a singer. So, she did not go on studying in order to pursue her dream.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

Nuria has adapted to the circumstances to continue working. In Spain there was not enough work and there were hardly any concerts. She currently has several formats: piano and voice, with orchestra and more... She has never lost hope and always been thinking about doing new things.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

In 1995, Nuria won the TV contest 'Karaoke' and decided to dedicate herself to be an artist. She took part in contests such as the Festival on Andalusia's public television. She also took part in television series. She became famous in the early 2000s as a contestant on the popular TV show 'Operación Triunfo', where contestants compete for a recording contract.

Although she ultimately finished at the second place behind David Bisbal, Nuria's career was launched. Her debut album was released in 2002 and quickly became a commercial success, earning a Gold certification in Spain.

Since then, Nuria has released more albums and singles and has appeared on various TV shows. She thinks she has an endearing personality and a recognizable voice which helps her to connect with the public.

## Present situation – personal integration success

She has two projects: the homage musical to Sara Montiel in a Madrid theatre, called 'My last night with Sara' and the promotion of the album 'With permission' in Mexico.



# NURIA FERGO

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## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



"If you are a singer, becoming an actress is difficult, because they see you as an intruder."

## Stakeholders' needs



She has had to make sacrifices like travelling a lot. She has felt alone, she has not eaten well, she has not slept well... She has had to invest a lot of time and money. She has taken voice classes and has needed coaches, psychologists to help her with difficult situations that have arisen in life and she has also invested a lot of money in her latest album 'Con permiso'.

## Stakeholders' gaps



Some insecurities solved thanks to the professionals who have helped her.

## Stakeholders' barriers



Fortunately, she did not have many barriers during her career. She has been lucky as she has not stopped working despite difficult situations. Perhaps, she has not received the support she expected from the record companies.

## Stakeholders' strengths



The hope. Despite facing numerous challenges along the way, she has never lost it and always thinks that good and new things are coming. Also perseverance, passion, and hard work.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



It is important to meet people from this world (producers, actors, ...), because it enriches you, it gives you new and good things and help you to get more job opportunities.



# PETRA AGATHOKLEOUS



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## Artist's background and origin

Petra was born in Cyprus, to a Cypriot father and a Bulgarian mother. She is a painter and graphic designer. She grew up in a mixed cultural environment. That is why she is influenced by both of her nationalities.

## Artist's education

When Petra finished school she moved to Sofia, Bulgaria to study Political Sciences. However, she decided that political sciences were not her call and her true passion was painting. Therefore, she changed her major and studied at the National Academy of Art Painting and Theory and Practice of art education. After completing her bachelor's degree, she decided to continue with a master's degree in Painting. During her studies, she participated in an art competition which she won. The award was an art residency at the Cite Internationale des Arts, in Paris for two months. Her experience there taught her many new things. It was a great opportunity for her to admire the wonderful art in Paris.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

Petra didn't face any difficulties in integrating in Bulgaria. However, when Petra finished her studies, she wanted to stay in Bulgaria and work as a painter but she couldn't due to the economic situation of the country. Then she returned back to Cyprus but the situation there was almost the same because Cyprus was going through a financial crisis. Except for this factor, in Cyprus, there are not many opportunities for artists at all. That is why she was unemployed for a long time. In 2018 she decided to move to Greece and pursue her dream there. In fact there are more opportunities for artists but still, the financial situation of the country is a lot worse than in Cyprus.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

Petra took her chance when she moved to Greece. She knew that it was a risk. But she managed to find a way. In the beginning, she worked in an art gallery through a European Program. During this period she met many artists. When the program finished, one of the artists offered her to work in her design studio. There she learned how to use Photoshop and illustration programs. Nevertheless, she was led to go during Covid because her boss couldn't afford to pay her.







# PETRA AGATHOKLEOUS



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## Present situation – personal integration success



Now Petra works at a publishing house where she does everything. She works as a secretary, as a sales person, as an illustrator, social media etc. Unfortunately, Petra is not happy in her job. That is why she will make next step to quit her job and become a freelancer. Since she developed new skills at her previous job, she will provide services as an illustrator and at the same time she will focus on what she really loves - painting. Her goal is to make her own personal painting collection.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result



“Action is the fundamental key to all success.” Pablo Picasso

## Stakeholders’ needs



She needs a stable job that pays well so she can pay her rent and live life. But ideally, she would love that her personal job would provide enough for her.

## Stakeholders’ gaps



She believes that she must grow her network so that she can be more well-known in the artistic cycles because unfortunately, you need to network so that people start paying attention to your art. In terms of her artistic performance, she does not believe that she has any gaps. However, while you work on your talent, you keep being better and better.

## Stakeholders’ barriers



The financial situation. If you want to create and promote your work you need to have a budget for it.

## Stakeholders’ strengths



Petra is very talented, with a big imagination and she is determined to achieve her goals.





# PETRA AGATHOKLEOUS



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## Stakeholders' opportunities



**Petra is always open to grab new opportunities that may appear. For instance, her employer now, when she told him that she will resign, asked her to continue to work for him as a freelancer designer and illustrator. She will take this opportunity and pursue it this way for more customers. Being freelancer will give her time to spend more hours in her studio and paint.**





# NÉSTOR FELIPE LEÓN



[www.includeart.eu](http://www.includeart.eu)

## Artist's background and origin

Néstor was born in 1997 in the south of the island of Gran Canaria. For many years he was involved in sport, particularly football. On the other hand, his father was involved in music, specifically folklore, and was the founder of a music group. This is why Néstor had a great awareness of music from young age. He currently runs his own meat company, which he combines with his professional dedication to music. He is a part of a music group called "Grupo Arena". After the pandemic he also became part of the group "Qué Chimba". He has been a professional musician for 5 years.

## Artist's education

In addition to music, since Néstor was a child he was interested in the movie industry. When he finished his secondary school studies, he moved to Madrid to study film school. Due to the financial situation he could not finish his studies and he had to return to the Canary Islands. Despite not having a formal musical education, his interest from a very young age led to train alongside professionals who helped him to develop as an artist. His links with popular music from a very young age allowed him to learn how to stand in front of large audiences.

## Difficulties in integration, past failures, lessons learned

His artistic sensibility made him different and this was a reason for mockery by some of his peers in his youth. This experience only made him to learn to appreciate himself and be confident to reinforce his identity as an artist, as well as to strengthen himself on a personal level. The world of music is very demanding and sacrificing. This has also been a challenge that makes you learn to value your work and enjoy your achievements.

## The reasons and way of the person's successful integration

Néstor's passion for music enabled him to overcome the difficulties. His sensitivity, empathy and emotional intelligence were essential skills that enabled him to succeed on a personal and professional level. Although it is not easy to dedicate yourself to music, you have to be honest with yourself and your convictions without forgetting that there is an audience that you have to reach and that has to connect emotionally with your art. We cannot forget that by being honest to ourselves we have to adapt to the public and new trends.



# NÉSTOR FELIPE LEÓN



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## Present situation – personal integration success

He says he is in a very good personal and professional period. He feels successful because he does what he is passionate about, surrounded by supportive people. He appreciates his own ability to understand people and to be able to make them feel with his art.

## Quotes of famous artists, fitting with the aim of the project result

Although there are no artist quotes that he remembers at this moment, he does express admiration for artists such as Don Omar, an international artist. Despite his personal and social difficulties which complicated him the access to better personal and professional opportunities.

## Stakeholders' needs

Despite the obstacles that may arise, it is essential for a person to have self-confidence and clarity in goals. However, in order to stay motivated in difficult moments and in situations where everything seems to be wrong, it is equally important to be surrounded by supportive people. Moreover, music can provide ways to express emotions and feelings.

## Stakeholders' gaps

Individuals may have low self-esteem or a lack confidence in their artistic abilities, which may discourage them from trying to participate in artistic activities. Also not complying with the normative image of an artist can be a gap. This is not a problem of the person but of society and the world we live in. They are required to be, look and do certain accepted things and if you step out of the norm you lose credibility from a commercial point of view.

## Stakeholders' barriers

People may have difficulty to access the resources needed to participate in artistic activities, such as tools or material and also a lack of tolerance can be a barrier. Moreover, in some communities, there may be a lack of opportunities for socially excluded people to participate in artistic activities, which may limit their ability to develop their creativity and talent.



# NÉSTOR FELIPE LEÓN



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## Stakeholders' strengths



The ability to transmit and move is the strong point of the artists.

## Stakeholders' opportunities



In addition to focusing on our talent, we have to make an effort to relate to people and get closer to them despite our fears and the barriers we put up for ourselves. This allows us to connect and understand better what the public or consumers of art expect and want from us. Art itself offers the opportunity not only for artists but for population in general to relate to each other, to be educated, to be part of something and to feel integrated.





# INCLUDEART

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