

What is LoLa?

[LoLa](#) is a low latency, high quality audio / video transmission system for network musical performances and interaction enabling real time musical performances where musicians are physically located in remote sites, connected by advanced network services. Unlike other video conferencing systems, [LoLa is tailor-made for the requirements of musical interaction.](#)

What is LoLa good for?

- LoLa facilitates MasterClasses or standard music teaching lessons involving students located in distant sites, including the option to perform together with the student during the lesson.
- LoLa allows musicians to rehearse more intensively before a concert, e.g. by giving them additional time to refine the performance before they join together for the first time.
- LoLa enables musicians to take part in recording sessions and even to perform live concerts without the need of being physically present on stage or in the recording studio.
- LoLa is open to still unexplored performance scenarios.

What are the technical requirements to use LoLa?

LoLa is a licensed software and it is available for free for all academic and education non-profit uses. The [required hardware](#) (audio interface, microphones and high-quality audio reproduction, video camera and large screen) can be installed in any soundproof music school classroom and incurs one-time costs of around 10.000 €. A fast and stable internet connection is needed allowing not only high-speed downloads, but also uploads. Higher Education Institutions usually have such network connections like the ones provided by the [NRENs and GEANT](#) and other International backbones.



Classroom with LoLa equipment

How is the user feedback on LoLa?

Whilst in an early stage mainly technically interested musicians were fascinated by the possibilities that LoLa offers for interaction on stage or in the recording studio, the system is now more and more appreciated also by [music performance teachers and students](#) many of whom do not any longer see a LoLa setting to be worse than a live situation, but just a different new possibility. The AEC is currently carrying out a user satisfaction survey as part of the SWING project.

Was LoLa helpful to support online teaching during the Covid-19 lock down?

Yes and no. Many AEC members are equipped with LoLa facilities, but due to the lockdown, most of these facilities were no longer accessible right at the moment when they were most urgently needed. But one thing is certain: The lock down has tremendously increased the number of those who are interested in using the LoLa system, among them surprisingly many that have so far been very skeptical if not resistant to use the Internet for musical interplay.

How does LoLa help reduce the ecological footprint?

It helps to decrease the overall amount of travel activities and opens up new, environmentally friendly opportunities for communication and dissemination.

How can I contact me if I am interested in more information about LoLa?

Just send an email to lola-project@garr.it