

AEC Pop and Jazz Platform 2023  
Open Floor

**Long distance live performing in ensembles - made possible**

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The presentation is a brief description of a project, a first in Romania, carried out within the "Multidisciplinary Research Institute" of the "National University of Arts" from Iași-Romania, consisting in the development of a viable and accessible solution for the remote rehearsals of the members of a band. The results of the project have direct applicability in music education in pop/jazz genres, also they relate to the theme of the conference, "Opening gateways to working life, international connections and artistry", because this solution opens new ways towards remote collaborations and increasing the efficiency of concert preparations.

The isolation imposed by the pandemic times seemed to be overcome by easy communication via the Internet. Although the Internet offered a viable alternative in the case of lecture-type courses, an unsuspected problem stood in the way of remote performing in ensembles: latency. The period of the pandemic meant the complete suspension of activities in ensembles for a long time, with serious consequences for music education in general and concert activity. The only alternative was that the members of a band record themselves individually and then make a video montage/audio mix of these recordings. However, this is not an authentic ensemble performance as a whole, completely lacking interactivity - the most important characteristic of this type of activity, which is very detrimental to very young musicians in training.

The research project proposed for the presentation investigated, tested and used technical solutions other than the Internet, which allowed, for the first time, the realization of a concert with two groups of performers located at a distance of about 350 km, including all the necessary rehearsals. The technical solution proved viable even for jazz/pop pieces with a high and constant tempo, situations where the latency becomes the most problematic.

Although the times of the pandemic have passed, such a technical solution is still of great interest for:

- distance music education
- ensuring access to ensemble activities for young musicians in isolated areas or who cannot travel easily
- streamlining concert preparation, lowering production costs.
- the facilitation of new collaborations, with distant institutions.