

# AEC POP & JAZZ PLATFORM MEETING 2015 REPORT FROM THE FULL SCORE STUDENT WG

*PJP Meeting, Valencia, 2015*



## Developing diversity and identities amongst artists and audiences

The PJP Platform was a discovering for us as students: the atmosphere was a total different reality compared to the Congress in Budapest. A fact that helped us to understand our role in AEC.

We had more concrete ideas, dynamic sessions, more experience-based presentations and inspiring sessions where people could discuss freely. The organisation as well as the schedule and the timing were brilliant, the sessions caught the audience's attention and the networking was brisk.

The relevance of topics was really good. We found pretty interesting the keynote Speech in Plenary Session I with Danilo Perez, about diversity, identity and social change through Music and its audiences. Nevertheless, during the questions and answers moderated by Brian Cole, we found a lack of commitment by the chosen audience who answered the questions; the announced topic *at Plenary Session II "Connecting artists and audiences"* were too general. Therefore, the speakers had a too extensive field to talk about, using much more metaphors than we would have liked.

The networking was pretty rich in World Café Discussions where we could find great ideas with the speakers from Plenary Session II and some surprise like the silence, the doubts and the giggle by participants in order to face the topic *diversity* in one of the tables.

A fact that let us guessing why *diversity* was one of the topics which seemed to promote distance to participants. Besides, we had the impression that there was a prejudicial behaviour by participants in order to sit down with Muhammad Mughrabi where another participant tried to call the attention with a disappointed expression in his face.

The bar Camp 2 was pretty interesting and we had the impression that the student's involvement was pretty positive to redirect the debates and making it work with more pragmatism.

Concerning students' involvement, we wondered why there were no students from Berklee in the sessions of PJP. So, we decided to ask students to find out why. We found a fast conclusion after knowing that the students had no idea what PJP was about, and finding only some students in presentations due to the simple fact of finding the announced topics by corridors: *there was a problem of diffusion*. Which kind of diffusion problem can it be? Is it a lack of commitment by teachers or AEC to introduce these events to students or is it a lack of knowledge about how to introduce this to students in a proper way to catch their attention?

How to make *the first step* to get students involved? According to our opinion, at least students from the institution where events are held should be invited for free to take part of debates, promoting at the same time, for thus, the organisation of little groups of students which can be an active representative part of the host institution in debates or presentations, giving them the chance to have a voice and getting involved through a real engagement. In our opinion, it's pretty important to invite all students from all AEC member institutions; they would provide AEC of all perspectives from all the different realities of Europe that would create a great overview in order to continue building new objectives for the future of AEC. It would be a mistake to invite only students from host

institutions for one event like PJP because it's not the same to be a student at institutions like Berklee than conventional Conservatoires, and much less their reviews.

It would be pretty interesting to make some kind of competition between countries where a chosen student council from a country could prepare a report/speech/debate about the topics and debates for next platform or event. This way AEC could choose which work was the most interesting and useful one for AEC to invite these students to a certain event where their voice could be useful and could play a great role in the sessions and debates, getting students even more involved in AEC.

Concerning the preparation of events, we think it can be a great idea to involve one student from SWG in each AEC WG (PJP WG, EPARM WG...), even when it would be only a final step where we, as students, could give them the last review and feedback about their work before coming true in the events.

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