

Dear board members of **Københavns Kommunes Musikudvalg**,

We are writing to apply for support for the first edition of the **NEKO3 Festival - Genesis · Wanderer · Roots · Home**, taking place **5.-7. November 2026** at KoncertKirken in Copenhagen.

The festival marks a pivotal moment for **NEKO3**: simultaneously a celebration of nearly a decade of artistic activity and the opening of a new chapter in the ensemble's development. Since its founding, NEKO3 has become a vital platform for contemporary performance practice, presenting more than 100 concerts, commissioning over 30 new works, collaborating with more than 100 composers and artists, and performing extensively across Europe and the Americas.

From 2026 onward, NEKO3 adopts a **fluid ensemble model**, where each project defines its own constellation of performers and artistic competencies. The festival functions as both a retrospective and a manifesto for this approach, presenting NEKO3 as a laboratory for innovation, collaboration, and expanded musical expression.

Across four concerts over three nights, the festival unfolds as a curated journey:

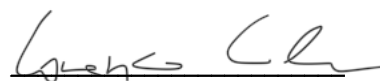
- **Genesis** revisits NEKO3's point of departure, foregrounding acoustic virtuosity and classical ensemble formats, while presenting new commissions for piano, cello, and ensemble.
- **Wanderer** focuses on artistic exchange, international collaboration, and cultural curiosity, highlighting works developed through NEKO3's MICRO-WORKSHOP residencies in Europe and the United States.
- **Roots** pays homage to NEKO3's close artistic relationships in Denmark, presenting new solo and duo commissions alongside reworked ensemble repertoire by e.g. Mads Emil Dreyer and Simon Løffler
- **Home** culminates in *Angel Death Traps* by Alexander Schubert, a large-scale transhuman song cycle that has become central to NEKO3's artistic identity.

The program includes **numerous world premieres and Danish premieres**, with a strong emphasis on collaboration with composers and performers active on the Danish scene, alongside long-term international partners. Throughout the festival, NEKO3's commitment to post-instrumental practice, performativity, and interdisciplinary work is central, integrating sound, body, electronics, visual art, and spatial dramaturgy.

We believe the NEKO3 Festival will contribute meaningfully to Copenhagen's contemporary music environment by offering audiences an immersive, coherent, and forward-looking artistic experience. At the same time, it strengthens working conditions for performers and composers operating at the forefront of new music and reinforces Copenhagen's position as a city that supports experimental and internationally connected artistic initiatives.

We sincerely hope Copenhagen Municipality will consider supporting this project. With your support, we aim to realize a festival that both reflects and enriches the city's vibrant and ambitious cultural life.

With kind regards,



Lorenzo Colombo
Co-artistic director, NEKO3



Kalle Hakosalo
Co-artistic director, NEKO3