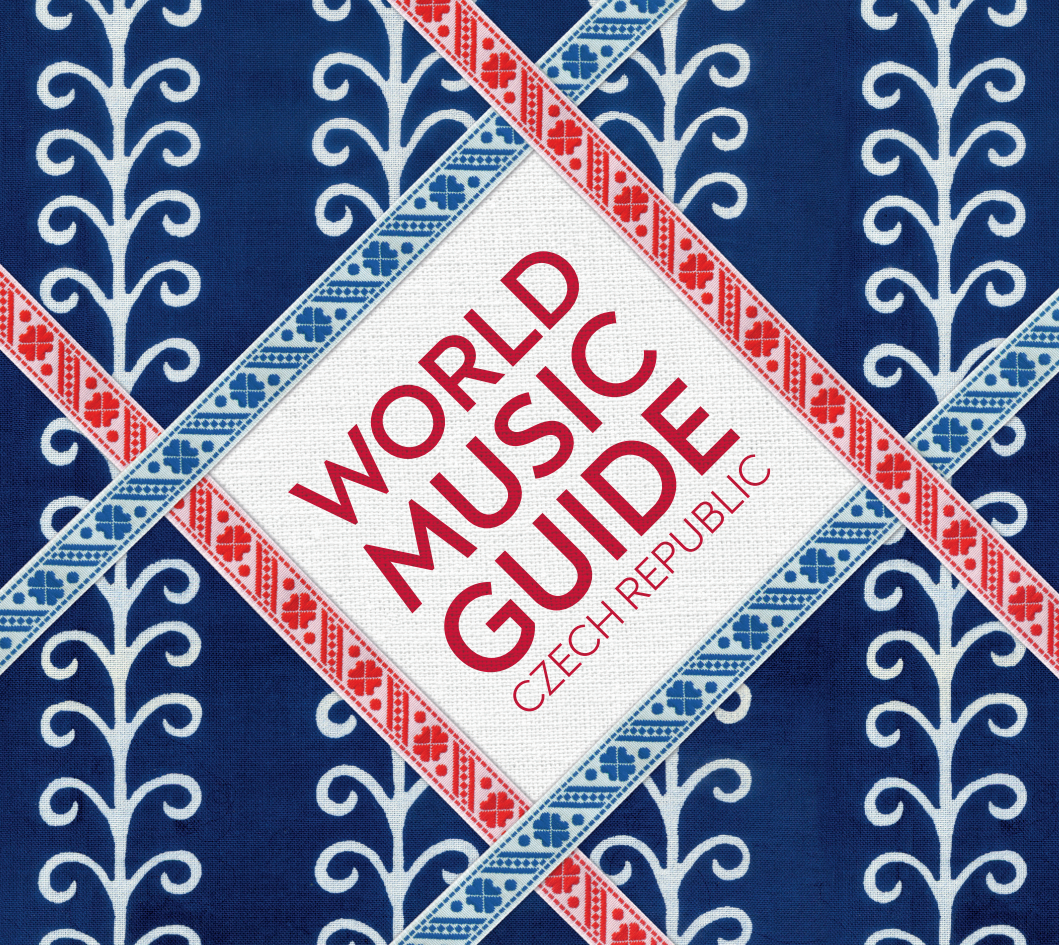

WORLD
MUSIC
GUIDE
CZECH REPUBLIC

SOUND CZECH

SOUNDCZECH

Established in 2017 by ATI (Arts and Theatre Institute), SoundCzech is an organisation committed to supporting the Czech music scene. It is financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and works in close collaboration with dedicated industry professionals.

Our scopes and objectives are following:

- **International promotion** and support of Czech music
- **Training and lectures** for artists and business professionals
- **Facilitating the connection** of these trained professionals with international networks
- **Improving the overall performance** of Czech music scene
- **Creating and maintaining the information platform** about the Czech music

Check the Czech music industry & artists database at

www.soundczech.cz/en

NIK

www.nipk.cz/en/home-2

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CZECH WORLD MUSIC

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Music journalist, curator of Colours of Ostrava festival
www.world-music.cz

The Czech Republic is a country in which people used to say every Czech is a musician. It's a country situated in the middle of Europe, a country with the famous composers **Antonín Dvořák**, **Bohuslav Martinů** and **Leoš Janáček**. After World War II, the Communist era came and with it forty years of airtight closure from the rest of the world. Any musician who wanted to succeed had to emigrate. Those who remained and did not obey the regime were not allowed to perform for the public. The Communists erased from traditional music any religious themes and natural free-mindedness associated with nature. It was Hard times, believe it!

After 1989, when the ideological shackles fell from Czech music and it could be played again without any censor restrictions, the world came up with a question: what traditional music is actually played in your country? The answer was not very complicated, especially four years later, with the creation of an independent Czech Republic after its separation from Slovakia. In the live folklore form, it is preserved only in two regions: the Chodsko region, lying in the west of the country, on the borders with Germany, which is known specifically for its **bagpipe music** and **choirs**; and the vast region of Moravia, situated in the east of the country on the borders with Poland and Slovakia, encompassing many culturally and linguistically different subregions, famous for their unique **cimbalom** *(i.e. dulcimer)* **music**, **gajdoš** *(bagpipe player)* **music** and music by **hudci** *(violin players)*. Despite the important international festival of Roma culture, Khamoro, held in Prague since 1999, Roma music has practically not been preserved here in its original form and is represented mainly by the individual Roma traditions of modern groups and soloists.

These times of freedom brought Moravian folk music out of forced isolation. The legendary village singers and musicians were able to publicly pass their art back to the next generations. Moravian music has become one of the most important sources of inspiration and has been thoroughly mapped, mainly thanks to the **Indies Scope label** and the promoter, collector and musician **Jiří Plocek**. In the era of world music, several major festivals and concert series were created – **Respect Festival**, **Jazz Meets World**, **Colors of Ostrava**, **Folk Holidays**, **Strings of Autumn** or **Color Meeting** – enabling domestic musicians to have contacts with foreign musical culture. The possibility of traveling opened up unprecedented horizons for Czech musicians.

Worldwide, **Věra Bílá**, **Iva Bittová**, **Čechomor**, **Čankišou** or **Jiří Pavlica & Hradišťan** gained well deserved attention and are currently being followed by a younger generation of artists. They are taking advantage of opportunities from international studies and collaborating with musicians from other countries, also thanks to the conference **Czech Music Crossroads**. In 2017, a compilation of Czech world music entitled At the Heart of the Bonfire was published in the prestigious Songlines magazine.

Czech festivals and clubs, where world music is played, are gradually increasing.The world music is talked about and written not only in the music media. The Czech Republic is no longer a poor relative even at Womex: Mr. World music, **Petr Dorůžka**, was voted Samurai of the year in 2007 and in 2017 he received the Professional Excellence Award. **Zlata Holušová**, the director of Colours of Ostrava was also delegated to Samurai in 2019.The Czech representatives appear in discussion panels as mentors. The Czech Mafia, as the womexicans call the Czech group of festival organizers, promoters and journalists, were gradually accompanied at the Womex program by individual groups and artists: **Tara Fuki**, **Clarinet Factory**, **Ponk**, **Marta Topferová**, **Invisible World** or **Bára Zmeková**.

In 2020, the music publicist and editor **Milan Tesar** (Radio Proglas) took over the management of **WMCE** and the headquarters of the prestigious poll moved after thirty years from Berlin to the Czech Republic. **Lucie Redlová** and **Hrubá Hudba** combining authentic Moravian folk music with electronics scored highly in the rankings. **King'n'doom** with the legendary Senegalese singer **Cheikh Lô** also achieved international success. **Gilgul**, an album done by the world-famous jazz guitarist **David Dorůžka**, fl u tist a nd singer **Robert Fischmann** and percussionist **Martin Novak** is among highlights of 2023.

WHERE THE MUSIC BEATS: FESTIVALS



FESTIVALS

VENUES

CZECH MEDIA INFORMING ABOUT WORLD MUSIC

PRINTED MAGAZINES & NEWSPAPERS

Full Moon Magazine
www.fullmoonmagazine.cz
Harmonie / www.casopisharmonie.cz
Kulturní magazín Uni / www.magazinuni.cz
Lidové noviny / www.lidovky.cz
Hospodářské noviny / www.ihned.cz

ONLINE ZINES

www.alterecho.muzikus.cz
www.doruzka.com
www.frontman.cz
www.fullmoonzine.cz
www.headliner.cz
www.hisvoice.cz
www.hudebniknihovna.cz
www.jazzport.cz
www.musicserver.cz
www.reggae.cz

RADIOS & TV

Czech National Radio: Vltava
(jazz / world / classical channel)
www.vltava.rozhlas.cz
Czech National Radio: Wave
(alternative channel)
www.wave.rozhlas.cz
Czech National Radio: Ostrava
https://ostrava.rozhlas.cz
Czech National Radio: Jazz
www.jazz.rozhlas.cz
Proglas / www.proglas.cz
Radio 1 / www.radio1.cz

ARTISTS & BANDS

LABELS

Amplion records / www.amplion-records.com
Animal Music / www.animalmusic.cz
Arta records / www.arta.cz
Indies production / www.indies.eu
Indies happy Trails / www.indiesrec.eu
Minority records / www.minorityrecords.com
poli5 / www.polipet.cz **rustical records** / www.rusticalrecords.com **supraphon** / www.supraphon.cz

WORLD MUSIC & ETHNOMUSICOLOGY EDUCATION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Charles University – Ethnomusicology / www.etnomuzikologie.eu
Czech Museum of Music / www.nm.cz
Department of the History of Music / Moravian Museum / www.mzm.cz
Ethnographic Museum of the National Museum / www.nm.cz
Ethnographic Institute / Moravian Museum / www.mzm.cz
Janáček Academy of Performing Arts in Brno / www.jamu.cz
Masaryk University – Department of Music / www.music.phil.muni.cz
Museum in nature / www.nmvp.cz
Museum of Romani Culture / www.rommuz.cz
Náprstek Museum of Asian, African and American Cultures / www.nm.cz
National Insitute of Folk Culture / www.nulk.cz
PopMuseum / www.popmuseum.cz
Symposium at Folk Holidays / www.folkoveprazdniny.cz/en
The Academy of Performing Arts in Prague / www.amu.cz

WORLD MUSIC CHARTS EUROPE – WMCE

The World Music Charts Europe (WMCE) is one of **the longest running and most prestigious charts of its genre**. Since 1991, it has been compiled every month by world music radio writers from all over Europe. The rankings operate under the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and include largely (but not exclusively) editors from public radio stations. The panel currently has 44 members from 25 European countries. Until 2020, the panel operated under the leadership of its founder, Berlin-based radio editor Johannes Theurer. After his retirement, **Milan Tesar from the Czech Radio Proglas took over the leadership of WMCE** and the headquarters of the hit parade **moved from Berlin to Brno**.

But WMCE is not only a chart of albums from all over the world. The aim of the panel is to **help independent labels and artists get quality music on the radio broadcasting** across Europe. The WMCE is also one of the sources (alongside the TWMC rankings) that WOMEX organizers use to compile their rankings of the best independent labels of the year.



ABOUT RADIO PROGLAS

Radio Proglas includes **world music recordings in its daily broadcasts**. In addition to Czech and Slovak songs, it is quite common to find recordings from all over Europe (for example, Portuguese, Finnish, Catalan or Italian music is often featured) and to some extent also Latin American or African music.

The radio regularly presents new albums in the **Music Compass (Hudební kompas) section** – on weekdays at 7.45am and 2pm, often on the day of release. In the evening series of music interviews **How Do You Like It** (also available on the website www.hudebnirozhovory.cz), in addition to Czech and Slovak artists, interviews with artists and bands from all over the world are again very frequent. World music in its various forms prevails in **Milan Tesar's Saturday** weekly **Hear, people (Slyšte, lidé)**!

LISTEN TO THE CZECH MUSIC SCENE

Sound — Czech

Czech World Music



Czech Jazz Scene



Czech Metal Scene



Czech Electronica



www.soundczech.cz



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