



RADIOH EUROPA

**BROADCASTING LIVE FROM LOCKDOWN
9PM (BST) SAT 2ND MAY - 9PM (BST) SUN 3RD MAY**

RADIOH EUROPA: LIVE FROM LOCKDOWN

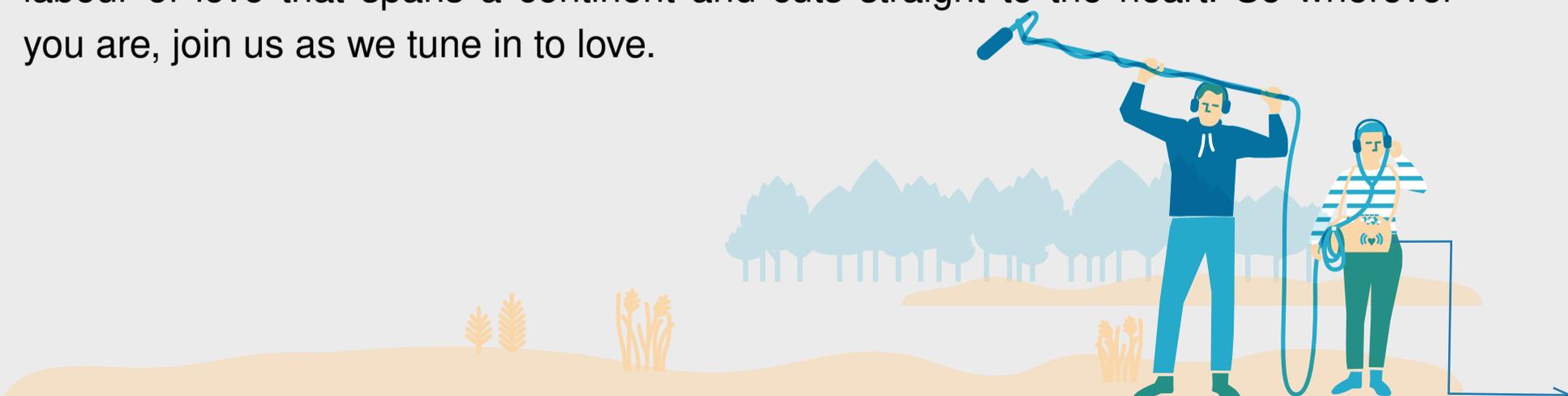
Action Hero have been asking strangers to sing a love song. In April 2018, we began a project called **Oh Europa**. We set off on a journey across Europe in our motorhome. Since then, we've spent more than 300 days and nights on the road, living & working in our van and inviting the people we met to come inside and sing for us. We've travelled over 45,000km through 33 European countries, recording songs about being in love and falling out of love, all sung by people who live in Europe. To date, we have recorded over 1000 love songs, sung in 46 different languages. Each song was recorded in person, inside our van which doubles as both a home and a mobile recording studio.

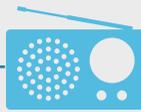
“...THE WHOLE ENDEAVOUR IS A KIND OF GRAND IMPROBABLE ACT. ACTION HERO HAVE, IN A SENSE, CHANGED EUROPE”

The Independent

In 2020, we had planned to continue to travel and record love songs to add to the collection. We'd also made a performance, a kind of radio show for live audiences called **RadiOh Europa**. We were due to tour Europe and the UK this year. But because of COVID-19, those plans are on hold. So instead, we're doing a one-off 'lockdown edition' of the project, broadcasting online direct from our living room in Bristol as part of GIFT festival instead of being out on the road.

RadiOh Europa is a long-form, deep-listening experience; a live radio show playing love songs from the heart-lands of Europe. We will re-play every single song we've recorded in its entirety, intercut with stories from the journey and the people we met. Broadcasting for 24 hours, RadiOh Europa is an act of collective listening; a labour of love that spans a continent and cuts straight to the heart. So wherever you are, join us as we tune in to love.





TUNE IN

There is a gentle journey through **RadiOh Europa** which we think of as a series of albums. To guide your listening experience, here's the album listing with approximate timings.

LISTEN

You can **listen here** whilst we're on air, at **oheuropa.com** or at **giftfestival.co.uk**

Sat 2nd May	9pm - 10pm	<i>Welcome To RadiOh Europa</i> <i>On The Way Somewhere Else</i> <i>Makes An Impression</i> <i>Power Ballads</i>
	10pm onwards	<i>non-stop love songs through the night & into Sunday morning</i>
Sun 3rd May	2pm - 3pm	<i>Welcome Back</i> <i>The Kids Are Alright</i> <i>Geography Field Trip # 1</i> <i>Rhythms Drunk Killa</i>
	3pm - 4pm	<i>Upbeat (& lovin' it!)</i> <i>North-East songs #1</i> <i>Sardines</i> <i>Multiples: "Dat Du Min Leevsten Büst"</i>
	4pm - 5pm	<i>Geography Field Trip # 2</i> <i>Something Went Wrong</i> <i>Can't Hurry Love</i> <i>Couples & Duets</i> <i>Siblings</i>
	5pm - 6pm	<i>Families Sing Together</i> <i>Babies/Lullabies</i> <i>Yesterday, When I Was Young</i> <i>Deep Connections</i>
	6pm - 7pm	<i>Lovers Apart</i> <i>Breakups & Endings</i> <i>Sad Songs</i>
	7pm - 8pm	<i>Smooth</i> <i>X Factor</i> <i>Geography Field Trip # 3</i> <i>North-East songs #2</i> <i>Homelands</i>
	8pm - 9pm	<i>Geography Field Trip # 4</i> <i>L.O.V.E</i> <i>Romance</i> <i>Finale</i>

Note that all times are BST.

Setting off in our van from the UK in 2018, we didn't know what we would find. Would people want to sing love songs for us, or were we asking too much? But we needn't have worried. We returned to the UK for the winter with hundreds of songs in our archive before hitting the road again in 2019 to continue our quest. People's willingness to sing unaccompanied, to sit with us and to share something of themselves was overwhelming. Every song felt like a treasure. Having shared the project with thousands of people, with over 1000 love songs on tape - we were, in spite of everything, full of hope for Europe's future.

In March this year, we were preparing to get on the road again, with a big UK and European tour of RadiOh Europa scheduled, combined with collecting more love songs along the way. We began in Brighton, but on Friday 13th March, the day of our first performance of the year, it became clear that things were changing fast. We won't be able to physically travel across Europe this summer, but the need for connection with others feels more vital than ever. We hope that through listening to all the voices we've collected so far, you might be able to hear RadiOh Europa as a love song to those we are apart from; to those who we have lost and to those we are still close to in these strange and unsettling times.

RadiOh Europa is just one element of a series of artworks that have developed from our ongoing journey. The broader Oh Europa project encompasses participatory practice, video, installation, sound, digital practice and a book (visit oheuropa.com to find out more). It's by far the biggest and

most ambitious project Action Hero has ever made. And yet for all its epic, continent-crossing scale, a one-on-one, human-to-human interaction is at its heart.

These love songs transmit an opaque but heartfelt message; detached from political sound-bites, diplomacy, or art-speak, they speak in song about who we all are and how we feel. They reveal both the vast diversity of voices present across the continent of Europe, and the thing we all share in common: the capacity to love and to be loved. The songs reveal the ways in which people living in Europe converge and diverge harmonically rather than territorially; perhaps they can offer an opportunity to re-orientate and re-imagine our relationships with each other and with the space we share. In listening to these love songs in the relative quiet and stillness of lockdown it seems possible that we might, in fact, hear ourselves emerge out of the white noise.

Oh Europa is co-produced with Farnham Maltings. Co-commissioned by Transform, Matchbox and Farnham Maltings. Supported by British Council, Watershed's Pervasive Media Studio, European Cultural Foundation, Vooruit, Latitudes Contemporaines, Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre, Anti Festival, Grand Theatre Groningen, Ördögkatlan Festival, Interdisciplinarte, Romanian Association For Performing Arts and Bristol Old Vic Ferment. Action Hero are a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England.



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