



Call for applications ONJ Youth Orchestra

Season 7 (2025-2026)
Musical Direction Marc Ducret

ORCHESTRE NATIONAL DE JAZZ



The Orchestre National de Jazz launches the new season of the ONJ Youth Orchestra, a program for French and European students who want to get involved in an orchestra project.

• Likely candidates

Students from French and European higher education centers of artistic education.

Students in either a specialist-curriculum or preparatory class for higher education at a conservatory or music academy.

• Aims

Since its creation in 2019, this professional integration program has been made up of students from French and European jazz programs, and is dedicated, with the collaboration of former ONJ conductors, to reinterpreting the orchestra's repertoire. Its aim is to pass on a musical heritage to younger generations, introduce it to new audiences, and build a pool of young talent for professionals to discover.

Each year, the Youth Orchestra sets up in a new region in collaboration with local stakeholders for a series of concerts and residencies. In 2025, under the artistic direction of Sylvaine Hélyar, the Orchestre National de Jazz is diversifying its collaborations by opening up its leadership to other personalities who have played in the ONJ or composed for it throughout its history.

For its seventh season, guitarist and composer **Marc Ducret** will take the reins of the orchestra. A soloist with François Jeanneau's ONJ in 1986, this unique artist has confirmed his taste for large ensembles, notably through his Tower-Bridge and Le Sens de la Marche projects. Marc Ducret has close ties with the **Bretagne region**, which is where the Youth Orchestra will be based for its next season.

• Instrumentation

15 musicians :

- 1 drum kit
- 1 percussion (vibraphone, marimba)
- 1 piano (piano, Fender Rhodes)
- 1 double bass (double bass and electric bass)
- 1 cello
- 1 viola
- 1 violin
- 1 tuba
- 1 trombone
- 1 horn
- 1 trumpet and bugle (piccolo welcomed, mutes)
- 1 tenor / soprano saxophone (Bb)
- 1 alto/baryton saxophone (Eb)
- 1 clarinet (clarinet, bass clarinet)

** In your application, please specify if you play other saxophones/ reeds/ woodwinds than the one you are applying for.*

In addition to musical direction, Marc Ducret will play the guitar in the orchestra.
Unsolicited applications from other instrumentalists may be considered.

• Calendar

7 rehearsal and concert sessions are being planned between December 2024 and June 2025.

Dates of sessions scheduled as of today :

- December 10, 11, 12, 13 Studio ONJ / Conservatoire Municipal Georges Bizet / **Paris** (75)
- February 27, 28, March 1 MJC Bréquigny / **Rennes** (35)
- March 20, 21, 22 Korn Boud / **Spézet** (29)
- April 24, 25 Académie de Composition • Conservatoire Pina Bausch / **Montreuil** (93)
- May 20, 21, 22 Festival Sonik • Théâtre de Cornouailles / **Quimper** (29)
- May 23, 24 **Recording** // Conservatoire National de Musique et de Danse / **Paris** (75)
- June 12 L'Orchestre National de Jazz fête ses 40 ans ! • Théâtre Silvia Monfort / **Paris** (75)

For this season, the residencies will take place in France, mainly in the **Bretagne region**. They will provide an opportunity for several cultural activities, professional meetings, and extra-musical training in collaboration with local partners.
In addition, the Orchestra will be involved in the 5th edition of the Académie de Composition, organized by the ONJ and Real Time Music (concert featuring the selected composers), and the 40th anniversary of the ONJ (concert and jam session). A recording session will also be organized at the CNSM in Paris, in partnership with the Musique Son Image department.

• Application form

- A resume (CV)
 - Two videos excerpts in which the candidate plays and improvises, or alternatively 2 audio recordings.
- At least one of the two excerpts must present the candidate in a group context. For drummers, no solo pieces; prefer playing in an orchestra or large ensemble.

• Modalities

- Only adults (over 18 years old) and students are allowed to apply.
- Application file to be sent to: orchestredesjeunes@onj.org
The video and audio files are to be sent only by **WeTransfer** – no other transmission channel is accepted.
Audios : 10 Mb maximum / Videos : 100 Mb maximum.
Please specify your name, first name and the name of the instrument played in the name of the files.
- Travel, lodging and meals are provided by the ONJ.
- Concert and recording activities are paid for. Rehearsals, considered as training time, are subject to an agreement with the partner schools.

As part of the ONJ's active policy of restoring gender parity in jazz orchestras, we strongly encourage women to apply.

Application deadline :
October 15, 2025

More infos

- > onj.org
- > Discover the documentary *L'Orchestre des Jeunes de l'ONJ* directed by Slaven Rébéo.
- > Listen to the ONJ discography on Bandcamp : orchestrenationaledejazz.bandcamp.com
- > Pour tout renseignement : orchestredesjeunes@onj.org / +33 (0)1 82 83 43 21

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