



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **LIVE VENUE COLLECTIVE FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT**

**[2nd November, 2020]** The Live Venue Collective are truly grateful that the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Minister Catherine Martin & Minister Michael McGrath have acknowledged with this funding the Herculean work of Irish independent Music venues.

This is vital support to us as a group in these incredibly challenging times.

This funding will serve to momentarily sustain the fragile ecosystem of the independent music scene and will directly support and pay artists, technicians, promoters and venue staff to do what they do so well in our small music rooms and stages throughout the country.

With this funding, whatever lockdown level or capacity reduction our venues face, the show will go on. Our smaller independent venues now will have the freedom to invest in new ways to reach our audiences through professional quality digital streaming while still maintaining our grassroots musical booking policies & underlying commitment to connect our communities throughout the world with the best of Independent Irish music..

*The **Live Venue Collective** was established to raise awareness & strengthen support for live venues during the global COVID-19 pandemic. We are a collective of 23 music venues that have come together with the sole aim of giving voice and representation to all the small rooms and independent stages that are bones, lungs, heart and soul of the Irish music industry.*

These grassroots venues nurture, train and embolden the musicians, comedians, technicians and promoters of tomorrow while consistently delivering moving and memorable bucket list experiences to our valued audiences. The announcement of this funding allows us to continue to do what we do best at least for the immediate future.

Quote from Lisa Hannigan:

“The network of independent venues around Ireland are the lifeblood of the music industry and without them I would never have learned how to be a musician. They’re vital to our industry - to performer and audience member alike- and to the cultural, artistic and social landscape of Ireland.”

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For further information, please contact Live Venue Collective Chairperson, Una Molloy by email - [chairperson@livevenuecollective.ie](mailto:chairperson@livevenuecollective.ie)