



Press release Association of the Grand Council of the Night Covid 19, May 2020

Situation of Geneva's nightlife and perspectives

In these difficult times, the members of the Grand Conseil de la Nuit unite in order to survive this crisis together, and to be able to offer you a beautiful reopening in the respect of the health recommendations.

The local representatives of the sector are aware that their activities are a real health risk in the immediate future. Going to a show, a concert, listening to a DJ in a club or bar intrinsically involves physical contact and gathering.

First of all, our members would like to thank the Council of State and the Federal Council for the measures taken so far. Unfortunately, some places and actors are still in a precarious situation. We support our State Councillor Mr. Thierry Apothéloz for his work with the Federal Office of Culture to improve these financial aids and all the actors in the sector who are working hard to represent our members at the national level.

The introduction of support for the cultural sector has been late. Moreover, the definition of cultural enterprise remains unclear at the federal level and we would like the cantons to harmonise their practices in this area. Federal aid currently excludes profit-making discos, dance halls and nightclubs. Indeed, this exclusion is not correct if we know the current landscape of Swiss nightlife culture. Fortunately, in Geneva, our government has decided to include clubs that produce concerts, live DJs and other artistic performances. We welcome this news. All of our member structures, both profit and non-profit, have a specialized musical program, often multidisciplinary, establish real collaborations between actors, share their ethical and responsible values, promote local artists, offer residencies and creative venues in addition to the diffusion, hosting of live performances and openings.

In order to be able to really help all places (bars, clubs, schools), we would like the criteria to be simpler and more verifiable. Today we are advocating the following criteria in support of the SBCK (Schweizer Bar und Club Kommission) :

Structures are considered to be cultural enterprises if they are affiliated to SUIISA with the following rates: GT-H, GT-Hb, GT K. Conditions that have been accepted in the canton of Zurich, other cantons seem to be moving in the same direction.

The extension of eligibility for cultural support and its duration will be essential for the sustainability of an indispensable part of the local and national night culture landscape.

Let's go forward together!

We look forward to the progress of Phase 2 deconfinement. If all goes well and the propagation curve continues to fall, the ideal would be to rethink the various activities and work hand in hand with the authorities to enable a gradual resumption of cultural activities, in order to offer an offer adapted to our audiences while respecting the health safety of all. x. The idea, for example, would be to allow the resumption of small external events as soon as the health situation allows it and in respect of hygiene and social distancing, with a very limited number of participants, wearing masks and tools for tracing participants (attendance list) and setting up prevention measures for the public in order to relearn how to live, express ourselves and share while minimising the spread of the virus.

Some of our members will be able to reopen on May 11th and we are looking forward to it and working with them to help them reopen in this context. As far as the clubs are concerned, our association is working on common projects to be carried out as soon as the opening is possible. Above all, we wish that our public, our members, collaborators, artists remain in good health and can start again to live and share in the best conditions.

The main missions of the Grand Conseil de la Nuit being:

- Understand and communicate nightlife issues.
- Promote the image of nightlife by highlighting the social, cultural and economic dimensions to the media, politicians and administrations, and to the population.
- To assert itself as an essential and representative interlocutor of all the professions and modes of operation exercised in the night places and spaces.

The Association stands ready to be consulted by the government on the resumption of our members' activities so that our realities and projections for the future can be integrated into the political vision of Geneva's cultural sector.

The Committee of the Grand Conseil de la Nuit and its members

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Members: ARVe, Audio, Café de la Ferblanterie, Café la Petite Reine, Central Station, Le Chat Noir(ASMV), Fédération des artistes de Kugler, La Gravière, HeadFun, Jaydo's Production, La Jonquille, Le Kraken, MJC Annemasse, Little House Records, Motel Campo, PTR, Nuit Blanche, Qafé Guidoline, L'Usine (including Le Zoo, Le Rez, Urgence Disk, etc..)and its supporters.