



Various Voices Brussels 2026 5 days of music, pride and solidarity!

From **24 to 28 June 2026**, **Various Voices**, the **European festival of LGBTQI+ choirs**, will take place in Brussels.

Held every four years in a different European city, **Various Voices** will bring together **120 LGBTQI+ choirs and 4,000 singers from 18 countries** in Brussels.

Founded in 1985 in Cologne, the festival has become a leading European event for the LGBTQI+ choral scene. The 2026 edition is organised by the non-profit organisation **Various Voices Brussels 2026**, which grew out of the Brussels choir **Sing Out Brussels!**

Over **350 concerts** are scheduled over five days in prestigious venues: **Bozar** (Salle Henry Le Bœuf and Salle M), **La Madeleine**, **the Cirque Royal** and **the ING Arena**. Thanks to a **partnership with the City of Brussels**, several events will take place in public spaces, at the Town Hall and at the Vaux Hall in Brussels Park.

Through song, Various Voices promotes a more welcoming, supportive and inclusive world. This is the raison d'être of **the participatory project Let Your Heart Be Heard**. In partnership with Bozar, the festival is offering rehearsals open to everyone, with no prior experience required, to learn the festival anthem, which will be performed by a giant choir during the show on 27 June at the ING Arena. The musical direction is provided by Emily Allison.

The festival will showcase artists from the Brussels, Belgian and European queer communities in a programme curated by **Simon Paco, artistic director**.

Given its economic impact on tourism in Brussels, this project has been developed in collaboration with **visit.brussels**.

Christophe Cordier, Marina Belotti, Damien Wauters and Walid Aissaoui (Festival Team) say: "Various Voices is an opportunity to **celebrate our pride** and make our voices and our choirs heard as the LGBTQI+ community. Held in the capital of the European Union, the festival will send a **powerful message** at a time when the LGBTQI+ community is facing repeated attacks in many countries. Various Voices Brussels 2026 will challenge gender norms and identities, change attitudes and raise awareness. It is also a **sharing of emotions** with all audiences."

Further details on the programme can be found on the following pages.

Afternoon concerts

Each participating choir will give a 30-minute concert in one of our four performance venues. These concerts take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1pm to 7pm.

Thursday 25 June and Friday 26 June: Bozar (Henry Le Bœuf Hall and Hall M), La Madeleine, Auditorium 490 at the Royal Museums of Fine Arts

Saturday 27 June: Bozar (Henry Le Bœuf Hall and M Hall), Cirque Royal, Auditorium 490 at the Royal Museums of Fine Arts.

A ticket for one afternoon grants access to all the concerts scheduled in each hall (around 40 concerts per day).

Shows and ceremonies

Every day, the festival will present a major show bringing together several choirs and artists on stage, centred around a single theme, under the artistic direction of Simon Paco.

Simon Paco: "These shows will take us on a journey through the history of our LGBTQI+ community, celebrating its culture and championing its causes. The programme highlights the diversity of identities, artistic practices and life stories. It also reflects the festival's European dimension."

The shows will be presented by **La Veuve and Stéphanie Coerten**.

Wednesday 24 June at 6pm and 9pm: Opening ceremony at Bozar

This evening will bring us together at the cabaret. A place that saw the birth of a large community free to exist as it was.

Featuring (among others) **Esther Bouncee, Kimi Amen, Loulou Velvet...**

Thursday 25 June at 6.30pm and 9pm: Treachery of Images at the Cirque Royal.

This show will be an opportunity to look beyond appearances and shine a light on those who remain in the shadows today.

Featuring (among others) **Drag Couenne, Chéri-e Chapstick, Nino_uncut...**

Friday 26 June at 6.30pm and 9pm: Royalties at the Cirque Royal

Belgium is a kingdom, but for one evening it will be transformed into a Queer Kingdom. A chance to discover the Queens, Kings, Princes and Princesses, not to mention Ballroom culture. We will also be celebrating our musical royalty who have shaped our history.

Featuring (among others) **La Diva Live, Terata Mamé, Raoul les Mécaniques...**

Saturday 27 June at 9pm: Let Your Heart Be Heard at the ING Arena

This spectacular show will bring us together under the European flag, uniting dozens of choirs and numerous artists in Brussels' largest concert hall. During the evening, we will make our hearts heard with greater passion, particularly through our anthem Let Your Heart Be Heard.

Featuring (among others) **La Big Bertha, Alvilda, Noé Preszow, Lalla Rami...**

Sunday 28 June at 12 noon and 2.45 pm: Closing ceremony at Bozar

We will bring Various Voices Brussels 2026 to a close together and pass the baton to the choirs of Brighton, who will host the event in 2030. A final look back at everything we have shared and everything we are yet to share.

Singing tours of Brussels City Hall

On **Wednesday 24 and Sunday 28 June**, mini-concerts will punctuate the guided tours of Brussels City Hall from **11.15 am to 5 pm**.

On **Friday 26 and Saturday 27 June**, these musical interludes will continue as part of the tours from **3.15 pm to 7 pm**.

Bookings for guided tours of the Town Hall will be available via the ticket office: <https://city-hall.ticketlive.be>. Dates relating to Various Voices will be posted online approximately 25 days in advance.

Concerts at Brussels City Hall

The **Salle des Milices** will also host several **free choral concerts**. These concerts are scheduled **for Thursday 25 June, Friday 26 June and Saturday 27 June** from **11.00 am to 1.30 pm**. Mainly a cappella, these concerts will be presented in an informal setting, bringing the performers close to the audience.

Vaux Hall Summer

This event, held at **Vaux Hall** in Brussels Park, will feature free open-air concerts. Take part **on Wednesday 24, Thursday 25, Friday 26 and Saturday 27 June from 6pm to 8.30pm**.

Street concerts

Concerts in the streets of Brussels city centre will bring the public space to life **on Wednesday 24 June between 3pm and 6pm and on Saturday 27 June from 11am to 1.30pm**.

The full festival programme is available at <https://various-voices.be/>. You will also find a profile of each participating choir there.

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