

This list is compiled by CIMA's UK/EU representative, Shain Shapiro. He has contacts for all of these festivals. If you have any questions on the festivals listed below please email [shain@cimamusic.ca](mailto:shain@cimamusic.ca). This list was updated on May 1 2012.

- NOTE - This is not 100% exhaustive, but does list the main festivals of note. More will be updated as they are discovered.

### **European Showcase Festivals:**

#### **Legend:**

\*\* showcase

% trade fair

\$ conference

### **2012-2013 European Showcase Festivals**

#### **January:**

##### **Eurosonic**

Groningen, Netherlands

MID JAN

%%\$

Eurosonic is the largest gathering of European festival organizers. It's mainly rock/pop and Canadians are not allowed to showcase. We can attend the trade side of it though.

[www.eurosonic.nl](http://www.eurosonic.nl)

##### **BIS DE NANTES**

Nantes, France

MID JANUARY

\$%

This is one of the largest performing arts conferences in Europe and happens every two years. It's hugely popular for Quebec delegates and is essential for anyone keen on learning more about the French market. It's all French-speaking, however.

[www.bis2012.com](http://www.bis2012.com)

##### **MIDEM**

Cannes, France

END OF JAN

No need to explain, as MIDEM is the largest music conference in all of Europe, held at the Palais in Cannes. There are limited showcasing opportunities.

[www.reedmidem.com](http://www.reedmidem.com)

##### **Celtic Connections**

Glasgow, Scotland

MID TO END OF JAN

\*\*%%\$

Celtic Connections is a two-week long traditional music festival for consumers, with a conference element titled 'Showcase Scotland' on the back of it in the final week. It features a 'country sponsorship', which Nova Scotia is participating in next year, a one-day trade fair and a series of conferences. It is the largest traditional music gathering in the UK. The delegates are chosen by the organizers, as you have to apply, and there around 190 on average each year.

[www.celticconnections.com](http://www.celticconnections.com)

[www.activeevents.org.uk](http://www.activeevents.org.uk)

## **February:**

### **Helsinki Metal Meeting**

Helsinki, FI

MID FEB

\*\*\$%

Helsinki Metal Meeting is the largest metal and hard rock conference across Northern Europe and Eastern Europe, featuring about 600 delegates and 300 bands. It is strictly metal, but Canadians are allowed to showcase / plan showcases, as well as attend. The Finnish Music Office is a partner.

[www.fme.fi](http://www.fme.fi)

### **Berlinale / European Film Market**

MID FEB

Berlin, Germany

\$

This is the largest film conference in Europe, and features a huge opportunity to meet producers and sync representatives. There is no official showcasing available and the opportunity is run by Telefilm Canada.

[www.efm-berlinale.com](http://www.efm-berlinale.com)

### **By:Larm**

Oslo, NO

MID FEB

%%\$

By:Larm is the largest Scandinavian rock and indie conference. Canadians are not allowed to showcase, but we can attend the conference. It's mainly Norwegian, but features businesses across Scandinavia and the UK.

[www.bylarm.no](http://www.bylarm.no)

## **March:**

### **Tallinn Music Week**

END OF MARCH

\*\*\$

It's the largest music festival in Northeastern Europe, but mostly featuring bands from Estonia. It is the best music market for Northeastern Europe, especially if one is interested in the relatively strong Baltic festival market. A lot of Finnish companies attend as well.

[www.tallinmusicweek.ee](http://www.tallinmusicweek.ee)

### **M4Music**

Zurich, Switzerland

END OF MARCH

\*\*%

M4Music is a small but growing music conference in Switzerland, and as I know it the only active Swiss centric conference. It offers a demo clinic but is expanding its showcase model, from 1 venue to 3 venues. It also has a conference element in Lausanne, which is a 2-3 hour train journey away.

[www.m4music.ch](http://www.m4music.ch)

### **Babel Med**

Marseilles, France

END OF MARCH

\*\*\$%

- This is billed as the gateway to the African music community, through the Mediterranean. It is a fairly large showcasing festival with both a conference and a trade show. It focuses a lot on folk and 'world' music, but has opened up to a lot of styles in recent years, including forms of dance. It offers a fair amount of showcasing opportunities as well.

[www.babelmed.net](http://www.babelmed.net)

## **April:**

### **New Skool Rules**

(not happening in 2012.. only in 2013)

EARLY APRIL

Rotterdam, NL

\$\*\*

- This is a relatively new but active hip-hop and urban music conference, that is small but very targeted. It's centered on the Dutch urban community, but offers up international showcasing opportunities and has a good set of panels for the international delegates.

[www.newskoolrules.com](http://www.newskoolrules.com)

### **MIP TV**

EARLY APRIL

Cannes, France

\$

This is a huge media and creative industries conference, concerned with entertainment content businesses. The Canada Pavilion is run by Telefilm Canada and solicited through CIMA, and one of the biggest conferences and trade shows of its kind in the world.

[www.miptv.com](http://www.miptv.com)

### **Inferno Metal Meeting**

Oslo, Norway

MID APRIL

\*\*\$%

Inferno is the world's largest metal conference, essentially taking up from where Helsinki left off. Canadians are allowed to showcase, and it has a huge trade fair. There is also a consumer driven music festival promoted alongside, and mostly Black and Death metal are the focus.

[www.infernofestival.net](http://www.infernofestival.net)

### **Printemps de Bourges**

Bourges, France

MID APRIL / 3RD WEEK

\$\*\*&

- a very big indie music festival in Bourges, and possibly the largest independent industry gathering in all of France. Canadians are invited to apply and showcase, and it's one of the better domestic French opportunities. It's operated by the same folks who run MAMA in Paris in October.

[www.printemps-bourges.fr](http://www.printemps-bourges.fr)

### **Jazz Ahead**

MID APRIL

Bremen, Germany

\$%\*\*

This conference has been occurring for nearly a decade in Bremen and bills itself as one

of the largest jazz industry gatherings in Europe. It offers a good amount of showcasing, plus a conference and trade show. It's popular for jazz club bookers and festival directors, and is one of the better gateways for jazz, especially contemporary jazz, into Germany and surrounding territories.

[www.jazzahead.de](http://www.jazzahead.de)

### **Sensoria Industry Day**

Sheffield, UK  
END OF APRIL

\$

This is a one day conference in Sheffield organized by the UKTI in the North and AIM. It's focused on music supervision and is well worth attending if one is in the area.

[www.sensoria2012.com](http://www.sensoria2012.com)

### **May:**

#### **Camden Crawl**

London, UK  
MAY BANK HOLIDAY

\*\*

The Camden Crawl is a consumer-focused showcase festival, with no trade or conference element attached. It is two days and around 300 slots for showcasing, both afternoon and evening, with a wristband policy in affect for consumers. Canadian Blast will be staging an afternoon showcase at the festival

[www.thecamdencrawl.com](http://www.thecamdencrawl.com)

#### **Spot on Denmark**

Aarhus, Denmark  
EARLY MAY

\*\*\$

Spot on Denmark is the largest music conference in Denmark, and is the gathering of the entire nation's music community. 75% of the bands that showcase are Danish, but there is an opportunity for artist showcasing upon application. It's targeted but effective in its mandate.

[www.spotondenmark.dk](http://www.spotondenmark.dk)

#### **Jazz NL**

'Gateway to International Jazz'  
Maastricht, Netherlands

MID MAY

\$\*\*%

This is a new and untested conference that promises to be similar to Jazzahead and equally contemporary focused.

[www.jazznl.com](http://www.jazznl.com)

#### **Future Everything**

Manchester, UK  
MID MAY

\*\*

This is the same weekend as TGE and Walk the Line, but offers an opportunity for experimental and more left -of-centre acts to showcase in the UK. It also offers an arts and technology program, linking musicians with cross-disciplinary artists for spontaneous collabs. It's linked to Liverpool Soundcity, the next week on and worth a look.

### **The Great Escape**

Brighton, UK

MID MAY

\*\*\$&

The Great Escape is the largest music conference and showcasing opportunity in the south of the UK. It has a conference element alongside showcasing. It pays larger acts to participate and is mainly focused on the live market. There is a small trade show in the Brighton Dome, but it's mainly panels and showcasing this.

[www.escapegreat.com](http://www.escapegreat.com)

### **Liverpool Soundcity**

Liverpool, UK

THIRD WEEK OF MAY

\*\*\$

Liverpool Soundcity is the largest and most developing music conference in the north of England for the indie and rock communities. It is similar to the Great Escape in scope, but it two years younger. It has showcasing opportunities and a small trade show.

[www.liverpoolsoundcity.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolsoundcity.co.uk)

### **Music Connected**

London, UK

END OF MAY

%

This is a conference (no showcasing) organized by AIM focusing on the digital market. If one is in London it's worth attending.

[www.musicindie.com](http://www.musicindie.com)

### **Soho Street Market (City Showcase)**

London, UK

EARLY MAY

\*\*\$

City Showcase grew out of the ashes of London Calling, essentially. It is a small conference with around 50 speakers and two evenings of concerts, which bands are invited to apply to perform. The attendance is good. It is mainly indie/rock.

[www.cityshowcase.co.uk](http://www.cityshowcase.co.uk)

### **Nuits Sonores**

Lyon, France

END OF MAY

\*\*

Nuits Sonores is one of the more respected and boutique showcasing opportunities in France. It's targeted mainly as Francophile artists, but features both simultaneously within the indie and rock world. It has featured partnerships with Pop Montreal in the past and also curates the Euro Lab, which is a sort of Europareise event for France.

[www.nuits-sonores.com](http://www.nuits-sonores.com)

### **Primavera Sound**

Barcelona, Spain

END OF MAY

\*\*\$

- This is the main indie music festival in Spain, and as of last year they introduced a 'Pro' section within it, with panels and conference topics. There are also showcasing

opportunities through Canadian Blast. It's a great one to play and very popular in Europe.  
[www.primaverasound.com](http://www.primaverasound.com)

### **International Music Summit**

Ibiza, Balearic Islands

END OF MAY

\*\*\$%

The IMS was founded five years ago by Pete Tong, and has grown to be one of the larger dance music conferences in Europe. It is focused on the club scene, combining large parties with a trade fair and conference elements. Artists are allowed to showcase.

[www.internationalmusicsummit.com](http://www.internationalmusicsummit.com)

### **Europavox**

Clermont, France

END OF MAY

\$

Europavox is a small independent conference for the continental (mainly French festival bookers). It is sponsored in part by AIM and does have a small but active British contingent. It is a business event with no Canadian showcasing.

[www.europavox.fr](http://www.europavox.fr)

### **June:**

#### **Go North!**

Inverness, Scotland

EARLY-TO-MID JUNE

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Go North is a targeted but small festival in the north of Scotland, and the largest in the region. It is co-sponsored by the Rockness Festival, which happens that weekend. Artists that showcase at one get a slot at the other, and they are open to applications. There is a conference element as well.

[www.gonorth.info](http://www.gonorth.info)

### **SONAR**

Barcelona and Coruna, Spain

MID JUNE

\*\*\$%

Sonar is one of the largest and most respected music festival in Spain. In addition to the consumer element, there is a business conference titled Sonar Pro, which is targeted towards dance and electronic companies from across Europe. It should be seen as a priority within that genre.

[www.sonar.es](http://www.sonar.es)

### **Cologne POP**

Cologne, DE

END OF JUNE

\*\*\$

Cologne Pop was created in response to PopKomm's move to Berlin. It is a consumer festival and conference over six days, focusing on the independent music community within rock and pop in Germany and across Europe. It is the second largest showcase in Germany, aside from PopKomm and is well respected.

[www.c-o-pop.de](http://www.c-o-pop.de)

### **July:**

### **Canada Day**

London, Paris and Berlin

July 1 and thereabouts

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Canada Day is now a showcasing opportunity in both London, Paris and Berlin. There will be events in all genres on June 29th, July 1st and July 2nd. This will be presented by CIMA in all markets.

[www.canadadaylondon.com](http://www.canadadaylondon.com)

### **September:**

#### **Berlin Music Week**

Berlin, DE

EARLY SEPT

\*\*\$%

Berlin Music Week has changed and will take place entirely within Kreuzberg. It'll feature showcases and a bespoke conference curated by staff who used to work at Cologne POP. It offers showcasing opportunities and networking opportunities and is revamped now that PopKomm no longer exists.

[www.berlinmusicweek.de](http://www.berlinmusicweek.de)

#### **Incubate**

MID SEPT

Tilburg, Netherlands

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- This is a week long experimental and indie festival in Tilburg. Lots of possible showcasing opportunities available.

[www.incubate.org](http://www.incubate.org)

#### **Mercat de Musica de Vic**

MID SEPT

Vic (near Barcelona), Spain

\*\*\$%

This is a small but well attended folk festival showcase for the Balearic regions. There is a conference and trade show element, as well as a few showcases which Canadians can apply to. It's situated in a gorgeous town as well.

[www.mmvv.net](http://www.mmvv.net)

#### **Reeperbahn**

Hamburg, DE

THIRD WEEK OF SEPT

\*\*\$%

Reeperbahn is the newest but fastest growing music conference in Germany. It is split in two: Reeperbahn Festival and Reeperbahn Campus. Campus is the largest promoter conference in Germany, featuring a trade fair, about 1300 delegates and conferences. Festival is a consumer-centred event staged over a week in Hamburg. Bands are invited to perform and companies to attend.

[www.reeperbahnfestival.de](http://www.reeperbahnfestival.de)

#### **Eurocultured Manchester**

END SEPT

Manchester, UK

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- This is a city-wide arts and culture event funded by the EU and administered through Spearfish, a promotions firm. It offers showcase spots to bands within its city-wide programming and well placed within the other opportunities available in September.  
[www.spearfish.co.uk](http://www.spearfish.co.uk)

### **Sound and Vision Norwich**

END SEPT

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- a small, regional showcasing opportunity in Norwich, focusing on sync opportunities. It's growing and in its second year. Similar to the Bristol event in November.  
[www.soundandivision.org.uk](http://www.soundandivision.org.uk)

### **October:**

#### **See Me Sofia**

Sofia, Bulgaria

EARLY OCT

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See Me Sofia is the largest music conference in southeastern Europe. It covers all genres, but is focused on mainstream pop, dance and rock and roll. It is open for showcasing and has a business conference attached, mainly for Bulgarian, Romanian and regional booking agents and promoters. A possibly good first step for that market.

[www.seeme-sofia.com](http://www.seeme-sofia.com)

#### **Vienna Waves**

Vienna, Austria

EARLY OCT

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- This is a new showcasing opportunity in Austria in which Canadians are invited to showcase. It's produced by Ink Music and TBA Magazine, Vienna's Exclaim and featured 3 Canadian bands in 2011... Great opportunity to link up with Eastern Europe, as all major festivals (Sziget, Exit etc..) are there.

[www.wavesvienna.com](http://www.wavesvienna.com)

#### **WOMEX**

Thessaloniki, Greece

MID OCT

\*\*\$%

WOMEX is the largest traditional and 'world' music conference in the world, with over 800 delegates. It moves every three years, but was historically in Seville. It features 30 odd official showcases with the opportunity to host an off-venue event. It has a huge trade fair that both provinces and the Canada Council have participated in. [www.womex.com](http://www.womex.com)

#### **Amsterdam Dance Event**

Amsterdam, NL

MID OCT

\*\*\$%

Amsterdam Dance Event is the largest electronic music showcase and conference festival in Europe. It is focused on Djs, clubs, promotion and licensing and has over 200 concerts around the city alongside. It is produced by the same people who do Eurosonic and should be on the calendar for our members in the electronic music community.

[www.amsterdamdanceevent.nl](http://www.amsterdamdanceevent.nl)

### **MaMA Music Event**

Paris, France

END OF OCT

\*\*\$

- This is a festival run by the same people who do Printemps de Bourges, which is hugely respected and widely attended. It's been on for a few years and is a good resource for the French market, especially because it's based in the Pigalle. It allows for Canadian showcases.

[www.mama-event.com](http://www.mama-event.com)

### **You Are In Control**

Reykjavik, Iceland

TWO DAY BEFORE AIRWAVES

\$

You Are In Control is produced by Icelandic Music Export, to coincide with the Iceland Airwaves. It's a conference with no showcasing, focusing primarily on synch, licensing and DIY. About 80 delegates attended last year.

[www.youareincontrol.is](http://www.youareincontrol.is)

### **Iceland Airwaves**

Reykjavik, Iceland

END OCT (HALLOWEEN)

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Iceland Airwaves is an exciting showcasing opportunity for Canadian bands. There is no longer a conference elements to the festival, as that has moved to the week of the Reykjavik Film Festival. Instead, this is a purely consumer festival with both paid performance and showcase opportunities.

[www.icelandairwaves.com](http://www.icelandairwaves.com)

## **November:**

### **Fira Meditterania**

Manresa, Spain

EARLY NOV

\*\*

- This is a world and mediterranean based conference in Catalan, not too far from Barcelona. It offers everything WOMEX does, just on a smaller scale. It's very focused on the concept of 'Mediterranean' music, so anything that covers the coasts of the sea. It has panels, a trade show and showcases.

### **Folk Arts England Conference**

Nottingham, UK

MID NOV

\*\*\$

FO UK is the largest gathering of folk festival promoters in England. It has a small showcasing element alongside, but the main goal is to place oneself at folk festival in England, of which there are hundreds.

[www.folkarts-england.org](http://www.folkarts-england.org)

### **Music Southwest**

Bristol, UK  
END NOV  
\$

Music Southwest is a small conference produced by the Bristol Music Foundation. It is comprised mainly of talks, although artists can apply to showcase. It's focused on the southwest of England, festivals and local booking.

[www.bristolmusicfoundation.com](http://www.bristolmusicfoundation.com)

### **Rotterdam BUMA Beats**

END NOV  
Rotterdam, Netherlands  
\$\*\*

This is a new hip-hop and urban music conference produced by the same people behind Eurosonic and ADE. It promises to be the best urban music conference in Europe, and is situation 6 months past New Skool, which is in the same city. It's unproven but very interesting.

[www.buma-rotterdam-beats.nl](http://www.buma-rotterdam-beats.nl)

### **Sonic Visions**

END NOV  
Luxembourg City, Luxembourg  
\$

- small festival at the Rockhal in Luxembourg. There are showcasing opportunities.

[www.sonicvisions.lu](http://www.sonicvisions.lu)

### **MEDIMEX**

Bari, Italy  
END NOV  
\*\*\$

New conference runs by Puglia Sounds. It is sort of like WOMEX, focus on the Mediterranean. Unproven but unique to Italy.

[www.pugliasounds.it](http://www.pugliasounds.it)

### **Don't Panic We're From Poland / European Music Fair**

END NOV  
Warsaw, Poland  
\$\*\*

- This is the first showcase music festival in Poland. It features international showcasing and a big music fair. It's also the largest gathering of Polish industry, which is arguably the fastest growing recording and festival market in Europe.

<http://www.festiwalbezpaniki.pl/>

### **DECEMBER:**

#### **Transmusicales**

Rennes, France  
EARLY DEC  
\$\*\*

One of the biggest showcasing festivals in France. A lot of UK bookers go, as it's sort out like France's Great Escape. There is a trade show and Canadians are allowed to showcase at it.

[www.lestrans.com](http://www.lestrans.com)

## **Glimps Showcase Festival**

Gent, Belgium

END DEC

\$\*\*

This is the first ever showcase festival in Belgium, organized by management companies Rockoco and Keremos. It covers about 80- bands over two days in 10 venues and features a slew of Belgian festival directors and some European contacts. It's at the end of the year but very worthwhile in the future to look at.

[www.glimpsgent.be](http://www.glimpsgent.be)

### **OTHER EVENTS OF NOTE:**

- Generator in the UK (regional development organization does a Music Futures conference in March. [www.generator.org.uk](http://www.generator.org.uk))
- There are regional conferences all over the place, as well as small folk showcases..

Examples:

- Styria Sounds (November - Graz, Austria)
- Mannheim Pop Akademie (November, Mannheim, Germany)
- Various small French gatherings
- Sziget Festival Gathering (Hungary in July)

And finally, here's a list of festivals usually frequented by important EU industry:

- Reading Festival, UK (August)
- Ibiza Rocks Festival (summer... Ibiza)
- Any ATP Event ([www.atpfestival.com](http://www.atpfestival.com))
- Haldern Pop (August, Germany)