

AUSTRIAN HEARTBEATS at Westway LAB 2018

AVEC, CARI CARI, MOLLY, MOTSA and LEYYA

In the 5th edition of the Portuguese Westway Lab Festival (April 11th-14th), the Austrian music scene is in focus. AVEC, CARI CARI, MOLLY, MOTSA, and LEYYA are five young and promising acts from Austria. Their level of popularity ranges from still being an insider tip to having international success. At WestwayLAB the audience can share moments of their international career at first hand. An Austrian Reception rounds off the programme and offers the chance to meet players of the Austrian music industry.

“The Austrian line-up really matches the festival programming because it embodies the diversity and creativity we look to foster in Westway LAB.”

(Rui Torrinha, Artistic Programming Westway LAB)

Westway LAB Festival 2018 will feature a networking and showcase event with Austrian bands, matchmaking sessions, and a relaxed Meet & Greet with Austrian and international music industry representatives, media, and artists. Members of the Austrian delegation visiting Westway LAB 2018 are: Rhythm & Clues, Earcandy, ink music, Pro Event Team, Waves, Radio FM4, Seayou Records, Govinda Artist Services, and ptrclr. For Austrian Music Export, a joint initiative between mica - music austria and the Austrian Music Funds, vice versa this year's focus country is Portugal. Extended Portuguese delegations, dedicated panels and country receptions will be a major part of the Austrian Festival “Waves Vienna” 2018.

Austrian Music Export continues its series of networking and showcase events with *Austrian Heartbeats*. Five up-and-coming artists will perform in Guimarães: AVEC, Leyya, Molly, MOTSA and Cari Cari. In addition to their live gig at the festival, Cari Cari have been invited to participate in the artist residencies. The charming duo already managed to hit the international stage from the very beginning and played two fantastic Shows at this year's edition of ESNS – Eurosonic Noorderslag.

AUSTRIAN ARTISTS AT WESWAYLA: SCHEDULE

Friday, April 13th

Country Focus Panel / Austrian Reception

15:00 Country Focus Panel & Meet the Austrians speed meetings, held at Vila Flor Palace

20:00 Austrian Reception, held at Paço dos Duques Palace, near Guimarães castle

Concerts

21:45 Cari Cari, Centro Cultural Vila Flor, CC

22:30 AVEC, Centro Cultural Vila Flor, GAP

00:00 Molly, Centro Cultural Vila Flor, GAP

00:45 MOTSA, Centro Cultural Vila Flor, CC

Saturday, April 14th

22:30 Leyya, Centro Cultural Vila FlorGAP

LISTEN TO: <https://soundcloud.com/musicexportat/sets/westway-lab-2018>

READ MORE: <http://www.musicexport.at/austrian-heartbeats-at-westway-lab/>

ARTIST BIOS: AVEC, CARI CARI, MOLLY, MOTSA, and LEYYA

AVEC: The most impressive songs have been written at home, they tell a story and often reflect life experiences. **AVEC** demonstrates that you don't need to be able to read music, in order to write a good song. Writing music is how she deals with difficult personal experiences and feelings – the deep and meaningful connotations in her lyrics oppose the gentle plucking of her guitar strings. In her songs she can distance herself from the negative experiences in her life. But at the same time sharing her story gives her the creative power to portray human life and feelings through music. She does this in a very subtle yet powerful way.

CARI CARI: aptly named the “lovechild of The XX and The Kills” – have done it their way: first taking on the world and then Austria. Their single “White Line Fever” was licensed for the series “Shameless”, they have done a no-budget tour of Australia (a documentary is in the works) and their songs have been praised in blogs and online magazines. The band won the first ever XA Export Award at **Waves Vienna Festival** in fall 2017 and played two fantastic shows at this year's edition of ESNS – Eurosonic Noorderslag. In addition to their live gig at Westway Lab, Cari Cari have been invited to participate in the artist residencies starting a week before the festival.

LEYYA: Vienna-based experimental/electronic pop formation **LEYYA** appeared on the international scene with the release of *Superego* in Spring 2015, along with airplay all over Europe and placements on TV and commercials. Their unique mix of melancholy and electronic beats won them the prestigious FM4 Award at the Amadeus Austrian Music Awards. After playing renowned festivals like Reeperbahn Festival, Eurosonic, Iceland Airwaves and The Great Escape, they released their sophomore album “**Sauna**” on January 26, 2018 on +1 Records.

MOLLY: This band still qualifies as an insiders-tip, but probably not for long: **Molly** have all that it takes for greatness. The duo's music offers a wonderfully timeless dream-pop sound with that certain addictive something, creating those moments that you can just fall into. It is clear from their last two EPs “**Sun Sun Sun**” und “As Years Go By” that they have dedicated themselves to the post-rock shoegaze genre which they have now stamped with their own individual style. They bring something new to the story, a very independent flavour that develops a rather idiosyncratic vibe. Lars Andersson and Phillip Dornauer have already managed to make a name for themselves inside of Austria and are now touring intensely abroad to leave their mark on the international stage. Their songs invite the listener to simply let go and let themselves be enveloped by the music. Molly offer an extraordinary listening experience, one that will most definitely not go unnoticed.

MOTSA: An idiosyncratic electronic sound tinkerer who also likes to push stylistic boundaries in his music. **MOTSA** (alias Valerio Dittrich) – grown up in Scotland and now living in Vienna – loves to dance along the borders of musical genres and to weave danceable beats together with catchy melodies, electronic experiments, and a certain amount of pop into something refreshingly new. The sound that **MOTSA** makes is one that has attracted international attention and found its fans. Which isn't too surprising since his tracks radiate a special magical note in which you can easily lose yourself. His latest release “**Petricolour**” (2016) on Fatboy Slim's Southern Fried Records is perfect proof.

Austrian Heartbeats at Westway LAB Festival 2018
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**AUSTRIAN MUSIC EXPORT**

Austrian Music Export is a joint initiative of the [mica – music austria](#) and the [Austrian Music Fund](#) in close cooperation with the organizers of the Austrian booths at international music trade fairs. Austrian Music Export is supported by AKM/GFÖM, FAMA/WKO, go international – an initiative of WKÖ and BMWFV, the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, The Arts and Culture Division of the Federal Chancellery of Austria, by IFPI/LSG, AUME/SKE Fund and the Municipal Department of Cultural Affairs (MA7) of the City of Vienna.

