

PRESS RELEASE

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Goethe-Institut's 'Slow Touring' project brings up-and-coming Berlin musician to Ireland

Rising indie, soul and R'n'B star LIE NING to play two shows in Dublin as part of sustainability-focused European concert tour

The [Goethe-Institut Ireland](#) has today (03.09.24) announced that Berlin-based queer musician, model, dancer [LIE NING](#) will be coming to Dublin next month for two concerts as part of its sustainability-focused 'Slow Touring' project.

LIE NING, whose music blends indie, soul and R'n'B, released their debut album *utopia* in April 2023 to critical acclaim. The album was produced by Irish Grammy winner Stephen Fitzmaurice, known for his work with artists including U2, Sam Smith, Alicia Keys, and Mary J Blige. Several tracks from the album have secured domestic and international playlist placements on Spotify, including on Spotify's global flagship playlist *GLOW*, which spotlights LGBTQ+ artists.

Called "artist of the hour" by respected German music magazine *Musikexpress* and celebrated by *Vogue Germany* as their "new favourite artist from Berlin", LIE NING has played sold-out venues in Berlin and Hamburg and performed in front of large crowds at various German music festivals.

During their stay in Dublin, LIE NING will perform on Culture Night (20th September) at the Goethe-Institut on Merrion Square, as well as at IMMA's Earth Rising Festival on 21st September.

Slow Touring project aims to promote sustainable travel in music industry

LIE NING's concerts in Dublin and five other European cities are part of the Slow Touring project, initiated by the Goethe-Institut Ireland. The project's goal is to counteract fast-paced and short-lived concert tours, creating both a more positive climate impact and a more meaningful experience for musicians. Additionally, the project emphasises the involvement of local communities, supports local economies, and aims to foster a sense of European solidarity and shared cultural identity through sustainable practices in the arts.

As part of the tour, LIE NING will travel by train and ferry via Amsterdam to Paris, Dublin, Manchester and Brussels, stopping at the Goethe-Institutes along the way. At each stop, there will be opportunities for collaboration with local musicians and a joint performance.

Commenting on the project, Director of the Goethe-Institut Ireland, Ulrike Gasser said: "Sustainability, as well as climate and resource protection, are central to the Goethe-Institut's work. With this in mind, we have developed the Slow Touring project as a joint initiative with our colleagues in other institutes in Western Europe. Our aims are to promote sustainable and

climate-friendly travel in the music industry, facilitate meaningful international cultural and musical exchange, and create opportunities for collaboration with local musicians and communities. LIE NING is a hugely talented musician with a strong interest in sustainability, equality and social justice, and we look forward to welcoming them to Dublin next month.”

LIE NING will perform at the Goethe-Institut in Dublin on 20th September (Culture Night) at 7:30pm and at IMMA on 21st September at 6pm. Admission to both concerts is free.

For further information, visit goethe.de/slowtouring and imma.ie.

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Note to editors:

- LIE NING and Ulrike Gasser are available for media interviews on request.
- Images of LIE NING for reproduction by media outlets are available from the following Dropbox folder:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/l9uu0fxo6o9z298pp5s2g/ALdAdV5UUKNzv7nS7xGnkUQ?rlkey=zva1692663zencke4b3jrq5cc&dl=0>

About LIE NING

LIE NING, Berlin-based musician, model, dancer, art director and LGBTQ+ & POC ambassador is looking at an impressive career so far, with appearances at SXSW, Fusion, Reeperbahn Festival, support slots for Raphael Saadique, Milky Chance and many more. The artist seamlessly navigates indie, soul, and R'n'B, delivering timeless pop moments with their debut album *utopia* (April 2023) receiving critical acclaim, while the headline tour in May 2023 featured sold-out shows in Berlin and Hamburg. Singles like "error" and "i see you" earned global playlist placements, and with their November 2023 *sweatshop* EP they made history as the first German musician selected for Spotify's *GLOW* Spotlight Artist, featuring on the global *GLOW* playlist cover and lighting up New York Times Square.

About Slow Touring

Slow Touring is a Goethe-Institut initiative that promotes sustainable travel within the music industry. It aims to create a resource-efficient concert tour that prioritises environmental responsibility. By fostering international musical exchange, Slow Touring offers musicians valuable opportunities for new connections, collaborations, and audience expansion.

The initiative challenges the fast-paced nature of traditional tours by encouraging longer stays and deeper engagement with communities. In doing so, it not only reduces the environmental impact of travel but also supports local economies and enhances the overall experience for both artists and audiences. Slow Touring seeks to foster a sense of European solidarity and shared cultural identity through sustainable practices in the arts.

About the Goethe-Institut Irland

The Goethe-Institut is Germany's cultural institute, which is active in 98 countries worldwide. It opened its doors in Ireland 63 years ago, in 1961, and is based at 37 Merrion Square in Dublin.

It operates from a European perspective and works independently, without political ties. Its objectives are to promote the knowledge of the German language, foster cultural collaboration and exchange, and convey a contemporary image of Germany. It does this through maintaining and building relationships with partners from the cultural and educational sectors in Ireland.

The institute runs an extensive cultural and events programme, offers language courses and qualifications, and an on-site and online library, which combined holds more than 30,000 titles. These can be accessed by anyone, free of charge, once registered. To find out more, visit: goethe.de/Ireland.