

# magna charta

# EURO TOP 50 CLUBS

Ticket Sales

1	206,735	Ancienne Belgique	Brussels, BELGIUM	\$6,050,438	26	13,150	Fabrique	Milan, ITALY	\$447,874
2	79,382	O2 Academy Glasgow	Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM	\$2,915,131	27	12,956	The Green Room	Dublin, IRELAND	\$218,969
3	45,672	Palladium	Cologne, GERMANY	\$1,661,586	28	11,457	013	Tilburg, NETHERLANDS	\$532,515
4	43,689	SWG3	Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM	\$1,149,473	29	11,311	Alter Schlachthof	Dresden, GERMANY	\$376,682
5	43,461	Grosse Freiheit 36	Hamburg, GERMANY	\$1,362,560	30	11,155	The Galvanizers Yard	Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM	\$449,203
6	36,754	King Tut's Wah Wah Hut	Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM	\$501,989	31	11,079	The Columbia Theater	Berlin, GERMANY	\$272,510
7	25,838	Docks Konzerte Disco	Hamburg, GERMANY	\$806,637	32	10,856	Melkweg	Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS	\$483,803
8	24,780	Tonhalle	Munich, GERMANY	\$1,001,315	33	10,254	Electric Ballroom	London, UNITED KINGDOM	\$278,967
9	22,111	Backstage	Munich, GERMANY	\$592,308	34	10,066	Technikum Kultfabrik	Munich, GERMANY	\$257,077
10	20,042	Mojo Club	Hamburg, GERMANY	\$525,232	35	9,955	The Liquid Room	Edinburgh, UNITED KINGDOM	\$272,961
11	19,576	AB Club @ Ancienne Belgique	Brussels, BELGIUM	\$299,151	36	8,845	O2 Academy Leeds	Leeds, UNITED KINGDOM	\$329,903
12	18,873	Carlswerk Victoria	Cologne, GERMANY	\$616,474	37	8,816	Sage Gateshead	Gateshead, UNITED KINGDOM	\$402,117
13	17,620	Saint Luke's	Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM	\$370,530	38	8,264	Strom	Munich, GERMANY	\$176,234
14	17,457	York Barbican	York, UNITED KINGDOM	\$670,204	39	7,934	Oran Mor	Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM	\$187,765
15	17,398	Astra Kulturhaus	Berlin, GERMANY	\$493,636	40	7,692	Bi Nuu	Berlin, GERMANY	\$165,239
16	16,233	LKA Longhorn	Stuttgart, GERMANY	\$465,793	41	7,608	Uebel & Gefährlich	Hamburg, GERMANY	\$188,778
17	16,082	Whelans	Dublin, IRELAND	\$320,779	42	7,469	Werk 2	Leipzig, GERMANY	\$220,604
18	15,342	Manchester Academy	Manchester, UNITED KINGDOM	\$458,984	43	7,372	E-Werk	Cologne, GERMANY	\$247,620
19	14,987	Batschkapp	Frankfurt, GERMANY	\$487,420	44	7,127	Molotov Club	Hamburg, GERMANY	\$140,298
20	14,796	Luxor	Cologne, GERMANY	\$328,889	45	6,930	E-Werk	Erlangen, GERMANY	\$192,639
21	14,010	Huxleys Neue Welt	Berlin, GERMANY	\$426,927	46	6,791	SpardaWelt Eventcenter	Stuttgart, GERMANY	\$68,723
22	13,927	Alcatraz	Milan, ITALY	\$525,540	47	6,691	Musik & Frieden	Berlin, GERMANY	\$127,239
23	13,355	Cirque Royal	Brussels, BELGIUM	\$852,001	48	6,558	Button Factory	Dublin, IRELAND	\$121,124
24	13,255	Im Wizemann	Stuttgart, GERMANY	\$391,314	49	6,551	Rock City	Nottingham, UNITED KINGDOM	\$233,220
25	13,152	Die Kantine	Cologne, GERMANY	\$338,717	50	6,525	Gloria	Cologne, GERMANY	\$171,691

All figures are for tickets sold in Europe as reported to POLLSTAR for shows played between 2/1/19 and 1/31/20.

## Ancienne Belgique Celebrates Best Years Ever

By Gideon Gottfried

Leading the Magna Charta's club category for a second consecutive year is Ancienne Belgique in Brussels, Belgium. Said venue artistic director Kurt Overbergh: "2018 and 2019 were the best years AB ever witnessed since our birth exactly 40 years ago — artistically, financially, as well as in terms of audience."

Forty percent of AB performers are Belgian, and the local market is strong. The venue, located in the Belgian capital, receives 20% of its funding through state subsidies, and although Belgian's current government has cut its cultural budget, Overbergh said "we stay strong."

Based on 141 box office reports submitted to Pollstar, AB sold 206,735 tickets and grossed \$6,050,438 between Feb. 1, 2019 and Jan. 31 2020. That's 127,353 tickets and \$3,135,306 more than reported by this year's runner-up, Scotland's O2 Academy Glasgow.

AB has several special events planned to celebrate its 40th anniversary this year. "We asked Mark Lanegan to curate a whole weekend, and he invited 15 bands altogether," Overbergh said. "It's his first curated weekend ever, and he also will play his überclassic *Bubblegum* in its entirety. He will only do this at AB, so very unique. We keep on organizing shows in churches, too, like the one with A Winged Victory For The Sullen, neoclassical beauty. The audience loves it; we always sell out."

AB's 2020 will also see the creation of a new rooftop establishment that will serve as a bar, restaurant, and 60-capacity club for intimate concerts and avant-garde electronic music, which is currently booked in the AB Salon. According to Overbergh, the works will take a year and make AB more open and accessible.

He said 2020 was already completely locked down in terms of dates, and that offers



**DEUS** sold out eight shows in a row at Ancienne Belgique, moving 16,000 total tickets.

for 2021 have started to roll in. This new booking reality is good and bad, according to Overbergh.

It's "good to know ahead of time that your calendar will be full and [that] sales are going well, but it also makes the programming more conservative, as the young bands book later," he said.

"How to keep it funky? Hard to say," Overbergh continued. "If you book hyped bands, the hype might be over one year later, and by the time the concert takes place, nobody remembers anymore why we booked them." ✨

Francis Vanhee