

EURO Vision

SONG CONTEST

MALMÖ 2024

Press kit

Heading to Malmö for Eurovision 2024 !

Sweden hosts the 68th Eurovision Song Contest, the world's biggest live music competition.

Last year's event attracted over 162 million viewers in Europe, Australia and around the world.

This year, 37 participants will gather in the city of Malmö to defend their country's honour. This is the third time Malmö has hosted the competition, with a record of seven victories for Sweden. Loreen's victory last year with 'Tattoo' took Sweden to the top of the podium in terms of the number of Eurovision victories, level with Ireland. And in doing so, Loreen became the first woman and only the second performer to win the Eurovision Song Contest twice – in 2012 and 2023 – equal with Johnny Logan for Ireland (who won in 1980 and 1987 in Brussels).

And 2024 also marks the 50th anniversary of Sweden's first victory, which was one of the most emblematic of all Eurovision Song Contests. Back then, in 1974 in Brighton, ABBA's song 'Waterloo' was voted the big winner on the night and marked the beginning of an amazing worldwide career for the group that has gone down as one of the most extraordinary of all time.

The two semi-finals of this 68th edition of the Eurovision Song Contest will be held on Tuesday 7th May and Thursday 9th May respectively. Belgium's entry will be performing in part two of the second semi-final.

The whole event will be staged under the slogan "**United by Music**", which is now a permanent feature of all future editions of the Contest.

The background image shows a scenic view of the Malmö skyline at dusk, with a bridge in the foreground and the city lights reflecting on the water. The Eurovision Song Contest logo is prominently displayed in the center, featuring the word 'EUROvision' in a stylized font with a heart-shaped cross inside the 'O', followed by 'SONG CONTEST' and 'MALMÖ 2024' in a clean, sans-serif font.

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UNITED BY MUSIC

Mustii at Eurovision with “Before the Party’s over” and 1000 “Eurofans” voices !



(c) Lennert Madou

Mustii, whose real name is Thomas Mustin, will be representing Belgium at this year’s Eurovision Song Contest. He will be performing his song ‘Before The Party’s Over’, created by the artist himself, in conjunction with Pierre Dumoulin (composer of Blanche’s song ‘City Lights’) and Ben Leclercq. ‘Before The Party’s Over’ is a unique song, in that hundreds of anonymous voices from all over Europe responded to a call on the Internet to take part in the chorus at the end of the song. More than 1000 people responded to the call to join in and sing the final chorus together. It’s a highly original way for Mustii to offer a truly collaborative song, more in tune than ever with the slogan of the Eurovision Song Contest 2024 : United by Music.

“I wanted this song to be an optimistic, euphoric burst of energy. It’s a gradual journey, ranging from the intimate to the final outburst (in both form and content). Before it’s all over, you have to live fully and intensely, as well as experiment with life and get out of your comfort zone. You have to take off your mask, fully embrace yourself, listen to your gut and refuse to be shackled and caged. In the song, I draw a metaphor between a long evening of partying (with its highs and lows, its ups and downs) and life. Before the fall, before it’s all over, you have to live life to the full!”

This 33-year-old French-speaking Belgian composer, singer and actor already has a career that includes two albums, ‘21st Century Boy’ and ‘It’s Happening Now’, as well as an album that is currently being prepared for release at the end of this year. Mustii alternates between sold-out concerts, theatre and roles in feature films and series, notably in the series ‘La Trêve’, co-produced by RTBF. The singer won the Magritte award for Best New Male Artist and the title of ‘Revelation of the Year’ at the D6bels Music Awards in 2019. He is also a judge on the ‘Drag Race Belgique’ TV show.

The song “Before the Party’s Over”, like life itself, is a rollercoaster ride and goes by in the blink of an eye. Sparse, enchanting synths lead to an epic climax with strings, brass, pulsating rhythms and a powerful chorus featuring the voices of a thousand fans. Last January, Mustii appealed to his fans and followers of the Eurovision Song Contest to add their voices to his song. As a result, a thousand voices from all over the world are heard in the song.

“Before the Party’s Over” is a hymn to life

How did this fantastic Eurovision adventure come about?

I was filming the first season of Drag Race, and Sandrine Roustan (editor’s note: the Director General of RTBF, in charge of content) came to ask me if I’d be interested in representing Belgium at the Eurovision Song Contest. She had seen me perform at a live show on The Voice, where I came to present a track from my previous album.

I didn’t hesitate: I love performing and a stage like Eurovision is so huge!

I make music for the stage, I love the stage, it also comes from my theatrical training. It’s where I feel most at home. I love acting, the transformation process and showmanship.

The challenge was to find a song that would create a true narrative and a performance. So I chose one of the songs from my forthcoming new album. This song tells a story with a nice progressive edge. And then there is the finale, which we recorded as a choir. There really is something unifying about it, with both melancholy and also great power...

It’s also the song that will round off the album.

How did you go about composing and writing the song?

The words ‘Before the Party’s Over’ were in place from the start and I wanted to build a hymn to life around this phrase.

My song is a great cry for living and resilience: you can have a complicated life, you can struggle, but at some point you have to get out of your cage and show your inner fire. It’s a unifying theme.

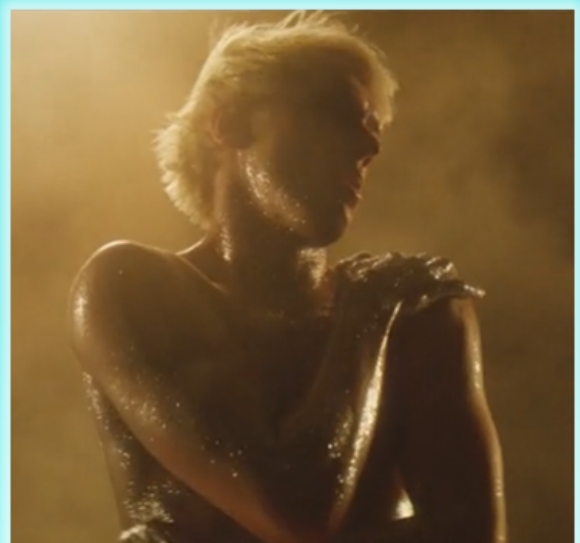
That’s also why I wanted this big choir made up of people from all over the world, coming together like a sacred union with a single need, ready to shout out to the world that we need to dare to show ourselves and live. There’s something very strong about all those voices singing ‘I’ve got a soul on fire, I’m gonna raise roofs tonight’...

Aside from its slightly melancholic character, it’s a positive song, a bringer of hope.

Everyone can relate to this message and my song can reflect everyone’s experience. The words are open enough for everyone to project their own story into it.

How are you preparing the set for the stage in Malmö?

The idea is to visually translate the story of the song, which is constructed in two parts. The song evolves from a feeling of withdrawal into a great cry for life that opens all doors. I really want that switch to happen on stage, too. I want to recreate this liberation with something open, flamboyant and glamorous...



“I make music for the stage”

Mustii will be taking part in a number of ‘pre-parties’, a series of Eurovision concerts in which the singers participating have the opportunity to perform their song live in front of an audience. Mustii has confirmed that he will be attending the following pre-parties :

29th-30th March

Eurovision in Concert Madrid

6th April

Eurovision in Concert Barcelona

7th April

Eurovision Party in London

13th April

Eurovision in Concert Amsterdam

14th April

Nordic Eurovision Party Stockholm

In addition to his Eurovision adventure, Mustii will be performing at an Ancienne Belgique concert that has already sold out on 19th October 2024 and at Forest National on 1st February 2025. He will also be starring in Michiel Blanchart’s forthcoming film, ‘La Nuit se Traîne’, alongside Romain Duris.



What's at stake for Belgium

On Thursday 9th May, Belgium will be one of 16 countries taking part in the second Semi-Final of the Eurovision Song Contest 2024, in a bid to secure a place in the Grand Final to be held on Saturday 11th May. As with the first Semi-Final on Tuesday, only 10 countries will be able to take part in the Final.

Viewers in all of the other countries performing that evening will be able to vote for Belgium, as well as three countries from the 'Big 5' that automatically qualify for the Final: Spain, France and Italy (the other countries directly qualified for the Final are United Kingdom, Germany and the host country, Sweden; these three countries will vote during the first Semi-Final).

Since last year, countries not taking part in the competition have also been able to vote. Grouped under the 'Rest of the World' category, they will be able to vote in the two Semi-Finals – and therefore they can also vote for Belgium – as well as in the Grand Final.

Viewers will be able to vote by telephone and/or text message, or via the Eurovision Song Contest app. Of course, it will not be possible to vote for your own country.










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Broadcast on RTBF

FIRST SEMI-FINAL

FIRST HALF

 UKRAINE
 CYPRUS
 POLAND
 SERBIA
 LITHUANIA
 CROATIA
 IRELAND

SECOND HALF

 SLOVENIA
 ICELAND
 FINLAND
 PORTUGAL
 LUXEMBOURG
 AUSTRALIA
 AZERBAIJAN
 MOLDOVA

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SECOND SEMI-FINAL

FIRST HALF

 AUSTRIA
 MALTA
 SWITZERLAND
 GREECE
 CZECHIA
 ALBANIA
 DENMARK
 ARMENIA

SECOND HALF

 ISRAEL
 ESTONIA
 GEORGIA
 NETHERLANDS
 NORWAY
 LATVIA
 SAN MARINO
 BELGIUM

EUROVISION
SONG CONTEST
MALMO 2024

TIPiK

Tuesday, 7th May at 9pm : 1st live Semi-Final

la une

Thursday, 9th May at 9 pm : 2nd live Semi-Final

la une

Saturday, 11th May at 9 pm : The Grand Finale live

Commentators

Commentary on the Contest will be presented live on RTBF by our now legendary duo of accomplices, **Maureen Louys** and **Jean-Louis Lahaye**, as has been the case since 2013 (with one exception in 2021, when Maureen was replaced at short notice by Fanny Jandrain due to quarantine requirements).

Belgium at the Eurovision Song Contest

The Eurovision Song Contest is the longest-running annual televised music competition. Belgium is one of the seven founding countries of the event and has been taking part since the Contest was created in 1956.

Fud Leclerc, was the very first Belgian contestant in 1956. He is also the only Belgian artiste to have competed four times in the Contest, in 1956, 1958, 1960 and 1962.

Belgium has won the Contest just once, in 1986 with Sandra Kim and her cult hit 'J'aime la vie'. At the time, she was the youngest entrant in the history of the Contest (she was 13 and a half years old, but sang that she was 15). Her youthful record was overtaken three years later by Nathalie Pâques from Liège, who represented France at just 11 years of age. The following year, in 1990, the rules were changed and since then the lower age limit for taking part has been set at 16.

Following Sandra Kim's victory, RTBF had the honour of organising the broadcast of the following year's Contest on 9 May 1987 from Hall 7 at the Heysel exhibition complex in Brussels. Twenty-two countries competed and Ireland won with Johnny Logan, the same man who had won the competition seven years earlier.

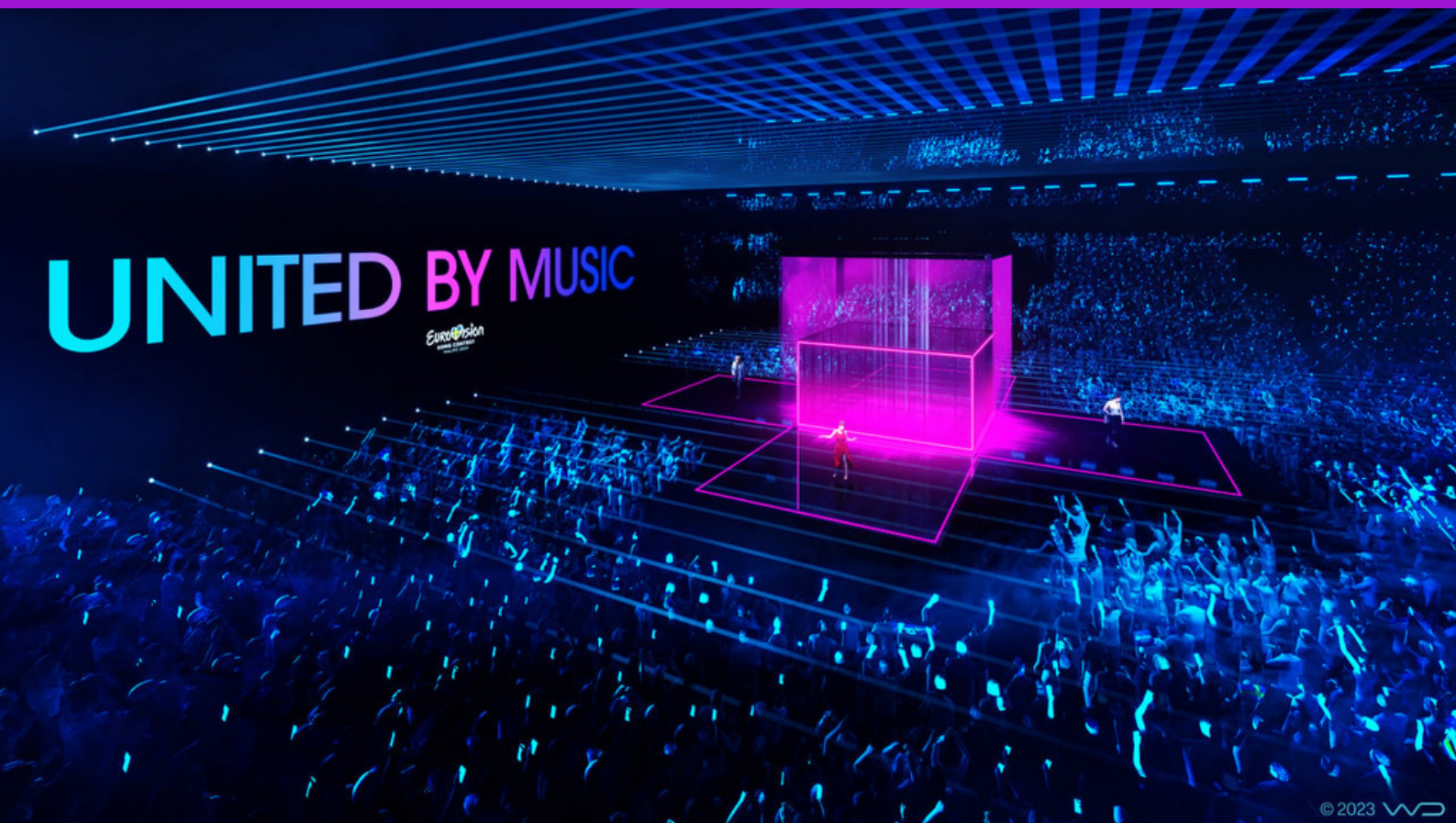


Belgium has twice been placed second in the Contest. In 1978, with Jean Vallée and 'L'Amour ça fait chanter la vie', and in 2003, with 'Sanomi', a song performed in an imaginary language by the group Urban Trad.

in 2008, Belgium also had a second entry featuring a song in an invented language, with 'O Julissi', by the Flemish group Ishtar. Belgium has never finished third in the Contest, but has been placed 4th on four occasions: in 1966, with 'Un peu de poivre un peu de sel' by Tonia; in 1982, with 'Si tu aimes ma musique', by Stella; in 2015, with Loïc Nottet and his song 'Rhythm Inside'; and in 2017, with Blanche and 'City Lights'.

RTBF and VRT stage the Belgium's entry for the Contest on an alternating basis, every other year. This year, it's RTBF's turn. With Mustii and his song 'Before The Party's Over', Belgium is hoping to thrill Europe (and Australia) for three unforgettable minutes on Thursday 9th Ma. And then – fingers crossed – in the Grand Final on Saturday 11th May.

ALL VOICES GO TO MUSTII



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TO REQUEST AN INTERVIEW WITH MUSTII

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BEFORE THE PARTY'S OVER

Composition :

Mustii / Pierre Dumoulin / Ben Leclercq

Lyrics :

Mustii / Arianna D'Amato / Charlotte Anne Clark / Nina
Sampermans

Production : Tobie Speleman

Mixage : Dan Grech

Artwork, pictures & video : Uber & Kosher