

2026 PERFORMING ARTS DOCUMENTARY PITCHING SUBMISSION GUIDE

Welcome to the IMZ Performing Arts Documentary Pitching Session submission guide! This step-by-step guide will help to ensure the trouble-free submission of your pitching project. For further questions, please contact: a.bovsunovska@imz.at

The IMZ Performing Arts Documentary Pitching Session, taking place at [Avant Première 2026](#), is a valuable opportunity for emerging and established filmmakers to present their latest projects to a panel of expert jurors. This session not only allows them to showcase their work but also facilitates connections among participants, jurors, and industry professionals, paving the way for future collaborations.

START

Visit <https://www.imz.at/submit-pitch> to start the submission process.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Performing Arts Documentaries that reveal the power of music and performing arts through unique and innovative approaches, such as (but not limited to):

- a deep dive into a specific genre,
- a portrait of an artist,
- or an exploration of the cultural impact of music and dance.

Formats must be intended for broadcast and distribution, and entry is open to feature-length documentary films, one-offs, series and short-formats at all stages (in development, in production, completed but not yet broadcasted).

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Submission Period:** 16 October – 12 December 2025
- **Pre-selection by IMZ Committee:** 13 December – 6 January 2026
- **Notification of selected pitches:** By mid-January 2026
- **Pitching Session:** 16 February at Hotel Scandic Berlin Potsdamer Platz.

SELECTION PROCESS

The IMZ Selection Committee will evaluate all submissions and pre-select 5 projects to be presented at the IMZ Performing Arts Documentary Pitching Session during Avant Première 2026. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by mid-January 2026.

ON SITE

5 pitchers will give a 2-minute introduction, followed by a pre-recorded 5-minute video pitch, and a 10-minute Q&A session where the jury will gather more information about each submission.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

- If your project is selected, it is necessary to purchase a Festival Pass to attend and present at the pitching session. The €95 pitching submission fee will be deducted from the cost of your Festival Pass.
- In-person attendance is mandatory - online pitching is not an option.
- If you want a second person to join you on stage, they must also purchase a Festival Pass for [Avant Première 2026](#).

DISCLAIMER PAGE

Please make sure to check the boxes on the 'Disclaimer' page to confirm your understanding of the requirements.

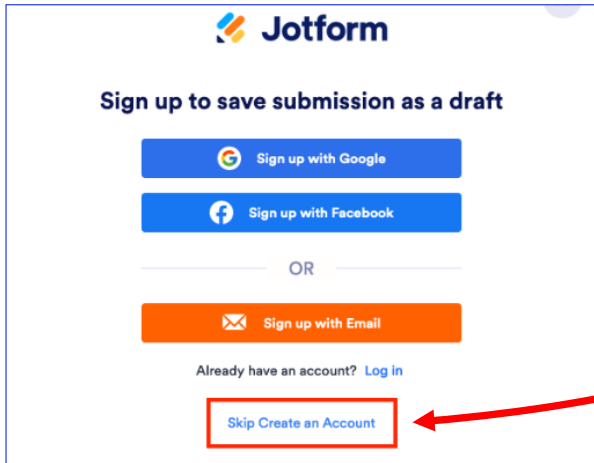
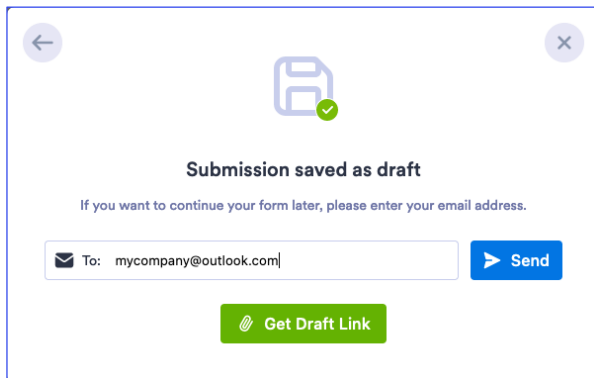
SUBMISSION

- **ABOUT YOU:** Input your personal information.
- **ABOUT YOUR PROJECT:**
 - **Production Title:** Input the title of your film.
 - **Synopsis:** A brief summary of the film's plot, including the main storyline and themes. (~100 words)
 - **Treatment:** A more detailed description of the movie, outlining the narrative arc, character development, and key moments. (~200 words)
- **VIMEO TRAILER:** If applicable, Include a Vimeo trailer with the password.
- **FILES:**
 - **Images:** Attach high-quality images that represent key scenes or elements of your project.
 - **Budget:** Provide a detailed breakdown of the project's budget, including all anticipated costs.
 - **Info:** Include relevant information about the project, such as key team members, production timeline, and any unique aspects of the film.
- **PAYMENT:** Select the €95 "Pitching Submitter" and complete your payment via Stripe (if you have not already purchased an on-site Avant Première Festival Pass. If you already have a Festival Pass, proceed without payment).

SAVING YOUR PROGRESS

To save your progress, click the 'Save' button at the bottom of each page.

⚠ It is not recommended to create a Jotform account to save your submission. Instead, select '**Skip Create an Account**'.

A screenshot of the Jotform sign-up interface. At the top is the Jotform logo. Below it, the text "Sign up to save submission as a draft" is displayed. There are three buttons for signing up: "Sign up with Google" (blue), "Sign up with Facebook" (blue), and "Sign up with Email" (orange). Below these is a link "Log in" for existing users. At the bottom, a button labeled "Skip Create an Account" is highlighted with a red rectangle and a red arrow pointing to it from the right.A screenshot of the "Submission saved as draft" confirmation screen. It features a floppy disk icon with a green checkmark. The text "Submission saved as draft" is centered, followed by the instruction "If you want to continue your form later, please enter your email address." Below this is an email input field with the placeholder "To: mycompany@outlook.com" and a blue "Send" button. At the bottom is a green button labeled "Get Draft Link".

You will be given two options: **copy** a draft link or receive the link via **email** to continue editing your submission later.

Note: If you choose to copy the draft link, we recommend saving it for future reference.

EDITING YOUR DRAFT

If you want to continue editing your previously started submission, open the draft link (see above) and please wait a few seconds for the content to load. Once your changes are made, click 'Save' again.

SUBMISSION COMPLETION

After completing all sections and carefully reviewing the information, proceed to the final page to submit. Once submitted, you will receive a confirmation email along with the options to:

- Download your submission as a PDF File
- Start a new submission
- Download your invoice as a PDF file

PAYMENT

To submit your pitch, it is necessary to pay a €95 fee at the end of the submission form if you have not already purchased a Festival Pass. If your pitch is selected, the €95 will be deducted from the cost of your Pass. If you already have a Festival Pass, this payment is not required.

MENTORING

The selected pitchers will be notified in mid-January to confirm their participation. At that time, they will have the opportunity to work closely with a mentor, chosen by the IMZ. This expert will be assigned to them to assist with their preparation for the pitching session, providing valuable guidance and expertise throughout the process.

AWARDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The winning pitch will receive a €5,000 cash-prize and the valuable opportunity to connect with industry leaders, distributors, and broadcasters in the performing arts sector. Furthermore, a Special Prize will be awarded by Sunny Side of the Doc.

THANK YOU!

We look forward to receiving your pitching submission! If you have any additional questions, feel free to reach out to us at:

✉ a.bovsunovska@imz.at