

access to ksk



as of: 29.07.2025



produktionsbande



produktionsbande network performing arts producers

about

produktionsbande is a decentrally organised network of and for producers in the independent performing arts in Germany.

The association is based in Frankfurt/Main.

www.produktionsbande.org

goals

- strengthening the image of the profession both internally and externally
- conception and implementation of target group-specific formats
- solidarity-based knowledge transfer and sharing for those involved in artistic production and for those interested in the field of (independent) performing arts

formats

all formats are organised by and for producers and those interested in the (independent) performing arts

- **hosted visits:** region-specific networking
- **network meetings:** supra-regional networking and professional discourse
- **mentorings:** collegial advice and intensive support for interested/beginning producers by experienced producers
- **workshops:** professional and/or discourse-related further training for actors in the (independent) performing arts
- **residencies:** time & space for reflection on one's own professional practice, away from one's own place of work

produktionsbande



working group: ksk access

2021

loose association of producers in the independent performing arts

2022

foundation of produktionsbande as an association

2023

14.04.2023
2. public working meeting with the aim of developing arguments in favour of access to the KSK for producers

2024

16.02.2024
3rd public working meeting to present the argumentation paper developed

2025

29.01.2025
Workshop #3: Exchange

15.07.2025
invitation to KSK

23.09.2025
Workshop #1: Orientation

27.11.2024
Workshop #2: Action

07.10.2025
Workshop #2: Action

detailed information on the work process: [here](#)

work to date

access to ksk



**creative producers
(performing arts)**



creative producers (performing arts)

history

The differentiation of public funding for independent art and culture in the late 1990s resulted in a pressure for artists to professionalize them and their artistic work (e. g. application, communication and public relations concepts).

Within this historical-political framing, the field of artistic producers (at that time still referred to as cultural managers or production managers) emerged, and access to the KSK has been the subject of public debate for several years.⁵

⁵ Annexed we have compiled evidence of public discussions on KSK access for producers.

approach

The profession of creative producers (performing arts) forms a hub, a crossing point for artistic/publishing services that are already listed individually in the catalog of the Artists' Social Security Fund (information brochure no. 6 on the artists' social security contribution; as of 09.2022). The profession *Creative producer (Performing Arts)* is thus understood as an umbrella term under which various artistic/publishing services are summarized.

The field of the (independent) performing arts is characterized by evident structural precarity. In the artistic projects, this circumstance entails that the services listed be-

low are not carried out by individual persons, but by a single person. This single person therefore provides several artistic/publishing services at the same time. In order to take this practice into account, the job title Creative Producer (Performing Arts) has become established.

Consequently, our kind request is to re-evaluate the term and notion of creative producer (performing arts) and to recognize it as an artistic/publishing profession within the framework of the *Künstlersozialversicherungsgesetz (KSVG)*.

argumentation



profession not yet listed by ksk

creative producers (performing arts)

dramaturge

copywriter

author

expert for communication

expert for marketing

pr expert

professions listed by ksk

The artistic parts outweigh the organizational,
coordinative and administrative parts in the job profile of
creative producers; this is comparable to all KSK-listed
job profiles.

visual #1: artistic practices



art

organisation

profession not yet listed by ksk

creative producers (performing arts)

dramaturge

copywriter

author

expert for communication

expert for marketing

pr expert

professions listed by ksk

non-artistic services

organisation

coordination

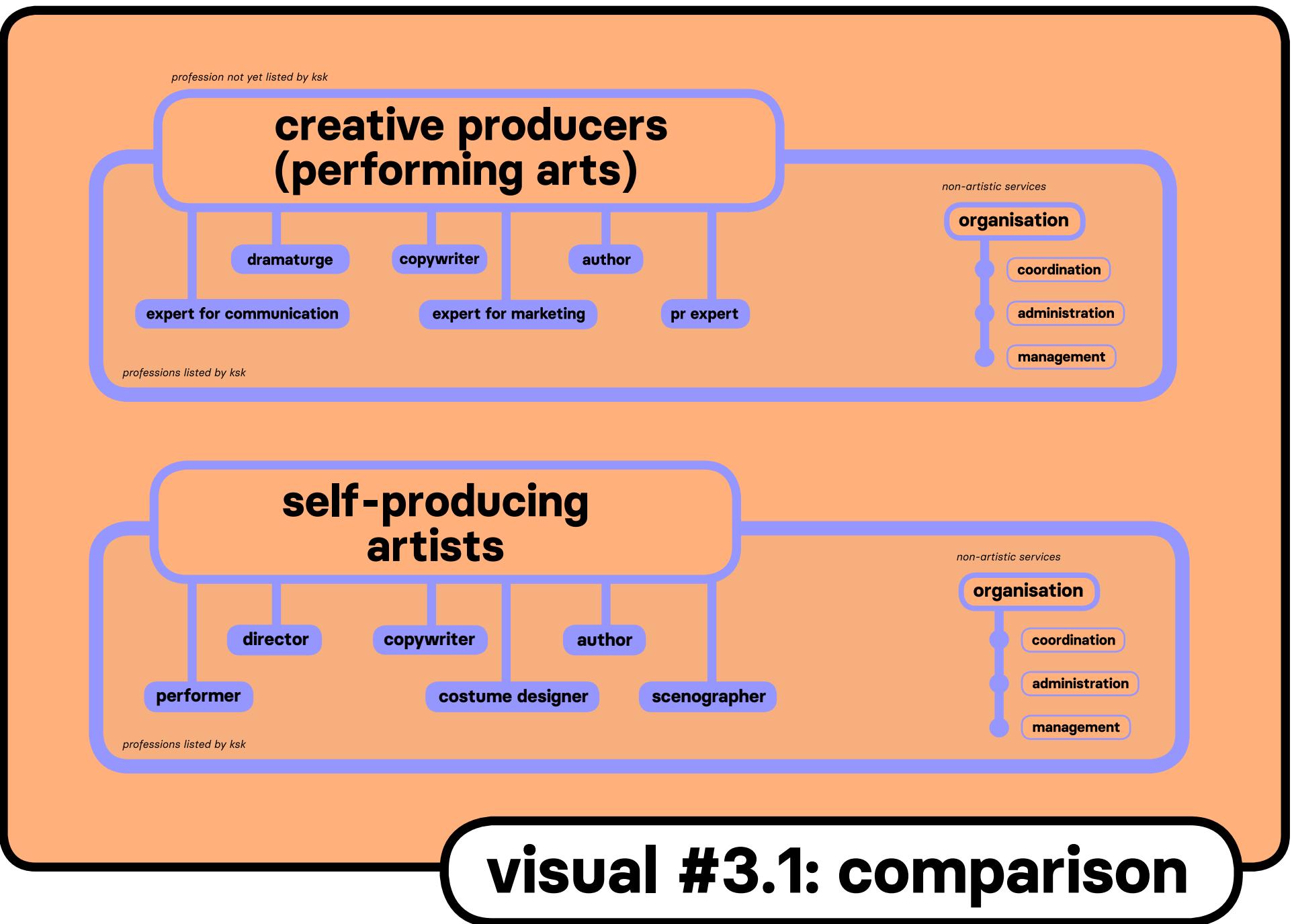
administration

management

creative producer

production manager

visual #2: distinction





creative producer (film)

- content development
- dramaturgy
- selection creative team
- casting
- style conception
- final cut version in post production

non-artistic services

organisation

- overall financial responsibility
- controlling of time & budget
- overall organisational responsibility

sound engineer or sound designer

- sound mix/final mix
- creation of special effects
- composition of language and soundscape

non-artistic services

organisation

- recording tech equipment
- data & version management
- compliance with standards/regulations

visual #3.2: comparison

access to ksk



art

organisation

organisation

art

profile: art

profile: organisation

visual #4: profile



solo-producing director

among other things: rehearsal planning, scheduling, room booking, budget management, cast planning, invoice collection, transfers, controlling, communication with sponsors & venues as well as in the production team, deadline monitoring, jours fixes, contract preparation, coordination & coordination of stage & costume design and their technical equipment, billing & proof of use, etc.

organisation

qualitative profile:

art

creative producer

among other things: content research; co-conception of the production; content and technical editing; co-development of concept, play, announcement and press texts; content planning, development and support of the rehearsal process; dramaturgical support of the artistic production, i.e. all artistic disciplines (direction, stage, costume, make-up, sound/sound, light, video, performance); content development and realisation of communication formats to attract and/or retain audiences; artistic co-conception of accessibility offers; development & implementation of target group-specific concepts for public relations work; preparation for and participation in interviews as well as pre- and post-performance discussions

art

qualitative profile:

art

visual #5: qualitative profile



creative producers (performing arts)

strategy/consulting

- **methods:** applying theoretical and practical expertise to create an environment for the conception, direction and realization of artistic creation within the performing arts landscape
- **classification:** artistic, conceptual, dramaturgical and content-related classification of artistic productions & visions in the performing arts landscape
- **design:** artistic conception and design of a profile for the orientation of artistic productions & visions in the performing arts, in the sense of developing individual artistic profiles and guiding principles based on expertise of the performing arts landscape
- **public relation:** conception and design of artistic profile media (texts, portfolio, editing)
- **profiling:** artistic forming, sharpening and expanding of artist or collective/company profiles

professional part: dramaturgy



creative producers (performing arts)

communication/translation

- **public interest:** development of a target group-oriented artistic practice based on expertise in contemporary contexts and discourses within the performing arts landscape in relation to current social debates and interests
- **shows/performances:** practice is related to high-profile, artistic performance/presentation contexts

conception/process design

- **realisation:** transformation of the artistic idea into an artistic practice and into an artistic creative process
- **process:** dramaturgical integration of the dynamic artistic rehearsal process into the production needs of all artistic participants

professional part: dramaturgy



creative producers (performing arts)

copywriter

- develop a draft of the artistic concept in text and conceptualise PR text content
- conceptualise text body
- research materials/inspirations/ backgrounds
- create text draft
- obtain feedback/outside perspectives
- check the feedback received for content relevance
- incorporate the feedback as inspiration for finalising the text

author

- independent and autonomous development of texts for different target groups (general and specialist press, public, schools, etc.)
- communication of argumentation and justification of artistic content to funding institutions

professional part: text



creative producers (performing arts)

expert for communication

- research and communication with project-specific target groups and multipliers

expert for marketing

- conception of the distribution of advertising material (print, digital)
- channel- and media-specific conception, editing and distribution of content (text, image, video)

expert for pr

- drafting and writing press releases and announcements

professional part: audience work

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appendix



2011

6th federal congress of the independent performing arts

abstract

Discussion of access to the KSK for all professions in the independent performing arts (FDK) at the 6th Federal Congress of the Independent Performing Arts in Stuttgart (according to the minutes of the LAFT Berlin General Meeting)

source

protocol of the General Meeting

source excerpt (in German)

„Problem der ‚Weisungsgebundenheit‘ und damit Nicht-Selbstständigkeit und damit Nicht-Aufnahme in die KSK von Ausführenden im Bereich Schauspiel/Tanz/Musik auf der einen Seite und Nicht-Aufnahme bestimmter Berufsfelder (Produktionsleitung) in die KSK ist allgemein und bundesweit bekannt. Da besteht akuter politischer Handlungsbedarf, der aber bislang einfach nicht passiert und weiterhin eingefordert werden muss.“

public debate



2015

"good work!" standards of good production

17.10.2015

abstract

"Good work!" Event on standards of good production at the experts congress of the Bundesverband Freie Darstellende Künste (Federal Association of Independent Performing Arts) in Hamburg, during which KSK access for producers was also discussed.

source

Program booklet of the Federal Association of Independent Performing Arts ([in German](#))

source excerpt (in German)

„Dass die Freien Berufe eine sehr große Gemeinwohlorientierung und eine hohe Wirtschaftskraft haben, ist unbestritten. Aber während bspw. bei [Ärzt*innen, Rechtsanwält*innen oder Architekt*innen] die [...] Kammern für die Sicherung der beruflichen Professionalität und Qualität zuständig sind, ist von allgemein verbindlichen Standards bspw. zu Honoraren, Weiterbildungen, Wettbewerben/ Festivals oder Mittelvergaben und -abrechnungen im freien Theatermarkt noch nicht zu reden. [...] Welche Standards sind notwendig für gutes Arbeiten und beruflichen Erfolg? Wo stehen andere, nichtverkammerte Freie Berufe des kulturellen Bereichs? Und was braucht es, um verbindliche Standards zu entwickeln und umzusetzen?“

public debate



2019

greetings to the 7th branch meeting of laft berlin

06.09.2019

abstract

In his video greeting, the lawyer Andri Jürgensen classifies the access situation to the KSK for producers, among others, and focuses primarily on the concept of activity characterization, which in the access debate must be clearly demonstrably artistic.

source

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EC0hfvhCTDY>
(in German)

source excerpt (in German)

„[Es] gibt [...] Berufe, die Elemente von beidem vereinen: kaufmännisches und künstlerisches, z. B. die Regieassistenz, Produktioner*innen, Produktionsleiter*innen und Produzent*innen, die im Spannungsfeld Künstlerisches/Kaufmännisches/ Organisatorisches arbeiten und die teilweise künstlerischen Einfluss haben und unter anderem eben für das organisatorische Gelingen der Produktion verantwortlich sind.“

public debate



2020

utopia now! | federal congress of the independent performing arts

17.01.2020

abstract

Events "Producing Utopias" and "Alliance of the Independent Arts - Work Session" as part of the Federal Congress of the Independent Performing Arts "UTOPIA. JETZT", both of which address the social and retirement security of the profession of artistic producer.

sources

<https://utopia-jetzt.de/de/programm/soziale-lage/producing-utopias> (in German)

<https://utopia-jetzt.de/de/programm/soziale-lage/einbindung-der-allianz-der-freien-kuenste> (in German)

source excerpt (in German)

„Das Berufsfeld der Producer*innen ist so jung nicht mehr. Die Position ist bisweilen obligatorisch in Förderprogrammen und integraler Bestandteil der Laufbahn vieler Gruppen und Künstler*innen. „Wir sind unterschiedlich organisiert und vernetzt und arbeiten so individuell wie die Menschen, mit denen wir kooperieren. Uns ist dennoch gemeinsam, dass wir noch Entwicklungsbedarf sehen - in der Art, wie wir uns selbst sehen und wie wir gesehen werden.“ In kleiner Expert*innenrunde wollen die Gastgeberinnen dieser Session alte und neue Fragen adressieren, die uns als Producer*innen umtreiben. „Wir wollen Utopien entwickeln, die u. a. die soziale Absicherung, Berufsethik, Selbstverpflichtungen, Verbandsvertretung und Rückhalt in der Szene berühren.“ Ziel ist ein Thesenpapier, das im Rahmen des Bundeskongresses fertiggestellt wird.“

public debate



2022

ksk access for producers | first public working meeting

12.09.2022

abstract

As part of the first public working meeting on the topic of KSK access, produktionsbande is creating a space for reflection and debate in order to engage in a joint discussion among producers about possible ways of arguing.

source

<https://produktionsbande.org/en/calendar/ksk-zugang-producers>

source excerpt (in German)

„The debate about KSK access for producers has been going on for several years. With the founding of produktionsbande as a network of producers and production managers, the debate gained new relevance.

We are taking this as an opportunity to discuss KSK access in an open discussion with as many people as possible who are affected by it. The goal of the event is that we jointly share opinions of what speaks for or against KSK access for producers.“

public debate



2023

ksk access for producers | second public working meeting

14.04.2023

abstract

As part of the second public working meeting on the topic of KSK access for producers, produktionsbande invited representatives of the stunt people. They explained the arguments they used to move from exclusion to renewed access to the KSK.

source

<https://produktionsbande.org/en/calendar/ksk-zugang-fuer-producers-2023-1>

source excerpt

„In the context of a public working meeting, we would like to share an example argumentation of a professional group within the independent performing arts, analyze it together and collect first arguments that can be inspired by the form and structure of the example.“

public debate



2024

ksk access for producers | third public working meeting

16.02.2024

abstract

As part of the third public working meeting on the topic of KSK access for producers, produktionsbande invited interested colleagues to present a first draft of an argumentation paper and to gather feedback.

source

<https://produktionsbande.org/en/calendar/ksk-zugang-fuer-producers-2024-02>

source excerpt (in German)

„We have developed an argumentation approach from the collected arguments and a document that we would like to present to you as a draft and discuss together. Since the first public working meeting, the active members of the produktionsbande AG KSK access for producers have been in close contact with a working group on access docked to the KSK Advisory Board, which will feed our argumentation paper into the Advisory Board's discussion on inclusion. The feedback from this KSK working group has been very positive so far.“

public debate

access to ksk

thank you!

produktionsbande

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produktionsbande is a decentrally organized network by and for producers in the independent performing arts in Germany.

As a diverse coalition, we collectively strengthen knowledge transfer among protagonists in artistic production within the independent performing arts. The network facilitates supraregional knowledge exchange and provides space for experimental exploration.

Thanks to the decentralized structure, the concerns, observations and wishes of producers from all over Germany come together and can also be compared in international exchange through cooperation. As producers operate at the intersections of artistic practices, organizational linkages, cultural policy, and social structures, the network is always evolving.

