

ECHO 2018: Nominees announced and first live acts confirmed!

ECHO CALLING: Ed Sheeran, Luis Fonsi, Alice Merton, Bausa and Mark Forster among the nominees for the ECHO 2018

Rita Ora & Liam Payne, Helene Fischer and Jason Derulo first acts confirmed to perform live at the ceremony

Award show to take place on 12 April at Messe Berlin and broadcast live on VOX TV starting at 8:15 pm

Tickets on sale tomorrow

New in 2018: "Public Viewing Deluxe"

Berlin, 8 March 2018 – Who will win an ECHO this year? Join us on 12 April to find out how ECHO voters cast their ballots. Starting today, the roughly 550 jury members are being asked to choose their favourite acts from this year's ECHO shortlist. Superstar **Ed Sheeran** made the grade in four categories and thus leads this year's list of ECHO contenders with four nominations. Up for three awards in 2018 is rapper **Bausa** as well as **Luis Fonsi**, the man behind the blockbuster summer hit "Despacito". Other prospective ECHO winners in 2018 include **Mark Forster**, **The Kelly Family** and **Wincent Weiss**. Also among the nominees this year are top German acts, including **Kraftklub**, **Alice Merton**, **Die Toten Hosen**, **Die Kastelruther Spatzen**, **Kollegah & Farid Bang**, **Andrea Berg**, **Peter Maffay** and many more. International acts, such as **Depeche Mode**, **Dua Lipa**, **Imagine Dragons** and **Taylor Swift**, are also nominated.

And the first live performances are confirmed as well: **Rita Ora** will take to the stage both as a solo artist and in a duet with **Liam Payne**. After joining forces last year on their chart-topping single "For You" from the *Fifty Shades of Grey* soundtrack, the two of them will perform at the ECHO for the first time together on German TV. **Jason Derulo**, whose "Colors" will be the official song of this summer's World Cup, is nominated for an ECHO and will also perform live. Germany's reigning ECHO queen, **Helene Fischer** (16 awards to date!), will also grace the stage and no doubt bring the house down. This year's award show will take place on 12 April at Messe Berlin. The star-studded gala will be broadcast live starting at 8:15 pm on VOX.

"Five weeks to go! A quick glance at the shortlist gives us a clue as to who's had the deepest impact on pop-music audiences in the past twelve months in Germany", notes **Rebecka Heinz**, managing director of the ECHO - German Music Award at Germany's Federal Music Industry Association (BVMI). "Now it's up to the jury! We're very much looking forward to collecting their votes and enjoying another exciting and terrific night at the ECHO".

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Tickets

Advanced ticket sales for the ECHO 2018 will begin on Friday, 9 March at 12 pm. Seat tickets can be purchased via www.eventim.de only and cost €130.90. This price includes VAT but does not include the advanced booking fee. To prevent misuse of these popular tickets, only two tickets per person will be sold.

New at the ECHO 2018: Public Viewing Deluxe!

This year's new "ECHO Public Viewing Deluxe Ticket" gets ticketholders up-close and personal when the stars walk the red carpet (selfies permitted!). Follow the show on a mega screen, cheer for the ECHO winners live as they win, enjoy a private concert after the show and celebrate by dancing until dawn. Public Viewing Deluxe tickets will be available starting on Friday, 9 March at exactly 12 pm at www.eventim.de for €41.65 (this price includes VAT but does not include the advance booking fee).

For answers to the most frequently asked questions about the ECHO, please visit us online at www.echo-deutscher-musikpreis.de!

ECHO 2018 GERMAN MUSIC AWARDS

- DATE:** 12 April 2018, TV broadcast at 8:15pm live on VOX
- LOCATION:** Messe Berlin
- LIVE ACTS:** Jason Derulo, Helene Fischer, Rita Ora & Liam Payne, and many more

BACKGROUND:

The ECHO German Music Awards have been handed out since 1992 by the music-industry body known as the Deutsche Phono-Akademie, which acts as the cultural arm of Germany's Federal Music Industry Association (Bundesverband Musikindustrie, BVMI). Each year, the awards honour the most outstanding and successful music recordings and performances by national and international artists. This year, the ECHO will be handed out in 22 categories. ECHO winners are determined in equal part by chart success and the final vote of the ECHO jury. ECHO winners in previous years include German artists such as Herbert Grönemeyer, Helene Fischer, Cro, Rammstein, Robin Schulz, Udo Lindenberg, Die Toten Hosen, Andreas Bourani, AnnenMayKantereit and Silbermond as well as international acts such as Depeche Mode, Robbie Williams, Adele, Lady Gaga, Coldplay, Pink Floyd, David Guetta, Rag'n'Bone Man and many more.