


**GTR** 2 0 2 3  
M A L T A

# ACCELERATING THE WORLD'S **BEST NEW STUDIOS**

November 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Malta

GTR 2023 powered by:

GAMING MALTA 

GROUND

2bytes

LEE&THOMPSON

 MeetToMatch



GLOBAL TOP ROUND

GTR is an investor and advisor that has done 60+ investments since 2015. We help studios with our own capital, with fundraising services, with finding and closing publishing deals and more. Our studios have launched games with Focus Entertainment, Gearbox, 505 Games and more yet to be announced ones! Through our efforts, our studios have raised over \$30m+ in external capital.

We want to see awesome games and talented teams in early or mid-stage that want to take their business to the next level. Our job is then to help you accelerate your work with investments, publishing deals and improving your company's strategy.

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GamingMalta is an independent non-profit foundation set up by the Government of Malta and the Maltese Gaming Authority (MGA). Tasked with promoting Malta as a Centre of excellence in the remote gaming sector globally, it is also responsible for liaising with the local relevant authorities to improve Malta's attractiveness as a jurisdiction and enhance the ecosystem surrounding the gaming industry.

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## GROUND

G.Round is an exclusive community-driven platform where we carefully select a limited amount of games every week for our community to play and test. In turn, we are also dedicated to helping game developers gather feedback from the players to improve and polish their games to provide the ultimate gaming experience. Player feedback can shape the future of these games, and guide developers to find the most suitable markets to localize their titles.

Our platform was first launched on 16th July 2020, and since our launch, we have had titles from Brazil, Germany, Philippines, and Romania. We scout the world to find all kinds of hidden gems, with our game genres ranging from challenging 2D platformers like Jack Axe, to an action-packed Souls-like game titled Stray Blade. Currently, we support PC and console games on G.Round, with integration for mobile games in the works.

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Byte the World

2bytes is home for young professionals from all over the world. We take care of your Localization, QA, Game Launch Strategy, and Game Service Operations with the utmost pride and care!

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## LEE&THOMPSON

Lee & Thompson is one of the UK's leading law firms for the media, technology and creative industries. Combining an open minded and personal approach with an in-built drive to succeed for our clients. Expect excellence as standard.

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## MeetToMatch

MeetToMatch delivers full-service matchmaking events

We are organizing matchmaking events since 2009, in industries such as tech, games, VR, e-commerce, mobile, digital and startup events.

We have several event formats that allow conferences and expo's to increase traffic and attendees by arranging meetings by choice rather than chance. MeetToMatch uses a in-house developed system, which is tailored to the specific needs of each event. No other service offers such flexibility.

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# GTR 2023 FINALISTS

<b>MECHA ATTACK</b>	BLACKBOX Studios
<b>From Ruins</b>	DigiTales Interactive
<b>Dreadgard</b>	Massive Damage Games
<b>Wind Rider</b>	Watered Plants
<b>Maggie</b>	Homo Ludens
<b>The Signal</b>	Goose Byte Studios Inc.
<b>Lott</b>	HASOO
<b>Luna Abyss</b>	Bonsai Collective
<b>exTRACKt</b>	Blankhans
<b>Phare</b>	Embers
<b>Raev</b>	Ravine Games
<b>Shadow City Mysteries: A Clockwork Noir</b>	Play On Words Studios
<b>Project Apollo</b>	Wolcen Studio
<b>That's Live</b>	Osmotic Studios
<b>Earthscaper</b>	Thoughtfish GmbH
<b>The Involunteers</b>	Vice Versa Games
<b>Handmancers</b>	NonStudio
<b>Gamma Strain</b>	Gamma Minus UG
<b>Earthlock 2</b>	Snowcastle Games



# MECHA ATTACK

PC, Console, iOS, Android

[Trailer Link](#)

Venture into the captivating world of Mecha Attack, an anime RPG gacha game that combines exhilarating combat, exploration, and the excitement of collecting characters. Fight against formidable Mechas, unlock new characters and explore diverse planets inspired by our own solar system!



**BLACKBOX Studios**

United Kingdom

BLACKBOX Studios is a small studio making games with a focus on having a close connection with the community, this is seen by our large community discord.

[Website](#)



# From Ruins

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

From Ruins is a 2D detective adventure that focuses on challenging logic puzzles. Dive into still images of different scenarios that each tell their own exciting story. Observe, collect clues, think, and make logical deductions to figure out what happened and fill in the gaps.



**DigiTales Interactive**

DIGITALLES Germany

We are DigiTales Interactive, a small German game studio founded in 2019. We create atmospheric, story-driven adventures with detective gameplay that convey thought-provoking ideas without sacrificing fun and entertainment. Our first game Lacuna came out last year, garnering universal praise and decent sales numbers.

[Website](#)





# Dreadgard

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

Dreadgard is a third-person, single-player action-horror rogue-lite that unfolds in a haunting Welsh Arthurian setting intertwined with the eerie dread of the Cthulhu mythos. As players brave harrowing dungeons, they'll confront unimaginable horrors in visceral, close-quarters combat, merging Celtic fantasy with cosmic horror for an intense dungeon-crawling adventure.

Surviving Dreadgard's Otherworld requires cunning use of the environment and dynamic combat tactics. Realistic armor destruction and detailed injury systems challenge players to navigate attrition, scarcity, and rigorous survival mechanics in the relentless dungeons. The journey is laden with morally ambiguous decisions, forcing players to choose between cleansing the encroaching darkness to protect lives or wielding its corrupting power for personal gain, shaping their path and personal narrative in a world where light and shadow blur.



**Massive Damage Games**

Canada

At Massive Damage Games, we take our "Indie Spirit with Big Vision" motto to heart. Our diverse team of AAA veterans and indie all-stars work passionately and collaboratively to build successful original IP games with innovative gameplay and beautiful worlds.

[Website](#)



# Wind Rider

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

Immerse yourself in a thrilling 3rd person action-adventure! Command powerful flying bikes, pushing your skills to the limit in over 8 hours of story driven gameplay. Get ready for an adrenaline-packed experience like never before!



**Watered Plants**

Czechia/CEE

Watered Plants is an independent studio based in the heart of the Czech Republic, comprising a team of seasoned developers with diverse backgrounds in both enterprise and gaming industries.

[Website](#)





# Maggie

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

Maggie is a management and strategy roguelite where you build a rebellion while fronting as a luxury cruise for the ultra-rich in space. It's a reunion of powerful & related genres: Base builder, Roguelite and Management. Survive Space and your Rich guests' demands. Overcome the melancholy of injustice by raising the flag of rebellion.



**Homo Ludens**

France

Founded in late 2019 to build PC & Console games leveraging the techniques of F2P mobile in the premium space in a respectful and balanced working environment. After COVID and navigating the tricky waters of self-publishing, we released Blooming Business: Casino in 2023, published by Curve Games.

[Website](#)



# The Signal

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

The Signal is a third-person multiplayer Open World Survival Craft game with a key focus on player creativity and environmental stewardship over violence. User-generated crafting content (UGC), the game's unique recipe sharing system and a sentient ecosystem are what set it apart.



Goose Byte Studios Inc.  
Canada

Goose Byte is an independent studio founded in 2021 with an aim to craft high quality games capable of captivating large audiences. We're a multiplayer studio at heart, so all of our games will feature social components, with particular focus put on UX, UGC, and modding.

[Website](#)



# Lott

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

Dive into the captivating, quaint, Maltese medieval years where history and fantasy collide. Join Lott, a tiny knight with a grand destiny, as he journeys through the enchanting landscapes of a mythical Malta.



HASOO

Malta

HASOO is an independent game development studio based in Malta, founded by industry veterans and experts. We are dedicated to making exciting, beautifully designed games for global audiences to enjoy! With a strong background in rapid prototyping and agile technical iteration, as well as narrative, emotion, and gamer psychology, we strive to constantly experiment and push the boundaries of what makes games engaging, fun, and entertaining.

[Website](#)





# Luna Abyss

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

Luna Abyss is a single player story driven action-adventure with fluid platforming and bullet hell combat. Follow the journey of Fawkes, a prisoner of Luna caught between a cryptic prophecy and their prison sentence.

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**BONSAI** Bonsai Collective  
COLLECTIVE United Kingdom

Bonsai Collective is a video game development studio, based all over the United Kingdom. Founded in 2019 by Hollie Emery, Harry Corr, and Benni Hill, the remote-based studio has been carefully cultivated to 16 full-time passionate Unreal Engine specialists, who all care about inclusion in the studio and representation in the games that they create.

[Website](#)





# exTRACKt

PC, Console, iOS, Android

[Trailer Link](#)

Project exTRACKt is a PvPvE escort to extract game. The core game loop is centred around a group of players extracting a moving carriage which they can fill with resources. This changes the dynamics to a extremely cooperative approach to the extraction genre.



**Blankhans**

Germany

Blankhans is a veteran studio with 30 games professionals, that released Coreborn into Early Access this year. While Coreborn moves to Full-Release a second team focuses on Fortnite Creative as a validation center for game ideas. Their new project is a unique twist on the extraction genre. v

[Website](#)



# Phare

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

Play as Nell, one of the few Collectors to venture beneath the Membrane. Explore sinister, hostile lands, confront the creatures that dwell there and collect key resources for your people. Survive the dangers, extract loot and knowledge from your expeditions to progress ever deeper into the Below.



**Embers**

France

Embers is a french PC/Consoles video game development studio based in Strasbourg. Founded in 2020 by 4 industry veterans with 30+ years of cumulated experience. We are a team of 12 people committed to creating original and impactful experiences.

After releasing our first title Strayed Lights in April 2023, we started working on our next project: Phare. A 3D immersive exploration non-shooter-extraction game.

[Website](#)





# RAEV

KINGDOM ON THE DISTANT SHORES

## Raev

PC

[Trailer Link](#)

Raev is a multi-city builder set in enchanted Nyland. The Raevins, fox like people, will be guided by the player to create an entire kingdom, developing each village into a city. Fully freeform building, inter-city trading and a diverse set of biomes, atmospheric events and adventures await you.

**RAVINE** Ravine Games  
Italy

At Ravine Games, our mission is to create highly authorial games, accessible and deep. Not only do we strive to create a balance between unique experiences and accessibility, but also to express our passion and to share it with players.

[Website](#)



# Shadow City Mysteries: A Clockwork Noir

PC

[Trailer Link](#)

A Clockwork Noir Narrative Adventure game that is Blade Runner by way of Lovecraft Country set in Frank Miller's Sin City with a New Game+ twist. In Shadow City Mysteries, players experience the story multiple times to discover a story and world bigger than they suspected existed.



Play On Words Studios

Malta

We focus on crafting high-quality, diverse, and narrative-driven transmedia experiences for players of all backgrounds. Our expertise and passion lie in building engaging worlds and stories that resonate across various platforms, ensuring a unique and immersive experience for our audience.

[Website](#)





# Project Apollo

PC, Console, Tilt Five

[Trailer Link](#)

Immerse yourself in an epic story-driven adventure featuring beloved board game heroes and their opposing foes. Solve puzzles, engage in thrilling action and experience character leveling in this cooperative RPG adventure.



At Wolcen, after having released our first title in February 2020 on Steam and in Q1 2023 on consoles and having sold more than 1.5 million copies to date, we're looking ahead to further innovate the top-down action RPG genre and passionately craft our next gaming experience together with our players!

[Website](#)



Reference screenshot of our most recent game  
CLOSER THE DISTANCE

## That's Live

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

'That's Live' is the most elaborate TV show ever created, and you're running it! Everyone's an actor and can be given directions, except for the unsuspecting protagonist. Create drama and keep the viewers glued to the screen. But woe betide you should the protagonist ever find out the truth...



**Osmotic Studios**

Germany

Osmotic Studios is an award-winning independent game development company based in Hamburg, Germany founded in 2014. Always striving to create captivating narrative experiences, we focus on forging vivid worlds inhabited by characters with minds of their own.

[Website](#)



# Earthscaper

PC

[Trailer Link](#)

Earthscaper: Reshape the world together. With this vision as core, we are working on creating a PC game that plays on a digital twin of the real world and gives you opportunities to recreate your own house as a castle, reshape the statue of liberty into your favourite movie character or simply turn your full neighborhood together with your friends into a theme park.



**Thoughtfish GmbH**

Germany

At Thoughtfish we are pioneers of real world gaming, meaning that any real world context - from location, weather to crime rate can influence a gameplay experience. For this, we developed our own data engine, which enables developers to create a digital twin of the real world.

[Website](#)



# THE INVOLUNTEERS



## The Involunteers

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

The Involunteers is a cooperative action survival shooter with fast-paced core combat and satisfying destruction physics. It's an innovative adventure with colorful characters that can react to the emergence of the action, so the story is being told as you play.



Vice Versa Games

Canada

Vice Versa Games is a studio of industry veterans each bringing 20 years experience in AAA gaming. We're a studio that wants to be known for games that combine exciting action driven gameplay with innovative storytelling that inspires player creativity.

[Website](#)





# Handmancers

PC, Console

Handmancers is a roguelite deckbuilder with a first-person twist. Craft your deck, enhance your cards, equip artifacts and face powerful enemies in a strategic Paper, Rock and Blades fight! Handmancers solve their problems through the power of their hands... literally.

[Trailer Link](#)

 **NonStudio**  
Italy

NonStudio is the development studio of "Indici Opponibili", an innovative company that has developed more than 30 video game experiences in the last five years. It is distinguished by its young, creative team working full remotely from all over Europe

 [Website](#)



# Gamma Strain

PC

[Trailer Link](#)

“Gamma Strain” is a cooperative tactical third-person shooter that pits players against a mysterious biological threat, referred to as Entity.

In the game, players assume the roles of elite Tytan Operators, each equipped with unique abilities and skills. The narrative revolves around the emergence of a parasitic entity that has infiltrated various locations, transforming them into dangerous and volatile environments. The Containment Zones, serve as the battlegrounds where players must navigate, strategize, and eliminate the threat.



**Gamma Minus UG**

Germany

Established in 2018, Gamma Minus has swiftly risen to prominence as an award-winning German indie game development studio, earning acclaim for its innovative approach to crafting immersive gaming experiences. With a commitment to pushing creative boundaries, the studio has garnered recognition for its exceptional contributions to the gaming industry. Since its inception, Gamma Minus has been at the forefront of cultivating a unique identity within the indie game development sphere, showcasing a dedication to artistic expression and a passion for delivering engaging narratives. As the studio continues to evolve, it remains a dynamic force, shaping the future landscape of independent game development and leaving an indelible mark on the gaming community.

[Website](#)



# Earthlock 2

PC, Console

[Trailer Link](#)

Earthlock 2 is a unique Sandbox Adventure RPG game with crafting, fighting and farming. Players roam a vast desert together in their crafted caravans looking for adventure and loot. By conquering magical Titans they transform areas into lush biomes with new plants and creatures - meaning resources.



**Snowcastle Games**

Norway

Snowcastle Games is an independent developer founded in 2011. The studio employs around 40 people with 14 different nationalities around the world. Snowcastle develops games and other products in the Earthlock universe

[Website](#)



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