

Business &
IP Centre
Network

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INDUSTRY GUIDE **MUSIC**

Music Industry Guide

This guide is designed for anyone starting or running a business related to the Music Industry.

We have highlighted some of the key resources about the Music Industry that you can find at the Business & IP Centre such as general research (statistics, trends and developments), key companies, trade magazines and newsletters.

All you need is a free Reader Pass.

About the Business & IP Centre (BIPC)

The Business & IP Centre is here to help you start and grow your business. We offer one to ones, specialist workshops, inspiring events and access to premium market data and intelligence – all for free. We are home to the UK's largest collection of business and intellectual property (IP) information, as well as a thriving community of entrepreneurs. Based in the British Library and over 70 libraries across the UK.

Here to help

If you have any questions, our information specialists at the Business & IP Centre will be happy to help. You can pop into the BIPC reading room on the first floor in the British Library, or email one of the team at bipc@bl.uk

Updated January 2025
Ziaad Khan

bl.uk/bipc



linkedin



Instagram

Start-Up Information



The Cobra database contains practical fact-sheets on all aspects of starting, running and managing a small business – including information on writing business plans, marketing, company structures etc.

It also covers the practical aspects of how to start and run particular types of businesses – outlining necessary skills, regulations, licences and legislation etc. and highlights other sources of information and advice available.

Accessible via electronic resources.

Business Opportunity Profiles (BOP)

Audio-visual Equipment Hire	BOP210
Busker	MBP159
Cabaret/Club Singer	MBP096
Entertainment Agent	BOP375
Independent Record Label	BOP204
Mobile DJ	BOP006
Music Shop	BOP018
Musician	MBP476
Private Music Tutor	BOP054
Record Shop	BOP520
Rehearsal and Recording Studio	BOP390

Business Information Fact Sheets (BIF)

Licence to Play Music on Business Premises	BIF488
Preventing Copyright Infringement	BIF218

Sector Updates (SEC)

Music	SEC004
	SEC045

Industry Snapshot (SYN)

Music	SYN031
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Market Research and Statistics

If you are planning on starting a business you will need to be aware of the latest trends, developments and opportunities within your industry which can all be found from market research.



EMIS

EMIS is a research database covering markets research, data and news for international markets, companies, and industries.

- Electric Guitars Market Analysis Segment Forecasts To 2030
- Global Earphone and Headphone Market 2024-2028
- Global Electric Guitar Market 2023-2027
- Global Electronic Musical Instruments Market 2024-2028
- Global Guitar Market 2023-2027
- Global Live Music Market 2024-2028
- Global Musical Instrument Market 2024-2028
- Global Music Market 2024-2028
- Global Music on Demand Market 2023-2027
- Global Music Production Equipment Market 2024-2028
- Global Music Production Software Market 2024-2028
- Global Music Publishing Market 2024-2028
- Global Music Streaming Market 2024-2028
- Global Music Synthesizers Market 2023-2027
- Global Online Music Streaming June 2024
- Global Piano Market 2024-2028
- Global Recorded Music Market 2022-2026
- Global Smart Musical Instruments Market 2024-2028
- United Kingdom - Digital Media, June 2024
- United Kingdom - Online Music Streaming, June 2024
- United States - Online Music Streaming, June 2024



WHERE KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

IBISWorld

Market research also covers market size and forecasts, consumer demographics and attitudes, the key players and products and will often include SWOT and PEST analysis showing areas of strength, weakness, opportunities etc. IBIS World IBISWorld provides trusted industry research on thousands of industries worldwide. Their analysts leverage economic, demographic and market data, then add analytical and forward-looking insight, to help organizations of all types make better decisions.

- Festivals in the UK
- Headphone Manufacturing in the UK
- Independent Label Music Production in the UK
- Major Label Music Production in the UK
- Music & Video Record Retailing in the UK
- Music Downloading & Streaming Services in the UK
- Musical Instrument Manufacturing in the UK
- Musical Instrument Retailers in the UK
- Radio Broadcasting in the UK
- Sound Recording & Music Publishing in the UK



Mintel

Mintel provides market research and consumer intelligence solutions to consumer-focused businesses with a combination of syndicated tools and custom insight solutions.

- Leisure Time
- Music Concerts and Festivals
- Music and Other Audio

- Music and podcasts
-



Statista

Statista is a global data and business intelligence platform with an extensive collection of statistics, reports, and insights on over 80,000 topics from 22,500 sources in 170 industries.

- Classical Music Fans in the United Kingdom
- Concert & Music Festival Goers in the United Kingdom
- Country Music Fans in the United Kingdom
- Dance/Electronic Music Fans in the United Kingdom
- Digital Music: Market Data & Analysis
- Digital Music in the United Kingdom
- Digital Music 7Digital Users in the UK
 - Amazon Music Users in the UK
 - Apple Music/iTunes Users in the UK
 - Deezer Users in the UK
 - eMusic Users in the UK
 - iTunes Users in the UK
 - Napster Users in the UK
 - Qobuz Users in the UK
 - SoundCloud Users in the UK
 - Spotify Users in the UK
 - Tidal Users in the UK
 - YouTube Music Users in the UK
- Hard Copy Music Owners in the United Kingdom
- Hip Hop, Rap and R&B Fans in the United Kingdom
- Music Industry in Europe
- Music Industry in the United Kingdom
- Music Industry in the U.S

- Music Streaming Advertising
 - Music Streaming Worldwide
 - Music Streaming Services Worldwide
 - Rock/Alternative/Indie Music Fans in the United Kingdom
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Please note that many articles about the music industry (from business journals and newspapers) are available from our electronic sources: eMarketer, Business Source Complete (EBSCO), Factiva, ABI Inform Global etc.

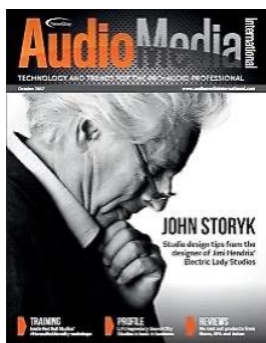
Trade Magazines and Journals

Useful for gaining inside knowledge, recent trends, industry news, company profiles, reviews of new products and services. Some contain annual reviews and company contact lists. Mostly available on open shelves in the Business & IP Centre reading room; older issues may be ordered via Explore the British Library (please ask for help).



Audience: for the international contemporary live music industry (Audience Media Ltd)

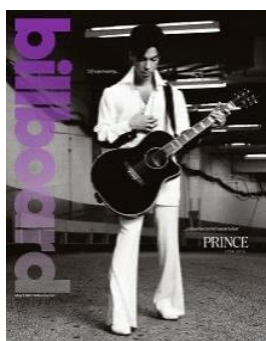
[ZK.9.b.21486] Covers the international contemporary live music business. Provides news, features and tour information and is aimed at promoters, festival organisers, venue owners/managers, booking agents, artiste managers, record and publishing company executives, etc.



Audio Media International (NewBay Media Europe Ltd)

[ZK.9b.33751]
For professional sound engineers & studios. Includes equipment, audio for video, broadcast, internet audio, live sound systems, concert & event sound, multimedia, post-production, recording, music, radio.

audiomediainternational.com



Billboard (Billboard Music Group)

[ZC.9.d.566]
[HUS 050] Open Access NSA collection
News about the international record industry. Includes new artist signings, detailed sales charts, music genre profiles, events.

billboard.com



**Computer Music
(Future Publishing Ltd)**

[(P) PP 374 - E(1)]

Guide to making music using a PC or Mac. Reviews technology, equipment and software available for making music. With tutorials, reviews, solutions to technical problems plus free software and samples.



**Electronic Musician
(Polyphony)**

[(P) RX 72 - E(5)]

A resource for musicians who want to record, produce, and perform better music. Featuring articles on the latest technology, synthesizers, music production, DAW developments etc. Includes in-depth tutorials and interviews with leading artists. Services and facilities directory included.



**Future Music: making music with modern technology
(Future Publishing Ltd)**

[ZK.9.d.679] Making music using modern technology. In-depth reviews by industry professionals plus news on all the latest hardware & software releases. Interviews with musicians about equipment and technology used.

musicradar.com



**Lighting and Sound International
(Offord)**

[ZK.9.b.1136]

Professional and trade journal for lighting and sound in the entertainment, presentation and communications industries including music venues, theatres, concert halls, conferences and exhibitions etc.

lsonline.com



**Live UK
(Audience Media Ltd)**

[ZK.9.b.24850]

(Supplement to Audience) Covers the UK contemporary live music business (concerts, equipment and supplies). Provides news, features and tour information to the country's promoters, festival organisers, venues, artiste managers, booking agents etc.



**Mixmag
(DMC Publishing)**

[ZK.9.b.8050]

[Cup.938/563]

Gives information on clubs and dance music, and includes a Mix CD from current big-name DJs.



**Mondo Dr : Technology In Entertainment
(Mondiale Publishing)**

[ZK.9.d.2122] Trade magazine for sound & lighting professionals incl. nightclubs, stadia, theatre, special effects, entertainment venues. Includes detailed product reports & market studies. Recent issues freely available online: mondodr.com/category/magazine/



**Music Tech Magazine
(Anthem Publishing)**

[CDS.9.b.164]

Practical magazine for recording musicians, sound engineers and producers with practical features and tutorials.



Music Week (Morgan-Grampian)

[HUS 050] Open Access NSA collection
UK record industry magazine with weekly news and charts. News, features, detailed sales charts, genre reviews, artist signings, retailers, job adverts.

musicweek.com



New Musical Express (NME) (IPC Magazines Ltd)

[HUS 050] Open Access NSA collection Mostly news about artists, including charts, forthcoming concerts. Some news about record labels.

nme.com



Rhythm (Future Publishing Ltd)

[ZK.9.b.10420]

[CUP.938/702]

UK magazine for drummers and percussionists. Includes Play Drums CD with tutorials, techniques and practise tools. Features news, reviews, drummer interviews and gives advice on equipment.



Sound On Sound (SOS Publications)

[ZM.9.b.3]

[HUS 050] Open Access NSA collection Covers music recording technology. Features articles on recording systems, mixing consoles, samplers, music software and microphones. Has a directory of suppliers and training providers.

soundonsound.com



Sound, Vision, Install (SVI) (Partridge Publications Ltd)

[ZK.9.b.20691]

UK trade magazine for professionals within the audio-visual and custom installation industries. Gives latest product reviews, business news, technological developments and commentary. Includes a comprehensive business directory, events and training diary and a recruitment section.



Total Guitar (Future Publishing Ltd)

[ZK.9.b.7899]

Information and tutorials to improve guitar playing. Featuring product & equipment reviews, artist profiles and interviews as well as techniques, tutorials. Europe's best-selling guitar magazine.

Business News and Journals



Factiva

In order to find the latest news on your topic it is always worth searching Factiva, Business Source Complete and EMIS.

Business Source Complete

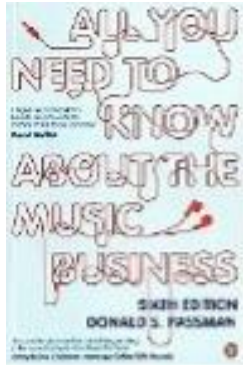
You will find articles from specialist business and academic journals, as well as newspapers and magazines. You may also find market research reports and case studies. As well as profiles of leading industry figures.

EMIS

You will also find articles covering recent developments and predicting future trends in your industry.

Small Business Help Books

This is a collection of books with practical information aimed at those starting and running a business. Located in the Centre, unless otherwise stated.

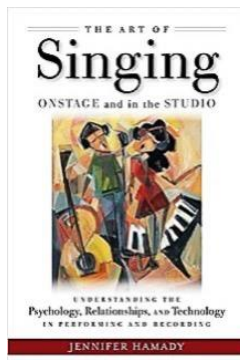


All You Need To Know About The Music Business by Donald S Passman

(Penguin, London 2008)

[SBH BT.5] An 'easy to understand' overview of all aspects of the music business from recording contracts to touring to merchandise rights etc. Covers traditional industry matters together with recent developments such as downloads, streaming, digital royalties and podcasts. The updated 8th edition

(2014) is available via the catalogue [General Reference Collection YC.2016.a.7853]

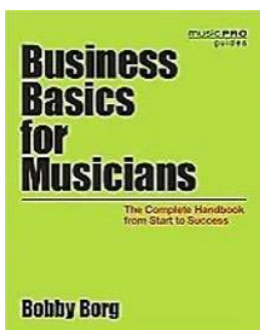


The Art Of Singing Onstage And In The Studio: Understanding The Psychology, Relationships, And Technology In Recording And Live Performance by Jennifer Hamady

(Hal Leonard Books 2016)

[SBH BT.129]

A book for singers, performers, producers, and engineers about improving performances including by managing the technology on stage and in the studio, and the best way of communicating with the people who run it.

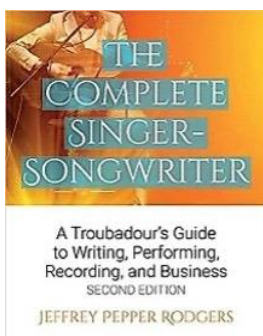


Business Basics For Musicians: The Complete Handbook From Start To Success by Bobby Borg

(Hal Leonard Books 2015)

[SBH BT.11]

Practical business advice written by an experienced professional musician for other musicians with valuable tips and practical advice on getting started, developing your business and pursuing a successful music career. With interviews, anecdotes, and review tests. [2019 Edition available via the catalogue]

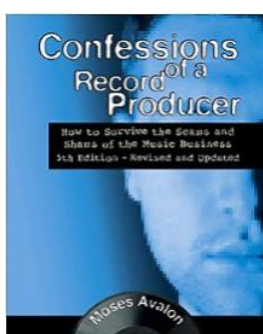


The Complete Singer-Songwriter: A Troubadour's Guide To Writing, Performing, Recording, And Business by Jeffrey Pepper Rodgers

(Backbeat 2016)

[SBH BT.136]

A singer-songwriter's perspective on the music industry. Expert advice from managers, agents, lawyers, and publishers plus interviews with many famous songwriters giving hints, tips etc to take an idea to song, stage, studio, etc. Includes info on copyright, music publishing, and digital royalties.

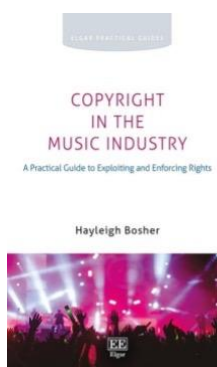


Confessions Of A Record Producer: How to Survive the Scams and Shams of the Music Business by Moses Avalon

(Backbeat 2016)

[SBH BT.15]

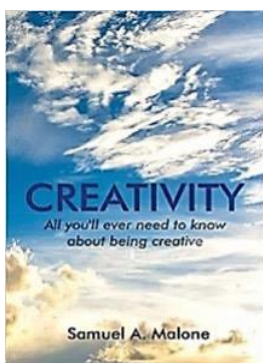
Covers the inner workings of the music industry from an experienced and practical viewpoint. Analyses the differences between ASCAP, BMI and SESAC. Compares different types of record deals and gives reasons behind major industry trends and decisions. Covers industry scams and pitfalls.



Copyright in the Music Industry: A Practical Guide to Exploiting and Enforcing Rights by Hayleigh Boshier

(Edward Elgar Publishing 2021)

[SBH PDIP.132] Comprehensive guide to copyright and related rights in the music industry. Shows how to manage, utilise and enforce copyright and includes relevant cases and real-world examples.

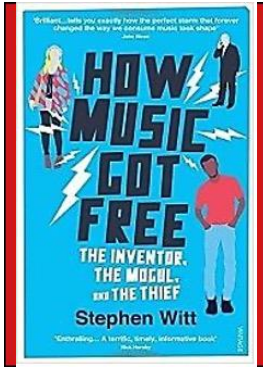


Creativity: All You'll Ever Need To Know About Being Creative by Samuel A. Malone

(Austin Macauley Publishers 2015)

[SBH PDIP.15]

Tips on how best to keep your creativity levels high and how best to express and nurture it. Includes information about what environments are best to encourage innovation and creativity.

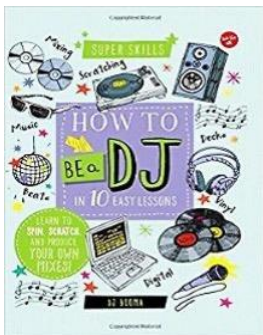


How Music Got Free: The Inventor, The Music Man, And The Thief by Stephen F. Witt

(Vintage Books 2016)

[SBH BT.39]

Technological changes now allow immediate accessibility of all music via streaming, downloading etc which has radically transformed/revolutionised the music industry. This book is about the people behind these changes.

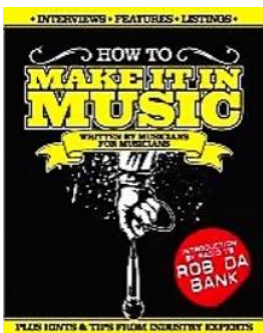


How To Be A DJ in 10 Easy Lessons; Learn To Spin, Scratch and Produce Your Own Mixes by David Duncan

(QED Publishing 2017)

[SBH BT.168]

Simple, introductory text aimed at younger readers and beginners. Gives a thorough overview of the industry. Covers equipment and software through to basic music theory, mixing, scratching, blending and performance. With easy-to-follow instructions and practical tips from a professional DJ.

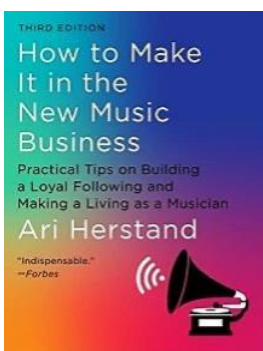


How To Make It In Music: Written by Musicians for Musicians by Stuart James Smith et al

(Dennis Publishing 2008)

[SBH BT.51]

Advice from industry professionals on: Venues, promoters, festivals, managers, lawyers, publishing, home and studio recording, creating demos, approaching record labels etc.



How To Make It In The New Music Business: Practical Tips On Building A Loyal Following And Making A Living As A Musician by Ari Herstand

(Live right Publishing Corporation, NY 2017) SBH.BT.173

Practical information on recording, building a fan base, playing live

(bookings, tours, promotions), sponsorships, investments, contracts, licensing

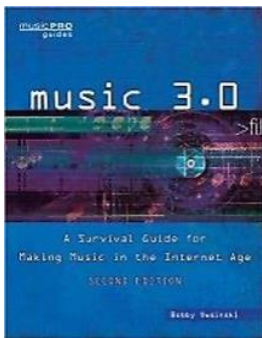
(to commercials, films and television), royalty payments for Spotify, Pandora etc. [2023 Edition available via the catalogue]



How To Start A Creative Business by Doug Richard

(D&C 2011) [SBH STAR.52]

Written in 'Jargon-free' plain English. Clearly and concisely details all the relevant aspects of starting any kind of creative business. Includes activities, case studies, customers, market, industry, pricing, partners etc.



Music 3.0: A Survival Guide For Making Music In The Internet Age by Bobby Owsinski

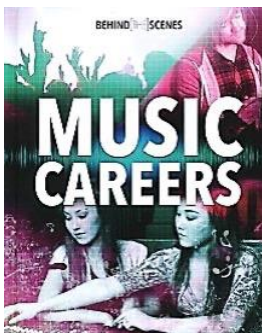
(Hal Leonard Books 2011)

[SBH BT.76]

Explains the recent evolution of the music industry into the digital age. Covers pros and cons of recent developments. Includes interviews with industry specialists with in-depth coverage of social media for marketing, distribution, brand development etc.

Music 4.1

(2016) available via the catalogue [m16/.11770].

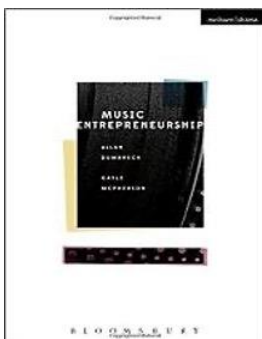


Music Careers by Mary Boone

(Raintree 2017)

[SBH BT.77]

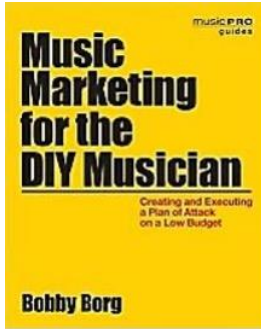
Highlights some of the behind the scenes careers in the music industry. Explains clearly the various roles and includes interviews and salary expectations. Covers the role of the audio engineer, songwriter, music producer, session musician, music publicist, manager, journalist etc.



Music Entrepreneurship by Alan Dumbreck & Gayle McPherson

(Bloomsbury Methuen Drama, 2016)

[SBH BT.78] Analyses the evolution of the music business and the shift to independent companies via case studies including contributions from key academics and industry experts. Covers recorded music, live events, branding, management, digital distribution etc.



Music Marketing for the DIY Musician by Bobby Borg

(Hal Leonard Books 2014)

[SBH BT.79] Written by a professional musician, writer and music educator. A practical guide to producing a customised, low-budget plan for artists marketing and promoting their own music. Draws on the author's academic and practical research involving thousands of independent artists and marketing experts worldwide. [2020 Edition available via the catalogue]

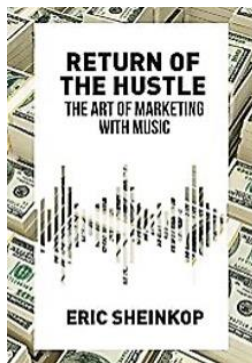


Music: The Business by Ann Harrison

(Virgin Books 2014)

[SBH BT.80] A guide to all the business elements of being a pop musician, including management, recording deals, live performances, merchandising, digital distribution etc. The author is a lawyer but the book is not solely about law.

[2021 Edition available via the catalogue]



Return Of The Hustle: The Art Of Marketing With Music by Eric Sheinkop

(Palgrave Macmillan 2016)

[(B) SBH MSM.87]

Shows how marketers and advertisers can use music within commercials, TV, films and video games to influence audiences and attract loyal consumers.

Includes detailed case studies and interviews to show readers how to use the marketing power of music to drive business results.

Books in other departments

Many books covering various aspects of the music industry are available in the library. They can be found and ordered via the catalogue [Explore the British Library](#).

Printed and Online Market Research Reports

(Please ask for help in finding these)



A Deep Dive Into Audience Trends 2024 (LIVE,2024) Free Online

Indicates the attitudes, behaviours and current thinking of live music fans across the UK. Covers ticket buying & attendance, safety, spend, touts etc.
livemusic.biz

livemusic.biz/news/live-publishes-updated-audience-research

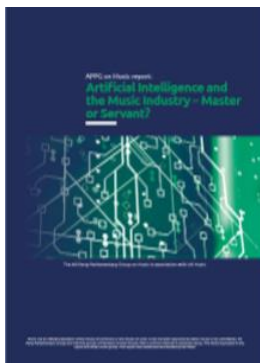


All About The Music 2023 : Recorded Music in the UK: Facts, Figures and Analysis (formerly The BPI Yearbook) (British Phonographic Industry, 2023)

At Enquiry Desk

[(B) MKT 381.457816402660941 BUS]

Statistics from the main industry association. Provides an annual review of the UK industry – downloading, advertising, album/singles sales, consumer profiles, piracy, airplay etc. A world market overview is included.



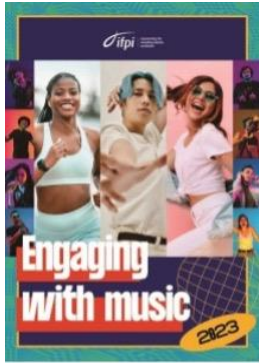
Artificial Intelligence and the Music Industry - Master or Servant (APPG 2023) Free Online.

Suggested legislation to support the UK music industry by regulating the impact of AI generated music.

ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/APPG-AI-Report-Low-res.pdf

UK Music Policy Position Paper on Artificial Intelligence

ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/UK-Music-Policy-Position-Paper-on-Artificial-Intelligence.pdf



Engaging With Music 2023 (IFPI, 2023) Free Online

A snapshot of how music listeners around the world discover, listen to, and engage with music. Explores how and when people listen to music; listeners' views on music and AI; how music supports physical and mental wellbeing; purchasing habits and the genres people are engaging with.

ifpi.org/resources/



Global Music Report: 2021 (IFPI, 2019)

[(B) MKT 338.47780 BUS]

Report giving the latest news, developments and trends within the international recording industry.

ifpi.org

2024 edition freely available online
(excluding the global data statistics)

ifpi.org/resources/



Grassroots Music Venues: 2023/24 (CSM, House of Commons, 2024) Free Online

GMVs provide a platform for up-and-coming bands and music professionals. This is a short inquiry to explore the ongoing crisis among GMVs and to consider interventions that will prevent further venue closures.

[committees.parliament.uk/publications/
44704/documents/222242/default/](https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/44704/documents/222242/default/)

[publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5804/
cmselect/cmcomeds/527/report.html](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5804/cmselect/cmcomeds/527/report.html)



Here, There and Everywhere 2023 (UK Music, 2023) Free Online

Outlines the impact of the resurgence of live music in 2022 – the first full year of post-pandemic festivals, gigs and concerts in the UK, and shows the international reputation of the UK's live music events.

[ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Here-There-
and-Everywhere-2023-UK-Music.pdf](https://ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Here-There-and-Everywhere-2023-UK-Music.pdf)



Let The Music Move - A New Deal For Touring (UK Music, 2022) Free Online

Outlines the actions the Government should take to help UK musicians and crews tour Europe more easily as they have been disadvantaged by complex post-Brexit restrictions on short-term working in the EU for UK music workers.

ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/APPG-on-Music_Let-the-Music-Move_A-New-Deal-For-Touring.pdf



A Manifesto For Music (UK Music, 2023) Free Online

Manifesto that urges the Government to develop a comprehensive, medium to long-term music strategy for growth; with ten clear objectives covering responsible AI, intellectual property, education, protecting music spaces etc.

ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Manifesto-for-Music-2023-1.pdf



Music In The EU: A Global Opportunity 2024 (IFPI, 2024) Free Online

Analyses the social, cultural and economic value of music in the EU. Includes policy recommendations needed to support the EU music industry, with data on the EU market and case studies on the work around supporting, investing in and driving innovation for European artists.

ifpi.org/resources/



Music and Streaming Final Report (Competition and Markets Authority, 2022)

Free Online Study on the music streaming market giving positive and negative impacts on consumers and artists. Analysis and statistics on music companies, songwriters & artists, streaming service providers etc.

gov.uk/government/publications/music-and-streaming-market-study-final-report



Power Of Music (UK Music, 2022) Free Online

A collaborative project between UK Music and Music For Dementia which aims to demonstrate how music can play more of a role in improving health and wellbeing.

ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Power-of-Music-Report-Final-Pages.pdf



This Is Music 2024 (UK Music, 2024) Free Online

This report covers the music industry's contribution to the UK economy and reports on the latest trends and developments within the industry.

ukmusic.org/research-reports/this-is-music-2024/



UK Live Music 2023 (LIVE, 2024) Free Online

A snapshot of the UK live music industry covering ticket buying behaviour, audience behaviour, generated revenue, employment etc.

livemusic.biz

livemusic.biz/file/63RzcCDPmkgtwkYlfZtbSuR8lrY4kxVaH1IYsnSb



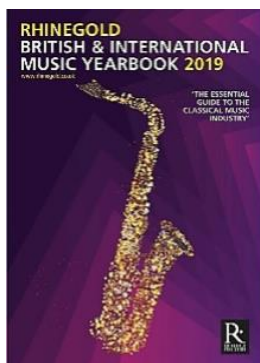
UK Music Diversity Report 2024 (UK Music 2024) Free Online

2024 Workforce Diversity Survey, gives a snapshot regarding diversity and inclusion of those working behind the scenes in the UK music industry

ukmusic.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/UK-Music-Diversity-Report-2024.pdf

Directories

Contain lists of companies and industry contacts. Some have annual industry reviews, and specialist articles.



British & International Music Yearbook [45th Edition] 2019 (Rhinegold Publishing Ltd)

[(B) DIR 780 BUS]

Reference source for the worldwide classical music industry with listings giving contact details of agents and performers, music schools and courses, concert venues and festivals, music & book publishers, instrument manufacturers, recording companies and studios, and marketing & fundraising organisations etc.

Online directory at: musicpages.co.uk



Directory of Membership 2021/2022 (Institute of Musical Instrument Technology 2022)

[ZK.9.a.16780 Catalogue Request]

Names and addresses of the members of the Institute of Musical Instrument Technology - for repairs, tuning, hire and maintenance.

Online directory at: imit.org.uk/browse_categories.php



Department of Independent Senior School Music Departments 2023 (Music Teachers' Association, 2023)

[ZK.9.a.17137 Catalogue Request]

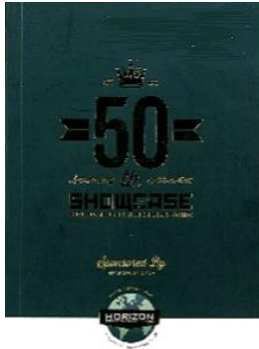
Comprehensive guide to outstanding music departments in independent schools across the UK. Gives detailed listings and articles. Designed for parents to locate and choose the schools most suitable to their child.



Music Week Directory 2022 (Spotlight)

Open Access Humanities 2 Reading Room HUS 380.294.
Also available via catalogue ZM.9.A.6

Listing of music companies and executives. Includes details on labels, publishers, distributors, live agents and top companies across every sector.

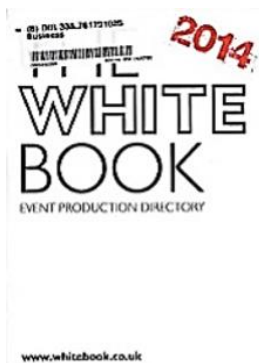


Showcase: The Music Business Guide [51st Edition] 2019 (Hollis)

[(B) DIR 780.294 BUS]

International music contacts and production guide. Lists concert, venue, equipment, recording, studios, artists, business & broadcast services. Artist index, record companies worldwide, festivals, booking agents, artist management, publishers.

showcase-music.com
showcase-music.com/directory



The White Book 2014 (Ocean Media Events Ltd)

[(B) DIR 338.761791025 BUS] Production directory for events industry. UK talent, film, TV & video, exhibitions, concerts, conferences, show & theatrical agents.

[2019 Edn available P.421/848
(catalogue request)]

Internet Sources

Websites containing free sources of policy, industry statistics, information and contacts.

Startups.co.uk

A website giving many articles and fact-sheets on all aspects of starting a business from writing a business plan to funding etc. Many practical guides are available:

startups.co.uk

How to start a record label

startups.co.uk/guides/how-to-start-a-record-label

How to start a record shop

startups.co.uk/guides/how-to-start-a-record-shop

Startupdonut.co.uk

A website providing news, articles, funding information and startup guides for those starting and growing a business:

startupdonut.co.uk

How to open a record shop

startupdonut.co.uk/start-up-business-ideas/types-of-business/how-to-open-a-record-shop

How to start up a record label

startupdonut.co.uk/start-up-business-ideas/types-of-business/how-to-start-up-a-record-label

How to start up a music shop

startupdonut.co.uk/start-up-business-ideas/types-of-business/how-to-start-up-a-music-shop

How to start up a Mobile DJ business

startupdonut.co.uk/start-up-business-ideas/types-of-business/how-to-start-up-a-mobile-dj-business

How to start up an entertaining business

startupdonut.co.uk/start-up-business-ideas/types-of-business/how-to-start-up-an-entertaining-business

The Academy of Contemporary Music

Provides training to musicians and other music professionals.

acm.ac.uk

The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM)

Provides graded music examinations and offers CPD opportunities and support to professional music teachers.

abrsn.org/en-gb

The Association of Independent Music (AIM)

Is a trade body for UK-based independent record companies, artists, labels and distributors. It provides basic guidance on how to start an independent record label as well as news and developments within the industry. The website contains a searchable directory of distributors.

aim.org.uk

The Audio Engineering Society

A professional society devoted exclusively to audio technology. For engineers, students, scientists etc. Involved in the creation and maintenance of international standards in the areas of digital and analog audio engineering, communications technology, acoustics, media preservation and creative practice etc.

aes2.org

The Ivors Academy of Music Creators (Formerly The British Academy Of Songwriters, Composers and Authors (BASCA))

Supports and protects the artistic, professional, commercial and copyright interests of songwriters, lyricists and composers of all genres of music.

ivorsacademy.com

The British Copyright Council

Umbrella organisation bringing together organisations representing those who create, or hold rights in, literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works and those who perform such works.

britishcopyright.org

The British Phonographic Industry

(BPI) represents the UK recorded music industry, including record companies and labels, as well as music manufacturers and distributors. It provides industry information, lobbies the Government on issues relating to the promotion of music in the UK and to music piracy.

bpi.co.uk

Careers In Music

Explains various music business roles and careers and gives advice, facts, addresses and contacts etc.

careersinmusic.com

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport

(DCMS) is the Government department responsible for policy on the music industry.

gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-digital-culture-media-sport

The DJ Academy Organisation

Provides training at venues across the UK for prospective DJs.

djacademy.org.uk

The Entertainment Agents Association

Is a trade association for entertainers' agents. It offers guidance on operating an agency, and its members are bound by a strict Code of Conduct.

teaa.uk

The Entertainment Retailers Association (ERA)

Is a trade organisation that represents retailers of recorded music, video, DVD and multimedia products.

eraltd.org

Festival Insights

An online B2B publication focussed on the international festival industry.

festivalinsights.com

Hypebot

A blog detailing the trends and technologies that are changing how music is discovered, consumed, marketed and monetized. Gives news, information, articles and advice covering all aspects of the music industry.

hypebot.com

Independent Society of Musicians

(ISM) is a professional body that represents the interests of musicians and tutors in the UK. It publishes information sheets giving guidance on professional careers in music, and has established a code of conduct and ethics for tutors.

ism.org

The Independent Music Companies Association

(IMPALA) is a trade association for Europe's independent music companies.

impalamusic.org

The Intellectual Property Office

The official government organisation that provides information and advice on all areas of intellectual property including copyright for music.

gov.uk/government/organisations/intellectual-property-office

The International Artist Managers' Association (IAMA)

The only worldwide association for classical music artist managers and concert agents.

iamaworld.com

classicalmusicartists.com

The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry

(IFPI) represents the worldwide recording industry and works to promote the value of recorded music. Has many free resources including market research and a directory of digital music services worldwide.

ifpi.org

ifpi.org/resources/

Live music Industry Venues and Entertainment (LIVE)

LIVE works to ensure that the interests of live music in the UK are communicated to Government, policymakers, regulators, the public and the wider music and entertainment industries. Has many free resources including market research.

livemusic.biz

The Music Industries Association (MIA)

The UK trade association representing retailers, distributors and manufacturers of musical instruments, equipment and accessories.

mia.org.uk

Music Producers Guild UK

(MPG) Represents professional record producers, recording engineers, mixers, mastering engineers and recording studios.

Has hints and tips on recording and a free directory of producers, engineers, mixers, etc.

mpg.org.uk

mpg.org.uk/members-directory

The Music Publishers Association

(MPA) is a non-profit organisation representing music publishers in the UK. It exists to safeguard their interests, and those of the writers signed to them.

mpaonline.org.uk

Music Teachers UK

Searchable directory of music tutors in the UK, as well as publishing a number of resources and guides to assist music tutors and teachers.

musicteachers.co.uk

Music Week Directory i

A subscription only directory of companies operating in the UK music and media industry, including record companies, music publishers, managers and recording studios.

musicweek.com

The Musicians' Union

Works to promote the interests of all types of musicians. Their website provides news and information related to working, performing, legal issues, finance, contracts, training etc and includes a directory of musicians available for recording, gigs and teaching.

musiciansunion.org.uk

The National Association of DJs

(NADJ) provides support for its members, including discounts, advertising on the association's website and the chance to interact with other DJs.

nadj.org.uk

Phonographic Performance Limited (PPL)

PPL is the UK's music licensing and royalty distribution company for performers and recording rights holders. They license the use of recorded music played in public, background music services, jukeboxes, broadcasts on radio, TV and online.

ppluk.com

The Production Services Association

(PSA) is the trade body for businesses involved in live events. The Association aims to lobby on behalf of the industry and raise technical and safety standards.

psa.org.uk

PRS for Music

The collection society for royalties earned from the performing of copyrighted music. They administer the performing rights in the musical works of its members who comprise composers, songwriters and music publishers. PRS licences are required by concert halls, dance halls, public houses, hotels, restaurants, ships, aeroplanes and anywhere else where copyrighted music is played in public. Any broadcaster using music, and anyone putting copyrighted music on the Internet, must also be licensed.

prsformusic.com

Record of the Day

A news service that provides music industry news to subscribers.

recordoftheday.com

Record Production.com

A website for producers, recording studios, studio & recording equipment worldwide. Has interviews, blogs, forums, equipment reviews, recording tips etc and includes a directory of recording studios.

recordproduction.com

Sound And Music

The national charity for new music in the UK. Promotes new music from digital platforms to live events and gives information on funding, awards and commissions.

soundandmusic.org

The Unsigned Guide

A subscription based industry reference tool for signed/unsigned artists containing information and contact details of record companies, publishing companies, artwork, creative and design companies, recording studios, promoters, venues and industry associations. Includes many free practical fact-sheets and articles giving advice on recording, playing live, blogging & promotions, managers etc

theunsignedguide.com

UK Music

Represents the collective interests of the UK's commercial music industry - from artists, musicians, songwriters and composers, to record labels, music managers, music publishers, studio producers and music licensing organisations. With news, information, market research reports, career information and advice.

ukmusic.org

The Vocalist

Provides sample contracts and information on setting up as an entertainers' agent but gives many practical articles on navigating the music business from demos, contracts, lawyers, promotion, management etc.

vocalist.org.uk/entertainment-agents

Other British Library Guides

You can read about the British Library's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy here:

blogs.bl.uk/living-knowledge/2024/10/our-new-sustainability-and-climate-change-strategy

Disclaimer

Please note that every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, however some recently acquired items may since have been added to the collection. Please ask for help at the enquiry desk or check the online catalogue "Explore the British Library" explore.bl.uk for more details.

The Business & IP Centre is here to help you start and grow your business. We offer one-to-ones, specialist workshops, inspiring events and access to premium market data and intelligence - all for free. We are home to the UK's largest collection of business and intellectual property (IP) information, as well as a thriving community of entrepreneurs. Based in the British Library and over 70 libraries across the UK. Visit the Business & IP Centre or bl.uk/bipc to find out more.