how can i release an album?
Posted by Orys - 2012/05/02 17:01

Hi there!

Is it possible to release an album?
How do i do that?
Does it have to be very good to be able to release it?
Is there money involved in releasing something?
Do i have to pay someone?

Very interested to know from the pros.

Cheers
Tio

==========

Re:how can i release an album?
Posted by Barfunkel - 2012/05/02 17:06

Do you mean a release that costs money to the customers? Anyone can release an album for free online, without cost. There's tons of sites like that.

Or do you mean a physical release, like vinyl or CD? That's gonna cost a bit of money of course, unless you find a record label that's interested in releasing it.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?
Posted by redrum - 2012/05/02 19:30

DIY is easy. Online is the modern Way to do things. however it is a very fickle and and oversaturated time to realese a full length album. I personally think that the ep is the way to go. At least till you gather a following. You could always get some cd-r copied and hand them out to friends or sell them. I've always wanted my own music on vinal.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?
Posted by dubathonic - 2012/05/02 22:54

Glad you're thinking about this Orys...you record a lot of good stuff :)

Releasing music is one thing, promoting and/or selling it effectively is another. Your initial costs for doing both can range from very little to thousands of dollars, depending on your fan base, the format you choose, and how much work you need other people to do.

In one sense you've already "released" collections of your music on Soundcloud, so now is a good time to consider what your next goals are. For example: Are you trying to find gigs? Gain online fans? Sell your music at shows? Get DJs to spin your tracks? Find a label to release and promote your music for you? Etc.

Considering these questions can help you figure out the best approach. It's fun but can take a lot of time and effort, so think about what will get you closer to your goals.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?
Posted by Goggleboy - 2012/05/03 00:05

Im in the same boat, Im about to release an EP, getting 100 cds made for 900 bucks. THe internet makes me feel lost in the mix though. sometimes i hate that its so easy for people to post up thosands of songs but at the saem time i get to

hear alot of stuff i would never hear otherwise. I plan on using the cd s im getting done to mainly hand out at gigs, sure ill lose money now but i fugure in the long run ill gain fans that will maybe buy my music down the road.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by sputnikviper - 2012/05/03 00:11

---

100 cd's for $900?? That's too much. You should be able to get 1000 for around $1050. Check Discmakers and try to haggle a lower price, I got them to pay shipping couple of times. Also, I know giving your music away for free is what everyone thinks they have to do, but think about making the download free, but charge $5 for the CD's at shows. $5 is reasonable and then the people who bought have invested in your CD and will most likely actually listen to it and enjoy it, plus you maybe make a few extra bucks. Getting free CD's I often just kinda throw em in the car and maybe listen to them. Especially if you are only getting 100 you should charge for them.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by Goggleboy - 2012/05/03 00:15

:laugh: Typo.... i ment 1000 for 900$

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by Goggleboy - 2012/05/03 00:19

---

sputnikviper wrote:
100 cd's for $900?? That's too much. You should be able to get 1000 for around $1050. Check Discmakers and try to haggle a lower price, I got them to pay shipping couple of times. Also, I know giving your music away for free is what everyone thinks they have to do, but think about making the download free, but charge $5 for the CD's at shows. $5 is reasonable and then the people who bought have invested in your CD and will most likely actually listen to it and enjoy it, plus you maybe make a few extra bucks. Getting free CD's I often just kinda throw em in the car and maybe listen to them. Especially if you are only getting 100 you should charge for them.

I know what you are saying about charging but on the other hand people are stingy and i would rather someone get a cd then leave the show empty handed because they didnt want to spend the money. i think the free download thing has made people not want to buy cds as much but i could be wrong. Basically at this point i just want people to hear my music.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by the dreammer - 2012/05/03 00:20

I like cd's better then downloads.. cause its something...
so one day when i am finished with my things.. i prob get a cd published
and a dvd with my videos.. sell m on ebay for peanuts..

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by Orys - 2012/05/03 02:00

I'm not looking into selling buddy. i just want people to listen to what i do.
A CD is something i would hand out to friends, relatives, etc.
I don't see myself as a pro.
I believe my music is mediocre because i don't take it very very seriously.
i sit and play then i master a bit.

I don't make corrections to it that much.
Whatever you hear is what i played those few minutes.
On soundcloud i don't have much following.
i don't just add 1 thousand people just so they add me too to get promoted.
what shall i do?

is my music so shitty that it hasn't ever been on a damn compilation?
i would pay to get a song of mine on a compilation CD.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by GeneralBigBag - 2012/05/03 02:16

I agree with the sentiment that you need to have a clear + concrete reason to 'release' an album (as opposed to putting a set of tracks up on soundcloud). Releasing an album really means doing a lot of promotion to get it some attention, and that is easily as much if not more work than making the music in the first place. Fact of the matter is that what's known about is often more correlated with what's being pushed the hardest, rather than what's good

i just want people to listen to what i do. A CD is something i would hand out to friends, relatives, etc.

If you want friends, relatives to listen, maybe just do a small run of CDs (50-100ish), silkscreen them yourself, and make it really personal. That's an awesome way to make your music more tangible, and by making an object that you obviously put time and effort into (people seem to get that way more with packaging than with the music itself), the people you give it to will be infinitely more inclined to actually listen to it than if you send them a link 'Hey! Check out my new tracks on soundcloud!'.

I think the other question to ask yourself is whether you want to showcase something that you think is mediocre? Like I say, if you want to 'release' an album, the work involved with that is going to be way more than what you're describing as your music-making process.

I believe my music is mediocre because i don't take it very very seriously.
i sit and play then i master a bit.
I don't make corrections to it that much.
Whatever you hear is what i played those few minutes.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by ricklaw - 2012/05/03 02:24

WTSduplication.com has really cheap short run pricing.

100 CDs in 4 panel digipaks are like $209. If you are just giving them away, you can get away with a simple full color cardboard sleeve. You can order 100 CDs in sleeves for $125. Cheap!

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by Orys - 2012/05/03 19:38

GeneralBigBag wrote:
I think the other question to ask yourself is whether you want to showcase something that you think is mediocre? Like I say, if you want to 'release' an album, the work involved with that is going to be way more than what you're describing as your music-making process.

That killed me.....

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by LIVESEQ - 2012/05/03 21:39

Orys wrote:

is my music so shitty that it hasn't ever been on a damn compilation?
i would pay to get a song of mine on a compilation CD.

Your music is great orys. It has a lot of expression which often beats high production values (most of your tunes sound good to me from that respect as well though.)

If you express yourself and enjoy making music then some people will identify and like that.

I think a major step for you would be to take away the gear links/pics from your promos. The majority of listeners don't care what it's made with and that can sometimes distract from the music and just look like an advert. Someone will listen to the machine and not the music. I am impressed with the variety of sound and arrangements from op1 though.

One day I might well get a concept, sound and packaging together to produce a product. Stopping posting on soundcloud has helped this. I feel like I'm nurturing something and building a portfolio ready for people to hear it fresh like the good old days.

==========

Re:how can i release an album?

Posted by GeneralBigBag - 2012/05/04 01:29

Orys wrote:
GeneralBigBag wrote:
I think the other question to ask yourself is whether you want to showcase something that you think is mediocre? Like I say, if you want to 'release' an album, the work involved with that is going to be way more than what you're describing as your music-making process.

That killed me.....

Hey Orys - I'm not trying to be harsh, just realistic. Like I say, if your goal is to make something concrete for your friends to be able to hold in their hands, then releasing an album is as simple as designing the packaging and ordering a bunch of cds/records. I personally think that this sort of thing can be awesome, and if you put a decent effort in to the presentation, you can come up with something really special and unique.

On the other hand, if your goal in 'releasing an album' is to get some attention from the outside world, that's a whole different story, and that's where my comments about work come from.

==========