

Careers for Singers

Expert knowledge means success

Contents

1. Introduction
1. Vocal styles and singing/voice related job opportunities
8. Useful Reading
8. Organisations
12. Further Information

poco rit.

p *tempo*

cresc.

poco a poco

Note: This publication has not been updated since it was last published. Some of the hyperlinks may have changed and may need updating. In addition, some of the information in this publication may be out of date.

Introduction

There are many ways in which a singer can earn a living although the wages vary considerably depending on style, experience, competence and the performer's popularity. A singer may earn anything from nothing to £30.00 an hour and upwards. Latest average rates are usually available from organisations like the Musicians Union - for information, go to:

www.vocalist.org.uk/singing_organisations.htm

Whilst many performers are happy to sing for pleasure rather than pay, it is always nice to be paid for something that you enjoy doing.

Check out the UK Grant Aided Music (www.vocalist.org.uk/grant.html) list of companies, non-profit groups, charities etc., currently receiving funding to promote, educate or present music.

Vocal styles and singing/voice related job opportunities

The following information is a guide to various types of vocal styles plus singing and voice related job opportunities. Competition is high, therefore any singer needs to be proficient and the majority of experienced singers will diversify by performing a variety of musical styles depending on their vocal capabilities and educational training. For many singers, live performance is a secondary form of income. Other types of jobs available in the music industry and information on self-employment is available in the Music Careers section at the Electric Blues Club at:

www.vocalist.org.uk/singing_organisations.html

Acappella

Acappella is the term used for singing without the aid of accompaniment and takes far more skill than the listeners realise. All styles of music can be performed in this manner, (although some are more suited than others) and artists must be extremely competent to be able to start (and stay) on pitch, in time and where applicable,

harmonise in exact tandem with their fellow singers.

For instance, Barbershop Singers, Gregorian Chanters and choirs are a formation of several singers who perform in harmony completely unaccompanied by any other instrument than the human voice. Pop music has also had it's share of vocal acappella groups the most notable of which are the Flying Pickets who had hits in the 80's with 'Only You' and 'When Your Young and in Love' and probably the most well known acappella song is 'Mercedes Benz' performed by Janis Joplin. Whilst this form is not the current 'flavour of the month' singing without the aid of any backing means the performer can demonstrate their abilities anywhere and are popular in folk, blues, alternative and early music circuits. Wages are usually low and many singers choose this more for pleasure than pay, however it is not as easy as it sounds!

Backing Singer

Backing Singers are the vocalists who provide harmonies and vocals complementing the melody performed by a Lead Singer. Used in many forms of music including Rock, Pop, MOR, Soul, the backing singer has played an integral role in song production.

There are many types of backline vocalists ranging from the band member who sings a bit to dedicated Session Singers who are employed by major touring artists and recording studios. A good backing singer should be experienced in harmonizing and keeping in time with both the lead vocalist and fellow backing vocalists, sight reading isn't essential but the ability to 'hear' yourself and learn songs quickly is!

Many vocalists start their careers as a backing singer as it also presents possibilities of being noticed by A & R!! Examples of this are 'Sam Brown' and 'Alison Moyet' both of whom had hit songs in the 80's.

Blues Singer

Blues has been a huge influence on modern music with artists like the Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton and Gary Moore combining the old style feel with a rock edge.

Whilst there will always be heated discussion on the validity of modern blues compared to the old style, blues music still continues to be popular with established circuits throughout Europe and the USA.



Many people feel that whilst the basics can be learnt by anyone, a true 'Blues' singer is one who has a full life experience usually filled with tragedy and hardship!! A full-time career is possible although many performers combine their love of the blues with a second source of income.

Busker

Busking has been performed by musicians of all styles worldwide. Ranging from acappella singers to one man band complete with his multiple instruments, they perform at fairs, fetes, subways, shopping centers and street corners for whatever the general public are prepared to donate into the hat.

In the last few years it has become more regulated with performers requiring licenses to publicly entertain on designated pitches. Favourite areas for buskers include Covent Garden and underground stations where a high amount of walking tourists and travellers may be persuaded to stop and listen for a while.

Cabaret Singer

A large percentage of professional singers make a career in Cabaret. Venues range from the local working men's club to the grand casinos in Vegas. The standard ranges considerably and relative amateurs can be found working the circuit to gain experience. Wages vary in comparison with competence and popularity with cabaret artists earning anything from £50 to £500+ per show.

The Cabaret artist is expected to know a wide range and style of songs to cater to audiences ranging from teens to oap's with the ability to work equally well with backing tracks, reading musicians, the resident compere and cope within house P.A. systems. Most cabaret artists prefer to use their own equipment and engineer although this depends entirely on the type of venue and quality of equipment provided.

Artists like Sheena Easton and Tom Jones started their careers using this route and there are many cabaret singers who become internationally acclaimed in their own right.

Carol Singer

Fun for all ages and standards, Carol Singing started as a form of church choral singing which appealed to all ages. The types of song performed include hymns and Christmas songs of all styles, usually performed acappella prior to and during the

Christmas period.

Small groups of singers can be found raising money for their local church or charity by performing at their neighbours doorsteps, functions and charity events. The participants are usually unpaid volunteers although the choir master and organiser may receive a small amount of expenses.

Children's Singer

Performing for children can be a rewarding experience. Patience, tolerance and a good sense of humour are more important than a great voice and technical ability!!

The children's singer ranges from those who entertain at parties, functions or corporate events to singing actors employed on children's programs and include session singers who would overdub a cartoon caricature to teenagers and bands who visit schools to gain experience and build a following.

This is also a good way to introduce an eager youngster to performing live, most schools will encourage their pupils to participate in small shows for their friends, parents and teachers.

Choral Singer

The school choir is often one of the earliest experiences of singing with a large group that a child has and is certainly an area of performance where age is not an issue.

Religious institutions use the concept of group singing to its fullest with the use of acappella, accompanied, solo and group vocals co-ordinated by a Choral Director.

Young boys are popular for their unbroken sweet voices, whilst older singers 'fatten' the sound with their deeper vibrant tones producing an overall rich sound.

Whilst the majority of choral singers are local unpaid volunteers, there are some choirs who perform at major venues and produce albums for their devotees. Soloists have also had chart hits, like Aled Jones with the title song from the cartoon film 'The Snowman' and several RnB/Soul/Pop artists like 'Whitney Houston' and 'Aretha Franklin' started their singing careers performing with Gospel Choirs.

Chorus Line Singer

An essential part of musical theatre is the Chorus Line. The term describes a group of individuals who are competent at singing, dancing, acting and co-ordinating with others.

The type of songs performed range considerably in style so a versatile voice and ability to learn quickly are necessary requirements. Preparation time is usually limited and competition is fierce as singing actors and dancers are also keen on getting the part!

Amateur productions at local theatres are an excellent introduction for beginners whilst professional shows like 'Cats', 'Miss Saigon', 'Buddy' and 'Oklahoma' demand high standards but provide decent wages and the opportunity for recognition.

Country Singer

Country & Western is a popular form of music with a wide circuit of venues mainly in the USA. There is a thriving albeit smaller country circuit in the UK, with some opportunities for performance at 'Themed Events'. Line dancing has become a big craze requiring country bands, singers and dance step callers.

Constantly in and out of the charts, country singers are varied in style with some artists like 'Shania Twain' crossing over into pop and dance artists like 'Whitney Houston' performing versions of songs written by country singers. (I Will Always Love You was written and originally recorded by Dolly Parton).

Cruise Ship Singer

Jane McDonald has become one of the most recognised Cruise Ship singers after the broadcasting of a BBC TV documentary series following the lives of onboard entertainers and personnel. The musicians and entertainers are expected to be of a professional standard with the ability to read music and work long hours.

Being confined to a ship (no matter how large) means that all crew are expected to be on duty 24/7 in other words, be nice to the passengers even if you have a sore head, runny nose or bad day plus be prepared to cover a variety of other duties when staff are off sick. Staff are usually contracted for the duration of the cruise and can expect good wages with accommodation and meals included.

Advertisements for these positions can be found in The Stage Newspaper (UK) ([www.thestage.co.uk](#)), Variety (US)

(www.vocalist.org.uk/singing_organisations.html) and major newspapers.

Enquiries can also be made direct to the cruise line and many Entertainment Agents (www.vocalist.org.uk/entertainment_agents.html) run showcases for cruise ship bookers. Read more about working on cruise ships at www.vocalist.org.uk/entertainment_agents.html

Disabled Entertainers

Certain physical or mental handicaps may cause some difficulties for people who wish to pursue a career in music or singing... but that does NOT necessarily mean the individual will be unable to pursue their dream! There are many artists who have achieved successful writing, recording and performing careers despite their handicap. So, whether you stammer like pop singer Gareth Gates or are more severely physically challenged like country singer/songwriter Reba Schappell, winner of the 1997 L.A. Music Award for best new country artist (who is conjoined with her sister Lori), there are opportunities to pursue.

Young people with special needs can apply to the Chicken Shed Theatre Company (www.chickenshed.org.uk/) which integrates children with special needs into community theatre and music.

Diva

The term 'Diva' is used to describe a great female singer or Prima Donna whose voice and style are considered to be unique. Many singers aspire to be like their favourite 'Diva' and whilst the term was originally used for temperamental opera singers (www.vocalist.org.uk/singing_careers.html#opera%20singer#opera%20singer) it is now used to describe female singers of any style that fit the criteria.

To become a 'Diva' takes dedication and hard work which may never produce the recognition required..... the term is granted by their peers and public opinion and not by the singer themselves (as much as they would wish otherwise!!).

Folk Singer

Folk singers have been around for centuries and were probably the first 'Bards' who travelled the country translating events into stories which would be sung in return for

lodging and food. Old folk songs like 'Greensleeves' are still in use today. There was a big revival during the 60's which provided a platform for artists like 'Bob Dylan' who continues to influence artists of today. Folk singers can find performance opportunities at folk clubs and festivals worldwide although like 'Blues Singers' (www.vocalist.org.uk/singing_careers.html#blues%20singer#blues%20singer) the gigs may be scattered and wages low, folk music is generous in its acceptance of beginners who are encouraged to practice their art regardless of age/ability.

Gospel Singer

Gospel is a form of music used by certain religious establishments to praise God and encourage positive feelings in their parishioners. Many singers who perfected their art performing in gospel choirs have since become successful recording artists like Aretha Franklin and niece Whitney Houston but the majority of singers are unpaid volunteers from the local community.

Gospel singing has been somewhat ignored by the music industry but in the last couple of years its popularity has increased in the UK with a nationwide search for the best gospel choir/vocalist on ITV.

Holiday Camp Singers

Working as a redcoat for holiday camps are a great way to learn about the entertainment business and get paid! The hours are very long as staff are expected to do pretty much everything including learning dance, comedy, DJ'ing, comparing and singing to entertain the holidaymakers, organising games for the children and taking care of the clients.

The amount of experience required depends on the job applied for as holiday camps also employ resident bands, entertainers, solo singers, tribute artists and named bands during the course of the season. Wages vary according to age and experience although most residential staff receive a relatively low wage (between £100 & £200 per week) plus shared accommodation.

Jazz Singer

Jazz has developed considerably from the traditional form with musicians and singers incorporating ethnic rhythms and modern sounds to produce offshoots like 'progressive', 'modern' and 'acid' jazz. Extreme competence and control are required

from a jazz singer who is expected to vocalise with and around the music whilst restraining power and energy, it is rare to hear a loud jazz band who unlike rock bands prefer intricate syncopation and understated technical expertise to volume.

Jazz clubs, festivals, radio, record companies and televised events worldwide provide vocalists with performance and recording opportunities.

Karaoke Host

Karaoke nights produce a host of amateur singers of varying standards and are a good introduction to performing in front of a live audience. The host is responsible for encouraging participation, comparing, co-ordinating tracks to singers and filling in whilst the locals are getting up the nerve to have a go.

If you love singing but recognise that your voice is not going to make you a living then this is an ideal job! Popular karaoke hosts are usually those whose voices are less than perfect but have great fun personalities. This encourages the audience to participate far more than an excellent singer whose voice is likely to make the listeners feel uncomfortable at participating. Visit the KrazyKats Karaoke (www.krazykats-karaoke.co.uk/) for more tips and articles for karaoke jockeys and singers.

Lead Singer

Frontman (person) or Lead singer is the term used to describe a vocalist who sings the lead melody in front of a band regardless of the type, style or standard of music played.

Any vocalist competent in their field of music can become a lead singer although wages will depend on the ability of all the musicians. A good covers band can work practically anywhere from local pubs, clubs, festivals and sight readers could find themselves employed as resident bands or session artists.

Bands performing original material can expect little or no initial pay unless they can build and retain a following, produce their own album or get signed by a record company.

Music Librarian

Working in a library music department requires a sound knowledge of music and organisation. Singing may not be part of the

job description but the advantage of being able to browse a roomful of sheet music, music books and records is a bonus of the job!!

There are also opportunities to perform as many local councils have recreation departments that organise acoustic and semi acoustic live music evenings.

Opera Singer

Opera is considered to be one of the most demanding forms of singing as the standard is exceptionally high and pupils are expected to have extensive vocal training. A popular form of classical singing which many vocalists aspire to achieve proficiency in, singers are expected to pass examinations which are graded by presentation as well as performance technique.

The scene is highly competitive and many excellent singers never receive the recognition they deserve, however there are a myriad of competitions, venues, educational establishments and grant funded groups to encourage, employ and promote all standards and the possibility of worldwide recognition for successful artists.

Pop Singer

Pop is an abbreviation of Popular. The term describes music having wide general public appeal, usually with easy to sing melodies and repetitive choruses so any age and standard can sing along.

The majority of songs performed by pop acts are 'covers' of songs that were made famous by other artists. Most pop singers are required to include dance routines into the performance. The standard varies considerably from the local pop pub singer to famous pop idols.

Professor of Voice and Vocal Pedagogy

Those with a love of teaching and interest in vocal pedagogy can further their education to become qualified as a professor of voice.

Professors are contracted by educational establishments or work as freelancers hosting lectures and demonstrations to vocal students and teachers. Vocal pedagogy specialists research the science of teaching.

Pub Singer

Throughout the ages public houses have used live music to entertain their customers. The type of material performed and equipment used may have changed with the times but the role remains the same. A wide variety of material in a range of genres is required with the most popular singers being those who are versatile in several styles of music.

Solo's, Duo's, Trio's and Bands can find paid work anywhere in the UK. Pubs have diversified considerably and there are performance opportunities for original and covers acts with wages ranging from nothing to £500 per show depending on the popularity and size of the act.

Punk Singer

Punk music was introduced in the mid 70's by bands like the Sex Pistols, The Jam and The Damned whose songs of rebellion were loud and full of energy.

Punk bands still find work and attract record companies and although the music's popularity has waned it continues to influence today's new artists.

Rap Singer

Rap singing is a rhythmic form of speech that the artist performs with or without musical backing. The musical accompaniment can be of any style although hip hop, house, reggae, soul and rock music tend to be favoured.

DJ's and singers perform at night clubs to promote themselves but most successful rap artists record their tracks then distribute them through the underground and DJ networks.

Recording Artist

Recording a single or album used to be the sole province of artists signed to a record company or with the finances to afford professional recording studios. With today's technology a professional sounding recording can be achieved by anyone who is prepared to learn how to use the equipment effectively.

This has led to the rise in small independent record labels who are often owned by singer/songwriters and bands who frustrated with major labels produce and distribute their own records. Signed artists are expected to produce several recordings for release and there are many singers who make a career of providing backing and guide vocals for producers and songwriters.

Rock Singer

The term Rock Music covers a wide section of musical styles including Gothic, Heavy Metal, Punk, Progressive and Rock n Roll with a variety of 'flavours' in between! Rock is a popular form of music and whilst venues for heavier stuff is more limited there are still plenty of performance opportunities in bands at festivals and on radio and television.

Most rock acts like pop artists aim for a publishing or record company to promote their music but rock singers can also make a living by working the pub and club circuits to supplement their income.

Session Singer

A session singer is a vocalist who is hired for a contractual period, usually one track, one performance etc., of any style of music.

Sight reading and the ability to work well with other musicians without rehearsal is essential although some session singers work by 'ear'.

Many singers start their professional careers through deputising for bands and providing backing/harmony/guide vocals for studios and songwriters. This can also open the door to a solo career as shown by artists like 'Sam Brown' whose no 1 hit 'S top' is still performed by female rock covers artists in pubs & clubs nationwide. Read more about Session Singers at

www.vocalist.org.uk/session_singers.html

Singer Songwriter

Writing and performing your own material is a satisfying career that many vocalists aspire to achieve. Whilst many write original material, there are few who manage to make a career from their efforts. Competition is fierce and most record companies are wary of using material that does not follow established formats, however, successful singer/songwriters like 'Carol Bayer Sager' and 'Paul McCartney' can continue their careers indefinitely by writing songs for other singers.

The introduction of the internet has allowed all styles, ages and abilities to record their masterpieces for downloading by surfers worldwide. The limitations in musical style imposed by the vagaries of the music industry no longer apply making a far wider range of styles and artists accessible to anyone who possesses a computer and internet connection.

New venues, acoustic and showcase nights have increased providing new acts with a platform where they can perform to a mixture of general public and music industry personnel.

Wages are usually non-existent unless the artist is signed to a publishing contract (example at:

www.vocalist.org.uk/publishing_contract.html)

or record deal (for information, go to:

www.vocalist.org.uk/record_deal.html) or

chooses to promote themselves and their work by producing and marketing their own CDs.

Singing Teacher

A vocal coach or singing teacher's job is to provide voice training and encouragement to clients who want to learn how to sing. There are many types of teacher, some of whom are professionally qualified, others who do not possess educational qualifications but have gained their experience through working as a semi-professional or professional singer.

A good teacher should be competent in communicating and demonstrating correct techniques, in the areas of breathing, posture, vocal and microphone techniques, music theory, timing, phrasing and pronunciation. Lessons for individuals last between 30 minutes and 1 hour which can be charged at £10 to £50+ per hour depending on time allowed, competence and professional reputation of the teacher.

Opportunities are also available for qualified voice tutors at schools and educational music establishments. Browse the Singing Teachers Database at

www.vocalist.org.uk/singing_tutors.html

Solo Artist

The solo singer or artist has a lot in common with the Lead Vocalist. Both are required to be proficient at keeping in time and tune with the music, whilst entertaining and communicating with an audience. A solo artist should be reliable and competent at performing with both live and recorded backing.

Soloists are singers of any style who perform as individuals, this can mean anything from singing a 'solo part' in a choir to performing all the songs alone.

Solo artists can work with their own equipment (backing tracks, p.a., accompanying themselves using a musical instrument), pay 'session musicians' or an 'accompanist' to play the music or perform at

venues who employ a 'house band' or 'session musicians'. The latter two options require a 'Pad' which is the name given to describe a folder containing the sheet music for each song that will be performed during the show (with a few extra's in case of encore's). The 'Pad' should also contain a set list with the songs key written next to the titles, listed in order of play for the singers and musicians reference.

Solo Singer

Soloists are singers of any style who perform as individuals, either with their own equipment or as a session singer.

Opportunities are only limited to the competence and determination of the singer who can find work in pubs, clubs, cabaret, nightclubs, radio, television or as a recording artist.

Non-writing solo singers often team up with songwriters and producers who share their aim for a deal. Other popular and lucrative avenues for solo singers include live performance of covers and production of a Tribute Act

(www.vocalist.org.uk/tribute_acts.html).

Soul Singer

The term 'Soul Singer' can be used to describe any vocalist who sings from their soul. Typical examples are Tina Turner who has more of a rock voice and the godfather of soul 'James Brown'.

Opportunities for performance are available in pubs, clubs, cabaret, radio, recording and television.

Theatrical Singer

A combination of acting, dance and singing is required of vocalists wishing to pursue a career in theatre. Plays with songs range from classical to modern with songwriters like Andrew Lloyd Webber providing musicals for all ages.

Successful shows can run for years with show tunes becoming chart hits like 'Memory' from 'Cats' performed by Elaine Paige, who has since recorded several albums.

Tribute Artist

Tribute acts have become very popular with everyone from Elvis Presley to Kiss being copied by singers of all standards in talent competitions to corporate functions.

The terms 'Tribute Act', 'Impersonator', 'Soundalike' and 'Lookalike' are used to describe a singer or band whose show is dedicated to the reproduction of a popular celebrity or famous band. More information can be found at:

www.vocalist.org.uk/tribute_acts.html.

Voice Over Artist

The voice over artist

(www.vocalist.org.uk/voice_overs.html) is similar to a session singer providing their vocal talents to backing track producers, jingles producers, advertising agencies, radio stations and television stations.

A wide variety of voices are required for all sorts of projects both spoken and sung.

Various short courses for the spoken voice are available (Kit Carson's 1 day course is recommended, usually advertised in The Stage Newspaper - go to:

www.thestage.co.uk).

Both In-House and Freelance voice over artists are employed for different projects and a demo CD showing your full vocal and spoken versatility will be required by potential employers.

Community radio stations offer a good way to gain experience and provide an essential service at the same time. For more information on Voice Over Artists, go to:

www.vocalist.org.uk/voice_overs.html.

Voice Therapist

There are different types of therapists that specialise in aspects of vocal therapy. Some are also qualified singing teachers and combine their skills to aid people in regaining their voice after throat and vocal chord operations.

There are also voice therapists who concentrate on using music and voice as a means to communicate and encourage mentally and physically handicapped people. Whilst some medical knowledge is required, vocal therapists are not always qualified doctors. Search for voice therapists in the Singing Teachers Database at:

www.vocalist.org.uk/singing_tutors.html.

Wedding Singer

If you want to gain some insight then go down to your local video store and hire the film 'The Wedding Singer'.

A varied repertoire is required that appeals to all the family, so many wedding singers team up with a friendly DJ to provide a full evening's entertainment.

World Singer

World music is a general term that covers bangra, African, Oriental and other forms of music. Popular in their country of origin, ethnic rhythms, sounds and styles have been successfully combined with pop, rock, dance and other genres.

The crossover into western charts has opened up possibilities for singers worldwide in live performance, radio, recording and television. Further information on self-employment plus other types of Music Career can be found at the Electric Blues Club site (www.electricbluesclub.co.uk/earnit.html).

Useful Reading

- 100 Careers in the Music Business, by Tanja L. Crouch, published by Barron's Educational Series, ISBN: 0764115774
- How to Make It in Musicals: An Insider's Guide to a Career as a Singer-Dancer, by Donna McKechnie (Foreword), Michael Allen, published by Watson-Guption Publications, ISBN: 0823088154
- How to Succeed in the Music Business, by Allan Dann, John Underwood, published by Omnibus Press, ISBN: 0711994331



Organisations

Note: This list was last updated in February 2012. It should be noted that addresses and contact details change regularly.

Agents' Association Great Britain

The Official Association for Entertainment Agents and Bookers:

54 Keyes House
Dolphin Square, London, SW1V 3NA, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7834 0515
E-mail: association@agents-uk.com
www.agents-uk.com/

Association of Teachers of Singing

Weir House, 108 Newton Road
Burton-on-Trent, Staffs, DE15 0TT, UK

Tel: +44 (0) 1283 542198
E-mail: enquiries@aotos.co.uk
<http://aotos.org.uk/>

Arts Council: England

The Arts Council receives a government grant to develop arts activities:

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7333 0100
E-mail: enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk
www.artscouncil.org.uk/

Arts Council of Northern Ireland

MacNeice House, 77 Malone Road, Belfast, BT9 6AQ, UK
Tel: 028 9038 5200
www.artscouncil-ni.org/

Arts Council of Wales

9 Museum Place, Cardiff, CF10 3NX, UK
Tel: 029 2037 6500
www.artswales.org.uk/

Scottish Arts Council

12 Manor Place,
Edinburgh, EH3 7DD.UK
Tel: 0131 226 6051
www.creativescotland.com/

ASCAP

The UK office of this US-based worldwide organisation created and controlled by composers, songwriters and music publishers to protect the rights of its members by licensing and distributing royalties for the non-dramatic public performances of their copyrighted works:

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers
8 Cork Street, London, W1S 3LJ, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7439 0909
E-mail: rgreenway@ascap.com
www.ascap.com/

Association of Independent Music

UK non-profit independent music companies Trade Association that helps companies of all shapes and sizes that are faced with a variety of problems on a daily basis:
(Also have offices in the USA):

Lamb House, Church Street, London W4 2PD. UK
Tel: 020 8994 5599
E-mail: info@musicindie.com
www.musicindie.com/home

Association of British Jazz Musicians

Jazz Services Limited promotes the development of jazz in the UK by providing education and other various services:

1st Floor, 132 Southwark Street
London, SE1 0SW, UK
Tel: 020 7928 9089
E-mail: admin@jazzservices.org.uk

www.jazzservices.org.uk/org/orgj/JazzSingersNetwork.htm

Association of Professional Recording Services

Working to promote the interests of those involved in professional sound recording:

PO Box 22, Totnes, TQ9 7YZ, UK

Tel: 01803 868 600

E-mail: info@aprs.co.uk

<http://www2.aprs.co.uk/>

Association of United Recording Artists

Membership association which represents the interests of professional recording artists:

134 Lots Road, London, SW10 0RJ, UK

Tel: 020 7602 5985

E-mail: info@aurauk.com

Band Register

UK & International search and free registration of band names. It provides A & R information and puts together a CD of the best bands tracks which is heard by major and independent A & R:

Oxford Music Central

2nd Floor, 65 George Street

Oxford, OX1 2BE, UK

Tel: 01865 798 795

E-mail: nbr@bandreg.com

www.nbr@bandreg.com

British Academy of Composers and Songwriters

This is the recognised association for UK music writers. It offers specialist workshops and seminars, legal and business help lines including advice on copyright, royalties and commissioning fees plus free entry and webpage in the Academy's register of members:

British Music House

26 Berners Street, London, W1T 3LR, UK

Tel: 020 7636 2929

E-mail: info@britishacademy.com

www.basca.org.uk/home/

British Association of Barbershop Singers

Their website provides information on their services plus links to their clubs which are located nationwide, links to choruses and quartets own sites, sheet music, colleges, chorus directors etc., plus their own radio station playing barbershop music 24/7 which you can submit material for broadcast:

www.singbarbershop.com/

British Association of Record Dealers

UK trade organisation formed specifically to act as a forum for the retail and wholesale sectors of the music, video, DVD and Multimedia products industry. It exists to communicate and negotiate with government departments and local authorities:

1st Floor, Colonnade House

2 Westover Road, Bournemouth, Dorset,

BH1 2BY, UK

Tel: 01202 292 063

British Council – Music

The site provides a weekly radio show featuring the best UK music plus sections on world, roots, traditional music features and resources, educational and collaborative work, news, events and a unique database of ensembles and practitioners:

11 Portland Place, London, W1N 4EJ, UK

Tel: 020 7389 3005/3010

www.britishcouncil.org/arts-music.htm

British Country Music Association

PO Box 240, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 7PH, UK

Tel: 01273 559 750

www.countrymusic.org.uk/

British Federation of Audio

19 Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H 0ES

Tel: 020 7930 3206

www.audioplus.org.uk/bfa/

British Federation of Young Choirs (BFYC)

Arranges singing events and training for young people on a regional and national basis:

37 Frederick Street

Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3BH, UK

Tel: 01509 211664.

E-mail: bfyc@foobar.co.uk

British Interactive Multimedia Association

5-6 Clipstone Street, London, W1P 7EB, UK

Tel: 020 7436 8250

E-mail: info@bima.co.uk

www.bima.co.uk/

British Society for Music Therapy

24 – 27 White Lion Street, London

N1 9PD, UK

Tel: 020 7837 6100

E-mail: info@bamt.org

www.bamt.org/

Broadcast Music Incorporated

BMI London

Tel: 020 7486 2036

www.bmi.com/

Contemporary Music Making for Amateurs

Promotes performance of contemporary music by amateur musicians:

Tel: 020 7739 4680

E-mail: coma@coma.org

www.coma.org/site/page.dwp

Commercial Radio Companies' Association

The Radio Centre, 77 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W1D 5DU, UK

Tel: 020 7306 2603

E-mail: info@crca.co.uk

Community Media Association

15 Paternoster Row

Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S1 2BX, UK

Tel: 0114 279 5219

E-mail: cma@commedia.org.uk

Concert Promoters' Association

6 St Mark's Road, Henley-On-Thames

Oxfordshire, RG 1LJ, UK

Tel: 01491 575 060

E-mail: carolesmith.cpa@virgin.net

www.concertpromotersassociation.co.uk

Country Music Association

3rd Floor, 18 Golden Square

London, W1R 3AG, UK

Tel: 020 7734 3221

<http://source.cmaworld.com/>

Creators' Rights Alliance

Coalition of independent organisations collaboration on behalf of their members to campaign against the abuses of creators' rights in all media, particularly in broadcasting:

Headland House, 308 Gray's Inn Road

London, WC1X 8DP, UK

www.creatorsrights.org.uk/

Guild of International Songwriters and Composers

GISC publishes the Song writing and Composing magazine plus offers advice, guidance, assistance, protection, information and services to guild members like copyright protection, song assessments and song promotion to publishers and record companies:

www.songwriters-guild.co.uk/

Incorporated Society of Musicians

Can provide lists of private teachers and information on careers in music:

E-mail: membership@ism.org

www.ism.org/

International Artists Managers' Association

Association for classical music artist managers and concert agents:

Tel: 020 7610 4884

E-mail: info@iamaworld.com

www.iamaworld.com/

International Federation of the Phonographic Industry

Represents copyright interests of sound recordings, with worldwide offices:

E-mail: info@ifpi.org

www.ifpi.org/

International Songwriters Association

A great resource for all songwriters with members receiving a magazine with articles on song writing which includes record labels currently seeking acts, composers/lyricists wanted/available and their requirements plus a copyright recording facility. Also arranges Showcases for new talent:

www.songwriter.co.uk/

Making Music

Formerly the National Federation of Music Societies:

Tel: 0870 872 3300

E-mail: info@makingmusic.org.uk

<http://makingmusic.org.uk/>

Manchester City Music Network

Tel: 0161 228 3993

E-mail: network@manchester-music.org.uk

www.musictank.co.uk/resources/manchester-city-music-network

Music Publishers Association

Looks after the interests of music publishers and their writers, promoting the importance and value of copyright:

Tel: 020 7389 7779

E-mail: info@mpaonline.org.uk

www.mpaonline.org.uk/

Music Producers' Guild

Organisation which promotes and represents all individuals in the music production and recording professions:

Tel: 020 7371 8888

E-mail: members@mpg.org.uk

www.mpg.org.uk/home

Music Industry Research Organisation

Tel: 020 7940 8560

www.mia.org.uk/

Music Information Centres

Resource centres for contemporary classical British music, these bodies have been set up primarily to 'increase public awareness of music and to disseminate information'.

British Music Information Centre
Tel: 0207 499 8567

Scottish Music Information Centre
Tel: 0141 337 1161

Irish Music Information Centre
Tel: (Dublin) 00 353 1 661 2105

MOBO (Music of Black Origin)
22 Stephenson Way
London, NW1 2HD
Tel: 020 7419 1800
E-mail: info@mobo.net

Musicians' Union

This is the recognised trade body for musicians:

Tel: 020 7582 5566
www.musiciansunion.org.uk/

National Foundation for Youth Music

www.youthmusic.org.uk/musicispower/index.html

National Operatic & Dramatic Association

Aims to give a shared voice to the amateur sector, to help amateur societies and individuals achieve the highest standards of best practice and performance and provide advice:

Tel: 01733 374 790
E-mail: everyone@noda.org.uk
www.noda.org.uk/

PACT (The Producers Alliance for Cinema and Television)

UK Trade association representing independent television, film, animation and new media production companies:

Tel: 020 7380 8230
E-mail: enquiries@pact.co.uk
www.pact.co.uk/home/

Society for Producers and Composers

UK trade association for producers and composers who work primarily in commissioned music for advertising, television programs and feature films:

Tel: 0906 633 0070
www.pcam.co.uk/content/about

Phonographic Performance Limited

Collects royalties on behalf of record companies and performers, licensing broadcast and public performance of sound recordings:

1 Upper James Street, London, W1R 3HG, UK
Tel: 020 7534 1000
www.ppluk.com/

Society of European Songwriters and Composers

Gresham House
53 Clarendon Road
Watford, Hertfordshire, WD1 1LA, UK
Tel: 01923 228 870
E-mail: rightsw@sesac.co.uk
www.sesac.co.uk

Worshipful Company of Musicians

1st Floor, 74-75 Watling Street
London, EC4M 9BJ, UK
Tel: 020 7489 8888
www.wcom.org.uk/

Further Information

This guide is for general interest - it is always essential to take advice on specific issues.

We believe that the facts are correct as at the date of publication, but there may be certain errors and omissions for which we cannot be responsible.

Acknowledgement:

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