



PODCAST #27 – SHOW NOTES

I WANT TO RELEASE A PROJECT – PART 1

Hey Creatives!

You're listening to **Podcast #27 of the Coffee With Camilla** podcast where we will discuss the music industry. I'm your host Camilla Kleindienst of Banner Music in Nashville TN

Today we are going to discuss what you need to do if you plan to release a project. The Title of today's podcast is, "I Want To Release a Project. What Do I Need To Do?" This is Part 1.

Our next podcast will be Part 2 where I interview Victoria Powell, Creative Services Manager.

1. The first obvious steps are to select the songs you want to release. It's preferred that you perform the songs out at shows prior to tracking so you are sure of the response of your fans, but also the key and tempo and vibe you are going after. The more familiar you are with your songs, the better performance you will have in the vocal recording booth.
2. Create a spreadsheet of the songs you plan to record. List all co writers, music publishers (and their contact person), PRO's. -Also, make sure you have the publisher information correct for your liner notes.
3. Notify all co-writers you plan to record the song they co-wrote with you. Believe it or not, their publisher will want to issue a mechanical license to you.
4. Gather all song lyric sheets. You know the lyrics, but when you are tracking your songs and recording vocals, you will need these lyric sheets.
5. Record a demo of the song in the direction your band has worked the song up for the tracking producer.
6. Book the studio & musicians

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From these 6 points the most asked question is - “Why must I secure a license for a song I wrote?” The song is a copyright that is OWNED by all co-writers or their publisher. Therefore, you must secure a mechanical license which authorizes you to release the single. You own YOUR portion of the copyright but your co-writer owns their portion and you must secure a license.

The co-writer/publisher cannot prevent you from releasing the song. But you are required by US Copyright Law to secure a compulsory mechanical license before releasing the song to all owners of the copyright.

You would only pay the license fee for the other owners of the copyright and you (as the record label or distributor) will need to keep track of all sales. So create a spreadsheet and fill it in as sales reports are coming in from all platforms where your music is being sold.

For digital sales, typically we license 500 units in advance so the record label will not need to report to us on sales till sales exceed 500 units.

For physical CD sales, just pay for the amount of CD’s you order, for example, if you have 1,000 CD pressed, go ahead and license for 1,000 units and pay for them up front. As you reorder, just send payment for those units.

Each quarter or twice per year, or whenever the mechanical license requires, you will send a report to the copyright owners on sales along with payment for their portion of the copyright.

We will cover specific processes in our PART 2 interview with Victoria Powell.

Thank you for listening to Podcast #27 ***“I Want to Release a Project. What Do I Need to Do?”***

I hope that this information helps you in planning your next project release!

Please don’t forget to **SUBSCRIBE & SHARE** this podcast with your songwriter, musician and performing artist friends.

Look for show notes on my website: **CoffeeWithCamilla.com**. We’ll talk again soon! Stay Creative!