

A Creator's View of the Music Ecosystem and DMCA

Creating music that matters is more than just a labor of love – it takes all the joy, loss, courage, fear, and humanity that we have. But whether it's a Platinum megahit or a lonely ballad written for just one heart, we are grateful for the chance to share our stories and our truth.

We see much to celebrate in today's music landscape – including vibrant digital services that help fans connect with the songs they love.

But we also see profound obstacles facing young artists and songwriters hoping to find their voice and build a sustainable career.

One of the biggest hurdles is an outdated and ineffective law called the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. Many big tech companies have figured out how to game this law – hiding behind its sweeping immunities while earning billions off of our work. Meanwhile, too many working artists, musicians, songwriters, and producers are left to fight for digital scraps.

Thanks to the DMCA, a single video service has swallowed up almost every other form of listening, while paying among the lowest royalties in the business – rates it extracts from creators who have no effective way to keep unlicensed copies off the service if they refuse.

The DMCA leaves creators at the mercy of rogue websites that operate at the farthest reaches of US law – and beyond – and offers no meaningful way to hold repeat offenders to account. And forces us to stand by helpless as billions of dollars in advertising is sold around illegal copies of our work.

The DMCA has failed in its current form. For the sake of the next generation of artists and songwriters, it must be strengthened, reimagined, and renewed.

Respectfully submitted to the U.S. Copyright Office, *(signed as of 4pm EST 3/31/2016)*

Zachary Alford	Guillermo Brown	Elvis Costello
Duke Amayo	Tine Bruhn	Kwame Coston
Stuart Argabright	Jason Burger	Sylvie Courvoisier
Sebastian Aymanns	David Burnett	Michael Crevier
Eszter Balint	T Bone Burnett	Eli Crews
Shawn Banks	Daren Burns	Juli Crockett-Feldman
Vagabond Alexander Beaumont	Carter Burwell	Connie Crothers
Noah Bellamy	Jeff Byrd	Chelsea Crowell
Jay Bellerose	David Byrne	Rodney Crowell
Angelo Bermudez	Marilyn Carino	Reid Cummings
Michael Bisio	Hayes Carll	Gabriel Cyr
Jim Black	Rosanne Cash	Jack Dejohnette
Marc Black	Michelle Casillas	Amy Denio
Michael Stephen Blake	Beth Nielsen Chapman	Daniel Louis D'Errico
Stuart Bogie	Keefus Ciancia	Jack DeSalvo
Karen Borca	Vongole Cine	Jon Diaz
Pavel Borodin	Ty Citerman	Marigrace Dineen
Joseph Bowie	Jem Cohen	John Doe
Dougie Bowne	Steve Cole	Mike Doughty
Michelle Branch	CJ Martin Coleman	Luke DuBois
Angelo Branford	Jennifer Condos	Trevor Dunn
Steph Brown	Holly Conlan	Vince Ector
Luqman Brown	David Conrad	Alexandra Eden
Buffalo Brown	Elizabeth Cook	Count Eldridge
	Chauncey Cool	Avram Fefer

Mark Feldman	Mary Ho	Erik Lawrence
Ben Fields	Amy Holland	Gregory Leisz
Jeff Formosa	Steve Holtje	Tessa Lena
Fast Forward	Yuka Honda	Sean Ono Lennon
Erik Friedlander	William Hooker	John Leventhal
Gary Fritz	Andrew Horowitz	Neil Levine
Jonny Fritz	Percy Howard	Denise Lewis
Reed Fuchs	Fen Ikner	Terry Lewis
Jason Furlow	Gintas Janusonis	Edward JT Lewis
Mary Gauthier	George Johnson	James Lewis
Brian Gempp	Kyle Jones	Tony Lewis
Melvin Gibbs	Waberi Jordan	Colin Linden
Lauren Gilbert	Terrence Kane	Jake Luck
Amy Grant	Lenny Kaye	Jessica Lurie
Leon Gruenbaum	Ray Kennedy	Matt Lutz
Sohrab Habibion	Shiobhan Kennedy	Bernard Lyons
Matthew Hager	Dan Knobler	Michael Lytle
Emmylou Harris	Frederic Koella	Al Mack
Jerome Harris	Briggan Krauss	Rousseau Mannan
Jesse Harris	Kris Kristofferson	Sarah Manning
Emerson Hart	Jim Kweskin	George Marich
Chris Haskett	Sohrab Saadat	Ed Marshall
David Henderson	Ladjevardi	Billy Martin
Paula Henderson	Andrew Lamb	Jorge Arévalo Mateus
Matte Henderson	Patrick Laplan	Kathy Mattea
Rich Hinman	Ingrid Laubrock	Grant McClintock
	Jim Lauderdale	

John McCrea	Ian Naismith	Tom G. Rainey
Michael McDonald	Jay Nash	Bonnie Raitt
Billy McNicol	Luke Nicholson	Paul Steven Ray
Christian Mendoza	Colm O'Herlihy	Rob Reddy
Tift Merrit	Mendi Obadike	Vernon Reid
Raz Mesinai	Keith Obadike	Marc Ribot
Mike Michel	Kevin Olsen	Matt Richards
Tom Middleton	Bryan Ownings	Gyan Riley
Bette Midler	Gioele Pagliaccia	Arturo Artie Rodriguez
Dom Minasi	Roderick B. Palmer	Joseph Rodriguez
Dominic Missana	Jeff Parker	M Kumasi Rogers
Russell Mofsky	William Parker	Adrian Romero
Matthew Montfort	Glenn Patscha	Johnny Rosado
Meg Montgomery	Kenneth Pattengale	Marina Rosenfeld
Kristin Mooney	Chase Patterson	Brandon K. Ross
Carman Moore	John C. Peebles	Ned Rothenberg
Daniel Martin Moore	Ben Perowsky	Adam Rudolph
Allison Moorer	Johnathan Phillips	Chris Ruen
Jason Moran	David Piltch	Raymond Russell
Ikue Mori	David Poe	Jared Samuel
Sarah Jane Morris	Joseph Allen Popp	Dan Schwartz
Stephen Moses	Mike Pride	Kliph Scurlock
Carly Mostar	John Prine	Dave Sewelson
John Mulkerin	Jim Pugliese	Al Sgro
Daniel Murphy	Cheryl Pyle	Jamshied Sharifi
Frank Murphy	Amy Raasch	Michael J. Shipman

Michelle Shocked

Jen Shyu

Devan Skaggs

Dunia Best Sinnreich

Harrison Sokoloff

Tim Sterling

Mark P. Stewart

Tay Strathairn

David Torn

Gene Torres

Anderson Trindade

Bryan Vargas

Charles Allen Veatch IV

V Ness Verdad

James Elijah Vialpando

Jade Vincent

Chris Wagner

Ed Ward

Jair-Rohm Parker Wells

Doug Wieseln

Amanda Williams

Kenny Wollesen

Allen Won

Amir Ziv

John Zorn



