

All About The ISA ● International Songwriters Association

ISA - The International Songwriters Association Limited, was founded in Limerick City, Ireland, in October 1967. Today, there are ISA Members in more than sixty countries worldwide, with the bulk of the membership in either the UK or the USA

Members receive such ISA Publications as Songwriter Magazine, Songwriter Update, and Songwriter Newsflash. They may also access such free ISA Services as Song Copyright, Song Assessment, Advice and Directory Information.

Members receive an ISA Members Package which includes the Songwriter Yearbook.

They also have access to the ISA Private Members Site, which has hundreds of articles, interviews, back issues of all publications, a notice board, tip sheet, videos, directories, etc.

The current Chairman of the International Songwriters Association is Jim Liddane, who is also the editor of "Songwriter Magazine" while the Director Of Membership for the ISA is Anna Sinden.

A more detailed listing of what an ISA Member receives, is given below

Members Receive Each of the Following Publications

SONGWRITER YEARBOOK

This is the collection of interviews which all new ISA subscribers receive. It is delivered by post.

The current edition includes a 6,000 word interview with **Roger Cook** - who will tell you how in the UK, he wrote countless pop hits, before quitting England for Nashville where he proceeded to become one of the hottest country songwriters around!

Gordon Lightfoot tells you about his songs which have been covered by everybody from Elvis Presley to Bob Dylan.

You will learn from **Barry Mason** about his songs which have been recorded by such stars as Tom Jones. You will also hear from country songwriter **Tom T Hall** whose beautiful lyrics have earned him the nickname of "The Storyteller".

Bruce Welch will tell you how he started out as a member of The Shadows, but went on to become a very successful songwriter, penning hits for Olivia Newton John, Cliff Richard and many more, before setting up an independent music publishing company. **Mike Batt** explains to you how he made his name writing for television and movies. (Nowadays of course, he is the man behind the worldwide success of Katie Melua).

Tony Hatch will tell you how he wrote some of the finest pop songs of recent ears, (as well as the theme for such TV series as *Neighbours*). **Julie Gold** tells you how she wrote one of the most successful songs of all time - almost by accident. And **Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber** talks about *Evita*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Whistle Down The Wind*, *Cats*, *Sunset Boulevard* and *Phantom Of The Opera*

SONGWRITER MAGAZINE

This is the International Songwriters Association's house publication. It is delivered online.

Every issue, you get to read an exclusive multi-thousand word interview with a songwriter who has written at least one million-seller. Interviewees have included such writers as George Harrison (*My Sweet Lord*), Billy Joel (*Still Rock & Roll To Me*), Chris DeBurgh (*Lady In Red*), Barry Mason (*Delilah*), Bob Gaudio (*December 63, Oh What A Night*), Sonny Curtis (*I Fought The Law*), Hal Shaper (*Softly As I Leave You*), Bryan Adams, Leonard Cohen, Burt Bacharach, Bernie Taupin, George Michael, Paul Williams, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Gene Pitney, Don McLean, and many more.

Songwriter Magazine also brings you a news page, giving you the latest songwriting stories, as well as information on song contests, industry events, and collaboration offers.

In addition, in Songwriter Magazine you can read interviews with music publishers, asking them about the type of material they are looking for, as well as a songwriter who is having his first successes right now. There are also technical articles on such subjects as putting your songs online, thinking up titles, getting story line ideas, etc.

Finally, you get a two-page **SongSeller®** section, which names the publishing and record companies, along with the singers, who are looking for songs right now. Each tip is accompanied by full contact details, and our own comment on the source.

SONGWRITER UPDATE

This is the International Songwriters Association's monthly publication. It is delivered online.

This monthly publication brings you the latest song contest news, a full news section, contact information, plus tips on who is looking for what along with contact information for every act entering the charts this week, etc!

It also contains instructional articles on songwriting, recording and song promotion. Each issue averages 50-60 pages, so over a year, members get approximately 650 extra pages of information.

SONGWRITER NEWSFLASH

Every day, the International Songwriters Association received requests from performers, managers, labels or publishers seeking new songs. These are published immediately on the ISA Private Members Site. In addition they also appear in Songwriter Update. However, those which are time-sensitive, are sent out by email

to all members in our "Songwriter News Flash" newsletter.

DIRECTORY OF RECORDING STARS

Every 13 weeks, the ISA publishes an updated Directory of Recording Stars. The current issue contains full details on 4347 recording stars, their record labels, and every music publisher who has published at least one charted song by that act since 1996. Essential for every songwriter and updated every 13 weeks. Delivered online.

ISA Services

Members Have Access to the Following Free Services

SONG ASSESSMENT

Some song assessment services charge £25 per song, but the ISA Assessment Service is free, and post free (as indeed are all our services).

If you have a song but are unsure of its commercial potential, you will get advice on this as well as being told you how suitable your recording is. We will also advise you on the appropriate next steps.

SONG COPYRIGHT

Before promotion, you should always copyright material. Some Song Copyright Services charge from £20 or \$30 per song. However, the ISA Copyright Service is free and post free. Send us the material, and a Copyright Certificate will be with you by return.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

If you need further promotion advice or contact information, Directory Information maintains a giant database of every recording act since 1967, and can give you the relevant address by return post. No matter how obscure the act, or how difficult it normally is to get contact information for them, we can help. Again, this is free and post free (or by email or phone).

ADVICE

If you get an offer of a contract, our free Advisory service will be ready to advise, and point you in the right direction, so you can maximise your income from your work. Again, this is free and post free. Our Advice Service also include a separate Investigations service, where you can discreetly check out any problems you may be having. Again, this is free and post free (or by email or phone).

COLLABORATION

Nowadays, more writers collaborate than used be the case. Whether you are a lyric writer seeking a melody writer, or a melody writer seeking a lyricist, or indeed a songwriter seeking partnership with another, then the Collaboration Service is there

to put you in touch with other songwriters. Again this is completely free.

Private ISA Member's Site

Members Can Access The Private Members Site

NEWS

All of today's music industry, songwriting and music publishing news. This news is assembled fresh each time.

The ISA

The Publications and Services of the International Songwriters Association

ASSESSMENT

How to use the Assessment Service of the International Songwriters Association

COPYRIGHT

How to use the Copyright Service of the International Songwriters Association

DIRECTORY

The addresses, telephone numbers and contact names, for the main Music Publishers and Record Labels in the UK, the USA, Australia, Canada, Ireland etc.

EXPERT ARTICLES

Read. print or download articles on such subjects as jingle writing, inspiration for your songs, handing over percentages to co-writers and others, and other subjects, from a huge library of articles

HOW TO ARTICLES

Read. print or download articles like "Unoriginal Melodies Are A Good Thing!" - "Spicing Up Your Songs With Sound Effects" - "Getting Your Songs Placed In TV Shows and Films" and many many more, with new articles being added weekly

INTERVIEWS

Read. print or download interviews with some of the world's top songwriters, including Mike Batt, Tom T Hall, Roger Cook, Gordon Lightfoot and many more. Literally dozens of exclusive ISA interviews, and being added to weekly!

LINKS

You could be clicking for hours on the thousands of songwriting links on our public site but some sites are more useful than others. We list what in our opinion are the Top 20 links that all songwriters need.

NOTICE BOARD

Want to tell other members something? Want to read what they have to tell you? Or simply interested in seeing who is looking for new songs?

PRINTING FOR SONGWRITERS

CD labels, contracts, songwriter letter headings, promotion sheets, address labels, etc., all printed with your name and contact details, and delivered free to all ISA members

SELLING YOUR SONGS

Read, print or download the current edition of the ISA's 108 page, 60,000 word book on selling your songs

SONG CONTESTS

Read, print or download, the current crop of Song Contest Entry Forms

SONGWRITER MAGAZINE

Read, print or download the current issue of Songwriter Magazine

SONGWRITER MAGAZINE ARCHIVE

Read, print or download back issues from the vaults of Songwriter Magazine

SONGWRITER MAGAZINE UPDATE

Read, print or download the latest news, tips and articles, published monthly

UPLOADING YOUR SONGS

There are so many places nowadays where you can sell your CDs or individual songs on the internet, or else simply upload them for the benefit of posterity, that there is no reason why you cannot be out there if you want to!

USEFUL DOWNLOADS

"Web Design Mastery Trial" was written to assist you in learning how to design a professional-looking web page in the easiest possible fashion - with copy & paste codes. Download it here, free of charge.

Plus a couple of very useful Music Publisher and Record Label directories.

Not to mention stave paper, for when that musical idea hits but the shops are closed!

Oh, and some sample songwriting and collaboration contracts as well.

And the latest editions of "Selling Your Songs", "Songwriter Magazine" & "Songwriter Update".

And more. Much more. All free to read, print or download.

VIDEOS

Some top songwriters, music publishers and record label executives, inform and instruct you via the magic of video

The ISA Introductory Package

Members Receive The Following Introductory Package

SONGWRITER YEARBOOK

The current issue of the Songwriter Yearbook, comprising in-depth exclusive interviews with star songwriters Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, Barry Mason, Tom T Hall, Gordon Lightfoot, Bruce Welch, Mike Batt, Tony Hatch, Julie Gold and Roger Cooke

SONGWRITER MAGAZINE

Although "Songwriter Magazine" is published online, we include a hard copy of the current issue including interviews with songwriters and music publishers, a full news page, hit listings from around the world, a UK record label roster of all its acts, song contest information, etc.

THE MCPS

Brochure on how the Mechanical Copyright Protection Society works

THE PRS

Explaining the role and function of the Performing Rights Society - PRS

"FREE DEMOS" LEAFLET

A leaflet explaining how you can get free demos!

SONG CONTEST ENTRY FORM

An entry form for a current international song contest, open to all songwriters and lyricists

PROMOTION FILE SHEET

The ISA-designed promotion sheet for all songwriters

FREE ISA MEMBERS PRINTPACK

A very special and totally free offer for new members who may need letter headings, contracts, CD labels, inlay cards, or lyric sheets printed with their own name and address

PROMOTION ADVICE BROCHURE

Fifteen points of advice for you if you are about to start promoting your songs for the first time

REGISTER OF COMPOSERS

Lyricists seeking composers - composers seeking lyrics. You can be on that list - free!

ADVICE FOR LYRIC WRITERS

Eight points of advice for lyric writers

CONTACT INFORMATION SHEET

Explanation on who to contact if you have a song ready to roll. Examines the role of managers, publishers, labels, producers, etc.

COMPILATION CDs LEAFLET

Examines what deals are being offered you in this complex, often profitable, but frequently dangerous field

TAX & THE SONGWRITER

Don't wait until your first royalty cheque arrives before regularising your tax affairs

A JOB IN MUSIC PUBLISHING

You might like to work in music publishing while continuing to write songs. This leaflet looks at the opportunities, and pitfalls, of such a move.

A MUSIC PUBLISHER GIVES THE INSIDE STORY

A UK Music Publisher tells you how he deals with songs sent in, and how to improve your chances

SONGWRITERS & THE INTERNET

Everyone knows that the Internet is the next big market for songwriters. But can it sell your songs right now?

HINTS ON MAKING GREAT DEMOS

Examines the three methods for making demo recordings!

SONG CONTEST LISTING

A listing of the major song contests at present operating in Europe, Asia, Australia and the USA

SHARK ATTACK

A look at some of the odder fish infesting the writing waters

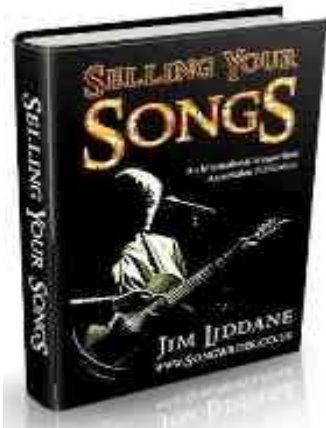
SO WHERE DO I SELL MY SONGS ANYWAY?

For many new songwriters, getting a deal is simply a matter of putting your song on the web, and waiting to be discovered. For most, the old method of making the demo, and posting it out to publishers, labels and stars, is "old hat".

Promotion methods may have changed, but do not totally ignore the tried and tested even if you are going to go the web route anyway.

The ISA Songwriting Course

Members Receive The ISA's Songwriting Course



This is the famous 60,000 word 108-page PDF course in songwriting, titled "Selling Your Songs".

The contents are as follows:

Lesson 1 - Twenty Songwriting Questions Answered

A quick look at the main points of this business called songwriting

Lesson 2 - Basic Course In Songwriting

Jim Liddane deals with everything from thinking up the idea, to writing the song, copyrighting your work, making a demo, presenting it to the publisher - and much much more

Lesson 3 - Copyright Or Face The Consequences

The crooks do not arrive armed with crowbars. They carry fountain pens. Jim Liddane tells you how to copyright a work before the shark steals it

Lesson 4 - Writing the Hit, What The Pros Do

Trouble picking a title? Lyrics as dull as mud? Your melody sounds like another? 28 top writers tell you what they do when problems arise.

Lesson 5 - Don't Get Ripped off by Your Best Pal

More than half of all songwriters co-write with others. But before you sign away percentages, read what Jon Edwards has to say

Lesson 6 - Problem Solving for Songwriters

The song is written. Now what? Top international music publisher Tim Whitsett explains how to get your songs published and recorded

Lesson 7 - How Much Money Can A Hit Song Make?

We explain how to handle your publisher, what to look for in a contract, and ask - "How much money can a hit song make?"

Lesson 8 - Jingle Bells

There's big money in writing jingles - and what's even better, you can make a fortune without leaving home. Bill Miller tells you how to sell yourself - by selling others.

Lesson 9 - Putting Your Songs On The Internet

Is it the solution to all your problems - or simply a new problem? Jim Liddane examines the internet.

Lesson 10 - When Somebody Asks You For Money

At some stage, somebody may ask you for money, in return for a service. We tell you what to grab, and what to avoid.

Lesson 11 - Frequently Asked Questions

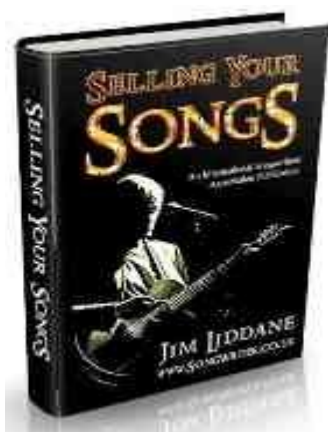
Much of what you worry about has been caused worry for songwriters before you. Here are the most frequently asked questions - and the answers to them.

Lesson 12 - The International Songwriters Association

The publications and service of the International Songwriters Association

The Top UK Music Publishers

A listing of the names, and contact information, for some of the top music publishers



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**MEMBERSHIP OF THE I.S.A.
COSTS AROUND €25 EVERY
SIX MONTHS. THIS IS
FANTASTIC VALUE FOR
WHAT YOU GET.**