

## Musings For The Day

### Chris Shaw

#### Podcasts I Recommend:

And The Writer Is - talks to writers that write songs for other people that you've almost never heard of. People who wrote for pop artists like Ariana Grande. Very interesting look into the non performer role and how pop music writing works.

The Working Songwriter - songwriter Joe Pug talks to songwriters making a living playing, a lot of unknowns some fairly famous people

Switched on Pop - analyzes modern pop songs, music history, entertaining

Conan O'Brien Needs a Friend - Conan Brien podcast oddly pretty relatable to songwriting.

Broken Record - Malcolm Gladwell, Rick Rubin tons of great interviews one of my favs.

#### Reasons to put your music out there:

Learn how to be comfortable with your music and label it "done" to be able to put it out into the world.

**Regret is for the birds.** I always try and tell myself "you're not going to look back 30 years later and think 'I wish I never released all that music'". It's also never too late to start putting stuff out there. Huey Lewis and The News just started releasing new material and he went deaf, but he's still putting out the material. We are artists - be bold put music out there, make art!

**It allows you to move on to the next thing.** You may not think this but it really helps to put music out there so you can keep writing. Getting too many songs un finished un released you can start to really get afraid that none of it is good, which isn't too uncommon.

**You never know how it's going to impact someone.** Every once in a while I'll get a really thoughtful positive review (one time a man was crying and said my song was life changing) and you just never know how many people are out there listening to your songs. You never know how many people are out there that felt a similar way but for some reason never said it.

**We're all perfectionists I'm just the first to admit it.** Ok, maybe not but I get it - you want it perfect but I just think of the little girl who loves her puppy so much that she squeezed it too hard and it's eyes are bulging out. Work on it, a lot, then release it. If you are too much of a perfectionist, send it to someone else you trust - get feedback or make them take it from you and put it out, whatever works. There *is* such a thing as over working a project.

**Document where you are.** I've started thinking of my releasing of songs as documenting my journey. It's no longer 'the best song' or 'my final check

#### Other thoughts:

-Do what works for you but be open minded and try some wrong. Be open to trying uncomfortable things like co writing or singing harmony with another singer. Pick up a different

instrument that you've never played even if you have no idea how to play it. Try things and find your groove and go with it, ignore all the noise especially people that try to bring you down.

-Some songs are only for you. Write them anyway.