



WORLDWIDE INDEPENDENT NETWORK – MANIFESTO STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT (at January 2013)

Martin Mills - Founder/CEO, Beggars Group:

"These days independents offer a very different route to market to artists than the majors do - and it's great to have that down in words, and to spell out what matters to us."

Jim Selby – CEO Naxos of America Inc

"Bravo to WIN for creating a manifesto that addresses the broad and unique issues that indie labels face! We at Naxos fully support this and will work in whatever way we can to execute on all levels of the points listed in the manifesto."

Jonas Sjostrom – CEO Playground Music Scandinavia

"The Indie community will be stronger and more determined the more the music industry gets polarized. The growing political support to give the Indies fair access to market, media and collecting societies will have a huge impact on our industry the coming years. The Manifesto is a great start and promise on what to expect!"

Bruce Iglauer - Founder/CEO, Alligator Records:

"In this time of global mass media consolidation, the role of the independent recording labels in nurturing new talent, supporting local artists and traditions and working closely and symbiotically with music creators is more important than ever. The WIN Manifesto calls for nothing more complicated than a level playing field for independents and major media conglomerates alike, fair compensation for the creators of music and those who support them financially, and reasonable transparency in business dealings. It is up to the public to decide what music they will embrace and support. The WIN Manifesto simply asks that we at the independent recording labels have the same opportunity to present our music to the public that the multi-national conglomerates do."

Colin Daniels – Inertia Records:

"We are in an era of rapid and productive change and a manifesto that unites indies to support the progression of our artists and our industry can only have a positive outcome."

Finetunes Germany:

"Finetunes warmly backs the work WIN is doing to unite independent labels around the world and provide them with a powerful, united voice. Indies are the source of so many great artists and great art. Yet, this creative brilliance is challenged on a daily basis by the huge market power of majors and ruthless commercial agendas that pose a constant threat to the independent community."

Finetunes firmly believes indies can still flourish and we're thankful for a little help to make this happen."

The Mushroom Group:

"The Mushroom Group of Labels (Liberation, Liberator, Ivy League, Illusive/I Oh You) fully endorses the Independent Manifesto. In particular, a healthy and meaningful independent sector is at real risk if it becomes a second class citizen to the Majors with respect to its share from new digital business models, and we fully support our trade associations endeavours to confront this issue".

Helen Smith, Executive Chair, Impala representing European independent music companies

"This Manifesto is much more than a political statement on behalf of independent record companies. It frames the needs of all actors in music interested in making sure artists and labels have a level playing field. As the fallout continues on the label and publishing side following the sale of EMI, now is the time to act."

Jaddan Comerford - UNFD:

"It's amazing to see the great work WIN is doing worldwide, even more amplified with the introduction of the independent manifesto. As we expand our footprint in Australia and across the world, WIN and the associated organisations are crucial in allowing us to continue to do it our way, the way we've done it since the beginning, but without missing out on what the majors are provided."

Portia Sabin - Kill Rock Stars:

"The WIN Manifesto makes it clear that artists and indie labels are on the same side and have the same interests, and the work that WIN is doing along with Indie trade organizations around the world is critical to keeping indies in the game so we can continue to fight for our artists' rights."

Roberto Menescal (co-inventor of the Bossa Nova style; owner of the Brazilian indie record company Albatroz):

"A independent manifesto is very welcome now. The independent music production is growing as never before seen, because the "Major" companies have dedicated themselves to increment popular music and consumption of what is easy and fast. Because of this policy of immediate consumption, the identity of the various segments of (good) Brazilian music were put aside. The independent production thereby, favoring the more elaborate music of cultural importance, seeks to fill up this gap in an intelligent, efficient way, despite all the difficulties it faces, but with an optimism rarely found before in the history of our music."

Olivia Hime (singer, composer, A&R of Biscoito Fino Records, Brazil):

"I see with hope the growing number of independent productions, artists and labels. It is a worldwide phenomenon and it points to the diversity. For Brazil, mainly, is the opportunity to show the wide variety of trends, styles and regionality, leaving behind the narrow corridor that impoverishes any art. I very much support the independent manifesto put together by WIN that is doing a great work on our behalf"

Marco Mazzola (producer and owner of MZA Records, Brazil):

"I see the independent sector as a major ally of new artists especially now with the advent of digital music. The music in the world undergoes a radical change in the means of distribution and promotion. I believe that all this change has been occurring for the opportunity afforded to digital music. I see then that digital music is emerging many new people and that is what will make the new world music. The independent labels today have the largest share of responsibility in finding and investing in new artist. And without new artist our music will stay stagnant. My company and I fully endorse the Independent Manifesto"

Thomas Roth (singer, composer, owner of Lua Music Records, president of the Brazilian Independent Music Association):

"I opened my independent label as an idea of being able to be free in every sense. Free in choice of repertoire, in choice of aesthetics, form, choice of artists ... Curiously I rode the label 14 years ago to make my record, but immediately appeared so many important works by artists who were forgotten, abandoned, without opportunities in the mainstream market that I end up prioritizing these people's work as they represented a Brazilian cultural heritage. Today, 14 years and 430 discs later, I still have not recorded my album, but I'm proud to have contributed to the maintenance in the market of many artists of importance for the history of Brazilian music as well as the launch of new people who would not have space on a major label. I very much appreciate the work that is being done by WIN and support the Independent Manifesto in all its very relevant 10 points"

Leo Belchetz - Fabric Records:

"fabric Records wholeheartedly supports the Global Indie Manifesto. Musical creativity is at its most fertile when community and healthy competition coexist, and the Manifesto lays out a blueprint to nurture just such an environment."

Alex di Savoia - Aardvark Records:

"I am so impressed with the manifesto. AIM and Aardvark really do share the same ethos. The points about transparency and treating artists as partners – this is simply brilliant. If the majors had any semblance of such an ethos, the music industry would likely have avoided the worst aspects it suffers from today – namely a hideously bad public perception and the devaluing of music."

Brian Houston - Independent UK artist:

"When I started making independent music I had nothing but bottom feeders for company. Now there's not a week goes by that I'm not informed by someone that I am the most empowered of any artist. Creative control, revenue and route to market are not barred by anyone in a suit. I've shared the bill with giants of the industry, established my brand and toured the world. No Major? No Matter!!!"

Roy Williams - Nervous Records:

"Let's have a level playing field for ALL styles of music. Independent labels can also run efficient admin as well as majors"