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About Drowned in Sound

We recommend songs that soundtrack resistance, champion innovative artists, and investigate the systems working against music fans and musicians.

Subscribe to our newsletter & podcast and map music's future with us.

What We Do

Music Recommendations – Since October 2000, we have elevated life-changing albums. We now celebrate the music that resists the late-stage algorithm "[mood machine](#)."

Investigative Journalism – We expose power imbalance in the industry. Our reporting connects the dots between streaming economics, festival line-ups, venue closures, and other forms of inequality.

Podcast Conversations – We interview changemakers. This includes the artists, activists, and innovators addressing interconnected issues or building alternative futures for the music ecosystem / society at large.

Advocacy – We build and amplify the cultural infrastructure needed for collective action. This includes amplifying voices, creating practical toolkits, open letters, research, and guides that help music communities recognise their power and use it.

Our Approach

We know that music is upstream from politics. We believe culture catalyses change – music is where movements are forged, resistance finds its soundtrack, and disconnected people discover their collective power.

From ANOHNI to Massive Attack, Kate Nash to Brian Eno, artists speaking up have often found themselves turning to newspapers and political publications because there hasn't been the bandwidth in music media for the conversations they want to have.

"We have to write climate accords that we can reach. We have to keep tweaking it until we get it right. And I'm hoping the next generation, when they take over, they'll think about it in a different way and come up with different solutions, green ways of living." – Björk speaking to Paper Magazine in 2025

Just like artists, fans and music communities lack an advocate and ally when pushing for change. Alongside our music recommendations, we provide the tools, insights, and some gentle nudges to help fans recognise our ability to respond to corporations, culture wars, and those destroying the planet.

Rather than tear down broken systems, we amplify the leaders and campaigns building what comes next. And when we see inaction, we instigate change, bringing people and movements together in solidarity.

Our Story

Founded in 2000 as a fanzine, DiS grew to 3 million readers by 2019. Through our editorial, live events, and our independent label, we built a legacy of spotting future stars and launching careers.

We relaunched in 2023 with a renewed mission... [\[coming soon – link to DiS history\]](#)

Independence & Values

Drowned in Sound is an independent publication funded by our community. This allows us to focus on what matters: the music, the artists, the fans, and the ecosystem that connects us all.

These are the core values that guide our work and set us apart from mainstream media:

1. **Authenticity** - We prioritise genuine voices and verified truth over generic assumptions or unchecked claims, holding ourselves accountable and apologising if we make a mistake.
2. **Community** - We believe in co-creation and creating space for music fans to express themselves. Through our editorial, we amplify underrepresented and diverse voices, fly the flag for independent culture, and stand in solidarity with justice movements across economic, social, and environmental fronts.
3. **Resilience** - We focus on sustainability and cultural value, not financial gain, so that music and communities can thrive without exploitation.
4. **Discourse** - We encourage bold ideas and healthy dialogue, to challenge systemic issues.

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