



Press Release

GARAGEBAND ADOPTS CREATIVE COMMONS MUSIC SHARING LICENSE

Web's largest independent music community and Silicon Valley nonprofit announce new copyright option for musicians.

San Francisco Bay Area, CA, USA – June 7, 2004 – GarageBand.com (<http://www.garageband.com>), the world's largest musician community, announced today that it will offer the Creative Commons Music Sharing License as an optional tag for all songs uploaded to its website. The move delivers on GarageBand's mission of empowering musicians and redefining how music is discovered and promoted.

The license, provided by the nonprofit Creative Commons, permits fans not only to download music files, but also to copy and share them, as long as they don't make commercial uses or alter the work. Such a license allows musicians to harness the power of the Net for maximum promotion while retaining rights to their work. The simple and prominent display of the license on each participating GarageBand.com song page lets fans know what they can legally copy or share.

Since 1999, GarageBand.com has steadily grown to become the leading community of independent musicians on the web. Having augmented its existing membership with a recently announced deal to resurrect the former MP3.com archive, GarageBand now stands to offer Creative Commons licensing to over 300,000 bands with over 1.8 million songs. This will potentially represent the largest source of legal free downloads and P2P-safe music on the Internet.

"GarageBand's move to offer the Music Sharing License is huge step for the world of independent music," said Lawrence Lessig, chairman of Creative Commons and professor of law at Stanford. "The Net has long facilitated music sharing and distribution – technically. Creative Commons Music Sharing License, now a part of GarageBand.com's already excellent service, further facilitates sharing – legally. It is a great confirmation for us that a site as notable as GarageBand.com has adopted our license."

"Thanks to the innovative Creative Commons license, we can now offer musicians a powerful new option to enable the spread of their music," said GarageBand CEO Ali Partovi, "By expanding beyond the traditional boundaries of copyright law, this is an important step towards our vision of a fairer, more efficient, and more creative music industry."

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About Tagging music as “Some Rights Reserved”



Creative Commons copyright licenses come in three expressions: (1) an intuitive, plain-language summary (human-readable); (2) a thorough copyright license complete with all the legal nitty-gritty (lawyer-readable); and (3) a summary of the legal terms in mark-up language, also referred to as metadata (machine-readable). GarageBand.com now embeds the machine-readable layer into the code of its site, so that search engines and fans can find and identify legally shared music.

To see how the Creative Commons' metadata search engine works, see: <http://search.creativecommons.org/>.

About Creative Commons

A nonprofit corporation, Creative Commons promotes the creative reuse of intellectual works – whether owned or in the public domain. It is sustained by the generous support of the Center for the Public Domain, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Hewlett Foundation. Creative Commons is based at Stanford Law School, where it shares staff, space, and inspiration with the school's Center for Internet and Society.

For general information, visit <http://creativecommons.org>.



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About GarageBand.com

GarageBand (<http://www.garageband.com>) is the world's largest musician community and home to the definitive charts of independent music. Since 1999, fourteen of its highest-ranking bands have been signed by major labels, including double platinum recording artists *Drowning Pool*, and many more have scored licensing or publishing deals. In April 2004, GarageBand acquired exclusive rights to resurrect the former MP3.com community of 250,000 artists and 1.7 million songs. GarageBand.com uses collaborative filtering to let ordinary people identify the best songs. Recognized by TIME Magazine as one of 2003's "50 Best Websites," GarageBand's mission is to empower musicians and redefine how music is discovered and promoted.

For more information, visit <<http://www.garageband.com>>.

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Press Kit

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