

MARILLION'S ONLINE PRESENCE

David Bowie becomes the first major artist to distribute a new song – Telling Lies – as an online-only release, selling over 300,000 downloads. Two years later, Bowie was to launch his own ISP – Bowie.net

Rock band Caduseus broadcast their one-hour concert at Celtica in Machynlleth, Wales - the first live streamed audio and simultaneous live streamed video multicast.

Marillion confirm that they won't be touring North America in support of This Strange Engine due to it not being financial viable. US fan Jeff Pelletier comes up with the idea of a 'tour fund' – the \$60,000 raised enables the boys to tour later in the year and gives them the confidence to pioneer the pre-order campaign for the next studio release.

Napster launches.

After coming to the end of their record deal with Castle, Marillion ask their fanbase to pre-order their next album before they'd even recorded a note. 12,500 do so to finance the recording of Anoraknophobia. A distribution deal is struck with EMI and the album is released on 15th May 2001. The crowd-funding model is launched...

Marillion's acoustic gig at the Bass Museum, Derbyshire is broadcast live over the internet (a Webcast) and is later released as the "Piss Up In A Brewery" DVD.

MySpace founded.

Marillion ask their fanbase to pre-order their 13th studio album, to finance the marketing and promotion of the new opus. 18,000 do so and Marbles is released in May 2004.

Apple opens iTunes Store.

Facebook founded.

YouTube launched.

Arctic Monkeys release their debut album "Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not", having built a considerable following online from giving away early versions of the album tracks – it remains the fastest selling British album of all time. "I Bet You Look Good on the Dancefloor" precedes it as a hit single in October 2005.

Crazy by Gnarls Barkley makes pop history as the UK's first number one song based on download sales alone.

11 SEPT. 1996

31 OCT. 1996

FEBRUARY 1997

JUNE 1999

FEBRUARY 2000

17 NOV. 2000

AUGUST 2002

17 DEC. 2002

APRIL 2003

FEBRUARY 2004

FEBRUARY 2005

23 JAN. 2006

APRIL 2006

JULY 2006

10 OCT. 2007

3 MARCH 2008

OCTOBER 2008

20 SEPT. 2008

APRIL 2009

15 MAY 2009

18 MAY 2009

AUGUST 2009

OCTOBER 2010

2 APRIL 2012

25 NOV. 2013

SEPTEMBER 2014

JANUARY 2015

JUNE 2015

1 SEPT. 2015

Twitter launches.

Radiohead release their "In Rainbows" album as a "pay what you like" download, with a physical release following two months later.

The Charlatans become the first major act to give away a new album as a free download when releasing "You Cross My Path", physical releases follow two months later. The band had previously made the title track a free downloadable single in October 2007.

Spotify launches.

Marillion become the first band to release a new album (Happiness Is the Road) legally using P2P (Peer to Peer) internet networks for distribution. Those fans pre-ordering the album receive a deluxe double CD package similar to the Marbles and Anoraknophobia releases.

KickStarter launches.

Coldplay give live album "LeftRightLeftRightLeft" away over the internet.

Justin Bieber releases debut single "One Time" having built up a huge following from uploading R&B covers to YouTube from the age of 12 (2007)

PledgeMusic launches.

Instagram launches

Rothers launches a Crowdfunding campaign to finance his "The Ghosts Of Pripyat" solo CD.

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U2 give their new album "Songs Of Innocence" away to all iTunes users.

Periscope launched.

Apple Music launches.

Marillion announce that their 18th studio album will be released via PledgeMusic.