



JOHN SIMSON

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John L. Simson has been involved in the music industry since his 1971 signing as a recording artist. His career has included stints as a manager: managing Grammy-winning artists; an entertainment lawyer: currently of-counsel to the firm, Lommen Abdo; an executive: assisting in the creation, branding and launch of SoundExchange, which he ran from 2001-2010 and as a special consultant for artist and business development for Kobalt Music (2012-2013); a creative: Simson received an Emmy nomination in 2001 for his music supervision of "American Roots Music" and executive produced a number of audio-visual programs; an advocate: Simson testified before Congress and prepared testimony for other artists who testified before Congress on artist's rights issues. Simson is currently Executive-in-Residence and Program Director of the Business and Entertainment major at the Kogod School of Business at American University." He has participated in projects which have secured 15 Grammy nominations and won 5 Grammys and represented a Grammy Lifetime Achievement recipient. In 2013, Simson received the inaugural Future of Music Coalition "Voices of Advocacy" award for his work on artist's rights. Simson is a past President of the Washington, D.C. Recording Academy chapter, is the Chairman of the Board of the National Recording Preservation Foundation, Chairman of the D.C. Bar Association's Art, Entertainment, Media & Sports Law Steering Committee and serves on the National Recording Preservation Board of the Library of Congress. He also serves on the boards of CINE, Video Culture, the Musicianship, and the Music Managers Forum US and the Advisory Boards of the New Music Seminar and Musician's On Call. Simson was named the Outstanding Volunteer Attorney by Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts on their 10th Anniversary celebration and is a graduate of Leadership Music (94).

Simson has been featured on CNN, NBC, PBS, BBC, the New York Times, WSJ, LA Times and other news outlets on issues affecting artist's rights and compensation. He is a frequent lecturer at music industry programs around the World.