

# Ben TO Smith

Event Producer & Professional Music Enthusiast

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## EXPERIENCE

### AC ENTERTAINMENT, North America — *Production Manager, Promoter Representative*

January 2015 - PRESENT

Produce and settle 90+ events at 20+ venues across the Southeast US annually. Advance with tour managers and venues to fulfill artist contracts while managing multiple budgets. Hire, train, and schedule event staff. Negotiate vendor contracts. Maintain good relationships with tours, agencies, venues, vendors. Additional experience with admin, signage, waste management, volunteers, vendors at the Bonnaroo, Forecastle, and Highwater Festivals.

### BIG EARS FESTIVAL, Knoxville, TN — *Special Projects Manager*

March 2014 - PRESENT

Book, advance, and stage manage the 12 Hour Drone, an overnight concert. Manage, deploy, and strike signage across venues. Arrange rehearsal space and backline. Arrange and archive recordings for all performances. Organize and advance panels, discussions, and workshops, including Hans Joachim Roedelius, Ben Ratliff, Laurel Halo, Roscoe Mitchell. Book, advance, and produce secret shows, including SUUNS, Xylouris White, Jessica Moss, Claire Chase, The Comet Is Coming.

### GEZELLIG RECORDS, Knoxville, TN — *Founder, Manager*

July 2015 - PRESENT

Work with artists to release their music to build a roster spanning the globe, including Serbia, China, Japan, the U.S., Taiwan, France, and Brazil. Co-curated and released *Is There Another Language?*, a benefit compilation album for the ACLU, raising over \$1500 in 2017.

### WUTK, Knoxville, TN — *Music Director, DJ*

August 2010 - May 2016

Reviewed and added music into main rotation. Maintained music database for college radio station. Maintained good relationships with radio promoters and local concert promoters. Hired and trained volunteer staff. Established recording and podcast system for the station. Hosted prime time radio show for five years.

## SKILLS

- Knowledge of standard office software and accounting principles
- Ability to work flexible schedule
- Strong hospitality experience, ability to interact professionally with all levels of management, crew, vendors, guests, patrons
- Ability to use discretion concerning artist information and professionalism around artists and celebrities
- Organizational skills to handle multiple projects with varying deadlines and budgets

## ADDITIONAL INFO

- Serving on the board of directors of the Joy of Music School in Knoxville, TN. 2017-PRESENT
- Worked on COVID unit of Parkwest Hospital (Knoxville, TN) as floor asst / runner. Dec 20 - Apr 21
- Dual US-UK Citizenship
- Certified COVID Compliance Officer

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### **Health & Safety Manager @ WithHealth — COVID Compliance for Discovery Network // Baking Championship Shows**

Communicate COVID-19 safety practices and protocols. Ensure all production and building staff know and follow established procedures. Attend HOD meetings. Work with production company to serve as first level response for COVID-19 safety and compliance. Conduct contact tracing as necessary. Maintain PPE inventory.

### **12 Hour Drone @ Big Ears 2018, 2019 — Curated, Handled contracts, Advanced, Stage managed, Settled**

A twelve hour, overnight concert celebrating ambient drone music to create an unbroken, meditative experience, featuring up to two dozen musicians, like Stephen O'Malley, Kara-Lis Coverdale, Rafiq Bhatia, Steve Gunn, Clarice Jensen.

### **Goodbye Road Tour 2018 — Advanced, Coordinated Travel, Produced, Handled day of show responsibilities, Settled**

Toured with Johnnyswim and Drew Holcomb as promoter representative across a two-week tour of the southeast US.

### **Bonnaroo Volunteer Manager 2017 — Hired, Scheduled, Trained and Deployed Volunteers**

From reviewing applications to scheduling to on boarding to deploying, part of the five-person team who hired and managed 2000 volunteers as part of the 2017 Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival.

## EDUCATION

### **UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, Knoxville, TN — B.S. Journalism & Electronic Media, Science Writing focus**

August 2010 - December 2014

### **HU UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, Utrecht, NL — European Culture & European Journalism**

August 2012 - June 2013

## REFERENCES

**Available upon request.**