



January

## **Zen and the Art of Effective Stage Management OR How to Become the Most Unpopular Guy at the Gig**

**Paddy MacPoland**

1. Information is King! Send any available and relevant details about you and your band that is humanly possible.
2. Make sure we can contact you. Send mobile/email/MySpace contact details.
3. Simplify your technical needs – if you have a 26 piece Chamber Orchestra appearing for 30 seconds in one of your songs, we strongly recommend you drop that song and play another one instead, the one with the acoustic guitar in it . . .
4. Rehearse, rehearse, rehearse! Get your material well rehearsed, from intro to chorus and most importantly the outro!
5. Bring your essential equipment, make sure it has been checked and doublechecked! This goes for instruments, cables, tuners and backline. If your gear lets you down during the gig, it's very difficult to look professional.
6. Be on time! If you can't meet the deadline for the schedule, let everyone who may be inconvenienced know.
7. Take some time to look good. People have made the effort to come and see you, show them you care by sounding AND looking good!
8. Business is business, go onstage on time and leave the stage on time; everytime.
9. Take care of your crew, they were there hours before you and will be there long after you finish.
10. Enjoy yourselves!