

## LEEDS ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE

# GETTING IT ON RECORD DR PAUL THOMPSON

### OUTPUT Information

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#### ADDITIONAL Information Statement

This research output had the explicit aim of evaluating methods for conducting ethnographic research inside the recording studio, highlighting some of the issues involved, and offering strategies to researchers in this area. In this co-authored study, all research and writing contributions were undertaken equally by both authors, including work on data collection, planning, design, analysis and writing of the study for publication. It was published in the Journal of Contemporary Ethnography.

#### ABSTRACT

The recording studio has been somewhat neglected as a site for ethnographic fieldwork in the field of ethnomusicology and, moreover, the majority of published studies tend to overlook the specific concerns faced by the researcher within these contexts. Music recording studios can be places of creativity, artistry, and collaboration, but they often also involve challenging, intimidating, and fractious relations. Given that recording studios are, first and foremost, concerned with documenting musicians' performances, we discuss the concerns of getting studio interactions "on record" in terms of access, social relations, and methods of data collection. This article reflects on some of the issues we faced when conducting our fieldwork within British music recording facilities and makes suggestions based on strategies that we employed to address these issues. Keywords:

Popular music

Ethnography

Fieldwork

Recording studios

Access

Links:

https://eprints.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/id/eprint/137/1/Thompson\_Lashua\_On\_Recor d\_REVISED\_Main\_Document.pdf

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