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HOW TO LIVESTREAM FROM OBS - TUTORIAL Sav Buist (The Accidentals) Any questions: savbuist@gmail.com

To the left you'll see a little bullet list icon - click on that to view the Document Outline and skip over passages to get to whatever information you need. When you don't want to see the Document Outline anymore, click the arrow above the list to hide it.

First of all, for a lot of these, you might want to download OBS. It's a free program funded by Patreon members, 100% available to the public.

There's multiple kinds of OBS, but I prefer OBS Studio. To download OBS Studio, click on this link: <u>https://obsproject.com/download</u>

Just today, Streamlabs also came out with a Mac compatible Streamlabs OBS. This would allow you to control your widgets, see your donation history, and import your current OBS settings into a controllable place all at once. I still prefer OBS Studio, but it really depends on what's comfortable for you. You can download Streamlabs OBS at <u>streamlabs.com</u>.

A friend of a friend added this as well, which compares the two: <u>https://youtu.be/OfR6510mVq0</u>

DOWNLOADING OBS STUDIO

- 1. Pick the icon that matches your operating system Windows, Mac, or Linus and click on Download Installer.
- 2. Once it's downloaded, go into your downloads and open up the installer.
- 3. Drag OBS into Applications.
- 4. Once this is done, go into your Applications and doubleclick on OBS.

This will launch OBS, you should see what looks sort of like a studio program with a black screen. If it recognizes your camera, you'll see your face. If not, you'll need to set it up. That's next.

SETTING UP YOUR OBS SCENE

- 1. Go to the bottom left-hand corner of your screen, where it says "Scenes". Click on the + (plus) sign at the bottom left.
- 2. You can name your scene anything I prefer to name it after whatever social media platform I'm livestreaming to. For now, just call it "Test Scene".

SETTING UP YOUR CAMERA

1. Next to "Scenes" is a box that says "Sources". Click on the + (plus) sign at the bottom of that box.

- 2. Scroll down to where it says "Video Capture Device" and click on that. Go ahead and name it "Camera".
- 3. This should launch a big rectangular box with two bars towards the bottom that say "Device" and "Preset". Click on "Device" and allow it to use "FaceTime HD Camera (Built-in)" or whatever camera shows up in your Device list. If you have an external camera you'd like to use, make sure it is compatible with your computer and can connect to your computer via a USB port.
 - a. If no cameras are showing up in your Device list, it might have to do with your security and privacy settings. Go to System Preferences, click Security and Privacy, and then click Privacy.
 - b. Select Camera.
 - c. Select the checkbox next to an app to allow it to access your camera.
 - d. Shut down OBS and open it back up. You might even need to restart your computer if you still don't see it.
- 4. You should see yourself on the screen at this point in real time. Go ahead and click on yourself; then click and drag the bottom corner of the image until it fills up the whole screen. Remember that whatever you see in OBS is what you will see in your livestream, including any empty black spaces.

SETTING UP YOUR AUDIO

If you are wanting to just use your internal computer mic, go to "Sources" and click on the + (plus) sign. Click on "Audio Input Capture" and make it your built-in mic. Then skip to Step 4.

If you are wanting to use an audio interface, make sure it is compatible with your computer and connected to your computer via USB port. See instructions below for Interface.

- 1. Plug in your interface into the USB port of your computer. Doublecheck to make sure your computer sees the interface by going to your System Preferences and clicking on "Sound". It should read your interface under both Input and Output.
- 2. Go back to your "Sources" box in OBS. Click on the + (plus) sign. This time, click on where it says "Audio Input Capture."
- 3. Name your Audio Input Capture after whatever is easiest. I would suggest naming it after your interface, rather than after your mic(s).
 - a. This is because you cannot "mix" in OBS. Whatever your settings are in your interface (i.e. gain settings, multiple mics, etc) will be reflected in OBS, and you can only control so much in the "Audio Mixer" box. So you can't add individual mics to OBS, you can only add your interface as a whole.
 - b. You CAN run a DAW (Logic, Cubase, Protools, etc) by buying a program called "Loopbacks." It's pretty pricey - I think about \$99 - but once you have it, you'll be able to send any reverbs or EQs you put in your DAW, straight into OBS and therefore into your livestream. AND you'll be able to hear it in realtime.
 - c. If you don't have that kind of money, you can also download what are called VST Plugins. If you type "VST Plug-in Reverb" and download a specific reverb you

find, this will show up in OBS when you right-click your Audio Input Source and click "Filters"; then click the plus sign at the bottom left of the new window. From there, you can launch your reverb and play around with it.

- i. You'll be able to hear this in real-time if you go down to your audio mixer and click on the gear next to your Audio Input Device, then click "Advanced Audio Properties" and turn your monitor "on" for your Audio Input Device. However, there is a slight delay, so you mainly want to do this as a soundcheck and then turn it back off before you go live.
- 4. When you have named your Audio Input Capture and pressed "OK", a box will show up that says "Device". Click on the bar that says "Default" and scroll down until you see your interface, or whatever you named your Audio Input Capture device. Click OK.
- BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING ELSE. Go to your "Audio Mixer" box (to the right of "Sources"). Click on the little gear next to your new Audio Input Capture and click on "Advanced Audio Properties".
- 6. This should launch a box showing multiple setting functions. Make sure to check "Mono" next to your new Audio Input Capture device. Otherwise, it will only send stereo left to your headphone-listening audience.
 - a. If you're hearing a delay in your audio, make sure both your Monitors (under "Audio Monitoring") reflect "off" and make sure your interface is set to "mixer" or "input" instead of playback. Mixer / input refers to real-time audio; playback means you only get to hear your sound once it's been recorded.
 - b. If you're not hearing anything at all, go to System Preferences and click "Sound" and make sure your input and your output are set correctly.
 - c. If you're still not hearing anything, make sure your security and privacy preferences are set to allow OBS to access your mic and camera.

MONITORING SOUND

There's multiple ways to monitor your own sound.

- d. NO MONITOR: If you don't want to use a monitor, you can just keep an eye on the little fader bar. It should be flaring green with whatever sound signal it receives. If it flares any higher than green, adjust your gain settings in your interface until it reflects that healthy green. When performing, just keep an eye on that bar and make sure it doesn't go any higher than green or yellow at most.
 - i. Also make sure that your computer is turned all the way down when you go live.
- e. HEADPHONES OUT OF INTERFACE: You should be hearing yourself immediately once plug your headphones into your interface. If not, this is because your computer's sound settings are set differently. Go to "System Preferences" and click on "Sound." Make sure that both your "Input" and your "Output" are set on your interface. If you still don't hear it, restart OBS (don't worry, everything you've done so far will still be there when you open it back up).

- i. I recommend using a headphone extender and in-ear monitors if you have them; this gives you more range and a high-def monitoring sound without wearing bulky headphones.
- f. HEADPHONES OUT OF COMPUTER: Plug your headphones into your computer. Go to "System Preferences" and click on "Sound", except make sure your "Input" shows your interface and your "Output" is set on "External Headphones."
 - Make sure, when you go live, to mute the video appearing on your social media livestream. Otherwise, you'll hear both a.) yourself in real-time and b.) a 15-second delay of everything you do.
- g. MAKE SURE that your output settings are not set for "built in speakers" of any sort if you don't have headphones plugged in, make sure your volume is turned all the way down on your computer. Otherwise, it'll be blasting the audio of your livestream, which is a 15-second delay of everything you're doing in OBS. Your audience will hear that too. It sounds awful. Just don't do it.

SETTING UP YOUR LIVESTREAMS

Every social media platform has a different step-by-step process, but your goal is to attain something called your **stream key**. You absolutely cannot livestream to your platform from OBS without it. The stream key is a password that allows OBS to talk to your social media livestream. BE CAREFUL with the stream key, because anyone who has it can livestream to your social media platform. Do not give it away.

USING FACEBOOK LIVE

Here are some good things to know about Facebook Live before you do it.

- Facebook will tell you that "Live Producer Is the New Way to Go Live." I can tell you right now, Live Producer is glitchy as all heck. DO NOT "Try Live Producer" instead, click "Dismiss." Until they get rid of the bugs, we'll be using the traditional Facebook Live.
- Facebook's new Live Producer is great if you want to go live within the next five minutes. Personally, I experienced some bugs after I scheduled a Facebook live - an alert popped up telling me it didn't exist. I had to switch back to the previous version to make it work.
 - Facebook also just updated its layout I would just switch back to classic mode for now, for the sake of navigation.
- After talking with a friend today, this whole process might work a LOT faster if you use Google Chrome rather than Safari.
- Your live-stream WILL be archived to whatever page you stream from, but you WILL NOT be able to boost it after the fact. More on this later.
- Using Facebook without OBS compresses your audio by A LOT. I recommend using OBS for Facebook because changing the OBS bitrate settings increases the quality of both your video and audio and overrides Facebook's typical compression settings.

- Once you go live, you will see a comment section come up to the right side of your live video. You can interact with your fans there.
- You can schedule a Facebook broadcast ahead of time.
 - To get the individual link for your scheduled Facebook broadcast, you'll need to go to where your livestream countdown is pinned to the top of your Facebook page and click "Share via Messenger". Type your personal profile name in, then go to your messages and copy that link. This link is now an independent livestream link, which you can post to your event schedules.

CREATING YOUR FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM

- 1. Go ahead and go to whatever page (that you manage) you want to stream from.
 - a. If you don't manage the page, you will have to be added as an admin by whoever manages that page in order to stream.
- 2. Right above the Status bar, there's a bar that says "Create" and next to it is "Live". Go ahead and click Live.
- 3. Right away, you'll see your face in the video box, and you might see that you're in Live Producer mode. The reason why you can see yourself in Facebook Live is because Facebook has a built-in "OBS" of sorts - it's just not as good for audio, in my opinion; even with an external interface in use.
 - a. At the top of the video box, "Camera" is highlighted in blue. If you're going live within the next five minutes, click on "Connect" to the right of Camera, and scroll down until you see the "Stream Key." Then skip to "Putting the FB Live Stream Key in OBS".
 - b. If you're trying to schedule this livestream, or you don't want to experience as many bugs, switch back to the previous version of Facebook Live Producer, give it feedback, and move to "Getting your FB Live Stream Key."

GETTING YOUR FB LIVE STREAM KEY

- 1. At the top of the video box, "Camera" is highlighted in blue. Click on "Connect" to the right of it.
- 2. You'll now see your stream URL and your stream key. I have never needed the URL, but it's good to save it somewhere (like your notes) just in case. What you REALLY need is the stream key, so go ahead and copy that.

PUTTING THE FB LIVE STREAM KEY IN OBS

- 1. Open up OBS again. You'll see "OBS" at the top of your computer screen, next to "File" and "Edit" and "View" and a bunch of other toolbar settings. Click on "OBS" and then click "Preferences."
- 2. This will open up a bunch of options for you. Right now "General" is highlighted. Click on "Stream" just beneath it.
- 3. This will show three bars: Service, Server, and Stream Key. On Service, change it so it says "Facebook Live." Leave the Server on "Default." In "Stream Key", go ahead and

paste the stream key you copied from Facebook into it. Don't click "OK" just yet - keep the Preferences window open.

ADJUSTING YOUR SPECS FOR FACEBOOK LIVE

- 1. In your Preferences window, click on "Output" just below "Stream".
 - a. VIDEO BITRATE: Facebook requires a maximum of 4000 Kbps. If it says anything different than that under "Video Bitrate", change it to 4000 Kbps.
 - AUDIO BITRATE: Facebook would like a bitrate of either 96 or 128. I had it for 128 on some, 96 on others - I really didn't notice much of a difference. I recommend 128 since it seems to be the standard.
 - c. ENABLE ADVANCED ENCODER SETTINGS: Go ahead and check that. DO NOT check "enforce streaming service bitrate limits" that defeats the compression override.
 - d. ENCODER PRESET: Go ahead and click on "veryfast".
- Click on "Video" below "Audio". Make sure your Base (Canvas) Resolution says "1920x1080".
- 3. Under common FPS values (this is your frames per second), make sure it says "60".
- 4. NOW click "OK".
- 5. Keep in mind that this might change what your image looks like in OBS. Click and drag the image until it looks like you want it to look on Facebook live.

PREVIEWING YOUR FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM

- 1. In the bottom right corner of OBS, you'll see the bar that says "Controls". Go ahead and click on "Start Streaming."
 - a. Keep in mind that on Facebook Live, this does not immediately make you GO LIVE on Facebook. It just allows you to preview it in Facebook Live ahead of time.
- 2. Go back to Facebook. After a few seconds, you'll see your face appear in the Facebook Live controller.
 - a. Keep in mind that this could take longer depending on your wifi. Make sure that no one else in the house is on your wifi when you do this, and that you have a strong wifi signal in your computer.
- 3. Go ahead and unmute the Facebook Live Preview (mouse over your face in Facebook Live and hit the speaker symbol at the bottom right). This allows you to check your audio. When you're done testing audio, remember to mute it again before you go live.
 - a. Keep in mind you will hear anything you say into your mic approximately 10-15 seconds after you do it in Facebook Live.

GOING LIVE ON FACEBOOK

- To the right of your screen, you'll see a box in which to enter the specifics of your show. Make sure the correct page is selected under "Share on a Page you Manage."
- 2. Beneath that is a box that says "Say something about this live video." Whatever you type in that box displays above the video once you go live, so make sure you have a link

to your tip jar (Venmo, Paypal.me, Streamlabs, GoFundMe, etc) and a description of the show in that area.

- 3. Add the Title to your video.
- 4. In the top right corner of your Facebook Live, you'll see "Post", "Settings", and "Interactive." If you don't want Facebook to keep your video on your Page once you're done, click "Settings" and check "Unpublish after live video ends."
- 5. Once you hit "GO LIVE", you are LIVE. Even if you can't see it, because it's buffering, your audience can, so make sure you just dive right in to your show. If this is too much pressure, you can also start it five minutes early and put a piece of paper or a sign up that says "LIVE AT (insert time)." It also helps to have music playing nearby, like house music before a show starts.
- 6. The box to the right of your Facebook Live will turn into a place where your Facebook fans can comment and chat. People who have liked your page will also be notified. The live video will be pinned to the top of your Facebook page.
- 7. What I recommend is having a split screen keep OBS on one side and your Facebook Live on the other, so you can watch yourself without a delay, but also be able to see the comments as they come in.

ENDING YOUR FACEBOOK LIVE

- 1. The same "GO LIVE" button you clicked to start the livestream will now be a red button that says "END LIVESTREAM." Once you're done with your livestream, go ahead and click that red button. Then, go to OBS and hit "Stop Streaming."
- 2. Stream Keys only work for each Facebook livestream. Every time you do a Facebook livestream, you will need to get a different stream key to put into your OBS Preferences.
- 3. You can find your OBS Recording and edit it in iMovie if you choose, and then repost it at any time. When you post this, you will actually be able to boost it at your will in Facebook, so I recommend recording some of your livestreams. You won't be able to boost your livestream once it's done, but it will sit at the top of your Facebook page unless you specified otherwise earlier.

USING YOUTUBE LIVE

Here are some good things to know about YouTube Live before you do it.

- YouTube Studio has a built-in webcam, so if you want, you don't have to stream through OBS. If you do want to stream through OBS for audio and video bitrate purposes, you'll need to switch to Creator Studio Classic. More on that in a bit.
- YouTube Live doesn't have terrible audio, especially if you do it from a newer phone. You can Go Live from a phone if you have at least 1,000 subscribers on YouTube. If not, you'll have to run it through a computer. You CAN run OBS from an iPhone - there's a chapter devoted to that elsewhere in the doc.
- You can use YouTube Live in a couple of different ways.
 - If you make it a **PUBLIC** YouTube Live, it will notify all your subscribers, and they can click on their notification and go to your YouTube Livestream immediately.

Anyone who sees it on your YouTube channel, gets notified, or has the link will be able to view it.

- If you make it an **UNLISTED** YouTube Live, no one will be notified, and only people with the link to your YouTube Livestream will be able to view it.
- If you make it a **PRIVATE** YouTube Live, no one will be notified, and no one will be able to view it, even if they have the link to your YouTube Livestream.
- Like Facebook, YouTube will try to push "YouTube Studio" on you. I find this pretty hard to navigate when it comes to finding a stream key, so I usually make it go back to "Creator Studio Classic." I'll describe how to do that shortly.
- Once you go live, you will see a comment section come up to the right side or underneath your live video, depending on how you click and drag your webpage. You can interact with your fans there.
- Also like Facebook, YouTube will archive your video once it's done, and you can take it down any time you want.

CREATING YOUR YOUTUBE LIVESTREAM

- 1. Log in to whatever YouTube Channel you want to stream from.
- 2. Click on your icon in the top right corner, then click "YouTube Studio."
- 3. At the very bottom left corner of this page, in the toolbar, you'll see what looks like a person running through a door. That is the icon for Creator Studio Classic, which is definitely what we want to use here. Click on that. Hit "Skip" on the survey, then scroll to the bottom of the next window and click "Go to Legacy Classic".
 - a. This will open up the previous version of YouTube Studio, which is called Creator Studio Classic. Doing this will make it wayyy easier to Go Live.
- 4. You'll see a new tool bar to the left. Click "Live Streaming".
 - a. A few things to know: if you want to schedule a YouTube Live ahead of time, make sure you click on "Events".
 - b. If you want to just go live right now, stay on the "stream now" page, and scroll down until you see "Stream name/key." Copy that number. Make sure under "Privacy", you specify whether or not you want this livestream to be private, public, or unlisted. Skip to "Putting Your YT Stream Key in OBS."
- 5. If you're setting up an event (which I recommend, since it gives people time to plan ahead), you'll see "New Live Event" to the right. Click on that.
 - a. Enter your title and description this information is what will accompany your livestream.
 - b. TIME ZONES: make sure you specify what day and what time you would like to go live. Right underneath those, you'll see a time zone in fine print, with the word "Edit" next to it. Make sure you edit it so it goes live in whatever time zone you want.
 - c. Where it says "Unlisted", make sure you specify if you want this livestream private, public, or unlisted.
 - d. Once you've done this, scroll to the bottom right corner and click "Create event".

GETTING YOUR YOUTUBE STREAM KEY

- 1. If you're streaming now (instead of using an event), you already have your stream key. Skip to "Putting Your YT Stream Key in OBS."
- If you've created your event, you will now have the option to change your thumbnail by clicking "Browse." This will be the picture displayed on your YouTube Video up until you go live.
- You will also see the options "Single-use Stream Key" and "Reusable Stream Key" on this page. Because stream keys are so vulnerable, I prefer to have a different stream key every time. I highly recommend clicking on the circle next to "Single-use Stream Key."
 - a. Note it does say that YouTube has a new feature where you don't have to specify audio and video bitrate, but I would do it in OBS to be safe. (I don't trust these things, haha.) We'll get there.
- 4. You will see a lot of new info. Start with "Select Your Encoder." If it says "Other encoders", leave it be. If it says anything different, change it to "Other encoders."
- 5. Copy the "Stream Name/Key."
 - a. I recommend also putting the stream key in your notes somewhere, just in case. Don't give it away to anyone else.

PUTTING YOUR YT STREAM KEY IN OBS

- 1. Open up OBS. You'll see "OBS" at the top of your computer, next to "File" and "Edit" and "View" and a bunch of other toolbar settings. Click on "OBS" and then click "Preferences / Settings."
- 2. This will open up a bunch of options for you. Right now "General" is highlighted. Click on "Stream" just beneath it.
- 3. This will show three bars: Service, Server, and Stream Key. On Service, change it so it says "YouTube / YouTube Gaming." Leave the Server on "Primary YouTube Ingest Server." In "Stream Key", go ahead and paste the stream key you copied from YouTube. Don't click "OK" just yet keep the Preferences/Settings window open.

ADJUSTING YOUR SPECS FOR YOUTUBE LIVE

- 6. Go ahead and click on "Output" just below "Stream".
 - a. VIDEO BITRATE: I'm just gonna assume most of us are not streaming in 4k. For now I would recommend making it 1500 Kbps. You can either click and hold the arrow to bring it there, or click on the box and type "1500".
 - b. AUDIO BITRATE: Set your audio bitrate to 128.
 - c. ENABLE ADVANCED ENCODER SETTINGS: Go ahead and check that. DO NOT check "enforce streaming service bitrate limits."
 - d. ENCODER PRESET: Change this to "veryfast".
- 7. Go ahead and click on "Video" below "Audio". Make sure your Base (Canvas) Resolution says "1280x720".
- 8. Under common FPS values (this is your frames per second), make sure it says "30".

- 9. NOW click "OK".
- 10. Keep in mind that this changes what your image looks like in OBS. Click and drag the image until it looks like you want it to look on YouTube Live.

PREVIEWING YOUR YOUTUBE LIVESTREAM

- 1. Go back to YouTube and click "Save Changes."
- Towards the top of your page, you'll see "Info and Settings", "Ingestion Settings", "Cards", and "Live Control Room." You'll also see "View On Watch Page" to the top left. Open "View On Watch Page" in a new tab. You can share this link to anyone and, if your video is unlisted or public, anyone with that link will be able to view your livestream.
- 3. Go back to your original page and click on "Live Control Room."
- 4. Right away, you'll see a red alert bar. It's basically saying you're not sending info from OBS to YouTube yet. We're about to change that.
- 5. Go back to OBS. In the bottom left-hand corner, under "Controls", click "Start Streaming."
 - a. Keep in mind that on YouTube Live, this does not immediately make you GO LIVE on YouTube. It just allows you to preview it in YouTube Live ahead of time.
- 6. Go back to YouTube and check to make sure your Stream Status says "OKAY" or "GOOD." Then click the blue button that says "PREVIEW."
 - a. If your Stream Status says "BAD," make sure you have a strong wifi connection and that no one else in the area is using the same wifi. If this still doesn't help, go back to OBS Preferences, click "Output", and Lower your Video Bitrate. Trial and error with lowering the bitrate until it changes to "OKAY" or "GOOD" in YouTube.
- Scroll down and click "Play" on the video. After a few seconds, you should see yourself. Go ahead and unmute the YouTube Live Preview (mouse over the video and hit the speaker symbol in the bottom left).
 - a. Keep in mind you will hear anything you say into your mic approximately 10-15 seconds after you do it in YouTube Live.

GOING LIVE ON YOUTUBE

- 1. Once you're happy with how your stream looks and sounds, click the blue "Start Streaming" button.
 - a. If this is a public video, it will immediately notify your YouTube subscribers that you have gone live.
 - b. If this is an unlisted video, no one will be notified, and only those who have the link can see your livestream.
- 2. If the upper right-hand corner, you'll see "View on Watch Page." If you haven't already, right click "View on Watch Page" and click "in a new tab" or "in a new window."
 - a. This is where you'll see your livestream. You'll also see a chatbox where your YouTube Subscribers and fans will be commenting, and you'll be able to respond to them in real time in the chat.

ENDING YOUR YOUTUBE LIVE

- 1. You cannot end your livestream from the Watch Page, so it's important to keep the Live Control Room page open in a separate tab. Go back to that and click on the red button that says "Stop Streaming."
- 2. Go to OBS and hit "Stop Streaming" and, if you were also recording, "Stop Recording."
- Single-Use Stream Keys only work for each YouTube livestream. Every time you set up a YouTube livestream, you will receive a different stream key to put into your OBS Preferences.
- 4. If this was an unlisted video, it will not be posted to your YouTube page unless you set it to public. You can find it by going to YouTube Studio, clicking "Videos" in the right-hand toolbar, and clicking "live" (next to "uploads"). From there, you can decide to delete it, publicize it, change or edit it, etc.
- 5. If this was a public video, it will be in your YouTube channel, but you will have to specify that you want it pinned to the top of your YouTube page.

Okay, that's YouTube Live.

USING TWITTER LIVE / PERISCOPE

Here are some good things to know about Twitter Live / Periscope before you do it.

- You will have to set this live-stream up from your phone.
- You have to download the Periscope App on your phone in order to livestream to Twitter.
- Your live-stream WILL be archived to your Twitter profile.
- Using Twitter Live without OBS compresses your audio. I recommend using OBS for Twitter because changing the OBS bitrate settings increases the quality of both your video and audio and overrides Twitter's typical compression settings. We'll get there. Don't worry.
- Once you go live, a link to the livestream (hosted on Periscope.tv) will be posted to your Twitter. Your followers can click on that link and will be able to comment. You can interact with them there by refreshing your Twitter page and clicking on the same link.

CREATING YOUR STREAM

- 1. Download the Periscope app onto your mobile device. When you press log-in, it'll give you the option to Log-in via Twitter. Go ahead and authorize the app by scrolling to the bottom.
- 2. Once you're logged in via Twitter on the Periscope app, click on your profile pic at the top right of your phone screen. Scroll down and hit "Settings", and then hit "Periscope Producer" under "Advanced Sources".

GETTING YOUR STREAM KEY

1. Scroll down until you see "Stream Name / Stream Key". Keep this page open on your phone.

PUTTING YOUR STREAM KEY IN OBS

- 1. Open up OBS on your laptop. You'll see "OBS" at the top of your computer, next to "File" and "Edit" and "View" and a bunch of other toolbar settings. Click on "OBS" and then click "Preferences."
- 2. This will open up a bunch of options for you. Right now "General" is highlighted. Click on "Stream" just beneath it.
- 3. This will show three bars: Service, Server, and Stream Key. On Service, change it so it says "Twitter / Periscope." Change the Server to reflect your Time Zone. In "Stream Key", go ahead and type in the stream key that shows up under "Stream Name / Stream Key" on your phone screen. Don't click "OK" in OBS just yet keep the Preferences window open.

ADJUSTING YOUR SPECS FOR TWITTER LIVE / PERISCOPE

- 1. Go ahead and click on "Output" just below "Stream".
 - a. VIDEO BITRATE: You can either click and hold the arrow to bring it to 2500 kbps, or click on the box and type "2500".
 - b. AUDIO BITRATE: Set your audio bitrate to 128.
 - c. ENABLE ADVANCED ENCODER SETTINGS: Go ahead and check that. DO NOT check "enforce streaming service bitrate limits" that defeats the compression override.
 - d. ENCODER PRESET: Change this to "veryfast".
- 2. Go ahead and click on "Video" below "Audio". Make sure your Base (Canvas) Resolution says "1280x720".
- 3. Under common FPS values (this is your frames per second), make sure it says "30".
- 4. NOW click "OK".
- 5. Keep in mind that this changes what your image looks like in OBS. Click and drag the image until it looks like you want it to look on Periscope Live.

PREVIEWING YOUR LIVESTREAM

- 1. In OBS, there is a box in the bottom right-hand corner that says "Controls." Just below that is "Start Streaming." Click on that.
 - a. Keep in mind that on Periscope Live, this does not immediately make you GO LIVE on Twitter. It just allows you to preview it in Periscope ahead of time.
- Go back to your phone. If there is an exclamation point in your Diagnostics box (right above Preview Broadcast), hit Diagnostics and follow whatever advice it gives you in OBS Preferences. Make sure you are the only one using your wifi in your area and that you have a strong wifi connection.
- 3. Once you're good on Diagnostics, go back to your Periscope Producer screen and hit "Preview Broadcast" on your phone.

4. You should see your OBS Scene appear on your phone screen, and you'll also hear the audio from your OBS Scene if your phone's volume is up. This is not live - this is just a preview of what your fans will see once you hit "Go LIVE."

GOING LIVE ON TWITTER

- 1. Before you go live, make sure your audio sounds good, your video looks good, and make sure your audience is set to Public.
- 2. Hit the big red button that says "GO LIVE" on your phone. Once you have done this, you are live on Periscope TV. The link is posted to your Twitter page.
- 3. You can choose to interact with your fans on your browser by going to your Twitter profile and clicking on the Periscope TV link, or by simply commenting from the same phone that is currently streaming your broadcast.

ENDING YOUR TWITTER LIVESTREAM

- 1. Hit the big red button that says "End Livestream" on your phone. Then go to your laptop, go to OBS, and click "Stop Streaming."
- 2. The Periscope TV link will be archived on your Twitter feed unless you delete it yourself.

That's Twitter Live in a nutshell.

USING INSTAGRAM LIVE

Here are some things to know about Instagram Live before you use it. This one is a lot, so buckle up.

- Instagram is a very internal program. It does not like to be run through OBS or any other broadcasting program. While it can be done, doing so requires a third party app that must be downloaded on your computer, and it can sometimes cost money. The one I use is a free app called YellowDuck.
- If you still want to run Instagram through OBS, keep in mind:
 - There is no preview option, unless you create a private test Instagram account and test out a livestream there.
 - Even if you do this, going live from OBS makes it so that you cannot access your own Instagram livestream from your own profile. It acts like the livestream never existed. If you want to interact with fans, you'll have to do it from another Instagram profile. We did this by creating a comment moderator account called "theaccidentalsmod" and having our manager log in on a separate phone. We also had this account follow the private test Instagram account - that way, we had the ability to view the Instagram livestream.

- Only your closest Instagram followers will be notified when you go live. This is true regardless of if you run it through OBS or not. The only way to get all of your instagram followers to find your livestream is by having them go to your instagram profile and click on your profile picture, or by having them go to their stories and click on yours, which will say "LIVE" at the bottom in red.
- Your Instagram followers cannot view your livestream from a desktop. They can only view it from their phones. This is true whether or not you run it through OBS.
- If you Go Live on Instagram using your phone and bypassing OBS, you will be able to view your own livestream and comment / interact with fans using the account you are streaming from. However, your audio will likely be compressed unless you use a Shure MV51 or MV88 mic, both of which can run audio and be plugged into a mobile phone.
- If you run the livestream from OBS, you can only be streaming horizontally. If you livestream from Instagram, you will be working vertically.
- It is possible to split-screen on Instagram and go live with someone else, but they have to go to your livestream and request it, and you have to accept the request. This really only works when you're running it straight from Instagram Live and not through OBS.
- Instagram Live has a HARD CUT-OFF of 60 minutes of livestreaming.

Okay, I think that's everything.

CREATING YOUR IG LIVE STREAM

- 1. If you're running this through OBS, go ahead and download and install the YellowDuck Third Party App at <u>yellowduck.tv</u>. Once it's downloaded, open it up.
- 2. DO NOT log in yet. The moment you give YellowDuck your Instagram info, it will give you the Stream Key and the Server URL but it will also notify your IG followers that you are now LIVE. Just leave this window open for now.
- 3. I recommend creating a private Test account Instagram and running livestreams through it to determine if it works.
- 4. I also recommend creating an Instagram account to monitor comments, since you will not be able to view or comment on your own livestream if you run it through OBS.

ADJUSTING YOUR SPECS FOR IG LIVE

- 1. Open up OBS and click on the "OBS" tool at the top of your screen. Click "Preferences."
- 2. You'll see a dialogue box open with "General" highlighted on the left-side toolbar. Click on "Output."
 - a. VIDEO BITRATE: You can either click and hold the arrow to bring it to 3500 kbps, or click on the box and type "3500".
 - b. AUDIO BITRATE: Set your audio bitrate to 128.

- c. ENABLE ADVANCED ENCODER SETTINGS: Go ahead and check that. DO NOT check "enforce streaming service bitrate limits" that defeats the compression override.
- d. ENCODER PRESET: Change this to "veryfast".
- 3. Go ahead and click on "Video" below "Audio". Make sure your Base (Canvas) Resolution says "1080x1920".
- 4. Under common FPS values (this is your frames per second), make sure it says "30".
- 5. NOW click "OK".
- 6. Keep in mind that this changes what your image looks like in OBS. Click and drag the image until it sits in the middle of the screen, with an even black space above and below it.
 - a. To add images and logos to make this screen look more interesting, see "ADDING LOGOS."

GETTING YOUR IG STREAM KEY

- 1. Open up YellowDuck.
- 2. I highly recommend reading these sections before doing them unless you are using a test instagram account, there is no way to preview doing this with YellowDuck.
- 3. Be prepared to move quickly as you log in using your Instagram credentials. YellowDuck will give you a Stream URL and a Stream Key - but it has also notified your Instagram followers that you are LIVE. I recommend starting your livestream early to give yourself time to enter the proper information into OBS. In the meantime, your subscribers will see a black screen - until you have entered the information into OBS and clicked "Start Streaming."

PUTTING YOUR IG STREAM KEY IN OBS

- 1. Go back to OBS and open up OBS "Preferences".
- 2. Click on "Stream".
- 3. Set your Server to "Custom..."; copy the Stream URL from YellowDuck and put it into your Stream URL in OBS; then copy the Stream Key from YellowDuck and put it into your Stream Key in OBS.

GOING LIVE ON INSTAGRAM

1. You are currently live, but your subscribers can't see anything until you start the stream in OBS. In the bottom right-hand corner of OBS is a box that says "Controls" - below that is "Start Streaming." Go ahead and click that, and boom, you're live.

ENDING YOUR INSTAGRAM LIVESTREAM

- 1. In OBS, click on "Stop Streaming".
- 2. Close out YellowDuck.
- 3. KEEP IN MIND that your Instagram Livestream will automatically end after 60 minutes has passed. This is true regardless of whether or not you run from OBS or Instagram Live.

Yeah, Instagram kinda hurts me. But hey! It's possible.

USING GOOGLE HANGOUT

Here's a pretty great tutorial - it involves downloading the "VirtualCam" plug-in for OBS. <u>https://bit.ly/2Xmu91N</u>

You can download VirtualCam here: https://bit.ly/34hsNXI

USING STAGEIT

Things to know about Stageit before you use it:

- You cannot run OBS through it. StageIt is its own thing. You can, however, run your own audio and video into StageIt via USB ports on your computer. StageIt is pretty good about detecting an interface or webcam.
- You HAVE to have the latest version of Adobe Flash installed in order for Stagelt to work. To do this, click on the link below and follow the instructions.
 - https://get3.adobe.com/flashplayer/update/plugin/
 - Once you've done that, you might still have some issues allowing Chrome to enable the flash player. We will get there in the instructions. Just know that it's a little tricky getting flash player to work on some computers, and some browsers.
- StageIt is one of the only legit live-streaming services with a paywall. Crowdcast is another one of them. A "paywall" means that your fans can pre-pay for a ticket ahead of the concert, or buy tickets day-of.
 - You can also set how many tickets you want to sell before your concert, and change that number at any time even during the concert.
- The money is really weird in Stagelt. By this, I mean that every dollar is equal to 10 notes. So the conversion system looks like this:
 - \$1 = 10 notes
 - \$2 = 20 notes
 - \$5 = 50 notes
 - \$50 = 500 notes
 - The best way for me to remember it is to add a zero after the dollar amount, and that equals out to how many notes you have.
 - Keep this in mind when you are setting your ticket prices, and when people are tipping you with their notes.
- Stagelt takes a percentage of the TOTAL amount made from your show. This includes both tickets sold and tips, which your concert-goers will be able to pay during your concert.
 - The percentage cut has recently been lowered due to COVID I believe they are now taking 20-25% and leaving 75-80% to the artist.

- It takes around 7-10 days after your show has concluded to receive the payment from StageIt.
- StageIt does NOT archive shows, it only streams them. Once your show is done, it's gone, baby.
- The delay in Stagelt is longer than most streaming platforms everything you say or do can take anywhere from 30 seconds to a minute delay, depending on your wifi speed and other factors (how many people are using Stagelt, how many people are attending your concert, computer / flash player compatibility, etc). Keep this in mind when you are engaging your concert-goers.

CREATING YOUR STAGEIT PROFILE

- 1. Sign up for Stageit. Once you're in, click on the bar that says "Become a Performer."
- 2. Click on your username in the upper right-hand corner and click "Edit My Profile" to add details about yourself you'd like your concert-goers to know. You can also change your picture here.

CREATING YOUR STAGEIT SOUNDCHECK

- 3. Under Performer Tools, go ahead and "Create a Soundcheck." Set your date for today and your time for whenever.
 - a. You can always override whatever time you set by hitting "Go to Stage" and then "Go Live".
- 4. Set your show length for however long you'd like your soundcheck to go. Keep in mind that once you go live, you will not be able to change how long the duration of your soundcheck is you will have to create a new soundcheck.
- 5. Click "Save".
- 6. This will take you to a page where you can view your Soundcheck. From there you can send the accompanying link to anyone you'd like to view your soundcheck. You can also "Edit Show Details" or "Email Followers." For now, click on the green button that says "Go to Stage."
- 7. Here's where it gets tricky. See the address bar at the top of your screen saying "stageit.com/[info]" ? Click on the little lock next to it.
 - a. Make sure to set your Camera, Microphone, and Flash to "Allow".
 - b. Refresh your browser.
- 8. Doublecheck to make sure your audio and video sources are either built-in or set to your interface and webcam if you are using those.
 - a. Speak clearly into your microphone and watch the fader labeled "Level." You want your volume to hit around 30-75% to have a healthy signal. Adjust your gain on your interface or move the green square in the fader until you have a healthy audio signal in your fader.
- 9. Click the green button that says "Go Live."
 - a. Since you are viewing yourself and hearing yourself in real-time via Stagelt, you will not be able to hear what your viewers are hearing. I recommend sending the soundcheck link to a friend and asking them if they can hear / see you properly.

ENDING YOUR STAGEIT SOUNDCHECK

1. When you are done, click "End Show."

CREATING YOUR STAGEIT CONCERT

- 1. This is a pretty similar process to creating your Soundcheck. Under Performer Tools, click "Create A Show".
- 2. Adjust your show settings as you would like them and click "Save".
 - a. You can override your scheduled time by clicking "Go To Stage" and "Go Live", but I recommend sticking to your scheduled time if you are sending this show out to your fanbase.
- Copy the link to your clipboard and share this link to your social media platforms to drive your base to Stagelt. If you have a base cultivated in Stageit, you can also "Email Followers" to notify them of your new scheduled show.
- 4. Five minutes prior to your scheduled showtime, click "Go To Stage".
- 5. If you are not seeing yourself on this page, click on the little lock next to your address bar (the part at the top of your screen that says "stageit.com/[info]".
 - a. Make sure to set your Camera, Microphone, and Flash to "Allow".
 - b. Refresh your browser.
- 6. Doublecheck to make sure your audio and video sources are either built-in or set to your interface and webcam, if you are using those.
 - a. Speak clearly into your microphone and watch the fader labeled "Level." You want your volume to hit around 30-75% to have a healthy signal. Adjust your gain on your interface or move the green square in the fader until you have a healthy audio signal in your fader.
- 7. Click the green button that says "Go Live."
 - a. Since you are viewing yourself and hearing yourself in real-time via Stagelt, you will not be able to hear what your viewers are hearing. I recommend checking in with your viewers and asking them if they can hear / see you clearly. Keep in mind that there is a longer delay from you to them than is usual.

ENDING YOUR STAGEIT CONCERT

- 1. When you are finished, click "End Show."
- 2. Another option is to let your concert duration time out. There will be a countdown showing how long you have left.

ADDITIONAL INFO

- 1. To cancel your soundcheck or concert, click "Performer Tools" and click "Upcoming Shows".
- 2. Click "Edit Details" on the show you'd like to cancel.
- 3. To the right is a black box that says "Clicking below will cancel your show and refund your ticket holders." Good to know. Click "Cancel Show."

4. See "SUGGESTIONS FOR THROWING A SHOW" for how to create a festival in StageIt.

That's it! Good luck :)

USING STREAMYARD

Here's some things to know about StreamYard before you use it.

- StreamYard allows you to broadcast to multiple social media platforms at the same time.
- It also allows you to split your screen between multiple people, which can let you perform songwriter-in-the-round kind of things.
 - Not everyone needs a StreamYard account to be added as a guest; only the host needs one.
- <u>https://streamyard.com/resources/docs</u> this is a pretty great tutorial on how to use it. They also have a stellar customer service function and respond the quickest on Facebook - like, within 5-10 minutes, it's bonkers.
- You can hook up a mic and a webcam to StreamYard, just like OBS.
- StreamYard does have an OBS integration function, but only through Windows. If you have a Windows PC, you can download the OBS plugin "Virtual Cam". For Mac users like me, we are not so lucky. I am still looking into a way to do this. That being said, running your mic and webcam looks and sounds okay in StreamYard.
 - Windows Virtual Cam OBS Plugin: <u>https://obsproject.com/forum/resources/obs-virtualcam.539/</u>
 - Scroll down on that link to see "How to Use."
- StreamYard is a free service, but certain functions including the "record" (preview w/guests) function require payment after a trial period.
- You can schedule a broadcast up to a week in advance on any social media platform except for LinkedIn using StreamYard.

CREATING YOUR STREAMYARD BROADCAST

- 1. Go ahead and log in to StreamYard using whatever you'd like it to integrate with (Facebook Page, profile, or group; YouTube, etc).
- 2. Click "Create a Broadcast" and choose the platform you'd like to carry the livestream. To broadcast to more than one social media platform, click the plus sign and follow the instructions.
- 3. Once you've done this, add a Title and Description and adjust your privacy for whatever you'd like it to be.
- 4. Right below that, you can choose to schedule it for later or to just Create the Broadcast.
- 5. Once you've done this, you'll see an optional Custom Image function I always recommend adding visual elements, but whatever you want to do is fine.
 - a. <u>Canva.com</u> is a free service that allows you to search for any template and create posters, banners, logos, etc. I've used it for literally everything.

- 6. Once you've done this, click on "Enter Your Broadcast Studio." Set up your camera and mic and test your levels here.
 - a. Go into settings to adjust your camera, resolution, mic, and speaker.
 - b. Also make sure to type whatever you want your viewers to see as your display name you can't enter the broadcast without putting one down.
- 7. Click "Enter Broadcast Studio" and click on the bottom left corner where it says "Add to Stream." This is how you add yourself to the stream.
 - a. To take yourself off the stream, simply click on the same icon in the bottom left corner.
- 8. In the upper left-hand corner, you'll see "comments." If it's a public livestream, the comments from any or multiple social media platforms that you're streaming to will show up in this section.
- 9. Below Comments, you'll find "Branding". This is a section where you can add brand color, themes, logos, overlays, etc.
 - a. Any logos should be a perfect square: 150x150px, and saved as a png in order to upload correctly.
 - b. Overlays will change the way your show looks you can play around with them to find what fits you best.
 - c. You can add videos as mp4 files on the "Upload" section in Overlays it will automatically play the video for your viewers and mute your mic for the duration, which you can unmute by clicking the mic icon at the bottom.
- 10. Invite people to view your broadcast studio (note: you have not gone live yet, but whoever you invite will be able to join you in your broadcast studio, if they allow StreamYard to use their webcam / mic) by clicking on the icon that features a person with a plus sign next to them at the bottom of the screen.
 - a. Copy the link to your clipboard and share it with whoever you want to be part of your broadcast studio.

GOING LIVE ON STREAMYARD

1. In Broadcast Studio, simply click the blue "Go Live" button in the upper right-hand corner.

ENDING YOUR STREAMYARD LIVESTREAM

1. Click on the "End Show" button in the upper right-hand corner.

USING TWITCH

Things to know about Twitch before you use it:

• Your fans don't need to have Twitch accounts to watch your livestream - but they DO need to create a Twitch account in order to comment.

- There is not a "preview stream" function in Twitch, unless you add this specific phrase after your stream key: [?bandwidthtest=true] (ignore the brackets). If you don't add that phrase, once you start streaming in OBS, you are live on Twitch.
- Your Twitch channel has a reusable stream key. You don't need to change it every time.
- "Subscribers" are different than "Followers." Followers can comment and get notified when you go live. "Subscribers" are for when you use Twitch like Patreon as a subscription service with patronage based on tiers. If you're only using Twitch as a streaming service, you don't need to worry about Subscribers.
- If you want your Twitch followers to be notified when they follow you, have them go to twitch.tv/[yourchannelhere] and click "Follow." In the top right corner of your display screen, they will now see a green button that says "Turn On Notifications." When they click that, they'll be notified when you go live.
- When creating your Twitch profile, keep in mind that you will need:
 - A profile picture
 - A profile banner picture
 - $\circ~$ A 300-word bio
 - A Video Player Banner: basically whatever you want displayed on the video player of your channel when your channel is offline.
 - I recommend having it look something like <u>twitch.tv/theaccidentalsmusic</u>.

ADJUSTING YOUR SPECS FOR TWITCH IN OBS

- 1. Open up OBS and click on the "OBS" tool at the top of your screen. Click "Preferences."
- 2. You'll see a dialogue box open with "General" highlighted on the left-side toolbar. Click on "Output."
 - a. VIDEO BITRATE: You can either click and hold the arrow to bring it to 3000 kbps, or click on the box and type "3000".
 - b. AUDIO BITRATE: Set your audio bitrate to 160.
 - c. ENABLE ADVANCED ENCODER SETTINGS: Go ahead and check that. DO NOT check "enforce streaming service bitrate limits" that defeats the compression override.
 - d. ENCODER PRESET: Change this to "veryfast".

3. Go ahead and click on "Video" below "Audio". Make sure your Base (Canvas) Resolution says "1280x720".

4. Under common FPS values (this is your frames per second), make sure it says "30".

5. NOW click "OK".

6. Keep in mind that this changes what your image looks like in OBS. Click and drag the image until it covers all the empty black spaces.

CREATING YOUR TWITCH LIVESTREAM

- 1. Sign up for Twitch at <u>twitch.tv</u>.
- 2. Once you're there, click on your Profile icon in the top right corner and click "Settings." Change your profile picture, banner, and add a 300-word bio of who you are.

- 3. Then click on "Channel and Videos." Scroll down and add your "Video Player Banner" as described in "Using Twitch".
- 4. Scroll back up to the top and copy the "Primary Stream Key".
- 5. Now open up OBS. At the top, click "OBS" and click "Preferences."
- 6. Go to "Stream" (under "General") and change the Server to "Twitch". Paste your Primary Stream Key into the "Stream Key" box.
 - a. If you want to preview the stream and not go live, add this phrase (without the brackets) immediately after your stream key: [?bandwidthtest=true]

GOING LIVE ON TWITCH

- 1. When you click "Start Streaming" in OBS, you should now be streaming to Twitch.
 - b. Your followers will be notified if they have clicked "Follow" on your channel page, and then clicked "Turn On Notifications."
 - c. To engage people on other social media platforms, simply share this link: twitch.tv/[yourusernamehere]. Your fans will be able to click on it and watch your stream, but will not be able to comment unless they create Twitch accounts.

ENDING YOUR TWITCH LIVESTREAM

- 1. Go back to OBS and click "Stop Streaming" in the bottom right "Controls" box. This automatically makes your Twitch Channel display your "Video Player Banner", since you are now offline.
- 2. Any time you click "Start Streaming" in OBS, and your Twitch Primary Stream Key is still in your OBS Preferences, you will go live on Twitch.

USING LOOPBACK

Some things to know about Loopback:

- Loopback is the translator for your DAW to talk to OBS, which in turn talks to your Livestream. So if you want cool reverbs, EQs, any effects, mixing, etc you've set up in your DAW to be reflected in your livestream? You will need something like this program.
- It costs \$99. This is because a lot of professional audio engineers and podcasters use it, so before this crisis hit, that was primarily who could afford it.
- It was a little tricky for me to put together, but was totally worth it once I figured it out.
- It will say "Free Download!" at the front of the page. You get a 20-minute trial period before it sends a massive fuzz into your audio systems. Trust me, it was a rude awakening.
- I'm seeing that Loopback only works for Mac, so keep that in mind. There may be a way to circumvent that, but I'd have to look into it.
- You can use it with a USB microphone, but I see way more people using it with an Audio Interface.

- Loopback doesn't turn off, even when you quit the program. If you want it to turn off, you'll have to delete the virtual device, or change your DAW and OBS Preferences. More on this later.
- You can run audio from browsers, DVD players, and more you just have to have those things / programs open. You can combine the audio from your browser with the audio from OBS, or the audio from Logic, and have it all stream in through the same channels, which would then go to whatever OBS is streaming to (once you start streaming). Pretty nifty.

Let's say you want to run your DAW audio into OBS, which then would reflect into your Facebook Live (or any social media platform, really. The important part is combining your DAW and OBS). I couldn't find a straightforward tutorial on this anywhere - it took me a long time to figure this out based on bits and pieces. Here's how to do it.

- 1. Purchase, download, and install Loopback here. https://rogueamoeba.com/loopback/buy.php
- 2. Open up Loopback and click "New virtual device" in the bottom left of your Loopback window. Name it "Livestream Audio".
- 3. Next, open up both your DAW and OBS programs.
- 4. Go back to your Loopback window. Where it says "Sources" (right underneath Livestream Audio), click on the plus sign. Add OBS and your DAW.
- 5. Next, go to your newly opened OBS program.
- 6. Go to your Sources box and click the + (plus) sign. Click "Audio Input Device" and scroll down to where it says "Livestream Audio." Click on that.
- Head to your DAW next. At the top of your toolbar, click "[DAW Name]" then "Preferences" or "Settings" and then "Audio". Set your input and output to be your Audio Interface, or your USB microphone.
- 8. Get to your Mixer and set your channels for the inputs on your interface, and your outputs as "stereo output".
 - a. MAKE SURE your interface itself is set for "playback" rather than "input" or "mixer", otherwise you won't hear the effects. I am using a Presonus AudioBox iTwo interface for this, which has a knob you can move from "input" all the way to the left, to "playback" all the way to the right. The more I move it towards playback, the more I hear the effects I've put into Logic.
 - b. If you can't do this, you can monitor your audio by entering Facebook Live or YouTube Live preview mode and unmuting the volume speaker on your preview. You will hear a 10 second delay of everything you're doing, including if you change reverbs or EQs.
- 9. Copy the stream key to whatever social media you'd like to broadcast to, and paste it into OBS. I recommend previewing this in Facebook or YouTube Live, and listening to the audio from your preview to make sure it's coming through the way you want. Just because it sounds good in your headphones doesn't mean it's talking to your broadcast correctly.

QUITTING LOOPBACK

- 1. Like I mentioned in the intro, Loopback doesn't shut off on its own, even after you quit the program. You'll have to go back into your Loopback window and delete the device, or just change your audio preferences in OBS and your DAW.
 - a. To delete the device, go to your Loopback window and click on "Livestream Audio" so that it is highlighted in teal. At the bottom of that sidebar is a little -(minus) sign. Click on that, and your beautiful creation goes away, along with the ability to hear your DAW effects through OBS until you create a new device.

SPECIAL FEATURES IN OBS

ADDING A TIP JAR

- To add a literal "tip jar" widget to your live streams, go to <u>streamlabs.com</u> and log in via the social media platform of your choice. I recommend logging in under YouTube or Twitch, because it makes it so your donation link has your channel name at the end of it, rather than your personal Facebook profile.
- 2. Allow Streamlabs to connect to your Paypal. This allows people to send money directly to your paypal with the proper URL.
- 3. To the left side, under "Features", click on "All Widgets".
- 4. Scroll down until you see "The Jar" and click on that.
- 5. Customize your jar how you see fit.
 - a. Optionally you can create and customize the objects that drop into the jar depending on each donation. Right now they are coins, but if you create something in canva and download it with a transparent background, you can make them anything else.
- 6. Save your settings, then scroll back up to "Widget URL". Copy the link.
- Go into OBS. In the box labeled "Sources", click on the + (plus) sign. Click on "Browser" and name it "TipJar". A dialogue box will open up. Simply delete the current URL and paste the Widget URL in, then click "OK."
- 8. Voila! You should see it up and running. To test it, click on "Test Tips and Donations" in your Streamlabs web page. To empty your Tip Jar, click "Empty" in the top right of your Streamlabs web page.
- 9. In that same Streamlabs web page, on the left-side of the screen, look under "Account" and click on "Donation History".
- In yellow-orange, you'll see the phrase, "This is the URL to your tip page where viewers can send you donations." Then it gives you a URL that says, "www.streamlabs.com/[yournamehere]". (Don't click that, it's just a hypothetical here.) This URL is your very own personalized URL that, when clicked, allows someone to donate to your Paypal. You should post this with your live-stream.
 - a. When people donate, their name will float above the Tip Jar on the screen (even as you are livestreaming) and will say something like, "[username] donated \$10!"

Then, depending on how much they have donated, it will drop the corresponding object into your tip jar.

b. This will happen on any social media livestream, as long as the Tip Jar is in OBS, and the Streamlabs donation link has been provided to your fans in the description of your livestream.

ADDING LOGOS

- 1. Go to OBS. In the box at the bottom labeled "Sources", click the + (plus) sign at the bottom.
- 2. Click "Image." Name your Image after whatever you're uploading, then press OK.
- 3. Click Browse, find your picture in your computer, and press enter.
- 4. Click OK.
- 5. Drag the image to wherever you'd like it to appear in your livestream.

USING A FILTER IN OBS

Let's say you want to adjust the lighting and color internally in OBS.

- 1. In your "Sources" box, right-click on whatever you named your Video Capture Device (presumably camera).
- 2. Click "Filters".
- 3. This should show two boxes "Audio / Video Filters" and "Effect Filters". Under "Effect Filters", click the + (plus) sign.
- 4. From here, you can click on "Color Correction" (name it something else if you want) and toggle the settings, while seeing how it affects your image in real-time.
- 5. To remove your filter, right-click on your Video Capture Device or Camera in the Sources box, click Filters, right-click your effect filter, and click "remove."

RUNNING OBS FROM AN IPHONE

Here's a great step-by-step tutorial on how to set this up and run it:

https://obs.camera/docs/getting-started/ios-camera-plugin-usb/

Basically, you'll need to download the "OBS Studio" App on your iPhone, and download the iOS plug-in on OBS - then plug your iPhone into your computer with your new OBS Studio App open and running. Then, in OBS, go to your Sources, click on the plus sign at the bottom, and add the iOS.

To download iOS Plugin for OBS, click here: <u>https://bit.ly/2wngvR3</u>

Another friend of a friend added this to my watchlist:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cEbJgDxrm9Y&t=47s

It details how to run your iOS camera into OBS using NDI. After testing this out, I can say that if you don't have a very strong and fast internet, it's simply not as clean as getting the iOS plugin. However, if you still want to try NDI, you can download the OBS NDI plugin here and watch the YouTube link for further steps.

OBS NDI Plugin Download: https://bit.ly/3b6HcIA

RECORDING YOUR LIVESTREAM

In the bottom right corner of OBS, you'll see a bar that says "Controls". Below that are bars that say things like "Start Streaming" and "Start Recording". If you set a destination for OBS, you can record your shows and it'll save as a movie on your computer.

- 1. To set a destination for recording this, go to the OBS tab and hit Preferences again.
- 2. Go to "Output."
- There's a box where it says "Recording." On "Recording Path", you'll see /Users/*name_of_your_computer*/Documents. It might say something different at the end, like Desktop. If you click "Browse", you can decide where you want this file to save - either on your computer, or on an external hard drive. Hit OK once you decide and you should be good to go.
- 4. To record your show in OBS at the same time that you stream, just click on "Start Recording" right before you click on "Start Streaming."

SUGGESTIONS FOR THROWING SHOWS

FACEBOOK

• If you are a venue or a promoter and have a Facebook page, adding artists temporarily as admins allows them to go live from your Facebook page, also driving their own base to yours.

YOUTUBE LIVE

- If you want to throw a private show without requiring people to pay or having people pay a "donation fee" you can create an unlisted YouTube Link, have your artist log in to your YouTube account, and share the unlisted link with your particular audience.
- To throw a festival, you can create a series of public or unlisted scheduled livestreams and name them after each act. Then you can manage these videos in YouTube Studio. You can also add them all to a playlist so they will play one-after-the-other. You would just need to have the artists log in to your YouTube and go live using their webcam, or save each stream key as you create the videos and give each stream key to the respective artist so that they can livestream from OBS.

PAYWALLS

A paywall refers to a livestreaming broadcasting platform that requires people to pay for tickets ahead of time or day-of. Crowdcast and Stagelt can both do this. You can have multiple artists run a festival through Stagelt if they log in and out of one account. Whenever an artist is done, they leave their browser window open (note - they do not "END SHOW") and the next artist who logs in to that account and presses "GO LIVE" on that same concert, will have hijacked the stream. At that point, the previous artist can close their browser. See USING STAGEIT for more info.

MONETIZING

- StageIt and Crowdcast have paywalls which make it so concert-goers have to pay for tickets ahead of time or day-of.
- Facebook, YouTube, etc don't have paywalls, so I recommend posting these in your description:
 - CashApp
 - o Venmo
 - Paypal.me
 - Website (straight to the store)
 - Streamlabs Tip Jar (if you have one set up that's elsewhere in this doc)

I know this is only scratching the surface when it comes to the ever-changing livestreaming world. For further questions and suggestions, or to set up a walkthrough via Zoom or Skype, email <u>savbuist@gmail.com</u>.