

## Column by Renzo van Riemsdijk (Masterenzo):

### The C-word

A little while ago I ran into my column about attended mastering sessions (#26). In this turbulent time I could not imagine that there would be a time that I could no longer offer attended sessions. And all this because of this bug (or whatever it is) that nests itself into our innocent lungs and respiratory tract.

The c-crisis (let's not mention that word...) has a lot of impact on our lives. Impact on the economy, to great dislike of certain political parties.

But above all the crisis has impact on ourselves! Weeks in a row of home isolation does something to a human being. We've been devoid of the so important social release for quite some time now. To mention a few places and activities we've been deprived from: the bar/pub, the festivals, the coffee bar, the restaurant. In short: The Life.

But at least as important as our social life is our craving for cultural activities in a broad context. We're craving for art, for seeing a theatre play, for reading a book (although that goes pretty well now), for watching movies (also fairly easy) and above all listening and *watching* MUSIC!

We really miss out on the social connection by watching a band play while holding a beer in your hand, that hurts.

But, every uncomfortable situation has an opposite (and more positive) side. To be able to listen to music we don't have to leave our houses. The internet nowadays makes it possible to stream millions of titles and while many of those great musicians are mandatorily sitting at home they make some great music.

Music that has rather a story. Musicians are having a hard time. In one swipe almost the entire agenda has been wiped clean. All the more reason to work on this great record that you've always wanted to make but never had the time for.

A record about despair, hope, winter, autumn and other seasons but also a record about resurrection.

We will prevail, together, as we are social mammals. Connection has never been more important. I just heard UN-chief Guterres talk on the radio. He stated that this crisis is the most severe crisis for human kind since World War II. World War II was initiated by humans. Is humanity to blame for this virus? Maybe we'll find the answer to that question in our history books in the year 2040.

The year in which we seem to be more peaceful than ever. The return of the hippie, including pot, weed, incense and the *Summer of Love*.

And how cool is it, to actually use music as the driving force behind that *Summer of Love*?!

As soon as the crisis ends we will all start to like each other more. It will be good for every, a bit extra compassion and love in troubled times. Music is timeless, so why not celebrate that lovely summer with some great music!

Okay, first I'm gonna listen to a record on vinyl. Talking about timeless: the unnamed debut (and only) album by Buckingham Nicks from the great year 1973. A bit warmth in these times won't do any harm...

Renzo

*Renzo (Masterenzo) is a Rotterdam based Dutch mastering engineer. He has worked for Bart Voncken, The Legendary Orchestra Of Love and the John F Klaver Band.*

*More info about mastering and about Masterenzo can be found on his [website](#).*