

# **Prince Online Museum**

**Site Title:** Prince Online Museum **URL:** <a href="http://princeonlinemuseum.com">http://princeonlinemuseum.com</a>

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Launch date: Monday, July 4, 2016 - exactly 10 years to the day since Prince closed his award winning

NPG Music Club.

Quick summary: An online archive of Prince's ground-breaking official websites spanning 20 years

## **About the Museum:**

Since the untimely passing of **Prince**, there has been a renewed interest in his rich cultural legacy. Many musicians and collaborators will speak to his astonishing musical contributions to the world, but there is another part of the Prince story that may not be as well known.

Prince was a fierce advocate for artists' rights. He saw injustices against musicians being carried out by corporations that treated their art as meaningless commodities to be bought and sold, and he spoke out against it whenever he could. With the spread of the internet in the mid-90s, Prince saw a path forward that could completely circumvent the established distribution channels that had been monopolized by these corporate structures for decades. It was during this time that he had begun experimenting with selling music online, first as independently manufactured CDs, then later in pure digital form. With the launch of the **NPG Music Club** in 2001, Prince firmly established that an artist-owned online distribution business can be successful and build that connection between an artist and his audience without a middleman. This is what freedom sounds like.

We launch with 12 of Prince's most popular sites, but over 20 years online, Prince launched nearly 20 different websites, maintained a dozen different social media presences, participated in countless online chats, and directly connected with fans around the world. This Museum is an archive of that work and a reminder of everything he accomplished as an independent artist with the support of his vibrant and dedicated online community.

The Museum was built by the people who worked directly with Prince on these projects. We are the originators; we are the experts. It is a labor of love; no money has been exchanged. There will be no downloads sold and no membership fees required. But we do have working versions of almost all of Prince's official websites. Take a virtual walk through the timeline and remember when anything was possible.

#### **Sam Jennings**

Director, Prince Online Museum

# **Mission Statement**

The Prince Online Museum was created for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a library of official online projects initiated by the musician, Prince. We wish to acknowledge his 20 years of ground-breaking, provocative, and fiercely independent use of the internet to establish a direct connection between an artist and his audience. The Prince Online Museum encourages the study of the arts online in order to connect people to creativity, knowledge, and ideas. We hope to inspire current and future generations of artists to seek their own creative alternatives to reach their audience.

Prince was a strong supporter of <u>#YesWeCode</u>, an organization that has a mission to connect 100,000 low-opportunity young adults to high-paying careers in technology. The Prince Online Museum is a supporter, and we encourage you to find out more about them.

## The following websites are featured in the museum:

3rdEyeGirl.com (2013)

20PR1NC3.com (2013)

Lotusflow3r.com (2009)

3121.com (2007)

3121.com (2006)

NPGMusicClub.com (2004-2006)

NPGMusicClub.com (2003)

NPGMusicClub.com (2002)

NPGMusicClub.com (2001)

NPG Music Club v1 (2001), screen gallery

NPGOnlineLtd.com (2000)

Love4OneAnother.com (1999)

1800NewFunk.com (1999)

CrystalBallCD.com (1997)

The Dawn.com (1996), screen gallery

Prince Interactive (1994), walkthrough