

Dear Mr Gowers

As a collector of historical recordings on CD, I am very disturbed to hear that the copyright might be extended to 95 years.

The major companies, who hold these rights, are not financially in a position to support historical research and the reissue of marginally commercial recordings.

In effect, most of the music of the 1920s, 30s, 40s and 50s would become completely unavailable. So would all the recordings of Music Hall artists. Small enterprises which have worked hard to produce well researched CD compilations would be driven out of business.

This is like making literature unavailable. Imagine if the works of Henry James, or Dickens, or Jane Austen were available only from one big international company, which had no interest in reissuing them.

Please do not consider such a step, which would be highly destructive of our cultural history.

Kind regards

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Don Cox