

# Safety at Music Festivals: Is it Time for a Closer Look?



20190617 Jazzfest, Ottawa ON Setup: View from the VIP Tent

(by Andee Jak of SAQOTU Inc.)

Currently in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada where Jazzfest is being set up, I began to post my concerns about bandstand-related safety at music festivals yesterday on my LinkedIn Profile. There, I attached a video that speaks to the fact that there is no meaningful ventilation in the main bandstand; a feature that would serve two purposes:

1. Improve the safety of the bandstand and
2. Keep the environment significantly cooler for the artists who are performing in extreme heat and fighting de-hydration while entertaining thousands of people.

Link to video:

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6546748085324914690>\*

I am not schooled in structural engineering; however, I am a Chartered Financial Analyst and we learn to recognize risk, quickly assess it and then decide whether or not the risk is significant enough to potentially impact expected performance, etc.

I am also a devoted mum who has over a decade of experience tarping elaborate campsites designed to protect my family from extreme weather conditions while sleeping ... in a nylon tent.

My EMPIRICAL knowledge counts and I defy anyone brave enough to argue differently.

How much do the concrete blocks weigh and what would happen if the bandstand roof lifted during a storm while they are all tethered? How strong are the carabiners that connect the wires to the structure/tarp loops and concrete blocks? In other words: how strong is the weakest link in this bandstand system? Why is the VIP section so far from the stage?

**Safety at Music Festivals: Is it Time for a Closer Look? I think so.**

## Do we need to consider an acoustic revival?

Dr. Jack White (previously of The White Stripes) released Jack White Acoustic Recordings 1998-2016 which is available at:

<https://thirdmanrecords.com/products/jack-white-acoustic-recordings-1998-2016>

\* LinkedIn deleted this account in July 2019 without notice or cause.