Name: Conall
Occupation: Music Booker & Venue Promoter
Age: 38

Qns: Please describe your role in a live gig/ event.
Conall: I primarily work for a venue and I do everything from marketing, hosting and sometimes, Sound. I sometimes independently host gigs outside of the venue I work for under my own agency, Crossroads Music. In my experience, it is more of the band seeking out the booker/venue/gig than the other way around.

Qns: For context, could you please name some of the venues and acts that you have worked with?
Conall: Arthur's Blues & Jazz, Grand Social, Workmans, Whelans in Dublin. I have done some work for local festivals and on occasion, international gigs. Most of my gigs are in the Blues & Jazz genre.

Qns: Could you please run through the current (pre-covid) process of how you find talents for your gig?
Conall: I currently now have a list of local acts that I work with most of the time. I pay special attention to international acts, finding and following them on platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Soundcloud, Bandcamp. I follow bands' touring schedule and find new talents from music awards. If I want to book an international talent, I will email the booking agent of the band directly.

Qns: What are some of the frustrations in this process?
Conall: 1 gig could consist of 50 emails. It is frustrating to balance all the logistical needs of a gig at the same time, including: dates, venues, what's needed, equipment. Sometimes acts drop out close to the date of the gig but if it is under 2 weeks' notice, I usually do not replace them. For me, it takes up to 6 months notice to book an act for a gig.

Qns: Do you currently know of, or use any technology to book acts?
Conall: No I currently don't use any. There were a few such as Bandsintown that I've heard of but did not really meet my needs as not all musicians/bookers/venues were aware of it, or on the same platform.

Qns: If there was a dedicated app for introducing you to new bands and musicians, and help you book acts, would you use it?
Conall: Yes, I would try it.

Qns: What are some suggestions you would have for an app like this?
Conall: App has to be firstly, quick and easy to use. Secondly, the app needs as many bands, people in the industry/ talents on board so that I have access to a big database of bands. I would like the app to have the option to browse genre-specifically as I mostly work in the Blues & Jazz genre. App needs to be constantly updated to keep up with new bands in town, touring schedules etc. A good feature for that would be for each band to have a tour calendar so that venues can see who is free and when. I would probably use an app like this on my mobile device.

Qns: Is there a feature that you would personally like to see in such an app?
Conall: The app should be connected to as much information as possible of the bands such as social media links, videos, CV, Youtube, Bandcamp Soundcloud etc. Basically a press kit of the band.

Qns: Lastly, can we please have permission to use your name and picture in our research to form a User profile? This will only be used for UX research purposes and possibly published on our personal blogs.

Conall: Yes, OK for me. I work for Arthur's Blues & Jazz Club and Crossroads Music.