Music Management

One of the most important tools you have as a mobile DJ is your laptop (unless you are a non-Serato DJ and still using CDs). Most of you probably have 20,000-100,000 songs on that laptop. But, are they organized? In other words, do you have multiple playlists (in iTunes) or crates (in Serato) that you can reach for when a certain event or moment pops up? If not, you're in trouble. It doesn't matter that you have all that music if it's unorganized. As a self-professed OCD dude, I can't stand unorganized stuff. Let's talk about how to get that library organized.

For starters, look at the Top 200 at this link (   ). This is the most important playlist that you'll have on your laptop? Why? This isn't the current music Top 200. This is the top 200 songs that are played at events all across the country. As soon as you make that playlist, I want you to sync it to every device you own-your iPhone, your iPod, your backup laptop, your thumb drive, your external drive, whatever. If all of your gear landed in a swamp on the way to a gig (yes, that happened, maybe I'll tell you about it in another blog post), you would still be able to rock a party with that one playlist...and I did.

The next thing you should do is research the top 50 or 100 songs from every decades starting from the 1950s to the 2010s. Make those lists. Trust me, you will thank me later when you're at a class reunion from 1988 and they want all 80s music. Or you're at an anniversary celebration for a couple that was married in 1950.

I also have another couple of playlists that I refer to frequently. One is current charts, that I work on each month to keep up to date. The other one is party rockers, which is my short list of that Top 200 I mentioned earlier.

If you do a lot of weddings, it's also great to have several "special moments" playlists, especially if you do a lot of consultations where couples ask you things like "What's a good song for the cake cutting?". So go ahead and create a first dances list, bouquet toss songs playlist, intro songs playlist, etc. etc.

Maybe right now in the middle wedding season isn't the best time to start this project, but when it gets super hot outside in July or August and you have some time off, then tackle this project! Good luck. Hit me up if you have any questions.