

Differences in the Level of Self-Efficacy and Intensity of Narcissism among Band and Solo Musicians

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Abstract : A musical career is not only about the quality of performing or playing music. Musicians can choose from a variety of specializations and career paths. The described study focused on psychological traits which relate to a solo career (performing individually or as a leader) or performing as part of a chamber ensemble, ensemble, choir, or orchestra. The hypothesis predicted that narcissism and self-efficacy would be higher in musicians performing solo. The study involved 124 professional musicians: instrumentalists and soloists, singers (n = 59), and ensemble instrumentalists and singers (n = 65). The results confirmed the hypothesis and showed that soloists were higher on self-efficacy and narcissism. In particular, soloists were higher on leader characteristics, demand for admiration, and vanity than musicians performing in ensembles. The result of these studies is a good introduction to a broader project answering the questions of what can increase or decrease the musician's sense of self-efficacy and whether the decreased self-efficacy could induce musicians to give up their solo careers.

Keywords : self-efficacy, musicians, musical profession, narcissism, soloists

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