

Interview with Bogdan Grigore

(transcript)

D: [\(00:06\)](#) Hello. I would like firstly to ask for your consent for being recorded for university purposes.

B: [\(00:15\)](#) Okay. You have my consent.

D: [\(00:18\)](#) So what is your name and where are you from?

B: [\(00:22\)](#) Hi. My name is Bogdan Grigore. I'm from Romania and I'm a Media Design student at Fontys in the second semester.

D: [\(00:31\)](#) Okay. And how often do you listen to music?

B: [\(00:38\)](#) I think, like, I'm listening to music every day. I don't know if it's a lifestyle or not, but I don't know if I can live without music.

D: [\(00:49\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(00:50\)](#) I can relate it because it is absolutely the same with me. So I understand you. And in this sense, what type of music do you listen to?

B: [\(01:01\)](#) I don't have a type. I can listen to every kind of song, but I think my favorite artists are like the same age with me somehow. I really like Billy Eilish and I don't know the new artist, like Canon Gray, Olivia Rodrigo, like James.

D: [\(01:29\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(01:30\)](#) Okay. Do you download or stream your music when you feel like listening to it?

B: [\(01:37\)](#) No, I'm listening to music on Spotify and on YouTube and most of the songs also on TikTok.

D: [\(01:47\)](#) Okay.

D: [\(01:47\)](#) So you have, like a huge range of platforms.

B: [\(01:50\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(01:51\)](#) And you said you use Spotify the most.

B: [\(01:55\)](#) Yeah, Spotify the most. Then I think YouTube and the rest of the content that I hear is from TikTok.

D: [\(02:04\)](#) Okay. Do you listen to covers or you would rather go for original music?

B: [\(02:17\)](#) Depends. Now, mostly I listen to the original song, but when, you know, I receive some YouTube algorithm, they suggest you things and let's say the contest, the voice. I think you heard of it. And there are so many young artists and talented people that do covers, so I really like to hear a good cover.

D: [\(02:54\)](#) Yeah, me too. This is sometimes the artist music, so you can never expect the exact thing.

B: [\(03:03\)](#) Yeah. Every person express their they can put their touch on that specific kind of music.

D: [\(03:11\)](#) Yeah, precisely.

B: [\(03:13\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(03:14\)](#) And now let's move on to the representation of the artist, of the band. So when it comes to websites, what, in your opinion, makes a website visually appealing and easy to navigate?

B: [\(03:31\)](#) So I think the best way to describe an artist's website, it should be minimalistic. I don't know have a really good positioning to the menu so it's visible visually on the homepage. I would like to see the entire artist, maybe some animation or maybe like a short video of the artist. I don't know, something that would be really great. It would be something that you can interact with. So I would enjoy something different. Not just a site that has a menu and that's it.

D: [\(04:23\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(04:23\)](#) Something like thinking out of the box maybe, you mean.

B: [\(04:26\)](#) Yeah, exactly.

D: [\(04:28\)](#) And you said you would like to have something like a short video of the artist. Why is that? Is it because of, like, for example, for you to get a quick impression of the artists.

B: [\(04:39\)](#) Yeah. I mean, it would be really good to have like a gift or I don't know, he has a microphone and his things. We grew up with this nature and there were a lot of young artists. I don't know if you remember or if you watched, but I remember now if I'm thinking back then, when Hannah Montana, it was on like every day on this day, there were some funny animation of her, like when it was a break or something, she would appear, like taking her hair out. Yeah, it was really funny. So if it would be possible to have a gift or something on the front page with the artist would make a really good difference.

D: [\(05:45\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(05:46\)](#) Sweet childhood memories. Bring the fresh ideas from right now. Okay. And let's talk about the opposite side. What makes a website bad?

B: [\(06:01\)](#) Okay. Like not being accessible and having too much. Let's say you go on the footer of the page and you have a bunch of lists with links and things that are not useful or in the menu, some animations or some kind of pop outs that cover the rest of the page and it's not visible enough or I don't know what else. It's annoying. Let me think about it. Maybe, you know, the popup things with don't. Let's say you can make an account on the website and, I don't

know, to purchase some merchandise. You have a pop up with login now and again. If you reload the page, the pop up appears and again and again and again. And if you go to another page, the pop up will appear again. I think that it's one of the most annoying things.

D: [\(07:14\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(07:15\)](#) It's irritating because it more or less destroys the smoothness of your experience, right?

B: [\(07:23\)](#) Yeah, exactly. I don't mind if it appears once, but like, repeating that again and again and again.

D: [\(07:31\)](#) Yeah, it's exactly. Quite annoying. Okay. And have you recently visited websites of.

B: [\(07:37\)](#) Some artists or bands having in consideration that I need to work on the project? I did a bit of user research. I don't remember the website that I went to, but I was able to spot some good things and bad things. One of the bad things was the fact that with the login pop out and a good thing that I saw and I was really impressed. The cover of the album of the artist were placed like a Gallery of, like, art, you know, and it was aesthetically pleasing. I really like it.

D: [\(08:26\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(08:27\)](#) That's something good to know.

B: [\(08:29\)](#) And when you would press on the cover, like the poster, it would play like a small part of the song.

D: [\(08:42\)](#) Okay. So you say that's pretty cool, right?

B: [\(08:45\)](#) Yeah.

D: [\(08:48\)](#) Is there anything that you didn't find appealing, like, in the website that you visited recently?

B: [\(08:57\)](#) Yeah, if I'm thinking about it, maybe. I don't know. The color theme. It wasn't like the best choice because with the artist and their photo. You need to go to one aesthetic and try not

to mix too many colors because the artists are going to have like crazy photos, wear crazy colors and the environment and if they want to post it on the website it won't match the background of the website. So that is one thing that it's not aesthetically pleasing.

D: [\(09:43\)](#) Yeah. Okay. That is good to have in mind when designing a website so for sure that will be quite useful.

And now what do you think? Is it better for a new singer to start their career with covers or they should directly start making their original music?

B: [\(10:11\)](#) Hmm, depends on the trend and on the song, you know?

D: [\(10:16\)](#) Mhm.

B: [\(10:17\)](#) If there is a song that they want to make a cover that let's say other 1000 people did a cover on, it's the best way if they did an original song. But if it's something that's on a trend, maybe the song it's like interpreted really really differently from that artist, then the cover is like, their own version, I think it's a good idea to start with a cover. Depends on the situation.

D: [\(10:51\)](#) Okay, so as far as I can infer from what you're saying, if the artist would like to make a cover, they should really feel it so that they can like express it through their emotions, right?

B: [\(11:04\)](#) Yeah, they need to put their touch on that cover. Not be like static that it's actually a copy of the actual song.

D: [\(11:14\)](#) Yeah, yeah. I see. So, that was it.

B: [\(11:20\)](#) Ok.

D: [\(11:21\)](#) Thank you very much for your participation!

B: [\(11:23\)](#) Thank you so much!

D: [\(11:24\)](#) And we hope that we will use your feedback in order to take the most out of it and create the best possible product.

B: [\(11:33\)](#) Ok.

D: [\(11:34\)](#) Thank you! Bye bye!

B: [\(11:36\)](#) Bye!