

# Putting It Together

## Barbra Streisand

Barbra: look, I've spent a lot of time working on this  
Producer 1: look, no one's gonna buy it -- no one.  
Producer 2: no one in middle america, anyway. that's for sure.  
Producer 3: he's right!  
Producer 1: sweetheart, it's just not commercial!  
Barbra: what is commercial?  
Producer 2: it's not what's selling nowadays.  
Producer 1: I mean - personally, I love it, but  
Barbra (sung): be nice, girl!  
Producer 3: nobody's into this kind of material.  
Barbra (sung): you have to pay a price, girl!  
Producer 2: this album needs a hit single we can push.  
Barbra (sung): they like to give advice, girl!  
Producer 1: the whole idea's too risky.  
Barbra (sung): don't think about it twice, girl!  
Producer 2: the audience won't understand this kind of thing!  
Barbra (sung): it's time to get to work!  
Barbra(spoken): I disagree! why don't you wait until you hear it?  
Producer 3: this is like your old stuff!  
Barbra (sung): art isn't easy.  
Producer 3: you've got to appeal to the kids.  
Barbra (sung): even when you're hot.  
Producer 2: why would you want to make an album like this anyway?  
Barbra (sung): advancing art is easy.  
Producer 1: I think we ought to talk seriously about this.  
Barbra (sung): financing it is not!  
Producer 2: why take chances?  
Barbra (sung): a vision's just a vision if it's only in your head!  
Producer 1: nobody respects your artistic integrity more than I do, but  
Barbra (sung): if no one gets to hear it, it's as good as dead!  
Producer 2: you have to think about you career!  
Barbra (sung): it has to come to life!  
Barbra (sung): bit by bit, putting it together  
Piece by piece, only way to make a work of art  
Every moment makes a contribution  
Every little detail plays a parts  
Having just a vision's no solution  
Everything depends on execution  
Putting it together, that's what counts!  
Ounce by ounce, putting in together  
Small amounts, adding up to make a work of art  
First of all you need a good foundation

Otherwise it's risky from the start  
Takes a little cocktail conversation  
But without the proper preparation  
Having just a vision's no solution  
Everything depends on execution  
The art of making art  
Is putting it together, bit by bit  
Producer 2: do we really need all these musicians?  
Barbra: link by link, making the connections, yes we do!  
Drink by drink, taking every comment as it comes  
Learning how to play the politician  
Like you play piano, bass and drums  
Otherwise you'll find your composition  
Isn't gonna get much exhibition  
Art isn't easy  
Every minor detail is a major decision  
Have to keep things in scale  
Have to hold to your vision  
Producer 1: why don't we talk about this over dinner, darling?  
What's a little cocktail conversation  
If it gets the funds for your foundation  
Every time I start to feel defensive  
I remember vinyl is expensive!  
Producer 3: would you agree to do an interview?  
Barbra: maybe one!  
Dot by dot, building up the image  
Shot by shot, keeping at a distance doesn't pay  
Still if you remember your objective  
Not give all your privacy away  
A little bit of hype can be effective  
As long as you can keep it in perspective  
Even when you get some recognition  
Everything you do you still audition  
Art isn't easy  
Overnight you're a trend  
You're the right combination  
Then the trend's at an end  
You're suddenly last year's sensation!  
All they ever want is repetition  
All they really like is what they know  
Gotta keep a link with your tradition  
Gotta learn to trust your intuition  
While you re-establish your position  
So that you can be on exhibit...  
So that your work can be on exhibition!  
Be new, girl!  
They tell you till they're blue, girl!  
You're new, or else you're through, girl!  
And even if it's true, girl,

You do what you can do!  
Bit by bit, putting it together  
Piece by piece, working on the vision night and day  
All it takes is time and perseverance  
With a little luck along the way  
Putting in a personal appearance  
Gathering supporters and adherents...  
Producer 1: well, she's an original!  
Producer 3: was!  
Barbra: mapping out the songs but in addition  
Harmonizing each negotiation  
Balancing the part that's all musicians  
With the part that's strictly presentation  
Balancing the money with the mission  
Till you have the perfect orchestration  
Even if you do have the suspicion  
That it's taking all your concentration  
The art of making art  
Is putting it together, bit by bit  
Beat by beat, part by part  
Sheet by sheet, chart by chart track by track, bit by bit,  
Reel by reel, pout by pout  
Stack by stack, snit by snit,  
Meal by meal, shout by shout  
Deal by deal, spat by spat  
Shpiel by shpiel, doubt by doubt  
And that... is the state of the art!

Lyrics provided by <https://www.songarea.com/>