

Michael I. Koch

Founder KOCH Entertainment

Michael Koch is the founder of KOCH Entertainment, one of America's leading independent music and film companies.

Born in 1962 in Innsbruck, Austria, Michael Koch graduated from the Leopold Franzens University in Innsbruck, Austria, with a Doctorate in Law and a diploma in business administration in 1984. In 1987, Koch emigrated to the United States to found KOCH Entertainment.

The company expanded rapidly and made the *Inc. 500* list of America's 500 fastest-growing private companies twice. In 1992 Koch was one of 30 Inc. 500 CEOs age 30 or younger and won the *Entrepreneur of the Year* award for New York in 1995. Koch had revolutionized independent music distribution in America by becoming the first national independent music distributor in 1991. By 2002 its record label KOCH Records had grown into America's leading independent record company and KOCH Entertainment became the largest independent music distribution company in the U.S. and Canada. By then the company had also diversified into film and video distribution.

Koch sold KOCH Entertainment to Toronto-based publicly traded Entertainment One (fka ROW Entertainment) in 2005 and continued to serve as CEO of Entertainment One U.S. until 2013.

Since 2014 Michael Koch is a private investor with interests in entertainment (Shanachie Entertainment and Film Movement), real estate (KOCH Realty) and other companies.

Koch serves on the board of the American Austrian Foundation since 2005 and was a board member of the Recording Industry of America (RIAA) from 2002 – 2013.

Michael Koch is married to Laura Giadorou-Koch, an attorney and philanthropist, and has two sons Peter and Daniel Koch.