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All Photo

A Crowd watches as Natalie

Cole turns on the Christmas tree lights atop the landmark Capitol Records building in Hollywood, Calif., Nov. 19. The Cole family was also presented with multiplatinum award plaques for Nat King Cole's album, *The Christmas Song*, which has sold more than 6 million copies in the U.S.

Cover: Ross Mendenhall

POLLSTAR

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2009 Concert Industry Awards

Congratulations to all of the nominees for the 21st Annual Pollstar Concert Industry Awards. The complete list of this year's best and brightest can be found on pages 16 and 18 of this issue.

The winners will be announced at the gala awards show and party at the Nokia Theatre L.A. Live on Feb. 17. The awards are being presented in association with AEG as the concluding event of the Pollstar Live! conference.

Admission is included with each Pollstar Live! registration. Tickets, which include food and an open bar during the pre- and post-show parties, are also available separately through the PollstarPro Web site. Please note there is a \$100 discount

on conference registrations made by Dec. 15.

All voting is being done online and there are no paper ballots. Every *Pollstar* subscriber will receive an e-mail from vote@pollstar.com on Monday, Dec. 7 containing their unique link to the electronic ballot. Your vote is confidential and only one ballot per e-mail address will be valid.

If your e-mail address has changed, you have not activated your PollstarPro account, or you did not receive your e-mail vote invitation, please contact us at vote@pollstar.com.

Odeum Brings Broomfield 'Furthur'

The Broomfield Events Center in Colorado is getting a new name to go with a remodeling and relaunch March 5-6 as Odeum Colorado. Furthur, the collaboration featuring Bob Weir and Phil Lesh, will do the relaunching honors, AEG Live Rocky Mountains President Chuck Morris announced Dec. 3.

AEG Live and Kroenke Sports Enterprises have formed a joint venture, Peak Entertainment, to operate the Odeum. Broomfield is located between Denver and Boulder, Colo., a 15-minute drive from each.

Morris said the opportunity to take over the Broomfield Events Center was unique because the building is practically new.

"The building is only three years old. It's like we got a new house that just needs finishing," Morris told *Pollstar*. "We were amazed at this opportunity – never in the history of modern concert promotion has a brand new, state-of-the-art entertainment facility been remodeled into a venue that will first and foremost feature live music."

Plans call for turning the Odeum into Colorado's premier mid-size theatre capable of hosting not only concerts but also other live events. The venue will be scaleable from 3,500 to 6,500 capacity and have several configurations.

"To create the venue Colorado deserves we brought together the best and brightest minds to remodel the facility into a warm, inviting and fun venue," Morris said. He expects the Odeum Colorado to initially host between 50 and 100 events per year, including one-off sporting events, family entertainment shows, nonprofit and charitable events, and other events hosted by the city of Broomfield.

GILLETTI

THE MONTREAL CANADIENS the Bell Centre and promotion company **Gillett Entertainment Group** are now owned by the Molson family. The sale of the NHL's Canadiens was approved Dec. 1, days after the team's 100th anniversary. Geoff Molson and brothers Andrew and Justin are the lead investors in a group that reportedly paid \$575 million for the franchise. The family is the fourth group of Molsons to own the club since the 1950s. The ownership group includes Bell, Canada's largest communications company, and the Woodbridge Company. The Molson group also bought the 19.9 percent interest held by the Molson-Coors brewery, which will remain a sponsor.



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INSIDER | NEWS BRIEFS

facility. Tim Romani, who managed construction of Denver's Invesco Field at Mile High stadium and Pepsi Center, is involved in the remodeling effort.

Morris notes that the Odeum Colorado will be the latest in a long string of landmark music facilities he's been involved with in the Denver area, including the Fillmore Auditorium, Paramount Theatre, Fox Theatre and going back to Ebbets Field and Boulder's Tulagi, his first venue. [Deborah Speer]

Vivendi Sells Its Stake In NBC Universal

Vivendi has sold its 20 percent stake in NBC Universal to General Electric Co. for \$5.8 billion.

The French media giant had retained its share since spinning off its film and television arm, including Universal studios, to form NBC Universal in 2004. General Electric Co., NBC's parent company, held the majority interest.

The deal paves the way for GE to offload 51 percent of the company to Comcast Corp., which includes venue-related subsidiaries Comcast-Spectacor and Global Spectrum, in a deal



STEVE FINKEL, the GM of Verizon Wireless Music Center, talks with Lance Armstrong (L) at the Livestrong Challenge bike rally benefit in Indianapolis Oct. 22. Finkel, who has a rare form of bladder cancer, raised \$68,000 for Livestrong. Finkel told *Pollstar* his cancer has spread to his spine and ribs. Donations can still be sent to Austin09.livestrong.org.

that values NBC at \$30 billion. In addition to its cable channels, Comcast would contribute up to \$6 billion of cash to the proposed joint venture. GE and Comcast have been discussing the deal since March.

If that deal isn't nailed down by September 2010, Vivendi will sell 7.66 percent of NBC Universal to GE for \$2 billion. The remaining 12.34 percent will be sold for \$3.8 billion to GE when the deal is completed.

[John Gammon]

Plaza Problems

A nonprofit group that oversees the Centre for the

Arts at Mizner Park Amphitheatre in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., is butting heads with promoter

SHORTS

RONNIE WOOD is out on bail after being arrested for possible assault in England, stemming from an apparent domestic incident Dec. 2. The Rolling Stones guitarist bailed out the next day and faces further inquiries in January, according to police, who didn't release any details about the incident. No stranger to domestic turmoil, Wood was divorced in November by Jo Wood, his wife of 24 years, on grounds of adultery. He reportedly began a relationship with 20-year-old former cocktail waitress Ekaterina Ivanova more than a year ago.

POLICE in Atlantic City, N.J., are investigating a brawl between bouncers and two men in the parking lot at the 40/40 Club co-owned by Jay-Z. The alleged victims, Tyrell Durant, 26, and Leonard Clark, 25, claim they were ejected from the club for an unknown reason then attacked by the group of bouncers once they got outside. Video, taken by a DJ who had just finished performing at the club, shows a group of men locking one man who was on the ground then surrounding and beating a second man. Clark and Durant were charged with disorderly conduct and ordered to return to court Dec. 11. Police are reviewing the video to identify the bouncers involved, who are also facing assault charges. Jay-Z wasn't at the club when the melee broke out.

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AP Photo

RINGO STARR AND SMOKEY ROBINSON announce record of the year Grammy nominations during a concert Dec. 2 at Club Nokia in Los Angeles. Beyoncé led the pack with 10 nods, followed by Taylor Swift with eight. The Grammy Awards take place Jan. 31.

Live Nation over a lack of shows at the shed.

Officials for the Centre for the Arts said that while they'd entered into a contract with the promoter to host 25 shows per year at Mizner Park, LN has yet to meet those terms.

"We've been disappointed in what's been provided," Charles Siemon, a co-founder of the Centre for the Arts, told *Pollstar*, "in terms of both the numbers and the level of shows."

But the Centre for the Arts isn't the only one with complaints.

Live Nation recently approached the Boca Raton City Council regarding concerns over street parties that form outside the amphitheatre, the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* reported.

Mizner Park is located within the Centre for the Arts in a mixed-use development that also includes apartments, restaurants, offices and retail space, and officials have faced issues in the past managing crowds in a plaza outside the venue during concerts.

Besides the security factor, the promoter has grumbled that when crowds are allowed to gather on the plaza with lawn chairs and blankets to listen to the concerts for free, the seats within the amphitheatre are empty.

Siemon said that LN, which inherited the contract with the Centre for the Arts after purchasing the late Jon Stoll's Fantasma Productions, knew what it was getting into when it entered the deal.

"During the Fantasma years we just didn't have any security problems," he said, adding that although the previous promoter may have wished at times that the plaza onlookers were purchasing tickets, they understood that the shed provided a "unique setting."

"We do some presentations here ourselves," he said. "We just accept it as a fact of life here at the park."

Representatives for LN lobbied city council members during a recent meeting to cordon off the plaza during concerts or institute a fee for people to

hang out there, according to the *Sun-Sentinel*. Siemon said the Centre for the Arts had promised to back whatever decision the city made.

However, councilors didn't seem very receptive to the idea, which they thought might keep patrons from visiting the area at all.

"We cannot charge them admission because no one will show up," councilman Michael Mullaugh said.

Siemon said the Centre for the Arts has an obligation to the city to keep the amphitheatre active and draw people downtown.

"The existing situation is just not satisfying to the city, nor to us," he said. "We'd like 25 great shows per year." | Dana Parker-McClain |

Predators Drop Sommet Name

The NHL's Nashville Predators ended its arena naming rights deal with Tennessee's Sommet Group Nov. 25 and filed a lawsuit because of an alleged non-payment of fees.

The Nashville Hockey Club Limited Partnership, owner of the Predators, filed the breach-of-contract lawsuit in Chancery Court for Davidson County, claiming Sommet Group stopped making the payments in August per the terms of the three-year agreement signed in 2007.

"For months, Sommet Group has not met its payment obligations under our naming rights agreement," said Ed Lang, Predators president of business operations. "We repeatedly reached out to Sommet Group and sought its compliance with these obligations.

international headlines

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- Walker Warns Of Wristbands
- MENA's DIY Job

ESTONIA

- VAT's It For Rabarock

FRANCE

- LN's Gang Of Four

SPAIN

- Power May Twin Benicàssim

SWEDEN

- Kleman Back At Hultsfred

AUSTRALIA

- Splendour Moves North

CHINA

- \$350k For MJ Glove

Unfortunately, Sommet Group did not do so, or give us any indication that it would."

Sommet Group Managing Partner Brian Whitfield said in a statement the company hopes to resolve the dispute amicably but the payments were withheld for a specific reason – the Predators chose to use an outside vendor for merchandise and services instead of Sommet Group.

"The most recent straw that broke the camel's back was

ONE OFFS

Simon Cowell is planning to give "X Factor" a permanent home in Las Vegas ... Authorities arrested 43 people for various drug offenses at a Phish concert at the Cumberland County Civic Center in Portland, Maine, Nov. 29 ... So much for Giamber's big debut: Susan Boyle destroyed all competition (including Shakira) with an album debut that moved 700,763 copies in the U.S. its first week, according to Nielsen SoundScan ... New York's Bethel Woods Center for the Arts said its overall attendance grew in 2009, attracting more than 220,000 visitors ... Mariah Carey is expected to receive the breakthrough performance award at the Palm Springs International Film Festival for her role in "Precious."



ASTRAL



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DEFINING



AP Photo/Richmond Times-Dispatch

ONE OF MILEY CYRUS' TOUR BUSES CRASHED and overturned outside Richmond, Va., Nov. 20, killing driver William Douglas. The singer was not on board. The bus had departed from Uniondale, N.Y., where Cyrus performed a two-night stand at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum Nov. 18-19.

their order of thousands of T-shirts from out of state instead of from Sommet's BrandCentrik business unit," Whitfield explained. "That

in our view is not being a good partner as was promised."

Lang said Predators officials would be meeting with the Metropolitan Sports Authority,

which oversees the Sommet Center, in the coming weeks to propose a new name, possibly the venue's original name of Nashville Arena, according to the *Tennessean*.

This isn't the first naming rights-dispute the Predators have gone to court over.

Gaylord Entertainment signed an \$80 million, 20-year deal in 1999 for the facility but reportedly quit making payments in 2003. The parties sued each other but settled the dispute and ended the deal in 2005.

Messina Vs. TV Station Again

The strained relationship between Louis Messina and NewsChannel 5 continues. Another portion of the interview the chief of The Messina Group gave to the Nashville TV station aired recently and, for the second time in a row, he's not thrilled with the editing.

WTVF-TV – NewsChannel 5 – has been running an investigative series on the concert industry, based on a seven-month study of whether artists are scalping their own tickets. Messina, whose promotion of country music concerts has won him plenty of industry awards, gave his take to WTVF. The first segment, which ran the day of the CMA Awards, purported to have Messina confessing that one of his primary artists and friends, Kenny Chesney,

was moving tickets over to the secondary market.

Messina had plenty to say to *Pollstar* about how that interview segment was edited. But the next segment, which aired Nov. 18, had Messina saying that Ticketmaster scalps its own tickets.

"I think that's the last non-industry interview I'm going to do," he told *Pollstar* Nov. 20. It was a simple case of losing the context.

"Are they [Ticketmaster] feeding their own companies?" Messina said to WTVF. "I would think the answer is yes."

"The guy just took a lot of stuff out of my interview," Messina said. What was left on the cutting room floor was the history of TM and its secondary ticketing company, TicketsNow.

During the years Sean Moriarty ran TM, the company

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SHORTS

A DILAPIDATED football stadium on the edge of the Seattle Center can finally come down thanks to a tentative agreement reached with the city's public school district, but at least one veterans' group is not happy. **Memorial Stadium**, which honors 762 local high school alumni that died in World War II, is to be torn down and replaced with underground parking and a transit center, a park and a smaller stadium. It is used mostly for high school sports, but does host an occasional concert. Seattle's city council will hear details of the agreement Dec. 7 while the Seattle School Board scheduled a meeting Dec. 3. Both bodies must OK the agreement, which has drawn the wrath of the American Legion Seattle Post 1.

THE FORMER Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre in Selma, Texas, is back on the shopping block after a local church canceled plans to buy the property. The shed was sold by Live Nation to Stream Realty in February. River City Community Church hoped to buy the venue and turn it into a 3,000-seat worship complex, according to the *San Antonio Express-News*, but failed to secure a commercial lender willing to make the deal. The church continues to fundraise in hopes of securing the level of discretionary income necessary to make the project more attractive to lenders, should it have another shot at the 100-acre property. A purchase price wasn't made public, but church fundraising materials reportedly indicated it was \$6.5 million and included a five- to seven-year phased construction that would enclose the venue.

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CONSTRUCTION IS IN FULL SWING at the newest Knitting Factory location in Reno, Nev., Nov. 19. The remodeled venue is scheduled to open Jan. 1.

decided to fight the secondary ticketing market by "joining" them, creating TicketExchange and buying secondary company TicketsNow. The two are becoming one, with fans reselling their tickets through TM instead of a third party.

Pollstar has heard on and off the record that Irving Azoff, who replaced Moriarty as Ticketmaster CEO, never thought this was a good idea and has wanted to hive off TicketsNow from the start. That's the gist of what Messina

told WTVF, and that's the part that was left out, he said.

"Irving is trying to sell it," Messina said. "And that's what I was giving reference to. If a ticket company owns a brokerage company, are they feeding it? Yes. It's all being changed now. My point is, there's nothing that's ever going to be done with ticket scalping until there's federal legislation. Period. The end."

Asked to elaborate on what kind of legislation would be necessary, Messina said the

government just needs to keep the secondary market from buying tickets without the primary industry knowing about it.

"There's nothing I can do about it. Everyone has tried. Even in Miley Cyrus' case, with paperless ticketing, it hurt her sales in the beginning. Because she tried."

As for Azoff, the people of Front Line Management, and competitors at Live Nation: "I've known all these people for 30-odd years. They're not thieves. They're just running a business."

As for ticketing?

"[New York Yankees owner] George Steinbrenner built this new stadium and tickets were sky-high. Well, guess what? People didn't buy tickets so he had to lower the prices. If people don't want to pay \$100 a ticket, they shouldn't. My point is, if an artist wants to charge \$150 for a ticket or \$20, it's their prerogative. It's their inventory."

As for interviews?

"This is the last time I'm commenting on ticketing for the rest of my life."

[Joe Reinhartz]

Reno Knitting Factory Gears Up

The Knitting Factory is expanding its operations to Reno, Nev., adding a fifth location to the nightclub chain.

The 1,265-capacity Knitting Factory Concert House, located across from Harrah's Hotel &

Casino, will host The Roots Jan. 1 as its grand opening concert.

The all-ages venue features two full-service bars, a kitchen, balcony VIP area, deluxe artist dressing rooms and lounge, according to a statement.

"We are extremely excited about entering the Reno market," venue GM Dean Hanson said. "The city is awesome, and with our partnership with the local scene we expect to take Reno to the next level in terms of live music presentations."

FESTIVALS

TWO MONTHS AFTER Louisville's 2010 Kentucky Derby, Churchill Downs will debut the **Hullabalou** music festival. The three-day fest is to take place July 23-25 on five stages. Bon Jovi, Kenny Chesney and Dave Matthews Band have been booked as headliners. Hullabalou, which has been in formal planning stages for more than two years, is being produced by Churchill Downs Entertainment Group, a newly formed subsidiary of Churchill Downs Inc. Festival Productions' Quint Davis, the man behind the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, has been hired as a consultant. Festival Productions is throwing its own new festival, the Bayou Country Superfest, in Baton Rouge May 29-30 at Tiger Stadium. With the help of facility manager SMG, Churchill Downs has already been the site for concerts by The Rolling Stones and The Police.

AEG LIVE has inked a multiyear executive consultant deal with the annual **Rocklahoma** festival in Pryor, Okla. Under terms of the agreement, AEG will work in coordination with the current Rocklahoma team to grow the event and rework its talent booking, marketing, sponsorship, ticketing and festival operations. One of the first changes to come to Rocklahoma will be a move from mid-summer to the May 28-30 Memorial Day weekend, the companies announced.

Other acts on the books through mid-March include Gloriana, Switchfoot, Candlebox, AFI, Alice in Chains, Travis Tritt, The Blind Boys of Alabama and Brandi Carlile.

Consumer Groups Say No To Merger

A handful of public interest groups have joined forces to request that the U.S. Department of Justice block the pend-



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Owen Swiney / OwenSwineyPhoto.com

THE BOSS SHOWS THE WAY to a man's heart at the 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore Nov. 20.

ing Live Nation / Ticketmaster Entertainment merger, calling the possibility a "disaster for consumers."

Officials from organizations including the National Consumers League, the American Antitrust Institute and Consumer Federation of America have dismissed attempts to get merger approval by hiving off properties to Comcast as "laughable."

"We all know the saying, 'If you can't beat 'em, join 'em.' That is exactly what Ticketmaster and Live Nation are attempting to do," NCL executive director Sally Greenberg said in a state-

ment. "Were this merger to be allowed to proceed, it would kill even the modicum of competition that currently exists between the two companies."

"Time and time again Ticketmaster has shown it won't accept any competitive players on its turf. By bringing in Comcast, Ticketmaster is simply pulling one more competitor off the field."

Promoter Accused Of 50 Cent Scam

Several investors are reportedly suing New Orleans concert promoter Marcel Morton, claiming he scammed them out of money for a 2007 50 Cent concert that never took place.

Four investors filed lawsuits in Jefferson Parish and New Orleans Civil Court accusing Morton and his firm, Down South Entertainment, of fraud, misrepresentation and breach of contract, according to WWL-TV.

The plaintiffs claim to have invested from \$55,000 to \$150,000 in the September 2007 50 Cent matter on Morton's assurance each would double their return. However, that concert has yet to materialize and the parties are tired of waiting, the station said.

Morton denied claims he's ripping people off, telling WWL-TV his investors will be repaid once the concert takes place, which he says has been rescheduled for 2010.

"Some things happened beyond my control," Morton told the station. "I'm not in control of an entertainer's schedule."

Morton added that he can't give the investors back their money now because the funds were "paid for deposits toward the event."

"The event is based upon 50 Cent releasing a CD," he told WWL-TV.

Although Morton's explanation sounds plausible because the performer's latest, *Before I Self-Destruct*, dropped Nov. 16, there's a glaring problem.

The rapper's agent, Cara Lewis at William Morris Endeavor Entertainment, told *Pollstar* that neither she nor 50 Cent's management know anything about Morton's claim of a booking.

[Tina Amendola]

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SHORTS

CUHAYOGA FALLS may be a little less cheery this season with the word that Live Nation won't be bringing one of northern Ohio's largest holiday light displays back to **Blossom Music Center** this year. Live Nation last year dropped the entrance fee to \$12.50 per carload and ran other promotions to attract visitors, according to WJW-TV of Cleveland. After attracting some 30,000 annually, numbers reportedly dipped in recent years and, in addition to the down economy, a past sponsor told WJW it was redirecting its holiday resources in events that serve the needy.

CANCELING a gig after sound check might end up costing rapper **Pitbull**, according to a suit filed by El Potrero Night Club in the Los Angeles suburb of Cudahy, Calif., and reported by TMZ. The suit, filed in L.A. Superior Court, alleges that Pitbull showed up to the club May 14 for a show, complained about the sound equipment and canceled about four hours before the gig. Club owners reportedly accuse him of keeping the \$28,000 he was paid to perform and costing El Potrero \$80,000 for the last-minute cancellation, according to TMZ. A source for Pitbull told *Pollstar* the lawsuit was yet to be made available, but there was no sound equipment at the club for soundcheck and, with fans waiting outside, the artist had to cancel.

Making Peace With Pizza

A recent show at Jerry's Pizza & Pub in Bakersfield,

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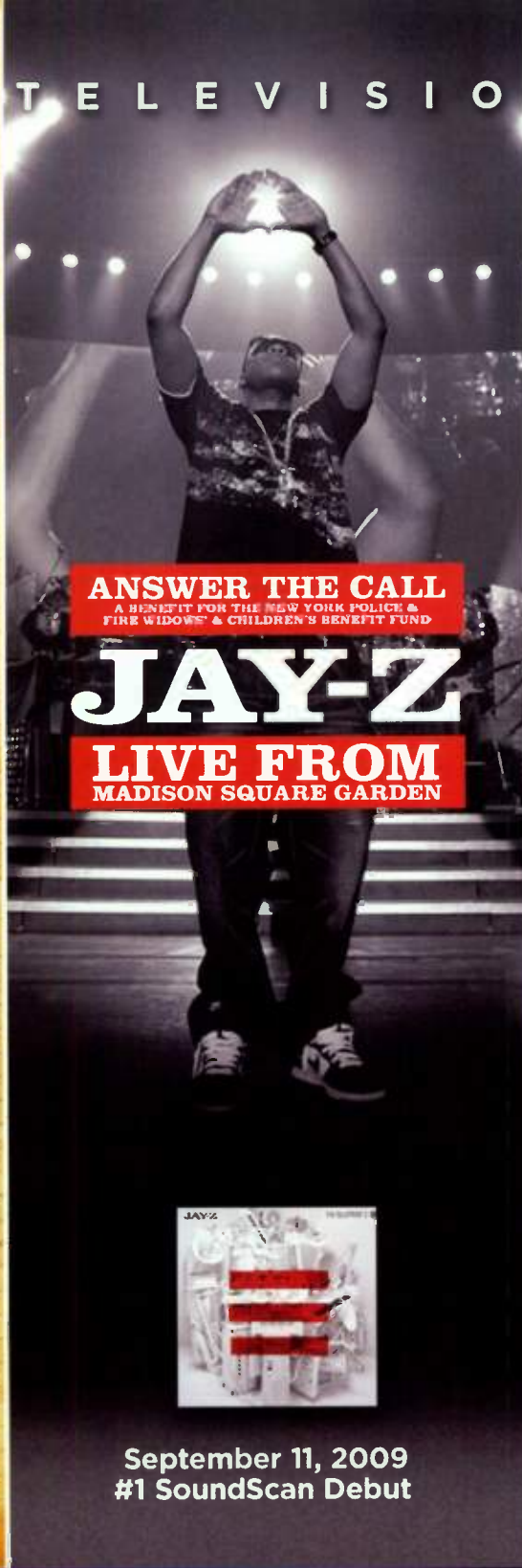
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\$1,640,355	20,168	\$81.33	20	3	3	AC/DC	Creative Artists Agency
\$1,402,110	21,153	\$66.28	14	4	4	Jonas Brothers	Creative Artists Agency
\$1,398,083	20,390	\$68.57	15	5	5	Metallica	Artist Group International
\$1,317,816	20,015	\$65.84	10	7	6	Kenny Chesney	Dale Morris & Associates
\$1,133,958	20,920	\$54.20	11	8	7	Dave Matthews Band	Paradigm
\$1,045,370	15,203	\$68.76	37	10	8	Miley Cyrus	Creative Artists Agency
\$1,022,687	15,360	\$66.58	21	9	9	Britney Spears	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$987,242	16,846	\$58.60	11	6	10	Depeche Mode	Creative Artists Agency
\$909,074	13,836	\$65.70	14	11	11	Keith Urban	Creative Artists Agency
\$762,315	12,964	\$58.80	15	12	12	Rascal Flatts	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$684,790	15,330	\$44.67	14	13	13	Nickelback	The Agency Group
\$632,944	8,719	\$72.59	17	17	14	Maxwell	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$621,021	13,018	\$47.70	19	14	15	Taylor Swift	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$591,049	14,144	\$41.79	22	16	16	Brad Paisley	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$577,196	12,867	\$44.86	12	NEW	17	Pink	Marshall Arts Ltd.
\$548,237	8,841	\$62.00	22	15	18	"American Idols Live"	Creative Artists Agency
\$547,488	9,760	\$56.09	11	NEW	19	Jay-Z	Live Nation
\$495,368	15,665	\$31.62	30	18	20	Blink-182	Creative Artists Agency
\$486,874	12,459	\$39.08	13	19	21	Lil' Wayne	Ujaama Talent Agency
\$483,399	10,929	\$44.23	18	21	22	The Killers	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$462,738	11,312	\$40.90	25	20	23	Kings Of Leon	Creative Artists Agency
\$438,662	7,135	\$61.47	12	22	24	Marco Antonio Solis / Pepe Aguilar	Villalobos Ent. / JEP Entertainment Group
\$414,070	6,513	\$63.57	12	23	25	Journey	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$377,088	3,868	\$97.47	15	26	26	Leonard Cohen	AEG Live
\$362,780	4,381	\$82.80	16	27	27	Robin Williams	Creative Artists Agency
\$360,635	8,600	\$41.93	21	28	28	The Allman Brothers Band / Widespread Panic	Podell Talent Agency / Progressive Global Agency
\$309,774	5,946	\$52.10	35	30	29	"So You Think You Can Dance"	Creative Artists Agency
\$273,768	4,728	\$57.90	16	31	30	Jamie Foxx	Gersh
\$251,017	3,753	\$66.88	13	33	31	Crosby, Stills & Nash	Creative Artists Agency
\$244,795	7,098	\$34.49	13	32	32	Jason Mraz	Paradigm
\$222,837	7,779	\$28.65	21	34	33	Creed	The Agency Group
\$195,122	3,438	\$56.75	11	35	34	John Legend	Creative Artists Agency
\$183,567	3,549	\$51.72	11	36	35	The Moody Blues	Creative Artists Agency
\$151,676	2,897	\$52.35	21	37	36	Bonnie Raitt / Taj Mahal	Monterey International
\$150,647	3,995	\$37.70	15	NEW	37	Daughtry	Creative Artists Agency
\$148,212	2,876	\$51.52	17	38	38	Loggins & Messina	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$146,229	4,835	\$30.24	11	NEW	39	Jason Aldean	Buddy Lee Attractions
\$140,828	2,576	\$54.65	16	41	40	Pet Shop Boys	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
\$122,849	2,801	\$43.85	16	43	41	Chickentoot	Creative Artists Agency
\$116,749	2,487	\$46.94	17	44	42	Ron White	Agency For The Performing Arts
\$107,382	2,196	\$48.89	17	46	43	Marilyn Manson	Creative Artists Agency
\$88,718	2,356	\$37.65	24	50	44	The Australian Pink Floyd Show	Creative Artists Agency
\$85,992	2,782	\$30.90	21	47	45	Casting Crowns	Jeff Roberts & Associates
\$78,937	2,808	\$28.11	14	40	46	O.A.R.	Paradigm
\$70,767	2,294	\$30.84	15	49	47	Snow Patrol	Paradigm
\$64,769	1,675	\$38.66	14	NEW	48	The Black Crowes	Paradigm
\$59,233	2,044	\$28.97	12	NEW	49	Flogging Molly	Agency For The Performing Arts
\$53,242	1,642	\$32.41	20	NEW	50	Motorhead	TKO

The **CONCERT PULSE** ranks each artist by its average boxoffice gross per city in North America and is based on data reported within the last three months. All figures in U.S. dollars.

75,224 ELECTRIFIED FANS

MONTREAL AND QUEBEC THANK YOU
FOR BLOWING THE ROOF OFF OF
THE BELL CENTRE AND COLISÉE PEPSI
WITH 4 SOLD OUT NIGHTS!

GILLETT ENTERTAINMENT GROUP



METALLIC

WORLD MAGNETIC TOUR



Jack Looney Photography

WORKERS PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES on the Jefferson Theatre in Charlottesville, Va., Nov. 13 in preparation for the venue's Nov. 27 reopening after a three-year renovation.

Calif., left a bad taste in some fans' mouths when rapper Andre Nickatina left the venue almost immediately after taking the stage.

Although the promoter of the gig issued a statement saying he was working to resolve issues with Nickatina's management following the show, the venue was flooded with complaints from angry fans.

Jerry's took matters into its own hands, extending a pizza slice to the burned concertgoers.

"Although Jerry's Pizza does not carry any responsibility for this show, we would like to offer some consolation to those that purchased tickets,"

management said in a statement. "Jerry's Pizza would like to invite the ticket holders from the Andre Nickatina show (on Nov. 20, 2009 @ Jerry's Pizza) to visit his establishment for a free meal and beverage (up to \$8 value). Please present your ticket stub to redeem this offer."

Nickatina's show was reportedly about 30 seconds long. He did some freestyle rap then said he needed to have five minutes so his DJ could get set up correctly, never to be seen again.

Jefferson Theatre Rebirth

The Jefferson Theatre in Charlottesville, Va., reopened Nov. 27 after a three-year renovation that highlights the venue's vintage look with updated amenities.

The 750-capacity theatre, owned by Coran Capshaw, now features two full-service bars on separate floors, new central air and heating systems, new restrooms,

state-of-the-art sound and lighting and improved acoustics among the upgrades, according to a statement.

Starr Hill Presents handles booking and management of the theatre, which previously hosted silent films, vaudeville acts and performers such as The Three Stooges and Harry Houdini.

Jason Isbell & The 400 Unit and Sons of Bill played the theatre's opening concert. Sharon Jones & The Dap Kings, Secret Agent 23 Skiddoo, Gogol Bordello, RJD2 and St. Vincent are some of the acts scheduled.

Vegas Banks On CityCenter

The \$8.5 billion CityCenter development in Las Vegas is on track to open its 4,004-room Aria Resort & Casino Dec. 16 despite co-owner Dubai World's recent request to postpone payments to creditors and a down economy that has already halted similar projects.



MGM Mirage announced Nov. 27 that its joint venture with Dubai World, the investment arm of the Dubai government, in CityCenter isn't affected

by Dubai's money crunch because the project is fully funded.

Dubai World is reportedly \$60 billion in debt and has asked its creditors for a payment extension to May.

MGM Mirage reportedly released estimates in November stating the company lost \$750 million in the quarter ending Sept. 30 because of falling revenue and the company wrote down the value of CityCenter to about \$4.88 billion.

However, Jim Murren, MGM Mirage CEO, said completing the project is a plus amid tough times.

"We're at the eve of opening up something that was unimaginable this year, that will have a profoundly positive impact on our cash flows, our crossmarketing opportunities for our other properties, and on visitation and revenue to all of Las Vegas," Murren

PROS

NICK STORCH, who recently parted ways with The Agency Group, has joined ICM's New York office, reporting to Marsha Vlasic. Storch brings with him a roster that includes Anberlin, As I Lay Dying, Atreyu, Blessthefall, Copeland, Every Time I Die, Gym Class Heroes, Norma Jean and Zach Williams. ICM's contemporary rock division, headed by Vlasic, expanded in 2008 when the agency acquired Vlasic's M.V.O., which included clients Neil Young, Elvis Costello, Muse and The Strokes. Earlier this year, ICM acquired Robin Taylor's Inland Empire Touring, which included Modest Mouse, The Hold Steady, !!! and The Shins on its roster.

TAMMY GENOVESE has resigned as CEO of the Country Music Association after 24 years with the organization. Steve Moore, chairman-elect of the CMA board and a senior VP of AEG Live, will serve as interim director of the CMA while the board conducts a search for a new executive director. Genovese played numerous roles during her career at CMA, beginning in 1985 as administrative service coordinator. She was promoted to CEO two years ago following the retirement of Ed Benson. She had many accomplishments, most recently helping the 2009 CMA Music Festival see record attendance during a year of contraction.

BUTCH WAUGH, exec VP at Sony Music Nashville, announced he's retiring from the company Dec. 31 after 27 years. Among his successes are Martina McBride and the 11-times platinum "Dirty Dancing" soundtrack, according to the *Tennessean*. Prior to his run with Sony, he worked for other music companies including London Records, A&M and Capitol. "Butch's contributions and leadership have left an indelible mark on our artists' career and our team. His passion touched everything in the company," said Sony Music Nashville Chairman Joe Galante.

OFF AGAIN

Los Angeles residents have made more than 105,500 ticket requests for the proposed \$800 million **NFL stadium** in the City of Industry, according to the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune* ... **Little Richard** has been released from a Tennessee hospital and is recovering from hip surgery ... A Nashville judge dismissed assault and harassment charges against **John Rich**, accused of punching aspiring singer Jared Ashley at a private nightclub in March 2008 ... "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and "New Year's Rockin' Eve" recently dropped appearances by **Adam Lambert**, either because of his "controversial" performance at the AMAs or because his performance was really, really bad.

Continued On Page 20

LEONARD COHEN

WORLD TOUR 2008-2009

MAY 11, 2008

THROUGH

NOVEMBER 13, 2009

18 MONTHS

32 COUNTRIES

187 SHOWS

MILLIONS OF WONDROUS MOMENTS

QUITE SIMPLY, SUBLIME.



21st Annual POLLSTAR Awards

NOMINATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2009 Nominees!

This year voting is being conducted entirely online. There are no paper ballots. This listing is for informational purposes only. On **Monday, December 7th**, all Pollstar subscribers will receive an email from vote@pollstar.com to the address associated with their PollstarPro online account. This email will contain your unique link to the online ballot. Your vote is confidential and only one vote per email address is allowed. If your email address has changed, you have not activated the online portion of your subscription, or you do not receive your email vote invitation, please contact us at vote@pollstar.com. Make sure you whitelist this email address so it doesn't end up in your spam filter. Please vote only in categories you feel qualified to evaluate. Final deadline for voting is **January 13th**.

MAJOR TOUR OF THE YEAR

AC/DC
Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band
Coldplay
Pink
Taylor Swift
U2

MOST CREATIVE TOUR PACKAGE

Billy Joel | Elton John
Blink-182 | Fall Out Boy
Bob Dylan | John Mellencamp | Willie Nelson
Counting Crows | Michael Franti | Augustana
Eric Clapton | Steve Winwood
Nine Inch Nails | Jane's Addiction
Styx | REO Speedwagon

MOST CREATIVE STAGE PRODUCTION

Britney Spears
Muse
Pink
Star Wars In Concert
U2

BEST NEW TOURING ARTIST

Avett Brothers
Kings Of Leon
Lady Gaga
Phoenix
Zac Brown Band

MUSIC FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR

Austin City Limits | *Austin, TX*
Bonnaroo Music Festival | *Manchester, TN*
Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival | *Indio, CA*
Lollapalooza Festival | *Chicago, IL*

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR

Download Festival | *UK*
Glastonbury Festival | *UK*
Oxegen | *Ireland*
Reading Festival | *UK*
Rock Werchter | *Belgium*
Rock am Ring | *Germany*
V Festival | *UK*

NIGHTCLUB OF THE YEAR

9:30 Club | *Washington, DC*
Birchmere | *Alexandria, VA*
Bowery Ballroom | *New York, NY*
Club Nokia | *Los Angeles, CA*
Commodore Ballroom | *Vancouver, BC*
House Of Blues | *Boston, MA*
House Of Blues | *West Hollywood, CA*

THEATRE OF THE YEAR

Beacon Theatre | *New York, NY*
Chicago Theatre | *Chicago, IL*
Fox Theatre | *Atlanta, GA*
Fox Theater | *Oakland, CA*
Gibson Amphitheatre | *Universal City, CA*
Nokia Theatre L.A. Live | *Los Angeles, CA*
Ryman Auditorium | *Nashville, TN*

BEST NEW MAJOR CONCERT VENUE

Fox Theater | *Oakland, CA*
House Of Blues | *Boston, MA*
The Joint At The Hard Rock | *Las Vegas, NV*
Lucas County Arena | *Toledo, OH*
The Show At Agua Caliente | *Rancho Mirage, CA*

RED ROCKS AWARD / BEST SMALL OUTDOOR VENUE

Charter One Pavilion At Northerly Island | *Chicago, IL*
Chastain Park Amphitheatre | *Atlanta, GA*
Fileene Center At Wolf Trap | *Vienna, VA*
Greek Theatre | *Los Angeles, CA*
The Mountain Winery | *Saratoga, CA*
Santa Barbara Bowl | *Santa Barbara, CA*

BEST MAJOR OUTDOOR CONCERT VENUE

Empire Polo Field | *Indio, CA*
Gorge Amphitheatre | *Quincy, WA*
Hollywood Bowl | *Los Angeles, CA*
Verizon Wireless Music Center | *Noblesville, IN*
Verizon Wireless Amph. at Encore Park | *Alpharetta, GA*

ARENA OF THE YEAR

Air Canada Centre | *Toronto, ON*
BOK Center | *Tulsa, OK*
HP Pavilion | *San Jose, CA*
Madison Square Garden | *New York, NY*
Sommet Center | *Nashville, TN*
Sprint Center | *Kansas City, MO*
Staples Center | *Los Angeles, CA*
Xcel Energy Center | *St. Paul, MN*

INTERNATIONAL THEATRE OF THE YEAR

Auditorio Nacional | *Mexico City, Mexico*
Enmore Theatre | *Newtown, Australia*
Heineken Music Hall | *Amsterdam, Netherlands*
HMV Hammersmith Apollo | *London, UK*
IndigO2 | *London, UK*
O2 Academy Brixton | *London, UK*
Royal Albert Hall | *London, UK*

INTERNATIONAL ARENA OF THE YEAR

Acer Arena | *Sydney, Australia*
Ericsson Globe | *Stockholm, Sweden*
Manchester Evening News Arena | *Manchester, UK*
The O2 | *London, UK*
O2 World | *Berlin, Germany*
Wembley Arena | *London, UK*

Continued On Page 18

The winners will be announced at the 21st Annual Pollstar Concert Industry Awards Party on February 17th at Nokia Theatre L.A. Live in Los Angeles.



Presents

21st Annual

POLLSTAR

Awards

NOKIA Theatre
L.A. LIVE

February 17, 2010



21st Annual POLLSTAR Awards

Continued From Page 16

NIGHTCLUB TALENT BUYER OF THE YEAR

Craig Laskey | *Lee's Palace, Horseshoe Tavern, Toronto*
Dawn Holliday | *Slim's, Great American Music Hall, SF*
Donna Busch | *El Rey, Music Box @ Fonda, LA*
Josh Moore | *Music Hall Williamsburg, Brooklyn Bowl*
Nick Miller | *Park West, The Vic, Riviera, Chicago*
Paul McGuigan | *House of Blues, LA & Las Vegas*
Toffer Christensen | *BB King, HighLine Ballroom, NYC*

INDEPENDENT PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

Bill Silva | *Bill Silva Presents*
Brad Garrett | *Police Productions*
Dan Steinberg | *Square Peg Concerts*
David Fitzgerald | *DCF Concerts*
Jerry Mickelson | *Jam Productions*
John Ruffino | *Red Mountain Entertainment*
Seth Hurwitz | *I.M.P.*

TALENT BUYER OF THE YEAR

Ian Low | *Live Nation Vancouver*
Jodi Goodman | *Live Nation*
John Valentino | *AEG Live*
Melissa Ormond | *MSG Entertainment*
Mike Krebs | *AEG Live / Goldenvoice*
Paola Palazzo | *Nederlander Concerts*
Rich Best | *Live Nation*
Susan Rosenbluth | *AEG Live / Goldenvoice*

FACILITY EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR

Jack Larson | *Xcel Energy Center*
John Bolton | *BOK Center*
Kevin Donnelly | *MTS Centre*
Lee Zeidman | *Staples Center*
Michael Marion | *Verizon Arena*
Ralph Marchetta | *US Airways Center*
Rick Merrill | *Gibson Amphitheatre*
Rena Wasserman | *Greek Theatre*

BILL GRAHAM AWARD / PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

Charles Attal | *C3 Presents*
Bob Roux | *Live Nation*
Don Fox | *Beaver Productions*
Gregg Perloff | *Another Planet Entertainment*
Jim Glancy | *The Bowery Presents*
Louis Messina | *The Messina Group*
Mike Smardak | *Outback Concerts*
Paul Tollett | *Goldenvoice*

INTERNATIONAL PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

Barrie Marshall | *Marshall Arts*
Denis Desmond | *MCD Productions*
Leon Ramakers | *Mojo Concerts*
Michael Chugg | *Chugg Entertainment*
Michael Coppel | *Michael Coppel Presents*
Phil Bowdery | *Live Nation UK*
Rob Hallett | *AEG Live UK*
Simon Moran | *SJM Ltd.*

BOOKING AGENCY OF THE YEAR

Agency For The Performing Arts
Creative Artists Agency
Paradigm
The Agency Group
William Morris Endeavor Entertainment

BOUTIQUE BOOKING AGENCY OF THE YEAR

360 Artist Agency
The Billions Corporation
Entourage Talent Associates
High Road Touring
The M.O.B. Agency
Pinnacle Entertainment
TKO
The Windish Agency

UK BOOKING AGENT OF THE YEAR

Barry Dickens | *International Talent Booking*
David Levy | *William Morris Endeavor*
Emma Banks | *Creative Artists Agency*
John Giddings | *Solo Agency*
Neil Warnock | *The Agency Group*
Nigel Hassler | *Helter Skelter*
Steve Strange | *X-Ray Touring*

THIRD COAST AGENT OF THE YEAR

Brad Bissell | *Creative Artists Agency*
Brian Hill | *Paradigm*
Darin Murphy | *Creative Artists Agency*
John Huie | *Creative Artists Agency*
Paul Lohr | *New Frontier Touring*
Mark Roeder | *William Morris Endeavor*
Rob Beckham | *William Morris Endeavor*

BOBBY BROOKS AWARD / AGENT OF THE YEAR

Brian Greenbaum | *Creative Artists Agency*
Frank Riley | *High Road Touring*
Guy Richard | *William Morris Endeavor*
John Branigan | *William Morris Endeavor*
Marc Geiger | *William Morris Endeavor*
Marty Diamond | *Paradigm*
Rod Essig | *Creative Artists Agency*
Scott Clayton | *Creative Artists Agency*

PERSONAL MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Andy Mendelsohn | *Kings Of Leon*
Coran Capshaw | *DMB, Phish, Tim McGraw*
Dave Holmes | *Coldplay*
Jim Guerinot | *No Doubt, Nine Inch Nails*
John Silva | *Beck, Foo Fighters, Beastie Boys*
Paul McGuinness | *U2*
Roger Davies | *Pink, Cher, Tina Turner*

ROAD WARRIOR OF THE YEAR

Bill Rahmy | *Nine Inch Nails*
Dale "Opie" Skjerseth | *AC/DC*
Doug Goodman | *Green Day*
George Travis | *Bruce Springsteen*
Jake Berry | *U2*
Patrick Whitley | *TSO, KISS, Motley Crue*

LIGHTING COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Bandit Lites
Christie Lites
Epic Production Technologies
Premier Global Production
PRG
Upstaging

SOUND COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Clair
Eighth Day Sound Systems
Rat Sound Systems
Sound Image
Thunder Audio

STAGING / EQUIPMENT CO. OF THE YEAR

Accurate Staging
All Access Staging & Productions
Brown United
Premier Global Production
Stageco
Tait Towers

TRANSPORTATION COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Roadshow Services
Rock-It Cargo
Sound Moves
Upstaging

VIDEO COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Chaos Visual Productions
Moo TV
Nocturne Productions
ScreenWorks
XL Video

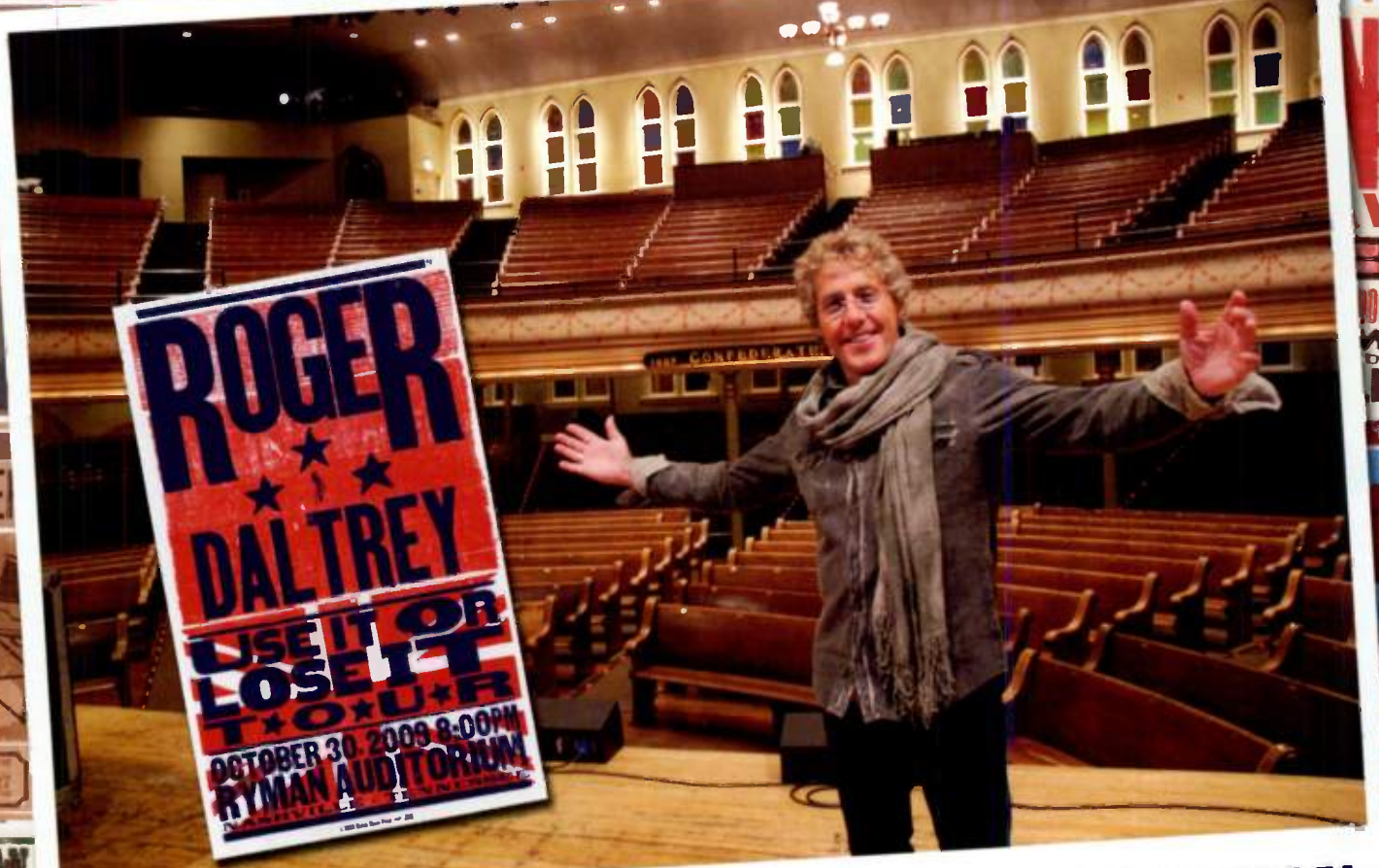
This year's **nominations** were made by a diverse group of over **250** well known agents, managers, promoters, and touring industry professionals. The members of the **nominating committee**, who were precluded from nominating themselves or their clients, will be announced at the awards presentation.

The winners will be announced at the **21st Annual Pollstar Concert Industry Awards Party** on **February 17th** at **Nokia Theatre L.A. Live** in **Los Angeles**.

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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE HISTORICALLY COOL SINCE 1892

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 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

SNOW PATROL
 Oct. 2, 2009 8pm
 Ryman Auditorium
 Nashville, TN

*** JUNE 14 *
 2009
 7:30 PM
 RYMAN AUDITORIUM
 NASHVILLE, TN**

EDDIE VEDDER
 RYMAN AUDITORIUM
 NASHVILLE, TENN

STEVE MARTIN
 AN EVENING OF HUMOROUS BANJO
 OCT. 11, 2009
 RYMAN AUDITORIUM
 NASHVILLE, TN

PARAMORE
 Nov. 1, 2009
 RYMAN AUDITORIUM
 NASHVILLE, TN

JOHN LEGEND
 JANUARY 26, 2009 • 7:30 PM
 RYMAN AUDITORIUM • NASHVILLE, TN

REVOLUTION AT THE RYMAN
MIRANDA LAMBERT
 SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 7:30PM
 RYMAN AUDITORIUM
 NASHVILLE, TN

BEN FOLDS
 APRIL 7, 2009
 7:30 PM
 RYMAN AUDITORIUM



BILLY CORGAN and two founding members of The Smashing Pumpkins have received some Christmas cheer. Josh Glotzer, who reps Corgan in one lawsuit and James Iha and D'Arcy Wretzky-Brown in another, says both suits will soon be settled. They involved Virgin Records using the band's songs in promotions and royalty payments.

Continued From Page 14 said. "I believe that it couldn't happen at a better time now that we've survived the first six rounds of the fight."

The CityCenter complex, located on 67 acres on the Las Vegas Strip, has been in the works for several years and survived dueling lawsuits between MGM Mirage and Dubai World in April regarding financing for the project. The parties and their banks dropped the suits after reaching an agreement for funding of the massive project.

The development includes the casino and resort, a 400-room hotel and spa, condominiums, restaurants, shopping mall and fine art installations.

Vegas developments that stalled because of financial woes include Boyd Gaming Co.'s \$4.8 billion Echelon Place, suspended in summer 2008, and the Fountainsbleau Las Vegas casino-resort, where construction was halted this June.

Four Wheels Good, Two Wheels Bad

Disney World Resort in "Orlando, Fla.," got into a bit of "a public relations mess over Thanksgiving weekend when security officers told a patron he could not use a Segway inside the park. The problem is, the man is mayor of North Miami Beach and the Segway is actually his wheelchair.

Mayor Myron Rosner was visiting the park with his family, including wife Sarah Zabel,

a Miami-Dade Circuit Court judge. Paralyzed in a construction accident, Rosner rides an iBot — a \$30,000 wheelchair that, although it has four wheels, is capable of carrying its passenger on two, and can elevate the passenger to eye-level of those standing nearby.

However, in front of his wife and four children, park employees demanded Rosner lower himself and use four wheels, he told the *Miami Herald*. Park employees mistook the wheelchair for a Segway, which is not allowed in the park because it is deemed unsafe. Three disabled people filed a lawsuit against Disney in 2007 because of the ban, which was settled out of court, the paper said, although Segways are still not allowed into the park.

"I was totally harassed by Disney World," Rosner said. His entrance to Epcot Center was delayed, he said, before a park manager let him through Nov. 27.

But when the family toured Disney's Animal Kingdom Nov. 29, they were surrounded by employees and a security guard who again told him to lower the chair, the paper said.

Rosner, who left the park soon after the incident, said he plans to file a lawsuit.

"The guest was provided with conflicting guidance," a Disney spokeswoman told the *Herald*. "We apologize for any inconveniences this may have caused."

Unfortunately for Disney, the iBot was once featured at Epcot's Innoventions, which exhibits products that help improve human lives. Rosner said he was inspired to buy the wheelchair after visiting the exhibit.

Although an iBot is not a Segway, the technology comes from the same company, DEKA, founded by inventor Dean Kamen.

company, Illyria, team up with Pluribus Capital Management, a new entity formed by publisher James Finkelstein, (*The Hill*, *Who's Who*) and former publishers Matthew Doull (*Wired*) and George Green (*Hearst International*).

The two bidding parties will invest equally, and all

SHORTS

THE SHUTTERED North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Mass., is getting a second lease on life following a sale to a Rhode Island theater owner. William Hanney, who owns a chain of New England cinemas and the Theatre By The Sea in South Kingstown, R.I., recently inked a deal with Citizens Bank to purchase the property. The bank bought the North Shore for \$3.6 million during an auction last month after the 54-year-old venue closed in June with reportedly \$10 million in debts. The city of Beverly was expected to hear a zoning request on the North Shore Music Theatre Dec. 10.

BINION'S Gambling Hall & Hotel in downtown Las Vegas will shutter its 365-room hotel as a cost-cutting measure Dec. 14, while keeping its casino intact. The former home of the World Series of Poker will continue to operate its sports book and poker room. A spokeswoman said that about 100 of Binion's 800 workers have been notified they'll be laid off when the Binion's hotel and former Mint tower close. Room rates ranged from \$23 per night during the week to \$54 on weekends. Binion's, on downtown's Fremont Street, has been financially pummeled in recent years. Formerly known as Binion's Horseshoe, the hotel/casino has changed hands three times in recent years.

Murdoch Eyes Billboard, Hollywood Reporter

Media mogul Rupert Murdoch's eldest son, Lachlan, is in the process of building an international media empire of his own.

The younger Murdoch is said to be on the verge of bidding for the bulk of Nielsen Business Media (NBM), according to the *Financial Times*. NBM's holdings include *Billboard*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Brandweek* and *Mediaweek*.

The reported \$70 million bid sees Murdoch's investment

four partners would be equally represented on the NBM board, the *Financial Times* reported.

Nielsen Business Media posted a 29 percent decline in revenue in the three months ended September and an operating loss of \$168 million. Its flagship publication, *Billboard*, saw a drop of more than 2,400 paid subscribers over the past year according to its recent circulation statement.

Since quitting News Corp. in 2005, Murdoch has been based in Australia and looked at about 300 media and media-related properties.

THANKS POLLSTAR AND ALL WHO NOMINATED US!

HALEY FIELD
Sacramento

SAN JOSE CIVIC
San Jose



RED ROCKS AWARD
"SMALL OUTDOOR VENUE"

GREEK THEATRE-LA SANTA BARBARA BOWL



FACILITY EXECUTIVE
OF THE YEAR

RENA WASSERMAN

(Greek Theatre-LA)

SANTA BARBARA BOWL
Santa Barbara

PANTAGES THEATRE
Hollywood

THE GREEK THEATRE
Los Angeles

GROVE OF ANAHEIM
Anaheim

UCSD RIMAC ARENA
San Diego

SAN DIEGO CIVIC
San Diego



TALENT BUYER
OF THE YEAR

PAOLA PALAZZO


NEDERLANDER
CONCERTS.COM



TWO-TIME GRAMMY WINNER Pinetop Perkins grabs a smoke during the annual Pinetop Perkins Homecoming Jam benefit Oct. 11 at Hopson Plantation in Clarksdale, Miss., where he worked as a tractor driver in the 1940s. The 96-year-old Delta blues pianist still regularly performs and is working on a new album due out next year.

In late November, he purchased for a reported A\$110 million half of DMG Radio Australia, with

plans to expand its digital presence.

The Australian radio network recently reported revenues of

A\$99 million and a profit of A\$7.2 million.

Through Illyria, Murdoch also made investments in regional television group Prime Media, Fantastic, which licenses television programs and develops toys, and a team in the Indian Premier League cricket tournament.

He scrapped plans in 2008 for a A\$3.2 billion takeover of Australia's Consolidated Media Holdings.

[Christie Eimler]

SHORTS

CHILDREN who lost a parent in **The Station** fire of West Warwick, R.I., in 2003 are expected to get an average of \$202,000 in settlement money, according to a report submitted in federal court. Total settlements are \$176 million. More than 300 survivors and victims' families sued after the fire, which began when Great White launched pyro inside the small, wooden venue. One hundred people lost their lives.

RALEIGH, N.C., plans to have a new 5,000-capacity amphitheatre come May, possibly with the help of Live Nation. Raleigh City Council approved funding for the shed Dec. 1, according to the city's *News & Observer*, at a cost of \$2.6 million. The council allocated \$1.6 million from a reserve fund, the paper said. The city hopes to partner with Live Nation, which runs Raleigh's Walnut Creek Amphitheatre, and the city suggested that LN could bring in 20 acts a season. The shed would have 800 seats and a 4,200 lawn capacity, with bids for the project going out in January. Although the *News & Observer* ran an optimistic piece, it did note there are still two public hearings on potential noise issues scheduled in January.

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A person in a patterned shirt and jeans is being held up by the audience. The person is holding a guitar. The scene is lit with blue and purple lights.

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World Radio History

An aerial view of the FedExForum arena seating, showing the curved rows of seats and the stage area.



AP Photo/Las Vegas News Bureau

DONNY OSMOND IS FETED BY FANS at the Flamingo in Las Vegas, where he is a regular headliner, after winning the latest run of ABC's "Dancing With The Stars" Nov. 25.

Harrah's Bets On Planet Hollywood

Harrah's Entertainment made its interest in Planet Hollywood Resort in Las Vegas

official Nov. 25 when it filed an application to acquire the property with Nevada's Gaming Control Board.

The *Las Vegas Review-Journal* first spilled the beans by reporting the contents of

an e-mail to employees by Harrah's chairman and CEO Gary Loveman that the company is trying to take over the property.

Harrah's has reportedly been negotiating to acquire more of Planet Hollywood's \$860 million debt, which is in default. In September, it controlled nearly \$140 million of the debt, the paper reports.

Acquisition of Planet Hollywood Resort would give Harrah's a chunk of real estate, including six contiguous casinos north of Planet Hollywood, estimated at 126 acres in the

middle of the Strip including icons like the Flamingo, Bally's and Paris Las Vegas. It also owns Harrah's Las Vegas, Imperial Palace and Bill's Gamblin' Hall & Saloon.

Planet Hollywood Resort is across the street from CityCenter, the \$8.5 billion MGM Mirage resort that is set to open in December.

The deal would also add nearly 2,500 hotel rooms to Harrah's current inventory of 20,370 on or near the Strip.

Buffalo Thunder's Bond Woes

Gaming's still good at the Buffalo Thunder Resort & Casino in Santa Fe, N.M., but not quite good enough to make an upcoming \$11 million bond payment, according to tribal officials.

This isn't the first payment the resort, which opened in 2008, has failed to pay. Buffalo Thunder also missed a \$245 million financing payment earlier this year, but apparently worked out a deal with bondholders.

"We're still at a point where we're not able to make the payment," Pojoaque Pueblo Gov. George Rivera told the *Santa Fe New Mexican*. "We're basically still recovering from last fall's downturn.

"We are able to keep people employed and keep the doors open, but as far as the big profit expected for investors, that part won't be seen on the scale that was expected."

Rivera added the resort has streamlined operations and said despite the current economy, hotel bookings and gambling revenues have increased.

Buffalo Thunder isn't the only casino in the country feeling the pinch.

Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Conn., recently failed to make a full payment on its debt, leading to a default and a credit-rating downgrade.

WARNER MUSIC GROUP posted an unexpected loss during the fourth quarter as severance costs dragged down results despite a strong batch of releases from artists including Jay-Z and Madonna. As a result of the Nov. 24 report, Wedbush Securities analyst Chris White cut his rating on WMG stock from "outperform" to "neutral" while maintaining a \$6.50 price target. Sales of digital formats grew faster than CD sales, and international sales far outpaced domestic business, but a weak economy and the industry shift from CD to digital sales took their toll. Warner Music reported a fourth-quarter loss of \$18 million, or 12 cents per share, compared with net income of \$6 million, or 4 cents per share, a year ago.

HARRAH'S ENTERTAINMENT continues to explore options for getting its proposed \$700 million **Margaritaville Casino & Resort** in Biloxi, Miss., completed since construction was halted last year. Harrah's exec R. Scott Barber told the *Sun Herald* the Jimmy Buffett-backed project is still a goal but there's no change in its status despite rumors of possible new partners. Harrah's officials decided to halt construction of the beach resort, originally scheduled to open in 2010, because of the down economy and area market conditions. The development is to feature a Margaritaville restaurant, casino, 800-room hotel, pool with a bar, convention space, full-service spa and retail space.

Exclusive Agency Signings

360 Artist Agency

Keith Anderson

APA

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony | Everlast
Lady Danville | Zoe

Artist Group International

The Almost

Artists Worldwide

Christian Death

Class Act Entertainment

Rockin' Acoustic Circus

Ground Control Touring (N.Y.)

Shrinebuilder | Sleep
Zeus (U.S. only)

Ground Control Touring (N.C.)

Pete & The Pirates

ICM

Spencer Day

Madison House

The Coup

M&M Group

Paris By Night

Monterey International

The Fabulous Thunderbirds
The Willowz

M.P.I. Talent Agency

John Waite

Paradise Artists

Vertical Horizon

S.A.D. Management & Booking

Jennifer Warnes

T & T Management & Booking

Blackout Seven | Dustin Wilkes

Ted Kurland Associates

John Pizzarelli

Management Signings

ChannelZERO Entertainment

Blessthefall

Ed Keane Associates

John McAndrew

RPM Management

The Co

Record Company Signings

A&M

Janet Jackson

Atlantic

Day26

Decaydance

The Ready Set

Glassnote

Two Door Cinema Club

Intoxication / Reprise

Art Of Dying

Metal Blade

Allegaeon | System Divide

Netzwerk Music Group

Hadouken!

Nuclear Blast

Sabatian

Relapse

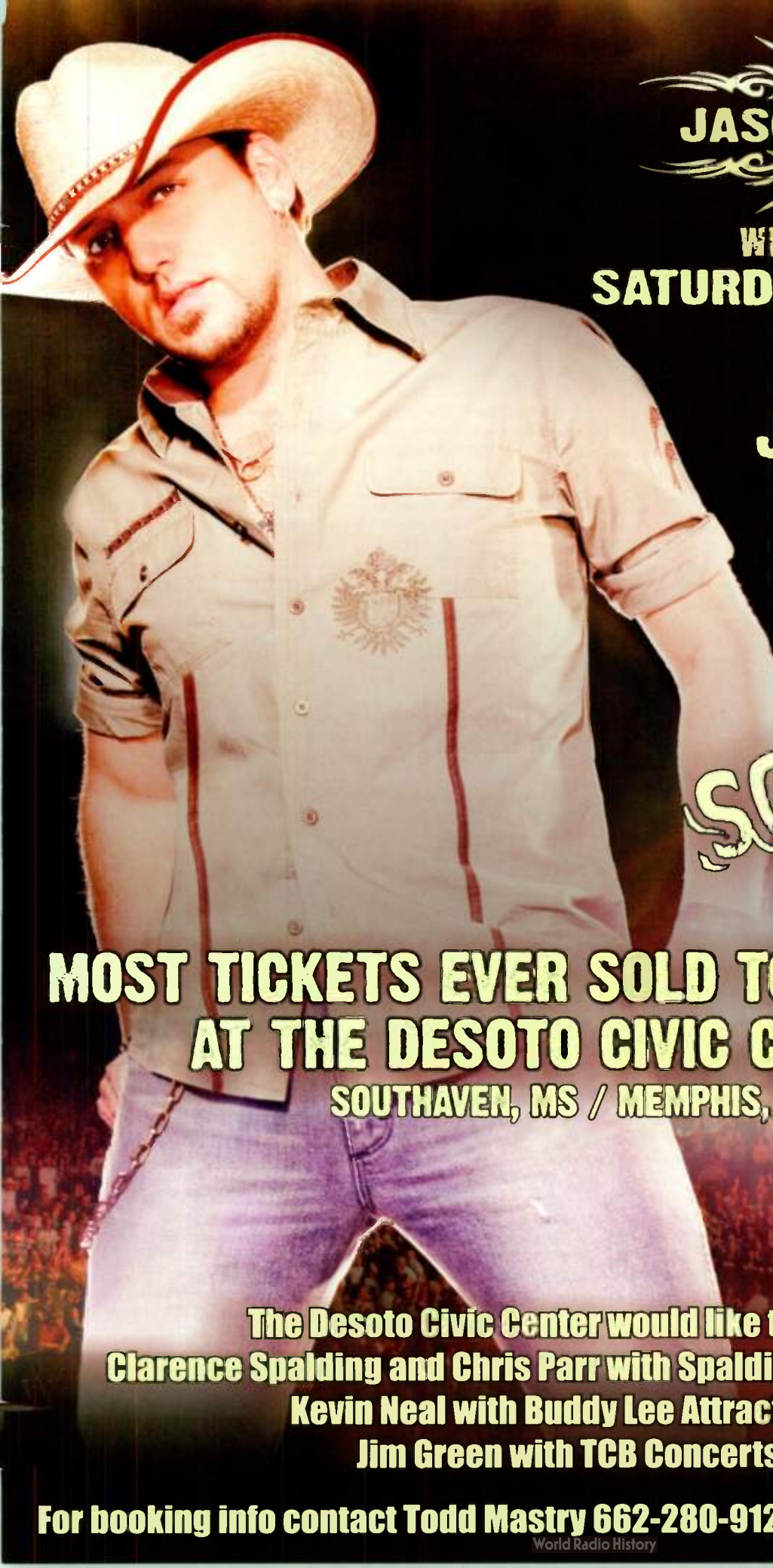
Black Tusk | Rotten Sound

Universal Music Group Nashville

Josh Kelley

will.i.am / Interscope

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GIGS & BYTES

MOG All Access Debuts

▶ Looking for a music streamer bringing you tunes from all four major labels as well as thousands of indie imprints? MOG may be your music-in-the-cloud answer.

Music fans already know about MOG, the blogging network more than 10 million music fans call home. Now MOG is doing more than just talking about music. The site has launched MOG All Access, which delivers streams so fast, the service says you'll think more than 6 million songs are stored on your hard drive.

MOG All Access claims to do the music-in-the-cloud concept better, as in better radio, better music discovery and better presentation.

For example, when you build your own station based on a single artist at MOG Radio, a slider allows you to change the station's playlist, meaning you can choose to listen to songs only by that artist – a first for customized radio streams. Moving the slider from "Artist Only" to "Similar Artists" opens up the stream to compatible artists and bands. Plus, if a particular song catches your interest, one mouse click will play the entire album.

MOG Radio also displays the full queue enabling you to pick and choose which songs you want to hear, including skipping tracks as well as playing songs repeatedly. You can also save songs heard on MOG Radio to your own MOG library along with your artist selections and playlists.

Since MOG is already a music lover's site, there are plenty of playlists for inspiration, including lists created by users as well as musicians and celebs giving you plenty of opportunities to discover your next favorite artist. MOG All Access' search engine also gives you the ability to fine-tune your searches, enabling you to not only search for artists and bands, but for playlists including specific performers and built around concepts such as anniversaries, dinner music or whatever you can think of.

You also don't need to download a customized player to enjoy the new service. MOG All Access can be accessed with any browser from any location.

How much does all this MOG cost? Five dollars per month gives you unlimited access and all-you-can-eat music streaming, including playlist creation.

But there is one feature not yet available with the MOG All Access rollout – mobile applications. RealNetworks' music streamer, Rhapsody, launched its iPhone application in the United States in September giving users unlimited music streams via WiFi and 3G networks. Although mobile isn't included in this week's MOG All Access premiere, the service promises it will present its own mobile application early next year.

On the other hand, Rhapsody charges \$14.99 per month, making MOG All Access with its \$5 per month fee even more attractive. If you've been sitting on the fence when

it comes to premium music streamers, MOG All Access is an inexpensive way to discover whether music-in-the-cloud is for you.

"MOG All Access was created by music lovers for music lovers," MOG founder / CEO David Hyman said. "Our goal is to offer the best experience for listening, sharing and discovering music by creating a simple, smart intuitive interface."

At this time MOG's new streaming service is available only in North America, but will launch in Europe next year. You can sample the service through a one-hour free trial that does not require any commitment nor does it demand you provide any payment information. It doesn't get any easier than that.

Are We What We Search?

▶ In a world facing recession, wars, famine and global warming, care to guess what led Internet searches in 2009? If you said "Michael Jackson" you're right on the money.

It doesn't matter which major search engine you use because Google, Yahoo and even Microsoft's new entry in the Web-queries biz – Bing – all reported the King of Pop was on everyone's mind in 2009.

At Yahoo, Jackson replaced Britney Spears who reigned for four years as the search engine's top query.

In contrast, last year's top search subject at Google was Sarah Palin. Google, which handles about six times the amount of traffic Yahoo receives, had a more varied Top 10 list for 2009 where searchers queried for social networking sites Facebook and Spain-based Tuenti, Twitter and Microsoft's new OS, Windows 7. Other than Jackson, the only celeb making Google's top 10 was Lady Gaga.

But Yahoo users were more show-biz oriented and the search engine reflected that, with queries about the "Twilight" book series and movie of the same name about teenage vampires in the No. 2 position followed by World Wrestling Entertainment, Megan Fox, Britney, Japanese anime character Naruto, "American Idol," Kim Kardashian, NASCAR and online multiplayer game RuneScape.

Of course, there's still a few weeks left in 2009, meaning Tiger Woods has a chance to break the Top 10.

Muppet Mania

▶ If you've been laughing at an online video depicting the Muppets singing Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody," you're not the only one. The video has chalked up more than 8.6 million views on YouTube since it debuted just a few days before Thanksgiving.

But why did Muppets Studio, the Walt Disney Company subsidiary formed in 2004, go through all the time and expense to turn out the spoof? Turns out the video was created to help reboot the Muppet brand as well as quickly deliver new content to fans.

"When the Muppets came into real popularity was the '70s. What was popular in the '70s? Variety shows – that's what 'The Muppet Show' was," Muppets Studio general manager Lylie Breier said. "That's why the Muppets fit so perfectly. Parody has always been at the heart of what the Muppets do."

Breier also said the idea to create the spoof had been kicked around for a while, but his company created the video only recently.

Not only is it a great gag, but just about every Muppet character big and small gets some face time, including Rowlf playing piano as well as Animal playing drums and

Continued On Page 45

GARY ALLAN

GET OFF ON THE PAIN TOUR 2009

[SOLD OUT]

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SPECIAL
GUESTS

JACK
INGRAM



AND
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PRESENTED BY



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GROWING AUDIENCES BY

Tuesday, February 16

10:00am - 6:00pm

Conference Registration

1:00pm - 2:15pm

Arena Managers Forum

(Presented by IAAM)

Indie Club Bookers Forum

College Talent Buyers As Gateway To The Industry

2:30pm - 3:30pm

Roundtables & Mentor Sessions

3:45pm - 5:00pm

Customer Service & Internet Marketing

Tony Hsieh, CEO of Zappos.com

(Presented by NACPA)

5:00pm - 6:30pm

Opening Reception

Wednesday, February 17

8:00am - 4:30pm

Conference Registration

9:30am - 10:45am

Keynote

11:15am - 12:30pm

All-In Ticketing: Why Can't We Do The Math?

12:30pm - 2:15pm

Buffet Lunch (included)

2:15pm - 3:30pm

Putting The Band Back Together

Casino Talent Buyers Forum

Centers For Redefining The Performing Arts

3:45pm - 5:00pm

Real Time Data - Everyone Has A Voice

Star Wars: Anatomy Of A New Touring Attraction

Production Safety In The Eye Of A Hurricane

6:30pm -

Pollstar Concert Industry Awards

Nokia Theatre L.A. Live



21st Annual
POLLSTAR
Awards



PROVING FAN EXPERIENCES

AP Photo / NBC



BARRY MANILOW PERFORMS ON THE "TODAY" SHOW to promote his Christmas album Dec. 1. Manilow and AEG Live announced that same day the musician will launch a two-year run at the 1,500-capacity theatre inside Paris Las Vegas beginning in March.

Barclays Scores With NY Court

Brooklyn is yet closer to housing a basketball arena now that New York's top court has dismissed a challenge over the state's use of eminent domain for the future home of the New Jersey Nets.

The court of appeals decided in a 6-1 ruling Nov. 24 that the Empire State Development Corp. was justified in handing over "blighted" land for Forest City Ratner's Atlantic Yards development that will include the Barclays Center.

Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman noted in his decision that "the constitution accords government broad power to take and clear substandard and insanitary areas for redevelopment."

Forest City CEO Bruce Ratner lauded the victory in a statement.

"Once again the courts have made it clear that this project represents a significant public

benefit for the people of Brooklyn and the entire city," Ratner said. "Our commitment to the entire project is as strong today as when we started six years ago. Today, however, this project is even more important given the need for jobs and economic development."

Construction on the development, which was announced in 2003, has faced numerous legal and financial setbacks over the years. A community group opposing the project announced following the ruling that it doesn't intend to back down.

Ex-Tribal Official Convicted of Fraud

In more bad news for Connecticut's Pequot Native American tribe that operates Foxwoods Resort Casino, a federal jury has convicted a former official of defrauding investors. He still has a related case pending in Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Court.

The U.S. Department of Justice issued a statement saying a jury in Hartford, Conn., found former tribal deputy COO Christopher Pearson guilty of eight counts of wire fraud Nov. 19.

Authorities said Pearson defrauded investors out of \$280,000 that he promised to use to buy land on the island

of Roatan in Honduras. Pearson said the land would be used for a resort and casino the tribe was sponsoring.

Pearson used the money instead for his own use, including boats, cars, vacations and improvements to his waterfront home on Roatan.

Pearson faces up to 20 years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000

Boxoffice Spotlight

Metallica

Lamb Of God
Volbeat

November 14-15, 2009

Madison Square Garden
New York NY

PROMOTER
Metropolitan Talent Presents

Gross **\$2,539,232**

Tickets Sold **36,108**

Capacity **18,054**

Percentage Sold / 2 Shows **100%**

Ticket Price **\$54.00-74.00**

on each count when he is sentenced Feb. 5.

He's also been accused by the tribe of bilking a different group of six investors of \$375,000, according to the *Hartford Courant*. A verdict in that trial could come before he is sentenced in federal court.

Investors were pitched a resort on Roatan that would turn the Caribbean island into the hemisphere's top vacation destination, the paper said. The island paradise would include more than 100 acres of hotels, condos, timeshare apartments,

POTTY HEARTY

NOT SURE what's in the water – or maybe it's just the beer – that might explain the recent stream of stories about concertgoers **relieving themselves** on other fans. But police report it's happened again, this time at a Wolfmother show at Seattle's Paramount Theatre Nov. 20. The victim told police he was in the mosh pit and had admonished another man for elbowing him. When he turned back around to face the stage he "suddenly noted that his right leg was becoming warm and wet," according to the incident report; cited by the Seattle *Post-Intelligencer's* Seattle 911 blog. "The victim turned around and saw the suspect urinating on him." Paramount security reportedly bounced the suspect. Although the victim said the suspect bought another ticket and came back inside, he apparently was last seen fleeing down the street.



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WILLIAM MORRIS
ENDEAVOR ENTERTAINMENT:
KIRK SOMMER

AEG LIVE, SOUTHEAST

LARRY VALLON
JOHN VALENTINO
GEORGE PERLEY
CARRIE SWETT



SOUTH FLORIDA'S ULTIMATE SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT SHOWPLACE.





AP Photo

SUGARLAND TAPES A SEGMENT for the Grammy Nominations Concert Live in Los Angeles Dec. 1.

restaurants, marinas, cruise ship docks and other accommodations including a desalinization plant and, of course, a casino.

Pearson was accused of raising money from investors by saying the Pequot tribe, already awash in debt from construction loans on Foxwoods Resort Casino, would sponsor the development.

Witnesses from the tribe testified it was not a sponsor, though some members – including Pearson's own father – were among the allegedly ripped-off investors.

Federal prosecutors presented an accounting analysis that showed Pearson pocketed the money, which was transferred in sums of \$25,000 to \$50,000 straight into his checking account, according to the *Courant*.

Pearson's grandmother was tribal matriarch Elizabeth George and his brother, Skip Hayward, reportedly started the legal and economic moves to reestablish the Pequots as a viable tribe and eventually open the massive Foxwoods Resort Casino.

He testified that he returned to Connecticut in 1992 just as Hayward was about to launch Foxwoods. Pearson made more than \$300,000 per year in distributions as a member and deputy COO of the tribe.

Honesty The Best Policy

The promoter of a failed festival in Charlestown, R.I., recently got a pass when local officials decided to reward him for being forthright and honest about a concert flop.

The three-day Calling Planet Earth music festival that took place in the town's Ninigret Park in September drew so few people that the event wrapped up early, according to the local *Westerly Sun*.

Promoter Paul Silva attributed the mess to improper advertising of the family-oriented music and environmental fest, the paper said, claiming he was thousands of dollars in debt.

However, he also reportedly insisted during an apology to town councilors that he planned to make good on the \$7,500 fee

for the use of the park during the event.

"He said, 'I'll pay whatever I owe,'" Charlestown administrator William DiLibero told the paper. "He was not trying to get out of it."

And as good deeds shine in a weary world, councilors discussed their admiration for Silva's candid nature and determination to settle his debts, the paper reported. As the concert was the first the promoter had thrown in the park and officials determined the town hadn't lost any money on the venture, the council moved to wipe the fee so that Silva could make another attempt.

"I see this somewhat as an investment," councilor Candace Dunn told the *Sun*.

Guns In Bars Reversed

A Davidson County, Tenn., judge has overturned that state's guns-in-bars law enacted earlier this year, calling the measure "unconstitutionally vague."

The legislation took effect July 14 and allowed permit holders,

as long as they don't drink, to carry their weapons into establishments that serve alcohol. The law faced backlash from

OBITS

BILL FITZGERALD, 52, a concert promoter and marketing executive in New York and Atlanta, died in an accidental fall at his New Jersey home Nov. 20. He worked with John Scher and Metropolitan Talent in New York City for several years, as well as Ignition Inc. and IMG Live in Atlanta. Services were held Nov. 25 in Holmdel, N.J. Fitzgerald is survived by his wife Karen and daughter Katherine.

ABE POLLIN, 85, the business mogul whose empire includes the Washington Wizards, Verizon Center and a Ticketmaster field, died Nov. 24. Pollin, the NBA's longest-tenured owner, bought the Baltimore Bullets in 1964, which won the NBA championship in 1976 and eventually renamed the Wizards. Former AOL exec Ted Leonsis, who owns 44 percent of Pollin's Washington Sports & Entertainment, says he will buy Pollin's assets, including the 20,500-capacity Verizon Center and the Baltimore-Washington franchise of Ticketmaster – an entity that Pollin has always owned separate of the TM currently run by Irving Azoff. Pollin suffered from progressive supranuclear palsy, a rare brain disorder.

RICHARD NADER, 69, a longtime promoter best known for launching the Rock & Roll Revival concert series, died of complications of Parkinson's disease Dec. 1 in Long Island, N.Y. His family told *Pollstar*. Nader, founder of Richard Nader Entertainment, brought classic rock and doo-wop acts back to the mainstream market beginning with an event at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum in 1969. That concert's success led to a touring show that continues to this day in various incarnations around the country.

BOB KEANE, founder of Del-Fi Records and credited with discovering Ritchie Valens, died of renal failure Nov. 28 at an assisted-living home in Hollywood. Keane, 87, built a career as a big band leader and clarinet player prior to becoming a record producer. He founded Del-Fi in the 1950s and brought Valens into the fold in 1958. Keane also worked with artists such as Frank Zappa, Sam Cooke, Barry White, The Bobby Fuller Four and Glen Campbell before leaving the record industry in 1965. He then promoted his sons Tom and John's pop band, The Keane Brothers, in the mid-1970s.


WALT ENGLISH, 61, the owner of The Summit Entertainment Consultants promotion company in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, died from a gunshot wound inside his house Nov. 23. The coroner's office believes his death could have been a suicide, according to the city's online news site *TribToday.com*. English spent the last two summers promoting a tribute-band concert series in Warren, Ohio. He also promoted The Summit Rock Showcase and Rockin' On The River.

WE ROCK.



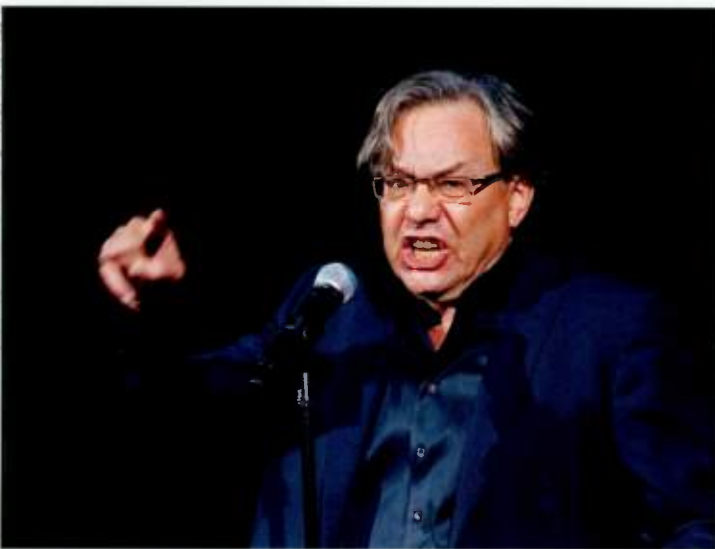
Eight-Time
"Arena of the Year" Nominee

Jack Larson
2009 Facility Executive of the Year Nominee


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www.xcelenergycenter.com

BOXOFFICE | SUMMARY

Date	Artist Facility/Promoter	Support	Tickets Sold Capacity	Gross	Date	Artist Facility/Promoter	Support	Tickets Sold Capacity	Gross
10/23/09	Cartel The Quarter @ Bourbon Street Ballroom Baltimore, MD 24-7 Entertainment / Paul Manna	This Providence The Summer Set The Bigger Lights	432 100% 15.00 - 17.00	\$6,612	11/03/09	Lights Troubadour West Hollywood, CA (In-House Promotion)	Stars of Track and Field	488 100% 10.00 - 13.00	\$4,904
10/27/09	3 Inches Of Blood The Starlite Room Edmonton, AB, CANADA The Union Ltd.		345 535 64% 20.00 - 25.00	\$6,538	10/28/09	David Bazan Turf Club Saint Paul, MN First Avenue Productions	Sarr Hi	408 408 100% 12.00	\$4,896
10/31/09	Fran Healy (from Travis) / Andy Dunlop (From Travis) Just For Laughs Cabaret Montreal, QC, CANADA Greenland Productions / Gillett Entertainment Group		227 300 75% 30.00	\$6,324	10/27/09	"Classic Albums Live" Youkey Theatre Lakeland, FL (In-House Promotion)		500 1,400 35% 10.00 - 30.00	\$4,649
08/28/09	Crazy B's McMenamins Crystal Ballroom Portland, OR (In-House Promotion) / McMenamins		572 1,400 40% 10.00 - 12.00	\$6,276	10/23/09	Grupo Fantasma The Orange Peel Asheville, NC (In-House Promotion) / A.C. Entertainment	The Afrotoive	306 910 33% 14.00 - 16.00	\$4,566
10/30/09	A Fine Frenzy World Cafe Live - Downstairs Philadelphia, PA (In-House Promotion)	Among The Oak & Ash	354 400 88% 17.50	\$6,167	10/29/09	Sara Watkins Bomhard Theater Louisville, KY Kentucky Center Presents	Brooks Filter	217 561 38% 22.50	\$4,515
10/13/09	Bob Mould First Avenue Minneapolis, MN First Avenue Productions	Alec Ounsworth	324 1,453 22% 19.00	\$6,156	10/23/09	needtobreath Hawthorne Theatre Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	The Alternate Routes Serena Ryder	356 450 79% 12.00 - 14.00	\$4,512
10/17/09	Owl City Hawthorne Theatre Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Brooke Waggoner	508 508 100% 12.00 - 15.00	\$6,120	11/01/09	Mum The Marquee Calgary, AB, CANADA The Union Ltd.	Sin Fang Bus	240 240 100% 20.00 - 25.00	\$4,427
10/17/09	The Airborne Toxic Event Northern Lights Clifton Park, NY Star Levinstone Presents / Step Up Presents	Red Cortez Henry Clay People	397 1,300 30% 15.00 - 17.00	\$6,091	10/22/09	Propagandhi Louis Saskatoon, SK, CANADA The Union Ltd. / Surreal Concerts Canada		278 500 55% 16.00 - 18.00	\$4,305
10/28/09	Propagandhi Satyricon Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	M D C The Rebel Spell	365 365 100% 15.00 - 18.00	\$5,574	10/31/09	Federico Aubele Schubas Tavern Chicago, IL Jam Productions	Depeiro	286 185 77% 15.00	\$4,290
11/03/09	Eluveitie The Palladium Worcester, MA MassConcerts / John Peters	Belphegor Aestorm Kivimetsan Druidi Vreid	227 477 47% 22.00 - 25.00	\$5,342	11/01/09	tapes 'n tapes Turf Club Saint Paul, MN First Avenue Productions	Chooglin	417 417 100% 10.00	\$4,170
10/08/09	Johnny Winter The State Theatre Saint Petersburg, FL (In-House Promotion) / AEG Live		247 500 49% 20.00 - 25.00	\$5,066	10/03/09	Ghostface Killah Borbati's Pan Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Fashawn	175 450 38% 20.00 - 25.00	\$4,120
					10/23/09	MC Chris Borbati's Pan Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Whole Wheat Bread I Fight Dragons	295 450 65% 13.00 - 15.00	\$4,109
					10/30/09	Radio Slave The Mod Club Theatre Toronto, ON, CANADA Embrace Productions Inc.		261 550 47% 16.50	\$3,999
					09/21/09	Building 429 / Todd Agnew Crossview Covenant Church North Mankato, MN (In-House Promotion)	Kimber Rising	248 981 25% 13.00 - 25.00	\$3,860
					10/29/09	Emilie Autumn Hawthorne Theatre Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents		187 450 41% 20.00 - 25.00	\$3,840
					10/03/09	Hope Sandoval The Music Box Theatre Minneapolis, MN First Avenue Productions	Dirt Blue Gene	185 340 54% 20.00	\$3,700
					09/28/09	The Wood Brothers Port City Music Hall Portland, ME (In-House Promotion)		230 236 97% 15.00 - 20.00	\$3,665
					10/20/09	The Dodos Turf Club Saint Paul, MN First Avenue Productions	The Ruby Suns	280 319 87% 13.00	\$3,640
					10/24/09	Fu Manchu Neumos Seattle, WA Mike Thrasher Presents	It's Casual Witchburn	249 750 33% 13.50 - 15.00	\$3,509
					10/23/09	Fu Manchu Dante's Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents		231 450 51% 13.50 - 15.00	\$3,327
					10/17/09	The Bravery The State Theatre Saint Petersburg, FL AEG Live		210 400 52% 16.00 - 21.00	\$3,290
					10/30/09	Future Of The Left Music Hall Of Williamsburg Brooklyn, NY The Bowery Presents	Freshkells Dinowulfus	305 500 61% 10.00 - 12.00	\$3,192
10/30/09	Matt and Kim Grand Ballroom College Park, MD (In-House Promotion)		800 800 100% 5.00 - 12.00	\$5,050	10/09/09	Om Wrongbar Toronto, ON, CANADA Embrace Productions Inc.	Lchens	261 350 74% 20.00 - 22.00	\$5,030
10/30/09	The Downtown Fiction Jammin' Java Vienna, VA (In-House Promotion)	Cash Cash	413 207 99% 12.00	\$4,956	10/30/09	2 shows			



LEWIS BLACK. The Show at Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa, Rancho Mirage, Calif., Nov. 13

Date	Artist Facility/Promoter	Support	Tickets Sold Capacity	Gross
11/01/09	Girl In A Coma Troubadour West Hollywood, CA (In-House Promotion)	Black Gold	253 500 50% 10:00 - 12:00	\$2,783
10/02/09	tapes 'n tapes The Music Box Theatre Minneapolis, MN First Avenue Productions	Jeremy Messer Smith	268 316 84% 10:00	\$2,680



JUSTIN BEIBER CD debut at outdoor concert at Hard Rock Café at Universal CityWalk, Los Angeles, Nov. 17

10/26/09	Kittie The Intersection - Showroom Grand Rapids, MI (In-House Promotion)	SOIL	195 900 21% 10:00 - 13:00	\$2,673
08/14/09	BoomBox Crown Room Portland, OR Deliverata Productions		260 260 100% 10:00	\$2,600
10/28/09	The Black Lips The Orange Peel Asheville, NC (In-House Promotion) / A.C. Entertainment	Turbo Fruits	206 910 22% 12:00 - 14:00	\$2,582
10/01/09	tapes 'n tapes 7th Street Entry Minneapolis, MN First Avenue Productions	Mystery Palace Look Book	250 250 100% 10:00	\$2,500
10/12/09	Great Lake Swimmers El Rey Theatre Los Angeles, CA Go!tv/mojo / AEG Live	The Woodern Birds Laura Gibson	147 771 19% 17:00	\$2,499
10/21/09	Shonen Knife 7th Street Entry Minneapolis, MN First Avenue Productions	Rind Pens	168 235 71% 14:50	\$2,436
10/10/09	The Horrors Turf Club Saint Paul, MN First Avenue Productions	Crocodiles	185 318 58% 13:00	\$2,405
10/13/09	School Of Seven Bells 7th Street Entry Minneapolis, MN First Avenue Productions	Warpaint Depreciated Guild	237 250 94% 9:50 - 11:50	\$2,388
10/21/09	Honor Society El Corazon Seattle, WA Mike Thrasher Presents	Esmee Denters	159 750 21% 15:00	\$2,385
11/03/09	Blind Pilot The Social Orlando, FL Foundation Presents	The Low Anthem	225 400 56% 10:00 - 12:00	\$2,382
10/30/09	The Heavy Crocodile Cafe Seattle, WA Seattle Theatre Group	Thee Emergency	205 505 40% 10:00	\$2,254
10/21/09	Islands Hawthorne Theatre Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Torc Y Moi Jemima Pearl	150 450 33% 13:00 - 15:00	\$2,132

10/30/09	Framing Hanley Midnight Rodeo 3 Abilene, TX Fastlane Concerts	Like A Storm Transmit Now	133 525 25% 14:00 - 17:00	\$2,123
11/01/09	Liam Finn Middle East Downstairs Cambridge, MA (In-House Promotion)	Miracle Fortress Forest Fire	132 550 24% 15:00	\$1,980
10/16/09	Strike Anywhere Hawthorne Theatre Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Crime In Stereo Ruiner	144 450 32% 12:00	\$1,728
11/01/09	Valient Thorr El Corazon Seattle, WA (In-House Promotion)	Early Man Kandi Codec Witchburn Dirt Worshipper	141 200 70% 10:00 - 12:00	\$1,670
09/22/09	The Minus 5 Middle East Upstairs Cambridge, MA (In-House Promotion)	The Baseball Project Steve Wynn	117 175 66% 13:00 - 15:00	\$1,613
10/02/09	Pierced Arrows Turf Club Saint Paul, MN First Avenue Productions	Peelander-Z Birthday Suits	227 340 66% 7:00	\$1,589
10/29/09	Kittie Northern Lights Clifton Park, NY Stan Levinstone Presents / Step Up Presents	SOIL	207 1,300 15% 12:00 - 14:00	\$1,588
10/20/09	Hit The Lights El Corazon Seattle, WA Mike Thrasher Presents	There For Tomorrow Fireworks Sparks The Rescue This Time Next Year	116 750 15% 12:00 - 14:00	\$1,522
10/16/09	Straylight Run Satyricon Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Lydia Analor Camera Can't Lie	115 300 38% 12:00 - 14:00	\$1,508
10/25/09	Pelican Hawthorne Theatre Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Black Cobra Sweet Cobra	102 450 22% 13:00 - 15:00	\$1,452
10/16/09	Rain Machine 7th Street Entry Minneapolis, MN First Avenue Productions	Sharon Van Elteren	84 232 36% 14:50	\$1,218
10/16/09	Souls Of Mischief Berbati's Pan Portland, OR Mike Thrasher Presents	Sirong Arm Steady Deep Rooted	84 450 18% 13:00 - 15:00	\$1,218

Continued From Page 26

GIGS & BYTES

trying to sing the line Mama / Just killed a man / Put a gun against his head / Pulled my trigger / Now he's dead. Unfortunately for Animal, the best he can vocalize is "Mama" over and over.

The "Bohemian Rhapsody" spoof isn't the Muppets' first foray into online video but, so far, it appears to be the most popular. Muppets Studio re-

leased several online videos last year, including one featuring Beaker singing "Ode to Joy" that has attracted 7 million views. Compare that to the almost 9 million viewings the Muppets' Queen parody attracted in just over a week and you can see just how viral the latest video has become.

And there's more where that came from. Breier says there's more on the way, and that a version of "Carol of the Bells" will be released before Christmas. The company will also release a small number of vids in 2010. *[Jay Smith]*

European NEWS

Reported By **John Gammon**
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UNITED KINGDOM

Walker Warns On Fake Wristbands

Fraudsters are planning to target next summer's festivals by swamping the market with highly convincing fake wristbands, according to a UK security expert.

There's evidence that criminals tried a test run this year, Reg Walker from Iridium Security told Virtual Festivals conference at London's O2 cinema Nov. 19.

He told delegates that about 100 wristbands were seized at this year's Reading Festival.

"What's worrying is the quality of the wristband, right down to the barcode. They're highly convincing and virtually indistinguishable from the real item," he told a panel on festival crime.

He said there's a threat to public order if large numbers of people turn up at events and are denied entry.

"If you have many thousands of people turned away when they have paid £100, £150 or £200, that is where the danger lies," he explained. "When you have hundreds of people all trying to get through the gates, the pressure is on the security staff to let people in. Fortunately they were on the ball in this case."

"One or more of the major festivals is going to get hit unless we deal with this now. This is the most serious problem and the most serious challenge we face in 2010," he said.

Walker, who works on the V Festivals, T In The Park and Isle Of Wight, said the amount of effort and expense that the fraudsters have gone to means it's not commercially viable for them to produce the fake wristbands in the hundreds.

Fake tickets and wristbands are usually bought from scam Web sites or touts outside events. Police and organisers consistently warn against using such outlets.

NIA Naming Rights For Sale

Birmingham's National Indoor Arena is looking for a naming rights deal similar to the one the nearby NEC Arena did with Korean electronics firm LG.

NEC Group, which runs both venues, wouldn't say how much it got out of the global electronics giant because the information is "commercially sensitive."

But LG is believed to have provided a major contribution to the venue's recent £28 million refurbishment.

It reopened last month with new seating, hospitality, bars, restaurants and other essential customer facilities as well as improved backstage areas.

The Solihull venue, which had been the NEC since it opened



THE NIA BIRMINGHAM is hoping to land a naming-rights deal similar to the one NEC Arena made with LG.

28 years ago, was rebranded the LG Arena as of Sept. 1.

The NEC Group now wants a leading brand name to do a similar deal for the 13,000-capacity NIA in Birmingham.

"The NIA and the LG Arena are within a 90-minute drive time of almost 20 million people, showing that without a doubt this is a national opportunity," says NEC Group partnership manager Richard Spencer. Apart from the naming rights at the NIA, the NEC Group is also seeking an elite group of premium sponsors to form partnerships to run across both arenas.

"Last year the NIA and LG Arena sold in excess of 1.4 million tickets to live events. These venues represent unique and attractive opportunities for potential sponsors," he explained.

"The naming rights to the NIA presents a rare opportunity for a brand to interact with a passionate audience as it experiences once in a lifetime world class events."

Forthcoming live music shows at the NIA include Kasabian, Arctic Monkeys, Ronan Keating, Katherine Jenkins and Will Young.

A recent European Cities Monitor report by global estate agents Cushman & Wakefields ranked Birmingham as the continent's 14th most desirable business location.

No Shortage Of Advice For EMI

While Guy Hands figures out what to do now that Citigroup has turned down his offer to inject £1 billion (\$1.6 billion) into EMI in return for a restructuring of its debt, there's no shortage of advice coming from the UK's business writers.

Although the chief of Terra Firma, which borrowed £2.6 billion to buy EMI in 2007, has said he's still in "constructive discussions" with Citigroup, some are suggesting the bank should just liquidate the business.

Pali Research analyst Richard Greenfield believes the best way for Citigroup to maximize the value of the debt it holds in EMI is to break up the company.

He may be going over very old ground but suggests the recorded music division could be hived off to Warner Music, either leaving the publishing business with Terra Firma or auctioning it to the highest bidder.

Warner and EMI have reportedly circled each other at various times in the last 10 years. One potential deal was sunk over anti-trust issues, but Greenfield argues that the music industry is a different place right now and regulators may be more sympathetic next time around.

If it can sell a couple of warehouses full of Beatles albums then the beleaguered UK major may be able to meet its banking covenants in the short time. But

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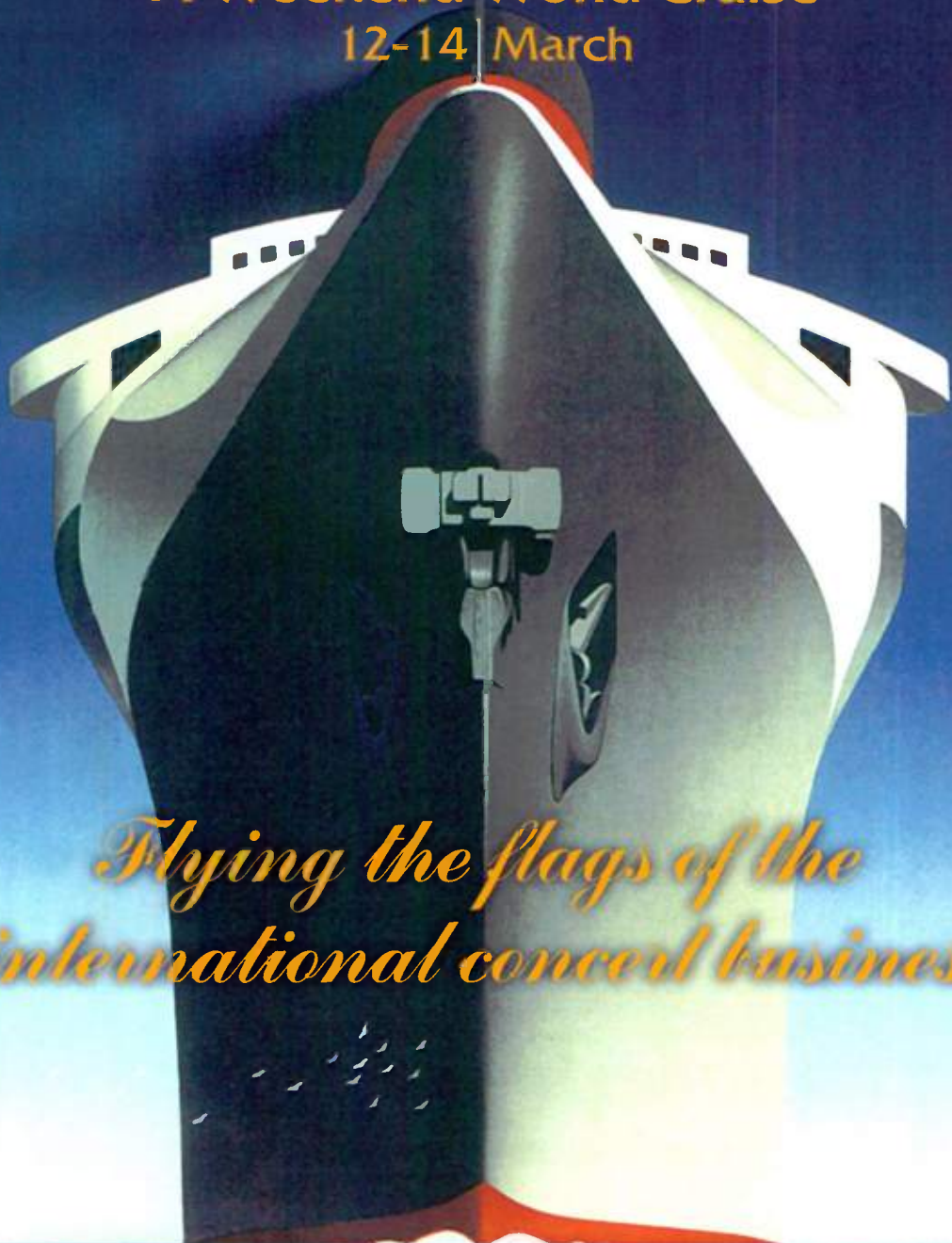
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TOP BRITISH COMEDIAN Peter Kay and Manchester Evening News Arena GM John Knight enjoy selling 200,000 in a morning. Kay, who used to work at the venue as a security guard, has a four-week residency at the SMG Europe venue next spring.

the danger is that – the next time it comes up short – the bank pushes it into hiving off the valuable and money-making publishing business.

The *Daily Telegraph* has already warned that Citigroup may be forced to take control of EMI if it can't reach a financial restructuring agreement on its debt.

Terra Firma and Citigroup have both written down most of their investments in EMI. Hands has always given the impression that he intends to turn the UK major around and he's in for the longer haul, but he's recently said the intransigence of the corporate banks is killing private equity investment.

Hands is clearly making some progress, as EMI recently announced earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) for the year ending March 31 were up 81.3 percent to £298 million.

However, beyond the trading figures, the interest on the Citigroup debt is £196 million per year – two-thirds of what the company's making. There are also restructuring costs of about

£110 million and probably a further £110 million on amortization and depreciation.

MENA's DIY Job

Manchester Evening News Arena's debut in the promoting business appears to have been a huge hit as it's already sold out next spring's four-week residency with local comedian Peter Kay.

MENA general manager John Knight persuaded Kay, who once worked as a Showsec security guard at the venue, to do his first stand-up shows in seven years.

"I suggested to Peter that when he was ready to return to live performance, he should take over the arena for a run rather than trekking around the country," Knight explained.

Having cut the deal for "The Tour that Doesn't Tour – Tour," which takes place next April and May, Knight

and Kay saw four nights turn into a four-week residency as almost 200,000 tickets went within hours of the box office opening Nov. 21.

At one point there were 50,000 online in the Ticketmaster queue.

Knight says it's a groundbreaking deal for SMG, which runs the Manchester venue, as his team has worked together on all aspects of the event including ticketing, hotel and hospitality packages and even "a bespoke range of merchandise."

Since Kay worked at the venue in his Showsec days, he's become something of a British institution, having had a No. 1 record, a hit TV comedy series and an Emmy-nominated TV special.

Larkin Around At Virtual Awards

The second Virtual Festivals conference was a massive success compared with the first, although the subsequent awards ceremony sparked controversy.

Lifetime Achievement Award winner Katrina Larkin, who took the prize for building the Big

Chill, wasn't so popular with unpaid creditors when the company behind the event tanked with debts of about £1.2 million.

Details of Big Chill's debts emerged a week before Virtual set up camp at London's O2 Nov. 19. Copies of *Festival UK* – a stand-alone supplement that conference co-sponsor *Live UK* published to mark the event – weren't put in the conference bag, presumably because the Page 3 story gave all the gory details.

Rumours circulating in the conference bar were that copies of it were removed from sight because Larkin was upset by the article.

Virtual Festivals' chief Steve Jenner denies the magazines were kept out of circulation and said they were never intended to go in the conference bags.

Live UK editor Steve Parker was unavailable for comment at press time.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was backed by UK trade weekly *Music Week*, which ran a similar story in the previous week's issue.

The creditors' major gripe is that Big Chill allowed suppliers to continue to deliver their goods and services when it must have known it wasn't generating sufficient ticket income to pay for them. Larkin said the financial situation hadn't become clear until three weeks after the event.

Creditors have also targeted Larkin for telling the press what a success Big Chill has become, while major suppliers including

Show Event Security, Power Logistics and Eve Trackway claim to be owed about £50,000 each. PRS and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs are owed more.

London-based restaurant and bar chain Canteloupe Group, which has had a controlling interest in the Chill Fest company since 2002, has reportedly written off a £531,000 claim.

The creditors are also angry because Festival Republic's purchasing of the naming rights to Big Chill is being reported as a big step forward for the event. Larkin has also moved to the Live Nation-Gaiety Investments company and will continue to run the festival.

The Virtual Festivals Web site carried a report on Larkin winning the award, although it also allowed postings from those who were critical of her taking the prize.

Graham Brown, head of PR company Plaster, wrote the morning after the event that this kind of bad business practice should result in organisers not being allowed to trade, rather than being rewarded with lifetime achievement awards. He called the award "morally abhorrent."

Brown, who has production company clients that have been hit hard by the bankruptcy, told *Pollstar* it's "disgusting" that Larkin is invited on a panel to talk about sustaining a brand.

"Seems that the way to sustain your brand is to bury £600,000-plus of debts on your suppliers by liquidating Chill Fest and simultaneously selling the license to Fes-

YEAR END

Ticket Sales Charts

Venues Promoters

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INTERNATIONAL BOXOFFICE | SUMMARY

Date	Artist Facility/Promoter	Support	Tickets Sold Capacity	Gross
10/04/09	Laura Pausini Citibank Hall Rio Rio De Janeiro, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		2,397 3,336 71% 200.00 - 350.00	\$255,415 Reals (454,306)
11/07/09	"Pepsi Music Festival" / La Vela Puerca Club Ciudad de Buenos Aires Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA T4F - Time For Fun		14,945 32,200 46% 90.00	\$252,964 Pesos (964,038)
11/08/09	"Pepsi Music Festival" / Calle 13 Club Ciudad de Buenos Aires Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA T4F - Time For Fun	The Ting Tings Maximo Park	12,846 33,100 38% 90.00	\$239,119 Pesos (911,278)
10/01/09	Victor & Leo Citibank Hall Rio Rio De Janeiro, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		4,657 3,336 69% 90.00 - 180.00	\$237,268 Reals (422,027)
10/23/09	Groove Armada Heineken Music Hall Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS Live Nation	Kaskadia Deadmau5 Pete Tong Mutant C'an	4,549 5,500 82% 35.00	\$214,411 Euro (149,906)
10/21/09	Porcupine Tree Helsinki Ice Arena Helsinki, FINLAND Live Nation	Katantonia	3,199 4,151 77% 46.00	\$204,553 Euro (143,014)
11/06/09	"Pepsi Music Festival" / NTVG Club Ciudad de Buenos Aires Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA T4F - Time For Fun		12,261 32,400 37% 90.00	\$202,765 Pesos (772,734)
10/03/09	Edson & Hudson Credicard Hall Sao Paulo, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		4,923 3,849 63% 60.00 - 140.00	\$200,780 Reals (357,126)



SHAKIRA, Bambi 2009 awards, Potsdam, Germany, Nov. 26

11/13/09	Placebo Annexet Stockholm, SWEDEN Live Nation	United Expatriate	3,213 3,350 95% 325.00 - 395.00	\$179,418 Kronas (1,269,135)
11/12/09	The Specials Edinburgh Corn Exchange Edinburgh, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		2,800 2,800 100% 32.50	\$149,698 £(91,000)
09/27/09	Michael Ball Opera House Blackpool, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		2,667 2,824 94% 32.50	\$140,851 £(66,677)
11/07/09	Rise Against Thuringenhalle Erfurt, GERMANY XWhy-Z Konzertagentur	Thursday Poison The Well	3,655 4,500 81% 22.00 - 28.00	\$118,818 Euro (80,716)
10/15/09	James Morrison Falkoner Theatre Copenhagen, DENMARK Live Nation		1,552 3,000 51% 325.00	\$102,482 Kronas (521,300)
09/29/09	Michael Ball Clyde Auditorium Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		1,864 2,500 74% 32.50	\$98,443 £(60,580)
11/11/09	Rise Against Pall 1 Bremen, GERMANY XWhy-Z Konzertagentur	Thursday Poison The Well	2,476 2,700 91% 22.00 - 28.00	\$80,530 Euro (54,706)

Date	Artist Facility/Promoter	Support	Tickets Sold Capacity	Gross
11/15/09	Grand Moscow Classical Ballet "Sleeping Beauty" Citibank Hall Rio Rio De Janeiro, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		1,468 3,092 47% 60.00 - 140.00	\$61,372 Reals (104,595)
10/02/09	Isabella Taviani Citibank Hall Sao Paulo, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		1,584 1,456 54% 60.00 - 120.00	\$60,824 Reals (108,187)
11/13/09	"Eastpak Antidote Tour" E-Werk Cologne, GERMANY XWhy-Z Konzertagentur	Anti-Flag Alexisonfire Four Year Strong The Ghost Of A Thousand	1,612 2,000 80% 20.00 - 25.00	\$47,613 Euro (32,345)
11/14/09	Alabama 3 (A3) O2 Academy Glasgow Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		1,773 2,500 70% 16.00	\$46,788 £(28,442)
09/14/09	Steel Panther Club Academy Manchester, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		2,400 2,400 100% 11.00	\$42,900 £(26,400)
11/14/09	Grand Moscow Classical Ballet "Don Quixote" Citibank Hall Rio Rio De Janeiro, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		1,004 3,092 32% 60.00 - 140.00	\$42,447 Reals (72,342)
10/07/09	Enter Shikari O2 Academy Bristol Bristol, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation	The Devil Wears Prada	1,600 1,600 100% 16.00	\$41,004 £(25,600)
10/26/09	James Morrison Sala Apolo Barcelona, SPAIN Live Nation		1,100 1,100 100% 25.00	\$39,333 Euro (27,500)
11/07/09	Paul Potts Colston Hall Bristol, UNITED KINGDOM 3A Entertainment	Elizabeth Marvelly	1,036 1,456 71% 10.00 - 27.50	\$37,819 £(22,990)
10/15/09	Calvin Harris Univ. Of East Anglia LCR-Union Norwich, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation	Mr Hudson	1,550 1,550 100% 14.00	\$34,757 £(21,700)
11/03/09	"Bob The Builder" Alexandra Theatre Birmingham, UNITED KINGDOM 3A Entertainment		1,480 1,480 100% 8.00 - 16.00	\$34,654 £(21,066)
10/23/09	Paul Potts Cardiff International Arena Cardiff, UNITED KINGDOM 3A Entertainment	Elizabeth Marvelly	1,338 2,100 63% 10.00 - 27.50	\$34,445 £(21,505)
11/15/09	"Eastpak Antidote Tour" Doek's Konzerte Disco Hamburg, GERMANY XWhy-Z Konzertagentur	Anti-Flag Alexisonfire Four Year Strong The Ghost Of A Thousand	1,065 1,500 71% 20.00 - 25.00	\$31,620 Euro (21,480)
10/28/09	Bowling For Soup O2 Academy Bournemouth, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation	Zebrahead	1,191 1,400 85% 16.50	\$31,475 £(19,651)
10/25/09	"Bob The Builder" The Anvil Basingstoke, UNITED KINGDOM 3A Entertainment		1,362 1,362 100% 8.00 - 16.00	\$28,949 £(18,074)
11/16/09	La Roux ABC1 Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		1,250 1,250 100% 13.00	\$26,732 £(16,250)
10/14/09	Black Stone Cherry Pyramid Centre Portsmouth, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		1,093 1,100 99% 15.00	\$26,260 £(16,395)
11/02/09	Paul Potts Sheffield City Hall Sheffield, UNITED KINGDOM 3A Entertainment	Elizabeth Marvelly	780 1,254 62% 10.00 - 27.50	\$26,238 £(15,950)
11/15/09	Tegan and Sara HMV Picture House Edinburgh, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts	Astronautalis	1,131 1,500 75% 14.00	\$26,093 £(15,862)
10/31/09	Amon Amarth Academy 2 Manchester, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation	Entombed Evile	900 900 100% 15.50	\$22,344 £(13,950)
11/02/09	Calvin Harris Ironworks Inverness, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts	Mr Hudson	1,000 1,000 100% 14.00	\$22,155 £(13,468)
10/19/09	"Bob The Builder" The Hexagon Reading, UNITED KINGDOM 3A Entertainment		960 1,010 95% 8.00 - 16.00	\$21,359 £(13,335)



COMEDIAN MICHAEL MCINTYRE accepts a Wembley Award, commemorating his sold-out six-date residency at the arena, from the venue's **Michelle Berry, Emma Bowmes** and **John Drury**. McIntyre was also honoured by NIA Birmingham for being its top-selling individual act of the year, moving nearly 55,000 tickets in five shows.

tival Republic to promote Big Chill, keeping yourself a cushy role as a 'hippy organiser' with an idea but no business sense," he said.

Jenner has responded by saying the award was decided prior to the announcement that Festival Republic was acquiring the event and certainly before anyone knew about Big Chill's liquidation. He expressed "nothing but the deepest sympathy for all of the suppliers involved."

Many felt Jenner and his excellent organisation were unlucky because events seemed to conspire against them. Some were surprised Larkin accepted the award.

Earlier in the day the second Virtual Festivals' conference, which benefited by the move from the classroom-like atmosphere of London's Gibson showrooms to the sumptuous comfort of the O2's cinema, had about 400 delegates at its busiest and looks to have established its place on the ever-growing conference circuit.

It's a platform that gives the smaller UK festivals the same voice as the larger ones and the attendance figures suggest the outdoor market is responding to it.

The panels comprised major players from the UK festival business, and guests from mainland Europe including Youroupe festivals organisation chief Christof

Huber, but often became low-key affairs given the expertise on tap.

Like most conference panels they had their moments, particularly a nimble-witted and very funny demonstration of how to deflect a heckler.

Having explained to a panel just how much his company looks after the acts that play its festivals, Live Nation festival guru John Probyn found himself challenged by a manager who said one of his acts played an LN festival and the catering amounted to its members being given £5 to spend at the burger van.

Probyn said it was a mistake because it should have only been £3 and pointed out that the burger van was conveniently parked alongside the band's dressing room.

Lawyers Chase Lundquist For Money

Scottish lawyers McClure Naismith are chasing concert promoter Mark Lundquist for the money they claim he owes them for sorting out some legal matters for The Drifters.

The recent edition of *The Lawyer* says the firm has filed a High Court claim for £63,000 and is asking for a further £17,013 in interest.

It wasn't possible to contact Lundquist at press time but McClure Naismith is claiming he agreed to pay in June 2009 and

the firm still hasn't received any money.

Lundquist heads Lundquist Management, a Surrey-based company that reps acts including London Community Gospel Choir, Stars From The Commitments, Procol Harum's Gary Brooker, and TRextasy.

Half Moon On The Wane

It seems only a howl of protest from some of the more famous acts to have played the venue can prevent London's Half Moon from shutting at the end of January.

Dave Smith from NEM Productions, which frequently uses the Putney venue for acts from a roster that includes John Renbourn, Stefan Grossman and Jan Akkerman, has appealed for anyone who's ever had dealings with the venue or seen an act there to join him in opposing the closure.

"I know that some of you in my address book are very famous and your names can probably help make a difference," he explained in an e-mail trying to rally support for the cause.

The Lower Richmond Road venue has a 30-year history that includes appearances from The Rolling Stones, U2, Badly Drawn Boy and Kasabian. But a 20 percent drop in takings and huge increases in the rent and business rate has led to tenant James Harris falling into debt.

Young's brewery, which owns the building, has given him until Jan. 31 to leave the premises. It's expected to reopen as a gastropub.

ESTONIA

VAT's It For Rabarock

The quadrupling of value-added tax (VAT) on concert tickets has forced Rabarock Festival in Estonia to cancel its 2010 edition and return in 2011.

This year's event reflected the fact that the country is reckoned to be one of the EU's biggest sufferers from the economic downturn. The 4,000-per-day crowd was one-third down from 2008.

In May the government announced that effective July 1 the VAT rate would be raised from the 5 percent that had applied for tickets to concerts and cultural events to the standard rate of 18 percent. It has since increased the standard rate to 20 percent.

Rabarock co-organizer Kristo Rajasaare blames government policies that are "hostile to culture," although there are signs that the Estonian live music industry is uniting to lobby for change.

A new association called Estonian Music Development Centre, which hopes to unite organizations and entrepreneurs from all music genres, is applying for money from a creative industries' funding tool with a view to build the music business on a more professional basis.

"We are making a real effort right now in putting the right strategy in place," says Helen Sildna, founder of Tallinn Music Week.

Apart from lobbying the government over VAT and other issues, EMDC also plans to set up a two-year training programme for

INTERNATIONAL BOXOFFICE | SUMMARY

Date	Artist Facility/Promoter	Support	Tickets Sold Capacity	Gross
11/13/09	Paradise Lost Columbiaclub Berlin, GERMANY X-Why-Z Konzertagentur	Samael Ghost Brigade	626 800 78% 22.00 - 27.00	\$20,678 Euro (14,047)
10/13/09	Richard Hawley The Queens Hall Edinburgh, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		655 900 72% 19.50	\$20,402 Euro (€12,738)
10/25/09	Fightstar ABC1 Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		976 1,250 78% 12.50	\$19,634 Euro (€12,258)



DEEP PURPLE, Oslo Spektrum Arena ANS, Oslo, Norway, Nov. 22

10/30/09	Little Boots Wulfrun Hall Wolverhampton, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		1,134 1,134 100% 10.00	\$18,163 Euro (€11,340)
11/10/09	The Airborne Toxic Event ABC1 Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		1,208 1,250 96% 9.00	\$17,911 Euro (€10,888)
11/15/09	NX Zero / Fresno / Gloria Olibank Hall Sao Paulo, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		838 3,148 26% 50.00 - 120.00	\$17,662 Reals (30,101)
10/25/09	Phoenix The Arches Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts	Chairlift	800 800 100% 13.00	\$16,658 Euro (€10,400)
10/23/09	Little Boots University of Sunderland Sunderland, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		1,027 1,200 85% 10.00	\$16,449 Euro (€10,270)
10/24/09	Seu Jorge Mendes Convention Center Santos, BRAZIL T4F - Time For Fun		574 2,700 21% 80.00 - 100.00	\$16,394 Reals (29,160)
11/06/09	Idlewild Moshulu Aberdeen, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		650 650 100% 15.00	\$16,105 Euro (€9,790)
10/30/09	Passion Pit Anson Room Bristol, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation	The Joy Formidable	1,000 1,000 100% 9.00	\$14,415 Euro (€9,000)
10/29/09	Little Boots The Junction Cambridge, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		850 850 100% 10.00	\$13,614 Euro (€8,500)
11/05/09	Clutch Garage Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		654 750 87% 12.50	\$13,590 Euro (€8,261)
09/29/09	Hockey Scala London, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation	Deastro	820 820 100% 9.50	\$12,659 Euro (€7,790)
09/22/09	Tinchy Stryder / Chipmunk Garage Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		750 750 100% 10.00	\$12,188 Euro (€7,500)

09/13/09	Steel Panther O2 Academy Birmingham Birmingham, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		600 600 100% 11.00	\$10,725 Euro (€6,600)
11/03/09	Gotthard The Relentless Garage London, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		349 410 85% 17.50	\$10,046 Euro (€6,107)
11/02/09	Idlewild Fat Sam's Dundee, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		392 500 78% 15.00	\$9,732 Euro (€5,916)
10/29/09	James Hunter Thornbury Theatre Thornbury, AUSTRALIA Frontier Touring Co.	Austin Busch The Good Reason	336 400 84% 33.00	\$9,675 Australian (11,000)
11/06/09	3OH!3 Classic Grand Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		550 550 100% 10.00	\$9,048 Euro (€5,500)
11/11/09	Frankmusik Classic Grand Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		486 550 88% 10.00	\$8,067 Euro (€4,904)
09/24/09	Bombay Bicycle Club Concorde 2 Brighton, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		540 540 100% 8.50	\$7,459 Euro (€4,590)
10/27/09	Hardcore Superstar Substage Karlsruhe, GERMANY X-Why-Z Konzertagentur	Avatar	397 700 56% 12.00 - 15.00	\$7,458 Euro (€5,214)
10/19/09	Hypnotic Brass Ensemble Oran Mor Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		426 500 85% 10.00	\$7,339 Euro (€4,582)
09/30/09	Noisettes Uebel & Gefährlich Hamburg, GERMANY FKP Scorpio Konzertproduktionen GmbH	Laura Vane & The Vipertones	284 400 71% 15.00 - 18.00	\$6,231 Euro (4,356)
09/17/09	Katzenjammer Atomic Cafe Munich, GERMANY FKP Scorpio Konzertproduktionen GmbH		338 338 100% 12.00 - 15.00	\$6,102 Euro (4,266)
10/28/09	3OH!3 Underground Cologne, GERMANY FKP Scorpio Konzertproduktionen GmbH		302 400 75% 13.00 - 16.00	\$5,705 Euro (3,989)
10/04/09	Bombay Bicycle Club O2 Academy Bristol Bristol, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation		350 350 100% 8.50	\$4,765 Euro (€2,975)
11/06/09	A Skylit Drive Logo Hamburg, GERMANY FKP Scorpio Konzertproduktionen GmbH	Dance Gavin Dance	223 500 44% 13.00 - 16.00	\$4,422 Euro (3,004)
11/09/09	cKy Underground Cologne, GERMANY X-Why-Z Konzertagentur	4Backwoods	201 400 50% 14.00 - 17.00	\$4,209 Euro (2,859)
09/28/09	Hockey Norwich Arts Centre Norwich, UNITED KINGDOM Live Nation	Deastro	290 290 100% 8.50	\$4,006 Euro (€2,465)
11/06/09	Portugal. The Man Melkweg Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS Paperclip Agency		243 400 60% 11.00	\$3,935 Euro (2,673)
11/16/09	The Fall Of Troy King Tut's Wah Wah Hut Glasgow, UNITED KINGDOM DF Concerts		285 300 95% 9.00	\$3,677 Euro (€2,235)
11/04/09	Portugal. The Man Doornroosje Nijmegen, NETHERLANDS Paperclip Agency	The Cave Singers	197 400 49% 12.00	\$3,480 Euro (2,364)
10/04/09	Girls Moby Dick's Madrid, SPAIN Live Nation		108 300 36% 15.00	\$2,317 Euro (1,620)
10/09/09	Diablo Headbangers Ballroom Hamburg, GERMANY FKP Scorpio Konzertproduktionen GmbH	Face Down Hero	74 200 37% 14.00 - 17.00	\$1,696 Euro (1,186)
09/25/09	J. Tillman Privatclub Berlin, GERMANY FKP Scorpio Konzertproduktionen GmbH	Pearly Gate Music	93 250 37% 10.00 - 12.00	\$1,482 Euro (1,036)

young music managers wanting to start up their own management companies or agencies.

The inaugural Rabarock in 2005 attracted only 5,000 fans over two days, but major sponsors including SEB Bank and Jagermeister have stuck with it, making it something of a flagship for a virtually non-existent Baltic festival market.

FRANCE

LN's Gang Of Four

Live Nation has considerably beefed up its Paris office by luring four new promoters from major rivals.

Angelo Goppe has moved from Nous Productions and will now be a senior vice president of promoting with LN. Armel Campagna and Damien Chombard-Boudet have joined from Gerard Drouot Productions.

The fourth new recruit is Jonathan Miltat from Deluxe Productions, where his pop and specialist jazz roster included Terry Callier, Sebastien Tellier, The Puppini Sisters, Krystle Warren and Dave Holland Quintet.

Live Nation moved into France in 2007, purchasing a majority share in Jackie Lombard Productions. The U.S. company's other major interest in the French live music business comes from its Belgian office, where Herman Schueremans has teamed with Roubaix-based promoter France Leduc to create a festival at the historic Grand-Place in Arras in northern France.

LN chief exec for international music Alan Ridgeway said the company has seen "a huge opportunity" to bring more international and local concerts to music fans in Paris and the rest of France.

"This great team of promoters, under the leadership of Isabelle Gamsohn, LN managing director for France, ensures that we are now well positioned to take full advantage of these opportunities," he said.

Messier Denies Fraud

Former Vivendi chief exec Jean-Marie Messier admits he may have made some mistakes in his time but he told a New York jury that he's "never, never, never" committed fraud.

He's the major defense witness and took the stand Nov. 20 to face a shareholders' class-action law-

suit accusing him and former Vivendi chief financial officer Guillaume Hannezo of hiding the company's true financial condition before a \$46 billion three-way merger with Seagram Co. and Canal Plus.

Messier, who also faces criminal charges in France, is accused by investors of failing to disclose a liquidity crisis and of manipulating the company's share price. He has denied any wrongdoing.

The federal court in Manhattan has heard investors' complaints about how dire internal communications among Vivendi executives contrasted sharply with Messier's positive public statements before he was fired in 2002 at the insistence of the company's lenders.

Hannezo, who's already had seven days in the witness box, once said that being financial officer for Vivendi at the turn of the millennium was like "riding in the death seat," apparently referring to being a front-seat passenger in the company that Messier was driving.

When Messier was booted in July 2002, new Vivendi chief Jean-Rene Fourtou was left to reduce a euro 19 billion debt mountain by selling off some of the assets.

At one stage the utility company-turned-entertainment juggernaut was reportedly in danger of having to sell entertainment assets including the Universal Music Group, but Fourtou was able to raise enough cash elsewhere.

Kiss And Hell

KISS, Twisted Sister, Immortal and Godflesh are among the first acts confirmed for next year's Hellfest.

The extreme metal fest, a smaller French version of Germany's Wacken Open Air, has come under fire from religious and right-wing groups.

The media fuss is believed to have been the main reason key sponsor Coca-Cola pulled out. The Clisson festival hit back by claiming it can prove some papers supported those who complained about the nature of the event and decided to cut back on their coverage.

It says provincial daily *Ouest France* sent five reporters but didn't print copy from any of them.

The other acts on the bill June 18-20 include Arch Enemy, Behemoth, Sepultura, Earth Crisis, The Devil's Blood, Agnostic Front and Atheist.

AP Photo



MARIAH CAREY GIVES THE KIDS A TURN, as eight from the Help A London Child charity turn on the Christmas display at a shopping center Nov. 19.

GERMANY

Popkomm 2010 In Doubt

Reports from Germany suggest next year's Popkomm is in doubt unless the music industry and the city of Berlin start seeing eye to eye over the event.

The city is behind the showcase conference – which was canceled this year – returning next year, but Dieter Gorny, chief exec of the music industry association BVMl, says it will come up short of being the international event the German music industry merits.

"The plans do not show that the people in charge have an international event relevant to the market in mind," he said.

He believes the Popkomm being planned, which would be part of a Berlin Music week, will be no more than a local affair such as Hamburg's Reeperbahn Festival and the C/O pop event in Cologne. Although he no longer owns a large slice of the gathering, Gorny's position at the head of the BVMl – the German wing of the IFPI – means he has an influence on how much the German industry will support it.

This year's Popkomm delegate numbers, which aren't officially released, were reportedly about 50 percent down on 2008 when the event was pulled.

Many believe that Gorny, who owned the majority of Popkomm until selling his 51 percent stake

to Viva Media before the 2003 gathering, was behind the decision to cancel.

He believes a real Popkomm will happen only if Berlin creates an event that signals it's an international music capital. He's also reportedly unhappy that the BVMl has no involvement in the Berlin Music Week, which is expected to be the umbrella event of Popkomm.

Some feel that Hamburg, where the city's marketing department and some of the disaffected Popkomm staff created a conference around the annual Reeperbahn Festival (Sept. 24-26), holds the country's best chance of creating an international event.

Hamburg Marketing's media chief Guido Neumann has already announced that the city is looking forward to the fifth Reeperbahn Festival and the second Reeperbahn Campus conference, and confirmed the 2010 dates will be Sept. 23-25.

Popkomm's current aim – and maybe its best chance of survival – is to move to the city's famous Tempelhof Airport, where it would have ample exhibition space and could bolt on to the Berlin Festival now being run by Stefan Lehmkühl's Melt Festival team.

That may well help attract a better lineup, as the Reeperbahn Festival that Alexander Schultz and Hamburg-based promoters including Karsten Jahnke and Folkert Koopmans put together



DURING AUSTRALIAN DATES opening for Pearl Jam, Ben Harper and Relentless7 tape an episode of TV channel Max's "Max Session" at the Sydney Opera House, to air Jan. 21.

this year far outstripped any Popkomm has produced.

Hamburg also has the added advantage of being like Groningen, where Dutch conference showcase Eurosonic-Noorderslag is staged. All the venues are within easy walking distance of each other.

Apart from Berlin, Hamburg and Cologne, which stages C/O Pop, there have been unconfirmed reports that Munich and Frankfurt are also planning showcase conferences.

SPAIN **Power May** **Twin Benicàssim**

Former Mean Fiddler Music Group chief Vince Power's first move since buying the company behind Benicàssim Festival may be to twin it with a new event in Seville.

More than three years ago Power, fellow Irish promoter Denis Desmond, The Workers Beer Company and a private investor bought 80 percent of the Spanish event. They've now bought the remaining 20 percent held by José Luis and Miguel Morán of Maraworld, who established Benicàssim in 1995. No financial details have been revealed.

The event regularly pulls 35,000 per day and is popular with festival tourists, as somewhere between 55 percent and 60 percent of the crowd come from outside Spain.

Power previously said the festival, which takes place next to the beach on Spain's Costa del Azahar, could benefit from having a twin.

However, when he tried to do it in 2008 – sharing acts with a simultaneous event he ran at the 15,000-capacity Juan Carlos I Auditorium in Madrid – it clashed with Jose Cadahia's Summercase, which was happening 20 kilometres across the city at Boadilla del Monte.

It's doubtful if either of them would want to have that happen again, as Maraworld said 9,000 showed for Benicàssim's new twin, while Summercase appeared not to suffer so much as almost 20,000 turned up.

Power raked in about £13 million from the sale of his one-third stake in the Mean Fiddler empire.

SWEDEN **Kleman Back** **At Hultsfred**

Two years after AEG bought the company that books the Hultsfred Festival bill, Janne Kleman has left the company and returned to working for the festival.

Until December 2007 Kleman booked the festival for Supreme Royal Deluxe, a company he co-owned with Gothenburg-based artist manager Petri Lunden. He switched to AEG when the American company bought it out.

Kleman sent an e-mail Nov. 30 saying it was his last day at AEG Live Sweden, but he'd still con-

tinue as the head booker for Hultsfred.

The split appears to have been initiated by the festival, which had a poor year in 2009, making cost cuts including dispensing with the services of AEG.

The event is down to a reduced staff and some of those who remain are only working out their notices.

It wasn't possible to get comment from Hultsfred or AEG at press time.

The festival dates for 2010 are July 7-9.

Australian NEWS

Reported By **Christie Eliezer**
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Aussies Heading **For SxSW**

Of the 56 invited to showcase at South By Southwest in March, 29 Australian and 13 New Zealand acts have accepted so far.

They include such major acts as The Temper Trap, Paul Dempsey, Gin Wigmore, Die! Die! Die! Karni-vool, Dash and Will and Bliss & Eso.

SxSW's local rep Phil Tripp says only five acts from down-under played in 2002.

In other Aussies-abroad news, multi-platinum singer Delta Goodrem opens for Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli's U.S. winter jaunt that runs through Dec. 13 after his producer Dave Foster heard Goodrem sing at his birthday party.

Splendour **Moves North**

The Splendour In The Grass festival is temporarily moving from hippie-chic Byron Bay to the site of the Woodford Folk Festival in Queensland July 30 to Aug. 1.

It will continue to battle the local council and residents to be staged at the 660-acre property, which promoters bought as a permanent site.

Rival promoter Peter Noble of the area's Bluesfest said council's reluctance to turn Byron Bay into a "party town" could push other cultural events from the area.

Splendour draws 17,500 and injects \$6 million into the local economy.

ie:music **Wins Downunder**

London-based management company ie:music made its presence known at the Nov. 26 ARIA awards in Sydney.

Australian-born SIA won best music DVD for "TV Is My Parent" while New Zealand's Ladyhawke won breakthrough awards for her single "My Delirium" and her self-titled debut album.

Her inclusion in the show aroused protests from some quarters, as she was born in New Zealand and is based in London. Her Australian record label Modular claimed the singer was applying for Australian residence. Another ie:music client was Robbie Williams, who presented an award and performed his single "Bodies."

George, Whitney Lead **Superstar Charge**

George Michael and Whitney Houston head a contingent of superstars heading here the first quarter of 2010. Both coincidentally last visited in 1988.

Dainty Consolidated Entertainment announced Michael shows for Perth's Members Equity Stadium (Feb. 20) and Sydney Football Stadium (Feb. 26) with a Melbourne date to be added.

Andrew McManus Presents has seven Houston arena and winery dates Feb. 22 to March 7. The

Boxoffice Spotlight

Nickelback **Sick Puppies**

November 13-14, 2009

Acer Arena
Sydney, AUSTRALIA

PROMOTER
Dainty Consolidated Entertainment
Live Nation

Gross **\$2,742,295**
Tickets Sold **23,805**
Capacity **12,719**
Percentage Sold / 2 Shows **93%**
Ticket Price **102.50-142.50**
Australian **(2,998,355)**

Frontier Touring Company and Roundhouse Entertainment have 14 stadium and winery shows Feb. 21 to March 14.

Michael Coppel Presents brings Lyle Lovett for his first visit March 23 to April 1, doing five theatres with Kasey Chambers opening.

Short Notes

Melbourne-based live music venue chain Hi Fi Bar has opened in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam in partnership with local hospitality operator Huynh Thi Bich Hong.

Hi Fi's owners opened an outlet in Brisbane this year and will set up another in Sydney next year.

Forsythe's 2008-09 report on New South Wales clubs in Hunter Valley and the Central Coast noted that only 55 percent turned a profit. The venues blame smoking bans and rises in tax and poker machine charges for their woes. Four venues closed in the past three months, and others are looking at merging.

A new award was set up in memory of manager and venue booker Linda Gebar, who died October 2008 following the birth of her second child. It offers \$5,000 to a Melbourne female manager to build her career.

The Tasmanian government gave Falls Festival an extra \$287,525 in funding to upgrade roads, irrigation and toilets.

Some Pearl Jam fans did not come "alive" when the band played the QSAC Stadium in Brisbane Nov. 25. About 1,000 were stranded at a railway station and missed half of opening act Ben Harper's set.

Others complained about the sound quality – leading AC/DC's promoter Garry Van Egmond to give assurances it would not be an issue when AC/DC played there Feb. 25 and 27.

Feb. 5-7, while Houston will play Feb. 11, 13 and 14.

The Boys will also play three nights at the World Memorial Hall in Kobe Feb. 9-11 and Nagoya's Gaiji Hall for two nights the following week. Houston's Kansai dates are limited to two nights at Osaka Castle Hall.

Lady Gaga will bring her Monster Ball tour to the World Memorial Hall April 15 and the Yokohama Arena April 18, while AC/DC will keep it short and sweet by playing Saitama Super Arena March 12 and the Kyocera Dome baseball stadium in Osaka March 16.

And then there's Carole King and James Taylor, who will haul their intimate Return to the Troubadour show to the cavernous Budokan April 14 and 16.

CHINA

\$350k For MJ Glove

A five-star hotel in Macau made the winning bid for Michael Jackson's sequined glove at an auction of some of the late singer's effects in New York Nov. 21.

Hoffman Ma, deputy chief executive of Macau gaming resort Ponte 15, made the bid at \$350,000. With commissions, the total cost for the glove will be \$420,000. The presale estimate for the item was a mere \$40,000 to \$60,000.

The hotel plans to open a gallery next year to show off the glove and nine other Michael Jackson items it purchased at the auction, including some sequined socks, portraits of Charlie Chaplin that Jackson drew as a child and a shirt he wore in the "Thriller" video.

A hotel representative told media that executives had been discussing purchasing Jackson memorabilia for months before the auction.

They hope to turn the hotel gallery into a "gathering place in Asia" for Jackson fans.

Jackson never performed in China.

VIETNAM

Adopting The Korean Model

The Korean model continues to exert a powerful hold on pop music in the rest of Asia.

The VietNamNet Bridge publication recently reported on several local singers who have



BRITNEY SPEARS' CIRCUS TOUR broke the record for concert ticket sales at Sydney's Acer Arena with 66,247 tickets sold across four nights. L-R: Promoter Paul Dainty, venue GM David Humphreys, Spears and the arena's Don Elford.

undergone training in Korea to boost their appeal at home.

Korean TV shows are extremely popular in Vietnam, which means Korean stars are coming to the Southeast Asian country as part of cultural exchange programs. These visits are covered extensively by the media.

Pop star My Tam went to Korea in 2007 and studied dancing there for two months. Her style changed considerably and made her even more popular

Her album, *Vut Bay*, was even produced in South Korea, and she is planning on returning there next year for more projects.

Another singer, Ung Hoang Phuc, has recently revealed that he will invite five Korean music professionals to Vietnam to help him with his next musical project.

Organizers of the talent search contest called Super Star, which attracted 2,000 contestants, say they will take the winner, Duong Thi Hong Nhung, to Korea for a whole year of training. ★

Asian NEWS

Reported By Philip Brasor
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phil@pollstar.com

JAPAN

Going East

A slew of Japan arena tours were announced in the past few weeks.

Both Whitney Houston and the Backstreet Boys will be hitting the Saitama Super Arena near Tokyo in February for multiple shows. The Boys will be there



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BACK STAGE

PHOTO PASS



THE HALLS GET DECKED at the Genesee Theatre when Brian Setzer brings the annual Christmas Rocks! Extravaganza to Waukegan, Ill., Nov. 21. With Setzer are NiteLite Promotions' Don Kronberg and the venue's Gary Zabinski.



ARTISTS INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT'S Mark Lyman (3rd from L) and Coconut Festival producer Paul Easton (R) squeeze in for a shot with Molly Hatchet when the band plays the annual fest in Cape Coral, Fla., Nov. 14.



MEMBERS OF DAUGHTRY take time out before their set at the Bank of Kentucky Center to chill with the venue's Molly Pascucci Nov. 13.



THE ROSE GARDEN ARENA in Portland, Ore., gets a KISS show Nov. 17 and the band snags some doppelganger donuts from AEG Facilities' Sheri Alderman and Jay Cooper.



Erin Schumacher



RODNEY CARRINGTON hangs with Resort Entertainment's Steve Seiden and Northern Lights Casino's Anna DeLong on the first of two nights at the Walker, Minn., room Nov. 21.



ALAN JACKSON and the venue's Trey Bell team up for ticket duty when Jackson visits the Abbotsford Entertainment & Sports Centre in British Columbia Nov. 13.



BOOK EM' NANO'S Arnaldo "Nano" Ramirez, SMG's Marc Solis and R Entertainment's Reed Glick get in the mix with Styx when the band wraps its tour at the American Bank Center Arena in Corpus Christi, Texas, Nov. 22.

Roland Henry / American Bank Center

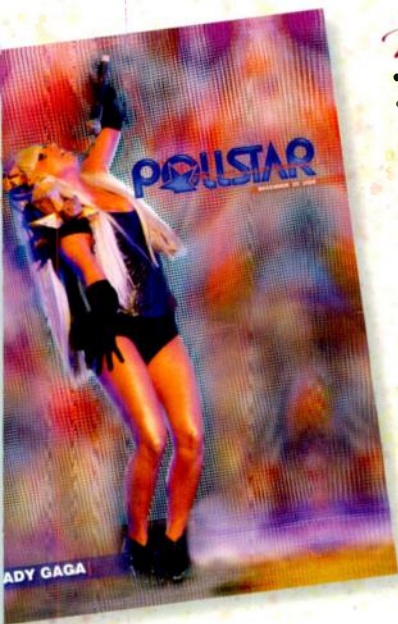


LEWIS BLACK cracks up The Show At Agua Caliente Casino's Steve Macfadyen before hitting the stage at the Rancho Mirage, Calif., venue Nov. 13.



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