MUSIC & MEDIA

Year-End Special

Europe's Music Radio Newsweekly . Volume 9 . Issue 51/52 . December 19, 1992 . £ 3, US$ 5, ECU 4

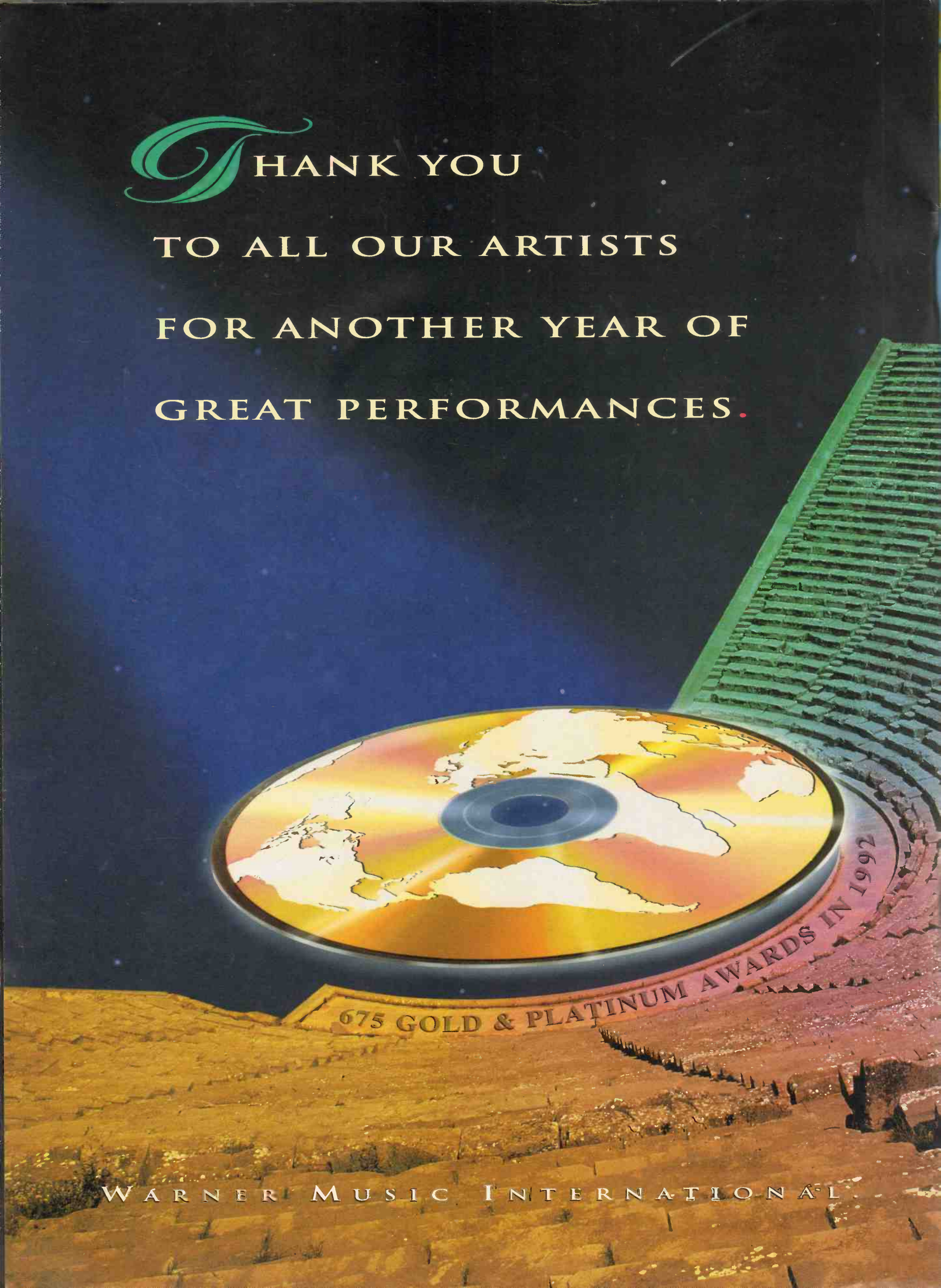
The Year in Music, Radio & Records

THANK YOU

TO ALL OUR ARTISTS

FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF

GREAT PERFORMANCES.



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Annie Lennox

DIVA

GOLD STATUS

GERMANY
HOLLAND
SWITZERLAND
AUSTRALIA

PLATINUM STATUS

EIRE
ITALY
SWEDEN
UNITED KINGDOM
CANADA
UNITED STATES of AMERICA

The success of **DIVA** continues
with the double A-sided single
Little Bird and **Love Song For A Vampire**
[from the film *'Bram Stoker's Dracula'*]
to be released on January 25th 1993.

RCA

BMG
BMG RECORDS (UK) LIMITED
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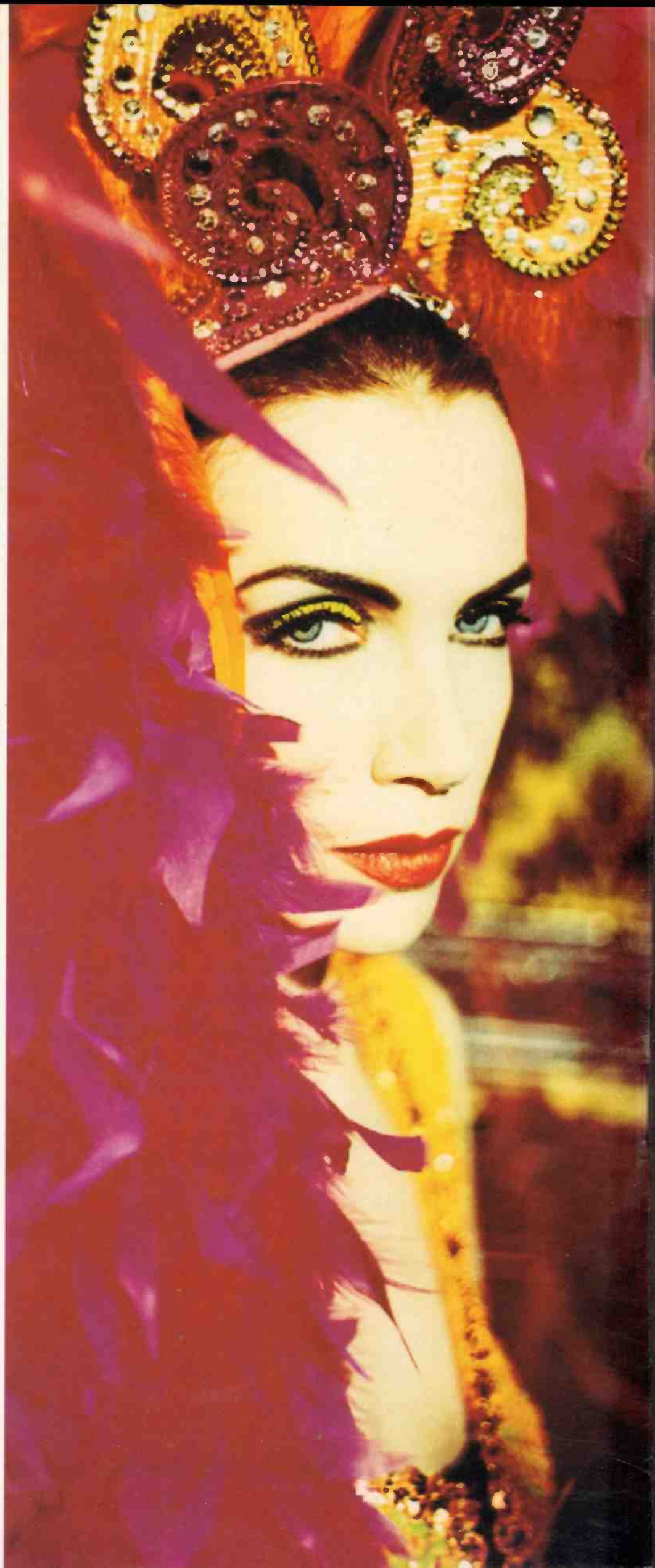
ANNIE LENNOX **D I V A**

ARISTA
A BERTELSMANN MUSIC GROUP COMPANY



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M&M Presents The 1992 Year-End Special.
See Pages 13 - 35.

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Capital Radio Rumoured To Take Over Midlands

by Mike McGeever

Capital Radio is reportedly negotiating a friendly takeover of UK group owner **Midlands Radio**, which would give the London broadcaster its first major investment outside of London, according to sources.

Capital Radio MD **Richard Eyre** declines to comment on the negotiations, saying, "We do not comment on market rumours."

Sources say, however, a deal could be completed by the end of the year. Insiders at Midlands confirm they have received an offer for the company, but would only reveal they were approached by "a London concern."

Not burdened with any long-term debt, and flush with £19.5 million (app. US$32.5 million) in cash on hand, indications are that Capital Radio is on the hunt for expansion into other markets. In September, Capital sources said it was keen on investing in and operating stations in other UK metropolitan areas.

Midlands Radio owns EHR **BRMB**/Birmingham, AC/MOR **Sound FM**/Leicester, Gold/ NT/ MOR **Mercia FM**/Coventry, EHR/MOR **Trent FM**/Nottingham, Gold **GEM AM**/Birmingham and Gold **XTRA AM**/Birmingham. In the second quarter

(continues on page 49)

Top FM Prepares To Broadcast Europe 2 Programming

by Marc Maes

Rumours are circulating in the Belgian radio industry that EHR net **Top FM** may be handing over its two frequencies for use by French nets AC **Europe 2** and Gold **Nostalgie**.

Following Nostalgie's intentions to launch a Brussels outlet (M&M November 7), insiders say the net is likely to take over Top FM's frequency in the Belgian capital. Meanwhile, following a provisional deal concluded in February this year allowing Europe 2 to transmit on the other frequency in Brussels, there are now plans to change the other Top FM stations in Liège, Charleroi, La Louvière and Mons into Europe 2 affiliates in January 1993. December 15 has been

(continues on page 49)

METALLICA RECEIVES GOLD, PLATINUM *— Metallica was awarded with a gold disc for its album "And Justice For All," released in 1989, and platinum for "Metallica," released mid-1992, after their concert in Dortmund's Westfallenhalle on November 24. Pictured (l-r) are: artists Jason Newsted, Kirk Hammett, Phonogram MD Louis Spillmann, Lars Ulrich and James Hetfield.*

Chart Battle Hits Dutch Industry

by Machgiel Bakker

How exclusive is a sales chart? This is the central issue in a conflict that has broken out between the major players in the Dutch music industry.

EHR pubcaster **Veronica** has terminated the contract it has had since the beginning of the '70s with chart body **Stichting Nederlandse Top 40** (SNT). Veronica demanded an exclusivity contract (on behalf of the public broadcasters combined in **Radio 3**), which was refused by the board of SNT. SNT MD **Sieb Kroeske** has since resigned in protest against the board's decision, and is working to set up a rival chart organisation: the **Nederlandse Hitparade**, which will start delivering the new **Top 50** chart to Radio 3 as of January 1 1993.

As Dutch copyright organisation **BUMA/STEMRA** issues the **Intomart**-researched **Nationale**

(continues on page 49)

No. 1 in EUROPE

European Hit Radio
WHITNEY HOUSTON
I Will Always Love You
(Arista)

Eurochart Hot 100
WHITNEY HOUSTON
I Will Always Love You
(Arista)

European Top 100 Albums
ABBA
Gold - Greatest Hits
(Polar)

Radio, Retail Sales Update

Chains Report Purchases Down Towards Holidays

Most major retailers are reporting lower sales in the run-up to the busy Holiday season this year, mainly due to troubled economies in some of Europe's largest markets, slower growth in CD purchases and the slump in vinyl sales.

The UK, whose economy may have bottomed out, is the only major market to show a sales increase. Product/marketing director of 18-store retail chain **Virgin Retail UK John Taylor** says same-store sales are up 3% compared to last year. "Music sales seem to be holding up very strongly, certainly more so than video," comments Taylor. Store traffic has been slow-

(continues on page 49)

Radio Stations Reap In The Profits

Radio stations in Europe have enjoyed a good year in 1992. While retailers have been bearing the brunt of the recession, European broadcasters have been meeting sales targets and enjoying an increase in advertising sales.

City FM/Merseyside MD **David Lincoln** says sales at his station have jumped around 30% compared to last year. "I think the biggest factor is our increase in audience share and reach. We were able to package and sell the last ratings figures."

Lincoln says the station is on target to meet its budget. "Right now we are a happy radio station," he

(continues on page 49)

shai
"If I Ever Fall In Love"
Smash hit single out now
MCA
GASOLINE ALLEY

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Midem Radio is a unique forum where the international radio industry gets together with the music industry and debates key issues affecting them both.

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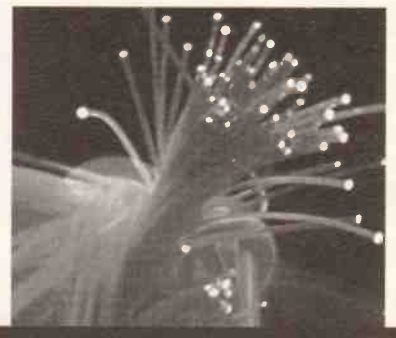

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EUROPE

EUROPE AT A GLANCE

GERMANY Polydor Germany Launches Urban

Polydor Germany is launching a new dance label Urban to market contemporary urban kind of programmed music in Polydor. Tim Renner says the label will be the German version of the existing Urban labels in the UK and the US. Says Renner, "Urban will feature new artists from especially from the Rotterdam area in the Netherlands and will try to create new, but innovative sounds." Heading the label as product label manager will be Sacha Basler, who will report directly to Renner. Miranda Watson

SWITZERLAND Voters Reject EEA Membership

The Swiss public industry is regrouping following the country's "no" vote on membership in the planned European Economic Area (EEA). While the EEA rejection will not impact the audiovisual sound component as much as other industries in the export-driven Swiss economy, the fact that a contingency plan was not drawn up after the referendum has some insiders concerned. In 1991 sales of international pop repertoire accounted for 85% of the market versus 5% for national artists and 11% for classical music. Sherri Wasserkrug

GERMANY Polydor Stops Tribbo Sound Promo

The District Court in Berlin has now issued a temporary injunction on behalf of Polydor Germany against Tribbo in Hamburg and Wiggle Trendliga in Berlin. The injunction forbids Tribbo, one of the largest rip-off chains in Germany, and Wiggle from manufacturing and selling a four-CD box set containing Rolling Stones' pre-1968 recordings. Tribbo had advertised the Stones' boxed set together with a Beatles boxed set recently. BMG has also obtained a temporary injunction against the company regarding the Beatles records. PW

FRANCE RTL's Stuff Buys NRJ's Audio 104

Division of Grands-Ac RTL out RTM have controversially rejected the proposal by NRJ and publishing group Audio Ayudie to buy part of UK Groove Commercialisation's share in the station. The group has also put forward a plan which would ensure that they continue to hold a 25% stake in the station. RTM has an estimated FF52 million (approx US$8.2 million) deficit, with an estimated turnover of FF300,000. David Ben

FRANCE Region Bids For Radio Classique

French regional and telecommunications group Region has made a proposal before bankruptcy authority CIASA to buy 100% of financially troubled classical station Radio Classique. The station, believed to have a cross shelve debt of over FF15 million (approx. US$2.3 million), is presently owned by property developer Charlemagne Palestro, whose company is currently also facing financial problems. Emmanuel Legrand

HOLLAND Radio 538 Granted Cable Licence

Minister of Culture Hedy D'Ancona has officially granted Holland's commercial station Radio 538 permission to broadcast via cable and satellite. The station, owned and directed by Lex Harding, began doing so December 11. Mary Parker