13TH ANNUAL DIRECTORY OF MUSIC RETAILERS



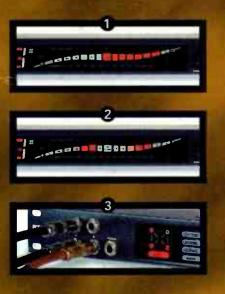
Candid Interview: Bono & The Edge

Artist Profile: The Donnas Producer Crosstalk: Meredith Brooks Signing Stories: Mellowdrone • Jené • Tom Burris

A&R REPORT • SONG BIZ • DEMO CRITIQUES • DISC REVIEWS

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Vol. XXVII, No. 2 January 20 - February 2, 2003

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FOR DISTRIBUTION AND NEWSSTAND DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION ONLY Mader News 818-551-3000/Newswar 213-253-64000 COUNSEL, Minhell, Silberbern & Knaep

CONSEL Muhael, Stebene E. Ruan Manufactured and printed in the United States of America Music Connection 4J SPS 444783) is a fixed at weaky on avery other Husday except Christmax/New Years by Music Connection, inc., 4215 Coldwark Canyon, Sun C Cy., 4,91604. Single cov. price is 20 59, Condia 53 257, Subscripton Toles, 545, one year, 575/how years, Darata the U.S., add SZB (U.S. currency bey year. Peladrai postage puid at Shahii Chi, 46 and adhilinoat making offices. We are not segressle but unsciciel interent, which must be accompanied by relating branching. The Shahii China, writes to might be accompanied by relating branching. The Shahii China, writes to might be accompanied by relating branching. The Shahii China, writes to might be accompanied by relating branching. The Shahii China, writes to might be accompanied by relating branching. The Shahii China, writes to might be accompanied by relating branching. The Shahii China, writes to might be accompanied by relating branching. The Shahii Shahii China, and Shahii China. The Shahii China, Shahii China, Shahii China, China, Shahii Shahii China, Shahii Ch

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FEATURES





32. U2

In this candid interview with U2's creative nucleus, Bono and the Edge, *Music Connection* finds out how the internationally successful Irish band has thrived by daring to reinvent itself and how, after 20-plus years in the trenches, the band's members continue to find inspiration from young, up-and-coming artists.

By Gary Graff

42. Before You Buy

It is downright foolish to buy a piece of gear or an instrument without educating yourself about the ins and outs, the ups and downs of the product. But how can you tell if a review is hype or fact? *MC* explores the gear sites that get you to the bottom line. By Bernard Baur

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GENA MASON

Hear the premiere of her debut EP, Goldmine, plus unreleased tracks

and a live interview January 23 at 7 pm P.S.T. at www.artistdirect.com. For details, visit:

www.genamason.com

"Gena Mason...reveals a poetic perspective." -- LA Weekly "Fresh and exciting!" -- a listener from Oslo, Norway





CALENDAR

If you have an event, workshop, class or seminar that you want us to announce, send the info, in writing, to: **Calendar**, c/o Music Connection, 4215 Coldwater Canyon, Studio City, CA 91604 or send e-mail to MichaelM@musicconnection.com.

Current

The Songwriters Guild Foundation is presenting the "Rewrite Workshop" with Michael Allen on Wednesday, January 22, at 7:30 p.m.

Beginning February 4, the SGF is also presenting a 10-week workshop titled "Become Remarkable" with multiplatinum selling songwriter Harriet Schock. The fee is \$250 for SGA members and \$320 for non-members. For more information, call the SGA office at 323-462-1108.

On February 22, Daylle Deanna Schwartz will be running the "Start & Run Your Own Record Label" seminar in New York. This event takes place from 11 a.m - 5:30 p.m at the New Yorker Hotel. The fee is \$85 in advance and \$105 at the door. For additional information, please go to www.daylle.com.

The Music and Film Network is presenting the Global Entertainment and Media Summit in New York City. The conference will take place from February 28 to March 2 and will feature some of the leading industry executives and visionaries dedicated to helping both artist and industry secure the promotion, access and contacts they need to succeed. Held at Le Bar Bat in New York City, the summit is about creating new possibilities and opportunity by bringing together industry leaders and artists who are committed to artistic integrity and commercial success. Registration is limited and highly recommended. For additional information, go to www.globalentertainmentnet work.com.

The 15th Annual International Folk Alliance Conference is coming to the Convention Center and the Renaissance Hotel in Nashville, February 6-9, 2003, bringing together the many facets of the folk music industry. This year's conference is cosponsored by the Network of Cultural Centers of Color (NCCC). For additional information, contact 301-588-8185.

The Third Annual Convention For Independent Film, Music & Books will be held February 8 at the American Film Institute in Hollywood. For more information, contact 323-665-8080.

Recaps

This winter, UCLA Extension's Entertainment Studies program will be offering two courses online, allowing students to learn from the Hollywood pros, no matter where they may be in the world. "Nine Centuries of Music: Composers from Leonin to Lennon" is an online tour of music from the Medieval era to the present, led by Linda Kobler.

The other course, "Fundamentals of Acoustics and Audio," provides an understanding of sound and acoustics to allow audio engineers to master today's wide array of sophisticated recording equipment. The course will be taught by Elizabeth Cohen, acoustician and President of Cohen Acoustical Inc.. For additional information, please contact 310-825-9064 or visit uclaextension.org/entertain mentstudies.

CORRECTION:

In Music Connection, Vol. XXVII, No. 1, our Promoter Profile listed an inaccurate Web site for Frank Fontana. The correct address is www.dorscia.com.



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HEART & SOUL

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Artists Against Cancer Benefit

Local indie artist Niles Thomas is launching the Indie Artists Against Cancer benefit concert to further raise awareness and funds to fight the war on cancer. Thomas, being a cancer survivor himself, gathered the help of his manager, Misty James, and his peers to lend a hand. Artists to perform include Niles Thomas, Shane, Tabitha LeBec and others. The benefit will be held February 23 at The Gig in Hollywood from 6:30 p.m. Stars from NBC's daytime soap Passions will also be on site to sign autographs and introduce a few artists. For more information, contact 818-679-4485.

Daniels For Angelus

MICHAEL MOLLURA

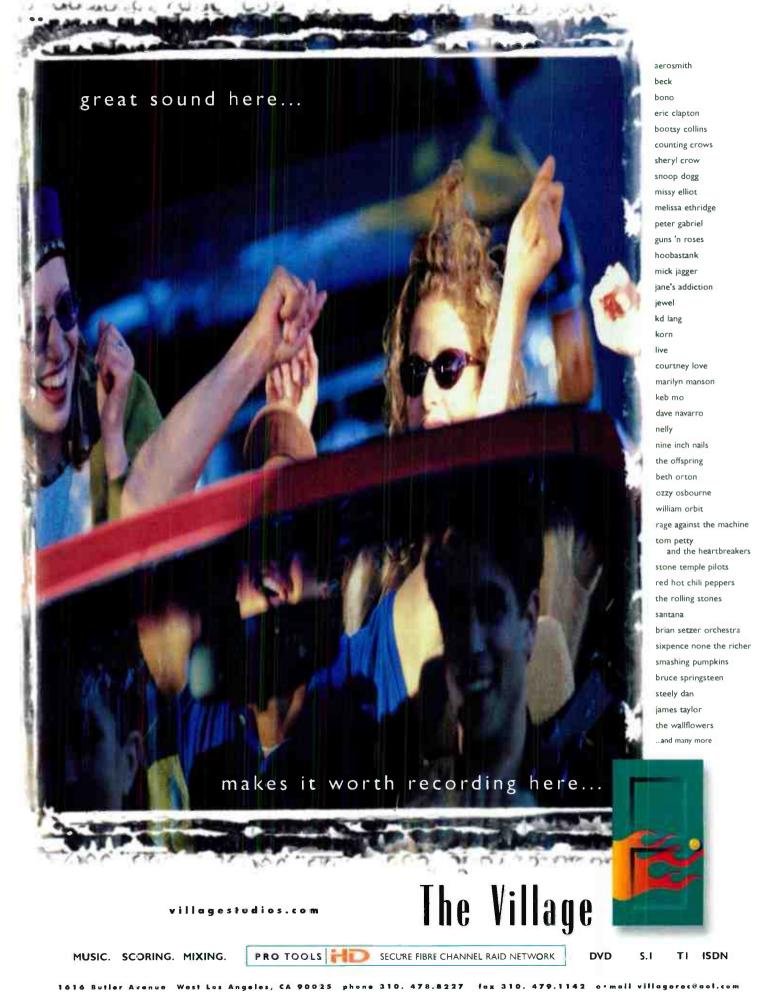
Clearwater's Coachman Park in Florida will welcome the 13th Annual Charlie Daniels/Suncoast Eye Center Angelus Country Concert. In his 13th year as a headliner, legendary Charlie Daniels will host this star-studded extravaganza to raise money for The Angelus.

The Angelus is home for severely handicapped persons who are not able to care for themselves. All of the residents and students have cerebral palsy and all use wheelchairs. Some are non-verbal, some are blind, some are deaf, but all understand kindness and love. For additional information on tickets and the artist lineup, please contact 615-777-6995.



BOGART TOUR FOR THE CURE: Close to \$1 million was raised for ongoing research for the Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. Pictured (L-R): Joe Kaczorowski, Exec VP, CFO and Secretary, HOB; Lou Mann, President of the Neil Bogart Memorial Fund; Joyce Bogart Trabulus, Co-Founder of the Neil Bogart Memorial Fund; Ooug Morris, Chairman and CEO of Universal Music Group; Britney Spears; Jay Marciano, President, HOB Concerts; Casey Wasserman, Owner and CEO of L.A. Avengers, and Ron Meyer, President and COO of Universal Studios.





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CLOSE-UP

Paul West, Universal Music Group's VP of Studio Operations for North America

Network in the second s

Under the leadership of Paul West, Universal Music Group's VP of Studio Operations for North America, UMS has become one of the world's leading mastering studios, with two thriving East Coast locations, in midtown Manhattan and Edison, New Jersey. He has implemented cutting-edge technology that leads the audio industry, and added new satellite locations to instantly transfer assets and serve global clients. The growing list of patrons that avail themselves of this service include: Sony, MCA, Twisted Records, IDJ, Universal/ Motown, Universal Latino and Emil Berliner Studio Germany.

The UMS-West North Hollywood location has four full-time staff production rooms for compilation, assembly, editing and parts production. All of the equipment is fiberchannel networked for easy transferring, and there is a full range of both analog and digital gear.

Universal Mastering Studios West services include music editing, mixing, mastering, DSD, audio format transfers, cloning, restoration, compilations, ISRC encoding, CD-R serialized watermarking, duplication, replication, WAMINET secured, high-resolution asset transmission and secure master-tape vault storage. Some of the facility's newest services include high definition editing suites with recording. editing, mixing and format transfers on either ProTools High Definition systems or DSD Sonoma workstations. The recent addition of a Pro-Tools HD Suite makes UMS-West the only mastering studios in the industry to offer clients complete audio services in one secure location. They brought in top ProTools engineer Steve Holroyd to oversee all ProTools recordings.

"All of our rooms and facilities are electronically connected to each other," says West. "We're able to move all files, including those from ProTools and the other digital audio workstation, through a pri-

Universal Mastering Studios

By Jonathan Widran

vate, secure network, uncompressed. So it's technically possible to record something in L.A. and have someone on the East Coast have a CD quality rendering of it by the afternoon."

UMS-West can accommodate all levels of clients while delivering the absolute highest levels of audio post-production. The ability to completely record, edit, mix and transfer formats, all within a Class-A mastering facility, is a valuable service available only at Universal Mastering Studios. UMS staffs several Grammy-winning engineers, each with particular skills which perfect and encode the sounds of the world's most popular music and motion picture soundtracks.

"Versatility is one of our key assets," says West, "but everything we offer centers around the incredible talent and expertise of Chief Mastering Engineer Erick Labson whose credits include Aerosmith, Cher, Sublime, Elton John, B.B. King, Chick Corea, Matrix soundtrack, Rush Hour 2 soundtrack, Blade 2 soundtrack and hundreds more. His diligence and attention to sonic detail is unparalleled, and he treats every recording — from the biggest pop star to the guy recording his first album — as if it's a potential No. 1 hit.

"The mastering business to us involves personal relationships, and we like to have new potential clients meet him first before deciding whether this is where they want to work," he adds. "A great deal of our repeat business is due to the chemistry our clients have with Erick in the studio. Combine those things with our sonically and ergonomically solid rooms, and a full-on support staff, and it's easy to see why we've done so well. It's exciting to keep meeting young artists who are so driven to succeed, and helping them with one of the crucial steps towards achieving their dreams."

Contact Universal Mastering

Studios-West

818-777-9200

MC

ASSIGNMENTS



Joel Motel

BSS Audio USA has rehired Joel Motel to serve as the distributor's Eastern regional Sales Manager. Based in Nashville, Motel is now responsible for overseeing the BSSrelated activities of six independent manufacturers and rep firms. Motel is also being called upon to provide personal support for consultants, contractors and dealers, as well as conduct DSP product training in the field. For more information, contact 615-360-0470.

Garson Foos

Retropolis Entertainment has appointed Garson Foos to be their new General Manager. Foos is now responsible for the company's dayto-day operations in both the audio and video/DVD areas, with an emphasis on A&R, marketing, business development and operations. For more information, contact 323-962-6887.

The Mitch Schneider Organization (MSO) has promoted Jennifer Sheller to Tour Publicist. At her new desk. Sheller is handling regional and tour publicity campaigns for various MSO clients. For more information, contact 818-380-0400.

SRS Labs, Inc. (NASDAQ: SRSL), a provider of audio, voice and ASIC technology solutions, has appointed 25-year technology veteran Raymond Lee as its Vice President/ General Manager for the Asia Pacific region. This new position was created to maximize SRS Labs' revenue growth in key manufacturing and consumer electronics markets in Asia Pacific. Lee is now responsible for planning and developing SRS business opportunities in China and Hong Kong with special emphasis on collaborating closely with the management of SRS Labs, subsidiary, Valence Tech, to expand its chip business. For additional information on any SRS-related assignments, please contact 949-442-1070 ext. 5110.



Deirdre Dod-Arkt

Arista Records has appointed Deirdre Dod-Arlt to be their new Vice President, media & television. As head of this newly created department, Dod-Arlt will generate new and unique marketing opportunities for Arista and Arista venturerelated pop and mainstrhheam artists on television, especially on ron-music broadcast and cable channel programs and series. For additional information, contact 212-830-2393.



David Burrier

Atlantic Records has promoted David Burrier to Vice President of Marketing. Burrier, who has been with Atlantic since 1995, was most recently Senior Director of Product Development. For additional information on this promotion, please contact 212-707-2033.

Keith H. Lombardi has been named President and Chief Operating Officer of C.F. Martin & Co. At his new desk, Lombardi oversees the day-to-day operations of the Martin Guitar Company. Lombardi previously served as a managing partner of Crescent Asset Partners, an equity investment group. Prior to that, Lombardi was general manager at Baxter Healthcare, an international medical device manufacturer and distribution company. For additional information on other C.F. Martin & Co. assignment, please contact 323-965-1990.



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A&R REPORT



Gary Harris Exec. VP A&R ARTISTdirect Records

Years with Company: 1 Address: 5670 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 200, Los Angeles, CA 90036 Phone: 323-634-4000 FAX: N/A Web: www.artistdirect.com E-mail: gary.jackson@artistdirect .com Artists: Phats Bossi, Smilez & Southstar

BACKGROUND: With BMG distribution, ARTISTdirect Records boasts a roster of emerging talent from a wide variety of genres. The label is the creation of company Chairman and CEO Ted Field, a veteran entertainment executive who co-founded and served as co-Chairman of Interscope Records, During his tenure at Interscope, Field was instrumental in the success of artists such as Eminem, Limp Bizkit, No Doubt, Tupac Shakur and Dr. Dre. The year 2002 saw ART-ISTdirect Records take first steps towards breaking Smilez & Southstar, Custom, Mad at Gravity, and NAAM Brigade. The label also released two critically acclaimed CDs by award-winning British artist Badly Drawn Boy. In 2003, ARTISTdirect Records will continue with brand-new artists like the Blood Brothers, Poverty, and Mellowdrone.

Urban Changes: I think that there's fragmentation going on with all sorts of tastes being represented. The "gangsta rap" in its purist form — i.e. N.W.A, Ice-T, Dr. Dre has modified more into the hustler or baller kind of persona. I think that's embodied by Jay-Z. It's not necessarily about crack deals, violence and that kind of thing. It's about having risen above that and living the high life.

The Audience: I don't think the audience is getting older. I think the music is growing up and it's getting older. There is certainly an adult hiphop fan. I started working with the music in 1982 when I was 22 and still consider myself a hip-hop fan. I think there are many people out there like me.

Growth: I don't really speak in terms of genres; I speak in terms of

philosophy and positioning. The biggest growth, to me, is the influx of kids from the suburbs who have more of a pure suburban outlook. We have Smilez & Southstar, who are based in Orlando, come out of the Lew Perelman camp, and are having a major success right now at radio with 16-year-old girls who shop at the mall. That's a hugely undertapped area in the market.

New Signings: Our talent is signed from pretty much wherever we can find them. We've signed from the West Coast and Philadelphia. We've started getting signings from New York. We've signed a kid from New England and a band from Los Angeles named Phats Bossi, A kid from Phoenix named Pokafase. An incredible singer from the Washington D.C./Maryland area named Sharli McQueen. And we've signed another artist from New York who I think is going to do very well for us named Stagger Lee. He came to us through Robert Clivilles from C & C Music Factory.

How Acts Get To Him: There are as many different ways to get to a label as there are many different viewpoints to express oneself. Phats Bossi came to me through an old friend in management named David Lombard. Poverty came to me through a model named Summer Altis. Sharli Mc-Queen came to us through Pras from the Fugees. Smilez & Southstar came to us through a manager who had worked previously as a promotion executive who worked for our Executive VP of Marketing and Promotion.

Unsolicited Material: In any area of life, anonymity or a lack of contact makes it a road less frequently traveled.

Signing Pace: The record business isn't so much about signing as it is about selling. We were signing things we liked and now we're introducing these artists to the marketplace. We're very excited about the success we're having with Smilez & Southstar, which looks to be shaping up as a Top Five pop record for us. NAAM Brigade, out of Philadelphia, has a new single featuring Juvenile, and we're doing an hour-long making of the video featuring Ricki Lake. Their record seems to be exploding.

Multi Media: I think video is a component that is helpful, unless you have a very unusual record that is highly reactive. Either way, it's important to be connected with a strong promotion network. This way you're connected with radio. Unless you have that, radio isn't going to take you seriously unless you have a video. The marketplace expects it and the artist expects it.

Video Outlets: I don't think MTV is the only place to get a video played these days. I don't think BET is the only place to get a video played. There's M2, there are local shows, club play, MTV Soul and various formats of MTV that are now splintering off with their own separate channels. The video outlet community has gone into various permutations and it's very exciting.

Image: Since the onset of MTV, image has become very important. I am a person who comes from a period of music where it was more important what you sounded like. I still like to think that, with the artists I'm involved with, it's more important what they sound like than what they look like. We still like to be involved with artists that have representative images.

Label involvement: The idea behind A&R is to help focus artists for the marketplace from the musical perspective, image perspective, and ideas about marketing and interacting with the record company to get the various departments excited about what you're doing. We have two artists with various approaches. With Phats Bossi, we were very involved in helping him choose producers and in guiding him toward concepts. In the case of NAAM Brigade, they did a good deal of what they did on their own and then the single that is breaking out in the Crossover Format was the result of a conversation we had with the leader, Sonny Black. We were explaining a scenario where women with really tidy and round asses were coming through the door at a party. He would ask, "What you doing with all that?" As a result, we think we've helped guide him into what will be a break-out record.

What He Wants: I don't know what other people's criteria are, but I'll

ACLU AWARDS



At the first annual Bill of Rights dinner thrown by the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, honorees included Fred Goldring and Ken Hertz, Founding Partners of Goldring, Hertz, Lichtenstein & Haft, L.L.P.; Academy Award-winning filmmaker Barry Levinson, and civil rights attorney R. Samuel Paz. The event recognizes individuals who have helped preserve civil liberties and civil rights. Pictured (L-R): Don Was; Billy Crystal, Herbie Hancock, Ramona Ripstom, Exec. Director, ACLU; Barry Levinson; Fred Goldring; Ken Hertz, and Aaron Sorkin. For further information, please contact John Rafacz at Bragman Nyman Cafarelli, 310-205-8390.

tell you what I like. Having had some success with the A&R guy who signed D'Angelo, he had a really exciting demo, but there was only one song we ultimately used on his first album. Poverty had a very exciting demo and there's only one thing on it that's making his first album. Phats Bossi came to me with three hits on his demo, so we signed him basically on what we heard as hits. The album was fashioned around his hits.

Getting Ready: In the case of NAAM Brigade, Poverty and Phats, they had regional profiles where they were known and worked in the community. Some of them had done guest vocals on other people's albums. They put in a good degree of work before we ever got to them. If you get them and they have put in some work, that supposedly makes it easier. If you find someone who's really exciting and who has not had any exposure, you've got to go with your gut if you think you can make them a star.

Changing Management: Managers change all the time; during the signing, after the signing. There's some degree of success and they no longer remember how it was they go to the point where they are. People may no longer get along. There's no instruction manual.

Advice to the Unsigned: I think the thing to do is to find exciting companies that are willing to do what it takes to care for your career and break you as an artist and work with you as a partner instead of looking for the Fortune 500 division who will throw a lot of money at you. Here at ARTISTdirect, we try to tell the truth

-Tom Kidd

A&R REPORT

New Label Seeks Submissions

Rhythm Crew Records, a new record label based in South Dakota, is looking for artists from the upper Midwest to sign to its roster. The label is the creation of music producer Chad Sharp.

"We are looking for the hottest new talent in the upper Midwest, specifically Minnesota, Nebraska, lowa and South Dakota," Sharp stated. "There are some of the most talented people out there just waiting to be developed."

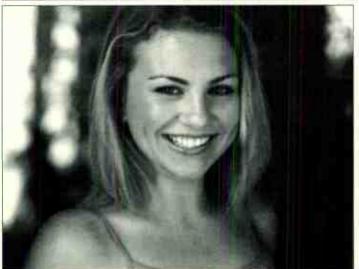
Rhythm Crew is looking for singers, songwriters, rappers, bands and producers of most any style. Interested artists should send a photo, bio, and CD to: Chad Sharp, Rhythm Crew Records, 421 North Edgerton, Mitchell, SD 57301. For further information, contact 605-996-0232 or visit the Web site at www.geocities.com/rhythmcrew.

Love Expands

Kenny Love Enterprises, a record promotion and publicity firm, is avidly seeking professionally produced independent recording artists to take advantage of a distributor needing product. The unnamed distributor is reportedly looking to significantly expand its catalog of independent recording artists for 2003.

"My company's primary duty for this distributor, of which I am not going to give away its name as of yet, is serving as its 'gatekeeper,' if you will, in the sense of acquiring highly competitive product," Love says. All submissions must contain at least one danceable track. For

TONOS DELIVERS BATHORY



Tonos, the global musicians online network, continues to find strategic opportunities for its members. The two most recent examples are 18-year-old singer/songwriter Melissa Bathory (Pictured) signing an artist development deal with DreamWorks Records to cut a multi-song demo for a possible CD release, and the recent partnership between Tonos and AOL that created the "Write A Song For Cher" contest. For more information, please visit www.tonos.com.

further information, send an E-mail to distribution@getresponse.com.

Hip-Hop Summit Planned

The First National Urban Hip-Hop Music Festival will team up with Russell Simmons and Dr. Benjamin Chavis' Hip-Hop Summit to cross-promote their events. The Hip-Hop Summit is scheduled for April 11, with UHHMF currently scheduled for April 12-13 at Turner Field in Atlanta. The events promise live performances, exhibits, games, a new and classic car show and lots of entertainment.

For showcase information, contact Chrystal Stevens or Charles Johnson at 770-912-7221. For further information, contact Jody Miller, 212-431-5227, or visit the Web site at www.urbanhiphopmusicfest.com.

Midtown Fest Announced

The 10th Anniversary Music Midtown Festival has been announced for May 2-4 in Atlanta, GA. The event promises to include more than 120 international, national, and local musical acts performing on 11 stages at a 40-acre complex in Midtown Atlanta.

For further information about showcase opportunities, contact the Hot Line, 770-643-8696, or visit the Web site at: www.musicmid town.com. For additional information, contact Caren West at Caren West PR, 404-816-8420 or Brian & Colin Cooley at Wicked PR, 404-881-8891.

WASHINGTON AT UCLA



UCLA Live is presenting Washington Square Memoirs, an evening featuring four artists who emerged from the Sixties folk music revival: Loudon Wainwright III, John Hammond, Tom Paxton and Mike Seeger. The evening brings to life Rhino's three-disc set, Washington Square Memoirs: The Great Urban Folk Boom (1950-1970), celebrating the music which sprang from New York's Washington Square including songs by Bob Dylan and Joan Baez as well as the evening's featured performers. Washington Square Memoirs is scheduled for January 25, 8 p.m., at UCLA's Royce Hall. For ticket information and reservations, call 310-825-4401. For information about the program, contact Brian Yaeger in UCLA's publicity department, 310-825-5202.

Artist Submissions Needed

Artist submissions are being considered for the 2003 Music Marketing Expo & Artist Showcase in Phoenix, AZ. One of five acts will be chosen to showcase for industry professionals, following the all-day events on March 22nd. To register your band, visit the site www.musicmarketingexpo.com. For further information, please email Founder Barbara Solis at info@musicmarketingexpo.com.

Two for Latin Cool

David Wasserman, President and Founder of Latin Cool Records. has announced the signing of two Latin-jazz artists: Cintron, a 17-piece Latin-jazz orchestra, and Andrea Brachfeld & Phoenix Rising. The two acts come to the label with the help of music producer and consultant, Bobby Marin, and join Larry Harlow & the Latin Jazz Encounter, Harlow and the Latin-Jazz Coalition, featuring trombonist Demetrios Kastaris. For further information, visit the label's site at www.latincool.com.

All Styles Wicked Signs

Long Island's All Styles Wicked, described as a hard-rock/rapcore outfit with an intense stage show, have signed with Long Island's Elijah Records Inc. d/b/a Elijah Star Management. The band has been featured on an Acclaim Playstation II and X-Box video game, Legends of Wrestling *II.* For further information, contact Bernadette Giacomazzo at Akasha Multimedia Group, 516-322-1101.

Sixth Signing for Harmonized

Bay Area jazz-jam supergroup Garaj Mahal has become the sixth act signed to Harmonized Records, the offshoot label from Leeway's Home Grown Music Network, in its first year of operation. Called "one of the most talked about groups in jazz and jam today" by *Mountain Express*, Garaj Mahal unites jazz bassist Kai Eckhardt with classical/jazz guitarist Fareed Haque, drummer Alan Hertz and prodigious young keyboardist Eric Levy.

Between them, the members of Garaj Mahal have accompanied the likes of Sting, Dizzy Gillespie, Stanley Clarke, Al DiMeola, Steve Smith's Vital Information, Bela Fleck, Bill Evans, John Mc-Laughlin Trio, Steve Kimock, KVHW and Edgar Meyer among others. For more information, contact Randy Alexander at Randex Communications, 856-596-1410.

Slaves on Dope on Bieler Bros

Montreal-based rockers Slaves on Dope have signed to Bieler Bros. Records for the forthcoming release of their sophomore effort due this spring. Bieler Bros., an imprint of MCA Records, is also home to Legends Of Rodeo, Sunset Black, and Darwin's Waiting Room, as well as acting as management for Nonpoint.

A&R REPORT

Slaves on Dope rose to popularity on 2000's Ozzfest and through their debut album, *Inches From the Mainline*, released that same year. For more information on the band, visit www.slavesondope.com or www.bielerbros.com. For further information, contact Mark Morton at Chipster Entertainment, mark@ chipsterpr.com.

A Loud Launch

Loud Records founder Steve Rifkind has inked a deal with Universal Records, leading to the launch of SRC Records. The new label has already signed rappers Ricochet from Detroit, MI, and Grand Daddy Souf from Orlando, FL. SRC Records' first release will be in March. For further information, contact Universal Records Publicity, 310-865-5000.

Grade 8 Sign

L.A.-based hardcore rockers Grade 8 are readying their selftitled debut album scheduled for release on February 11, on Lava Records. Grade 8 recorded their debut earlier this year at L.A.'s Rumbo Studios with producers Ross Hogarth (Coal Chamber, Motley Crue) and Toby Wright (Korn, Metallica). For more information, contact Lisbeth Cassaday at Lava Records, 212-707-2074.

AC/DC Sign

Legendary rock artists AC/DC have signed a multifaceted agreement with Sonv Music Entertainment. As part of the newly formed creative partnership, Sony has entered into a long-term, multialbum deal for new recordings from the band, which will be released through Epic Records. In addition, Sony has acquired the rights to AC/ DC's entire catalog of recordings including such classic albums as Back In Black, Live '92; High Voltage; Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap; and Highway To Hell, all of which will be re-released on Epic Records in early 2003.

Additional AĆ/DC titles are slated for release later in the year. For further information, contact Sony Music Publicity, 310-449-2100.

LaBelle Branches Out

Patti LaBelle has announced the establishment of her own management firm, Pattonium Management, in partnership with longtime collaborator Damascene Pierre Paul. Among the artists already signed to the company are singer/ songwriter Mary Griffin; spokenword artist Audra Woodard, and songwriter/entertainer Mary Brown. For further information, contact Patti or Aliya T. at W&W Public Relations, 732-469-5955.

OFFICIAL PHAM AT MUSIC CHOICE



Official Pham dropped by "Tha Corner" at Music Choice NYC for an interview. The Bronx duo met in high school and teamed up while working at Pallas Records. They were signed by Avatar Records after record company execs heard just one of their songs, "I Need A." The "Dirty South" sound has received impressive airplay and their debut album, not yet titled, is scheduled for release soon. Pictured (L-R): Kato, DJ Mecca of Music Choice, and Gona. For additional information, please contact 215-784-5842.

Blues At Midnight

Legendary blues singer **Bobby Blue Bland** has set a March 11 release date for his latest offering, *Blues At Midnight*. In a career that spans 50-plus years including 60 releases and more than 50 Top Ten singles, this will be Bland's 12th release for **Malaco Records**.

Blues At Midnight features Bland delivering songs from Malaco veteran writers George Jackson ("I Caught The Blues From Someone Else"), Larry Addison ("My Sunday's Comin' Soon," "The Only Thing Missin' Is You," "Ghetto Nights"), Rue Davis ("I've Got The Blues At Midnight"), as well ass Sam Mosley, Bob Johnson and many others. For additional information on Bland's musical activities, please contact the Baker/Northrop Media Group's Meryl Wheeler, 718-624-1370 or Cary Baker 818-986-5220.

TOM KIDD



"I Landed a Record Deal in a Week Because I Joined TAXI"

I know it sounds too good to be true, but I really *did* land a record deal soon after arriving in America. That's me signing my contract with 2K Sounds/EMI President Michael Blakey on the left, and V.P. of A&R, Laura Becker on the right.

I'm from Scotland, so I chose TAXI as the "vehicle" to get my music heard by American labels. Brian Allen – TAXI Member

I flew to Los Angeles to go to TAXI's private convention, and met an A&R person who liked my music.



The next thing you know, I was auditioning for the president of the label. I guess I passed the audition, because I got signed a few days later.

Will your TAXI membership get you a record, publishing, or Film & TV deal? That all depends on your music.

If you're a songwriter, artist, or band, then I highly recommend that you call TAXI. I did, and it changed my life!

SIGNING STORIES



Jené

Date Signed: January 2002 Label: Noontime / Motown Records Type of Music: Pop / R&B

---CONTACTS---Management: Ryan Glover / Noontime, 404-691-6080 Booking: Dennis Ashley / Creative Artists Agency, 310-288-4545 Legal: Jauque Shirley Publicity: Heliocentric Public Relations, 310-645-4246 Web: www.motown.com, www.jeneon line.com A&R: Shante Paige

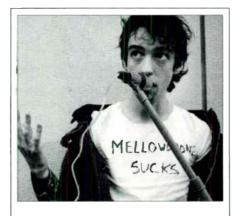
or 23-year-old singer Jené, hooking up with the legendary Motown Records came before she even had the chance to begin seeking record labels. Fortune smiled upon her when she connected with the man who would become her manager, Ryan Glover, one of the presidents of Noontime Records in Atlanta. It was there that she planned to work on her demo, but it was the act of creating the demo, not the demo itself, that would prove to be the key in landing her a recording contract.

Noontime holds an impressive list of artists, including Little Corey, who happened to be recording his album at the same time that Jené was working on her demo with another producer in a back room.

"The Vice President of A&R was walking through the studio and overheard me recording a song in the booth," recalls the diva from Shreveport, LA. "And in the middle of the song, she asked me to come out. And when I walked out, she didn't put two and two together and she's, like, 'There's no way that that voice could have been coming out of this chick." Four days later, Jené was in New York City singing for the President of Motown.

A short three months later, Motown offered her what she calls "the deal of a lifetime." All of this before the demo had been sent to more than a couple of labels. And she'd only been signed to Noontime Records for three months when she received interest from the label that she admired for so many years. "I grew up listening to Motown. I could not have picked any other label to go with." Of course, it also helps to have someone on your side; Jené credits Grubber with actively pursuing Motown and deciding that the label was the best avenue for her.

"Motown is known for a legacy of R&B music and I think a lot of people take me more serious just by having that 'M' for Motown next to my name. It's hard, but it just makes me work harder, because I do know that I have shoes to fill." —Andy Kaufmann



Mellowdrone

Date Signed: July 22, 2002 Label: ARTISTdirect Records Band Members: Jonathan Bates, vocals, guitar; Scott Ellis, drums. Type of Music: Art Rock

n an industry that is putting emphasis on commercial appeal, Jonathan Bates, also known as Mellowdrone, is about as much of an industry outsider as a modern musician can be. "Radio sucks," ne proclaims. "Radio's always sucked because it's not about music; it's about selling commercial time."

Unsatisfied with the experience he was receiving at the prestigious Berklee School of Music, Mellowdrone made his way to the city of angels. After arriving in Los Angeles, he recorded a demo that was originally intended for promotion, but ultimately ended up becoming his first EP. Though he was the new kid in town, his naiveté was overestimated by the independent label, and what was initially presented as a golden opportunity ultimately proved to be merely a pyrite promise. "We put out this little EP on Pushbutton Records and they tried to get me to sign a contract, and I studied contract law, and (the contract) was very bad," he recalls. "So we parted ways and that EP circulated on its own and generated label interest; unbeknownst to me."

Before long, his EP had sparked the interest of A&R rep Tony Berg who was known for signing Beck.

"Everybody else was always talking about singles and worried about this and that," Mellowdrone claims, "but the first thing Berg said to me was, 'I don't really give a fuck about radio. I just want you to make a good record."

And that is exactly what he intends to do. Having recorded his ARTISTdirect debut in his little bedroom studio, Mellowdrone is excited about his future, but humbly appreciates his good fortune. "The way I'm treating all of this is not taking it too seriously because, y'know, I'm not curing cancer," he jokes. "The way I got here was just so by accident anyway, I'm not gonna even fuck with it. If people are into it and everybody loves it, then cool. If nobody likes it, then, y'know, I tried."

-Scott Perham



Tom Burris

Date Signed: August 2002 Label: Tomato Records Type of Music: AC Pop-Rock

---CONTACTS---Management: IZ Management Inc., 917-992-5098; info@iz-management.com Booking: see management Legal: Michael A. Rodriguez, Esq., 201-251-2530 Publicity: Tomato Records, 212-414-4584 Web: www.TomBurris.com A&R: Kevin Calabro / Tomato Records, 212-414-4584

N ew York City-based Tom Burris was wise to remain friends with his ex. While she was staying with a friend, a CD was played that she recognized as one of Burris' independent releases with his previous band, Jabbering Trout. Turns out the friend was the ex-girlfriend of producer John Alagia (Ben Folds, Dave Matthews Band), who was a Jabbering Trout fan. So the ex-girlfriends got on the phones, and before you know it, Tom Burris was in a Woodstock studio with John Alagia, recording what eventually became the Tomato Records release *For Sale* to be coming in February.

"It was largely a labor of love on John's part," says Burris. "I know he thought it had commercial potential, but I don't think he was seeing it as a goldmine. He liked the music and he wanted to produce it."

Burris then continued performing solo shows in New York City, and his management was busy getting the word out. Soon enough, A&R reps became a presence at the shows, including Tomato Records.

"My manager knew someone at Tomato, and was shopping the album around," says Burris. "We had other independent labels interested, but I was impressed not just by the guys at Tomato, but also the heritage of the label."

Burris also liked the fact that even though he was able to provide a record that was, in his estimation, 85 percent complete, Tomato wasn't just looking for a shelf-ready product. "Tomato is very long-term oriented," he says. "The example they presented as the way they wanted to work with me is Townes Van Zandt, who they worked with over a number of years, releasing albums and promoting them, to build a career."

So why does Burris think he had such good fortune, getting signed quickly to a respected label? "The way stuff happened for me is not too different from the way it often happens in the music business — a sort of crazy serendipity. I think it's just making sure you have a good live show. And for me, since I have no business acumen, good management was crucial."

–Brett Bush

—MICHAEL MOLLURA



ON TRACK IN 2003: From Dr. Dre to Tyra Banks to River City High, some heavy hitters have been flocking to Track Record Studios in North Hollywood to track, mix and produce new songs for upcoming releases. Dr. Dre and Redman were on hand to collaborate on a new track, "Flow Pedico," on the studio's Solid State Logic 9000J console in Track Record's North Studio.

Dave Fortman, of Stephen Perkins fame, has also been producing and overdubbing the song "Bring Me To Life" for the major label debut of indie goth-rock group Evanescence.

SERLETIC AND MORE AT PARA-MOUNT/AMERAYCAN STUDIOS: Executive producer/Virgin Records Chairman Matt Serletic has been tracking new signees EI Pus on Paramount's new SSL J9000 console in Studio C with producer **Darryl Swann**, engineer Noel Golden, and assistant Jermeal Hicks.

Master P and his No Limit Records were also in at Paramount's newly renovated Studio A and Studio C tracking and mixing projects for Mia X, Chopper and Lil' Romeo with engineer Dave Lopez.

Zakk Wylde and his Black Label Society recorded new tracks in Studio C and overdubbed in Studio B with engineer Eddie Mapp and assistant Chris Rakestraw.

Fu Manchu were in Studio A mixing a show recorded in Sweden for a double-CD release. The band was working with mixer Brian Dobbs and Branden Abeln.

Lastly, **Brandy** has been tracking her upcoming Atlantic release in Paramount's Studio A and B with engineer Blake English.

MEATLOAF BEING SERVED AT CONWAY



Design FX Audio provided a newly refurbished Ampex ATR-102 to producer/engineer/mixer Peter Mokran (Christina Aguilera, R. Kelly, Michael Jackson) at L.A.'s Conway Recording for the new Meatloaf album, *Couldn't Have Said It Better Myself*. Mokran is mixing down from ProTools through the Neve 88R to one-inch two-track Quantegy GP9 analog tape. Pictured during sessions are (L-R): Peter Mokran, Conway owner Buddy Brundo, and Design FX President Gary Ladinsky.

PARHAM COMPLETES OPM



Korn producer Michael Bienhorn (Left) has been producing the new OPM record with Tom Parham (Center) and Mike Balboa (Right). The tracks were recorded at the Tom Parham Audio Las Vegas facility.

DURAND AT CUPS 'N STRINGS



Producer Charles Fisher recently completed the debut album by Thibault Durand at the new Cups 'N Strings studios in Los Angeles. The album will be released on Epic/Sony Music France this spring. Pictured (L-R): Durand, studio owner and chief engineer Bruce Maddocks, and Fisher.

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PRODUCER CROSSTALK



Meredith Brooks

From "Bitch" to Barenaked

By Jonathan Widran

Meredith Brooks still loves "Bitch," the 1997 hit that put her on the pop/rock radar, but the natural rebel had the urge to show the world that there was much more to her than the classic Alanis-era anthem. Learning the aesthetic and psychological tricks of the producer's trade from veterans like Rick Nowells, Geza X and David Darling (who coproduced Brooks' 2002 indie disc *Bad Bad One*), she decided to broaden her horizons and — along with Sheryl Crow and Linda Perry — become one of the few female producers making an impact.

In an era where hit albums are made by committee and multiple production teams are the norm, Brooks harkened back to the old days by producing every track of singer/actress Jennifer Love Hewitt's breakthrough project, *Barenaked*, whose Top 30 title song was one of the fall's most memorable hits (the follow-up "Can I Go Now" is slated for release this month). Other artists she's worked with include WWF ring announcer Lillian Garcia, an unsigned singer named Naomi, and Ashley Hamilton.

"The thing many record companies fail to realize is that the right chemistry between artist and producer is very rare and about more than just cranking out hits," she says. "What happened between Jennifer and me had that undefinable instant magic, but we spent a year making this happen. The difference between this and her three previous albums was that, on those, her label didn't involve her own creative vision from start to finish. She wanted to make the record she wanted to make, and I gave her the chance to do that. Some of that involved just being girls giggling over coffee, sometimes it was parenting and psychology, and then there was the hard work of songwriting and turning those scratch guitar-vocal tracks into polished tracks."

Brooks' first objective with Hewett was to help her develop as a writer, and it would take more than one or two songs for that learning curve to develop. Working in Brooks' small and cozy, but fully functional, home studio tucked into a canyon near Mulholland, Brooks built a retractable vocal booth when she realized that Hewitt was more comfortable singing while standing near the producer and receiving instant unspoken feedback.

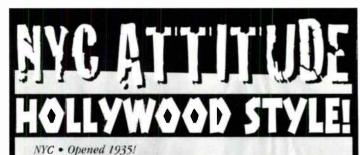
"She would get so much out of my immediate reactions, and we really fed off each other the whole time," Brooks says. "She had total faith in me from the beginning, which was essential. We'd spend a day working on and recording rough pieces of songs, and then she'd come back the next time with a fully developed lyric or melody. Producing them was a natural progression, because I would take the songs we recorded and start programming them, building grooves and working them through ProTools. She felt completely safe around me, and I knew no other producer could get the same relaxed performances I was getting. The whole thing was gearing it around her personality. She was so good at nailing her vocals that sometimes we used the original scratch vocal."

Brooks' schedule often involved working with Hewitt by day, then focusing on ner own project at night. She let Darling take care of the grooves and programming (not to mention, objective opinions) on *Bad Bad One*, while she fine-tuned the vocal harmony tracks.

"People ask if I was consciously trying to empower more women to produce records, but I started doing it because I was always hearing finished songs in my head as I was writing them," she says. "I never met any other female producers, but I'm glad there are a few of them out there. There's an easier flow from girl to girl, and women behind the boards don't have as much ego to give up from a psychological standpoint. But I'm not only going to produce women. I've enjoyed working with Ashley, and he came to me because he simply likes what I do. Complete trust between artist and producer is more important than anything else."



MC





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The 5000 Series

begins with the AEW-R5200 true diversity frequency-agile dual receiver, which comprises two independent receivers in a single-rack space. There are two hundred selectable UHF channels in the range of 655.500 to 680.375 mHz, with an operational range in excess of 300 feet. Using the same set of channels, the 4000 Series AEW-R4100 receiver uses only one half-rack space. Multiple receivers of either series can be linked, and both feature IntelliScan™ frequency selection and dual "compansion," circuitry that compresses and expands low- and high-frequency audio signals separately, maximizing audio quality and minimizing artifacts such as pumping and breathing. The 5000 series receivers have Ethernet ports for monitoring system parameters via the supplied Macintosh or Windows software.

There are five wireless transmitter options available. The AEW-T3300 and AEW-T5400 cardioid condensers are for superior clarity while the AEW-T4100 cardioid and AEW-T6100 hypercardioid dynamic handheld mics are noted for their ruggedness and forward sound. The compact AEW-T1000 UniPak™ body pack transmitter works for any electric instrument with soft-touch controls and a recessed dual impedance input with adjustable level. All transmitters are compatible with either 4000 or 5000 systems, feature strong metal bodies, programmable on/off/mute switching, and 10 mW or 35 mW switchable RF power.

There are 13 system configurations available in the 5000 Series and nine for the 4000. The 4000 systems start at \$959 MSRP or you can step up to a dual-receiver 5000 system starting at \$3,119 MSRP. For more about these systems, you can call or write Audio-Technica at 330-686-2600 or visit www.audio-technica.com.

Parker NiteFly and P-Series Guitars



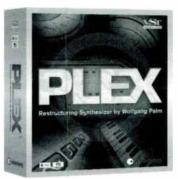
Parker Guitars has been busy updating its NiteFly line and adding the new P-Series starting with the P-38 Standard (Pictured) at \$749 MSRP. The four new NiteFly models feature Sperzel tuners, stainless steel frets, a carbon fiber fingerboard laid over a mahogany neck, DiMarzio and Fishman piezo pickups, and a solid wood body. The P-38, P-40 and P-38 Standard P-

The P-38, P-40 and P-38 Standard P-Series guitars have an ash body with maple neck, and one humbucking along with two single-coil custom-wound Parker Alnico magnetic pickups. You also get a Wilkinsonlicensed vibrato bridge and a Fishman active piezo pickup preamp/mixer system. The P-44 at \$1,149 MSRP has a flamedmaple top, a solid mahogany body, and a maple bolt-on neck with rosewood fingerboard. Also included are snazzy chrome pickup covers and knobs, plus Grover locking tuners. All NiteFly and P-Series models come with heavy-duty gig bags.

For much more information about these lower price Parker Fly axes, contact Parker Guitars at 978-988-0102. The Web site is www.parkerguitars.com.

Steinberg's Plex

Plex is a VST 2.0 virtual synthesizer that uses "restructuring' synthesis to create virtually limitless sound possibilities. Using its new audio-analysis technology, Plex divides the original sound into four different components: lower spectrum, higher spectrum, filter characteristics and amplitude envelope. Each of these four components (or parameters) is pure and separate from the others. Any single component does not contain any part of and cannot be influenced by any other component, but all can be individually modified within Plex and recom-



bined to make up a whole new sound. You can use any component in any way you want and still create sound. Each of the four components is editable just as in a synthesizer. You could use the low spectrum of a P-bass sample with the high spectrum of a triangle, the filter characteristics of a piano and the amplitude envelope of a ride cymbal. The brilliant screen interface makes this seemingly complex "science fiction" process very easy.

The item's main features and capabilities: freely swap in real-time the four parts of 33 sound sources; 97 special pre-analyzed sound sources (a built-in sounds library) including acoustic, synthetic and filter characteristics; over 300 preset patches from well-known sound designers; three ADSR envelopes; three advanced sync-able LFOs; modulation section with stereo delay and flanger effects; all parameters accessible via MIDI; up to 64 voices, and and pitch LFO.

Plex sells for \$249.99 MSRP and will run in any VST 2.0 host and on newer Macs or PCs. For more details, contact Steinberg North America at 9200 Eton Ave, Chatsworth, CA 91311. Call them at 818-678-5100 or visit www.steinberg.net.



Line6's depth of research and development is evident the first time you spin through the 64 presets of the new PODXT Guitar Amp Modeler. The preset names are evocative: the titles of seminal rock songs by guitar gods are used to describe the sound of the amp, settings and



effects modeled. A "who's who" of finished guitar sounds and preset sounds run the gamut from Angus to Yngwie with especially strong Jimmy Page and Jimi Hendrix sounds. The PODXT takes guitar modeling to the future with more complete presets, deeper editing facilities and A.I.R. (Acoustically Integrated Recording) in which the interaction of amps, cabinets, speakers, microphones as well as the recording space are incorporated into the preset.

Maybe "POD Classic" would be a more fitting name, because along with 32 models of mostly classic and boutique amps you get 22 cabinet models and 45 vintage stompboxes and studio effects. The ability to "mix & match" amp tops with different cabinets, microphones and placements, and room sound is new for POD. As before, PODXT connects stereo or mono to your studio recording setup or directly to your amp for live work and now includes a USB digital audio interface that uses a free downloadable software driver. This is a bi-directional connection whereby (when MIDI and Editor/Librarian software becomes available in 2003) you may edit, load and save presets back and forth to your computer.

Studio effects include a collection of reverbs, distortions, compressors, chorus, flangers, plus rotary and delay effect models. PODXT is compatible with Line6's FBV and FBV Shortboard foot controllers for control of the 64 presets using a large, backlit name display, dedicated stomp box on/off switches, combination wah/volume pedal, and tap tempo switch.

The PODXT sells for \$569.95 MSRP and for more information about this versatile unit, contact Line6 in Agoura Hills, CA at 818-575-3600 or via their site at www.line6.com.

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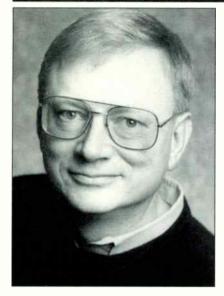
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SONG BIZ

PEERMUSIC HONORED BY AIMP



Ralph Peer (Pictured), CEO of peermusic Publishing, was recently awarded "Independent Publisher Of The Year" by the AIMP (The Association of Independent Music Publishers). The peermusic company is the major independent music publisher in the world, spanning the globe with a vast network of companies operating from 33 offices in 27 countries. You can reach them in L.A. at 323-960-3400.

<image>

JAG STAR

Knoxville, TN's Sarah **Lewis (Pictured Left** with bandmates in the pop-rock band Jag Star) won the Overall Grand Prize in the 2002 **USA Songwriting** Competition for her song "Mouth." Visit www.jagstar.com for more details on Lewis and the band. Meanwhile, entries for the 2003 USA Songwriting Competition are currently being accepted. Check out www.song writing.net for detailed information.

Hearken with Patty Larkin on *Red=Luck*

Regrooving the Dream, Patty Larkin's 2000 release, recast the artist as sonic sculptress, melding electronic loops into acoustically charged songs. Now, Larkin returns with a stunning follow-up entitled *Red=Luck* on Vanguard Records.

Embellished with lap steel and bouzouki, Larkin's narratives construct entrancing dioramas of regret and remembrance. The songs were written in two back to back 30 days sessions as Larkin holed up with a dog, and a copy of Neil Young's Harvest for company. Larkin tracked the songs in her own Road Narrows studio on Cape Cod and they were not edited; what came out is what was recorded.

"Oh those damaged daydreams blown up in the road/All that dam-

aged innocence, there's nowhere else to go," sings Larkin as she continues to set songwriting standards with unmitigated ehonesty and endearing eccentricity. Check out a www.pattylarkin.com.

A Chip Off The Old Block

Songwriter Chip Taylor's wildly eclectic catalog includes classics like "Wild Thing," "Angel of the Morning" and Janis Joplin's "Try (Just a Little Bit Harder)," plus rarities and well-known tunes recorded by a roster of artists from Bonnie Raitt to Emmylou Harris.

Taylor, the brother of actor Jon Voight, is also an accomplished professional gambler. But over the past decade he has been recording his own well-received releases. Let's Leave This Town unites him with fiddler/vocalist Carrie Rodriguez in a homespun collection of songs that reflect Taylor's musical heritage and his current hometown of Austin, TX.

Of particular note: the duo's take on "Storybook Children," a Taylor tune originally recorded by the duo of **Billy Vera & Judy Clay** back in the Sixties. The Taylor/Rodriguez CD is on **Lone Star Records**, www Jonestarrec.com.

Arts Expo Announced

Artists Helping Artists (AHA!) and *The Creative Line* are just now announcing the CALL TO ARTS! Song, Music and Arts Expo in Los Angeles on Saturday, April 19 in 15,000 plus square feet of halls, exhibit space and conference rooms at Cal State University Northridge.

The CALL TO ARTS! expo will include over 100 song, music and arts organizations as exhibitors —

no less than 15 highly informative panels that relate to marketing, music, the Internet, grassroots arts and music activities, three music and spoken-word stages, a visual art exhibition and a vast cast of songwriters, poets, visual artists, and arts visionaries. Visit www.Call ToArts.ArtistsHelpingArtists.org.

Michele Vice-Maslin: Unstoppable

As recently reported in this column, songwriter/producer Michele Vice-Maslin co-penned "Help Me," the debut single from Backstreet Boys' Nick Carter (Jive Records). She also contributed material to the debut album from *American Idol* winner Kelly Clarkson, which is due for release on RCA Records. The veteran tunesmith also has two cuts coming out in this month by Nobody's Angels on



Virgin Record's band Ima Robot has been signed to a worldwide publishing deal with EMI Music. The group is in the studio with producer Josh Abraham (Limp Bizkit) recording a debut expected to be released this summer. Pictured (L-R): Jody Gerson, Executive VP, U.S., EMI Music Publishing; Mike Barzman, manager, Ima Robot; band members Ollie Goldstein, Tim Anderson, Justin Meldal-Johnson, Alex Ebert; Matt Messer, VP Creative, EMI Music Publishing, West Coast and Francois Mobasser, attorney.

STEVE WARINER RETURNS



After 25 years at the top of his game, Steve Wariner returns with his first album since exiting Capitol Records two years ago. The CD includes new songs along with remakes of his past hits, taking advantage of new technology in Wariner's studio. Check out www.stevewariner.com for details.

CELEBRATING SESAC



The performing rights organization SESAC celebrated a year of successes with a party at the Buffalo Club in Santa Monica. Pictured above (L-R): SESAC's Stephanie Hall and Pat Rogers with Disney Music Publishing's Susan Borgeson.

Hollywood Records. For the debut album by Jive recording artist Nikki Cleary, Vice-Maslin has co-written and is co-producing a song.

In other media, the relentless songcrafter penned three songs that were featured in the seasom premiere episode of the Fox Network's animated comedy hit, *King of the Hill.* She also scored a major television commercial campaign for the legendary **Barbie** doll line.

"What keeps things interesting to me is constantly growing and expanding my craft," remarks Vice-Maslin. "I pride myself on being able to write in a variety of styles for a variety of different artists, outlets and situations. Not only does that challenge me to come up with fresh melodies and lyrics, but also it keeps me flexible and provides the freedom to explore various genres. It really doesn't matter if you dress a song up to fit pop, R&B, adult contemporary, dance, Latin or even smooth jazz projects. Once you strip away the production, it's all about the quality of the songwriting that either works or doesn't." Contact Rick Scott. 310-274-0248.

Warner/Chappell Grabs Gibb

Warner/Chappell Music announced that it has concluded an exclusive worldwide publishing agreement with Barry Gibb. As both leading member of the Bee Gees and the co-writer of the group's body of work, Gibb has been awarded six Grammys, was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in both the U.S. and Australia, and has been a part of one of the best-selling music groups of all time.

Under the agreement, Warner/ Chappell will administer the rights

TOP TUNE MAKERS FOR SONY/ATV



Tom Shapiro and Tony Martin were both named Writer of the Year for Sony/ATV Music Publishing Nashville. The duo penned a string of hits during 2002, including "Living and Living Well" for George Strait and "I Miss My Friend" for Darryl Worley. Pictured (L-R): Sony's Woody Bomar; Shapiro; Sony's Donna Hilley; Martin, and Sony's Don Cook.

to Gibb's catalog of hit songs dating from 1967 to the present. The company will explore a variety of opportunities for this music, including licensing the material for use in films, television programs and commercials; facilitating publication of printed editions of the music; pursuing new revenue streams arising from the latest music-delivery technologies; and, encouraging other artists to record and perform the material. To reach Warnet/Chappell call 310-441-8600.

Schwartz & Santana

The first single from Santana's Shaman is "The Game of Love." On the international release of the single, BMG included two tracks that were not made available on the U.S. release of the CD. One of them is an instrumental called "Curacion," written by Carlos Santana, Paul Schwartz and KC Porter and based on the Schwartz tune, "Miserere," from his RCA Victor release State of Grace. The international single is popping up in record stores around the U.S.; in Los Angeles it can be purchased at Tower Records and Amoeba Music.

Paul Schwartz's 1997 release, Aria, became a benchmark success in the field of classical crossover. **Revolution** (1998) contained Schwartz's arrangements of Beatles songs, and Aria 2: New Horizon (2000) continued the blend. State of Grace (2000), released on Windham Hill Records, scored on the new age charts.

In 2002, under the name the Paul Schwartz Project, the composer/conductor released Earthbound, his first album to consist of his own compositions. He is represented by Mike Gormley at L.A. Personal Development. Visit gle be99@yahoo.com.



The third installment of the ASCAP Presents... Heineken Ampt Music Series finished another successful round of showcasing some of the best up-andcoming bands from around the country. The recent series of showcases were held in five of the most happening music cities. Dn the West Coast, the San Francisco showcase featured performances by (L-R): Black Cat Music and the Dranges Band.

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Damian Fontana New Jersey songwriter scored a publishing deal with Warner/Chappell Music Publishing

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SONGWRITER PROFILE



Adam Sandler's Music Handlers

by Dan Kimpel

n unexpected, if somewhat subversive animated winter hit, Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights illuminated the box office this past holiday season. Made on a modest budget, the picture is a certifiable success for Sony. To noted arranger Ray Ellis and his son, composer Marc Ellis, it represents a collaboration with the noted comic and a cross-generational musical endeavor with each other. "It's not easy to work with your son in any kind of business," says Ray Ellis, "but Marc and I think alike musically. Sure, we do fight about harmonic things, but Marc has got me down - sometimes, when we were doing this movie, he'd lay something down and I'd think / did it.""

Ray Ellis' credits as an arranger and conductor include legendary singers like Billie Holiday, Johnny Ray, Barbra Streisand. Johnny Mathis and Liza Minnelli. He also composed a Today Show theme that endured for 17 years. Marc Ellis, who has produced and composed for Disney's Xmas on Ice and Clinton at Ford's Theater, is an Emmy-nominated composer who has branched into scoring indie films. He has collaborated with his father before; the duo assembled a music library for the NBC and composed on music for animated cartoons including Fat Albert, Tarzan, and The Lone Ranger, as well as network game shows like Sale of the Century and Catch Phrase.

Belying his recent credits, Ray Ellis has allegedly been attempting semiretirement for the past decade or so, working on his tennis game up the coast from the Hollywood hustle, in Ojai. From this vantage point, he offers a commentary on the modern music business. "Nobody writes songs anymore. If an artist gets a record deal he writes songs and he's not a songwriter. The real songwriters can't get arrested." A conversation with the elder Ellis reveals a number of examples both past and present. At one point in his career he took a gig with RCA Records where the brass rejected a trio he wanted to sign - three unknown folk singers named Peter, Paul & Mary. Tony Bennett was another one who got away. "He wanted a \$25,000 advance and they wouldn't give it to him," laughs Ellis. "And they turned down Barbra Streisand."

The connection between the Ellises and Adam Sandler was via Sandler's musical mentor, eminent producer Brooks Arthur. The Ellis' first project with the comic was a track they put together as a big band, Sinatraesque arrangement to accompany a pornographic lyrical idea by Sandler. The comic's contributions involved screeching in a character voice into a microcassette recorder. Marc Ellis, working in his home studio, paired the vocals with synth mock-ups on a Roland D-50 to put structure to the songs. Then, Sandler came into Marc's studio, heard the track and sang a final demo. "That's what the Sony brass heard to make the project go," says Marc. Sandler, though not a trained musician, is very simpatico with musical thought. "He has an unbelievable musical memory. If he tells you to change something - no matter how minor - he'll remember it," says Marc. "He's tough," adds Ray, "He knows what he wants - good, bad or indifferent.

As Marc Ellis was growing up, he became aware early on that most kids' parents weren't working with Barbra Streisand. "I'd get up in the morning to go to school and Ray would have been up all night in the studio." And Marc never really envisioned a career outside the business. "I didn't really con-it was very natural for me." Ray interjects, "I didn't push it. I used to try to talk him out of it. If you don't really love this business, there's no sense being in it. There's no way you'll make it."

And even before the pair worked on music together, Marc offered advice on his dad's music. "He helped me a lot," says Ray. "I was doing some cartoons at one time and I wrote a theme - I think it was for Sabrina - and I played it for Marc. He said, 'Dad, that sounds real familiar - I think it's the Wheaties commercial.'

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LICENSING "NOW" – The company nowRECORDING, whose site allows musicians to collaborate with one another via the Internet to compose and record music, are adopting a set of licenses that expand upon the standard restrictions of current copyright laws.

The licenses stem from Creative Commons, which was founded by Stanford professor Laurence Lessig, better known for arguing a landmark intellectual property case before the U.S. Supreme Court. He has crafted a set of 11 licenses designed to help the creators of digital content dedicate their works to the public domain or license them on terms more generous than existing copyright restrictions.

Where traditional copyrights restrict any use or reuse of artistic material without explicit permission, Creative Commons offers variations on the copyright license that allow artists to designate their work as available for sharing, reuse or collaboration.

Creative Commons licenses are designed specifically for creative works: Web sites, music, film, photography, literature and more. The intent is to facilitate collaboration and give artists working in digital mediums the option of pursuing the widespread distribution.

Dean Neitman, amateur musician and member of nowRECORD-ING, has adopted a Creative Commons license for his techno composition, "Galactic Thrush." The license allows his song to be shared as long as he receives credit and there are no derivative works.



nowRECORDING was recently purchased by Lulu.com, an online marketplace for digital content and collaborative publishing, provides an active online community for musicians in addition to tools for online collaboration. Lulu.com provides creators and publishers of digital content with a marketplace for distributing work while at the same time maintaining control over how it is used. (www.nowRE CORDING.com; www.lulu.com; http://www.creativecommons .org/)

THE DOG TAKES THE 101 – Black Dog Promotions. a national music promotion firm, has announced an agreement with 101 Distribution to provide a comprehensive CD distribution and promotion service for independent bands and artists. The agreement between Black Dog and 101 will give independent artists the same distribution and promotion services that were, in the past, available only to major label artists.

National distribution of independent music has been dominated by the major record labels for some time now. 101 states that the company provides a one-stop resource and affordable industry-related services, including national distribution.

In addition to its international music promotion and management activities, Black Dog Promotions provides radio promotion, street team development, online promotion and management services to record labels, independent musicians and music events. The company also operates Great MusicSites.com, Arizona Music Club.com, MusicMarketer.com and Musiciansbookstore.com.

101 Distribution is a distribution company that focuses on serving the mass-market segment of independent artists as well as the needs of music retailers who want to stock and promote independent music titles. The company apparently provides the artist a fully integrated environment where they can develop and progress in their career while at the same time extend their distribution potential.

101 currently distributes independent music titles to FYE, Sam Goody, Tower Records, Wherehouse Music, Best Buy, Borders, Barnes & Noble, Virgin Megastore as well as 1,800 independent music retailers. (www.blackdog promotions.com; www.101distri bution.com)

HOOK, LINE AND DOWNLOAD – Phish recently announced the debut of Live Phish Downloads. An extension of Phish's successful Live Phish CD program, Live Phish Downloads offers high quality, unedited recordings of select shows in the MP3 format and Shorten digital music files.

The program begins with Phish's four sold-out year-end concerts at New York's **Madison Square Garden** (12/31) and **Hampton Coliseum** in Hampton, VA (1/2, 1/3, 1/4). Phish plans to offer more new and archival shows via the service throughout 2003, including some or all of Phish's sold-out February 2003 tour.

All music files come without Digital Rights Management (DRM) and are compatible with Windows, Mac and Unix operating systems. Once downloaded, shows can be burned to disc, transferred to portable players or played through a computer. Each show also comes with custom-designed printable Live Phish Downloads will exist in conjunction with the *Live Phish* **CD Series**, offering fans a chance to buy Phish shows online and in stores. The next wave of *Live Phish* CD releases is expected to hit retail stores this April. (www.livephish .com)

GET SOME MUSIC – For the past two years, GetMeMusic.com (created by British musician Mikey J), has existed as a music resource for independent musicians. The site features various links to resources and other unsigned bands.

GMM has gone one step further and now serves as a full-fledged online music distributor where consumers can play and download songs for free.

The site also offers musicians their own artist pages, which can be viewed by music fans as well as by industry insiders. The artist pages come complete with band bios, links to alternate sites where CDs can be purchased and songs that visitors can either play, download or both.

GetMeMusic.com creator Mike Jackson states that he has always believed the Internet is a great tool for new bands and a place to get notice. Being an unsigned artist himself, he knows how hard it is for artists to get heard.

This belief was the inspiration that pushed him to develop the new services offered on the site. The



booklets, inlay trays and CD labels if a user elects to burn their files to CD.

Fans that register with Live Phish Downloads can choose to be notified by e-mail each time a new show is available for download. Phish's latest studio CD, "Round Room," was released on December 10th. The band performed on Saturday Night Live on December 14, when the show garnered its highest ratings of the season. GMM site caters to all music styles. (www.getmemusic.com)

GREEN WITH ENVY – Radiohead offered fans a sneak peek at their sixth album — due this year — by playing three new tunes, "Punch Up at a Wedding," "Good Morning Mr. Magpie," and "I Froze Up," during a recent Webcast on the band's site.

The performance also included



DAN DEL CAMPOS



a cover of the holiday standard, "Winter Wonderland," with singer Thom Yorke and bassist Colin Greenwood taking turns DJing. Downloads of the songs are available at www.greenplastic.com.

Green Plastic Radiohead! is a no frills, straightforward site that was originally created and launched in 1997. Green Plastic strives to bring the latest information about Radiohead to fans across the Internet and is a fan-operated Web site, created and maintained by Jonathan Percy. It is not affiliated or endorsed by Radiohead, their management, or EMI Records. Brian McRae is a studio and touring drummer/percussionist based in Boulder, CO. In 1993, he began a full-time career touring and recording with artists such as Sherri Jackson, the Freddy Jones Band, and Sally Taylor. He has recorded on tracks with Maceo Parker, Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, John Medeski, Steve Berlin, Glenn Tilbert and numerous television and film projects. You can obtain more info by visiting the site. (www.drumoverdubs.com)

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DRUMS, LOOPS AND DUBS – Protessional studio drummer Brian McRae has pioneered his unique concept of online music collaboration through the creation of Drum OverDubs.com. Songwriters, producers, music publishers, remix artists and even jingle writers can now professionally add recorded, live, and custom drum tracks to their projects without the expense and inconvenience of a recording studio.

More and more, the music industry is using the efficiency of writing with drum machines and loops. To achieve the desired and dynamic "human" sound, most musicians need to go outside their project studio to overdub real drums once the arrangement is finished. However, DrumOverDubs .com allows the entire project to be completed in-house, saving significant time at one-third the cost.

Here is how it works: Artists submit audio files via the Web or a CD-R. They then discuss musical direction with McRae and quickly receive an e-mail of their "finished" project, with custom drum tracks performed by a professional session drummer. We invite you to e-mail us at CyberMusic@musicconnection .com if you feel you have a music or band site that is worth checking out. The site www.Indiefilter.net features Music Connection's indepth and useful article, "Target Your Audience! Music Sites That Sell."

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STEAL THIS MATCHBOOK!: After years of both acclaim (for albums like *The Rising Tide*) and turbulence (such as members defecting to the Foo Fighters), Seattle's emo kings Sunny Day Real Estate disbanded in the summer of 2001. Three of the four members of SDRE, ex-Foo William Goldsmith, current Foo. Nate Mandel, and Jeremy Enigk, have now regrouped to form the Fire Theft, and are currently finishing up an album with producer Brad Wood (Liz Phair, Pete Yorn). They'll be trying out new material at two shows, one in Seattle and one at the Troubadour (9081 Santa Monica Blvd.) on January 23rd. To sample a rough cut of a new tune, go to www.thefiretheft.com.

THE WAILERS

NIGHTLIFE

One of the great things about living in a large entertainment-minded town is that, more often than in other areas of the country, music lovers get the chance to see legendary acts perform. Even casual fans of reggae would agree that **the Wailers** are a must-see band, and on February 6 at the **Roxy** (9009 Sunset Blvd.), you can check them off your list. The fact that the 6th is **Bob Marley**'s birthday will no doubt make the evening that much more special.

ACOUSTIC LIVE THRIVES

The success of last year's Acoustic Live competition means that TLAMS Entertainment Services will not only be presenting a second annual AL battle; now the folks who bring you the Lamusic scene.com have also established a free monthly concert series that will lead into the eight-week contest version of Acoustic Live, to be held later in the year.

TLAMS's Scott Dudelson tells Nightlife that the intimate monthly showcases, which began at the Westwood Brewing Company on January 19, will feature more established artists, such as RCA's Charlotte Martin, in addition to local up-and-comers. and that they will focus on "talent and cohesiveness" instead of turnout. TLAMS officially began taking submissions for the competition at the first showcase. For more information on how to enter, or to find out more about the next Acoustic Live event, see www.acousticlive.net or send an e-mail to Dudelson at sdudel son@hotmail.com

METAL GODDESS

Sheena Metal has performed a lot of services for the L.A. arts community over the last decade she's done well as a TV and radio personality, writer, musician and comedian - but most importantly for today's local music scene, she is a promoter who cares enough about artists to have founded Music Highway. This brand-new musician's assistance program serves as a support group that coaches on how to get booked, and how to get booked again by not only presenting a draw, but being prompt and courteous and having a positive attitude.

Metal is currently booking two weekly events in addition to hosting Highway meetings. "Songs Rock: A Songwriters Showcase" takes place every Wednesday at The Joint (8771 W. Pico). Meanwhile, "Sheena and Friends" is an acoustic night that happens each Thursday, plus two Saturdays a month at The Lounge in Van Nuys (5248 Van Nuys Blvd.). For information on these events or to find out when Music Highway next con-

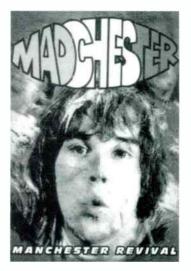


venes, please e-mail Metal at sheenametal@onemain.com or go to www.sheenametal.tv.

DON'T PASS COMPASS SHOWS

Compass Records is sponsoring upcoming concerts from two of its flagship artists. Bassist extraordinaire Victor Wooten, internationally renowned for his mind-bending fretwork with Bela Fleck's Flecktones, will be appearing at The Knitting Factory (7021 Hollywood Blvd.) in support of his recent live release entitled *Live In America*. In addition to his hard funk & soul instrumental proficiency, Wooten's also known for his good humor and off-the-wall showmanship onstage.

As one of modern Irish music's most influential performers, Paul Brady's songs have been covered by the likes of Bonnie Raitt, Santana and Tina Turner. After nearly a decade-long break from touring, he recently returned to the stage with a successful East Coast tour and will now take an L.A. bow at Pepperdine University's Smothers Theatre on January 31st. Contact Compass's Brad San Martin at 615-320-7672 or brad@com passrecords.com for further information.



24 HR. PARTY PERSISTS

If music's buzz film of the year last year, 24 Hour Party People, only whetted your appetite for more "Madchester"-era Britpop, check out what amounts to a bona fide Manchester revival night at club Vine's Madchester. Every second Saturday of the month, DJs Dia, Tita, Sleeper and guests spin everything from the better-known



SPREAD YOUR WINGS

Massive dance floors, a VIP sky lounge, velvet couches, a starlit patio, free giveaways, and most importantly, ample parking! Sounds like Angel, the new hip-hop, R&B and dancehall night at the **Qtopia** Megaplex (6021 Hollywood Blvd.) will get off to a heavenly start with its grand opening on January 23rd. DJ sets from popular selectors Felli Fel of Power 106, DJ Alcatraz of KJLH, and DJ JFX will help make the night special, as will the free cover before 10 p.m. For more information on Angel, call the info line at 323-549-5333 or visit www.angelicflight.com.

Madchester house scenesters like Happy Mondays and Primal Scream, to the late Eighties and early Nineties British indies they influenced. Vine is located at 1245 N. Vine in Hollywood; 323-960-0800 is the number to call for info.

INTO THE PITFIRE

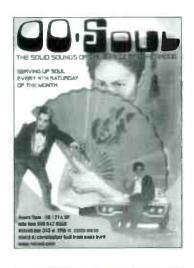
SoCal hardcore bands now have a new group of confidantes to turn to in **Pitfire Productions**, a collective of promoters, DJs and others dedicated to the L.A. hardcore cause. Pitfire is currently inhabiting a weekly Sunday afternoon **slot** at **The Martini Lounge** (5657 Mel-

-MIKE MOORE



rose Ave.), where their next allages matinee will be held on January 26 and feature appearances from headliners Templars, Pistol Grip and Toughskins.

Pitfire is always looking for new bands, so as they say at www.pitfireproductions.com, "If you feel you have the goods to take on our stage on Sundays, e-mail us with your band info: booking@pitfirepro ductions.com." You may also bring a CD to the event itself and talk to Pitfire's representatives in person.



OH MY SOUL

Costa Mesa's Detroit Bar (843 W. 19th St.) is serving up a slab of soul every fourth Saturday of the month by way of "The Solid Sounds of the 8-Piece Brotherhood," OO Soul. DJ Christopher Hall from Papa Bird is the evening's special guest. There is also an OO Soul album out now called *All Brothers, Different Mothers*; you can find out more by calling the info line at 949-642-0600 or by visiting www .oosoul.com.

HEIR TO MAYER

Although L.A.-by-way-of-San Diego's Jason Mraz mildly slammed his funky folk-pop contemporary John Mayer in a recent *SLAMM* magazine feature (for which they quickly made up), it's Mayer, along

"IT'S ON" IN THE B.H.

with Jack Johnson and newest

Mraz farı, Dave Matthews, who are usually brought up when describing Mraz's sound. His

Waiting for My Rocket to Come has been out on Elektra for a few

months, and he's had the opportu-

nity to open for Jewel and Gomez

in addition to a couple one-offs with

Mr. Matthews himself. The singer/

songwriter headlines the Sunset

House of Blues (8430 Sunset

Blvd) on January 30th. See www

.jasonmraz.com for details.

Darry James, author, promoter and publisher of Rap Sheet (www .rapsheet.com), has asked the clubbing community to "Get ready for what you have never seen before": a weekly convergence of art, music, comedy, spoken word and literature called "Renaissance." Each Thursday at the Cali Bar (9667 Wilshire, Beverly Hills), "Renaissance" will feature choice live music as well as intermittent old-soul and jazz spinning by DJ Mike Nice. Live art by At Saras, cornedy by BET favorite Freez Luv, and book readings by James are also on the bill. The event is presented in association with www .ItsOnTonight.com, so visit that site's Events page for more details.

"DIY" AT THE DERBY

January 25 is the deadline for submissions to the second annual DIY Music Festival, to be held at The Derby (4500 Los Feliz Blvd.) on Thursday, February 6th. Your submission must have "the sophistication and potential to reach a larger audience," and will have benefited from "the unique use of DIY resources to create a compelling music experience."

The festival will serve as a kickoff for the 2003 DIY Convention: Do It Yourself In Film, Music & Books, which takes place two days later at the American Film Institute. Your submission to the festival will get you free admission to the convention and its film festival. Please visit www.DIYMusicFesti val.com for an entry form and more details.

PROMOTER PROFILE





310-281-1866; info@wsg.la; www.wsg.la

n a few short years, the Westchester Sports Grill & Bar has gone from a sports-themed restaurant with occasional nights of entertainment to a fullfledged live music venue. The Grill has become known as a haven for both punk and the growing rock en Espanõl scene, and has recently started booking larger acts like L.A. favorites Pennywise. It's an extremely artist-friendly venue, and takes great pride in the fact that the booking is done by musicians, for musicians.

Music Connection: How did the Westchester Grill go from sports bar to live music venue?

AI Hernandez: We started with a small stage in the center of the restaurant and brought in bands like Cubensis and Brotherhood. Then we started getting more original bands and started liking that scene, so we ended up putting up a 10' by 20' stage and focused on live bands. Now we have our own sound system and we're all in-house now with our lighting and sound.

MC: Which music genres are going over best at the Grill and how often do you book genre-specific nights. Hernandez: We do four to five bands a night, Thursday through Sunday, and always try to combine matching genres. But right now we're focusing on the punk bands and the Spanish rock bands since they're bringing the best draws right now. The South Bay punk bands and the Spanish rock scene from L.A. have made up the biggest scenes so far.

MC: What types of music would you like to see more of at the Grill?

Hernandez: We have been starting to host more metal bands, but since that is a whole new scene we're not as sure about we're really looking to get metal promoters in here for those nights.

The rockabilly scene is something we are trying to build on, too. We've really tried to open it up to all kinds of music.

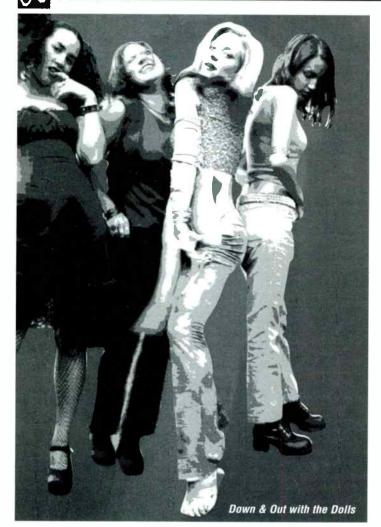
MC: What's the best way for bands to get your booking consideration?

Hernandez: Packages are always good — and packages with bios help, because we need to know as much about the band as possible going in. The more information we get, the better, because we want to help out the bands by booking them on the right night. It also helps if people have been here to check out the scene beforehand; they can also go to the Web site to learn more about us, too.

MC: What else makes the Westchester Grill a great place for bands to play?

Hernandez: It's well set up for music, with a really nice stage. We're located close to the South Bay, close to the airport, and not that far away from L.A. Most of the people who work here have something to do with music, as well. It's just a nice, safe venue for a lot of people to come together and watch music.

FILM, TV, THEATER



D own & Out with the Dolls is the latest film from writer and director Kurt Voss (Border Radio, Sugar Town). The film is a rough and wry look at the world of all-girl rock bands shot on location amidst the underground music scene in Portland, OR, and featuring real-life musicians in the lead roles. The plot centers on the Paper Dolls, a fictional four-piece all-girl band that are headed for certain stardom — if they can just get along with each other.

Named one of "25 New Faces of Independent Film" by *Filmmaker Magazine*, Zoe Poledouris (*White of Winter*) stars alongside "bandmates" Nicole Barrett, Kinnie Starr and Melody Moore, with cameos by Motorhead's Lemmy Kilmeister, Coyote Shivers and members of Nymphs and L7. *Down & Out with the Dolls* opens nationwide in March. For further information on *Dolls*, contact Aleix Martinez at Girlie Action, 212-989-2222 ext. 136.

Award-winning film composer Craig Armstrong, who garnered AFI, BAFTA and Golden Globe Awards last year for Moulin Rouge, has scored his second feature with director Phillip Noyce, Miramax Films' The Quiet American. Armstrong's reputation precedes him. Michael Caine stated onstage at the Regus London Film Festival, "I told Phillip, 1'II do it (*The Quiet American*) if Craig Armstrong does the music."

The Quiet American, based on the classic novel by Graham Greene, is a dramatic murder mystery centered on a love triangle set against the French Indochina War in Vietnam, circa 1952. The score combines classical orchestrations with Asian motifs to fully highlight the drama, period and culture of



Craig Armstrong

the film. For further information on Armstrong, call Costa Communications, 323-650-3588.

Capturing the Smash-ing Pumpkins before the onset of their mega-stardom, Vieuphoria, new to DVD, was originally released in 1994 as a VHS. The new packaging includes the same live performances, plus The Lost Tapes '94, an additional 54 minutes of neverbefore-seen concert footage from the band's seminal Siamese Dream era (including live performanc-es of "Quiet," "Snail," "Siva," "I am One," "Geek USA," "Soma," "Hummer," and "Silverfuck"). The Vieuphoria DVD's new forgotten footage was found unlabeled and hidden underneath some old tires in

a small cardboard box in a storage locker.

The CD, Earphoria, released simultaneously with Vieuphoria, features the audio-only version of the same tracks found on the DVD. These 15 tracks were previously found exclusively on the Vieuphoria VHS. Also on the Vieuphoria DVD is an amusing, 10-minute in-studio interview called The Unbearable Likeness of Manny between the band members and a Virgin executive. Both Vieuphoria and Earphoria are in stores. For further information on this DVD, contact Jo Murray at Girlie Action, 212-989-2222 ext. 133.

In February, EMI/Capitol and Virgin Records will reissue 16 classic James Bond film soundtracks in celebration of the 40th anniversary of MGM/UA's 007 film franchise. Each will be digitally remastered with restored cover art and all new booklet packaging featuring new liner notes and additional movie photos. The first eight albums will be released on February 11th. Five titles - On Her Majesty's Secret Service, Diamonds are Forever, Thunderball, You Only Live Twice and Live and Let Die --- will be reissued with previously unreleased score. The soundtrack to **Goldfinger** has been expanded to include four tracks that only appeared on the British LP version. For further information, contact Michael Ruthig at Glisman-Best, 323-692-1112.

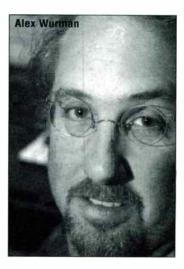
Film composer Alex Wurman has the score for Miramax Films' *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind.* The film, directed by George Clooney, stars Sam Rockwell, Linda Tomassone, Drew Barrymore, Julia Roberts and Clooney and is based on the Chuck Barris book with screen adaptation by Charles Kaufman. *Confessions* is the story of a legendary showman's double life: television pro-



ducer by day, CIA operative by night.

Wurman's score augments the unusual tale with music that ranges from a new arrangement of the **Dating Game** theme, to East German rock, to multi-layered basso piano. For more information, contact Ray Costa or Chad Joseph at Costa Communications, 323-650-3588.

Celebrating their 30th anniversary, the legendary hard rock band Blue Oyster Cult have kicked off the year with the national, digital cable broadcast of *A Long Day's Night* on DirecTV "FREEVIEW" during January. This is the band's most recent recorded concert and features the best of BOC's hits, "Burnin' For You," "Godzilla" and more. DirecTV will broadcast the concert over 100 times, continuing every weekend in January - Friday morning through Monday morning. A Long Day's Night is available at retail on both DVD and VHS (with footage not seen in the broadcast) through Sanctuary Visual Entertainment. The compan-



-TOM KIDD



ion CD was released on CMC International Records. For additional information, contact Chipster Entertainment Inc. at info@chip sterpr.com.

Interscope Records has the soundtrack to Gangs of New York. The premiere single is "The Hands That Built America" performed by U2. Another notable track is "Signal To Noise" from Peter Gabriel. Gangs of New York transpires in 1860's Lower Manhattan as the Civil War unfolds. The film, in general release, stars Daniel Day-Lewis and Cameron Diaz. For additional information, contact Interscope Records, 310-865-1000.

Indie band Seasons Of The Wolf have been working hard producing and licensing their music and videos for soundtracks in several independent horror/sci-fi films, many in final production and manufacturing for release during 2003 on DVD.

"The cross promotion and exposure working with the producers and directors of these films have been a pleasure and a definite uplitt for our music in the current music environment," explains SOTW guitarist/producer Skully.

Listen for SOTW in *The Seekers* (Pipedreams Entertainment), *Time Enough* and *Berserkers* (Brimstone Media Productions), *HORRORTALES666* (Falcon Videos) and Underbelly (Joe Sherlock Films). To find out how the band did all this work, visit the Web site www.sotwmetal.com or e-mail Skully at sotw@ peoplepc.com.

Dwight Yoakam has been filming a film called *Hollywood Homicide*. The movie also stars Harrison Ford and Josh Hartnett.

Busta Rhymes stars opposite Ray Liotta in the crime thriller, *Narc*. In the movie, Rhymes' character is accused of murdering Liotta's police partner. Both film and the rapper's latest album, *It Ain't Safe No More*, are in general release.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, the Merce Cun-

ningham Dance Company is coming to UCLA's Royce Hall, Jan. 30-Feb. 1, with a different program each night. Plans promise a look back at the last five decades plus the world premiere of Min-Event with the Kronos Quartet celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Kronos will be performing "Thirty Pieces for String Quartet," a piece originally written for them by John Cage.

For more information about schedule and ticket pricing, contact the box office, 310-825-4401. Forfurther information about the performers, contact Krista Fleischner in UCLA's publicity department, 310-794-4044.

Composer Stephen Edelman has scored MGM's *Evelyn* soundtrack on Decca Records. The soundtrack album includes his original score and two Irish songs performed by film star Pierce Brosnan and arranged by Endelman. Also included are the new songs "Angel Rays," written for the film by Endelman and performed by Norway's "Goddess of Music," Sissel (musical voice for *Titanic*; and "Sitting On Top Of The World," a new offering by multi-Grammy winner Van Morrison.

Directed by Bruce Beresford (Driving Miss Daisy), the film stars Brosnan, Julianna Margulies, Aidan Quinn, Stephen Rea, Alan Bates and nine-year-old new-



MUSIC CONNECTION JANUARY 20, 2003 - FEBRUARY 2, 2003

comer **Sophie Vavasseur** as Evelyn. Both film and soundtrack are in general release. For more information on Edelman, contact Costa Communications at 323-650-3588.

From Hollywood Records comes Deliver Us From Eva, the companion soundtrack to the upcoming Focus Features motion picture. This collection of urban talent features brand new music from multiplatinum artists such as Mary J. Blige ("Star Tonight"), Usher ("She's Got The Part"), Ginuwine ("Excuses"), 3LW ("More Than Friends") and En Vogue ("Lovin' You (Easy)," as well as new voices like Yoli ("Ain't No Stopping Sunshine"), Cal-vin Richardson ("More Than A Woman"), Element ("Show and Prove"),



Terry Dexter ("2 Way Street") and Vikter Duplaix ("Looking For Love").

A romantic comedy, *Deliver Us* from Eva follows three men who plot to free themselves of their mates' unattached and seemingly omnipresent and overbearing sister Eva (Gabrielle Union). The film stars LL Cool J, who also provides the soundtrack's first single and video ("Paradise" featuring Amerie). *Deliver Us From Eva* opens in theatres nationwide on January 31st. For further information, contact Hollywood Records Publicity, 818-560-5670.

Music isn't enough for some characters. Two-dimensional poppunk four-piece Gorillaz — Murdoc, Noodle, 2D and Russel have released a full-length DVD, Gorillaz Phase One: Celebrity



Take Down, that gives unprecedented access to the murky world in which they live. Dropped in the eerily deserted Kong Studios, players can explore. in full 3D, the high-rise building that is their home. In addition to exploring the band's funny and sometimes unsettling world. the DVD includes videos for "Tomorrow Comes Today," "Clint Eastwood," "19-2000," "Rock The House," and the unseen, unfinished video for "5/4."

Also of note is "Charts of Darkness," a behind-the-scenes documentary, and five "Gorillaz Bites" (short animation pieces). Truly interactive, this DVD is more fun than many video games. *Gorillaz Phase One: Celebrity Take Down* is available at retailers everywhere. For more information, contact Jo Murray at Girlie Action, 212-989-2222 ext. 133.

Epic Records/Sony Music Soundtrax has the soundtrack for Miramax Films' big screen version of Bob Fosse's runaway Broadway hit *Chicago*. Directed by Rob Marshall (*Annie*) and adapted for the screen by Bill Condon (*Gods And Monsters*), *Chicago* is the tale of two female stars, one fading, the other about to be born, jostling for the limelight via the city's famed Murderers Row.

Written by John Kander and Fred Ebb (*Cabaret*), each song is performed by the films' principle actors, including tracks by Catherine Zeta-Jones. Renee Zellweger, Richard Gere and Queen Latifah (playing the prison matron Mama).

The soundtrack features "I Move On," a new song written for the film and performed by Zeta-Jones and Zellweger. It will serve as the endtitle theme. The soundtrack has just hit retail, with the film to follow in late January.

For additional soundtrack information, call Tracy Bufferd at Epic Records, 212-833-5643.



CLUB IVAR OPENS ITS DOORS TO SOME TALENT: One of Hollywood's newest hot spots has already been graced by the presence of numerous music superstars. Pictured entering a party for *Blender* magazine is (L-R): Perry Farrell with his girlfriend; Christine Aguilera, and former Skid Row frontman Sebastian Bach.



NASH & CROSBY AT SURROUND MUSIC AWARDS: A stirring performance by Graham Nash and Oavid Crosby at the First Annual Surround Music Awards, held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, helped set the tone for an evening filled with high emotions and fun surprises. Awards were handed out to recognize the pioneers of the surround industry.



STANDING TOO CLOSE TO THE EDGE! Singer Jon Anderson fronted the most recent reunion of the classic prog-rock band Yes when they visited the Universal Amphitheatre. After a riveting intro to the classic tune, "Close To The Edge," Anderson was literally standing a bit too close to the edge of the stage when he took a long fall that frightened the audience and the other band members. Fortunately, Anderson wasn't hurt and not only finished the tune, but the entire set, without incident.



THEATRICAL RAMAYANA 2K3: An experimental staging of the infamous Hindu text, The Ramayana, was produced by the Fabulous Monsters Performance group. The score was electronic combining world beat, trip-hop, trance, and various other forms of contemporary music. The run of the show took place at the Highway theatre in Santa Monica. A second run of Ramayana 2K3 opens at the Gascon Center Theatre in Los Angeles on January 24 and continues through March 2nd. The music was composed by Alex Spurkle. Pictured is actor Will Watkin (Left) portraying the tempting demonic figure of Ravana with actress Anahata Spurkel playing Sita.



CANTRELL AT THE ROXY! Roadrunner Records artist Jerry Cantrell took his Alice & Chains software to the Sunset Strip and scored high marks on the legendary stage of the Roxy Theatre. Cantrell has been out promoting his latest album, *Degradation Trip*, which is a follow-up to his critically acclaimed 1998 *Boggy Depot* release on Columbia Records.

-MICHAEL MOLLURA



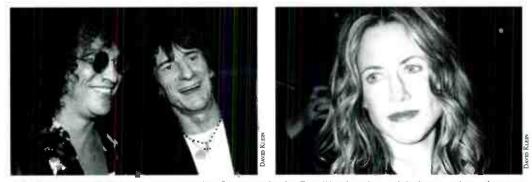
L.A. MUSIC SCENE 2003 IS HERE!!!: This year's annual L.A. Music Scene 2003 compilation CO is now available, Consisting of 21 tracks by various unsigned artists including Amber, the X-OTX, Karen Glenn with Billy Sheehan on bass, and others from the Los Angeles music scene, the musical styles range from aggressive rock, to dance, to hip-hop and even some modern country and reggae tunes. The CO was produced by Oave Waterbury and put out by Vantage Records. For more information, please contact 818-505-8080.



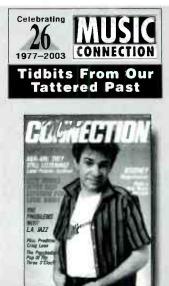
SOME OOWLESS ART! Los Angeles artist Oonna Oowless, whose Art of Heart paintings have been featured nationwide and have been received by such celebrities as Celine Dion and Cher, recently debuted her newest collection at the Raw Style gallery in Santa Monica. Pictured at the event (L-R): Lee Zeidman, Sr. VP of Operations, Staples Center; Oonna Oowless; John Meglen, Co-CEO Concerts West, and Terry Baines, Cochairman, Tickemaster.



GABRIEL GETS "UP" FOR SOCAL SHOWS!: Peter Gabriel literally rolled into town recently using a 20-foot transparent rubber ball made especially for the *Up* tour by an artist from Germany. The show was extremely elaborate, making use of an in the round stage that did everything but sing. Pictured is Gabriel performing at the Staples Center show.



A WOOD IN THE HOOD: Legendary Rolling Stones guitarist Ron Wood took a quick time-out from the tour to be present at a gallery exhibit of his art work in an intimate studio on Melrose Avenue. Present at the party was guitarist Slash and Sheryl Crow (Right).



1983-RODNEY IS ON A ROLL !!!-(Issue #9): For longer than any of us can remember, Rodney Bingenheimer has been a beloved fixture on Los Angeles' music scene. In one capacity or other (musician, club host or DJ), he has helped make this city an important setting for new, cutting-edge music. In this issue, the "New Music Messiah" recalled KROQ's early days in the mid-Seventies: "There were all these new, different bands to sign. People from the labels thought it was great. They'd call and ask who I just played." Also in this issue is a profile of producer Craig Leon (Ramones, Bangles).



1994–PANTERARISM–(Issue #9): After slogging it out in the metal trenches for 11 long years, Pantera released an album on Eastwest Records, *Far Beyond Driven*, which entered the album sales chart at No. 1, an amazing feat for such heavyduty hard-rockers. Recalled drummer Vinnie Paul of the band's never-saydie attitude, "We got turned down by every label on the face of the earth at least 10 times." Paul also told how the band was originally formed based on a \$20,000 loan from his father, a former country-western crooner. Mr. Paul was repaid in full.

The above issues, and most back issues since '77, are available for purchase. Call 818-755-0101 or visit MC's Web site and click on "Archives."



hen U2 blew out of Dublin in 1980 armed with "three chords and the truth," the quartet quickly established itself as brash, confident and committed. Durable? That would remain to be seen. And it has been; approaching Rock and Roll Hall of Fame eligibility, U2 is in its third decade of making potent, adventurous music that's taken the band from its Clash-inspired roots into a broad range of sonic terrains which have tested the group's creative mettle – and the temperament of its audience.

After becoming one of the biggest bands in the world during the Eighties on the strength of anthems such as "I Will Follow," "New Year's Day," "Pride (In the Name of Love)" and "With or Without You," U2 spent the Nineties experimenting, trying on new sounds and new images that sometimes worked (1991's Achtung Baby), sometimes fell comparatively flat (1997's Pop) and sometimes merely puzzled (1993's Zooropa, 1995's Passengers collaboration with Brian Eno). But U2 began the new millennium in winning form with All That You Can't Leave Behind, a multiplatinum smash — and two-year Grammy winner — that synthesized all that had come before into a familiar, accessible model that still sounded more like a fresh new start rather than a retrenchment.

It wasn't surprising that U2's highly conscious music and shows became part of the healing ritual after the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., while frontman Bono's position on the world political stage — via his Jubilee 2000 campaign for Third World debt relief — was part and parcel of everything U2 has stood for during the past 23 years. But with a new compilation, *The Best of U2 1990-2000*, reviewing that volatile decade in the band's history, Bono and guitarist the Edge say they and their bandmates (bassist Adam Clayton and drummer Larry Mullen, Jr.) are looking towards an equally ambitious future.

Music Connection: Looking back on the saga of U2 during the period from 1990 to 2000, the ups as well as the downs, what is it that you see?

The Edge: It's really the story of us taking the idea of a rock & roll band and abstracting it as far as you possibly could and then reconstructing it again. I think that's really, in a nutshell, what we did during that period. At every turn, it was an attempt to find inspiring places to go as songwriters and artists. Sometimes that meant finding some really extreme and obscure sonic territory to inspire us, and then towards the end of that period, when we were making *All That You Can't Leave Behind*, it was very inspiring to kind of strip it back and go into the rehearsal room and discover it was still inspiring to work together in a very simple way and that the chemistry of the musicians playing together was really the glue.

Bono: I think a lot of the stuff we've done in the last 10 years has been kind of disinformation, to take the kind of gaze off these very raw, emotional songs and put a kind of grin on them. Calling an album, *Achtung Baby*, for instance; it's one of the most sore places we've been, but making an album a joke and taking photographs

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around a carnival and having fun with some of the ideas of ego that we were playing with, we managed to give ourselves a bit of freedom, a bit of room to breath. So we were fighting with that, fighting with the material that was coming down. I think we've done that a lot.

MC: It seems like there has been a real aversion to being stagnant in any way.

Bono: I hope that's what it is. I hope it's not that we were so stung and reviled for the kind of open (Christian) faith that we

quite know how to take it. Was it frustrating to be misunderstood?

Bono: You know, it's a very interesting thing. When we did our stunt at K-Mart (to launch the *Pop* album), 'cause we were all into Andy Warhol and mass production and that whole thing, some people got really annoyed with us. They said "What are you doing here?" We said "Well, it's fun." These launches can be so full of pretension and hype, it's nice to have some fun with it. And people say, "You can't do that. You're in U2!" and I

lesser extent, Flood. What did they bring to U2 over these years?

The Edge: They just had a great influence, an incredible sense of sonics and what one can do with sound. They're big fans of trying to create music on the spur of the moment, and they're very inspiring to be around.

We really had the benefit of Eno's keyboard atmospheres and Daniel Lan-ois' extra rhythm guitars or whatever else he might've been doing. We can't overstate how important they've been to U2.

"We were up against it, and I think there was a feeling that rock music isn't up to what's going on, the challenge of R&B and hiphop. And we just wanted to say 'nay' to that."

seemed to have in the Eighties that we began to loathe who we were, 'cause that happens when people are kind of abused. At a certain point, you almost start to agree.

The Edge: As a band, we thrive on discovering new ground. I just hate rules. I hate any sense that there are real absolutes when you're being creative. I think you have to follow your creative instincts; you have to go with what feels right, and in the end your ears are the judge. If something is really working and connecting, I never doubt it.

Bono: Someone described Achtung Baby as the sound of four men chopping down *The Joshua Tree*; I thought that was true. We had a lot of moral baggage that we were carrying and that people handed to us. I certainly felt like I couldn't live up to the songs, and that I didn't have to, almost.

So we turned on ourselves, in a way, and turned on our own hypocrisy. It was great subject matter. Suddenly it wasn't the bad guys in government or the bad guys in business we were throwing rocks at; it was our own demos. I think we just had to go there.

MC: During that time you certainly played with all the perceptions of what U2 is — the sound, the image. But some people didn't said, "That's precisely the reason why we've got to."

The Edge: I guess whenever you take a leap into the unknown, you really don't quite know where you're going to end up or whether you're going to succeed or not, so there was a lot of jeopardy in the air. But the spirit of wanting to explore new areas was what was driving us on. It was just a great and very creative phase for us, and, I suppose, not feeling any constraints, just feeling that we could and really had a responsibility to just really be extremely open to whatever was inspiring and just follow our instincts and not think twice about what we were doing and not be worried about commercial concerns — just take it as far as it could go.

MC: Your crucial partners in that endeavor were Brian Eno and Daniel Lanois and, to a MC: The experiments didn't necessarily stop on All That You Can't Leave Behind, but it was also a pretty clear return to territory U2 fans would consider familiar. What was the charge you felt while making that album?

Bono: We knew this was a record that was against the odds. We thought,

"We gotta make something that feels really pleasant, that's not about what's fashionable this week, but what's about the moment we're in right now." We were up against it, and I think there was a feeling that rock music isn't

up to what's going on, the challenge of R&B and hip-hop. And we just wanted to say "nay" to that, and "Write better tunes than us, then, whoever you are." That was sort of the attitude of the record.

Bono

The Edge: 1 think we made a very direct record, a record that didn't have any kind of artifice...that was stripped to the bone in every

U2 45

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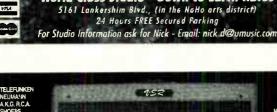
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"A full-blown bad review will hardly ever see the light of day. I won't even write one because editors usually won't accept it. You have to understand, a lot of these reviews are advertiser driven." — The G-Man, Immedia Wire Service reviewer

one mentions *Sound on Sound*, a British magazine and Web site, as well as *Mix* magazine's Field Test Archive. "They are the top two, hands down," Lemon confirms. Be aware, however, that you have to register at these sites, but their reviews are well worth it.

WHEAT or CHAFF?

It's easy to get overwhelmed with information overload. And sometimes, searching for answers to your questions is akin to looking for a needle in a haystack. Doorslammer recording artist Danny Blitz, who hit the jackpot with his song, "If Ozzy Was My Dad – That Would Rock!," visits forums and message boards on a regular basis. Blitz explains, "Buying equipment is a serious expenditure so you want to be sure you get what you want. Message boards can be useful, but at times they're also frustrating. If there's no moderator, you tend to get a lot of opinions, but few facts."

Blitz affirms that if you can separate the wheat from the chaff, you'll learn what the product can do in a They're very technical and can totally lose you if you're not at that level." He recommends not giving up if the first few groups are too techy. "If you keep looking, you'll eventually find one that's suitable."

The G-Man additionally suggests that readers look out for the obsolescence factor. "With a lot of new gear, there's a built-in obsolescence that should concern you. Sometimes," he indicates, "buying last year's model, which has already gone through its evolution, will be perfect — at a lot less cost."

Los Angeles-based artist Marc Minarik, of the band Lily's Siren, reads equipment reviews carefully. "I read them to see what new products are out there. I pay particular attention to the features listed and functional limitations. You don't want to buy something that doesn't exactly meet your needs," he warns. "And, with all the high-tech gear nowadays, it can get very confusing — and expensive, if you need to upgrade every year."

But, Minarik points out, "Some reviewers will talk about price and sometimes they'll even let you punches. Instead, we took pictures of the poorly soldered joints and asked, 'At what price is this a bargain?'"

Rowan advises shoppers to consider the source of the reviews. "Find a source you can trust. It's a small world, and too often professional reviewers might view their credibility with a company as more important than their credibility with readers. A professional reviewer shouldn't fear the truth — and neither should the buyer."

Like the game of "Truth or Dare," however, Rowan cautions, "Don't ever buy a product solely based on one positive review. Always try using the gear before making a final decision." Rowan contends that reputable companies will let you audition the gear — in your own studio — before purchasing it. "If they don't, they don't deserve your business."

In the final analysis, Rowan maintains, "If a review convinces you to make better use of the gear you already own — that's the best kind of information anybody can receive."

"Message boards can be useful, but at times they're also frustrating. If there's no moderator involved, you tend to get a lot of opinions, but few facts." — Danny Blitz, artist

real context. "Sure, you can try out guitars and amps in a store," he says, "but until you use them in a live setting, you don't really know if they're going to work for you."

Blitz recalls testing an amp that sounded great in the store, but onstage it was totally wrong. "A little research would have alerted me and saved me a lot of time," he contends. "Now, I read everything I can before I pay for it."

The G-Man also visits forums and boards ("I like to hear what others are saying"), but found not all to be impractical. "Some of them are not for the beginning user. know where the best deals are. That's an important consideration for most artists I know."

TO BUY or NOT TO BUY?

A less-than-glowing review can unquestionably help you avoid making a poor purchasing decision. At ProRec, Rowan declares, "We're not afraid to say, 'Don't buy this product — it sucks!"

In one of ProRec's review tests, they exposed a shoddy Chinesemade microphone. "It had crippling defects and terrible sound," Rowan recalls, "and we didn't pull any

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Danny Blitz	dannyblitz.com
Marc Minarik	lilyssiren.com

To obtain a list of links to gearreview sites, visit StudioCovers.com

MC

◀ 34 U2

sense. But I don't want to give the impression that this was a safe record; it is very innovative for us, but in a different way. The aesthetic focus of this record was keeping it simple — not too many textures, not too many other kinds of distractions. Just keep it simple to the band and to the point; the idea was an exploration of the chemistry of the band playing together.

MC: Has U2 ever been in real danger of splitting up?

The Edge: I think we kinda check ourselves every once in a while just to make sure it's still working for us. I think the criteria's always been the same: Are

we still making great records? Are we still relevant? Is it still working? Are we enjoying it and are other people that listen to the record enjoying it? And so far, we can answer yes to all those questions.

Bono: You know, Adam had a birthday (in 2000), and he shocked everybody, 'cause he's normally so wry, but he just said, "I'm really glad you're all here. A few years ago, I didn't know that I'd be here." And I thought, wow, yeah. It's funny just watching everybody else come through something and to want to be in the room because there was nowhere else they wanted to go. That's the first feeling that you have in a band, of like, "This is where we want to be." And to still feel like that is a blessing.

The Edge: That's not to say that it will always be that way. I think that we would want to quit if it

band like us perform." And now I suppose I'm kind of in their position, and I completely get it. It's so great to see a band coming through that's got that life force and that integrity. It's always a real thrill. It's always so inspiring for us to feel that there's other acts coming through because it's the right kind of challenge; it gives you a bit of incentive, I suppose, to up your game and to keep developing and finding new things to say as a band and as musicians.

MC: Who do you like among the newer bands?

The Edge: I'm always interested to hear what Beck is doing. I love the new Sonic Youth record. Obviously it's fun to hear

songs. It just struck us, really, as a song of the moment; lyrically and musically, it just seemed to kind of sum up, for us, the mood right now. There's a sense of jeopardy and a sense of foreboding about where the world is headed; it's a love song, obviously, but the backdrop is sort of this electrical storm, this sense of something coming through and you don't quite know what way things are gonna go. That's how we feel; I'm sure that's how a lot of people feel with everything that happened after September 11th.

MC: How about "The Hands That Built America," which is on *The Best Of* and in the film, *Gangs of New York*?

The Edge: We got a call from [director



Martin Scorsese's] office, 1 suppose, and he and Miramax had been trying to figure out who was gonna provide music, and our names came up. So initially it was "Are you interested"; and we're huge fans of Scorsese, so we said, pretty much im-mediately, "Yeah, if we can do something that works for both of us, that would be great." It's fun, actually, working on music for movies because it gives you...a sort of emotional brief that you need to follow in one way, but...it's very freeing in another. You can really experiment a lot, and we had a lot of fun doing, writing 'The Hands That Built America' and working on it for the film. It was a lot of fun. It sort of feels like a U2 song, but from a different century.

"It's always so inspiring for us to feel that there's other acts coming through, because it's the right kind of challenge; it gives you a bit of incentive to up your game and keep developing..."

ever got to the point where we were unable to maintain this high standard or if we lost our audience to the extent that people weren't interested anymore. I don't think we'd maintain this workload for our own amusement.

MC: When we talk to younger bands these days, they often point to U2's as the kind of career they aspire too. Are you conscious of having that kind of influence?

The Edge: Yeah, and we're always inspired by up-and-coming bands. When we first started out, I remember Pete Townshend and Bruce Springsteen coming down to see us playing in some small theater in the Midwest, and I felt at the time, "Wow, it's amazing that artists of that stature are even bothering coming down to see a bands like the Hives and Black Rebel Motorcycle Gang coming through with a kind of take-no-prisoners attitude, which is great; it was high time that we had some new rock & roll bands on the scene with that kind of energy. Sometimes you have to search for it, but there's always great music around; I suppose it's always been somewhat in the minority, but it's there.

MC: The latest *The Best Of* album has a couple of new songs. How did "Electrical Storm" come about?

The Edge: That was a tune we started kicking around in a kind of improvisational session at the start of [2002]; we got a few clues, as I call them, and we worked on it during the spring, along with "The Hands That Built America" and a couple of other

- The Edge

MC: What's your prediction about the direction that U2 will take on its next album?

The Edge: Right now my instinct is to make it very raw, kind of guitar-bassdrums, an album with a lot of attitude and a lot of that kind of life force or vitality that I associate with guitar bands in full flight. That's the kind of feeling I want to put into our next record.

But it's so early. As often happens with U2 albums, you start out with some intention and at a certain point you start to get carried by the music itself and it takes you off somewhere completely different. At this early point, it's impossible to be certain what way the album will go.

Contact Tasha Stoute, Interscope Records 212-445-3206





By Daniel Siwek



t took a few years, but the Donnas made the crucial crossing from indie to major. Ever since their self-titled Lookout Records debut and their sophomore success (*American Teenage Rock N Roll Machine*, 1998) the band have been living out a dichotomy of influences.

Back in Palo Alto Junior High they were inspired by the L.A. excess of Poison and Cinderella, when hair metal over-saturated MTV. "Nobody wants to admit how they used to have big hair," remembers guitarist Donna R (Alison Robertson). Yet, their stoner attitude and naïve simplicity was perfect for Bay Area, Gen X and Y punkers. Their indie cred was furthered when Superchargers' Darin Raeffelli and Redd Kross' Jeff and Steve McDonald mentored them into a Kim Fowley dream complete with "Leather Tuscadoro"/Ramones-like alter egos.

When you're indie, just as many people expect you to die that way as anticipate you going major, and the band was and is under a lot of pressure from both camps. When asked at the Troubadour in 1998 if they were looking to get picked up, the band was quick to stick up for Lookout, almost annoyed at the notion that they had to go major.

The Donnas and their label were being courted by Mercury, who had just sent the girls to see Kiss at Dodger Stadium. There were other offers, but the band and management insisted on being prudent and patient. "We weren't like, 'We're indie, we're indie!" claims front-chick Donna A (Brett Anderson). "We wanted to build our fan base before we signed to a major label. If we were on a major label then, we wouldn't have any of the control we've had or have now." Robertson agrees, adding, "We knew it was going to happen, but when people would ask us if we were going to take the big jump, we'd say, 'Yeah, we will...one day." So what did Atlantic have that others didn't? "After *Turn 21* (their third

So what did Atlantic have that others didn't? "After *Turn 21* (their third album, which announced the end of their barely legal days)," explains Anderson, "we felt like we got as far as we could on an independent label; Tristian [from Lookout] was doing a really great job, but she's only one person, so we talked about it and agreed that if we got a good deal we would be moving on."

The deal came after working with Atlantic's A&R reps, Mary Gormley and Nick Cassemely. Lookout retains the rights to previous masters, gets vinyl rights to the new one, and the band getsto keep their team intact.

"We took less money to keep more power," Anderson readily admits. Robertson also asserts their shrewdness, saying, "We checked their roster and saw that they stick with bands even if the record isn't selling, bands have been there for 10-15 years and staff have been working there for the same amount of time."

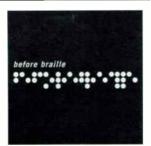
So now that they don't have to fear the axe, the Donnas — who also include drummer Torry Castellano (Donna C) and bassist Maya Ford (Donna F) — took two months and delivered their first of two albums, with an option for three. The band are now on tour with a string of coast-to-coast shows scheduled through February.

Contact Glenn Fukushima 310-205-5795

MC

DISC REVIEWS

In order to be considered for review in the Disc Review Section, you must have a record deal with a major label or an independent label with an established distributor. If you do not, please see our Demo Critiques Section. Send packages to: Disc Reviews c/o Music Connection, 4215 Coldwater Canyon, Studio City, CA 91604.



Before Braille The Rumor Aezra Records



Sizzla Ghetto Revolution Greensleeves O O O O O O O O

Producers: Bob Hoag and Before Braille Top Cuts: "Miracle Mile," "A Cinema Spine," "Abracadaver" Summary: Before Braille incorporates a tendency toward heartfelt lyrics, bittersweet melodies and an urgent, guitar-driven musical attack. While David Jensen too often utilizes a monotone vocal approach, he invokes more splashes of character and relies less on whining than most of his emo counterparts. Musically, the album favors intricate arrangements and startling dynamics.

Producer: Philp "Fatis" Burrell

Top Cuts: "Ghetto Revolution"

Summary: A real Bobo Ras (a Rastafarian sect), Sizzla's angst, act-

ion, and spirituality are all on the

line with his new revolution, and

the result is a diverse disc of dance-

hall, roots and rage. The title track

is all serious-lipped but one can't

help just loving the hip-hop drum

programming. In fact, "Fatis" Burrell's production is on fire, even

getting that authentic Tuff Gong

sound. Fans of Sizzla will notice

the progression, but appreciate its

familiarity

—Mike Moore



Phish Round Room Elektra Records

000000000000



Transplants Transplants Helicat Records ① ② ③ ③ ③ ③ ③ ③ ③ ③ Producer: Bryce Goggin Top Cuts: "Pebbles and Marbles" Summary: Living up to their reputation as the kings of the colossal jam, Phish end their two-year hiatus with a release that is more of a captured moment than a collection of commercial hits. The vo-cals are unpolished, the song structure is languid and loose, and the production is markedly less detailed than their other studio re-leases, but the awe-inspiring in-strumentation should be more than enough to satisfy even the most discriminating Phishhead.

-Scott Perham

Producers: Tim Armstrong, Dave Carlock

Top Cuts: "Tall Cans In the Air," "Diamonds and Guns" Summary: If Terry Hall and Joe Strummer hooked up with Green Day, and all the planets were aligned, this would be the result. *Transplants* is the best record the Clash never made. Led by Rancid's Tim Armstrong, the tracks are chock-full of fun, skillful ska-punk. But the songs transcend those categories and throw down some modern beats and lots of jumpin' dancehall-style piano licks.

—Daniel Siwek

46

World Radio History

DEMO CRITIQUES

Music Connection's executive committee rates demos on a scale of 1 to 10. Number 1 represents the lowest possible score, 10 represents the highest possible score. A final score of 5 denotes an average, competent artist demo. For more information, see Demo Submission Guidelines below.



Nicole Gordon

Contact: 323-461-0408; nicolegordon.net Seeking: Label Deal Style: AC Pop

olo artist Gordon is a singer and co-Owriter who collaborates with Grammywinning writer Dave Merenda and others to strong effect on this full-lengther. Material and production are well above average with Gordon's vocals consistently appealing and reliable, if not especially unique. This mature artist has a solid vision of herself ("This Is Who I Am") and articulates lyrics effectively. Our favorite is "Love Is A Light," a memorable track with a bit of fuzz guitar. A warm and smart singer, a la Natalie Merchant.





Sundayman

Contact: Christos Kritikos, 310-600-8656; m-beat.com Seeking: U.S. Distr. Style: Electronica





P2

Contact: On Top Management, 626-233-6076; ontop music.com Seeking: Label Deal Style: Rap-Opera



Arren B.

Contact: Elton, 323-462-6477 Seeking: Label Deal Style: Pop/R&B

'his six-songer marries rap with opera and the resulting HipHopera is not exactly a match made in heaven. The soprano Red Diva and rappers Exstacy-E and Emery Finagler do well individually, showing nice skills all around, but the fusion of two disparate musical forms is a tough task that P2 are not up to. "Tosca Rap" and "Carmen" will be familiar to many, but considering that P2 have been scooped by MTV's 2002 Carmen - A Hip-hopera, we cannot see a bright future for this novelty project.



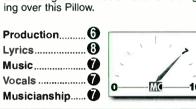
'his vocalist's Mid-Eastern influences can be seen as a blessing or a curse, depending on which direction he wants to go. Reminscent at times of crooners like Marc Anthony, Arren B, handles the twists and turns of R&B with agility and feeling, showing nice range and dynamics. He is less impressive as a songwriter, particularly with lyrics that rarely reach above tried and true love patter. That, together with cheesy rhythm tracks, seriously undercuts his strengths. Keep working.

Vocals 10 Musicianship.....6



Pillow of Wrongness

Contact: 310-515-3357; pil lowofwrongness.com Seeking: Label Deal Style: Alt. Pop-Rock



Athree-song demo from rock quintet Soulpocket opens with the upbeat "Life,"

a bright pop-rock tune whose lyrics impress

us with their ability to articulate a life-affirm-

ing message without succumbing to corni-

the tune's tender moments. All in all,

Soulpocket are a competent band held back

by a slightly dated attack and inconsistent

Right from the giddyup, McKeith's "Crazy" shows he's not afraid to rifle through

Prince's closet in search of some new twist to

the pop-funk-soul formula. A bluesy piano vamp accents "Let You Know," another number

on which the artist toys with the template. Most

successful on this demo, however, is the solid

and traditional outing, "Essence of Cool," where

McKeith channels soul men like Al Green. Over

all, this artist's demo suffers from lyrics that drift

into cliché ("till the end of time") and uneven

production quality.

Lyrics......

Musicianship......

Avery promising project that, with a few tweaks from a skilled producer, could

really shine. The band is an alluring weave

of influences that, at times, sounds vaguely

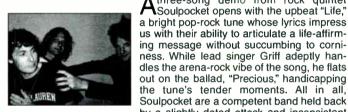
alt. country a la Clem Snide, yet never

strays too far from a solid rock base. Lyrics are imaginative ("Stop Me If You've Heard

This One Before"), chord changes are compelling, and song structures are sound and

true. Just a bit more finesse in production

and arrangements could have labels fight-



Soulpocket

Contact: 323-957-4954; soulpocket@hotmail.com Seeking: Label Deal Style: Rock



Derek McKeith

Contact: 323-288-8141; info@nobulrecords.com Seeking: Label Deal Style: Pop/R&B/Funk

Production	5.6
Lyrics	8 1 8
Music6	
Vocals	0-10
Musicianship	

DEMO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

audio production.

Send package to: Demo Gritiques c/o Music Connection, 4215 Coldwater Cyn., Studio City, CA 91604. All submissions should include the following four items: 1. CD or Cassette, no more than three songs will be reviewed.

- 2. Unretouched photograph (no larger than 8x10).
- 3. Brief biography with a contact name and phone number.
- 4. Legible lyric sheet for the three songs being submitted.

Send us the identical package you plan to send out to the A&R community, management companies, publishers and attorneys. All packages are selected at ran-dom and reviewed by an executive committee. Packages are not selected in advance, but rather, at the very time they are to be critiqued for a given issue. All submissions become the property of Music Connection and will not be returned. Because of the tremendous amount of packages we receive, we unfortunately cannot guarantee that each and every demo will be reviewed. If you are submitting an indie CD for review and do not have distribution with an established distributor, your product will be reviewed in Demo Critiques. If your indie CD does have distribution with an established distributor, it will be reviewed in Disc Reviews.

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Lava Bone: Hard rock, punk-edged material with heart.

Lava Bone

Dragonfly Hollywood

Contact: Alli Cat Entertainment, 775-588-7692 Web: www.lavabone.com The Players: J.C. Franklin, vocals; Ron Taniguchi, guitar; Scott Proctor, bass; Kevin Jackson, drums.

Material: This young San Jose band has intensity, ambition and high energy, but lacks the material to match its persona. In fact, this foursome is a perfect example of an act that is working hard but needs assistance with songwriting. None of their hard rock, punkedged material is terrible - it's just not unique. Too many songs sound alike with the same tempo, same structure and same generic impact. Think New Found Glory, play them at warp speed, and you have Lava Bone.

Musicianship: Excellent players, this band is as tight as a knot. Their unity is all the more impressive since they play so fast that, at times, the songs almost blur. Proctor and Jackson are machine-like as they propel each song into the stratosphere. Taniguchi keeps it together with rhythms that whirl, while Franklin works his vocals with such lather that you almost expect him to foam at the mouth. Overall, the musicianship is emotionally intense, but it doesn't have much focus.

Performance: Lava Bone's live presentation is a sight to behold. Dramatically wrought and constantly on edge, these guys are serious performers. There wasn't a moment to breathe. much less rest. But, their intensity overwhelmed the music to such an extent that the songs became secondary. This didn't appear to be by design, but instead seemed to be the unfortunate result of too much emphasis placed on the show and not enough on the material.

Summary: Though their punk rock songs don't match the depth of their heart, Lava Bone is such a young band they have plenty of time to develop their craft. With their genre so inundated with contenders to the throne, it becomes very difficult for bands like them to set themselves apart and make their sound distinguishable. But, that is the challenge, and it's one this act must meet if they hope to stand out in a very crowded field. -Bernard Baur

Alexi Murdoch Hotel Cafe

Hollywood

Contact: Lynn Grossman, 818-325-1215; or Catie at: catie.monck @ark21.com

The Players: Alexi Murdoch, vocals/quitar; Ben Peeler, lap steel guitar; Ramy Antoun, drums; Brett Simons, bass; Renee Stahl, backup vocals; Kat Maslich, backup vocals.

Material: Alexi Murdoch's acoustic-based folk-pop is made extraordinary by a voice of rare beauty. Rather than crowding his poetic lyrics, Murdoch keeps his songs hushed and spare in the spirit of David Gray or Nick Drake. The result is so stirring and soulful as to be spiritual.

In the song "Orange Sky," when Murdoch sings, "In your love, my salvation lies," his approach is so reverent, he could be singing about a higher power rather than a woman. Musicianship: Murdoch's tenor, touched by a Scottish brogue, viscerally floors listeners with its intimacy and resonance. Murdoch is also a fine guitarist capable of intricate rhythms and nimble arpeggios. His sound is further fleshed out by the spacey ambience of Peeler's steel guitar. Simons' standup bass provides mellow, dulcet tones, whether the strings are plucked or stroked with a bow. And Antoun supplies a restrained heartbeat to the entire ensemble. Renee Stahl has a rich soprano that blends wonderfully with Murdoch's voice.

Performance: Murdoch played for more than an hour and his performance was enough to keep the room riveted, but the addition of three fine musicians and two backup vocalists made the Hotel Café swell with music. The long-haired and bearded Murdoch charmed everyone with his humble demeanor until the very last number, "Blue Mind," which was performed as an audience singalong

Summary: Already receiving airplay on KCRW, Alexi Murdoch's talent warrants more than these ripples of industry notice. Lovers of substantive music should catch this artist while he's still playing intimate clubs and before he catches a swell of success.

-Sarah Torribio-Bond



Alexi Murdoch: Folk-pop songs delivered with rare beauty.



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CLUB REVIEWS



Stellastarr*: Eighties-influenced alt. pop fanfare.

Stellastarr*

The Derby Hollywood

Contact: Jonathan Kaplan, 212-94,1-9701

Web: jonathan@formulapr.org The Players: Shawn Christensen,

vocals; Michael Jurin, guitar; Amanda Tannen, bass, vocals; Arthur Kremer, drums.

Material: Mix the songwriting flavor of the Cure with the signature guitar style of U2 and you'll get Stellastarr* — a maximum strength alterna-pop band from New York. Their material, however, sounds awfully familiar, like you've heard it before — from somebody else. In fact, their songs, "School Ya," "No Weather," and the earnestly rocking "Jenny," sound as if they were lifted out of a manual on "How to Write Alternative Pop."

Musictanship: Bassist Amanda Tannen isn't just eye candy, but also shows talent. Tannen manhandles interesting melodies effortlessly while filling in with solid vocal harmonies. Bad boy exhibitionist Kremer, is the percussive glue that holds it together with (Stewart) Copeland-like rhythmic figures, adding interest to the soundscape. Lead guitarist Jurin is a star in the making, but resorts to a shameless imitation of U2's the Edge, which may fly elsewhere but it doesn't sell well in L.A. Frontman/lead vocalist Christensen has a Robert Smith vocal range that is as emotive as it is unintelligible. He's also a decent rhythm guitarist, but should consider putting the instrument aside, allowing more sonic space for the band — especially considering that his guitar tones add nothing his talented lead guitarist couldn't handle.

Performance: Stellastarr* is tight, well-rehearsed and an audience pleaser, but they were also blatantly derivative and self-absorbed. All the same, most of the audience dug them, even when the players mimicked the antics of new wave punks and fell all over the stage.

Summary: Stellastarr* is a strong band with potential, but they need to stop wearing their influences so obviously. Though their songs are classic in form, there's little that is unique about them. If this act wants to be an original, they're going to have to find an identity that is more than a slim blend of the Cure meets U2. Nonetheless, at this gig most people found them appealing.

-Oscar Jordan

Cousin Lovers The Mint Los Angeles

Contact: Adam Sloat / Miasma Mgmt. Inc., 323-663-0060, mias ma@mindspring.com

Web: www.cousinlovers.com The Players: Tim Ferguson, lead vocals, mandolin; Dean Thomas, guitar, backup vocals; Barry Thomas, bass; Craig Eastman, fiddle; Stuart Johnson, drums, backup vocals.

Material: Equal parts comedy and country, the Cousin Lovers initially

appear to be a joke, but then it becomes apparent that they're in on it. With songs like "Brummy & Highball" and "Here's To The Horseplayers" they parody Southwestern music, and its fans. Their tunes are performed with the utmost seriousness, yet the lyrics make it evident that the songs were written with tongues planted firmly in cheeks.

Musicianship: CL feigns mediocrity, but it's an elaborate act. Fergusen is a fine vocalist and mandolin player, and Johnson is a real standout. Sitting up front, Johnson flails behind a floor tom, a miniscule snare, a garage sale high-hat and a shovel for a cymbal. Fiddler Eastman blends perfectly into the mix, accentuating the music. Guitarist Dean Thomas plays a mean hollow body that has you wishing there was more of him in the songs, while Barry Thomas thumps those downbeats.

Performance: Sporting a leisure suit and huge mutton chops, Ferguson looked like the love child of Bill Clinton and Elvis Presley. But, it was hard not to stare at Johnson, who wore nothing but work boots, bright red long johns, a cowboy hat and a sheriff's star. He constantly ribbed Ferguson and played off the audience like a seasoned comic.

Summary: This band could have played the *Sling Blade* cast party. It's obvious that lots of time went into making the Cousin Lovers. This is an act that is perfect for anyone who likes to belly laugh and foot stomp. Cousin Lovers is as much a theatrical endeavor as a musical one — and its players have no lack of talent in either area.

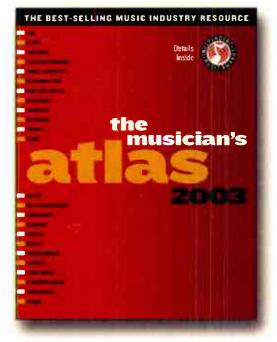
-Jenny Sherwin



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CLUB REVIEWS



Arthur Lee: Eye-opening antics from a legend.

Arthur Lee

B.B. King's Universal City

Contact: redtelephone@lovewith arthurlee.com

Web: www.lovewitharthurlee.com The Players: Arthur Lee, guitar, lead vocals, harmonica; Mike Randle, lead guitar, backup vocals; Dave Chapple, bass; Rusty Squeezebox, guitar, backup vocals; David Green, drums.

Material: Love him or hate him, you can't deny that Arthur Lee has a unique style and vision. A Sixties rock icon whose concepts were pilfered by more than a few popular artists, he returns to the stage after a freshly served prison sentence that couldn't keep him down. Lee played to an adoring audience and gave them exactly what they wanted — the psychedelic gems: "7+7 Is," "Signed D.C.," "Live & Let Live," "Orange Skies," "Andmoreagain," and "Little Red Book" to name a few.

Musicianship: Lee's talented twenty-something backing band were alert and energetic, but under rehearsed. By the third song they finally got it together and began to really play, despite a low house mix. Lee let's the music do the talking and refrains from the hijinx seen among less seasoned artists. His deceptively simple guitar style, while not technically great, is a throwback to a time when it only needed to support his ideas.

Performance: The juxtaposition of Lee's laid-back stage persona and the band's youthful energy provided a great balance to their stage presentation. When Lee was told it was his last song because Buddy Miles was next, he told the audience, "Buddy Miles owes me three hundred and fifty dollars! Who wants to hear that old Band of Gypsy shit anyway!" Lee then performed "Everybody's Gotta Live" combined with John Lennon's "Instant Karma" rousing the audience. As he introduced the next song, though, he was told the show was over. Undaunted, Lee started the song anyway, but security forced the band to leave the stage accompanied by chants of: "Arthur! Arthur!"

Summary: Over all, Arthur Lee presented a great and powerful show. With melodic stories and inner confidence outweighing stage antics and false bravado, Lee not only gave his fans what they wanted, but also something to think about.

-Oscar Jordan

J4

The Viper Room West Hollywood

Contact: Hot Line, 310-790-5689 Web: www.loirecords.com

The Players: Gregg Lake, vocals; Mike Ellis, lead guitar; Andy Curtin, rhythm guitar; Josh Jones, bass; Tom Lapicco, drums.

Material: J4 present a blase blend of pop and rock music that lacks the professional dynamics heard on mainstream radio. Though their songs contain some hooky choruses, the material fails to explore the emotional diversity that both of these styles are capable of generating. If more attention were paid to veering off the beaten path and creating a sound that does not get drowned by the heavyweights of the genre, J4 could dramatically increase their marketability as a serious pop-rock act.

Musicianship: Both Ellis and Lapicco play their respective instruments with the level of creativity and conviction that the music calls for. Curtin's rhythms pave a clear path for Ellis' lead licks, but ultimately pigeonhole the songs into a monotonous groove. Jones' rudimentary bass lines remain in the background and Lake's restrictive vocal range prohibits the material from ever rising above a moderate level of energy.

Performance: As if he was playing in another band, the punked-out Ellis passionately poured himself into his performance and remained the center of attention throughout. Though Curtin displayed sporadic hints of enthusilasm, both he and Jones remained subdued during the set. The major leak in J4's energy tank ties directly to Lake's inhibitions as a frontman. Appearing detached and nervous, his failure to convey a sense of fervor quickly lost the interest of the audience.

Summary: Considering that this band has been together for nearly nine years, it may be time for J4 to step back and assess their game plan. If their goal is to break beyond the small club and pub scene, it is imperative that they update their sound and release the inhibitions that come across in their live performance. Some vocal training could help Lake expand his range and, in turn, provide material with the emotional depth it so desperately needs.

-Scott Perham



J4: Pop-rock material with hooky choruses.

CLUB REVIEWS



perimental tunes that are accessible.

The Emily O'Neary Band

The Foxx Club Los Angeles

Contact: Jimmy D, 818-719-0091; jimmydrocks@aol.com

The Players: Emily O'Neary, vocals, piano; Jim Henriques, guitar, vocals; Robert Crane, bass, vocals; Betsy Snyder, violin, vocals; Rodney Pino, drums.

Material: An intriguing collage of moody, ambient music pervades Emily O'Neary's material. A sense of jazz, rock and classical composition can be heard in her sophisticated arrangements. Held together by gothic-tinged melodies and perceptive lyrics, the songs are compelling. "I Want to Live" comes as close to commercial as O' Neary gets, but keeps its edge with lyrics like, "There must be something missing / So tired of just existing / there's got to be a reason / why I'm here ... " This objective introspection hallmarks O' Neary's writing, and gives her songs a dark depth.

Musicianship: These players really feel the material. Pino and Crane are understated but steady. Henriques and Snyder give definite accents to the music - sometimes steamy, other times cool. O'Neary, a versatile pianist, seems at home behind the keys. Her vocals, though limited in range,

are extremely expressive and serve her songs well. Almost instrumental, even with vocals, the music conveys feelings and thoughts ephemeral qualities that don't always lend themselves to words. Performance: This area could stand improvement. Although the music was stirring, the players were too blasé. Barely moving, they seemed like a string quartet instead of a rock band. Little interaction with the audience or each other didn't help matters either. Indeed, this group needs their performance to match the intimacy of the material if they hope to have an impact in a live setting.

Summary: Avant garde but accessible, Emily O'Neary has an artsy quality that makes her material soundtrack-perfect for independent films or offbeat TV shows. By setting deeply emotional moods, O'Neary creates a potent potion that is as visceral as it is beautiful. Though she doesn't yet have the hit that will propel her to the top, her songs have gotten recognition on Gavin's Top 40. With time and patience, this artist could become a notable songwriter.

Bernard Baur

Titan Moon

The Whiskey Hollywood

Contact: Annie Lane Mgmt., 310-344-5263; annie1232@aol.com The Players: Nathan Schneidewent, guitar, vocals; Tyler Casey, guitar, vocals; Yohei Nakamiya, violin; Chris Muchka, drums; Lisa Vu, bass; Courtney Lemmon, vocals.

Material: Titan Moon performs ambitious acoustic music made majestic by a layering of sounds ranging from a keening violin to a trilling operatic voice. This duo

eschews hook-heavy pop sensibility, instead producing melancholy dreamscapes accentuated by streamof-consciousness lyrics. This approach is effective, but after a show the listener is left with an impression rather than a memory of the songs. Without sacrificing their artistry, this act would benefit from catchier construction, something that could be achieved by taking notes from groups like U2.

Musicianship: Schneidewent's and Casey's vocals meld together effortlessly, a testament to the Wisconsin-born duo's longtime friendship. Their guitar work is equally harmonic, as Schnei-dewent's intricate 12-string arpeggios wrap around Casey's vigorous strumming. Nakamiya's violin adds plenty of pathos and Muchka's drumbeats keep the band from drowning in musical miasma. Lisa Vu's bass is a bit quiet and tentative given the scope of Titan Moon's compositions, but Lem-mon's operatic voice is anything but understated as it adds soaring atmosphere to the song "Postcard." Performance: Titan Moon exuded sincerity despite a rowdy and inattentive young crowd. Casey even waxed a bit avant-garde, blowing bubbles at the audience and drawing somber lines under his eyes with eyeliner. When Lemmon joined the band for her mini-aria, you all but expected a juggler to come onstage next. With their large sound, it was easy to imagine Casey and Schneidewent commanding a much larger venue. Summary: Titan Moon, awash in their own soundscape, could use a bit of fire to help them gain notice. This classically trained pair is full of the talent and ideas needed to find this intangible element on their own. Schneidewent and Casey are just setting down roots in Los Angeles and will doubtless carve their own place in the city's music scene.

-Sarah Torribio-Bond







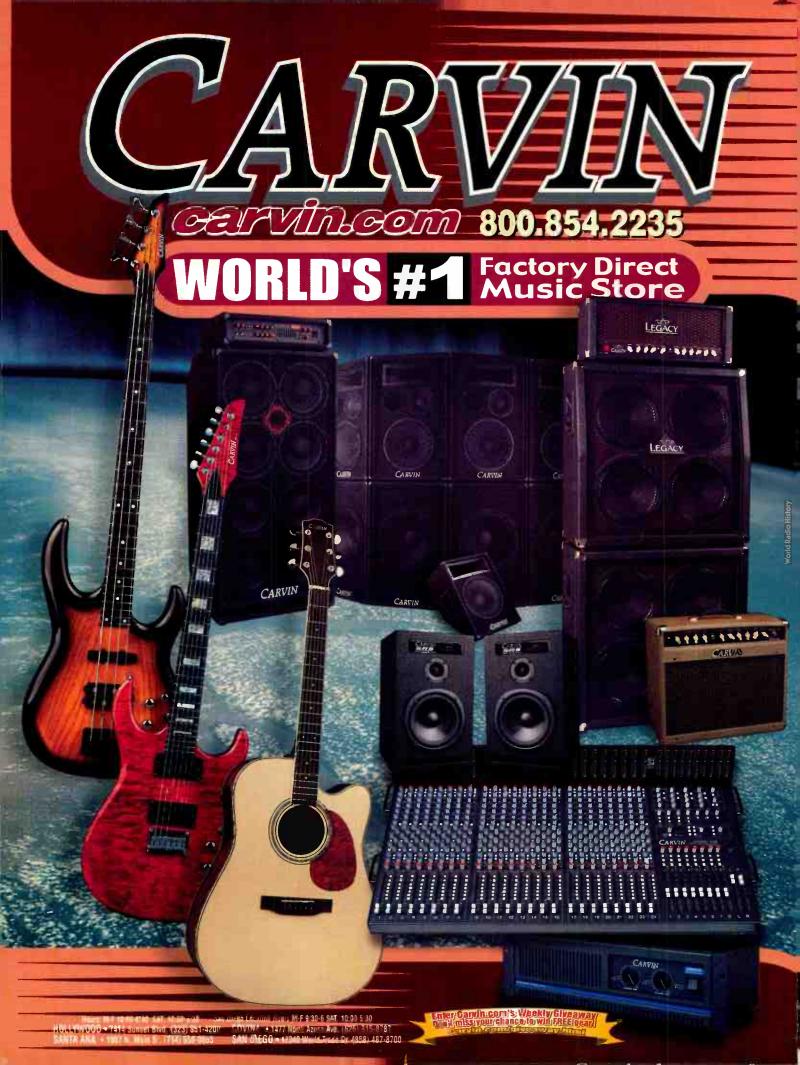




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Musicians Wanted	Production	
22. Vocalists	31. Songwriting 32. Composers/Arrangers Wanted 33. Producers Wanted 34. Engineers Wanted	
23. Guitarists		
24. Bassists		
25. String Players	35. Misc. Prod Business & Services	
26. Keyboardists	36. Agents/Managers Wanted 37. Investors Wanted	
27. Drummers/Percussion		
28. Horn Players	38. Distributors Wanted 39. Employment	
29. DJs	40. Music Personals	
30. Specialties	41. Misc. Business	

serious band & pro sit. 818-395-3537

· Experienced, drug free, skilled, 28 yo guitarist with excellent acoustic and electric gear available for recording and live situation. Andre 310-413-3511.

· Guitarist available for original band. Garbage, Duran, No Doubt, Queen. 323-960-0242.

· Guitarist available for single guitar, original metal band that still has LA rock vision & long hair. Brady 310-556-5018.

· Guitarist, 29, seeks dark edgy band. White Stripes, Dead Kennedys, Nothing to polished. 818-762-9504

· Guitarist, electric/acoustic, available for touring and recording. Pro sit, pop, rock, blues. 818-868-0073. · Guitarist, pro, available for touring & recording. Beth Orton, Sarah Mclachlin, Natalie Merchant. Serious only. 562-621-1186.

 Lead guitarist available for punk/hard rock band. Can write & sing. No drugs. Have experience. Ramones, Johnny Thunder. Marc 323-842-1643.

 Limited edition stellar guitarist available for equally stimulating rock/pop bands. Capable, toneful, useful, unusual. I have what you need. Pesci 310-490-4547.

· Melodic, soulful, blues based guitarist/vocalist seeks established band for touring & recording. Joey 260-925-4010, www.joeyo.com

· Reggae, soca, jazz hop guitarist available. Cd & tour credits. Pato Banton, Phil Chen, Fully Fullwood, Jawge, Majek Fashek, Tippa Irie. Dale 714-444-6951, reggaejazzguitar@hotmail.com

· Rhythm guitarist available for hard rocking, blues, metal type band. 70s & 80s. 818-415-9684.

14. BASSISTS AVAILABLE

· Bassist available for working cover/casual bands. Tenor lead & backup vocals, custom 6 string, can sight read, versatile, experienced. SoCal area. Bryan 818-621-9570. · Bassist available into smooth jazz, unusual concept, ethnic influences. 818-344-8306.

· Bassist/vocalist available. Blues, rock, pop, Fender, Musicman, studio. Mark 818-705-0554.

16. KEYBOARDISTS AVAIL.

· Crazy, experienced synth player seeks jazz fusion band. No pop or cover. Dean 310-641-2380. · Experienced planist available for studio work, gigs. Broadway to







must. Cahz 310-372-5395, cmcdelrey@cs.com

• Drummer available to form/join high testosterone, alpha male rock band with guitar crunch, pocket grooves and soulful melodies. Zep, ACDC, Korn. 310-927-9322, mcm@delnevo.org

· Drummer seeks great players to

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310-476-2829, 310-477-4314, impercussion@aol.com, www.jonathanmitchell.com • Need a little firepower? Awesome drummer available. Versatility, charisma, dynamics, Jamie 323-436-0437, jamiedouglass@earthlink.net

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· Pro drummer, x Berklee, available for live & studio. Rock, jazz, blues, soul, pop, funk. 310-204-9027.

· Pro drummer/percussionist available. Experience, equipment, funky style, vocals, image, reliable, positive attitude. 323-585-7114.

· Studio drummer available with 20 years stage & recording experience. Blues, Hard Rock. Rob 909-947-7099.

18. HORN PLAYERS AVAILABLE

· A1 sax player, baritone, seeks





original project. Blues, jazz, swing. Serious only. 310-358-7194.

Classifieds

• Sax player available, can sing lead & backup harmonies. R&B, jazz, Rock. Jazzy 909-558-1158, doriangray@ucd.net

• Sax seeks original project that swings. Must have excellent material. 323-650-5014.

• Sax/keyboardist available to form focused, unified, committed reggae, dub, blues, rock, fusion band. 818-990-3612, maryoi@hotmail.com

21. VOCALISTS AVAILABLE

• Able tenor available for cover/casuals bands. Can sing 20 lead vocals per night. Also play bass, sing backup, experienced. Bryan 818-535-3007, 818-621-9570.

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• Experienced female lead singer/songwriter seeks to form/join alternative band. Have pro skills, image and connections. Christian musicians preferred. U2. 626-991-5606.

 Female vocalist/rapper forming band. Phunk Junkeez, Beasties, punk. Beth 818-796-0638.
 Incredibly talented female front-

person available to join pro situation. I have songs, looks, male influenced vocals, connections. Alternative. 818-728-4664.

• Jovi/Tyler/frontman available. Asia 310-628-2097.

Lead vocalist available. Blues, rock, pop, Les Paul, strat, studio, stage. Mark 818-705-0554.
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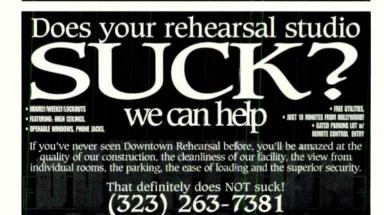
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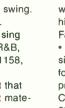
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· Metal vocalist/guitarist available with 22 years of experience, 1/2 stack & PA. Thrash, heavy metal. Michael 323-469-3814.

· Modern lead vocalist seeks to complete modern hard rock band. Linkin, Korn, Filter, Deftones. Ajay 818-425-6687, 818-563-5249.

· Pro, strong, gutsy alto female vocalist available for sessions. Great on lead, backup & harmony. Toni 818-845-2176, 818-704-9444. · Singer seeks to join/form band. Coldplay, U2, Alanis. 323-937-3484, scott@orbitalpictures.com

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· Singer/guitarist/keyboardist seeks same to combine songlist. Rock, new wave, oldies. Bill 323 257-9229. · Unique, pro frontman with stage presence, 3 _ octave range seeks hard, heavy band. Pantera, Sabbath. 818-834-3010. · Vocalist available. Punk, rock,

rap. Scott 818-368-3723.

· White girl vocalist/musician/songwriter with serious black soul available. 863-956-9500, amytaylor.com

22. VOCALISTS WANTED

· A1 vocalist wanted by pro modern rock band with 24 track studio, killer songs and vocals. Fuel, POM, STD. Doug 310-936-9227.

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· Afro American country singer wanted for record deal. Doug 310-556-6152

· Alternative, hard rock band with songs seeks pro vocalist with passion, technique & power for gigs, recordings. Goos, Filter, Audio Slave, Janes, Matthews. 818-782-8762

 Backup/harmony/some lead vocalist wanted for diverse group. Modern young sound with gigs & recordings. Fun, good time, creativity. Some pay. 310-288-6610.

· Charismatic, strong vocalist wanted for British influenced, classic hard rock blues band. Studio in San Juan Capistrano. Paul Rogers, Steve Marriott, Kravitz. 949-622-5237.

 Female country vocalist wanted to record one song in exchange for fully produced demo. 818-981-9907. · Female hip hop singer wanted to join band. 818-344-5673.

· Female vocalist wanted for

recording. Exotic, Indian chant, dark, ethereal, gothic. 661-299-5704, nocturn000@aol.com

 Female vocalist/rhythm guitarist wanted for all female Cheap Trick Trib. Paid regional gigs, upcoming



recording. Pam 310-463-7842, www.cheapchick.com

· Femme Fatal singer seeks co creators. Mindless Self Indulgence, Gravity Kills, NIN, Nirvana. Dark, moody, electric, creepy, sexy, painful. Dead serious only. 323-957-2149. 323-876-5864.

· Frontman wanted with killer voice, dedication & serious attitude. Incubus, STP, OZ, Tool. Chad 323-712-2699

· Great singers, 16-28, with hot looks & star quality wanted. Bruce 949-646-1277.

· Latin/pop male vocalist wanted for bilingual demos/master. Iglesia. Ed 323-466-0631.

· Latino male vocalist, 17-19, to complete multi racial boy band. Must have look, talent & dance ability. 323-841-0697.

· Lead singer wanted by working cover band. Modern, classic rock & disco. 2-4 gigs/month. 714-577-9805.

· OC nu metal band seeks singer with hooks, presence & image. Dan 562-833-0699.

www.mp3.com/scaredofsilence · Orange County based punk, rock, cowpunk band with gigs seeks female vocalist to share the front stage. Static X, No Doubt. www.havenots.net

· R&B singers needed by key-





boardist/arranger for demo collaboration, Vandros, Aarion 213-482-8443. · R&B, neosoul vocalist wanted in LA/OC area. We have tracks & contacts. Ken 714-607-0800.

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· Seeking Toby Keith or Tim McGraw for country writing & recording project. 30+. If you don't own a Stetson, don't call. John 818-557-0722.

· Singer & drummer wanted, 20s, by power pop band with tunes. 60s, 70s, Big Star, Cheap Trick, Nick Lowe, White Stripes, Velvet Underground. 323 -839-8032. · Singer wanted by full band. Samples, interest. Static, Slipknot, Deadsy, Deftones. 818-402-6260. · Singer wanted by thrash metal guitarist for recording and to start band. Pantera, Testament, Slayer. Serious, hungry musicians only. 323-658-6230

· Soulful vocalist with raspy edge to voice wanted as writing partner for funk, rock, groove project. 310-301-9575

· Vocalist needed for original project with major opportunities. Bad Brains, Glassjaw, Muse. 626-643-5784. 626-448-0516.

· Vocalist wanted by established rock band with Mid Eastern edge. Be under 35 with vocal training. 818-766-1560.

· Vocalist wanted. No metal or deadheads. Falkner, Foos, Travis. Noah 310-474-4020 www.mp3.com/sofa!



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· We need a Salena look alike for Texmex project. Must sing English & Spanish, lead & harmony. 310-348-9853 ex5525.

23. GUITARIST WANTED

· FEMALE guitarist, drummer and keyboard player wanted to complete our alternative/ambient/funk band with ALL WOMEN !! We have a following and gigs in progress. You must have collaborating skills, a great attitude and a look! No Doubt, Heart, Tori, Sarah, Olive Krysta 310 614 8255

• #1 Pro guitarist with strong vocals wanted by original band with radio friendly songs, interest, gigs, recordings. Branch, Jewel, 818-887-4778. · 2nd guitarist/songwriter wanted,

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20-30s. U2, Radiohead, Pearl Jam. Eric 818-808-0815.

· 80s metal guitarist, under 30, wanted for experimental project. Mat 818-419-6240.

· Acoustic guitarist wanted to accompany my guitar. Country, rock, Ethridge, Japlin. 805-338-4666. · Band seeks guitarist, 20s with

great stage presence and dedication. No flakes. AIC, Candlebox. Fuel. 818-917-3679, www.torynonline com

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Coldplay, STP, Rock. 310-600-7523.

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29. Peppers, Rage, Roots.

tarist, 20-30, with talent, vocals & image. Elvis, Dwight, Mavericks, Everly. David 310-1804.

 Bonfire, ACDC trib seeks rhythm guitarist that sings backup, has equipment, talent & responsible attitude, 805-553-9803.

· Creative guitarist wanted to com-

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818 240-9241, 818-437-7153, larockher@aol.com, christybark@aol.com Female singer/songwriter seeks gui-

tarist for upcoming shows. Soulful alt rock. Karolyn 661-478-1570. Female singer/songwriter seeks gui-

tarist for collaboration and band. Pearl Jam, Creed. 310-375-5175. Filter, STP, AIC, Audioslave, Heavy,

dark, commercial. 323-876-4228. · GnR type band seek guitarist for

tours & recording. 323-871-8542. Guitarist needed, 18-30, able to blend mtl, hip hop & funk. 310-577-2167.

· Guitarist wanted for cd & gigs.

Belew, Fripp, Radiohead, Police, James Brown. Buddah 818-371-5447.

 Guitarist wanted for estblshd band. Pro situation, Ready for gigs & shows. Tool, Rush, Gabriel. 818-763-9691. · Guitarist wanted for pro modern rock band with 24 track studio, killer songs and vocals. Fuel, POM, STD.

Doug 310-936-9227. · Guitarist wanted for rock band.

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Foos, Pumpkins. 949-689-6236, ramsenisaac@hotmail.com

· Guitarist wanted. No metal or deadheads. Vocals +. Falkner, Foos, Travis. Noah 310-474-4020, www.mp3.com/sofa!

· Guitarist wanted. STP, Coldplay, Zep, Beatles. 818-917-2988, 818-415-6430

· Iron Maiden trib forming. Must know songs from 80s live After Death Tour. 818-769-5289

· Looking for trashy lead guitarist. Crunchy Les Paul sound, image & long hair required. Must play loud. Tony 323-931-9435.

· Pro guitarist, reliable & drug free wanted for original situation for stellar female fronted project with monster hooks. Chevelle, Tool, Tap Root. 661-254-8529.

· Recording artist seeks guitarist. Strokes. 323-960-5061.

· Rhythm guitarist wanted for T40 band. Female musicians strongly encouraged to apply. No mercenaries. You make money when we make it. George 818-430-4966, aml17476@hotmail.com

· Rock artist with deal pending seeks guitarist with backup vocals for upcoming showcases. Noah 310-390-7631.





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· Singer seeks female guitarist for two different bands. Different musical styles welcome. Dwayne 323-755-2788, 323-754-0365.

· Singer/songwriter seeks bandmates. Cd being shopped. REM, U2, Goos, Pumpkins. Darrin 310-926-1269.

· Singer/songwriter with label interest needs guitarist that sings harmony for solo project. Weezer, Radiohead. 562-902-0929

· Songwriter seeks black female guitarist/vocalist/business partner. Forming group from scratch. Social Conscious, inspirational Christian music. Rock, hip hop, Alternative. 323-252-5157, mp3.com/coolspirit

· Singer/songwriter with material seeks bassist, drummer, guitarist, electronic for original project. Soul Coughing, Wilco, rootsy, Coldplay. Ron 323-669-2644.

• Top notch, pro, blues fanatic, lead guitarist with English & American influences wanted. Valley. 818-340-8223.

· Unique frontman/vocalist/songwriter seeks guitarist for collaboration. There is pay. 818-834-3010.

· Versatile, alternative rock guitarist wanted for 3 man band. 310-927-7769

24. BASSIST WANTED

GUITAR

• #1 Pro female bassist with strong

vocals wanted by original band with radio friendly songs, interest, gigs, recordings. Branch, Jewel. 818-887-4778

· A1 bassist wanted for pro modern rock band with 24 track studio, killer songs and vocals. Fuel, POM, STD. Doug 310-936-9227.

• African American bassist, 16-21, wanted Andre 909-623-2242

· Alternative band seeks bassist with pro skills & image. Must be serious, Christian, 24-32. Ours, U2, Violet Burning. 626-9912-5606.

 Band seeks bassist. No flakes or egos. Must have car, job & be core pro team player. Funky groove, blues, soul, R&B. Troz 818-395-9439, 818-985-4355, marktroz@msn.com

· Bass & drums wanted to form focused, unified, committed reggae, dub, blues, rock, fusion band. 818-990-3612, maryoi@hotmail.com

· Bassist & drummer wanted by songwriter. Learn songs and write new ones. Material is moody. Janes, Nirvana, 818-957-2655.

· Bassist & drummer wanted for Rage type music. 213-487-4924. · Bassist wanted by band into Bowie, Roxy, Syd Barret, Echo/Bunnymen,

Velvet Underground. Stephen 818-609-7487.

· Bassist wanted by band with great songs, management, lockout. Vines, Marvelous Three, Placebo, Suede. 323-933-7926.

· Bassist wanted by band with studio, goals, contacts, drive & great songs. Vines, Beatles. 310-838-8845, wwcsonic@yahoo.com, mp3.icacncs.com · Bassist wanted by heavy, estab-

lished band that has recorded, toured, is fully endorsed with label interest. NIN, Korn, Zombie. 818-783-5091. · Bassist wanted for all original band.

Garbage, Duran, No Doubt, Queen. 323-960-0242.

· Bassist wanted for melodic rock. T40 band with great songs & connections. Hoobastank, Nickelback. 310-973-9626.

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· Bassist wanted for rock band. Foos, Pumpkins, 949-689-6236, ramsenisaac@hotmail.com

· Bassist wanted to form blues band. No pay or gigs, yet. Allman, Stevie Ray, Clapton. 323-954-2973.

· Bassist with backup vocals, 18-26, wanted. Boston/PVD area. www.zoxband.com

- · Female artist with band, label and new cd seeks bassist for live shows and recordings. Earthy rock. Counting Crows, Sheryl Crow. Aron 818-377-9914
- Female drummer, quitarist &
- bassist needed. Must have equipment & experience. 310-915-7245.
- · Great bassist needed. I have







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material & contacts. Ready to gig. Bryan 310 314-6993, bryansenatore@hotmail.com

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· Rock artist with deal pending seeks bassist with backup vocals for upcoming showcases. Noah 310-390-7631. · Singer seeks female bassists for two different bands. Different musical styles

welcome. Dwayne 323-755-2788, 323-754-0365 · Singer/songwriter seeks bandmates.

Cd being shopped. REM, U2, Goos, Pumpkins. Darrin 310-926-1269.

 Singer/songwriter with label interest needs bassist that sings harmony for solo project. Weezer, Radiohead. 562-902-0929.

· Singer/songwriter with material seeks bassist, drummer, guitarist, electronic for original project. Soul Coughing, Wilco, rootsy, Coldplay. Ron 323-669-2644

 Top bassist wanted by original band. Police, Radiohead, Joe 818-371-5447. • Young bassist, 18-23, wanted with vintage sound. Stones, Vines, Strokes. Sean 818 881-9010.

26. KEYBOARDIST WANTED

• FEMALE guitarist, drummer and keyboard player wanted to complete our alternative/ambient/funk band with ALL WOMEN!! We have a following and gigs in progress. You must have collaborating skills, a great attitude and a look! No Doubt, Heart, Tori, Sarah, Olive Krysta 310 614 8255

 keyboardist wanted to form blues band. No pay or gigs, yet. Allman, Stevie Ray, Clapton, 323-954-2973, · Band seeks keyboardist. No flakes or egos. Must have car, job & be core pro team player. Funky groove, blues, soul. R&B. Troz 818-395-9439, 818-985-4355, marktroz@msn.com · Band with female vocalist seeks tasteful, dedicated, experienced kevboardist to join band. B3, Rhodes, Wurly, backup vocals +. Rock, alternative. Paul 818-848-0428.

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· Blues pianist/organist wanted for original project with great songs and future. Real deal. Valley. 818-340-8223. · Fem artist w/band, label and new cd seeks keyboardist for live shows and recordings. Earthy rock. Cnting Crows, Shervl Crow Aron 818-377-9914 · Female keyboardist wanted for female trib band. Jett. Heart. Benatar. 818 240-9241, 818-437-7153, larockher@aol.com, christybark@aol.com · Femme Fatal band seeks co creators. Mindless Self Indulgence, Gravity Kills, NIN, Nirvana, Dark, moody, electric, creepy, sexy, painful. Dead serious only. 323-957-2149, 323-876-5864

Classifieds

• Keyboardist wanted for all original band. Garbage, Duran, No Doubt, Queen. 323-960-0242.

• Keyboardist wanted for female artist with distribution deal. Must sing backup. Flaming Lips, Wilco. 818-371-3064, www.ginavillalobos.com

• MIDNIGHT REIGN seeks drummer & keyboardist for dark R&R. Joseph 323-528-3538.

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27. DRUMMERS/PERCS. WTD.

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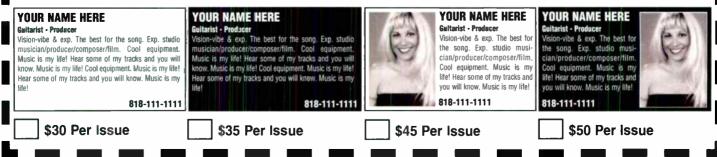
• A+ conga player wanted. We have 2 records with label. Deftones, Linkin. 3231 655-4346. A1 drummer/percussionist that sings wanted for diverse group.
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ist to join group. Chris 310-445-1151, ex 1.

Band seeks drummer. No flakes or



egos. Must have car, job & be core pro team player. Funky groove, blues, soul, R&B. Troz 818-395-9439, 818-985-4355, marktroz@msn.com

· Bassist & drummer wanted by songwriter. Learn songs and write new ones. Material is moody. Janes, Nirvana. 818-957-2655.

 Christian drummer/vocalist wanted. Hard, heavy. Micah 562-773-0422.

· Drummer & guitarist needed, 18-29. Peppers, Rage, Roots, Experience & equipment needed. 310-577-2167. • Drummer needed by band on

Westside. Experienced, 20s, motivated, serious with pro gear. Bizkit, Rage,

Incubus, U2. Must create & maintain solid, consistent beats, 310-869-9612. morlevtatro@vahoo.com

• Drummer needed, 20-28, for modern rock, electronic band, Pumpkins, Cure, Depeche Mode. 310-422-1255. · Drummer urgently required. Psychedelic furs, Nirvana, Cheap Trick. Gigs, cd, interest. Aaron 323-436-0126.

· Drummer wanted by band into Bowie, Roxy, Syd Barret,

Echo/Bunnymen, Velvet Underground. Stephen 818-609-7487. · Drummer wanted by band with

great songs, management, lockout. Vines, Marvelous Three, Placebo, Suede. 323-933-7926.

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· Drummer wanted to form blues band. No pay or gigs, yet. Allman, Stevie Ray, Clapton. 323-954-2973. Drummer wanted, 23-30, for serious rock band. Must devote 3 nights/week to rehearse. Incubus, Tool, Helmet, Fugazi. 310-418-0188, www.drawingdown.com

· Experimental, dark wave, art, punk band seeks drummer. Proficient players only. Rahne 310-463-8218.

· Female drummer, guitarist & bassist needed. Must have equipment & experience, 310-915-7245.

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· Hip hop singer/songwriter with band seeks funky drummer for gigs and showcases, Ron 323-293-9127.

Classifieds

· Metal band seeks solid drummer with serious double bass skills. Melodic thrash with progressive moments. Slaver, Overkill, Maiden, Sabbath, Megadeath, Opeth. 818-487-0453

 MIDNIGHT REIGN seeks drummer & keyboardist for dark R&R. Joseph 323-528-3538.

· Percussionist wanted by original acoustic act for gigs & recordings. Focused, experience, open minded, committed & responsible. No attitude. 818-908-9591, shokawah@adelphi.net Pro drummer wanted immediately. Lee 818-888 9661.

· Signed band seeks drummer that plays to click for European & US tours. Well funded project with cds. Goth. 323-874-1619

· Singer & drummer wanted, 20s, by power pop band with tunes. 60s, 70s, Big Star, Cheap Trick, Nick Lowe, White Stripes, Velvet Underground. 323 -839-8032.

· Singer seeks female drummer for two different bands. Different musical styles welcome. Dwayne 323-755-2788, 323-754-0365.

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· Singer/songwriter with label interest needs drummer that sings harmony for solo project. Weezer, Radiohead. 562-902-0929.

· Singer/songwriter with material seeks bassist, drummer, guitarist, electronic for original project. Soul Coughing, Wilco, rootsy, Coldplay. Ron 323-669-2644.

 Young drummer, 18-23, wanted with vintage sound. Stones, Vines, Strokes, Sean 818 881-9010.

28. HORN PLAYERS

· Crazy, progressive, hard core fusion players see sax. Weather Report. Return to Forever, Dean 310-641-2380.

29. DJS WANTED

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· Cd spinning DJ wanted for synth,

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30. SPECIALTIES

·Beat guru wanted! Sampler, sequencer, loop master needed for industrial based music project with songs. Need your skills for live shows, Cameron 323-610-6921,

31. SONGWRITING

· Country female singer/songwriter



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33. PRODUCERS WANTED

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• Alternative rock and R&B producer wanted to collaborate on artist projects. 602-212-6735.

• Female singer/dancer seeks brilliant producer. Stefani, Madonna. 310-396-2530.

· Femme Fatal band seeks co cre-





ators. Mindless Self Indulgence, Gravity Kills, NIN, Nirvana. Dark, moody, electric, creepy, sexy, painful. Dead serious only. 323-957-2149, 323-876-5864.

• POETRY BAND, ascap, seek producer for modern theater and expose of the century cds. 858-831-

- 1817 www.poetryband.com • Young, prolific, intense female
- singer/songwriter seeks producer/studio/writing partner. Have hundreds of sons. Soulful pop rock, 818-704-9444.

34. ENGINEERS WANTED

lf you are an AVAILABLE Engineer you must call our display ad dept.

• Engineer/intern wanted for part time session on Westside. No stress, no pay. Midi, Protools. Equal opportunity. 310-281-1171.

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• Writer/producer seeks full time engineer. Must play keys, know or learn Sonar, Mackie D8B & Giga studio. M-F, 11-5p. Salary depends on ability. Michael 323-650-4035.

36. AGENTS/MANAGERS WTD.

ll you are an AVAILABLE Agent/Manager you must call our display ad dept.

• Amazing sister/brother duo seeks aggressive manager with label contacts. Must hear us to believe. \$\$\$\$\$. 323-874-6121.

- Bassist with vocals seeks manager/agent. Bryan 818-621-9570.
- CROM D, cutting edge rap & soul duo, seeks experienced agent who works & plays hard. 609-954-6460, www.mp3.com/cd1

• Crom D, cutting edge rap & soul duo, seeks experienced agent. 609-954-6460. mp3.com/cd1

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• Toni Dodd & Southbound Blues seeks agents/manager. Toni 818-845-2176, 818-704-9444, www.go.to/tonidodd

 Top manager wanted by female singer/dancer/songwriter with edgy pop rock style. Stafani voice, Madonna world appeal. 310-396-2530.

37. INVESTORS WTD.

• Investor wanted by female

singer/dancer/songwriter with edgy pop rock style. Stafani voice, Madonna world appeal. 310-396-2530.

 POETRY BAND, ascap, seek investors for modern theater and expose of the century cds.. 858-831-1817 www.poetryband.com

39. EMPLOYMENT

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· Secretary wanted by ascap songwriter in San Diego. Word process, drive, travel. Fee negotiable. 858-

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this out they may not be the *right pickups* for you. And this is about you, after all. You don't have to have a



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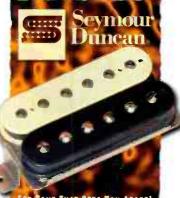
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