

Gamble & Huff To Be Honored as Icons at BMI Pop Awards

BMI will honor preeminent production and songwriting team Gamble & Huff as Icons at its 57th annual Pop Awards, slated for Tuesday, May 19 at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Los Angeles. Hosted by BMI President & CEO Del Bryant and BMI Vice President & General Manager, Writer/Publisher Relations, Los Angeles, Barbara Cane, the invitation-only event will also honor the songwriters and publishers of the past year's most-performed pop songs in the United States. The evening's commendations will culminate with an all-star musical tribute to Gamble & Huff.

BMI Icons are selected because of their "unique and indelible influence on generations of music makers." As BMI Icons, Gamble & Huff will join elite ranks that include the Jacksons, Bee Gees, Crosby, Stills & Nash, Paul Simon, Merle Haggard, Brian Wilson, Willie Nelson, James Brown, Ray Davies, Carlos Santana, Dolly Parton, and Hall & Oates.

Individually, they would have been giants, but together, Kenneth Gamble and Leon Huff became more than giants: They became legends. As architects of the Philadelphia soul dynasty of the '60s and '70s, Gamble

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Alison Krauss, Lil Wayne Win Big at Grammys

BMI songwriter Alison Krauss took home five Grammy Awards for *Raising Sand*, her collaboration with rock legend Robert Plant, during the Recording Academy's 51st



Alison Krauss

annual ceremony, held on Sunday, February 8 in Los Angeles. The pair, along with producer and fellow BMI songwriter T Bone Burnett, walked away with many of the night's top honors, including album and record of the year. With 26 awards, Krauss remains the most-lauded female artist in Grammy history. Overall, BMI songwriters and composers took home almost 60 percent of the evening's honors, dominating virtually every category.

Lil Wayne also enjoyed a big night, as he garnered four Grammys: His *Tha Carter III* secured rap album of the year, while "A Milli" snagged best rap



Lil Wayne

solo performance and "Lollipop" received best rap song honors. "Swagga Like Us," featuring Wayne, BMI songwriters Kanye West and T.I., along with Jay-Z, earned best rap performance

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World Copyright Summit Slated for June 9-10 in Washington, DC

The 2009 World Copyright Summit will be staged June 9-10, 2009 at the Ronald Reagan Centre in Washington, DC. Organized by the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) and supported by Informa Telecoms & Media, the conference will explore contemporary creative industry issues spurred by the surge of the digital realm.

BMI is one of ten U.S. member organizations in CISAC, which also includes

the NMPA, the Directors' Guild and Writers Guild, and organizations representing creators in the plastic arts.

In addition to providing networking opportunities for those connected with creative industries, the event will offer relevant insight, strategy and debate. The two-day summit's tagline, "New Frontiers for Creators in the Marketplace," encapsulates topics



scheduled to be discussed, including new visions for creative businesses, creators' challenges in the digital era, weather forecast on copyright climate, and valuing the creative ecosystem.

An international cross-section of creative industry decision-makers and creators including composers, film directors, songwriters, authors, screenwriters, and visual artists will attend.

Additional information regarding the 2009 World Copyright Summit is available at copyrightsummit.com. □

Twinkie Clark, Donald Lawrence, CeCe Winans Honored at Trailblazers of Gospel Celebration

BMI recognized the contributions of gospel pacesetters Twinkie Clark, Donald Lawrence, and CeCe Winans at the 10th Annual Trailblazers of Gospel Music Awards Luncheon on Friday, January 16 in Nashville. Hosted by BMI Vice President, Writer/Publisher Relations Catherine Brewton, the invitation-only celebration attracted gospel music's premier songwriters, recording artists and music industry executives, as well as the genre's legends.

Inspired live performances from a selection of contemporary stars and gospel powerhouses, including Kirk Franklin, Karen Clark-Sheard, Donnie McClurkin, 2008 Trailblazers honoree Vanessa Bell Armstrong, Israel Houghton, Kiki Sheard, Kim Burrell, DeWayne Woods, Crystal Lewis, Lejune Thompson, and Lalah Hathaway paid homage to the honorees. BMI President & CEO Del Bryant also presented an award for Most Performed Gospel Song of the Year to Stellar Award-winner and Grammy-nominated Pastor Marvin Sapp and his collaborator Matthew Brownie



Pictured at the 2009 Trailblazers of Gospel ceremony are (l-r): BMI's Catherine Brewton; Karen Clark Sheard; BMI's Wardell Malloy and, peeking over his shoulder, Malik Levy; BMI President & CEO Del Bryant; and The View's Sherri Shepherd.

in recognition of their co-written hit "Never Would Have Made It," recorded by Pastor Sapp on his critically acclaimed album *Thirsty*.

Elbernita "Twinkie" Clark has enthralled listeners for decades, both through her acclaimed solo work and leadership of gospel's royal family, The Clark Sisters. A skilled musician dubbed "Queen of the B3 Hammond Organ," Clark also wields aerobic vocal matches by her sublime knack for composition. Clark boasts two Grammys, and in addition to penning

staples for The Clark Sisters, she has composed songs for artists including Rev. James Cleveland, Al Green, Donald Lawrence and the Tri-City Singers, Esther Smith, James Moss, Dave Hollister, Xscape, and Mary J. Blige.

As a producer, songwriter, choir director, and singer, Donald Lawrence's influence on contemporary gospel music is unparalleled. His starkly original work with the multiple award-winning Tri-City Singers first revealed a rare and innovative artist

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LARAS Offers Membership Discount to BMI Affiliates

The Latin Recording Academy (LARAS) is currently offering a promotional discount off new or renewing membership fees exclusively for BMI affiliates. The Academy's special rates for BMI songwriters, composers, and publishers are determined by geography: \$85 for United States and Europe residents; \$50 for Latin American

residents; and a special offer of dual membership in the LARAS and National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) is available for \$150.

These fees purchase one year of Academy membership, but multi-year packages are also available. For more information on different packages or to take

advantage of the discount, please email the LARAS Membership department's Betty Del Rio at: betty.delrio@grammy.com, Livys Cerna at: livysc@grammy.com, or call (305) 576-0036.

Additional information on the Latin Recording Academy is available at www.grammy.com/latin/. □

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Heidi Newfield Leads List of BMI ACM Nominees

The Academy of Country Music announced nominees for the organization's 44th annual awards Wednesday, February 11 in Nashville, with Heidi Newfield leading the pack of BMI nominees, underscoring the success of her solo debut with five nominations, including top female vocalist, and single and song of the year for "Johnny & June." Jamey Johnson garnered four nominations, including top new male vocalist and song of the year nods for his co-written hit "In Color."

Carrie Underwood counts an entertainer of the year nod among her three

nominations, which also feature top female vocalist and video of the year taps. Keith Urban also boasts three nominations. In addition to vying with Underwood for the entertainer of the year crown, he counts top male vocalist and vocal event of the year nods among his nomination tally. Perennial favorites Brooks & Dunn secured a top vocal duo nomination along with a vocal event of the year nod for "Cowgirls Don't Cry," which also snagged individual nominations for Ronnie Dunn and Kix Brooks as producers of the song. Producer Tony Brown garnered three nominations

as well, including a pick for producer of the year.

Miranda Lambert, Taylor Swift, Sugarland, Little Big Town, the Lost Trailers, Jake Owen, and video director Trey Fanjoy all garnered two nominations each. Singer-songwriter James Otto also earned two nods for top new male vocalist and song of the year as co-writer Jamey Johnson's "In Color." Hit songwriter Lee Thomas Miller contributed two compositions in the song of the year ranks: The third co-writer of Johnson's "In Color," Miller also co-penned Trace Adkins's hit "You're Gonna Miss This." Additional song of the year nominee composers include Stephony Smith for "Johnny & June," Wynn Varble for Brad Paisley's "Waitin' on a Woman," and Rodney Clawson, Monty Criswell, and Wade Kirby for



Heidi Newfield

George Strait's "I Saw God Today."

Fans will vote for top new male vocalist, top new female vocalist, and top new vocal duo at GACTV.com, where the polls will open Friday, February 13 and close Thursday, March 5. The winners in each of the three categories will be announced on March 9 and will then proceed to compete in a new ACM category, Top New Artist.

The Academy of Country Music Awards ceremony is slated for Sunday, April 5 at 8 p.m. EST. □

Roy Clark, Barbara Mandrell To Enter Country Hall of Fame



The Country Music Association has announced that longtime BMI affiliates Roy Clark and Barbara Mandrell will join the Country Music Hall of Fame this year. Clark will enter the hall in the "Career Achieved National Prominence Between World War II and 1975" category, while Mandrell will be the fifth artist inducted in the "Career Achieved National Prominence Between 1975 and the Present" field, established in 2005. Pictured are (l-r): BMI Country Music Hall of Fame inductees Roy Clark and Barbara Mandrell, with fellow 2009 inductee Charlie McCoy.

Key West Fest Sets Show Lineup

The 14th Annual Key West Songwriters Festival will take place April 29 through May 3, 2009, offering eclectic show lineups that introduce crowds to the faces, voices and stories behind the songs. The festival features more than 100 top songwriters and revolves around five days and nights of more than 20 free concerts, staged at an array of the island's most popular drinking holes and hot spots.

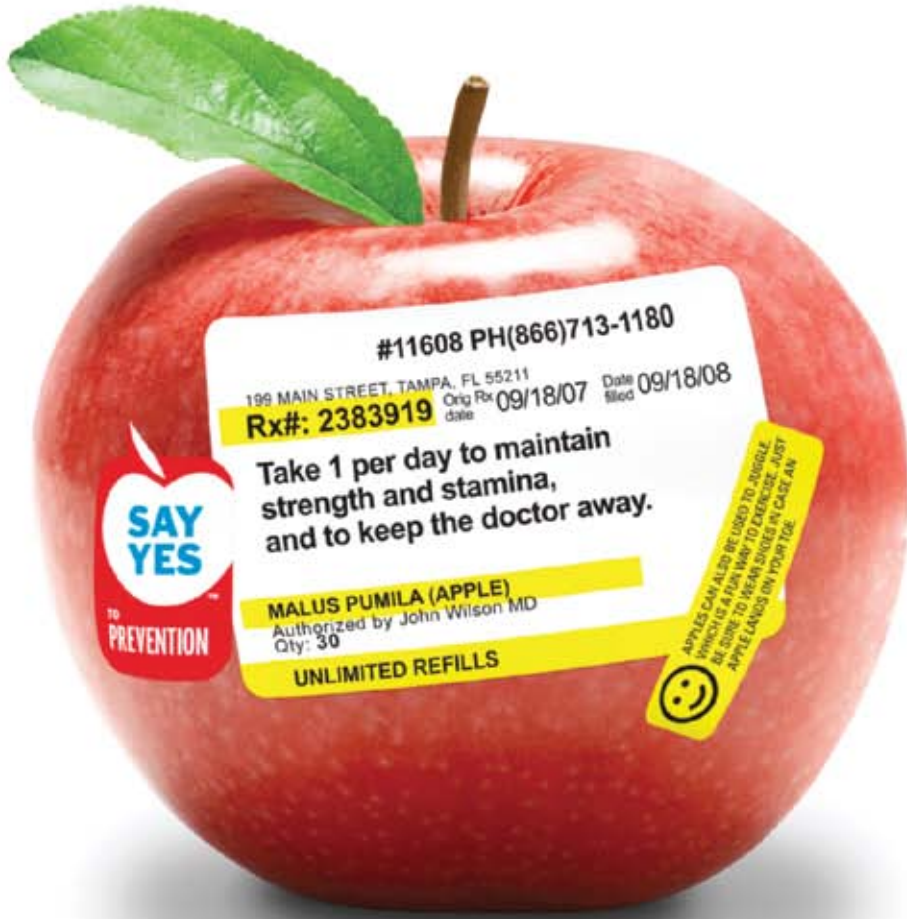
Presented by Better

Angels Music and benefiting the Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation, the event is a favorite of Key West locals and live music aficionados from across the country. This year, Nashville Songwriter Hall of Fame members Paul Overstreet, Bob DiPiero and Dennis Morgan will attend the festival for the first time.

The complete roster of confirmed 2009 Key West Songwriters Festival performers includes Rhett

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Kenneth Gamble and Leon Huff

and Huff composed and produced landmark work by their Philly International Records artists as well as others, including the O'Jays, Lou Rawls, Jerry Butler, Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, Dusty Springfield, Wilson Pickett and many more. The pair has accumulated 22 gold and 8 platinum albums on

the strength of co-written classics that include The O'Jays' "For the Love of Money," "Love Train" and "Use ta Be My Girl," The Three Degrees' "When Will I See You Again," Billy Paul's "Me and Mrs. Jones," Lou Rawls's "You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine," Jerry Butler's "Only the

Strong Survive," the incomparable *Soul Train* theme "The Sound of Philadelphia" and "If You Don't Know Me By Now," first recorded by Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes and later covered by Simply Red, whose version garnered Gamble & Huff their first Grammy. Together, the duo boasts an astounding 86 BMI Pop and R&B Awards. "Love Train" has earned 3 million performances, while "When Will I See You Again" and "You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine" have both generated more than 4 million performances, and "If You Don't Know Me By Now" has amassed more than 7 million performances. Gamble & Huff are also members of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Songwriters Hall of Fame, and recipients of the Recording Academy's prestigious Trustees Award.

In addition to the Icon, BMI will recognize Song, Songwriter and Publisher of the Year, along with the recipient of the BMI Foundation's John Lennon Scholarship. □

Key West

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Akins, Sherrie Austin, Chris Barron, Bonnie Bishop, Camp, Chuck Cannon, Kim Carnes, Rodney Clawson, Cliff Cody, Mary Dana, Courtney Dashe, Dallas Davidson, Bob DiPiero, Dillon Dixon, Marty Dodson, Scotty Emerick, Connie Harrington, James Dean Hicks, Megan James, Chuck Jones, Mark Jones, Luke Laird, David Lee, Marjory Lee, Jon Mabe, Raul Malo, The Massacoustics, Wendell Mobley, Kip Moore, Alissa Moreno, Dennis Morgan, Shawn Mullins, Tim Nichols, Oakleaf, Paul Overstreet, Anna Owens, Dave Pahanish, Billy Panda, Bobby Pinson, Molly Reed, The Roys, Kylie Sackley, Aaron Sherz, James Slater, Sunny Sweeney, Lisa Torres, Wynn Varble, Fred Wilhelm, D. Vincent Williams, Blake Wise, and Nicole Witt. More names will be announced shortly.

Additional Information about the festival is available at www.keywestsongwritersfestival.com. □

Grammys continued from page 1

by a duo or group.

Neo acoustic-soul artist Adele (PRS) earned the best new artist crown, while the title track from her debut album, *Chasing Pavements*, garnered best female pop vocal performance. Country vocal powerhouse Carrie Underwood's chart-topper "Last Name" was named best female country vocal performance, while Sugarland's "Stay" garnered trophies for best country performance by a duo or group with vocals and best

country song. Estelle (PRS) and Kanye West's "American Boy" took home best rap/sung collaboration, and Duffy's (PRS) celebrated debut *Rockferry* was named best pop vocal album. Béla Fleck and the Flecktones earned best pop instrumental album for *Jingle All the Way*, while the Eagles "I Dreamed There Was No War" secured best pop instrumental performance.


A complete list BMI 2009 Grammy winners is available at www.bmi.com. □

Trailblazers continued from page 2

capable of musical brilliance and authentic Christian praise, while his work as a producer emboldened projects by gospel icons including fellow honoree Twinkie Clark, Kirk Franklin, and Karen Clark Sheard. The recipient of numerous BMI Christian and Stellar Awards, Lawrence has also penned songs for The Clark Sisters, the Tri-City Singers, his own well-received solo projects, and more.

CeCe Winans's career has generated a trove of top-shelf

industry accolades comprising numerous Grammy, Stellar, and Dove Awards. Her work with her brother in duo BeBe & CeCe Winans expanded the boundaries of gospel music and welcomed new listeners into its fold, while her solo projects reintroduced an artist comfortable with evolution and the spotlight. Winans has created a thick catalog of compositions, including BMI Christian Award-winning song "Say a Prayer," "Addictive Love," "Well Alright," "Pray," and many more. □



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