April/May 2009

A Bi-Monthly News Update for Songwriters & Composers



Steve Reich Wins Pulitzer Prize for Music



Steve Reich

MI composer Steve Reich has received the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Music for his 2007 piece, Double Sextet. The 22-minute long composition premiered March 26, 2008 in Richmond, Virginia, and was commissioned by the eighth blackbird. The Pulitzer citation called Double Sextet "a major work that displays an ability to channel an initial burst of energy into a large-scale musical event, built with masterful control and consistently intriguing to the ear."

The win marks the first Pulitzer Prize for the acclaimed composer, whose other recent work, *Daniel Variations*, has also garnered Reich a nomination for the Composer of the Year crown at the upcoming Classical BRIT Awards.

The Pulitzer Prize for Music is awarded for distinguished musical composition by an American. The piece must have had its first performance or recording in the United States during the previous year.

Ringback Tone Sales To Surpass \$235 Million in 2009

MI has released its annual mobile music market revenue projections for 2009 and finalized its earlier figures for 2008, projecting that ringback tones will surpass \$235 million in U.S. retail sales during calendar year 2009, up 15% from BMI's 2008 market estimate of \$205 million and 68% from BMI's 2007 estimate of \$140 million. A ringback tone is a musical work that is performed to the caller when they place a call to a participating mobile subscriber.

BMI estimates that more than 10 million U.S. subscribers are signed up for ringback-tone services with their wireless carriers. Ringbacktone services have an industry-wide average penetration rate of approximately 4%. Subscriber penetration by carrier for ringback tones ranges from less than 2% to a high of 9%.

BMI's study is based on comprehensive sales and use data it collects as part of its licensing agreements with its mobile music clients; this data reflects more than 215 million of the current 270 million-plus United States mobile subscribers.

"We predict that ringback tones will hit a new high in 2009," said Richard Conlon, Vice President, New Media & Strategic Development, BMI. "Mobile phones are a multi-format device and have become a distribution outlet for entertainment content for the consumer. The relationship with the mobile phone has transcended voice communication and the increased usage in music and audio/visual offerings illustrates that. Ringback tones' revenues are growing as more subscribers sign up for and increase the number of tones in their libraries. It is a music use area that we see a continuing growth rate for."

Ringback tones are sold by all major carriers and *continued on page 4*

Gloria Estefan Honored as Icon Espinoza Paz, 'A Ti Si Puedo Decirte,' Editora Arpa Take Top Latin Awards

MI held its 16th annual Latin Music Awards March 12 at The Breakers Ponce De Leon Ballroom in Palm Beach, Florida, where Gloria Estefan was named a BMI Icon; singer/songwriter Espinoza Paz earned his second consecutive Latin Songwriter of the Year title; "A Ti Si Puedo Decirte" garnered Song of the Year honors for writer Javier Sanroman and publisher Siempre Music; and Editora Arpa Musical received the Latin Publisher of the Year crown. Hosted by BMI President & CEO Del Bryant and Assistant Vice President, Latin Music, Delia Orjuela,



BMI President & CEO Del Bryant; Pepe Garza of Editora Arpa Musical, Latin Publisher of the Year; Latin Songwriter of the Year Espinoza Paz; Icon honoree Gloria Estefan; BMI Assistant Vice President, Writer/ Publisher Relations, Latin Music Delia Orjuela; Javier Sanroman, writer of Latin Song of the Year "A Ti Si Puedo Decirte"; and Salvador and Manuel Prieto of Song of the Year publishers of Siempre Music.

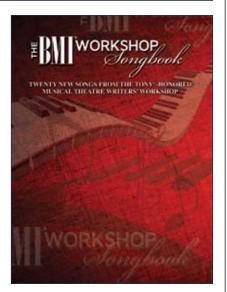
the black-tie dinner also touted the writers and publishers of the past year's 50 most-performed Latin songs on U.S. radio and television. The BMI Icon award is bestowed on creators who have had a "unique and indelible influence on generations of *continued on page 6*

BMI Foundation Releases 'The BMI Workshop Songbook'

he BMI Foundation, Inc. has announced the publication of "The BMI Workshop Songbook," a piano/vocal folio featuring 20 neverbefore released songs written by members and alumni of the Tony®-honored BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop, including Robert Lopez (Avenue *Q*), Maury Yeston (*Nine*), Tom Kitt (Next To Normal), Michael John LaChiusa (The Wild Party, Giant), and many more. The songs were chosen for their appeal and usefulness for singers searching for fresh audition, cabaret, and concert

material. In addition, Broadway's best and brightest performers, including Christine Ebersole, Neil Patrick Harris and Chevenne Jackson, can be heard singing each featured title in the songbook on "The BMI Workshop Songbook Podcast" at bmi.com/ podcasts/songbook. The songbook is priced at \$19.99, and can be purchased at the aforementioned website.

The BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop, deemed "The



Harvard of Musical Theatre" by *The New York Times,* is a *continued on page 4*

Christian Music Awards Honor Genre's Most-Played Songs



Pictured at the 2009 BMI Christian Music Awards are (I-r): BMI¹s Thomas Cain; Song of the Year co-writer Matthew Brownie; Publisher of the Year Universal Music Publishing Group¹s Dale Matthews; Songwriter of the Year Donald Lawrence; and BMI¹s Phil Graham, Jody Williams and Beth Mason.

MI saluted the writers and publishers of the past year's most performed songs on Christian radio and television during the annual Christian Music Awards at the company's Music Row offices Saturday, April 18 in Nashville. Donald Lawrence was named the 2009 Christian Songwriter of the Year, while "Never Would Have Made It," cowritten by Pastor Marvin Sapp and Matthew Brownie, garnered Song of the Year honors. Universal Music Publishing Group garnered its second consecutive Christian Publisher of the Year crown. BMI Vice President Jody Williams, along with Senior Director Thomas Cain and Associate Director Beth Mason, of BMI's Writer/ Publisher Relations department in Nashville, presented awards spanning five categories: Christian Rock, Contemporary Christian, Inspirational, Urban Gospel and Southern Gospel. BMI Senior Vice President, Writer/Publisher Relations Phil Graham joined his staff on stage for the presentation of the night's top honors, Song, Songwriter, and Publisher of the Year.

Prior to the presentation of awards, guests enjoyed a round of intimate performances from a selection of Christian music's elite composers and rising stars. 2009 Dove New Artist of the Year nominee Fee front man Steve Fee delivered an acoustic rendition of BMI Awardwinner "All Because of Jesus"; and songwriters Jim Daddario and Catt Gravitt, joined by Jim Kimball on guitar, performed their BMI Award-winning composition continued on page 4

BMI® BULLETIN

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Carrie Underwood, Taylor Swift Earn Top ACM Honors

arrie Underwood made history at the 44th annual Academy of Country Music Awards, as she became the seventh female in the organization's history to take home the coveted entertainer of the year trophy. Underwood joins exclusive ranks featuring Shania Twain, Barbara Mandrell, the Dixie Chicks, Loretta Lynn, Dolly Parton, and Reba McEntire, who each walked away with the award once. The vocal powerhouse also earned top female



Carrie Underwood vocalist.

Taylor Swift also joined elite company with her album of the year win for her sophomore release, *Fearless*. The teenage superstar shares the award with producers Nathan Chapman and Big Machine's Scott Borchetta. The academy also presented a Crystal Milestone Award to Swift, recognizing the unparalleled wealth of new listeners she has welcomed into the country format.

Jamey Johnson earned song of the year honors for "In Color," which he co-wrote with Lee Thomas Miller and James Otto. Sugarland took home top vocal duo trophies, while Rascal Flatts won yet another top vocal group title.



Taylor Swift

The 2009 Academy of Country Music Awards were handed out Sunday, April 5 in Las Vegas. Acomplete list of BMI winners is available at bmi.com. □

Latin Awards continued from page 1

music makers." An all-star musical tribute featuring Crespo, Jon Secada, Angeles Ochoa, Arthur Hanlon, Anthony Fedorov, Jorge Villamizar, Pitbull, and Fanny Lu paid homage to the achievements of Gloria Estefan, who joins an elite list of past honorees that includes Latin music titans Gustavo Santaolalla, Los Tigres Del Norte, Juan Luis Guerra and Carlos Santana, along with legends Willie Nelson, Brian Wilson, Isaac Hayes, Paul Simon, Dolly Parton and the late James Brown.

Gloria Estefan inarguably ranks in the top tier of the world's most recognizable and beloved performers. From her international breakout success with the Miami Sound Machine to her current award-winning music, Estefan has combined traditional sounds of her native Cuba with infectious pop, dance, and other Latin grooves to create a distinct sound capable of topping charts and uniting people. Her catalog boasts 22 BMI Latin and Pop Awards, along with 11 BMI Million-Air

citations. With her husband Emilio Estefan, whose skills as a producer, musician, and composer have helped shape his wife's art, Gloria Estefan has sold more than 70 million albums. Three Grammys, four Latin Grammys, numerous MTV, VMA, and Cable ACE Awards, along with a spot on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, line her career, and elite retrospective honors including an American Music Award for Lifetime Achievement, the BMI President's Award, and the Ellis Island Congressional Medal of Honor have recognized her significance. Following her induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1997, she, along with Emilio, received the organization's prestigious Sammy Cahn Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001. An influential proponent of human rights, Gloria Estefan received the National Music Foundation's Humanitarian of the Year honor as well as the MusiCares Person of the Year title, and, in 2008, was named the Latin Recording Academy Person of the Year.

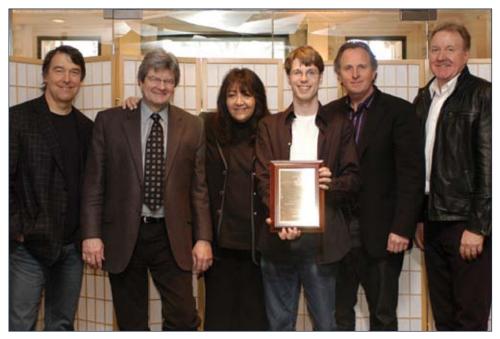
Charismatic troubadour Espinoza Paz earned the prestigious Latin Songwriter of the Year title, underscoring his significant role in the regional Mexican genre's recent surge in popularity. He contributed a total of six songs to the most-performed list: El Potro de Sinaloa's "El Vaso Derrama," La Auténtica de Jerez Patrimonio Zacatecano's "La Rata Flaca," "Olvídame Tú" recorded by Duelo, El Coyote y su Banda Tierra Santa's "Para Impresionarte," Banda Cuisillos' "Perdóname" and "Sobre Mis Pies," recorded by La Arrolladora Banda El Limón.

"A Ti Si Puedo Decirte" garnered BMI Latin Song of the Year honors for the song's composer, Veracruz native Javier Sanroman. Regional Mexican favorite El Chapo de Sinaloa recorded the song for his top-selling album *Te Va a Gustar*. Published by Siempre Music, the song was also named Regional Mexican Airplay Song of The Year by a male artist at the 2008 Billboard Latin Music Awards.

With the highest percentage of copyright ownership of the year's most-performed songs, Editora Arpa Musical garnered their second consecutive Latin Publisher of the Year crown. A catalog with hits including La Arrolladora Banda El Limón's "De Ti Exclusivo," El Potro de Sinaloa's "Chuy Y Mauricio," and all six of Songwriter of the Year Espinoza Paz's substantial contributions catapulted Guadalajara- and Los Angeles-based Editora Arpa Musical to the top.

The ceremony also featured the presentation of the BMI Foundation's sixth annual peermusic Latin Scholarship to 21 year-old José Luis Rodríguez Enchautegui in recognition of his original composition, "Aunque No Vuelva Amanecer." A Puerto Rico native and student at Puerto Rico's Universidad del Turabo, Enchautegui will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. Established by the BMI Foundation and funded by the generosity of Ralph Peer II and the peermusic companies, the scholarship is awarded annually through a competition for original Latin songs and instrumental compositions. \Box

Tim Maurice Named BMI Film Scoring Scholarship Recipient



Composer Tim Maurice was named the 2009 BMI Film Scoring Scholarship recipient during the annual BMI Day at Berklee College of Music. Maurice, a film scoring major, received the scholarship at a presentation at Berklee by BMI composer David Newman, in whose name this year's scholarship is given. The BMI Film Scoring Scholarship is a yearly tuition scholarship awarded on the basis of compositional maturity and talent, as well as financial need. Each year, the scholarship is given in the name of a noted BMI composer. Newman, this year's honored composer, taught a master class on film scoring as part of the ceremony. Pictured (I-r) are David Newman; Berklee Film Scoring department chair Dan Carlin; BMI Vice President, Film/TV Relations Doreen Ringer Ross, Tim Maurice; Berklee President Roger Brown; and Director of Berklee Center in Los Angeles Peter Gordon.

Ringback

continued from page 1

VICK BALKIN

retail at prices between \$1.99 and \$2.50 per tone with the vast majority of tones selling at \$1.99. The fee allows the subscriber to use the tone for anywhere from 90 days to 12 months. With only one exception, all major carriers require a monthly recurring subscription fee to the service, which is required before a subscriber can purchase a tone. The monthly recurring charge ranges from \$.99 to \$5.00. Carriers representing more than 75% of U.S. wireless subscribers offer the monthly subscription services at \$.99 or less.

BMI tracks titles and revenues associated with the U.S. use of ringback tone services, streaming audio, and streaming audio/visual services. The company's database of U.S. earnings and titles is believed to be the most comprehensive in the industry.

Christian Music Awards continued from page 2

"In Better Hands," recorded by Natalie Grant.

Producer, choir director and songwriter Donald Lawrence earned the BMI Songwriter of the Year crystal thanks to his compositions "Giants," recorded by Donald Lawrence Presents the Tri-City Singers, and "Livin'," recorded by the legendary Clark Sisters.

The impassioned testimonial "Never Would Have Made It" garnered the BMI Song of the Year honors for Stellar Award-winner and Grammy-nominated Pastor Marvin Sapp and collaborator Matthew Brownie. Recorded by Pastor Sapp on his critically acclaimed album *Thirsty*, "Never Would Have Made It" was published by Marvin L. Sapp Music and Minstrel Melodies.

The ceremony also feted Publisher of the Year Universal Music Publishing Group (Bridge Building Music, Universal Music-Z Songs). The award is determined by the highest percentage of copyright ownership in award songs, and the company's four awardwinning songs include Donald Lawrence's two award-winners, as well as "Give Me Words to Speak," written and performed by Aaron Shust, and "Love Song for a Savior," co-written and recorded by Matt Bronleewe, Dan Haseltine, Charlie Lowell, and Steve Mason of Jars of Clay.

BMI Foundation continued from page 2

nurturing setting for new writers to strengthen their craft and gain valuable instruction from theatre professionals. A recipient of a Drama Desk Award and a Drama League Award for Excellence in Musical Theatre, the Workshop has churned out a slew of important compositions since its inception in 1961, prompting The BMI Foundation, Inc. to release a collection of its notable works.

The compositions featured in the songbook range from a soul-searching stateside road-trip ("Rock City" by Adam Mathias & Brad Alexander) to a whimsical exaltation about love ("I Just Met a Man" by Nancy Stark and Gerald Stockstill). As a whole, "The BMI Workshop Songbook" reflects the Workshop's contribution to creating and developing growth in musical theatre.

The BMI Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1985 to support the creation, performance and study of music through awards, scholarships, commissions and grants. Taxdeductible donations to the Foundation come primarily from songwriters, composers and publishers, BMI employees, and members of the public with a special interest in music. Because both the Foundation staff and the distinguished members of the advisory panel serve without compensation, over 95% of all donations and income are used for charitable grants. \Box

Bulletin

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