

@MUSICROW

NASHVILLE'S MUSIC INDUSTRY PUBLICATION

Table of Contents

- 1 Bobby Karl Works The *MusicRow* Awards
- 3 Genre Superstars Prep Pre-Holiday Releases
- 3 TPAC Ditches Ticketmaster
- 3 Katie Armiger Teams with AOL's The Boot
- 4 Chris Young's Sophomore Effort Coming In September
- 4 Country Artist Crossover to Christian
- 4 MR Wrap-up

Respect Intellectual Property:
MusicRow Communications, LLC transmissions in fax, email and file form plus online passwords, are intended for the sole use of active subscribers only and protected under the copyright laws of the United States. Resending or sharing of such intellectual property to unauthorized individuals and/or groups is expressly forbidden. Music Row Publications, Inc. reserves the right to cancel, without refund, the account of any subscriber found to be in violation of this policy.

Music Row Communications, LLC
 1231 17th Ave. S., Nashville, TN 37212
 615-321-3617 • info@musicrow.com
www.musicrow.com

twitter
MusicRow
Over 6,500 Followers

Bobby Karl Works The *MusicRow* Awards

Chapter 313

The readers have spoken, and they have class.

Both **Jamey Johnson** and **James Otto** were double winners at this year's *MusicRow* awards ceremony. Jamey won the Breakthrough Artist award as well as the Song of the Year prize, for "In Color," co-written with James and **Lee Thomas Miller**. Because James also co-wrote his big hit "Just Got Started Loving You" he was named this year's Breakthrough Songwriter.

"We put pieces of our own lives in it," said Jamey of "In Color." "That's what songwriting is supposed to be about,

isn't it?"

"It's been 12 years in Nashville, and one great year," said James. He thanked his mom, his wife and publisher **Tracy Gershon**.

"I'm going to write an article about perseverance," said **Doak Turner**. "As soon as I heard James say that, I was inspired."

"This is the greatest town in the world and the greatest business in the world," said Lee. He interrupted a DisneyWorld vacation with his wife and four kids to be at the ceremony.

"This is one of our favorite events," said **Ralph Murphy** welcoming the crowd

to the host venue, ASCAP. "Mr. **David Ross** has built a career on integrity."

"This is our 21st *Music Row* Awards," said Boss Ross. "We are here to celebrate the core of our industry's creativity and its spirit of perseverance and dedication."

Representing the AFM, newly elected treasurer **Craig Krampf** addressed the



(L-R): Song of the Year co-writers James Otto, Jamey Johnson and Lee Thomas Miller performed "In Color." Photo: Alan Mayor

SONG OF THE YEAR, "IN COLOR"

CONGRATULATIONS
 TO OUR MUSIC ROW
 AWARD WINNERS

BMI



JAMES OTTO
 BREAKTHROUGH
 SONGWRITER

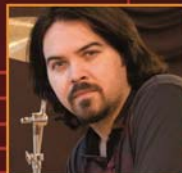


JAMEY JOHNSON
 BREAKTHROUGH
 ARTIST



**LEE THOMAS
 MILLER**

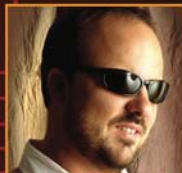
TOP TEN
 ALL-STAR
 MUSICIAN
 WINNERS



SHANNON FORREST
 DRUMS



JUSTIN NIEBANK
 ENGINEER



GORDON MOTE
 KEYBOARDS



JONATHAN YUDKIN
 FIDDLE



WES HIGHTOWER
 VOCALS



PAUL FRANKLIN
 STEEL

gathering, saying, "What an incredible, special town we have in Nashville. None of us should ever take it for granted. Congratulations to our winners. We're very proud of you."

Prior to the ceremony, Craig said he'd gone over the books and found that the first quarter of this year has been the third most lucrative in this AFM chapter's history. Considering the economic times, that's saying quite a lot.

Music Row's **Jon Freeman** and **Sarah Skates** presented this year's Musician Awards. These were first presented way back in 1989 and remain the only honors given to Music City's session musicians.

"I remember when you and I had a future in this town," quipped bass winner **Glenn Worf** to me before the ceremony. He has won his honor every year since 1992.

Ilya Toshinsky (guitar) and **Gordon Mote** (piano) were first-time winners. "I didn't expect this at all," said Ilya. "We actually get to make a living playing!" exclaimed Gordon. Previous 13-time winner **Steve Nathan** was there to congratulate Gordon, which I thought was incredibly endearing. As well as undeniably classy.

Fiddle winner **Jonathan Yudkin** gave a shout-out to the mag. "We have to maintain a level of awareness of what's

going on," he said. "David Ross and *Music Row* do an excellent job doing that." It's the truth.

"Keep my number handy," said session vocalist winner **Wes Hightower**. He has won his category every year since 2001. As is the custom, **Christie King** handed out the framed awards and **Alan Mayor** snapped away.

Winners not present were steel guitarist Paul Franklin, engineer Justin Niebank and drummer Shannon Forrest. **Chris DuBois** accepted for Producer of the Year Frank Rogers, who is on vacation, "on a beach somewhere, hopefully with his shirt ON," said Chris.

Guests snacked on fried chicken strips, jumbo berries, chips and spinach dip, chicken-salad sandwiches and other tasty ASCAP delights.

Many commented that they love the event because they get to have reunions with folks they don't see often on the Row.

Pete Fisher, Woody Bomar, Scott Hendricks, Sherrill Blackman, Gary Overton, Martha Moore, Keith Stegall, Alan Kates, Allen Brown, Brian Nelson, Pat Higdon, Steve Fishell, Kyle Lehning, Chuck Thompson, Michelle Ross, Susana Ross and **Barry Coburn** were there. **Eli Ball** is back in Tune Town, running a new firm called Lyric

Financial, which gives loans to writers and publishers, among other services.

The awards are swell, but the real deal is that this is always a dandy party. Just ask **Jeff Walker, Dean Unkefer, Karen Staley, Kay Clary, Bob Paxman, Jody Williams, Dennis Banka, Don Cusic, Dale Bobo, Charles Dorris, Chris Ferrell, Steve O'Brien, Pat Rolfe, Cathy Gurley, Susan Stewart, Terry Elam** or **Neil Spielberg**.



(L-R): MR News Editor Sarah Skates with the Top Ten Album All-Star winners Glenn Worf, Ilya Toshinsky, Gordon Mote, Wes Hightower and Jonathan Yudkin. Photo: Alan Mayor



(L-R): MR Publisher David M. Ross with Song of the Year writers and publishers EMI Blackwood's Gary Overton, Jamey Johnson, Warner-Tamerlane's Tracy Gershon, New Songs of Sea Gayle's Chris DuBois and Lee Thomas Miller. Photo: Alan Mayor



Breakthrough Artist of the Year:
Jamey Johnson

Song of the Year: "In Color," written by James Otto, Jamey Johnson, and Lee Thomas Miller; published by EMI Blackwood, Warner-Tamerlane, New Songs of SeaGayle, Lucky Thumb Music, and Eldorotto Music

Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year:
James Otto

Producer of the Year: Frank Rogers

Top Ten Album All-Star Musicians

Bass—Glenn Worf
Drums—Shannon Forrest
Engineer—Justin Niebank
Fiddle—Jonathan Yudkin
Guitar—Ilya Toshinsky
Keyboards—Gordon Mote
Steel—Paul Franklin
Vocals—Wes Hightower



Melissa Peirce signed a publishing deal with Stage Three Music and singer/songwriter Bobby Pinson, who have established a new publishing co-venture. Pinson has built his career as a critically acclaimed singer-songwriter and co-composed hits including Sugarland's "All I Want To Do" and "Want To," Trent Tomlinson's "One Wing in the Fire" and Toby Keith's "She Never Cried in Front of Me." (L-R): BMI's Perry Howard, Stage Three's Missy Roberts and Tim Hunze, Peirce, Pinson and BMI's Jody Williams. Photo: Drew Maynard



SESAC President/COO Pat Collins was moderator on a panel entitled "Financing Creative Industries—Should Societies Pursue Equity?" during the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers World Copyright Summit. SESAC affiliate and vibraphonist Stefon Harris was featured in a special concert "Cocktails & Jazz On The Mall." (L-R): SESAC's Hunter Williams, Linda Lorence Critelli and Ellen Truley; Harris; and Collins.

by Sarah Skates

Genre Superstars Prep Pre-Holiday Releases

Two fall releases will likely give Country album sales a big year-end boost. A new album from Tim McGraw is expected this September via Curb Records. *Southern Voice*, his first studio effort in more than two years, finds the superstar reunited with longtime producer Byron Gallimore. The lead single, "It's a Business Doing Pleasure With You," goes to radio today and was written by rock star Chad Kroeger (Nickelback) and Nashville hit tunesmith Brett James. McGraw will promote *Southern Voice* with an extensive tour in 2010, and is currently on a short run of fairs and festivals. This album will be the follow-up to *Let It Go*, which debuted at No. 1 on the all-genre *Billboard 200* in April 2007.



Tim McGraw

A double disc hits package from Arista's Brooks & Dunn is coming Sept. 8. *#1s...and then some* will be a 30-song collection featuring classics, chart-toppers and two new tracks, including the duo's current hit, "Indian Summer." The most comprehensive collection to date for B&D fans, *#1s...and then some* spans 23 singles to hit the top of the country airplay charts over the past 18 years, from early classics like "Neon Moon" and "That Ain't No Way to Go," to anthemic hits "Only in America," "Red Dirt Road," and "Play Something Country," to their ACM and CMA Song of the Year winner, "Believe."

TPAC Ditches Ticketmaster

Nashville's Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC) has ended its longtime relationship with Ticketmaster. Citing advantages such as reduced handling fees, direct-to-consumer sales, and an updated Web site in the works, TPAC will now handle all of its own ticketing. Starting today, tickets to TPAC events—which range from touring Broadway productions to comedy shows and concerts—will be available at its box office, Davis-Kidd Booksellers, tpac.org, and via phone. Nashville's Schermerhorn Symphony Center already sell its own tickets.

Katie Armiger Teams with AOL's The Boot

Rising country artist Katie Armiger kicked off her first headlining national tour last week and will post a weekly picture diary from the road on AOL's Country music Web site The Boot. The tour, called

BILLY CURRINGTON "People Are Crazy"

For your CMA Consideration
Single of the Year
Song of the Year
Video of the Year



Female Demo Singer Needed



Animation artist and songwriter looking for young female vocalist to record an original children's song that will be entered in international film and animation festivals in 2010. Looking for the perfect blend of innocence and attitude! Excellent experience and exposure! **For info click here**

visit auditions info page at
http://web.me.com/arc_tbwc
 or e-mail
arc_tbwc@me.com



Katie Armiger

the *Simon dTour*, is sponsored by Simon Property Group, Great American Country (GAC), and F.Y.E., and will stop at numerous shopping malls throughout the US.

Armiger is supporting her second album, *Believe* on Cold River Records, with the tour that kicked off June 23 in Santa Rosa, Calif. Opening day also happened to be her 18th birthday. She will stop in Nashville July 15th to perform at Opry Mills Mall. The outing runs through Aug. 16.

Chris Young's Sophomore Effort Coming In September



Chris Young

RCA Nashville artist Chris Young has been heating up the radio airwaves with his latest single, "Gettin' You Home (The Black Dress Song)," the first song from his upcoming sophomore album. The digital single is out now, and the full album, *The Man I Want to Be* will follow on Sept. 1.

Helmed by veteran producer James Stroud, the project includes a duet with Willie Nelson on the Waylon Jennings classic "Rose in Paradise," a new Brett James/Tim Nichols-penned song, Young's take on the Brook Benton hit "Rainy Night in Georgia," and three songs the artist co-wrote, one of which is the lead single.

"Gettin' You Home" has also been driving listeners to Young's MySpace page where the song has racked up more than 800,000 plays. And *Country Weekly* readers recently voted him "Country's Hottest Bachelor."

Country Artists Crossover to Christian

Tracy Lawrence's new inspirational CD, *The Rock*, the third album from his own independent label, Rocky Comfort Records, debuted in the Top 5 on the Christian album charts (6/14/09 Nielsen

US SoundScan Chart). Lawrence released "Up To Him," the album's first single, to Christian radio in March and it reached No. 1 on the Power Source Top 40. The 10-song album, which is No. 10 on the Soundscan Contemporary Christian Chart, features songs by Dave Berg, Craig Morgan, Brett James, Sam Tate and Annie Tate, to name a few.

For the first time in his career, country legend Ronnie Milsap tells his inspirational story through the new two-CD set *Then Sings My Soul: 24 Favorite Hymns & Gospel Songs*. The collection includes gospel greats such as "I'll Fly Away," "Amazing Grace," "Up To Zion" and secular treasures like "Stand By Me," and "People Get Ready."

MR Wrap-up

- Michael Jackson has broken sales records on today's Nielsen SoundScan chart. His albums occupy the top nine positions on the Top Pop Catalog Albums chart, for the week ended Sun., June 28. Coming in at No. 1 is his *Number Ones* album with 108,000 (a week-over-week increase of 2,340%), followed by *The Essential Michael Jackson* and *Thriller* at No. 2 and 3, respectively. Collectively, Jackson's solo album sales skyrocketed from 10,000 the week ended June 21 to 415,000 this past week.



- Atlanta-based Arista Nashville Regional Promotion Manager Tyler Waugh will be keeping closer to his home territory as he shifts from Midwest to Southeast, acquiring the stations most recently serviced by Jeri Cooper, who is exiting the label to join Red Light Management.

- Terri Clark's *The Long Way Home* will be released in September. She recorded the self-produced project at the Sound Emporium and says the 11 songs range from introspective to hard core country. Among the players on the album are guitarist Kenny Greenburg and keyboardist John Hobbs.

- Jessica Simpson will star in VH1's new docu-series *The Price Of Beauty* where she will travel all over the world to meet women on their quests for beauty; showcasing local fashions, dietary fads and beauty regimes.



The Museum Store at the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum continues to evolve as a resource for both fans and the music industry with its new series, "Live from the Museum Store," presented by CMT. Dolly Parton recently signed copies of her new children's book *I Am A Rainbow*. As Parton readies her *Dolly Live In London CD/DVD* for a November release worldwide, her *The Very Best of Dolly Parton* has been certified platinum in the U.K. Photo: Curtiss Hilbun



Major 7th artist Darren Kozelsky stopped by the studios of WTCM in Traverse City, MI last week to promote his latest single "7 Vern Gosdins ago." Just down the road, Kozelsky met the wooden Indian at Nolans tobacco shop.



Last week's engagement of *Legally Blonde The Musical* at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center featured Universal Music Group recording artist Laura Bell Bundy (R) as Elle Woods, the role she originated on Broadway. Following the opening night performance Bundy and the cast were greeted by Mrs. Betty Witherspoon, mother of Reese Witherspoon, who starred as Elle Woods in the movie version of *Legally Blonde*. Photo: Matthew Read Photography