

BMI Works Top Library of Congress National Recording Registry

The Library of Congress has announced this year's selection of sound recordings to be preserved in the National Recording Registry. The list, which consists of 25 recordings, features a wide variety of outstanding spoken and musical recordings that span the years 1925 through 1983.

This year's selections include such renowned BMI songwriters and composers as Herbie Hancock (*Head Hunters*), Michael Jackson (*Thriller*), Roy Orbison ("Oh Pretty Woman"), Kitty Wells ("It Wasn't God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels") and Art Tatum ("Sweet Lorraine"). Almost 70% of the PRO-affiliated works on this year's list are part of the BMI repertoire.

The National Recording Preservation Board, comprising experts from the music industry and preservation field, culled its list from nominations made by the public



for recordings considered "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant." Recordings must be 10 years old to be considered for preservation and final selections are made by the Librarian of Congress, James H. Billington.

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Daryl Hall and John Oates Honored as Icons

'Lips of an Angel,' Polow Da Don, EMI-Blackwood Take Top Pop Awards

BMI held its 56th Annual Pop Awards Tuesday, May 20, honoring Daryl Hall and John Oates as BMI Icons. Songwriter and producer Polow Da Don earned the Songwriter of the Year crown, Hinder's "Lips of an Angel" garnered Song of the Year honors and Publisher of the Year went to EMI-Blackwood Music, Inc. Held at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Los Angeles, the invitation-only ceremony also recognized the writers and publishers of the past year's 50 most-performed pop songs from BMI's catalog of more than 6.5 million compositions.

The evening's capstone took the form of a musical tribute to Daryl Hall and John Oates, featuring performances



Icon honorees Daryl Hall (l) and John Oates with BMI President & CEO Del Bryant.

by Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, Fall Out Boy's Patrick Stump, Lifehouse's Jason Wade, and Daryl Hall and John Oates themselves,

who were named BMI Icons in recognition of their "unique and indelible influence on generations of music makers." With this award, they join an elite list of previous BMI Icons that includes the Bee Gees, Crosby, Stills & Nash, Paul Simon, James Brown, Brian Wilson, Isaac Hayes, Dolly Parton and Carlos Santana.

The popularity of Daryl Hall and John Oates's collaborations springs from the duo's devout passion for Philly soul and buoyant pop harmonies. Warmly accessible and expertly polished, Daryl Hall and John Oates's smooth production utilizes undeniable hooks and innate contemporary lyrical sensibility. The resulting eight no. 1 singles, three double-platinum and two platinum albums catapulted the pair

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Christopher Young Takes Top Film/TV Honor

Peter Golub Receives Classic Contribution Award

BMI honored the composers of music featured in the past year's top-grossing films, top-rated prime-time network television series and highest-ranking cable network programs May 21 at its annual Film & Television Awards. Held at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel, the event saw more than 80 BMI Crystals handed out throughout the evening.

A highlight of the ceremony was the Richard Kirk Award presentation

to composer Christopher Young. Named after late BMI Vice President Richard Kirk, the prestigious award is given annually to a composer who has made significant contributions to film and television music. As the 2008 honoree, Christopher Young joins an elite list of peers that includes George S. Clinton, Harry Gregson-Williams (PRS), Jerry Goldsmith, Thomas Newman, Michael Kamen, Mark Mothersbaugh,

BMI Artists Dominate Blues Awards

BMI artist/songwriters staked a claim to the vast majority of the 2008 Blues Awards handed out in Tunica, Mississippi on May 8. Legends including Bobby Rush, Irma Thomas and Koko Taylor numbered among the night's big winners, while revered instrumentalists basked in the spotlight.

Bobby Rush's wins for Acoustic Blues Artist and Album of the Year arrived on the strength of his 2007 release, *Raw*, while Irma Thomas earned the Soul Blues – Female Artist of the Year crown. Koko Taylor's

slew of trophies underscored her continued relevance: Traditional Blues – Female Artist, Blues Song and Traditional Blues Album of the Year

In addition to a Contemporary Blues Album of the Year win for *Painkiller*, acclaimed vocalist and guitarist Tommy Castro received the prestigious B.B. King Entertainer of the Year Award, while the coveted Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year Award went to Honey Piazza. The Holmes Brothers' *State of Grace* also garnered Soul Blues Album of the Year honors for the beloved

group, while musicians Robert Randolph, Bob Stroger, Kim Wilson, Bob Margolin and Deanna Bogart all took home awards touting mastery of their respective instruments.

The night prior to the Blues Awards event, the Blues Foundation held its induction ceremony for the Blues Hall of Fame, honoring the individual achievements of guitarists Hubert Sumlin and Johnny "Guitar" Watson, pianist Jimmy McCracklin, singer Jimmy Weatherpoon, pre-WWII string band the Mississippi Sheiks, and country blues performer Peetie Wheatstraw. □

Dan Visconti Wins Boudleaux Bryant Commission

Dan Visconti has been named the winner of the BMI Foundation's 2008 Boudleaux Bryant Commission Award. Visconti was selected for the honor from a pool of recent winners of the BMI Student Composer Awards by members of the Janaki String Trio, who will premiere the work, "Lawless Airs," at Symphony Space in New York City on May 15, 2008. Established by family and friends to honor the memory of the legendary songwriter Boudleaux Bryant, the commission is given in cooperation with the Concert Artists Guild (CAG), a non-profit organization whose mission is to discover, nurture and promote young musicians.

Much of Dan Visconti's musical output has been informed by his background as an active jazz and rock guitarist. Inspired by both the directness of expression

and maverick spirit of the American vernacular, his works often explore gritty timbres, complex textures, and propulsive rhythms — elements that tend to collide in unexpected ways with Visconti's experience as a classically-trained violinist, resulting in a musical stance one reviewer describes as "both mature and youthful, bristling with exhilarating musical ideas and a powerfully crafted lyricism." Visconti studied composition at the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Yale School of Music, primarily with Margaret Brouwer, Aaron Jay Kernis, Ezra Laderman, and Zhou Long.

The Janaki String Trio, winner of the 2006 Concert Artists Guild International Competition, is the first ensemble of this type to capture the award in the nearly 60-year history of the competition. The Trio's New York debut on the CAG Series at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie



Dan Visconti

Hall was praised by *The New York Times* as "magnificently polished" and exhibiting "an irresistible electricity."

Founded at the Colburn School of Music in Los Angeles in early 2005, the ensemble won the 59th Annual Coleman Chamber Music Competition in the same year. The ensemble takes its name from the Sanskrit word Janaki (YAHN-uh-kye), which symbolizes self-realization — the underpinning artistic and spiritual ideal entwining composer, musician and listener. □

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56th Annual BMI Student Composer Award Winners Announced

Nine young classical composers, ranging in age from 11 to 26, have been named winners in the 56th Annual BMI Student Composer Awards. BMI Foundation President Ralph N. Jackson and BMI Foundation Advisory Panel member Ellen Taaffe Zwilich announced the decisions of the jury and presented the awards at a reception held May 20 at the Jumeirah Essex House Hotel in New York City.

The 2008 awards were presented to Jacob Bancks, Nicholas Oberg Deyoe, David Fulmer, Gilbert Galindo, Trevor M. Gureckis, Justin Hoke, Shawn Jaeger, Yeeren I. Low and Eric Nathan. Biographical information on the winners is available at www.bmifoundation.org.

Also honored during the ceremony were music administrator Beth Cowart and composer Aaron Jay Kernis, who each received the BMI Foundation's "Outstanding Musical Citizen Award" for their work as Co-Directors of the Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute. In making the presentation, Jackson said, "This award is intended

to recognize individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in their support of American composers and American music. Beth Cowart and Aaron Kernis are tireless advocates for new music and true champions of the next generation of American composers."

The BMI Student Composer Awards recognize superior creative talent and winners receive scholarship grants to be applied toward their musical education. In 2008, more than 500 manuscripts were submitted to the competition from throughout the Western Hemisphere, and all works were judged under pseudonyms. Eric Nathan was the named the winner of the William Schuman Prize, which is awarded to the score judged "most outstanding" in the competition. This special prize is given each year in memory of the late William Schuman, who served for 40 years as Chairman, then Chairman Emeritus, of the BMI Student Composer Awards. Additionally, the Carlos Surinach Prize, awarded to the youngest winner in the competition, went to

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56th Annual BMI Student Composer Award winners (l-r): Gilbert Galindo, Shawn Jaeger, Justin Hoke, Eric Nathan, Yeeren I. Low, Nicholas Oberg Deyoe, Jacob Bancks, David Fulmer and Trevor M. Gureckis.



Pictured at the BMI Christian Awards are (l-r): BMI's Phil Graham, Publisher of the Year Universal Music Publishing's Dale Matthews, Songwriter of the Year Ed Cash and BMI's Jody Williams.

Ed Cash, Universal Take Top Christian Music Honors

BMI saluted the writers and publishers of the past year's most performed songs on Christian radio and television during the annual Christian Music Awards April 19 at the company's Music Row offices in Nashville. BMI named versatile hit-maker Ed Cash the 2008 Christian Songwriter of the Year, while his composition "Made to Worship" garnered Song of the Year honors. BMI Vice President Jody Williams, along with Senior Director Thomas Cain and Associate Director Beth Mason, presented awards spanning five categories: Christian Rock, Contemporary Christian, Inspirational, Urban Gospel and Southern Gospel.

Prior to the presentation of awards, perennial Christian music titans Jars of Clay, rising star Aaron Shust and fiery gospel artist Isaiah Thomas set the evening's warm tone with soulful renditions of their award-winning songs.

Prolific producer and songwriter Ed Cash earned the BMI Songwriter of the Year crown thanks to his profound compositions "Made

to Worship," "Holding onto You," and "How Can I Keep from Singing." The stirring "Made to Worship" also garnered the BMI Song of the Year crystal for Cash; recorded by contemporary Christian favorite Chris Tomlin, the song was published by Alletrop Music.

The ceremony also feted Publisher of the Year Universal Music Publishing Group. The award is determined by the highest percentage of copyright ownership in award songs. The company's eight award-winning songs include "The Blessing of Abraham," written by esteemed producer and chorale director Donald Lawrence, "Dead Man (Carry Me)," co-written and recorded by Jars of Clay, "My Savior, My God," written and recorded by Aaron Shust, and "Imagine Me," co-penned and recorded by contemporary gospel trendsetter Kirk Franklin.

Gospel luminary Donald Lawrence and ceremony performer Aaron Shust garnered two awards each. The night's other big winners

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BMI Artists Top ACMs

BMI's country family enjoyed sweeping recognition at the 2008 Academy of Country Music Awards, held May 18 in Las Vegas.

The prestigious Album of the Year trophy went to Miranda Lambert for her critically acclaimed project, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, while Carrie Underwood garnered the Top Female Vocalist crown for the second consecutive year. Perennial favorites Brooks & Dunn took home yet another Top Vocal Duo win, marking their 15th award in the category.

Taylor Swift enjoyed more official recognition of her overwhelming crossover dominance with the Top New Female Vocalist honor; Top New Male Vocalist went

to singer/songwriter Jack Ingram. Lady Antebellum earned Top New Duo or Vocal Group honors, while Top Vocal Group honors went home with Rascal Flatts for the sixth consecutive year. The dominating crossover titans are now tied with legendary group Alabama for most wins in the category. Rascal Flatts also received the Home Depot Humanitarian Award in recognition of their substantial philanthropic endeavors.

Tim McGraw shared in the Vocal Event of the Year win for "Find Out Who Your Friends Are," while Sugarland's Kristian Bush and producer Byron Gallimore enjoyed honors for their individual creative contributions to "Stay," named Single Record of the Year. □

Christian Music Honors continued from page 1

included genre-bender tobyMac; Christian rock outfit Red's Jasen Rauch and Anthony Armstong; urban gospel star Kirk Franklin; Red producer Robert Graves; Jars of Clay members Dan Haseltine, Charlie Lowell, Steve Mason and Matt Odmark; 2007 BMI Christian Songwriter of the Year Mark Hall; Sanctus Real producer Chris Stevens and Sanctus Real member Dan Gartley; premier producer, arranger and musician Jay Joyce; Kingdom Heirs member

Dennis Murphy; producer, songwriter and music minister Isaiah D. Thomas; gospel heavyweight Rodney Griffin; Needtobreathe's Bo Rinehart; singer/songwriter Aaron Sprinkle; songwriter/producer Marc Byrd; gospel favorite Percy James Bady; songwriters Adam Kohout, Tery Wilkins, David Nasser, Jules "Juda" Bartholomew, Twila LaBar, Joel Lindsey, Belinda Lee Smith, Lisa Stewart Seals; and the McClurkin Project's Andrea McClurkin-Mellini and Nate McNair. □

Library of Congress Adds Works continued from page 1

The National Recording Registry was created by the National Recording Preservation Act of 2000, legislation that promotes and supports audio preservation. The registry celebrates the richness and variety of the

nation's audio legacy and underscores the responsibility to assure the long-term preservation of that legacy.

A complete list of this year's National Recording Registry selections appears on bmi.com. □

Pop Awards continued from page 1



Songwriter of the Year
Polow Da Don.

into pop superstardom; in 1987, Daryl Hall and John Oates became the best-selling rock duo of all time. Skilled songwriters, they are both members of the Songwriters Hall of Fame, together boasting 24 BMI Pop Awards and 14 BMI Million-Air award songs, including "She's Gone," "Everytime You Go Away," "Kiss On My List," "Maneater" and "Sara Smile."

Polow Da Don's took the BMI Songwriter of the Year title with four songs among the year's top 50: the Pussycat Dolls' "Buttons," featuring Snoop Dogg; Fergie's "London Bridge" and "Glamorous," featuring Ludacris; and "Runaway Love," recorded by Ludacris and featuring Mary J. Blige.

Hinder's "Lips of an Angel" garnered Song of the Year honors thanks to generating the most airplay of any tune on BMI's most-performed pop song list during the designated award period. Co-written and recorded by BMI songwriters and Hinder band members Blower, Cody Hanson, Mark King, Michael Rodden and Austin Winkler, along with producer Brian Howes (SOCAN), the tune climbed to the no. 1 slot of *Billboard's* Pop 100, Hot Digital Songs and Top 40 Mainstream charts, achieving

broad crossover success.

Country artist Jack Ingram's recording of the song also resonated, reaching the top 20 tier of *Billboard's* Hot Country Singles chart. Published by EMI-Blackwood Music, Inc. and Hinder Music Co., "Lips of an Angel" also earned the Internet Song of the Year win as the most performed song on the Internet during the award period.

EMI-Blackwood Music, Inc. claimed its BMI Pop Publisher of the Year crown with 14 award songs and highest percentage of copyright ownership among the year's top 50. In addition to publishing Song of the Year "Lips of an Angel," EMI-Blackwood's catalog includes award-winners "Money Maker" (Ludacris feat. Pharrell), "Break It Off" (Rihanna feat. Sean Paul), "Glamorous" (Fergie feat. Ludacris), "Hurt" (Christina Aguilera), "Nothing Left to Lose" (Mat Kearney), "The Riddle" (Five for Fighting) and "U + Ur Hand" (Pink).

The BMI Foundation's 11th Annual John Lennon Scholarship was presented to jazz/pop songwriter Travis Knapp for his song "Before You Go." A recent graduate of Ithaca College where he studied music and anthropology, Knapp is currently recording his sophomore collection of original music. Established in 1997 by Yoko Ono in conjunction with the BMI Foundation and matched by generous donations from Gibson Musical Instruments, the prestigious John Lennon Scholarship program recognizes and fosters auspicious young songwriters between the ages of 15 and 24.

A complete list of Pop Award winners is available on bmi.com. □



Richard Kirk Award recipient Christopher Young with BMI President & CEO Del Bryant and Film/TV Relations Vice President Doreen Ringer Ross.

Danny Elfman, Alan Menken, Mike Post, Lalo Schifrin and John Williams.

Award-winning composer Christopher Young has carved out an enviable niche in the upper pantheon of Hollywood composers. The UCLA Film School alumnus first turned heads with scores for horror and science fiction projects, and proceeded to garner accolades for work on macabre and fantastical films including *Hellraiser*, its Saturn award-winning sequel and *Species*, along with BMI award-winners *Ghost Rider*, *The Grudge* and *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*. Young became a master of suspense, composing music for thrillers including *Copycat* and BMI honoree *Entrapment*, as well as dramatic and critical tours-de-force including Golden Globe nominee *The Shipping News*, *Wonder Boys*, *Rounders* and BMI award-winner *Swordfish*. He also fleshed out the haunting nuances and electrifying action sequences of box office gold *Spiderman 3*. The New Jersey native has also excelled in television composition, earning two Emmy nominations for telefilms *Last Flight Out* and *Norma Jean & Marilyn*.

A dedicated mentor, Young has taught classes at USC, served as an advisor for the Sundance Institute's Film Composers Lab and created an innovative residential development to house aspiring composers in Los Angeles.

BMI also presented the Classic Contribution Award to Peter Golub in recognition of his progressive direction of the Sundance Institute's Film Composers



Classic Contribution Award recipient Peter Golub.

Lab for the past ten years. An accomplished composer of film, theatre, ballet and concert works, Golub is a natural fit for the lab, which aims to enhance the role of music in independent film. His acute composition work includes scores for documentaries *I.O.U.S.A.* and

Wordplay, along with films including *The Great Debaters*. Universally acknowledged as an unparalleled apprenticeship for the next generation of composing elite, the workshop has invaluable benefited from Golub's creative intuition and steady guidance.

BMI's Emmy-winning composers were also feted; the accomplished list included George Fenton (PRS) for the awe-inspiring documentary *Planet Earth: Pole to Pole*; William Ross for the 79th Annual Academy Awards; Lenny Williams for *Nature: Christmas in Yellowstone*; Yoav Goren for *The XX Olympic Winter Games: The Stories of Torino*; Katreese Barnes for *Saturday Night Live's "Dick in a Box"*; Gary Deinstadt, Billy Barber, Ron Komie, Danny Pelfrey and David Traugh for *Guiding Light*; along with Wes Boatman and John Henry Kreidler for "Love is Ecstasy" from *Passions*.

Legendary rocker turned lauded composer Pete Townshend (PRS) took home the evening's most awards, with three BMI Crystals for *CSI*, *CSI: Miami* and *CSI: NY*. Composers garnering two awards each were Steve

Jablonsky for *Transformers* and *Desperate Housewives*; Rupert Gregson-Williams (PRS) for *Bee Movie* and *I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry*; George Fenton for *Fool's Gold* and *Planet Earth: Pole to Pole*; Mychael Danna for *Surf's Up* and *Medium*; Aaron Zigman for *Step Up 2: The Streets* and *Why Did I Get Married?*; Kevin Kiner for *Amazing Race* and *CSI: Miami*; Mike Post for *Law & Order* and *Law & Order SVU*; and Matt Koskenmaki for *Hell's Kitchen* and *The Ultimate Fighter*.

The night's winning composers for top-grossing films and critically acclaimed gems also included past Richard Kirk Award recipient Harry Gregson-Williams (PRS) for *Shrek the Third*, Trevor Rabin for *National Treasure: Book of Secrets*, legendary composer and past Richard Kirk Award recipient Lalo Schifrin for *Rush Hour 3*, John Ottman for *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*, Mark Mancina for television drama *Criminal Minds*, Randy Edelman for romantic comedy *27 Dresses*, Tyler Bates for horror favorite *Halloween* and pop music architect Brian Wilson for HBO dramedy series *Big Love*. □

Student Composer Award Winners continued from page 1

11-year-old Yeeren I. Low.

The distinguished 2008 Student Composer Awards jury members were Robert Beaser, Margaret Brouwer, Kevin Puts, Bernard Rands and Charles Wuorinen. The preliminary judges were Chester Biscardi, David Leisner and Bernadette Speech. Milton Babbitt is the permanent Chairman of the awards.

BMI has given 525

scholarship grants to young composers over the years, and many of today's most prominent and active classical composers received their first recognition from the BMI Student Composer Awards. Eleven former winners have gone on to win the coveted Pulitzer Prize in Music. The BMI Student Composer Awards competition is co-sponsored by BMI and the BMI Foundation, Inc. □

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