Universal 'unsettled' as Messier resigns

by Emmanuel Legrand

PARIS — Universal Music is going through an "unsettling time" following the resignation of parent company Vivendi Universal's chairman and CEO Jean-Marie Messier on July 1 and his replacement by Jean-René Fourtou, vice-chairman of chemical group Aventis, on July 3.

Those are the words used by Universal Music International chairman and CEO Jorgen Larsen in a message to his staff on July 2. "In this unsettling time, it is important to remember that the fundamental business of Universal Music International is strong, as are our resources and capabilities," he wrote.

Messier, who leaves the utilities group to transformed into the world's second largest media group, resigned amid intense pressure from the company's board, which felt the financial crisis the group faced made his position at the helm of the company untenable.

M&M understands that some of Universal Music Group's senior management were informed by Messier himself of his departure. In a note to Vivendi Universal (VU) employees seen by M&M (see page 17), Messier said he had decided to take the "heartbreaking decision" to step down "to restore peace and calm to Vivendi Universal."

VU's management and employees are now faced with the uncertain future of a conglomerate involved in fields as diverse as music (Universal Music), cinema (Universal Studios), TV (USA Networks and Canal Plus), publishing and video games (Vivendi Universal Publishing), telecoms (Cegetel), Internet services (VU Net and Vizzavi) and environmental services (Vivendi Environnement). Messier's departure is seen by many investors as a sign that the structure of the conglomerate, which includes utilities as well as media operations, could be broken up into different parts.

Messier transformed the 150-year-old utility and services company General des Eaux into the world's second-largest media group through acquisitions amounting to euros 100 billion. Messier said his strategy was fully justified, but he admitted that "I tried to do too much too quickly."

For the time being, VU's board has appointed 63-year-old Jean-René Fourtou, vice-chairman of chemical group Aventis, as the company's new chairman and CEO. Upon his nomination, Fourtou acknowledged the gravity of the situation, but was keen to add that VU had valuable assets. In a statement, he said: "The board of directors and all of the company employees remain fully prepared to do their utmost to ensure the continued strengths of our operations. Vivendi Universal has everything it needs to be optimistic about the future as we begin to restore confidence and health to our company."

Nick Henry-Stolz, financial analyst for JPMorgan, comments: "With Messier leaving, VU is turning a page on an era and hopefully things will improve quickly with a more rational management. The new CEO Jean-René Fourtou's outstanding background in management consulting (he spent 23 years at Bossard Consulting) will be continued on page 17.
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THE SISTER PUBLICATION TO BILLBOARD AND AIRPLAY MONITOR
In just a few days, the fate of Vivendi Universal chief executive Jean-Marie Messier has been sealed—and he was shown the door.

The suddenness of Messier’s fall from grace matches both his rapid rise and the speed at which he transformed the old utilities company into a communication giant. Messier did have an ambitious global vision for his company (and for himself), but the process of building Vivendi Universal through acquisitions the way he did had a price—and he is paying it now.

Ironically it was, not in the end, so much the financial situation of the group which provoked the boardroom coup, but rather a very French aspect of VU’s activities. Water supply is a very sensitive business: it has national preservation status and supplies cities run by politicians. The moment Messier started to mess with this side of the business his fate was sealed—France’s leaders could not let such a crucial activity be taken over by non-French interests.

VU is a conglomerate of so many different businesses that Messier’s strategy had become blurred. Not only was the French Citizen Messier is gone, it’s a complex set-up of the group he has built will be put to test. At this stage there is no indication that the group will survive its architect’s demise—rumours of predators circling over some parts of the empire are growing by the day.

VU owns the biggest and most profitable record company in the world. This is a very precious asset and nothing would be more inappropriate than another period of turbulence, with changes in ownership and in management. What this business needs is stability.

The emphasis now is not on whether the group should be broken up, but on which parts will go first and what will constitute VU’s core business. The group’s 320,000 employees, who are contemplating their situation with a mixture of disbelief and anxiety, could never have imagined they might be part of such a disaster.

What a waste.

On more sombre note, after M&M went to press the new chairman of Vivendi Universal, Francois Pinault, who was the chief executive of his predecessor, was in London just a few weeks ago, was a gifted journalist and to our friends and colleagues at Billboard.

Music & Media values its readers’ opinions—you can e-mail the editor-in-chief at: eleanor@musicandmediaco.uk

by Johan Lindström

STOCKHOLM — On July 1, Sanji Tandan (pictured) left his post as managing director of Warner Music Sweden to set up his own company (M&M July 6). The new label, S56 Recordings will be financed by Warner Music, but will be operated separately from its own office in Stockholm.

Now that Citizen Messier is gone, the complex set-up of the group he has built will be put to test. At this stage there is no indication that the group will survive its architect’s demise—rumours of predators circling over some parts of the empire are growing by the day.

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Skyrock promotes Urban Peace

by Joanna Shore

PARIS — French urban station Skyrock is partnering with the country's largest ever hip hop/R&B event, Urban Peace.

The show will take place at the Stade de France in Paris on September 21 and will feature 26 acts — including Fonky Family, Matt (pictured above) and Siroc. It will represent all shades of urban culture in France.

"This is the biggest promotional project we've ever been involved in," says station managing director Laurent Bouneau (pictured right). He credits the campaign, which includes advertising spots on the radio and the Internet, will cost around €4.5 million. "This is the result of five years of working on publicity again, while we bond is looking for cheap myth," he says. "We are the country's largest ever by Joanna Shore"

HILVERSUM — The Dutch consumerwatch association NVGD, has gone as far as to provide by its officials a number of CD prices, after allegations by the Dutch retail association NVGD, has opened an office in Brussels in January to get CDs in a lower price range. In the original ruling the station was obliged to play 40% Dutch-language material by September, but the regulator changed this ruling on appeal. Originally Noordzee FM received an FM licence in order to promote local product, but it altered format over the years. As there is no mention of which dayparts are affected by the ruling, Noordzee FM is considering increasing the airplay domestic repertoire receives during the evening and at weekends.

STOCKHOLM breakfast team named

STOCKHOLM — SBS network Radio City has recruited Big Brother presenter Adam Alsing (pictured) and Radio City presenter Charlotte Lauterbach for a new morning show in Stockholm.

In January, Radio City terminated its local morning shows in Stockholm and Malmö, simulcasting its Gothenburg morning team on all three Radio City stations. Radio City in Malmö will continue to carry the Gothenburg morning show. Radio City programme director Joakim Ljungqvist will replace Charlotte Lauterbach in the late morning slot.

Dutch to investigate rise in CD prices

by Menno Visser

HILVERSUM — The Dutch government is considering launching an official investigation into CD prices, after allegations by the country's consumer watchdog that prices increased under the guise of the transition to the euro.

The consumer watchdog, Consumentenbond, has gone as far as to demand a freeze on CD prices for a year after it presented its own figures showing that CD prices have risen by almost 10% over the past year.

Theo van Sloten, director of Dutch retail association NVGD, is not impressed however.

"The CD price cartel is a myth," he says. "We are angry that Consumentenbond is looking for cheap publicity again, while we have explained the situation to them a number of times."

Meanwhile Dutch government figures, provided by its statistics office, reveal that CDs have become 7.5% more expensive over the year up to March 2002, while inflation was running only at 3.6%.

Saying a rise in costs could have driven Dutch retailers to hike prices, Van Sloten says: "Besides inflation, wages have gone up by 3.75%, Dutch VAT [Value Added Tax] has been raised, rents and energy prices went up, and the euro conversion has pushed costs up by 0.2% ."

Van Sloten adds: "Also, the record companies have been raising the wholesale price (excluding VAT) from euros 11.47 to euros 13.61 over the past few years. When you sell less product while costs rise, you have no choice but to raise prices. For consumers a full price CD will always feel too expensive, when you can burn a CD illegally for free."

Van Sloten hopes a revision of the wholesale price, and/or lobbying on a European level by European Organisation GERA to get CDs in a lower sales tax category (currently 19% in Holland), could prove a long-term solution.

Dutch retail association NVGD opened an office in Brussels in January together with UK partner organisation BARD, and their counterparts HAMM and GDM in Germany, and SDDS in France.

Radar set to rock Portuguese airwaves

by Chris Grove

LISBON — A new alternative rock radio station was launched on June 25 in Lisbon.

On 97.8 FM, Radio Radar began broadcasting out of Radio Voz de Almada. Programme director Sofia Morais, who has worked in radio for 14 years and was involved in the Portuguese version of the Popstars TV show, says the station aims to attract listeners in the 18-35 age range.

"It was the team's idea at Radio Voz to start up an alternative rock radio station because there seemed to be a gap in the market," Morais tells M&M. "We put the idea to the radio's principal shareholders and they thought it was a great idea too."

The station plans to rotate bands such as Mercury Rev, Pete Yorn, Beck, Deus, Lamb, Tricky, R.E.M., Coldplay, and the Dave Matthews Band.

"I really feel this station is our opportunity," she prepared to put body and soul into it to make it a roaring success," says Sofia Morais. Radio Radar is financially supported by majority shareholders Luis Montez programme director at RDP public radio Antena 3 and Alternative music director of Portugal's largest concert promotion agency Musica No Coracao.
Music TV market heats up

The European music TV market is still in a state of flux and growth, with the various players jockeying for position and increased market share. Michael Lawton and Deborah Friedman in Germany and Gareth Thomas in the UK look at the most recent music TV deals around Europe.

Competition is getting keen in the European music television arena, with the key players all looking to expand, and even encroach on one another's territories.

AOL Time Warner recently bought from EMI Group an additional 15.3% shareholding in German music television channel Viva. That news co-incided with reports that Bertelsmann is to team up with its commercial broadcaster RTL Group to launch a new Europe-wide music TV channel.

In a double whammy, the two players are looking to go head-to-head with current market leader Viacom, operator of MTV and VH-1. In particular, the Warner/Viva deal also brings closer the day when the German channel may become a presence in the UK and USA.

AOL Time Warner paid euros 52 million for the package, which it will be adding to its own 15.3% shareholding. Julie Mason, AOL Time Warner's director of international communications, New York told Music & Media that the transac- tion "is part of our European growth strategy. We've had a great relationship with Viva, so when we had the chance to increase our stake, we took it."

EMI Group senior vice president for corporate communications, Amanda Conroy, said the sale fit- ted in with EMI's policy of selling off non-core interests. EMI has made a profit of euros 5.5 million on their initial investment.

AOL Time Warner's Mason wouldn't comment on whether the company was talking to other shareholders about increasing its holding further. Nevertheless, it is believed to have made an initial approach to Vivendi Universal for its 15.3% block and to be talking to four investor consortia which between them own 18.2%.

MTV has tried in the past to take the station over; this time it hoped that the poor economic situation of the three major companies who helped found the station—Warner, Universal and EMI—would make them ready to sell. But the three obviously felt that the reason they founded Viva still applied—they still want a counterweight to MTV's shareholding.

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Viva has worked hard to encourage AOL Time Warner to make the move. He had the support of German politicians: the minister for culture, Julian Nida-Rümelin, spoke of the loss of "part of Germany's musical culture" if Viva went to Viacom.

Gorny says he is "satisfied and proud" that his company could fight off Viacom's embrace.

Viva recently acquired Dutch music TV channel The Box and, in a further consolidation of its position, it has just acquired an additional 52% holding in Swiss music TV station Viva Zwei. While the acquisition is still subject to approval, it will mean the German company will hold 96% of the channel's shares.

Insiders believe that, although the various players still remain based in the countries for which they broadcast, there will be at least a group office in London.

In a newspaper inter- view, Gorny admitted that it was no longer possi- ble to do music television as a national business based in Cologne. "Music television was always an Anglo-American phe- nomenon," he said.

Viva spokesperson Katrin Mehler how- ever described as "exaggera- tions" reports in the German press that the Viva Group might move its headquarters to London.

Bertelsmann's ambition

Viva's expansion plans might find a new competitor in Bertelsmann. In an interview with a German newspaper, Bertelsmann CEO Thomas Middelhoff indicated the media giant intends to increase its involve- ment with its commercial broadca- ster RTL Group to pave the way towards creating a Europe-wide music TV channel. Middelhoff added that Bertelsmann could have a competitive advan- tage by combining strong brands RTL and Napster.

Middelhoff indicated that the RTL Group is already actively develop- ing a European music channel to be managed by RTL and headquartered in Cologne.

If the channel materi- alised it would mean new domestic competition for German broad- caster Viva, which is also based in Cologne, and, in an already tight market, would increase the num- ber of music TV channels vying for competition in Germany to five.

MTV launches pay-per-view video channel

Record companies in the UK are set to benefit from a new BekyB channel where viewers can order exclusive video footage on a pay-per-view basis. The channel, MX Sky Box Office, will allow labels supplying material to have a share in the revenue generated from the service.

To launch this autumn, the channel is the result of a collaboration between BsKyB and MusicXclusive, a consultancy company set up by former BBC head of music entertainment and Emap's MD of pop Trevor Dann.

Dann says the idea came from watching record compa- nies make expensive videos and not getting a return on their outlay. "If the broadcasters only show a video a couple of times, or not at all, the investment is completely wasted," says Dann. "I was won- dering whether there was a way in which the value of a video could be turned into money for the
Who needs another neo-soul boy who's listened to

Adds Universal Music International VP, promo-

definitely room for both of us," he says.

comparison quite a bit as well, which I've kind of

is well used to (and only flattered by) comparisons

supporting Universal stablemate Sheryl Crow.

visits to the region for promotion and gigs, with a

in Canada and inside the top 40 in the US.

beyond. Appropriately for an artist whose best

R&B traditionalist on the block with a debut

European radio and retail are finding out.

Remy Shand, it's

all the right Marvin Gaye records? In the case of

by Paul Sexton

August 12 (released via Warner

Catch, is released on July 29.

by Chris Barrett

With the World Cup now over, a

group of Icelandic footballers are

reading themselves for competition of a
different kind.

Raykjavik-based five piece, the

Leaves, all play for Icelandic third
division football team Bardastrandar,

but are now looking to score highly

with their music career. With two

beauty and the beats credentials having

already provoked a fren-

zied reaction in the UK,

their rock-edged epics have drawn inevitable

comparisons to Coldplay

and Radiohead.

Something ever-modest

former opera singing frontman

Aruna Gudjonsson (aka Arna G)

seems slightly uncomfortable with.

"People have only heard two songs,

they should listen to the album before they make any judgement." 

The album Breathe is not out until

August 12 (released via Warner

Music in Europe and

DreamWorks (unanimously the rest of the

world) but the single Race

(released May 6) has already

won a trick question, because

Shand, who's half-Italian, has enjoyed his ini-

tial European visits. "Everybody talks about

London first, but it's kind of good to go into

Europe through the back door. The work can get

suffocated here, but now we've loaded up the promo

gun in Europe."

In addition to a top 15 sales spot for The Way I Feel in Italy, the album has gone top 40 in Germany, and in the UK, Shand played a recent showcase and landed the album of the week spot at national AC outlet BBC Radio 2. "I heard Remy Shand all over the radio when I visited the States recently," says the station's executive producer (music) Colin Martin, who admits that the album had been in danger of getting lost in the shuffle. "I was surprised at the amount of exposure it was getting [there] and yet the album was gathering dust in my office," he adds. "Perhaps there's just no place for a new Motown-inspired artist on most of today's tightly formatted radio stations—listen to

Everlasting and you'd think it's the great

Smokey Robinson himself. [But] it's just too good an album to bury. I was happy to rediscover it and make it an album of the week. Radio 2 will give it as much support as we can."

by Gary Smith

LYING MODE

Off Lie To Me by Earphones (No

ColoursItaly), the '80s thing is to

the fore again. The sound is remi-

nent of early Depeche Mode but

with a gentile house element. The

chorus is truly excellent thanks to

overlapping voices and a wistful,

meandering synth riff underpin-

ning the vocal action. A sparse,

disciplined production by Roberto

Terranova and Luca Lento—who

were also involved in the DJ Pied

Piper track Do You Really Like It?

—adds to the '80s feeling with a

classic Moog sound providing a

refreshing analogue vibe. There

are no remixes as yet but instru-

mental track Mooging is also

worth a listen for its playful

melodies and all-round raffiness.

DANCE DUO

The buzz surrounding the album

Waltz For Koop, signed for the UK

by Stimulus Records from German

label Compost, continues to grow.

Following a June 17 UK

release, alongside a clutch of siz-

zling live performances and radio

support from Gilles Peterson and

Steve Lamacq at BBC Radio 1

plus Patrick Forge at London

dance station Kiss 100 and Ross

Allen at regional AOR station

BBC London, 2002 looks set to be

bigger yet with a Swedish duo.

A Krusen & Dofmeister remix of
debut single Summer Sun is out

now with second single and title track Waltz For Koop, remixed by Brazilian drum 'n bass DJ Patife, due out soon. "A re-cut version of the album with bonus tracks and new artwork will be put out for a second round of promotion off the back of the Waltz For Koop release," says label manager Martin Morales.

WARNER MUSIC ADDS WORLDS WITH LEAVES

One of the Leaves first converts

was Mark Lewis, managing director at

b-unique who signed them, before

licensing the act to Warner

and DreamWorks. "I heard a whisper

about a great tape from Iceland, so

held the manager's number and

called him," says Lewis. "By some

bizarre chance he was around the cor-

ner from our office in Chelsea. He lit-

erally handed me a tape through the

gate. That was a Friday. I loved it,

and played it to my part-

ner over the weekend. On

Monday morning we were

already booking our trip to

Iceland to see the band!"

With the growing excitement surrounding

the Leaves seemingly con-

tagious, the mood at

Warner Music is equally

positive. "We are at a very early

stage, but have already had a great

response. They are amazing live, and

apart from their astonishing music they

look fantastic. The potential for

them is huge," enthuses Warner

Music UK director of international,

Hedlundbury.

Having already co-headlined in

Raykjavik with The Strokes and sup-

ported the likes of The Coral and

Leaves in the UK, Leaves are set to

continue to tour extensively through-

out the summer, taking in a number

of European festivals. Inevitably the

band have been missing out on their

soccer training—"I haven't played for

months, too much beer you know," says

Gudjonsson.

Currently celebrating its first

birthday, E-nine Skruff is rapidly

established itself as the most

essential weekly read and, more

importantly, as a publication that

tells it how it is. "Skruff is dedi-

cated to spreading the word about

alternative, cutting-edge dance

music and the positive values asso-

ciated with the scene—whether

that's freedom of artistic expres-

sion, living alternative lifestyles or

the old rave cliché PLUR, peace,

love, unity and respect," Skruff co-

founder and editor Jony Adderley

says. "We're globally orientated

and firmly angled at developing and

expanding via the web, aggre-

gating niche markets that cross

national boundaries." Word of

mouth and the Internet grapevine

have helped readership figures

reach 5,000, while "growing syndi-

cates, that keeps Skruff sol-

vent and independent.

WARZING DUO

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**SALES BREAKER**

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**European Top 100 Albums**

©VNU Business Media.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTIST TITLE</th>
<th>Countires charted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Bowie</td>
<td>Heathehen - Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korn</td>
<td>Unchained - Epic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Keating</td>
<td>Destination - Polydor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophie Ellis-Bextor</td>
<td>Read My Lips - Polydor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Angels</td>
<td>New... - Polydor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moby</td>
<td>1879 - Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kylie Minogue</td>
<td>Fever - Parlophone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celine Dion</td>
<td>A New Day Has Come - Columbia / Epic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papa Roach</td>
<td>Lovehatetriangle - Dreamworks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mad'House</td>
<td>Halfly Abelicious - Dio / Various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen</td>
<td>Greatest Hits I, II &amp; III - Parlophone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>Missunderstood - Arias</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norah Jones</td>
<td>Come Away With Me - Blue Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xavier Naidoo</td>
<td>Zenianisation - Alles Fur Den Herrn - Naudios Records / SPV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrique Iglesias</td>
<td>Escape - Interscope</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nightwish</td>
<td>Century Child - Banda / BMG</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Bruel</td>
<td>Entre Deux - RCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashanti</td>
<td>Ashanti - Def Jam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiziano Ferro</td>
<td>Rosso Relativo - BMI</td>
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**FAST MOVERS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTIST TITLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Oldfield</td>
<td>Tres Lunas - WEA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Calling</td>
<td>Camino Palmero - RCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bisbal</td>
<td>Corazon Latino - Vide Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss-Teeq</td>
<td>Lekein On Both Sides - Inferno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soundtrack</td>
<td>Spider-Man - Roadrunner / Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Guetta</td>
<td>Just A Little More Love - Virgin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENT</td>
<td>Vapen &amp; Ammunition - RCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wonderwall</td>
<td>Witchcraft - WEA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bustamante</td>
<td>Bustamante - Vide Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyclef Jean</td>
<td>Masquerade - Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabio Slim</td>
<td>Halfway Between The Gutter And The Stars - Skint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morecheeba</td>
<td>Charango - EastWest / WEA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Ugabo</td>
<td>Que Pides Tu? - DIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ligabue</td>
<td>Fuori Come Va?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-Ha</td>
<td>Lifelines - WEA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magnus Uggla</td>
<td>Klassiska Masterkorthet - Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umberto Tozzi</td>
<td>The Best Of Umberto Tozzi - WEA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Cocker</td>
<td>Respect Yourself - Parlophone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nek</td>
<td>Le Cose Da Fendere - WEA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joy Denalane</td>
<td>Mamani - Columbia / Power / Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manu Tenerio</td>
<td>Manu Tenerio - Pap's Vide Music</td>
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<td>Marco Borsato</td>
<td>Onderweg - Polydor</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Dally</td>
<td>Revelation - Mercury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Britney Spears</td>
<td>Britney - Jive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Hill</td>
<td>MTV Unplugged 2.0 - Columbia</td>
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<td>Ska-P</td>
<td>Qur Calma De Voz - RCA</td>
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<td>Red Hot Chili Peppers</td>
<td>Californication - Warner Bros.</td>
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<td>Marc Anthony</td>
<td>Menedez - Columbia</td>
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**REENTRY**

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<td>Jamiroquai</td>
<td>Funky Lava</td>
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<td>The Real Group &amp; Eric Singer</td>
<td>Stimming - Virgin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Van Morrison</td>
<td>Down The Road - Eile Polydor</td>
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<td>Christina Milian</td>
<td>Christina Milian - Def Soul</td>
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<td>Star Academy</td>
<td>Les Singleis - Island</td>
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<td>Alicia Keys</td>
<td>Songs In A Minor - J</td>
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<td>Noir Désir</td>
<td>Das Visages Des Figures - Barely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lorie</td>
<td>Prés De Toi - ECP / Sony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yannick Noah</td>
<td>Saint George / Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nelly</td>
<td>Nellyville - Universal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mylène Farmer</td>
<td>No More Drama - MCA</td>
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<td>Formula Abierta</td>
<td>Ann Hay Man - Vide Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soundtrack</td>
<td>Bahie Con Ella (Alberto Iglesias) - Milan / BMG / Universal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gentleman</td>
<td>Journey To Jah - Columbia</td>
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<td>Mystovitz</td>
<td>Korn / Milky Bar - Columbia</td>
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<td>Badly Drawn Boy</td>
<td>About A Boy - OST - Twisted Nerve / XL Recordings</td>
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<td>Liberty X</td>
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<td>Natasha St-Pier</td>
<td>De L'Amour Le Mieux - Columbia</td>
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<td>Toocotronic</td>
<td>E Or De Zomba</td>
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<td>The Best Of Laura Pausini - E Ritorno Da Te - CGD</td>
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<td>Chansons Pour Les Pieds - Columbia</td>
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<td>Beverley Knight</td>
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<td>Reinhard Mey</td>
<td>Hina Hart - EMI</td>
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<td>Aretha Franklin</td>
<td>Respect - The Very Best Of - Warner Strategic Marketing</td>
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<td>Lionel Richie</td>
<td>Back To Front - Motown</td>
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**BRITISH PLATINUM**

For sales of 1 million units, with multi-platinum titles indicated by a number in the symbol.

The European Top 100 Albums is compiled by Music Media. All rights reserved. Compiled from the national album sales charts of 18 European territories.

See AmericanRadioHistory.com for more information.
### Top National Sellers

**Week 29/02**

#### UNITED KINGDOM

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Eminem - Without Me (Pebblefield)
- 2. Shakira - Underneath Your Clothes (Dance Star)
- 3. B. I. O. (Tomy Presents)
- 4. Morcheeba - Charango
- 5. NE Los Planetas - Corrientes Circulares En El Tiempo (RCA)
- 6. NE Loona - Viva El Amor
- 7. Queen - Greatest Hits I, II & III (Parlophone)
- 8. 2Pac - Without Me
- 9. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me (Blue Note)
- 10. Eminem - Without Me

#### GERMANY

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Eminem - Without Me
- 2. Shakira - Underneath Your Clothes
- 3. Morcheeba - Charango
- 4. NE Los Planetas - Corrientes Circulares En El Tiempo
- 5. NE Loona - Viva El Amor
- 6. Queen - Greatest Hits I, II & III
- 7. 2Pac - Without Me
- 8. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me
- 9. Eminem - Without Me
- 10. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me

#### FRANCE

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Maritz & Paul Barry - En Erzahl De To (MerkpUP)
- 2. Shakira - Underneath Your Clothes (Dance Star)
- 3. B. I. O. (Tomy Presents)
- 4. Morcheeba - Charango
- 5. NE Los Planetas - Corrientes Circulares En El Tiempo
- 6. NE Loona - Viva El Amor
- 7. Queen - Greatest Hits I, II & III
- 8. 2Pac - Without Me
- 9. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me
- 10. Eminem - Without Me

#### ITALY

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. NE Red Hot Chili Peppers - By The Way (WEA)
- 2. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 3. Maritz & Paul Barry - En Erzahl De To (MerkpUP)
- 4. Morcheeba - Charango
- 5. NE Los Planetas - Corrientes Circulares En El Tiempo
- 6. NE Loona - Viva El Amor
- 7. Queen - Greatest Hits I, II & III
- 8. 2Pac - Without Me
- 9. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me
- 10. Eminem - Without Me

#### SWEDEN

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. NE Elfi Lund - Stommi (Sony)
- 2. Shakira - Underneath Your Clothes (Sony)
- 3. NE Red Hot Chili Peppers - By The Way (WEA)
- 4. Morcheeba - Charango
- 5. NE Los Planetas - Corrientes Circulares En El Tiempo
- 6. NE Loona - Viva El Amor
- 7. Queen - Greatest Hits I, II & III
- 8. 2Pac - Without Me
- 9. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me
- 10. Eminem - Without Me

#### DENMARK

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Elvis vs. JXL - A Little Less Conversation (RCA)
- 2. Eminem - Without Me (Universal)
- 3. Ronny Scafolding - If Tomorrow Never Comes (Universal)
- 4. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 5. Red Hot Chili Peppers - Californication
- 6. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 7. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 8. Morcheeba - Charango
- 9. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 10. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me

#### HOLLAND

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Elvis vs. JXL - A Little Less Conversation (RCA)
- 2. Eminem - Without Me (Universal)
- 3. Ronny Scafolding - If Tomorrow Never Comes (Universal)
- 4. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 5. Red Hot Chili Peppers - Californication
- 6. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 7. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 8. Morcheeba - Charango
- 9. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 10. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me

#### NORWAY

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Elvis vs. JXL - A Little Less Conversation (RCA)
- 2. Eminem - Without Me (Universal)
- 3. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 4. Red Hot Chili Peppers - Californication
- 5. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 6. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 7. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 8. Morcheeba - Charango
- 9. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 10. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me

#### SWITZERLAND

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Eminem - Without Me (Universal)
- 2. Shakira - Underneath Your Clothes (Sony)
- 3. Fat Joe & Ashanti - What's Luv? (Warner)
- 4. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 5. Red Hot Chili Peppers - Californication
- 6. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 7. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 8. Morcheeba - Charango
- 9. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 10. Norah Jones - Come Away With Me

#### PORTUGAL

**TW LW ALBUMS**
- 1. Let's Regress - Que Uns Sain Senhorinos (Kodama)
- 2. Shakira - Underneath Your Clothes (Sony)
- 3. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 4. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 5. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 6. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)
- 7. Morcheeba - Charango
- 8. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 9. NE Ulf Lundell - St. Monica
- 10. Shakira - Whatever Wheres (Record Express)

#### BONUS

- "Top National Sellers" is a weekly chart that ranks the top-selling albums in various countries. The chart is compiled by Nielsen SoundScan, a reputable music industry research company, and is based on sales data from participating record stores.
**SALES**

**Mad'House Like A Prayer**

Mad’House are the front-runners in Austria, Belgium, Holland and Germany and emulate Madonna’s voice flawlessly. They are currently playing at Radio 21, Belgium, ORF Zets/ Geräusch, Denmark Radio P/S, Denmark, Cadena 100, Spain, Cadena 100, Spain, Cadena 80, Spain, YLE 2, Radiomatia/Finland, France Inter/ France, Radio Maximum/Russia, Downtown Radio/UK, BBC Radio 2/UK, Radio Saldarriaga/Cootola, 96, Fin Radio/Finland, 101 Network/Italy.

**Eurochart A7 Indexes**

This is the first cut off Morcheeba’s fourth studio album *Charango*, which hit the streets July 1. Morcheeba are brothers Ross and Paul Godfrey and singer Skye Edwards. Ross plays the guitar and various other instruments while Paul writes the songs and programmes the beats. Co-producer of the album is long-time collaborator Pete Norreis. Otherwise has the classic mellow, chilled-out Morcheeba sound and is Ross and Paul’s favourite track off their new album. Frank Menzel, head of music at alternative station ORF Fritz in Potsdam, Germany, likes the single a lot: “It’s a good mix of soul and trip-hop,” he says. “It’s an energetic ballad that makes you want to listen to the album. They have developed musically in that they didn’t lose their credibility. Morcheeba still produce high quality pop music.” Christine Goor, head of music at Cadena 40 Principales/ Spain, Contact FM/France, Europe 2 Network/TVN, says: “It just started here, song maybe returning to the sales charts.”

**Currenty playing at:**

**Top 100 albums**

Bryan Adams 29

Adele 40

Anastacia 60

Mark Anthony 98

Ashanti 73

Badly Drawn Boy 82

David Bowie 105

Mary J. Blige 58

Marcos Borto 66

David Bowie 73

Patrick Bruel 208

Robbie Williams 186

Just A Friend 30

Just A Little 43

**Top 20 US Single**

JULY 2002

**TOP 20 US SINGLES**

**TOP 20 US ALBUMS**

**Highlights**

- SALES
- AIRBORNE
- Mad’House Like A Prayer (No Records with greatest sales and/or airplay gains. © 2002, Billboard/VNU Business Media.

**Billboard**

**AmericanRadioHistory.Com**

**Music & Media**

**90 July 13, 2002**
Mooney's Dove ("I'll Be Loving You") (Airplane!) is holding tight at number one for the second week running on the European Dance Traxx chart, while MadHouse and Shakedown also stay put at last week's second and third spot.

Mooney's popularity is steadily increasing, a fact which may lock the track in at number one for a bit longer.

Meanwhile, two tracks enter the top ten for the very first time, and they both originate from France. The first at eight (from 22) is David Guetta's Love, Don't Let Me Go (Virgin). Number three on the mover's chart, it debuted in dance clubs in Britain and Sweden this week.

Also new to the top ten is Cassius feat. Jocelyn Brown's I'm A Woman (HBF/Virgin). The tune debuted in Belgium and Norway, helping it climb from 17 to number ten on the chart this week.

Jocelyn Brown is, of course, no stranger to the dance music scene, and is best known for her hit somebody Else's Guy back in the heady disco/soul dance music scene, and is best known for her hit.

Meanwhile, two tracks enter the top ten for the very first time, and they both originate from France. The first at eight (from 22) is David Guetta's Love, Don't Let Me Go (Virgin). Number three on the mover's chart, it debuted in dance clubs in Britain and Sweden this week.

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AIRPLAY

Each week, M&M brings you the latest airplay additions from market leaders and taste-makers at radio across Europe—the Power Players

**PICK OF THE WEEK**

Spacemonkeyz vs. Gorillaz

*Lil' Dub Chefin'*

(Parlophone)

"This song is cool. It's relaxed and puts us in the summer mood. It's the best track off the dub version of the Gorillaz album."

Thorsten Zschobitz

daily music planner

WDR Eins Live/Germany

---

**UK:**

**Virgin Radio**

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR: PAUL JACKSON

FORMAT: ROCK

SERVICE AREA: NATIONAL

PLAYLIST MEETING: WEDNESDAY AM

GROUP/OWNER: SMG

www.virginradio.com

Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band/ The Rising

Aerosmith/Girls Of Summer

---

**FRANCE:**

**Fun Radio**

HEAD OF PROGRAMMING: PERE LEBRUN

FORMAT: DANCE

SERVICE AREA: NATIONAL

GROUP/OWNER: RL GROUP

www.funradio.fr

Kylie Minogue/Love At First Sight

Beyoncé Knowles/Work It Out

Zebda/L'Erreur Est Humaine

Chico/Chico's In Love

Models/Ding A Dong

Moby/Extreme Days

Adelante/Fire Burn

Major ft. 1,2,3,4

---

**GERMANY:**

**WDR Eins Live**

**Live**

Radio Eins Live

PROGRAMME DIR./GM: JOCHEN RAUSCH

FORMAT: CHR

SERVICE AREA: NORTH RHINE WESTPHALIA

PLAYLIST MEETING: FRIDAY AM

GROUP/OWNER: PUBLIC BROADCASTER

www.einslive.de

Spacemonkeyz Vs. Gorillaz/Lil' Dub Chefin'

Massive Töne/Cuizin

Donots/Big Mouth

---

**AUSTRIA:**

**Ö3**

HEAD OF MUSIC: ALFRED ROSENAUER

FORMAT: CHR

SERVICE AREA: NATIONAL

GROUP/OWNER: PUBLIC BROADCASTER

www.o3.or.at

Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band/ The Rising

Kosheen/Catch

---

**SWEDEN:**

**SR P5 Radio Stockholm**

SR P5 Radio Stockholm

MUSIC DIR.: ROBERT JONSSON

FORMAT: FULL-SERVICE

SERVICE AREA: STOCKHOLM

PLAYLIST MEETING: THURSDAY AM

GROUP/OWNER: PUBLIC BROADCASTER

www.sr.se/stockholm

Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band/ The Rising

Tartis & Chevelle Francklin/A Love I Can Feel

Tweet & Missy Elliot/Oops (Oh My)

Jamiroquai/Corner Of The Earth

Wagner Pa Pa Manu Chao/Folia

Boyz II Men/The Color Of Love

Sheryl Crow/Steve McCqueen

Sophie Zelmani/How It Feels

Diana King/Summer Breezin'

The Magadogs/Kamasutra

Musiq Soulchild/Halfcrazy

Thåström/Ungefrör Söd Hår

Bryan Adams/Here I Am

Intimate Mas/Celebrate

Coldplay/In My Place

Mendez/No Criminal

---

**DENMARK:**

**DR P3**

DR

EDITOR OF MUSIC POLICY: EK FREDERIKSEN

FORMAT: CHR

SERVICE AREA: NATIONAL

PLAYLIST MEETING: WEDNESDAY AM

GROUP/OWNER: PUBLIC BROADCASTER

www.dr.dk

Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band/ The Rising

Mary J. Blige feat. Ja Rule/Rainy Dayz

Snoop Doggy Dogg/Undercover Funk

Dina Voces/The Love I Have For You

Nivea/Don't Mess With My Man

The Beginners/Reckless Girl

Alpenstars/Carbon Kid

Coldplay/In My Place

Hi-Fi Serious/Because

Kem/Köftesken Vantar

Watts/Black A.M.

---

**SPAIN:**

**Los 40 Principales**

MUSIC DIRECTOR: GEORGE FLO

FORMAT: CHR

SERVICE AREA: NATIONAL

PLAYLIST MEETING: FRIDAY

GROUP/OWNER: SER

www.las40.com

Safri Duo ft. Michael McDonald/Sweet Freedom

Vanessa Carlton/A Thousand Miles

Juan Rivas/Cuando Todo Va Mal

Michelle Branch/All That You Wanted

Bustamante/El Aire Que Me Das

Lydia/A Traves De Mi Ventana

Paulina Rubio/El Aire Que Me Das

Karaja/What About You

Billy Crawford/Trackin'

---

**NORWAY:**

**NRK P3RE**

NRK PETRE

PROG. DIRECTOR: MARIUS LILLELIEN

FORMAT: CHR

SERVICE AREA: NATIONAL

PLAYLIST MEETING: TUESDAY AM

GROUP/OWNER: PUBLIC BROADCASTER

www.nrk.no/p3

Gatas Parlament/Vanvittig Utopi II

Lano Places/Metallic Mazda

The Beginners/Reckless Girl

Surferosa/Lucky Uptrick

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MUSIC & MEDIA 12 JULY 13, 2002

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<td>CHR</td>
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HOT AC

Playlist Additions:
Celine Dion - I'm Alive

ALTERNATIVE

Chad Kroeger feat. Josey Scott - Rising

Hermann Orgeldinger - PD

Kylie Minogue

DANCE

Red Hot Chili Peppers - By The Way

Shakira - Underneath Your Clothes (Europa)

Sophie Ellis-Bexter - Get Over You (Poland)

WEEK 29/02
MOST ADDED

Most Added are those songs which received the highest number of playlist additions during the week. In the case of a tie, songs are listed alphabetically by artist.

Bryan Adams
Celine Dion
Michelle Branch
Nelly Furtado
Vanilla Cafe
Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band
Coldplay
Kyli Minogue
Red Hot Chili Peppers
Sophie Ellis-Baxter

GERMANY

Radio FM/Berlin
HOT

Hans Dieter Hilgem - Prog. Dir.

Playlist Additions:
Red Hot Chili Peppers By The Way

104.6 BL 104.6 Berlin/G

Hollecke Lachmann - Head Of Music

Playlist Additions:
Ben Heppner
Celina Dion - I'm Alive
Christina Milian - When you look at me
Dance Nation/Dance
J Damberry/Sunny Day
Groove Coverage/Marktspiegel Shadow
Less Quickly Sunny Day

HR DJ/Markus/Miss G

Frank Eibbeck - Head Of Music

Playlist Additions:
Beach Boys
Chicletta
Cassius
Samantha Moxley

OIRT/Portland/G

Konrad Kuhn - Prog. Director

Playlist Additions:
Ala Maria
Andrea Casabonne
Ludovico Einaudi - In A Moment
The Proclaimers - X-Pos 
Evan Dorn/Bad Monkey

Radio 7 TM/S

Mathis Hering - Head Of Music

Harman Organfelder - PD

Playlist Additions:
Aquas Luna
Vangelis
Verge	Wanna
You and Me
Sophie Ellis-Bexter - Get Over You

JAM FM/Berlin/S

Frank Jedermann - Music Director

Playlist Additions:
Nobby Burt A.
Anthony Hamilton


ITALY

Bryan Adams

HOT

Amber Ambrozio - Director

Playlist Additions:
Black Cat Blues - Darker Shades of Blue

ITALIA

Luca Buonvino - Coordinator

Playlist Additions:
Hungrif

REPUBLICA

Luca Buonvino

Playlist Additions:
Hungrif

ITALY

101 NETWORK - Milan/G

Lukasz Ambrozio - Director

Playlist Additions:
Symphonik

ITALIA

3000 SECONDS/Parma 3

Diffusion

Playlist Additions:
Blue Bird

ITALY

Radio Baku / Bologna P

Playlist Additions:
Love At First Sight

SWITZERLAND

COULEUR 3/Lausanne G

Playlist Additions:
Patrick Baudler - Head Of Music

SWITZERLAND

CHR

MARIO - Kassel

Playlist Additions:
Bush

HOLLAND

KNOOBEE FM/Noodorp P

Michiel Weber - Prog. Dr.

Playlist Additions:
Liberty

KROKUS FM/Tourist

Steve Buckley - Programme Controller

Playlist Additions:
Shad

RADIO 2/uisveld P

Rob Stottell - Head of Music

Playlist Additions:
War

Radio LAC/Genova 5

Sacha Harshov - Prog. Dir.

Playlist Additions:
Bush

FRANCE

ITR PARTY/Pays de la Loire

Bill Rolfe - Hammour

Playlist Additions:
Credenza

BELGIUM

NEU BELGIUM/Brussels

Michael Trouve - Head of Music

Playlist Additions:
Antoinette You Don't Know

DENMARK

ANK HIT FM/Falhorg

Tine Thyslggaard - Head Of Music

Playlist Additions:
You Know Me In Nelly Furtado

CZECH REPUBLIC

CZ Radio

Marten Bach - Programme Director

Playlist Additions:
Chad Kroeuger & Joeey Scott

SLOVAKIA

Avgok FM/Banskobystricky

Hansika - Sand - Music/Prog. Dir.

Playlist Additions:
Submariner

HUNGARY

Radio Budapest D.

David Bocai - Slow Burn

Playlist Additions:
Another Time

LITHUANIA

Radio Sudrus

Dalia Andrejevna - Music Programs

Playlist Additions:
Dance

POLAND

Radio 4 Warszawa P

Marc Niekiewicz - Music Director

Playlist Additions:
Radio City

RUSSIA

Potexo Moswa/ Peterburg P

Gladys Tate - Prog. Director

Playlist Additions:
Ukraine

RUSSIA

MAXMAX/Krasnodar P

Playlist Additions:
Russia

NORWAY

MAX MAX/Nordlys P

Playlist Additions:
Power Rotation

Norway

POLAND

RADIO POL 3/Warszawa P

Wojciech Niewiecki - Music Director

Playlist Additions:
Radio City

DENMARK

Jens Madsen

Playlist Additions:
Radio City

CZECH REPUBLIC

CZ Radio

Marten Bach - Programme Director

Playlist Additions:
Chad Kroeuger & Joeey Scott

SLOVAKIA

Avgok FM/Banskobystricky

Hansika - Sand - Music/Prog. Dir.

Playlist Additions:
Submariner
WANT YOUR PLAYLIST

Each week Music & Media publishes the latest playlist additions from more than 30 radio and music stations.
This week again, Kylie Minogue’s famous bottom is still perched firmly on the European Radio Top 50 throne with Love At First Sight (Parlophone). One of Kylie’s biggest rivals, however, the British pop artist Sophie Ellis-Bextor, leaps from number 36 to 25 with the upbeat dance number Get Over You (Polydor). Ellis-Bextor’s previous single Murder On The Dancefloor is also still on the chart, with a residency to date of some 29 weeks.

US songstress Michelle Branch is the highest new entry this week at number 27 with her second single All You Wanted (Maverick/Warner Bros). One of the most promising female artists to have emerged this year, Branch has already enjoyed chart success with her debut single Everywhere, taken from her album The Spirit Room. Holger Lachmann, head of music at Hot AC station 104.6 RTL in Berlin, says: “I was already quite sure that this single would be a great hit.”

Lachmann comments: “I’m Alive is a sure-fire hit. It is a classic Dion number with a modern emphasis on TV appearances and so forth.” Adds Lachmann: “All You Wanted definitely has all the qualities of a hit single. It has the track Just A Little (Interscope).”

Also new in the European Radio Top 50 this week, at number 28, are UK group Liberty X (charted)—famous for being some of the artists rejected by the Poptars TV show—with their single Another Thing About You. The band is one of the acts that has managed to cross national boundaries.

The third-highest new entry comes from Canadian act Celine Dion. I’m Alive (Epic), is also the second-Most Added track this week, with eight of M&M’s panel of stations playing the track for the first time this week. Lachmann comments: “I’m Alive is a sure-fire hit. It is a classic Dion number with a modern production. People in the music department are already placing bets on when the track will go on highest rotation.”

Lachmann says the local music scene is fairly quiet in Germany at the moment. “Overall, there is not much happening—the charts are dominated by covers of ’80s hits, such as Opu’s Live Is Life by the Hermens House Band feat. DJ Otzi (Polydor). We had taken ’80s music out of our library, so these covers allow us to air some of those songs again.”

Ex-Fugee member Wyclef Jean feat. Claudette with their mellow number Two Wrongs (Columbia), just makes it into the European Radio Top 50 this week, coming in at number 45. As for the coming weeks, one potential hit is a collaboration between Viva presenter Milka and German pop act Band Ohne Namen. Girl 4 A Day will be released by XL Records on August 19.

Miriam Hubner

MUSIC & MEDIA 16 JULY 13, 2002
Universal "unsettled" as Messier resigns

On July 2, outgoing Vivendi Universal chairman and CEO Jean-Marie Messier sent a memo to Vivendi Universal employees around the world. Enclosed is the full text of this memo.

"To restore peace and calm to Vivendi Universal, I have decided to step down. For me, it is a heart-breaking decision. I wanted to cre- ate this company. I built it because I believed in it. And I still do.

"I am leaving so that Vivendi Universal can continue. "I leave with a heavy heart in the hope of easing the tensions between the members of our board of directors, and ending the con- stant suspicions of the market. "Vivendi Universal must go on. Partial disposals are necessary but the core must be preserved: a major media and communications company, truly global and multicultural company that has the most remarkable capacity to identify, publish and distribute talent, all forms of talent. "Building a strategy is founded on three bases: vision, resources and time. "Vivendi Universal’s vision, first and foremost, is to be the world leader in content, whether in music, film and television, literature, education or games, while using our local distribution strength and our ability to access the consumer directly. Vivendi Universal’s primary strength is content creation and its outstanding relationship with artists, whether in music, film, publishing or games. This relationship, based on trust and respect, is our great- est asset, and everything must be done to protect it. "Human and financial resources: Vivendi Universal has the best operating teams in all of its businesses in both Europe and the United States. I’m not just say- ing this to flatter you. I’m saying it because I have seen the teams at work every day. Working with such talented people has brought me joy and pride, and no one can take that away from me. "As for financial resources, Vivendi Universal started 2002 with heavy debt from the creation of the VU Network: (€3.5 bn); the strengthening of our TV and film activities in the United States (EchoStar and USA Networks: €3.5 bn), and our stock buybacks (€3.8 bn). This level of debt is not the result of questionable transactions or hidden risks. It is the result of our decisions to develop Vivendi Universal’s businesses, to develop your businesses. Maybe we went too quickly and too far. But we had the courage to start on track by accelerating our debt reduction plan. "Building a strategy is also based on time. And time is an element which the widespread instability of media and communications stocks has deprived us of. At any rate, time is something I was not given. "My strongest wish is that my successor be given a little time and calm, and I sincerely hope that once the company is free of the pressure of its short-term debt, free of the differences between board members and free of the unrelent- ing media attacks on its chairman, the share price will return to the level it would have had if I was still here.

"All my thoughts are with you, Vivendi Universal’s employees. You know the quality of the work you do on a day-to-day basis in our busi- nesses. It is up to you that I wanted to fight right to the end. "I also wish most fervently that the company’s exceptional charac- ter can be maintained, its dual American-European dimension. I know all too well how difficult this is. But I also know that this is where our strength lies. The future of our world does not depend on technology but on culture in its widest sense. The fact that Vivendi Universal is the only truly multi- cultural company is, at the same time, one of the keys to our success. Creating major pro- ductions with universal appeal, as well as local works or select works for targeted audiences are the keys to our success.

"I am leaving Vivendi Universal with immense sadness. I am leaving Vivendi Universal so that it can continue. "Because Vivendi Universal is greater than any of us; because Vivendi Universal’s vision deserves to succeed and it can succeed if everyone wants it to. "To all those with whom I have had the great honour and pleasure of working, to those whom I have not met but whose passion and commitment to their daily work I know, I say thank you, I say con- tinue, I say good luck. "My very sincere wishes to each of you."
Billboard editor Timothy White dies
by Melinda Newman

NEW YORK — Timothy White, editor in chief of Music & Media/WARD and publication Billboard, died suddenly of a heart attack June 27, just as Billboard was going to press. He was 50.

Timothy collapsed in an elevator in the Billboard offices in New York and was rushed to St Vincent’s Hospital, where he passed away.

During his 11-year tenure at Billboard, Timothy led his life with the firm belief in equal footing with industry giants. He was a skilled, loutish age, and his honesty as a writer.”

Billboard publisher Howard Lander says: “Besides possessing an inquisitive mind, a deep passion for music, and unmatched writing skills, Timothy led his life with the firm belief that a person had to be willing to stand up and be counted. I will forever be grateful for his companionship, courage, and friendship.”

Timothy is survived by his wife Judy Garlan and his 10-year-old twin boys, Christopher and Alexander.

Melinda Newman is Billboard’s West Coast bureau chief.

Ousted Vivendi Universal chairman Jean-Marie Messier was nowhere to be seen at the July 3 board meeting which saw his resignation ”accepted” by the board. Some reports suggest that he was flying to the US at the time. Messier is expected to hand back the keys to the $17 million apartment VU bought for him on Park Avenue, New York. He is also believed to be negotiating an exit package worth euros 18 million. Not bad for someone who has in the past slumped compensation payments for sacked bosses...

Def Jam Germany has closed down barely two years after its much-trumpeted launch in Berlin. According to internal sources at Universal, the closure of the label coincided with the parent company moving to the German capital on July 1. It is understood that most of the domestic roster will be dropped, while international signings will be transferred to the former Universal Records label, which has been renamed Urban/Def Jam.

UK labels’ body BPI failed to elect a new chairman at last week’s AGM, following the decision by long-standing chairman Rob Dickins not to seek a new mandate. Director general Andrew Yates has been appointed interim chairman of the body.

Jurgen Otterstein, the former MD of EMI West Germany, tells Hotline that he has decided to discontinue the worldwide management of Sarah Brightman, who he had managed for the past five years, in order to “fully concentrate on the future development of my label Tru Note”. Tru Note, which is distributed by Edel, has just signed Chris Rea to a worldwide deal.

The RTL Group is continuing to make its mark on the German radio map. The group is currently in negotiations to take over shareholdings in a number of radio stations owned by German company AVE. The electronic media subsidiary of the Holtzbrinck group, AVE currently owns shares in 13 German stations in five states.

Wolf Urban, UMG3 senior VP, has decided to resign from Universal Music International in order to pursue another career opportunity. UMG3 is responsible for marketing the Universal Music Group’s (UMI) music catalogue in the world outside North America.

He will be succeeded by Bert Cloeckaert (pictured), who will assume the title of senior VP, commercial affairs and strategic marketing, at UMI.

After Capital and GWR, Chrysalis Radio is set to be the latest UK radio group to restructure — more details next week...

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Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.

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### SPAIN

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Compiled by M&M on the basis of playlist reports, using a weighted-scoring system, based on audience size.
SHOLA AMA

The essential album - Supersonic #1 Hip List (Blues & Soul)

"Roll out the red carpet the queen of sophistication is back with a very mature, well produced collection which is bang on!" Schooly - Capital Radio

"Good to see her back with one of the biggest, most anticipated tunes of the summer, watch this one fly." Ronnie Herel - Radio 1 Extra

"Shola is back with a set that is so good, you can do nothing but give her a standing ovation for making a comeback." Bigger, Blues & Soul/Hip Hop connection.


"Shola's vocal performance and the lyrical content of this album takes it from the sublime to the ridiculously good. Without doubt one of the albums of the year and one of the most sort after albums around." Blues & Soul

Shola album sales facts:

Over 1 million albums sold
Over 1.5 million singles sold

Peoples Choice Award, a Brit Award and 2 MOBO Awards!

New album title SUPersonic
Single - 'EMANCIPATION (I'm Back)' Promo.

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Published by D-Influence Entertainment / BMG