

OMDC: "Culture is our Business." Promoting growth and investment in Ontario's book and magazine publishing, film and television, music and interactive digital media industries

Canadian Music Week 2006 Scored a High Note in Toronto

Every March, when the last dregs of winter are still gripping the city, Toronto's downtown core is flooded with music. During Canadian Music Week (CMW), March 1 to 5, people get out of their houses to hear a wide range of musical talent from home and abroad. And industry professionals come to Toronto from all over the globe to Toronto too, because Ontario's capital city has become an international music hub where they can revel in the music and converge for the annual CMW music industry conference. The music industry delegates, die-hard wristband fans and powerhouse A & R scouts had a mission to get down to business and enjoy as many of the hundreds of Festival showcases as they could pack in to the festival's five days.

What better way to kick off a music festival than to celebrate with your fans. The Indies Music Awards, better known as the "The Indies", honoured some great Ontario talent including **City and Colour** featuring **Dallas Green** as Favourite Solo Artist, **Death From Above 1979** for Chart Magazine Favourite Group/Duo, **Divine Brown** for CBC Radio 3 Favourite Urban Artist and **Elliott Brood** as Galaxie Rising Stars Award of the CBC.

Canadian Music Industry Awards honoured Ontario label **Maple Music** as Canadian Independent Label of the Year. **Blue Rodeo** was inducted into the Canadian Music Industry Hall of Fame along with **Bob Ezrin**, Producer (Pink Floyd, Alice Cooper, Deftones, KISS) and Canadian broadcasting icon **Duff Roman**.

Denise Donlon was honoured with the Humanitarian Spirit Award and **Heather Ostertag** of FACTOR with the Brian Chater Industry Builder Award.

After the tributes and accolades, delegates got down to business. Once again, *The International Marketplace* at the CMW Tradeshow, now in its third year, was a great success thanks to a multi-level partnership with CMW, Ontario Media Development Corporation (OMDC), The Canadian Independent Record Production Association (CIRPA), the Department of Canadian Heritage—Trade Routes Program, International Trade Canada and the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Music and the Arts (CAAMA). It provided a place for both Canadians and international delegates to connect and make deals.

OMDC once again sponsored the *Music For Screen* series of seminars, which encouraged Ontario labels to look toward new revenue streams in film and television. The *Digital Music Summit* was also a great way for music industry leaders to connect with the digital world's key players, including the mobile industry.

"This was certainly the best CMW yet, more bands, more international buyers and the feedback was positively awesome! It sets a new benchmark for next year's 25th anniversary," exclaimed Neill Dixon, President of Canadian Music Week International.

Now for next year! To get the inside track on CMW 2007, go to www.cmw.net.

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of each month to newsletter@omdc.on.ca

To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail Hodan Waberi at hwaberi@omdc.on.ca

T 416-314-6858

F 416-314-6876

www.omdc.on.ca

The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of OMDC

OMDC Program Deadlines, News and Supported Events

OMDC welcomes two new Board members: Bob Richardson, President of Devon Group, a Toronto-based public relations, government relations and research consulting firm, and Anne-Marie Smith, head of Lonestar Music Services, a Toronto-based company that specializes in royalty collections, individually designed consultations and community workshops/seminars.

Tune in to **OMDC podcasts** featuring speakers from OMDC and PwC's Six Degrees of Integration Conference 2006: Cultural industries and the New Technologies. Go to OMDC's website, www.omdc.on.ca, home of free MP3 audio broadcasts of industry events. Subscribe to our podcast channel and the files will be downloaded to your computer and ready to load on your MP3 player. The first podcast will feature Jim Carroll, a futurist and a trends and innovations expert, who provides insights on how new technologies are changing the way we consume cultural products. Podcasts will be sent to you every two weeks.

INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MEDIA FUND RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The results from the first OMDC Interactive Digital Media Fund deadline are in! Congratulations to Bitcasters' *Hollywood Tycoon*; Cappybara Games Inc.'s *Rising Tide*; marbledmedia's *The Art of Seduction*; OmniG Software's *Snow Rally Canada*; QuickPlay Media's *The Mars Project Interactive*; SailorJones Media's *Fundamental Freedoms*; Splashworks.com Inc.'s *Mariposa*; and TerraBuilder's *TerraBuilder:Moon* on being selected by the jury for this program. The projects that received funding represent a wide range of platforms and genres including casual downloadable games, mobile content, websites and more. Special thanks to the jury and industry experts who assisted with the application review and selection. *Industry Jury*: Kelly Lynne Ashton, Media Consultant; Greg Locke, formerly of Sympatico.MSN; Danielle Michael, formerly of Radical Entertainment. *Specialist Industry Advisors*: Steve Billinger,

Media Consultant; Gail Bryanton, Producer; Warren Currell, Sherpa Games; Sarah Irwin, TVOntario; Richard Kanee, CHUM Interactive; Pierre Le Lann, TribalNova; Véronique Marino, INIS; Sam Punnett, FAD Research. Congratulations to the successful applicants!

OMDC's Market Access Program (MAP) is providing support to 11 Ontario independent record companies to attend SXSW Music Festival and Conference in Austin, Texas March 15 to 19. The following people will be attending: Shauna deCartier of Six Shooter Records; Mark diPietro of Outside Music; Jennifer Hirst of Last Gang Records; Rob Lanni of Coalition Entertainment; Grant Dexter of Maplecure Ltd.; Orly Bohbot of Upper Class Recordings Inc.; William Tenn of Hardwood Records; Amanda Vandenbrock of Arts and Crafts Productions; Graham Stairs of True North Records; Linda Bush of New Romantic; and Serge Sargento of Linus Entertainment Inc.

OMDC SUPPORTED EVENTS

March 29-31 | **iSUMMIT 2006** Unprecedented gathering of creative minds converge in downtown Toronto to discuss emerging business opportunities on interactive platforms at iSUMMIT 2006. Now over 80 per cent sold out, this event will feature over 70 speakers from UK, USA, Australia and across Canada from companies such as EMI Music, Microsoft Xbox Live, Victoria Real, Heavy.com, IBM, WordPress, Kaboose and Corus Entertainment. For a full list of speakers and up-to-the-minute iSUMMIT details visit www.isummit.ca. Organized by the New Media Business Alliance (www.nmba.ca).

March 31-April 9 | **Magazines Canada Professional Publishing Program**. This popular training program develops leaders in the magazine industry by providing the essentials of a successful publishing strategy. It takes place in Niagara-on-the-Lake. www.magazinescanada.ca

OMDC Supports Report on Ontario's Cultural Industries

OMDC supported a report produced by Statistics Canada called *Profile of Selected Culture Industries in Ontario, 1996 to 2004*. The report examines the book and magazine publishing, sound recording and film, video and audio-visual industries. It also analyzes recent trends in the supply of and demand for cultural goods and services and government spending on each selected industry and examines labour force trends and characteristics.

The report demonstrates that Ontario is a major force in Canadian cultural industries. These firms form clusters and cross-pollinate, generating employment and industrial growth in other culture and non-culture industries. Ontario's culture industries as a whole accounted for 4.2 per cent of employment and 4.1 per cent of Ontario's GDP in 2001.

The trend in profitability was mixed for the industries studied. Profits as a percentage of total revenues fell for sound recording, film production and film post-production. Ontario's book publishers and exclusive agents saw profit margins rise in 2000-01 (the most recent year for which data are available), while profit margins for periodical publishers held steady between 1998-99 and 2003-04. Film distributors and wholesalers led the pack, with a profit margin of 27.3 per cent in 2003-04, the highest in the seven years examined.

Full copies of the report can be downloaded free of charge from the StatsCan website at statcan.ca/bsolc/english/bsolc?catno=81-595-MIE2006038. The report is also available in French.

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines

March 10* | **Canada Pavilion at E3 Expo 2006**

(*Please note: Telefilm will be accepting late applications). E3 Expo is the world's largest event devoted to interactive games. Open exclusively to professionals in the video game industry, E3 is the forum par excellence for those wishing to network as well as learn about the latest developments in the video game industry. Each year, the event is attended by more than 65,000 professionals from over 80 countries, including 400 exhibitors. Telefilm Canada, under the Canada Pavilion umbrella, will be organizing and coordinating the participation of Canadian companies at the 2006 edition of E3. The Canada Pavilion, at Booth No. 2108, will cover 1800 sq. ft., located in the prime West Hall site, where numerous high-profile exhibitors will be located. For additional information, please contact Anne-Marie Charbonneau by e-mail at charboa@telefilm.gc.ca or by phone at 514-283-0838, ext. 2024.

March 15 | Deadline for brand-new **ReelWorld Festival** contest for feature-length dramas sponsored by CBC-TV. Filmmakers who are visible minorities or films whose leading characters are visible minorities are invited to apply online for the \$2,500 development prize. Six finalists will pitch before a live audience during the festival on April 21. Coaches will be offered. For guidelines and applications: www.reelworld.ca/industry/pitch.php

March 20-21 | **Game Connection @ GDC:06**, a business convention for game developers and publishers designed to help both parties get down to business. Game Connection has been described by attendees as the "best 'middleware' between publishers and developers." The convention involves an online meeting system to enable connections between developers and publishers. For details, see www.game-connection.com or send a query to gconline@game-connection.com.

March 31 | Deadline to submit entries to the **Canadian Society of Magazine Editors (CSME) Awards**, held on June 8 at Magazines University. Entries are free, but your magazine must be a member of CSME. For more information see www.canadianeditors.ca or e-mail Wally Seto at wseto@careerinsider.ca.

April 3 & August 14 | Deadlines for **Telefilm Canada New Media Fund**. Telefilm has announced that the 2005-06 guidelines will also be applicable for 2006-07.

For more information visit Telefilm's website, www.telefilm.gc.ca

April 7 | Deadline for entries to the **CTV Canadian Documart**, part of the 2006 Banff World Television Festival June 11 to 14, 2006. Six finalists selected from eligible entries will have 10 minutes each to pitch their projects to a jury of industry experts. Development funding will then be awarded to the top three pitches: \$50,000 for first place, \$30,000 for second place and \$20,000 for third. To apply to pitch at CTV Canadian Documart and to register, visit www.banff2006.com.

April 14 | **Canadian Newsstand Awards** entry deadline: Beat last year's winners and earn valuable newsstand promotion credits for your magazine. The winners will be announced at Magazines University. www.newsstandawards.ca

May 15 | Nomination deadline for **The Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts**, which recognizes outstanding achievement and contribution to arts and culture in Ontario by an individual or group. Minister Madeleine Meilleur recently announced the details of this award. Nominees must be engaged in a professional arts practice, including arts, crafts, dance, music, opera, theatre, visual and media arts, writing or cultural industries such as book and magazine publishing, digital media, film, television or sound recording. The recipient of the award will receive \$35,000. An additional \$15,000 will be given to a promising newcomer in the same field who will be chosen by the recipient. This award is administered by the Ontario Arts Council. Go to www.arts.on.ca for details and guidelines.

May 23 | Deadline for applications to the **Shaw Rocket Fund**, which provides financing for the production of high-quality programming for Canadian children, youth and families. Canadian independent producers of film and television projects in this genre are welcome to apply. See funding guidelines on the Rocket Fund website, www.rocketfund.ca, for eligibility. For information call 403-750-4517 or write to info@rocketfund.ca.

June 6-9 | **Magazines University** at the Old Mill Inn and Spa, Toronto. Industry seminars, keynote speeches and the Masthead Trade Show, complete with awards nights and social events. www.magsu.com

Congratulations!

Filmmakers from Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia were named as the next participants for the **2006-2007 NSI Drama Prize**, presented by CBC Television. The professional training program is coordinated by the National Screen Institute - Canada (NSI), and it culminates in the production of a 10-minute long short film. Two Ontario shorts were selected: *Apparent Woes* (Producer: Karitsa Tye/Writer/Director: Lisa Robertson) and *Silver Road*

(Producer: Elise Cousineau/ Writer/Director: William Taylor). For a full list of the shorts selected go to www.nsi-canada.ca.

In **JUNO** News, CARAS honoured music legend Bruce Cockburn with their first-ever Humanitarian Award. Bryan Adams was announced as the 2006 Canadian Music Hall of Fame Inductee, and he will perform during The 2006 JUNO Awards.

Upcoming Markets, Awards and Festivals

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Mar. 10-19 | South By Southwest (SXSW), Austin, Texas. www.sxsw.com |
| Mar. 13 | 26th Annual Genie Awards, Toronto. www.genieawards.ca |
| Mar. 20-24 | Game Developer's Conference, San Jose, CA. www.gdconf.com |
| Mar. 24-28 | Winter Music Conference, Miami Beach. www.wintermusicconference.com |
| Mar. 27-30 | Bologna Children's Book Fair, Bologna, Italy. www.bolognafiere.it |
| Mar. 28-31 | iSummit 2006: Content That Pays. Toronto. www.nmba.ca |
| Mar. 31-Apr. 9 | Cinéfranco, Toronto. www.cinefranco.com |
| April 2 | JUNO Awards on CTV live from Halifax. www.junoawards.ca |
| April 3-7 | MIP-TV International Television Market, Cannes, France. www.miptv.com |
| April 3-7 | Milia World Interactive Content Forum, Cannes, France. www.miptv.com |
| April 19-23 | ReelWorld Film Festival, Toronto. www.reelworld.ca |
| April 21-30 | Sprockets Toronto International Film Festival for Children. www.e.bell.ca/filmfest/sprockets |
| April 23 | ReelWorld Trailblazer Awards Gala. www.reelworld.ca/trailblazer |
| April 28-May 7 | Hot Docs Canadian International Film Festival, Toronto. www.hotdocs.ca |
| May 10-14 | Digifest, Toronto. www.dx.org/digifest |
| May 11 | Playback Mobile Forum, York Event Theatre, Toronto. www.playbackmag.com/mobileforum |
| May 17-28 | International Film Festival of Cannes. Cannes, France. www.festival-cannes.fr |
| June 7-9 | Magazines University at the Old Mill Inn & Spa, Toronto. www.magsu.com |
| June 8-10 | North by Northeast Music & Film Conference and Festival, Toronto. www.nxne.com |
| June 9 | National Magazine Awards, Toronto. www.magazine-awards.com |
| June 9-12 | Book Expo Canada, Toronto (Metro Convention Centre). www.reedexpo.ca/bookexpo |
| June 13-18 | Canadian Film Centre's Worldwide Short Film Festival, Toronto. www.worldwideshortfilmfest.com |