

Billboard

THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSWEEKLY OF MUSIC, VIDEO, AND HOME ENTERTAINMENT

SEPTEMBER 25, 1999

Bhangra Beat Transforms Indipop Scene

BY JIM BESSMAN

NEW YORK—On most evenings, S.O.B.'s in New York is an ideal impromptu choice for catching the hippest new music, but if you arrive after midnight on the first Thursday of the month, gaining entry could prove impossible. By then, the lower Manhattan club is already packed to capacity with some 600 young ethnic South Asians—and more than a few

non-Asians—reveling to the overpowering beat of *bhangra*, the intensely and infectious rhythmic folk music of the rural Punjab region of Northwestern India overlapping into Pakistan.

Born centuries ago as dance music for celebrating the harvest, *bhangra* has since been urbanized by young ethnic Punjabis in the U.K. and carried over to North America's South Asian communities—and has strongly rebounded

back home as well (see story, page 102).



MEHNDI



SAGOO

So compelling is today's *bhangra* beat, in fact, that it is transforming the entire Indipop music scene, thanks to the commanding vocal presence of Daler Mehndi, the first true Indian pop superstar,

whose hits like "Dardi Rab Rab" ("God, I'm Afraid" in Punjabi) and "Na Na Na Nare" ("Don't You Dare" in Punjabi) have made the inclusion of *bhangra* songs a veritable must in

any new Bombay, India-produced "Bollywood" Hindi movie, the traditional means of introducing new pop music to the South Asian marketplace.

Indeed, TV commercials for the current film "Arjun Pandit" ("Priest Arjun" in Hindi) show more of the "Pasha of Pop's" performance of the movie's hit song "Kudiyan Shaher" (Continued on page 100)

Web Stocks Face Wild Ride On Street

BY BRIAN GARRITY

NEW YORK—When digital download companies MP3.com Inc., MusiMaker.com Inc., and Liquid Audio Inc. all went public amid much fanfare back in July, Wall Street proclaimed the trio of initial stock offerings the dawn

Conference Assesses Music Downloads' Impact Page 10

of a new age in the recording industry, one that would ultimately change the way in which audio content is developed, distributed, and consumed.

While the vision sold to investors may yet come to fruition, two months later, the volatile post-initial public offering performance of the new stocks suggests it is still somewhere off in the distance.

That's the revised message Wall Street is sending the nascent market for download- (Continued on page 102)

The Gold Rush That Wasn't

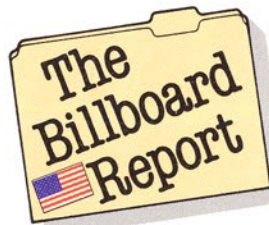
Indies Still Awaiting Big Gains From Uni/P'Gram Merger

BY CHRIS MORRIS

LOS ANGELES—Like the forty-niners, who trekked by the thousands to California in search of gold, independent distributors and labels believed they were about to enter a new land of glittering opportunity when the merger of Universal Music Group and PolyGram N.V. was announced last year.

Following the merger's announce-

ment in mid-1998 (Billboard, May 30, 1998), there was a widely held belief among the indies that the melding of the two major music corporations into one mega-major would inevitably result in a great exodus of distributed imprints and 200 acts, as a now-overburdened Universal would be forced to pare its assets to a more man- (Continued on page 99)



INSIDE THIS WEEK'S BILLBOARD

Radio Embraces Barry White's Private Music Set ... P96



Live Set Marks Larkin's Debut On Vanguard Label ... P13



Pro Biz Keen On Surround Sound

BY PAUL VERNA

NEW YORK—Whatever impact DVD Audio will ultimately have on the music industry, the format has already indirectly—but significantly—altered the way musicians, producers, and engineers hear music.

In preparation for the launch of DVD Audio, which is expected in late 1999 or early 2000, studio professionals have been mixing material in surround sound and, along the way, have discovered that the addition of three speakers and a subwoofer to their standard stereo setup has greatly enhanced their creative possibilities.

Some of these early surround-sound recordings—like Eric Clapton's "Unplugged," Fleetwood Mac's "The Dance," and James Taylor's "Live At The" (Continued on page 109)



FILIPETTI

THE COMING OF THE KINGS MOS DEF



BLACK ON BOTH SIDES ALBUM IN STORES OCT 12 featuring the single 'MS. FAT BOOTY'

PHAROAEH MONCH

PHAROAEH MONCH INTERNAL AFFAIRS



INTERNAL AFFAIRS ALBUM IN STORES OCT 19 featuring the street anthem 'SIMON SAYS'

distributed by RAWKUS PRIORITY WWW.RAWKUS.COM

THE BILLBOARD SPOTLIGHT RECORDING STUDIOS AND AES BEGINS ON PAGE 49

SEYMOUR BILLBOARD £4.95 39 9 770006 251027 0 74808 02552

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Featuring 19 new tracks from ROB ZOMBIE, REV. HORTON HEAT, ROCKET FROM THE CRYPT, THE BOMBORAS & MANY MORE!

BILLBOARD'S HEATSEEKERS ALBUM CHART

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS. ON CHART	ARTIST	TITLE
1	1	25	TRAIN AWARE/COLUMBIA 38052/CRG (10.98 EQ/16.98)	TRAIN
2	6	15	MOBY V2 27049* (16.98 CD)	PLAY
3	4	11	SLIPKNOT I AM 8655/ROADRUNNER (10.98/16.98)	SLIPKNOT
4	2	22	STAIND FLIP/ELEKTRA 62356/EEG (7.98/11.98)	DYSFUNCTION
5	3	15	TAL BACHMAN COLUMBIA 67956/CRG (10.98 EQ/16.98)	TAL BACHMAN
6	7	2	VITAMIN C ELEKTRA 62406/EEG (10.98/16.98)	VITAMIN C
7	11	7	BOYZONE RAVENOUS/MERCURY 559171/IDJMG (10.98/16.98)	WHERE WE BELONG
8	16	2	WINANS PHASE2 MYRRH/WORD 69881/EPIC (10.98 EQ/16.98)	WE GOT NEXT
9	5	21	OLEANDER REPUBLIC 53242/UNIVERSAL (10.98/16.98)	FEBRUARY SON
10	8	14	IBRAHIM FERRER WORLD CIRCUIT/NONESUCH 79532/AG (10.98/17.98)	BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB PRESENTS IBRAHIM FERRER
11	NEW		JOHN POPPER A&M 490408/INTERSCOPE (11.98/17.98)	ZYGOTE
12	12	23	STATIC-X WARNER BROS. 47271 (7.98/11.98)	WISCONSIN DEATH TRIP
13	17	12	SYSTEM OF A DOWN AMERICAN/COLUMBIA 68924/CRG (7.98 EQ/11.98)	SYSTEM OF A DOWN
14	13	6	G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE OKEH/550 MUSIC 69746/EPIC (11.98 EQ/16.98)	PHILADELPHONIC
15	10	3	JIMMIE'S CHICKEN SHACK ROCKET/ISLAND 546382/IDJMG (11.98/16.98)	BRING YOUR OWN STEREO
16	22	2	LOS HURACANES DEL NORTE FONOVISA 0766 (7.98/11.98)	NORTENO 2000
17	15	14	JOHN MCDERMOTT/ANTHONY KEARNS/RONAN TYNAN MASTERTONE 8552/POINT (13.98/16.98)	THE IRISH TENORS
18	18	24	LO FIDELITY ALLSTARS SKINT/SUB POP 69654/CRG (7.98 EQ/13.98)	HOW TO OPERATE WITH A BLOWN MIND
19	21	2	YUNGSTAR STRAIGHT PROFIT 0012/DEF SOUF (11.98/16.98)	THROWED YUNG PLAYA
20	19	17	CHELY WRIGHT MCA NASHVILLE 70052 (10.98/16.98)	SINGLE WHITE FEMALE
21	24	23	MONTGOMERY GENTRY COLUMBIA (NASHVILLE) 69156/SONY (NASHVILLE) (10.98 EQ/16.98)	TATTOOS & SCARS
22	20	5	SHERRIE AUSTIN ARISTA NASHVILLE 18881 (10.98/16.98)	LOVE IN THE REAL WORLD
23	38	6	BRAD PAISLEY ARISTA NASHVILLE 18871 (10.98/16.98)	WHO NEEDS PICTURES
24	28	5	KOTTONMOUTH KINGS SURBURBAN NOIZE 23857/CAPITOL (8.98/12.98)	ROYAL HIGHNESS
25	14	3	THE HIGH & MIGHTY EASTERN CONFERENCE/RAWKUS 50121/PRIORITY (10.98/16.98)	HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

The Heatseekers chart lists the best-selling titles by new and developing artists, defined as those who have never appeared in the top 100 of The Billboard 200 chart. When an album reaches this level, the album and the artist's subsequent albums are immediately ineligible to appear on the Heatseekers chart. All albums are available on cassette and CD. *Asterisk indicates vinyl LP is available. ○ Albums with the greatest sales gains. © 1999, Billboard/BPI Communications.

26	40	11	TRACIE SPENCER CAPITOL 34287 (10.98/16.98)	TRACIE
27	23	27	SONICFLOOD GOTEE 2802 (15.98 CD)	SONICFLOOD
28	9	3	P.O.D. ATLANTIC 83216/AG (7.98/11.98)	THE FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF SOUTHTOWN
29	27	13	OUT OF EDEN GOTEE 2806 (10.98/15.98)	NO TURNING BACK
30	45	12	BILLIE INNOCENT 47492/VIRGIN (11.98/16.98)	HONEY TO THE B
31	36	51	SHAKIRA ● SONY DISCOS 82746 (10.98 EQ/15.98)	DONDE ESTAN LOS LADRONES?
32	26	6	BASEMENT JAXX XL/ASTRALWERKS 6270*/CAROLINE (13.98/16.98)	REMEDY
33	29	21	PASTOR TROY MADD SOCIETY 8035 (10.98/16.98)	WE READY I DECLARE WAR
34	30	23	T.D. JAKES ISLAND INSPIRATIONAL 524630/IDJMG (10.98/16.98)	SACRED LOVE SONGS
35	39	9	LIL' KEKE JAMDOWN 1011 (10.98/15.98)	IT WAS ALL A DREAM
36	32	9	RAZE FOREFRONT 25210 (15.98 CD)	POWER
37	25	19	CHRIS RICE ROCKETOWN/WORD 69613/EPIC (10.98 EQ/16.98)	PAST THE EDGES
38	RE-ENTRY		FREESTYLERS FRESKANOVA 980200*/MAMMOTH (8.98/12.98)	WE ROCK HARD
39	35	10	DIDO ARISTA 19025 (10.98/16.98)	NO ANGEL
40	41	7	INTOCABLE EMI LATIN 21502 (7.98/12.98)	CONTIGO
41	44	25	A.B. QUINTANILLA Y LOS KUMBIA KINGS EMI LATIN 99189 (8.98/14.98)	AMOR, FAMILIA Y RESPETO
42	46	5	CHAD BROCK WARNER BROS. (NASHVILLE) 47071/WRN (10.98/16.98)	CHAD BROCK
43	43	53	SUSAN TEDESCHI TONE-COOL/ROUNDER 471164/IDJMG (10.98/16.98)	JUST WON'T BURN
44	34	5	ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 50117/INTERSCOPE (10.98/16.98)	RIDE WITH BOB
45	47	15	CHRISTIAN CASTRO ARIOLA 66275/BMG LATIN (9.98/15.98)	MI VIDA SIN TU AMOR
46	48	2	TANTO METRO & DEVONTE VP/550 MUSIC 63758/EPIC (11.98 EQ/16.98)	EVERYONE FALLS IN LOVE
47	RE-ENTRY		JESSICA ANDREWS DREAMWORKS (NASHVILLE) 50104/INTERSCOPE (8.98/12.98)	HEART SHAPED WORLD
48	RE-ENTRY		DRAIN STH THE ENCLAVE/MERCURY 546262/IDJMG (10.98/16.98)	FREAKS OF NATURE
49	31	2	SWITCHFOOT RE:THINK 51688/SPARROW (15.98 CD)	NEW WAY TO BE HUMAN
50	NEW		PRISCILA Y SUS BALAS DE PLATA ANDREA 9872/FONOVISA (7.98/11.98)	CORAZON DE CRISTAL

POPULAR UPRIISINGS

BILLBOARD'S WEEKLY COVERAGE OF HOT PROSPECTS FOR THE HEATSEEKERS CHART • BY CARLA HAY

HIP-HOP LEGACY: V & Legacy is a duo of hip-hop artists who met in Los Angeles, where the act is based. V says, "Although I was from Chi-Town and Legacy's an L.A. native, we're both in-



Entering The Zone. Innerzone Orchestra is the latest jazz/ambient project from Detroit-based artist Carl Craig, who has performed under the aliases Psyche and 69. Innerzone Orchestra's debut album, "Programmed" (Planet E/Astralwerks), features Craig, Francisco Mora (a former member of Sun Ra's Arkestra), Craig Talborn (who has previously worked with the James Carter Quartet), and Matt Chicoine, who records under the alias Recluse.

betweeners. We don't quite fit in with the people around us, but we fit well together. Before long, we were writing songs and doing shows. We did shows anywhere we

could. We both like to rock spur of the moment. That's the ultimate challenge: to create a vibe anywhere, anytime."

The team soon decided to work on an album, resulting in V & Legacy's debut set, "2000 MG," due Oct. 12 on X-Ray Records.

The album features several notable guests, including George Clinton, DJ Lethal (Beastie Boys, Limp Bizkit), and Cypress Hill's Sen Dog and BoBo.

V continues, "Legacy and I decided to make a record that sums up our personality. The guests on the record are like us: vibers. They believe in music and its ability to create a special moment in time and to take you there."

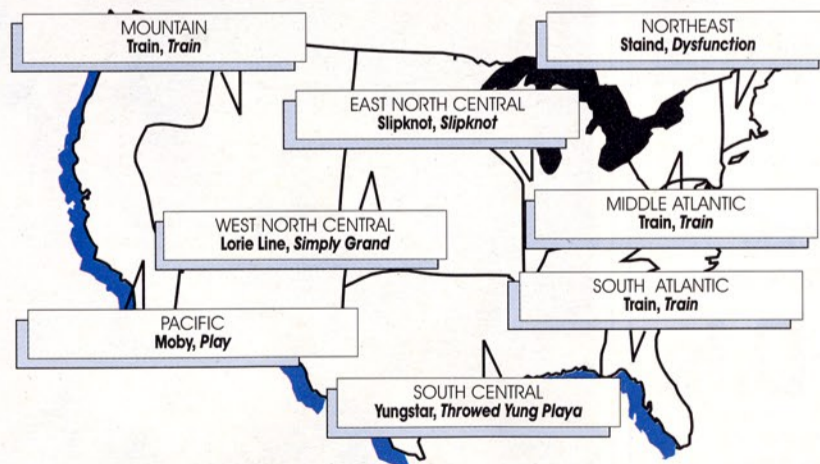
He adds, "[People] on the album had an opportunity to get their voices out and be themselves and say whatever they wanted. It was a very free experience. I hope we captured a great snapshot of what we have here in our corner of the world."

BLUEGRASS SUPERGROUP: Rice, Rice, Hill-



Chad's Country. Before he landed a record deal, Chad Austin made a name for himself by singing on more than 100 demos. He also co-wrote Joe Diffie's "Hurt Me All The Time." Austin's debut album, *Cut By Cut*, due Oct. 26 on Asylum Records, was co-produced by Dale Dodson and Jerry Taylor.

REGIONAL HEATSEEKERS NO. 1s



THE REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Rotating top 10 lists of best-selling titles by new and developing artists.

EAST NORTH CENTRAL

- Slipknot Slipknot
- Train Train
- The Dayton Family's Shoestring Representin' Till The World Ends
- Staind Dysfunction
- Tal Bachman Tal Bachman
- Moby Play
- Billie Honey To The B
- Static-X Wisconsin Death Trip
- Oleander February Son
- Vitamin C Vitamin C

SOUTH ATLANTIC

- Train Train
- Jimmie's Chicken Shack Bring Your Own Stereo
- Pastor Troy We Ready I Declare War
- Ednita Nazario Corazon
- Staind Dysfunction
- Melina Leon Con Los Pies Sobre La Tierra
- Tal Bachman Tal Bachman
- Vitamin C Vitamin C
- Limite 21 Septima Monia
- Oleander February Son

man & Pedersen may sound like the name of a law firm, but it's really a foursome of well-known musicians. Group members **Tony Rice, Larry Rice, Chris Hillman, and Herb Pedersen** count among their credits the **Byrds, the Flying Burrito Brothers, J.D. Crowe & the New South, Country Gazette, and the Desert Rose Band.**

Rice, Rice, Hillman & Pedersen's self-titled album is set for release Oct. 5 on Rounder Records. Guests on the album include **Bill Bryson, Ronnie Simpkins, Rickie Simpkins, and Fred Travers.**

CELTIC WORLD: World-beat band **Afro Celt Sound System** has been touring in support of its latest album, "Volume 2: Release" (Real World/Narada). The album has been getting airplay on several triple-A and public radio stations, including KCRW L.A., WXRV Boston, WXPN Philadelphia, and KMTT Seattle. The band's music is also featured on the "Stigmata" soundtrack.

Afro Celt Sound System

tour dates include Sept. 28 in New York; Sept. 29 in Washington, D.C.; Oct. 5 in Toronto; Oct. 6 in Detroit; Oct. 7 in Chicago; Oct. 8 in Minneapolis; Oct. 10 in Denver; Oct. 13 in Portland, Ore.; Oct. 14 in Vancouver; Oct. 15 in Seattle,



Life After Pigface. Meg Lee Chin may best be remembered as a member of the industrial band Pigface. Before completing her debut solo album, "Piece And Love" (due Sept. 28 on Chicago indie label Invisible Records), Chin was asked to audition as the lead singer for Garbage. She says of Garbage, "Nothing against those guys, but they wanted every inflection to match up with their guide vocals, and it became quite obvious that I was coming from a different place entirely."

Oct. 17 in San Francisco, and Oct. 18 in Los Angeles.