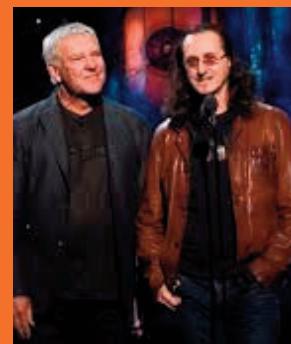




Monthly Lifestyle & Entertainment Magazine



RUSH FEVER

17 new cities added for reunion tour of legendary Canadian rockers & their new drummer

Grammy Fight

Lila Iké is the fan favourite among 73 contenders for 2026 Reggae Album of the Year



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RUSH FEVER

Rockers add Montreal, Edmonton, Vancouver stops as reunion tour expands

Rush is putting more Canadian dates on the calendar for the band's anticipated reunion.

Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson say they've added another 17 cities to next year's concert tour, which is set to begin in June and stretch until the end of the year.

The new stops include Montreal on Sept. 2, 2026, as well as Edmonton on Dec. 10 and Vancouver on Dec. 15.

Other cities joining the Fifty Something tour schedule include Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, Atlanta, Seattle and Tampa, Fla.

The Toronto band says it sold out all of the previously announced dates, which included four nights in Toronto.

General public tickets for the new shows begin selling on Oct. 31 after various presales that start on Thursday.

This is the first time Rush has hit the road since the momentous R40 tour in 2015 and the death of their drummer Neil Peart from an aggressive form of brain cancer in 2020. German drummer Anika Nilles will replace Peart on the tour.

Lee and Lifeson posted a YouTube video on Monday about the new shows, with Lee saying he was "blown away by the response" for the initial round of dates.

He also warned fans about the online scalpers who've been snapping up tickets hoping to capitalize on the demand, and urged them to buy their seats through Ticketmaster or the Rush website.

"The resellers have been having a field day out there, jacking up the prices, so just be aware of that," he added.



Geddy Lee (right) stands on stage with fellow Rush band member Alex Lifeson

Meanwhile, Anika Nilles has reflected on her new role as the Rush drummer, thanking fans for showing support and expressing excitement for what's to come.

After years of fan hope and tentative testing of the waters from Alex Lifeson and Geddy Lee, the two prog icons announced earlier this month that the Rush banner will be flying high again, in celebration of and homage to their late bandmate Neil Peart, as well as the band's beloved legacy.

While neither of its surviving members has any intention of being "Rush 2.0" without Peart, going out on the road meant that a drummer was needed to fill in the late icon's shoes, no

matter how big they may be.

That drummer turned out to be the 42-year-old German musician and YouTuber Anika Nilles, who's previously played with Jeff Beck.

Geddy Lee praised Nilles as a musician who's "fantastic to play with", noting how much her understanding of Rush and Neil Peart's drum parts improved over time:

"I know it's hard to believe, and I like that, that she came to Rush music without any pre-conceptions. It also made it very difficult, because we had to explain nuances and work on subtleties, and she had to really try to get into Neil's headspace and his feel."

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GRATITUDE AND Grace

Take a moment with me right now. Pause. Breathe in deeply. Let it out slowly. Notice that you are here, reading these words, alive in this very moment. That alone is worth being grateful for.

Gratitude is powerful. It changes how you see your world. It takes the same life, the same circumstances, and it shines a new light on them. It does not erase challenges, but it makes them easier to carry. Gratitude reminds you that even when things are not perfect, there is still good, still progress, still something to honor.

Think about how far you have come. Remember where you began. You chose yourself. You cared for yourself. You stepped into your power. You shifted your perspective. You stood firm when it was hard. You leaned into change instead of resisting it. That is a lot to be grateful for. And yet, I know it is easy to forget.

We are quick to focus on what is missing, what is wrong, what is not yet done. But let me ask you gently. When was the last time you stopped to appreciate what is already here? When was the last time you looked in the mirror and said, "Thank you, I am proud of you?"

You deserve to say that to yourself.

Gratitude is not only for the big wins. Gratitude is for the small steps too. For the quiet mornings when you choose peace instead of stress. For the moment you spoke up even though your voice shook. For the times you kept going when no one was watching. Those are

victories. Those are worth celebrating.

So let us make it simple. Right now, think of three things you are grateful for. They can be big or small. They can be about your life, your body, your relationships, your growth. Do not overthink it. Just let them rise to the surface.

Hold them in your heart for a moment. Feel how different it is when you focus on what is good. That is gratitude at work.

Now let us talk about grace.

Grace is the companion of gratitude. Gratitude looks at what is present. Grace looks at how you treat yourself along the way. And let me be honest. We can be so hard on ourselves. One mistake, one missed step, one off day, and suddenly we act like all is lost. We tell ourselves we are failing. We forget that life is not about being perfect. It is about being real.

Grace is giving yourself permission to be human. Grace is remembering that progress is messy. Grace is saying, I may not have it all figured out, but I am still moving forward.

There were times in my own journey when I slipped. When I questioned if I was doing enough. When I felt behind or not ready. It would have been easy to beat myself up. To call myself lazy or weak. But I chose grace instead. I chose to see myself as a work in progress, not a finished product. And that shift kept me going.

You can do the same.

So here is what I want you to try. The next time you feel like you made a mistake, pause. Take a

breath. Say to yourself, I am allowed to make mistakes. I am allowed to learn. I am allowed to begin again. That is grace.

Gratitude and grace together are unstoppable. Gratitude keeps you grounded in what is good. Grace keeps you gentle with yourself when life gets rough.

I want you to imagine something with me now. Picture yourself sitting at a table. In front of you is a notebook. At the top of the page, you write the word Gratitude. Underneath, you list everything you can think of that you are thankful for right now. Your health. Your courage. Your lessons. Your loved ones. Even the small things, like the way your favorite drink tastes in the morning.

Then you turn the page and write the word Grace. Underneath, you write the ways you will show kindness to yourself. Maybe it is giving yourself rest. Maybe it is reminding yourself that one setback does not erase your progress. Maybe it is promising yourself that you will keep trying, no matter how many times it takes.

That notebook becomes a mirror. It reflects back your truth. That you already have so much to be thankful for, and that you deserve compassion as you grow.

I have chosen to live this way. To practice gratitude daily, not only for the things I can see but also for the lessons hidden in the hard moments. To give myself grace when I stumble, instead of beating myself down. And I can tell you, it changes everything.

This is not about ignoring



HEART & SOUL
with
Dianne Ojar

what is difficult. It is about choosing to see the full picture. Gratitude does not erase pain, but it reminds you that there is more than pain. Grace does not excuse mistakes, but it reminds you that you are not defined by them.

Take a slow breath now. Feel into this moment. Think of one thing you are grateful for today. Let it warm you. Think of one way you can give yourself grace today. Let it soften you. That is the shift. That is the practice.

As you move forward, remember this. Gratitude builds strength. Grace builds resilience. Together they create a foundation that nothing can shake.

You have already done so much. You have walked through challenges and kept going. You have shifted and grown. You deserve to see how far you have come and to honor yourself for it. You deserve to give yourself the same kindness you give others.

So let this be your reminder. Gratitude is not only for holidays or special days. Gratitude is for every day. Grace is not only for others. Grace is for you too.

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ANOTHER MAN

Jadel empowers women with new hit

JADEL, really name Jardine Cherelle Legere, is setting the record straight with her latest single Another Man.

She is calling on women everywhere to set clear, non-negotiable boundaries and standards in their romantic relationships.

The Trinidad-born songstress, long recognised for championing female empowerment, says if your man isn't treating you right, it may be time to move on.

"Too many women feel stuck in situations where they're undervalued," Jadel said in a news release.

"This song is a reminder that you deserve respect, love and happiness. If you're not getting that, then maybe it's time to find another man."

Another Man was produced by XplicitMevon (Mevon Soodeen) and co-written with Jadel.

The release said Another Man fuses bouyon and power soca with Jadel's trademark vocal fire.

"Built for the road, the fete, and the car stereo, it's more than a catchy dance track, it speaks directly to women about self-worth and agency."

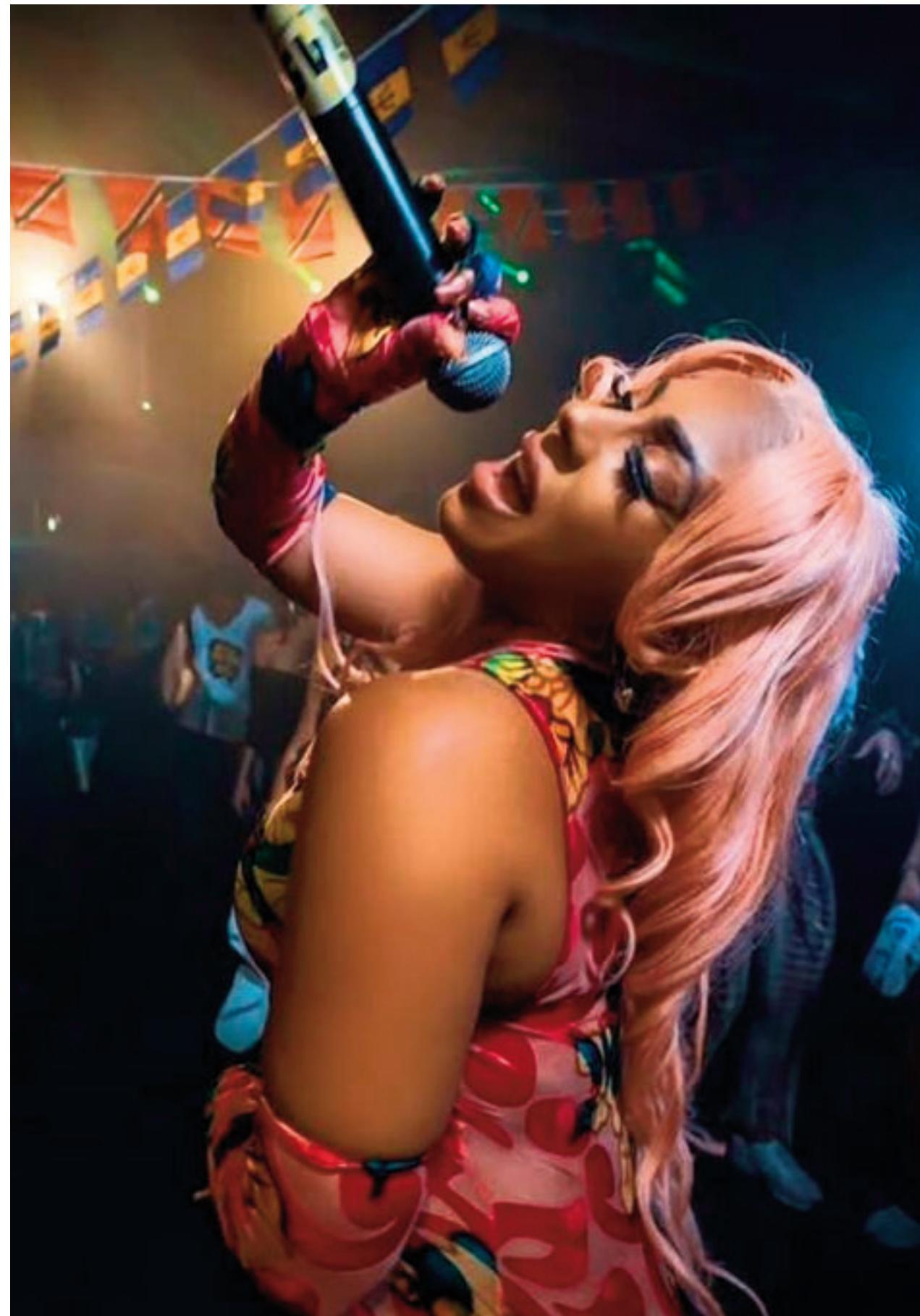
"This one came straight from my heart," Jadel added. "I wanted to give women a voice and also give them a song they could move to. Carnival is about freedom and expression, and I feel like this is the perfect time to put this message out."

The release added, "Known for hits like Yuh Man, Up In the Party, Shake Up, Deserve It All and Jam Somebody, Jadel has earned her place as one of soca's most consistent performers with global appeal."

She has headlined shows in New York, London, Tokyo and Berlin, and was nominated at the Caribbean Music Awards for female soca artiste of the year and impact soca artiste of the year.

For Carnival 2026, Jadel is stepping into her power with a conscious choice to share her full self and she's urging her female fans to join her on that journey of self-discovery.

"My music is about more than glitz and glam," she said. "I'm a proud mom, I'm the friend my girls call when their hearts are breaking, and I'm also a woman who sometimes has to look in the mirror and remind herself that we've got this. Soca is my life, but there's so much more



Jadel — first step in a new chapter

to my story and I'm ready to share it."

"Another Man is the first step in that new chapter. The single launches Jadel Jadel's Carnival 2026 campaign, which will feature a string of releases, live appearances, and interactive social

content," the release said.

Another Man is available now on all major streaming platforms.

Follow Jadel across all social media platforms.



TIM TIM AT 50

Storyteller Paul Keens Douglas marks half-century of entertaining

FOR half a century, Paul Keens-Douglas has been the voice of Caribbean storytelling – the one who reminds us that laughter, language and love of culture can all coexist in a clean, family-friendly space. This weekend, the prolific writer, dramatist, poet and producer celebrates that remarkable journey with Ent Dat Nice, a special 50th anniversary edition of his signature Tim Tim show, at the Central Bank Auditorium, Port of Spain.

It's a milestone that few performers reach and one that Keens-Douglas himself hadn't imagined when he first stepped onto the stage of the Little Carib Theatre in 1975. "The first show started in 1975 and that really started me off on my career," he recalls. "At the time, I was just writing and decided to have a show to read my stuff – poems and stories from the book. We taped it and I made an album with the tape. That became the Tim Tim album and it just took off."

That debut performance – intended as a simple reading – birthed not only an album, but an entire movement in Caribbean oral literature. Over the next five decades, Tim Tim became synonymous with wit, wisdom and wordplay, helping to define the region's storytelling tradition in a modern theatre format.

Since that modest beginning, Keens-Douglas has published numerous books, CDs, DVDs and videos that have carried his unique brand of humour far beyond the shores of TT. His work has been featured on BBC, Canadian, and American radio and television and translated into German, French Creole – and even Japanese, where his beloved story Tanti at de Oval was published for a new audience of cricket lovers.

"I became really international because I started going to storytelling festivals abroad," he says. "You meet people who translate and publish your work. You don't meet them in

Trinidad – you meet them when you go outside. That helps to widen your base."

His iconic characters – Tanti at de Oval, Vibert, Timultaneous, Sugar George, Tingalae, Bobots, Dr Ah-Ah and others – have become fixtures in Caribbean folklore. These characters are as real as the people who populate the streets, markets and panyards of Trinidad and Tobago, yet they live in that special space where humour meets truth and where social commentary feels like a good story told under a mango tree. It's no surprise that Keens-Douglas's stories have found their way into several major anthologies, including *A Quiet Hush* (the MCC anthology of cricket verse), *Caribbean Lives: Brian Lara and Shouts from the Outfield*. His reach extends even further – he appeared in the National Geographic's award-winning wildlife film *Vampires, Devilbirds & Spirits* and produced the radio series *When Winds Blow* on disaster preparedness.

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Jingle Ball

This December, the iHeartRadio Jingle Ball is getting a dose of Caribbean heat, and it's coming straight from Jamaica. Global dancehall icon Sean Paul has officially been announced as part of the star-studded lineup for the 2025 Jingle Ball, set to take place on December 14 in Boston, powered by Capital One.

As one of the few Caribbean acts ever to grace the Jingle Ball stage, Sean Paul's inclusion underscores his continued dominance in international music.

This year's Jingle Ball tour is packed with heavy hitters across genres, including Ed Sheeran, Monsta X, The Kid LAROI, MGK, Jessie Murph, Jelly Roll, and Olivia Dean. But all eyes in the Caribbean diaspora will undoubtedly be on Sean Paul, whose catalog of infectious hits has made him one of the most beloved performers from the region. His Boston appearance will bring a much-needed Caribbean flavor to a stage traditionally reserved for pop, rock, and hip-hop

acts.

The timing of Sean Paul's performance couldn't be more fitting. As 2025 marks the 20th anniversary of his Grammy-nominated album *The Trinity*, the Jingle Ball stage offers a full-circle moment for the superstar. Released in September 2005, *The Trinity* presented global anthems like "We Be Burnin'," "Temperature," and "Give It Up to Me." The album propelled Sean Paul to the heights of international fame. It debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Reggae Albums chart and climbed to No. 5 on the Billboard 200, securing his place as a crossover king and solidifying the album as one of the best-selling reggae/dancehall projects of all time.

For the diaspora, it's a chance to see their culture represented on one of the biggest music stages in the U.S.

For Sean Paul himself, it's another chapter in a career that continues to evolve, inspire, and break new ground.

Photo at right: Sean Paul



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THE SOUNDTRACK MAN

TT-born Jonathan Corbie scores music for Hollywood

Long before his sound design echoed through trailers for John Wick 4 and Fast X, the soundtrack of his life was set in motion in a San Fernando yard, where skipping rope, card games with his grandfather and the sounds of calypso and choir music filled the air.

For Trinidad and Tobago-born composer Jonathan Corbie, now based in Los Angeles, the journey from South Trinidad to Hollywood's post-production suites has been one of quiet persistence, cultural grounding and creative evolution.

"I had a pretty old-school childhood," he reflects. "We played outside, we learned things by doing, and music was always there. My parents were both musicians, so the house was never silent."

That familial soundscape laid a foundation not just for a love of music, but a musical identity steeped in kaiso, parang, classical piano, and choir harmonies. His father, guitarist Ken Corbie, performed alongside legends like Lord Kitchener and Scrunter and co-wrote the 1992 Road March hit Get in Yuh Section. His mother, Christine, was a classically trained vocalist and pianist who sang with the Orpheus Choir.

"I basically grew up with a living kaiso encyclopedia," he jokes.

Yet, despite being surrounded by performance, it was composing, specifically for film, that eventually pulled him into its orbit.

It wasn't until he was 15, composing an original piano piece called Child's Play for his CSEC music exam, that the possibility of writing music for stories took hold. The idea deepened when he heard Mark Isham's score for Once Upon a Time.

"That was my lightbulb moment. It wasn't just the music: it was how it made me feel. It transported me."

At the time, he was one of only two students studying music at Presentation College, San Fernando, and thought he might study piano or voice at the tertiary level.

From there, he began revisiting scores by John Williams, Michael Giacchino and Alan Menken, composers whose work not only entertained but defined generations.

"A professor of mine once said composers are like unseen actors. That idea stuck with me."

In 2018, he took the leap and moved to the



Jonathan Corbie

US, enrolling in California State University, Northridge, coincidentally located in the San Fernando Valley: for him, however, it was no coincidence.

"It definitely felt like the right move. There was an adjustment period, as it's a different culture, different food, music, etc, but I settled in. I made fast friends who I still have a community with today."

There, he studied under veteran composers and sharpened both his creative and technical chops, learning not only how to write music but also how to produce, record and mix it for picture.

Corbie says he got his start assisting Nathan Fields, straight out of his undergraduate programme. Fields is an acclaimed American producer, sound designer and composer.

However, he laments in recent years, entry-

level positions have started to shrink. With remote work becoming the norm, studios and composers often need fewer interns.

"That has made it tougher for newcomers to get hands-on experience," Corbie says.

Speaking on film music today, Corbie describes it as minimal, textural and ambient.

"I had to adapt without losing what made my voice unique."

That voice is now part of the sonic fabric of Hollywood's blockbuster machine. He has contributed music and sound design to projects for Marvel, Universal, and Lionsgate. One standout moment? Contributing sound design to the campaign for Daredevil: Born Again, the Disney+ reboot of the cult superhero series.

"I had just discovered the original show. Seeing my name attached to the reboot was surreal."



It's a wrap: the cast of *Stew Peas* after filming concluded in Kingston

STEW PEAS

A new chapter for Jamaican cinema

The cameras have officially stopped rolling on “Stew Peas”, a new Jamaican feature film that stirs together suspense, family secrets, and island authenticity into what promises to be a gripping cinematic experience.

Produced by iKon Media & Films in collaboration with Fareye Films, with post-production support from GoalPost and international distribution by FilmWorks Global, “Stew Peas” wrapped principal photography in late October with a vibrant celebration at The Creative Factory in Kingston. The film is poised to make its mark not only on local screens but also on a global stage where Caribbean stories are increasingly finding a home.

At its core, “Stew Peas” is a domestic family drama simmering with mystery and manipulation, a story about dangerous truths that rise to the surface when the past refuses to stay buried. Helming the project is Sosiessia Nixon, who serves as the film’s writer, director, and producer.

“This film explores the shadows that linger within a family and the dangerous truths that surface when the past refuses to stay bu-

ried,” Nixon shared. “We wanted to keep it honest, keep it grounded, and trust that in doing so, it will speak far beyond our borders.”

Set against an unmistakably Jamaican backdrop, “Stew Peas” is rich with cultural nuance, emotional depth, and a cast that reflects the vibrant diversity of the island’s talent pool. Making her feature film debut is Kerry-Ann “ChineyK” Collins, the beloved social media personality stepping onto the big screen for the first time. Joining her is Tarique Barrett, Mr. World Jamaica and Mr. World Caribbean, in his first major acting role. They’re supported by Shernet Swearine, known for her appearance in HBO’s *Get Millie Black*, and Quera South, a decorated stage actress with credits in *Sprinter* and multiple Actor Boy Award-winning productions.

Backing the film’s international rollout is FilmWorks Global, a key player in amplifying Caribbean voices on the world stage. According to Danielle Simon, Head of Distribution at FilmWorks, “Stew Peas” fits perfectly into the growing appetite for stories that are both local and universal.



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Jeremy Ledbetter

Jazz star in Canada with musical roots in Trinidad

By RAY FUNK

KEYBOARD player Jeremy Ledbetter was excited this year to win his first Juno, the Canadian equivalent of a Grammy, for his second jazz trio album Gravity. In celebration, they have been doing jazz gigs and festivals across Canada this summer with brief stops in Norway and at Ronnie Scott's, a leading jazz club in London.

Few in Canadian realise that although he was born in Canada and lives in Toronto, musically Ledbetter has strong roots in Trinidad. He lived in TT for a number of years when he started working as a musician and continues to return on a regular basis, often as the leader of David Rudder's band but most recently at this year's Jazz on the Greens as the keyboardist for pannist Joy Lapps' band back in May.

Ledbetter is the regular keyboardist for her band, and her drummer and husband Larnell Lewis is also the drummer for his Jeremy Ledbetter Trio. But that is just some of the musicians he works with regularly. He had previously come down with Alexis Baro's group and his band CaneFire.

Beyond performing, Ledbetter has also done record production for several artistes in the Toronto jazz and Latin music community. He is the keyboardist and band leader for his wife leading Venezuelan vocalist Eliana Cuevas, and has produced several of her records. He also produced the latest recording for the Cuban female duo Okan, which was a 2023 Juno Award winner. Over the years he has performed on numerous jazz and Latin albums and became a sought-after record producer. Almost every album he has been involved with recently has either been nominated or won a Juno.

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From left, David Rudder, Tony Hall and Jeremy Ledbetter

Ledbetter grew up in Toronto and from an early age was fascinated with classical music, listening to Beethoven and Mozart. His parents sent him for piano lessons and soon he was hooked. Initially, it was classical music, then he had a period of being obsessed with the blues, as his interests broadened into jazz and world music.

While working on his undergraduate music degree as a student at York University in Toronto, Ledbetter applied and got accepted to study abroad to UWI in ST Augustine, for the Fall 2000. His plan was to learn everything he could about steelpan, an instrument he was fascinated by from the first time he heard it.

Once he got to UWI, Ledbetter was studying under Harold Headley, Sat Sharma and Mervyn Williams at UWI and broadening his horizons way beyond pan. Headley started taking him along to rehearsals for Mungal Patasar's group

Pantar. Very quickly, he was making connections with musicians in the soca scene and started playing keyboards with various bands like Qwestion, Nigel and Marvin Lewis and Atlantic. He performed on records with Bunji Garlin, Destra Garcia and Rikki Jai (Samraj Jaimungal.) among others. Guitarist Wayne Bruno became a friend and was with him in various lineups. It was Bruno who got him connected with David Rudder.

Now before Ledbetter ever came to Trinidad, a friend in Toronto told Ledbetter that if he was going to Trinidad then he should go see Rudder. So he went to a concert Rudder was doing in Toronto in the summer before he left for Trinidad and before the show was over he was hooked.

Currently, Ledbetter spends a significant amount of leading his wife Cuevas's band and has produced five albums for her.

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GRAMMY FIGHT

73 albums contend for 2026 reggae album award

The 2026 Grammy season has officially launched, and reggae fans and industry watchers will want to keep a close eye on the Best Reggae Album category.

In what looks set to be a competitive year, a total of 73 albums have been submitted for consideration in the reggae field indicating a slight fall off from last year's 75 entries.

This year's roster features a strong showing from Jamaican artists, with names spanning the reggae and dancehall musical sets. Among the submissions are Vybz Kartel's Heart & Soul, Likkle Addi's Time Is Now, Lila Iké's Treasure Self Love, 450's Pieces of Me, Valiant's Prove Them Wrong, Charly Black's Good Times, Cham's Sherlock, and Ding Dong's From Ding Dong to the World.

Notably, the field also includes an AI-assisted project: Dem Can't Stop My Joy (Rastafari Forever) by Adrian Donsome Hanson and Forever Roots Band, this is the first known album in this submission list to incorporate AI support in its creation although "AI-assisted" is still a developing label. This nod points to expanding definitions of artistry in reggae and could spark debate among voters and fans alike.

The first round of voting opened on October 3, 2025, and will run through October 15. During this phase, eligible Recording Academy voters will cast ballots to select the official nominees in each category. The slate of nominees is scheduled to be announced on November 7, 2025. Those nominees then face a second round of voting from December 12, 2025, to January 5, 2026 before the winners are revealed at the Grammy ceremony on February 1, 2026.

Vybz Kartel's entry into the reggae field is one of the headline-grabbers this year. The surprise 11-track EP Heart & Soul, released in August 2025 under Greedy Lion / Vybz Kartel Muzik, showed a more introspective side to Kartel, mixing romantic ballads and reflections on life post-imprisonment. The EP debuted at No. 7 on the U.S. iTunes Reggae Albums chart.

Lila Iké is a strong contender whose trajectory has been rising steadily. Her debut album Treasure Self Love explores themes of growth, love, mental health, and self-affirmation.



Lila Iké is a strong contender

She's also no stranger to Grammy-adjacent attention: her prior collaboration "Greatest Gift" with Jorja Smith is the sort of work that has attracted acclaim and exposure beyond regional borders.

With 73 entries, this year's tally is marginally lower than 2025's 75, still, compared to earlier years when entries dipped sharply, reggae appears to be holding ground in its Grammy pro-

file. Many of these submitted works blur lines using dancehall, contemporary reggae, roots, conscious themes, and even AI-assisted production. That fluidity may appeal to voters who favour boundary-pushing work. The inclusion of Hanson's AI-assisted Dem Can't Stop My Joy hints at how technological experimentation is slowly creeping into even genres steeped in traditional sounds.

CHRONIXX IN EXILE

Skanking Sweet singer announces new album: A 17-track return

After nearly eight years, reggae star Chronixx is set to make a powerful return. On October 10, 2025, the artist will release his long-awaited new album, *Exile*—coincidentally on his 33rd birthday—under the Forever Living Originals label, founded by producer Dean Josiah Cover, better known as Inflo. *Exile* marks Chronixx's first full-length project since his Grammy-nominated album *Chronology* in 2017.

Recent social media posts from the artist have given fans a clearer picture of what's to come. *Exile* will feature 17 tracks, each showcasing Chronixx's signature blend of conscious lyricism, roots reggae, and a forward-looking vision. The full tracklist includes:

Exile, *Market*, *Sweet Argument*, *Survivor*, *Family First*, *I Know What You Feeling*, *Savior*, *Keep On Rising*, *Hurricane*, *Genesis*, *Don't Be Afraid*, *I and I*, *Never Give Up*, *Pain in Your Heart*, *Resilient*, *Scheming*, and *Love Is on the Mountain*.

One track, *Don't Be Afraid*, has already been previewed in live performances and is expected to serve as an emotional touchstone for the project. Meanwhile, *Love Is on the Mountain*—currently available via chronixx.com—has earned strong praise from fans and industry insiders alike.

Chronology, released in 2017, was a defining moment in Chronixx's career. It earned him a Grammy nomination for Best Reggae Album at the 60th Grammy Awards and topped the Billboard Reggae Albums Chart that same year. In the years since, Chronixx has released a string of singles that kept his catalog current, even without a full album.

Tracks like *Skankin' Sweet*, *Smile Jamaica*, and *Who Knows* (with Protoje) continue to rack up streams and remain staples of his repertoire, reinforcing his standing as one of reggae's most consistent modern voices.

With *Exile*, Chronixx appears ready to ex-



Chronixx is releasing an eagerly anticipated album

plore both continuity and evolution. The title evokes ideas of displacement, separation, spiritual wandering, and social critique—suggesting a deeply introspective project. Having kept a relatively low profile in recent years, *Exile* marks his first major musical statement in nearly a decade.

If the tracklist is any indication, fans of roots reggae, conscious songwriting, and spiritually charged music have much to look forward to. Set for release under Forever Living Orig-

nals, *Exile* signals a new era for Chronixx—one that arrives with high expectations.

As the October 10 release date approaches, anticipation continues to build. How the album will perform on global reggae charts, how it will resonate with diaspora audiences, and which songs will emerge as standout hits remain to be seen. But if history is any guide, Chronixx's artistry—and his unyielding commitment to message and melody—suggest he's ready to deliver once again.

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LEGAL BATTLE

Dutch prosecutors seek longer sentence for reggae star Jah Cure

Dutch prosecutors are pushing for a longer prison sentence for Jamaican reggae artist Jah Cure, as they continue their appeal in his ongoing legal battle in the Netherlands.

A representative from the Netherlands Prosecution Service told Observer Online that the Public Prosecutor's Office is seeking a 9.5-year prison sentence for the singer, whose real name is Siccatore Alcock, on a charge of attempted murder. The case stems from the stabbing of Dutch concert promoter Ricardo "Papa" Blake in October 2021.

"In November, the Supreme Court will issue the ruling," the spokesperson said.

The renewed push comes as prosecutors continue to challenge the court's initial decision to acquit the Unconditional Love singer of attempted murder. Jah Cure's defense team has also filed an appeal against his attempted manslaughter conviction, for which he was sentenced to six years in prison in March 2022.

The incident occurred in Amsterdam following a dispute over unpaid performance fees. While the court acknowledged that Jah Cure had stabbed Blake, judges ruled at the time that the act was not premeditated, leading to his acquittal on the more serious charge of attempted murder.

Jah Cure remains in pre-trial detention in Amsterdam as both appeals continue. The final ruling from the Dutch Supreme Court is expected in November.



Jah Cure — prosecutors want a 9.5 year jail term

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Calabash Grenada was awarded with two Michelin stars

LUXURY & AUTHENTICITY

Grenada resorts shine with Condé Nast Traveler and MICHELIN Guide accolades

Grenada is making waves in the global travel community as several of the island's premier resorts earn prestigious international recognition, highlighting its growing reputation for luxury, authenticity, and exceptional hospitality.

In the 2025 Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards, Silversands Beach House was named the #1 Caribbean Hotel in the UK Readers' Choice, while Grenada itself ranked among the Top 10 Best Islands in the Caribbean & Atlantic.

The accolades continue with the 2025 MICHELIN Guide, which has introduced the MICHELIN Key program for hotels. Three Grenadian properties were recognized: Calabash Grenada received Two MICHELIN Keys, the highest distinction among Caribbean recipients, while Spice Island Beach Resort and Six Senses

La Sagesse each earned One MICHELIN Key, honoring properties delivering extraordinary guest experiences in service, design, and authenticity.

"These global distinctions are a testament to Grenada's growing influence as a luxury destination defined by authenticity, exceptional hospitality, and a genuine sense of place," said Stacey Liburd, CEO of the Grenada Tourism Authority. "To have multiple properties recognized by Condé Nast Traveler and MICHELIN in the same year reflects the extraordinary calibre of our island's tourism product and the dedication of our hoteliers and hospitality professionals."

Dennis de Groot, General Manager of Silversands Beach House, noted, "This recognition inspires all of us. It reflects the hard work and passion of our team and the enduring appeal of

Grenada as a destination that offers sophistication without pretense and where every experience is infused with genuine warmth."

Adele Garbutt-Decaul, Owner and Director of Calabash Grenada, added, "We are incredibly proud to have received Two MICHELIN Keys and to stand alongside some of the world's most exceptional hotels. This recognition shines a global spotlight on Grenada as a destination that seamlessly blends luxury, warmth, and authenticity."

Janelle Hopkin, President and Managing Director of Spice Island Beach Resort, said, "Being included by the MICHELIN Guide among the Caribbean's finest resorts reflects our team's dedication to delivering memorable experiences, personalized service, and authentic Grenadian hospitality."

PHOENIX

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Buy Canadian should fund Canadian jobs and news, not U.S. Big Tech

A Message from Canada's news publishers

To the Government of Canada,

Canada's sovereignty and economy is under threat from abroad. More than ever, Canadians must be free to decide our own country's future.

A strong, plural and free news media is an essential ingredient to our democracy: a healthy industry that serves and is beholden to Canadians, not foreign tech giants.

Our Canadian publications have always stood for a strong and independent Canada.

We applaud the Government of Canada's ambition to build Canada strong, and commitment in the forthcoming Budget to Buy Canadian.

Last year, our federal government including agencies and Crown corporations spent over \$100 million on advertising. Most of it went to U.S. Big Tech.¹

Why are we funding American tech monopolies that extract tens of billions a year out of Canada -- largely untaxed -- at the expense of local journalism and culture, and whose platforms have become vectors for division and disinformation?

Unlike them, we are accountable to Canadians and legally liable for what we publish. Our professional journalists chase the truth, not algorithms. We produce reliable, trustworthy information, not clickbait and AI slop.

Let's reinvest our ad dollars in Canada. In Budget 2025, the Government of Canada should follow Ontario's lead and set aside a minimum of 25% of its advertising budgets for Canadian news media.

At no additional cost to taxpayers, the government can support local jobs while getting its message out in a brand safe environment. Far fewer Canadians trust ads on Facebook and Instagram than those published by Canadian news media.²

Buying Canadian advertising in Canadian news media is both the right and smart thing to do.

Respectfully,
Canada's news publishers



SOURCES

¹ Annual Report on Government of Canada Advertising Activities 2023-2024, combined with proprietary industry data.
² Totum Research Canada, January 2025. Canadians 18+, n=2418.; Pollara for the Dais. 2025 Survey of Online Harms, Canadians 16+, n=2502.

Black Messiah Gone

R&B icon D'Angelo dies at 51 after battle with pancreatic cancer

Award-winning R&B singer and neo-soul pioneer Michael Eugene Archer, known to the world as D'Angelo, has died at the age of 51 after a battle with pancreatic cancer, his family has announced.

In a statement shared with CBS News, the family said the beloved artist was leaving behind “a legacy of extraordinarily moving music” and asked fans to celebrate “the gift of song that he has left for the world.”

Born on February 11, 1974, in Richmond, Virginia, D'Angelo rose to fame in the 1990s with his debut album *Brown Sugar*, a smooth, groove-heavy record that helped define the neo-soul movement, blending R&B, hip-hop, and jazz. The album's standout single, *Lady*, climbed to No. 10 on the *Billboard Hot 100* in 1996 and earned multiple Grammy nominations.

D'Angelo's second album, *Voodoo* (2000), solidified his place in music history. Debuting at No. 1 on the *Billboard 200*, it won two Grammy Awards, including Best R&B Album, while the sultry, one-take video for *Untitled (How Does It Feel)* became a pop culture phenomenon. His voice, musicianship, and artistry drew comparisons to Marvin Gaye and Prince, and in 2014, *GQ* hailed him as “the next Marvin Gaye” upon the release of his comeback album *Black Messiah*.

Throughout his career, D'Angelo collaborated with some of music's biggest names — including Lauryn Hill, Erykah Badu, The Roots, and soul singer Angie Stone, his former partner and muse for *Brown Sugar*. The two shared a son, born in 1998. D'Angelo also had a daughter, born in 1999, and another son, born in 2010. Angie Stone passed away earlier this year.

Despite long absences from the spotlight, D'Angelo remained one of R&B's most respected



Michael Eugene Archer, known to the world as D'Angelo

figures. His artistry shaped a generation of musicians and helped redefine the sound of soul for the modern era.

“The shining star of our family has dimmed

his light for us in this life,” his family said. “But his music will continue to illuminate hearts for generations to come.”

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MUDDA DEY

Patrice Roberts celebrates men and their mothers in new single

Caribbean soca star Patrice Roberts has released her latest single, "Mudda Dey," the second track from her upcoming project—and it's one that carries deep emotion and purpose.

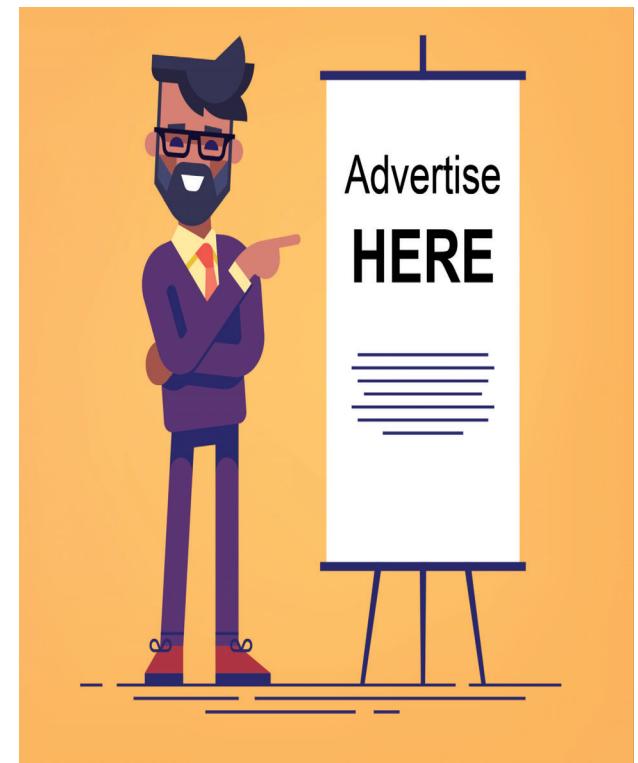
Known for her empowering anthems that uplift women and inspire confidence, Patrice takes a heartfelt new direction with "Mudda Dey," choosing to celebrate positive male figures and the mothers who raised them.

"I wanted to do something different with this song," Patrice said. "It's about empowering men—especially the good ones—and also honoring the single mothers who raised them. It's hard to raise a great man without a father, and it takes a level of strength and resilience that deserves to be recognized."

The song balances gratitude and admiration, serving as a tribute both to mothers who persevere through challenges and to men who embody love, integrity, and responsibility.

Patrice envisions "Mudda Dey" as a globally resonant record that connects with listeners across generations and cultures. After years of championing women's empowerment through hits like "Mind My Business" and "Tender," she's now turning her focus toward honoring good men and the mothers who helped shape them.

With its heartfelt message and universal theme of love and appreciation, "Mudda Dey" continues Patrice Roberts' mission of creating music that uplifts and unites audiences around the world.





The Return of Mavado

Gully Gad to headline major return concert in Jamaica this December

Dancehall titan Mavado is gearing up for a long-awaited homecoming concert on December 27, 2025, at the picturesque Plantation Cove in St. Ann. The show marks the “Gully God’s” first performance on Jamaican soil in nearly a decade, setting the stage for what’s shaping up to be one of the most anticipated live events in recent memory.

Industry watchers are already comparing the buzz to the record-breaking return of Vybz

Kartel’s “Freedom Street” concert at Kingston’s National Stadium on New Year’s Eve 2024.

The event is being produced by CJ Milan, the powerhouse promoter behind some of this year’s most headline-grabbing reggae and dancehall moments—including the historic return of Vybz Kartel to North America.

Mavado’s career remains a cornerstone of modern dancehall, with timeless anthems like “Weh Dem a Do,” “So Special,” and “Progress”

still dominating playlists. In recent years, he’s continued to evolve musically with tracks such as “Enemies,” “Top Shotta Is Back,” “Tears,” and the introspective “Not Perfect.” His 2024 hit “Life of the Gully” racked up millions of streams, reaffirming his enduring global influence. Most recently, Mavado scored another big collaboration on DJ Khaled’s “You Remind Me” alongside Vybz Kartel, Buju Banton, Bounty Killer, Rory Stone Love, and Kaylan Arnold.

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THE MARTIANS ARE HERE

Largest Martian Meteorite Ever Found Sells for \$5.3 Million

A meteorite from Mars discovered in Niger has been sold for a record-breaking \$5.3 million at Sotheby's in New York.

It is the highest price ever paid for a piece of rock from another planet.

Known as Northwest Africa 16788 (NWA 16788), the meteorite weighs approximately 25 kilograms and is classified as a shergottite, an igneous rock type originating from Mars.

The specimen is the largest known Martian meteorite ever recovered on Earth, surpassing the size of any previously documented samples by more than 70 percent.

The sale occurred during Sotheby's annual "Geek Week" auction, an event dedicated to rare scientific and technological artifacts.

Bidding began at \$4.3 million but quickly escalated, with the final sale price reaching \$5.3 million including buyer's premiums.

Sotheby's Global Head of Science and Popular Culture, Cassandra Hatton, described the specimen as "a truly exceptional and singular object from another world."

She emphasized the meteorite's scientific and historical significance, calling it "a window into the geology of another planet."

The rock was first discovered in November 2023 in Niger's Agadez region by local meteorite hunters.

Experts believe the meteorite was ejected from the Martian surface millions of years ago following a powerful impact event, eventually landing in the Sahara.

Fewer than 400 verified Martian meteorites are known to exist, most of which are held in public institutions or research laboratories.

The sale of NWA 16788 to a private collector has prompted mixed reactions from the scientific community.

While some researchers raised concerns about access for future study, others noted that private auctions often facilitate the discovery and preservation of rare specimens.

A portion of the meteorite has already been reserved for scientific analysis and archived at China's Purple Mountain Observatory, ensuring at least some access for future research.



A Sotheby's employee shows off the Martian meteorite

The sale highlights the growing interest in planetary science and private space-related collectibles.

It also draws attention to the African continent's role in global scientific discoveries, par-

ticularly the Sahara region, which has become a hotspot for rare meteorite finds due to its dry climate and expansive desert terrain.

The identity of the buyer has not been disclosed.



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