



Billboard photos by Chuck Pulin

CARTER CLAN—Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash watch as daughter Carlene Carter performs at the Bottom Line in New York.

E/A GROUP ON RISE

Shoes Typifying A&R, Promo Link

By PAUL GREIN

LOS ANGELES—The need for close communication between a&r and promotion departments is taken to its ultimate extreme in the case of Shoes, a four-man group from Zion, Ill., which was signed to Elektra/Asylum by its vice president of promotion, Kenny Buttice.

Early this year, Shoes sent a demo of the songs that were to make up its "Present Tense" album (which leaps 49 notches in its third chart week to number 89) to a dozen labels. Elektra's assistant album promotion

director, Marty Schwartz, got a copy and tipped off Buttice, who flew to Zion in February and signed the group in April.

It is Buttice's first signing; all the other pop acts signed to Elektra since a&r director George Daly left the label earlier this year have been packed by chairman Joe Smith or recently-departed president Steve Wax.

Unlike most bands tied into the new rock movement, Shoes has little live performing experience. It played some clubs and battle of the band events in the Midwest (and did one big date at last year's Chicago-Fest), but has basically shied away from such activity.

"There's no way playing clubs on the outskirts of Chicago is going to get you any closer to a recording contract," says Jeff Murphy, one of the group's two guitarists. "There are a few bands that beat their brains out for years playing clubs, but it didn't make sense to us."

Adds Jeff's brother John Murphy, the group's bassist: "We know a lot of bar bands back home doing Mott the Hoople, Led Zeppelin and Van Halen covers night after night to survive, but we wanted to do new songs and fresh ideas. There's no advantage for us in learning to do a letter-perfect version of 'Stairway To Heaven.'"

Instead, the group toyed with recording on a Teac 4-track machine in the Murphys' living room. In this way they cut an LP, "Black Vinyl Shoes," and pressed 1,000 copies for their own label, Black Vinyl Records. The group sold copies to stores on a consignment basis, charging the stores \$3 and asking them to sell the disks for \$3.50. After that the group sublicensed the LP to Jem Imports, which released it on its domestic PVC label.

The group's maiden album for Elektra worldwide was produced on 24-track at the Manor studios in Oxfordshire, England, by Mike Stone, whose previous Elektra experience includes producing the Simms Brothers and engineering several LPs for Queen.

Shoes' sound has drawn comparisons with the fulsome harmonies of the Beatles, the Byrds and the Who. "We all grew up on '60s British rock," says John. "So even without trying that's in there."

Administration of Shoes publishing in the U.S. and Canada for the past 1½ years has been handled by Dan Bourgoise of Bug Music. Since June the group has also been managed by Bourgoise, who also handles Del Shannon and Ray Campi & the Rockabilly Rebels.

Chaotic Start At Chicago's Pier Concert

By MILAN SAMARDZIJA

CHICAGO—Navy Pier's newly renovated Auditorium on Chicago's lakefront got off to a chaotic start Oct. 13-14 when it presented Wayne Newton in the first of a proposed series of major cabaret acts.

Mayor Byrne has stated that she wants to make Chicago a major entertainment center, and the city has put more than \$8 million into renovating the Auditorium, according to Bill Fagan, a city architect, with a good part of that money invested in lighting and acoustics.

"It was a complete disaster," says Lolain Dobbs, director of Navy Pier Management. "Everything that could possibly have gone wrong, did. Once the people got through the door they just scrambled for the best seats they could find," claims Dobbs. "Pical Enterprises (the firm hired to produce the show) was supposed to supply the ushers."

Pical claims it contracted with Andy Frain for ushers but "not enough of them showed up. It was just a combination of things that went wrong," says a source at Pical. "But I don't think it's fair for Miss Dobbs to point her finger at Pical." "That's why it took some people half an hour to get into the auditorium. There were two ushers taking tickets for more than 2,000 people," says Dobbs.

Although ticket holders were promised two drinks with the \$14-\$20 tickets without reserved seating, the bar ran out of liquor before most people could get their second drink.

"We hired caterers for the refreshments," admits Jim Feeley, Pical public relations director, "and they simply ran out of liquor. This was the first big show at Navy Pier and it was like a shakedown cruise."

The success of this summer's ChicagoFest prompted the city to remodel the Auditorium and offer it to booking agents and concert producers as an alternative to suburban supper clubs.

"I'm going to suggest that from now on we do our own bookings," says Dobbs. "We did okay at the ChicagoFest and we did it by ourselves."

The city commissioner is planning a meeting with Navy Pier Management to discuss the future of the Auditorium where there were hopes for at least 10 shows a year.

Singer Peters: 1st Solo Album

LAS VEGAS—Singer-entertainer Bernadette Peters, known for her Broadway, television and cabaret work, is undertaking her first solo LP project.

Teamed with producer Brooks Arthur in a joint venture christened Peters/Palmdale, Peters will record for MCA with a January release date.

"The album will reflect all types of music, some old rock'n'roll, ballads, crossover country and some disco," says Peters.

Peters is enthused about her affiliation with Arthur, who has worked with Bette Midler, Robin Williams, Janis Ian and Carol Bayer Sager.

Barry Mann and Cynthia Wyle, the husband-wife team, will work on original material.

According to Peters, Peter Matz and Artie Butler will handle orchestrations with plans calling for studio work to begin by Oct. 1 at the Record Plant in Los Angeles.

Top Boxoffice

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Rank	ARTIST—Promoter, Facility, Dates <small>(DENOTES SELLOUT PERFORMANCES)</small>	Total Ticket Sales	Ticket Price Scale	Gross Receipts
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Stadiums & Festivals (More Than 20,000)

1	KENNY ROGERS/DOTTIE WEST/OAK RIDGE BOYS —C.K. Spurlock Productions, Superdome, New Orleans, La., Oct. 13	24,039	\$9-\$10	\$209,597
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Arenas (6,000 To 20,000)

1	FRANK SINATRA —Frank J. Russo, Inc., Civic Center, Providence, R.I., Oct. 14	13,250	\$10-\$15	\$181,225*
2	THE JACKSONS/LTD —Rowe Productions, Spectrum, Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 12	18,385	\$7.50-\$9.50	\$157,539*
3	KENNY ROGERS/DOTTIE WEST/OAK RIDGE BOYS —C.K. Spurlock Productions, Omni, Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 14	17,641	\$9-\$10	\$172,833*
4	JETHRO TULL/U.K. —Cross Country Concerts, Col., New Haven, Ct., Oct. 9 & 10 (2)	20,415	\$6.50-\$8.50	\$164,119*
5	STYX/GAMMA —Sunshine Promotions, Mkt. Sq. Arena, Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 2	18,000	\$8	\$142,272*
6	EARTH, WIND & FIRE —Concert Productions Int'l., Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, Canada, Oct. 11	15,602	\$8.50-\$9.50	\$141,237*
7	FRANK SINATRA —Frank J. Russo, Inc., Col., New Haven, Ct., Oct. 13	10,627	\$10-\$15	\$138,387*
8	EARTH, WIND & FIRE —Festival East Concerts/Alan Haymon, Mem'l. Aud., Buffalo, N.Y., Oct. 10	16,149	\$8-\$9	\$137,413
9	DOOBIE BROTHERS/NIGHTS —Pace Concerts/Louis Messina, Summit, Houston, Tx., Oct. 14	14,586	\$8.65-\$9.65	\$126,805
10	EARTH, WIND & FIRE —Cross Country Concerts, Col., New Haven, Ct., Oct. 8	10,807	\$7.50-\$9.50	\$98,446*
11	KENNY ROGERS/DOTTIE WEST/OAK RIDGE BOYS —C.K. Spurlock, Col., Civic Center, Huntsville, Ala., Oct. 12	9,164	\$9-\$10	\$89,381*
12	WAYLON JENNINGS/ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL/THE CRICKETS —Charlie Magee Productions, Col. Arena, Oakland, Calif., Oct. 12	10,480	\$7.50-\$9.50	\$89,122
13	BLUE OYSTER CULT —Schon Productions, Aud., Omaha, Neb., Oct. 13	8,585	\$8-\$9	\$72,998
14	KISS/JOHN COUGAR —Pace Concerts/Louis Messina, Center Arena, Pine Bluffs, Ark., Oct. 14	8,257	\$8-\$9	\$71,818
15	THE JACKSONS/LTD —Rowe Productions, Civic Arena, Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 13	8,200	\$7.50-\$8.50	\$71,238
16	THE CARS/BRAM TCHAIKOVSKY —Monarch Entertainment, Barton Hall, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, N.Y., Oct. 11	8,000	\$6.50-\$8	\$62,904*
17	THE DOOBIE BROTHERS/NIGHTS —Sound Seventy Productions, Municipal Aud., Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 9	7,450	\$7.50	\$59,171
18	REO SPEEDWAGON/MOLLY HATCHET —Feyline Presents, Activity Center, Tempe, Ariz., Oct. 9	7,551	\$6.50-\$7.50	\$56,632
19	FOREIGNER/CHARLIE —Brass Ring Productions, Civic Aud., Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 14	5,585	\$10	\$55,850*
20	LITTLE RIVER BAND/STAMPEDERS —Concerts Productions Int'l., Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, Canada, Oct. 12	6,017	\$7.50-\$8.50	\$51,120

Auditoriums (Under 6,000)

1	THE CLASH/JOE ELY/REBELS —Avalon Attractions, Palladium, Hollywood, Calif., Oct. 11	4,293	\$8.50-\$9.50	\$36,859
2	REO SPEEDWAGON/MOLLY HATCHET —Bill Graham Presents, Mem'l. Aud., Sacramento, Calif., Oct. 11	4,330	\$6.95-\$8.95	\$35,868*
3	REO SPEEDWAGON/MOLLY HATCHET —John Bauer Concerts, Ice Arena, Portland, Oreg., Oct. 14	3,118	\$8.50-\$9.50	\$26,952
4	THE KNACK/THE FOOLS —Monarch Entertainment, Capitol Thea., Passaic, N.J., Oct. 10	3,423	\$7.50	\$25,673*
5	TRIUMPH/HARLEQUIN —Concert Productions Int'l., Civic Center, Oshawa, Canada, Oct. 13	3,203	\$7.50-\$8	\$24,174
6	JOE JACKSON/MEMBERS —Concerts Productions Int'l., Seneca College, Toronto, Canada, Oct. 13	2,805	\$8.50	\$23,843*
7	THE CLASH/THE CRAMPPS/DEAD KENNEDYS —Bill Graham Presents, Kezar Pavilion, San Francisco, Calif., Oct. 13	3,040	\$7.50-\$8.50	\$23,477
8	AC/DC/PAT TRAVERS —Entam, Old Arena, Norfolk, Va., Oct. 12	3,500	\$6-\$7	\$22,850*
9	JUDAS PRIEST/POINT BLANK —Mike Clark/Friends Productions, Civic Center, El Paso, Tx., Oct. 14	3,070	\$7-\$8	\$22,641
10	IAN HUNTER/DAVID JOHANNSEN —Electric Factory Concerts, Tower Thea., Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 13	3,072	\$6.50-\$7.50	\$21,758*
11	THE KNACK/FOOLS —Electric Factory Concerts, Tower Thea., Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 12	3,072	\$7	\$21,000*
12	MOTHER'S FINEST/JAY FERGUSON —Sound Seventy Productions, Mem'l. Aud., Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 9	3,244	\$6-\$7	\$20,804
13	TALKING HEADS/PEARL HARBOR —Perryscope Concerts, P.N.E. Gardens, Vancouver, B.C., Oct. 8	2,337	\$8.50-\$9	\$20,075*
14	JOHN PRINE/STEVE GOODMAN —Electric Factory Concerts, Tower Thea., Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 14	3,072	\$5-\$7	\$19,646*
15	TRIUMPH/HARLEQUIN —Concert Productions Int'l./Donald K. Donald, Mem'l. Gardens, Sault St. Marie, Canada, Oct. 10	2,602	\$8.50	\$19,182
16	RANDY HANSEN/YESTERDAY & TODAY —Bill Graham Presents, Comm. Thea., Berkeley, Calif., Oct. 13	2,427	\$7.50-\$9.50	\$17,840

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