



BOXSCORE TOP CONCERT GROSSES

AMUSEMENT BUSINESS®

ARTIST(S)	Venue	Date(s)	Gross Ticket Price(s)	Attendance Capacity	Promoter
FRANK SINATRA/DEAN MARTIN/SAMMY DAVIS JR.	Chicago Theatre Chicago, Ill.	March 18-20	\$923,600 \$100/\$75/\$50/\$25	10,200 sellout	in-house
BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN & THE E STREET BAND	Rosemont Horizon Rosemont, Ill.	March 16-17	\$801,720 \$22.50	35,632 sellout	Jam Prods.
FRANK SINATRA/SAMMY DAVIS JR./DEAN MARTIN	Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum Oakland, Calif.	March 13	\$603,760 \$40/\$30	15,470 sellout	Bill Graham Presents
FRANK SINATRA/DEAN MARTIN/SAMMY DAVIS JR.	Coliseum, Seattle Center Seattle, Wash.	March 16	\$521,310 \$40/\$30	13,927 sellout	White Rose Limited
INXS P.I.L.	Radio City Music Hall New York, N.Y.	March 18-20	\$345,600 \$20	17,622 sellout	Radio City Music Hall Prods.
GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS	Patriot Center George Mason Univ. Fairfax, Va.	March 18-19	\$277,821 \$17.50	16,000 sellout	Cellar Door Prods.
JOHN COUGAR MELLENCAMP	Reunion Arena Dallas, Texas	March 3	\$224,368 \$17.50	13,388 sellout	PACE Concerts
JOHN COUGAR MELLENCAMP	The Summit Houston, Texas	March 6	\$209,948 \$17.50	12,499 sellout	PACE Concerts
LINDA RONSTADT	Irvine Meadows Amphitheatre Irvine, Calif.	March 20	\$192,860 \$25/\$20/\$17.50/\$15	10,501 15,000	Avalon Attractions
STING	The Summit Houston, Texas	March 11	\$178,337 \$16.75	11,337 sellout	PACE Concerts
DIO FEATURING RONNIE JAMES DIO MEGADETH SAVATAGE	Arena, Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center Long Beach, Calif.	March 12	\$173,110 \$17.50	10,485 12,300	Avalon Attractions
STING	Frank Erwin Center Univ. of Texas, Austin Austin, Texas	March 9	\$161,805 \$16.50/\$15.50/\$14.50	10,333 12,833 sellout	PACE Concerts in-house
FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS/THE FOUR TOPS	Westbury Music Fair Westbury, N.Y.	March 18-20	\$159,090 \$20	8,453 8,586 sellout	Guber-Gross Prods.
GEORGE STRAIT HIGHWAY 101	ARCO Arena Sacramento, Calif.	March 10	\$155,925 \$16.50	9,625 sellout	Varnell Enterprises
GEORGE STRAIT HIGHWAY 101	Irvine Meadows Amphitheatre Laguna Hills, Calif.	March 11	\$153,178 \$22.50/\$17.50/\$16.50	9,001 10,418	Avalon Attractions
GEORGE STRAIT HIGHWAY 101	Selland Arena Fresno, Calif.	March 12	\$152,208 \$16	10,050 sellout	Varnell Enterprises
GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS FLAMING HARRY	Rochester Community War Memorial Rochester, N.Y.	March 12	\$151,627 \$15.50/\$14.50	11,000 sellout	Monarch Entertainment Bureau John Scher Presents
WHITESNAKE GREAT WHITE	Special Events Center Univ. of Texas, El Paso El Paso, Texas	March 20	\$149,259 \$16.50	9,286 12,594	Stardate Concerts PACE Concerts
STING	University Activity Center Arizona State Univ. Tempe, Ariz.	March 18	\$140,175 \$17.50	8,491 9,436	Evening Star Prods.
A GREAT NIGHT FOR THE IRISH: FRANK PATTERSON GERALDINE O'GRADY DES KEOGH NA CASAIEGH EILY O'GRADY, & OTHERS	Radio City Music Hall New York, N.Y.	March 16	\$137,700 \$25/\$20	5,874 sellout	Radio City Music Hall Prods.
GEORGE STRAIT HIGHWAY 101	Lawlor Events Center Univ. of Nevada-Reno Reno, Nev.	March 13	\$112,000 \$16	7,150 8,000	Varnell Enterprises
HANK WILLIAMS JR. & THE BAMA BAND RESTLESS HEART	Robert's Municipal Stadium Evansville, Ind.	March 18	\$111,553 \$15.50	7,515 7,943	Richard Mischell Prods.
SANDI PATTI	Memorial Coliseum Portland, Ore.	March 17	\$108,906 \$12.50/\$11.50	8,785 9,800	Garland Enterprises
SANDI PATTI	Arena, Memorial Coliseum Complex Portland, Ore.	March 17	\$108,906 \$12.50/\$11.50	8,975 9,500	Terry Garland Prods.
YES	San Diego Sports Arena San Diego, Calif.	March 8	\$105,728 \$18.50	5,715 8,928	Bill Silva Presents
DAVID LEE ROTH FASTER PUSSYCAT	Ohio Center Columbus, Ohio	March 20	\$105,270 \$16.50	6,380 sellout	Cellar Door Prods.
RANDY TRAVIS/JUDDS	Lee Civic Center Fort Myers, Fla.	March 17	\$100,305 \$15	6,687 8,063	Special Moments Promotions
RANDY TRAVIS/JUDDS	Albany Civic Center Albany, Ga.	March 19	\$99,611 \$16.50	6,037 8,000	Special Moments Promotions
ALARM HOUSE OF FREAKS BRANDOS	Irvine Meadows Amphitheatre Irvine, Calif.	March 19	\$90,169 \$18.50/\$16.50	5,835 6,133	Avalon Attractions
GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS	Stabler Arena Lehigh Univ. Bethlehem, Pa.	March 17	\$89,654 \$15.50/\$13.50	5,743 sellout	Electric Factory Concerts
FRANK ZAPPA	Royal Oak Music Theater Royal Oak, Mich.	Feb. 26-28	\$83,912 \$17	4,936 sellout	Brass Ring Prods.
STING	Municipal Auditorium San Antonio Convention Center Facilities San Antonio, Texas	March 14	\$81,393 \$17.50	4,726 sellout	PACE Concerts Stone City Attractions
YES	University Activity Center Arizona State Univ. Tempe, Ariz.	March 9	\$79,497 \$16.50	5,352 7,098	Evening Star Prods.
DIO FEATURING RONNIE JAMES DIO MEGADETH	San Diego Sports Arena San Diego, Calif.	March 7	\$78,884 \$18.50	4,264 8,940	Bill Silva Presents
DIO FEATURING RONNIE JAMES DIO MEGADETH	Arena, Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center Oakland, Calif.	March 10	\$75,491 \$19.50/\$17.50	4,310 6,500	Bill Graham Presents
KENNY ROGERS FORESTER SISTERS	Centennial Hall Univ. of Toledo Toledo, Ohio	March 18	\$73,524 \$16.50	4,624 9,662	North American Tours
REBA MCENTIRE STEVE WARNER	Arena, Amarillo Civic Center Amarillo, Texas	March 13	\$73,182 \$14.50	5,339 6,800	Star System in-house
STATLER BROTHERS HOLLY DUNN	Von Braun Civic Center Huntsville, Ala.	March 12	\$71,008 \$14	5,072 7,500	Varnell Enterprises

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TALENT IN ACTION

GEORGE MICHAEL

Sydney Entertainment Centre, Australia

THE SLOW-BUILD tease would not appear to be a component of George Michael's stage strategy. Within seconds of an enveloping canvas canopy lifting and a huge steel cage opening, the British sensation had set the tone for the evening. As he gyrated and gesticulated his way through "I Want Your Sex," laser beams garishly spelled out the words "sex," "lust," and "love." Subtle he is not.

However, popular he is. After six shows in Japan and one each in the Australian cities of Perth and Adelaide, Michael was plainly comfortable on stage at this March 15 date in Sydney. As playful as a puppy, in fact. Slipping in and out of various denim jackets, tossing off cute ad libs ("Bad luck, it's not my size" to the thrower of a purple bra), and prancing repeatedly up and down his stageside catwalks, the man had the 12,000-strong audience deftly in his grasp. Not all of them, despite the din, were young.

The most striking aspect of Michael's first world tour is the spruce leanness of the act. With just six musicians and a sole backing vocalist, he deliberately focuses the audience's attention almost wholly on himself. At times, the limitations of this slender ensemble show through, notably when singer Lynn Mabry turns into a sprint star to accommodate a frontstage lead vocal duet, a topstage go-go dancing routine, and midstage backing harmonies in one go.

If Michael's slick, streamlined set is highly sexed, it is also fiercely funky. A bubbling "Hard Day" from the "Faith" album gave way to a powerful version of Stevie Wonder's "Love's In Need Of Love Today." Later in the set he stormed through Wild Cherry's "Play That Funky Music," LaBelle's "Lady Marmalade," and the Wham! favorites "I'm Your Man" and "Everything She Wants." His own "Monkey" was delivered with a considerably harder edge than on record.

Yet, for all the power of his rhythm workouts, Michael was at his most impressive when he simply stood and sang. The ballad "A Different Corner" was a bona fide showstopper, as was "Careless Whisper" and another "Faith" cut, "One More Try." In "Knew You Were Waiting For Me," Aretha Franklin's absence was filled by the audience, which took over and sang

an entire verse and chorus before Michael returned to the microphone.

By the time the encore rolled around, the blatant eroticism of the opener had been allowed to ebb. This situation was rectified as Michael launched into another, extended treatment of "I Want Your Sex"—this time accompanied by the laser-etched outline of an extremely active female derriere, complete with panties and garter belt. George Michael left his audience with no doubt as to his primary interest, or should that be obsession?

GLENN A. BAKER

THE RADIATORS

The Stone Pony, Asbury Park, N.J.

THE RADIATORS' sound? Blues, Cajun, Calypso, and New Orleans "second line" funk (a form of parade band rhythm), with hints of Doobie Brothers, Grateful Dead, Allman Brothers, and Lynyrd Skynyrd.

In short, virtually everything from the last century fits into the steaming gumbo produced by the New Orleans-based Epic act. The band calls it "fishhead music," an attempt to avoid classifications.

At the Stone Pony on March 11, the Radiators didn't need to explain to the packed house what was going on. The band's years of touring created a following well versed in the sound even before last year's national breakout, the Epic album "Law Of The Fish."

Officially formed in 1977, the Radiators have built a reputation as one of America's best bar bands, and the intimate confines of the Stone Pony proved the perfect setting for the group's style. They whipped the crowd with a tasty dance groove that kept things percolating through a two-hour set.

"Law Of The Fish" was heavily showcased at the Pony, spiced with hints of the 200 songs the band keeps in its "active" repertoire.

Dance floor faves included new blasts "Doctor Doctor" and "This Wagon's Gonna Roll," straightforward rockers allowing guitarists Dave Malone and Camile Baudoin to stretch out for extended periods, much to the crowd's delight.

The funky "Suck The Head," a reference to the proper method for eating crawfish, capped the regular show, followed by a tasty encore of Van Morrison's "Brown-Eyed Girl," the singalong anthem highlighting a high-energy evening.

BRUCE HARING



Rising Star. New RCA artist Jo-Ei Sonnier recently played a showcase at the Club Lingerie in Los Angeles, where he was joined for an all-star jam by Dave Alvin, Jennifer Warnes, Garth Hudson, Russ Kunkel, and Albert Lee. Pictured after the show are, from left, Hudson, Sonnier, Kunkel, and Lee.