LOS ANGELES—"Sleepless In Seattle" is wide awake at retail, as the Epic Soundtrack title leaps to No. 9 with its 13th week on SoundScan's Billboard 200. The release, which debuted July 10 at No. 54 with a bullet, showed the greatest gain on the chart this week, as the TriStar film, starring Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks, continues to climb the box-office charts.

"It would appear that 'Sleepless In Seattle' is the movie soundtrack breakthrough of the summer," says Billboard's head buyer at Canton, Ohio-based Camelot Music Inc.

"Sleepless In Seattle," which features tunes from the soundtrack's 1995 Indian-Durante, Louis Armstrong, and Nat "King" Cole, among others, surpasses the "Menace II Society" hip-hop-flavored soundtrack, which logged in at No. 12 with a bullet this week. The hard-rocking "Last Action Hero" soundtrack dropped from No. 7 with a bullet to No. 8 in its fourth week on the chart, and the multiplatinum soundtrack for "The Bodyguard" logs in at No. 11 in its 53rd week on the album chart.

While soundtracks to "Menace II Society" and "Last Action Hero" logged strong early weeks and still maintain healthy sales activity, Garrett predicts "Sleepless In Seattle" will enjoy a longer run because "this looks like the movie and the album to have the legs to propel sales into next year," he says. "It's a monster."

Most of the tracks on "Sleepless In Seattle" were hits a few decades ago, including Cole's "Stardust" and Gene Autry's "Back In The Saddle Again." "When I Fall In Love" appears to be on its way up the charts again thanks to a Celine Dion/Clive Griffin remake of the standard.

The track is at No. 30 with a bullet on the Hot Adult Contemporary Singles chart this week. Top 40 stations, including WSTR-FM Atlanta, WEZB New Orleans, and KKRZ Portland recently added "When I Fall In Love.

"KKRZ PD Ken Benson compares its potential to Armstrong's "What A Wonderful World," which enjoyed its second life after it was included on the "Good Morning, Vietnam" soundtrack. That song peaked at No. 32 on the Hot 100 Singles chart in 1988.

"In the perfect soundtrack world, the movie uses the music in such a way that it helps to sell the soundtrack," says Garrett.

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Gabriel To Headline 9 Dates As World Fest Hits America

BY MELINDA NEWMAN

NEW YORK—Eleven years after its British launch, the Peter Gabriel-founded World Of Music And Dance Festival is coming to North America. At a press conference held here July 6, Gabriel and others involved with the multicultural musical event announced that WOMAD will play at least nine dates across the country Sept. 4-19.

Each date will be headlined by Gabriel. Other artists appearing on the bill are Crowned House, Inner Circle, Sheila Chandra, John Trudell, Shankar Narayan, Fabrice Job-Habib's Inador Of The Heart, James, Geoffrey Oryema, Renyong Oga & The orchestra, Matalina, the Drummer Of Burundi, Terem Quartet, and Trisan. Combined, the artists represent 19 countries.

The all-day festivals will incorporate two stages, workshops featuring dance, singing, voice, and craft exhibits; and Future-Music, an interactive area with CD-ROM and virtual-reality demonstrations.

"The idea and the reality have been the same since the festival's 1985 inception: to try to excite audiences and introduce new artists in a way that is unpretentious and accessible," says Thomas Brooman, WOMAD's artistic director.

The genesis of the festival came in 1984 when Peter Gabriel was frustrated over his ability to obtain certain forms of music. "If you play Thomas's suit and my garg, you'll find two failed drummers. [Between the passion we were hearing in this music and the difficulty we had in finding it, we started working on this grand dream," says Gabriel. "And a lot of cynical people told us people would never come, and they were right half."

Since its birth, WOMAD festivals have played in more than 14 countries. Gabriel says the delay in bringing WOMAD to North America was caused by having to "convince people it was viable. Demand was one of the main problems. Traditionally, WOMAD is a weekend event. On this tour, it's more one nighters.

The event's organizers are looking at this minitour as a preview of things to come. "Two weeks in the U.S. is a realistic length for what's (Continued on page 118)

Billboard Awards Aim To Build On Success Creative Team Reunites For Dec. 8 Live Broadcast

LOS ANGELES—Coming off its best-ever ratings, the Billboard Music Awards has reassembled its creative team for the 1995 show, which will be televised live Dec. 8 on Fox Television from the Universal Amphitheatre here.

For the fourth consecutive year, Paul Flatter will produce and Jim Yukich will direct the awards show. Also returning are executive producers Jeff Pollack and Sam Holdsworth. The appointments were announced by Jerry Pressman, president of Billboard Entertainment Marketing, an affiliate of BPI Communications, parent company of Billboard.

The Billboard Music Awards honor the year's No. 1 hitmakers as determined by Billboard magazine's charts, the ultimate barometer of success in the music business. Each year, the awards show features performances by many of the artists who topped the chart during the preceding 12 months.

"We were drawn to the award show because of its ability to focus attention on the music business and the magazine," says Howard Lander, Billboard publisher and executive VP of BPI. "The key individuals associated with the show have demonstrated a keen awareness of these goals and the results have been excellent."

Producer Flatter and director Yukich are partners in FYI Inc., a Los Angeles-based production company that produces TV specials and music videos. Among their 1992 efforts was a live three-hour concert special with Genesis that was broadcast live via satellite from England to more than 20 countries. The pair also has produced television specials for Ray Charles, Willie Nelson, Gloria Estefan, Bruce Willis, Phil Collins, and others.

FYI Inc. has produced music videos for such artists as Gregg Allman, the Beach Boys, Jeff Beck, Michael Bolton, Michael Jackson, Kenny Loggins, and Richard Marx. The company has been honored with two Grammys, five International Monitor Awards, and two Billboard Music Video Awards.

Executive producer Pollack is chairman/CEO of Pollack Media Group Inc., the international music and media consulting firm. Holdsworth is a former senior executive of BPI.

Billboard Entertainment Marketing is a full-service entertainment marketing firm specializing in lifestyle entertainment marketing. BEM services include event creation and sponsorship, media and consumer promotions, audio and video premiums, broadcast production, and tour sponsorships.