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Billboard

Artists & Music

ELEKTRA'S DROWN

(Continued from preceding page)

"What It Is To Burn," which the label will give to MTV. Other than that, the label has produced 5,000 three-song cassette samplers from the band's debut album and has shipped them to modern and album rock radio stations and retail outlets. Jones says that in-store listening booths also will be a vital part of the marketing plan. "Our research shows that the booths have really helped other group's sales," he says.

But more important to Jones and the band is touring. "A year from now, I'd like to see Drown play 300 dates across the country, as an opening act and as a headliner," Jones says. "This band should tour and tour and tour."

Boquette and company can't wait to hit the road. "Our bags are packed," Boquette says. "We want to bring the record to life. Imagine having four guys out on stage giving 100 percent. The monster in us has to come out."

Another man who was crucial to Drown's first album was producer Dave Ogilvie, who has worked with—ironically—Nine Inch Nails and Skinny Puppy. "He's a part of our band," Boquette says. "I couldn't imagine making a record with anyone else. He saw what we did and brought it out in us. He was like a coach." Drown also has a hard rock connection with its manager, Walter O'Brien, who also manages Pantera and White Zombie.

But in a crowded field where angst is the defining character, will young audiences tap into Drown songs such as "Lost," "Longing" and "Arms Full Of Empty"?

"Are those things kids feel today?" Jones asks rhetorically. "Kids today are scared and nervous, and we tell kids not to do a lot of things. We have to present the music honestly and they will relate to it."

STARS KISS UP

(Continued from preceding page)

ternative and metal radio will get limited-edition red vinyl servicing for giveaways.

The vinyl albums—containing the bonus track "Unholy" by Die Artze, which is available elsewhere only on the German issue—also will be sent to select retail chains and mom-and-pops two weeks ahead of the ordained release date to stoke awareness. These dealers also will have access to a 10-pack vinyl dump bin for counter display.

As a special promo item, a set of albums from all the international territories will be packaged; the cover art, featuring an average family in Kiss makeup seated at the dinner table in front of a flag, will change to incorporate the flag of each specific country.

Plans are now under way for a "Kiss My Ass" media launch, perhaps to include a "Battle Of The Kiss Tribute Bands" in Los Angeles the first week of June, with Stanley and Simmons officiating. Kiss also may do a special show June 3 in New York, featuring "Kiss My Ass" guests.

All this—also including a "making-of" home video set for fall release—leads up to the next Kiss album, tentatively scheduled for October or November.

**Suede To Change Name For U.S.
Columbia Act Agrees To Settle Lawsuit**

NEW YORK—British recording act Suede will officially be known in the U.S. as the London Suede, while retaining its original name in all other territories. The band and its labels—Sony Music, Columbia Records, and Nude Records Ltd.—had been sued by Suzanne deBronkart, a Maryland-based jazz/pop artist who performs and records under the name Suede (Billboard, Dec. 25, 1993). The British band agreed to the U.S. name change to settle the lawsuit.

Columbia announced the name change and lawsuit settlement in a press release, but declined to comment further.

John Hazard, deBronkart's attorney, said, "The settlement was fair. We're very glad it's been settled. Sony was very cooperative; they're

very good people to work with. I hope that both the British band and my client will prosper."

DeBronkart says, "I feel like it's a tremendous victory actually. Sort of a modern-day David and Goliath: a small, single woman-owned business takes on Sony Corporation and wins. I'm glad we got it settled out of court." DeBronkart owns the trademark for the name Suede, she said.

The London Suede will release a six-song EP in the U.S. on April 26 on Nude/Columbia Records. The EP's lead track is "Stay Together," which debuted on the British singles chart at No. 3. DeBronkart is currently working on her next album, which is due out in December on her own Easily Suede Music label.

TRUDI MILLER ROSENBLUM



AMUSEMENT BUSINESS®

BOXSCORE TOP 10 CONCERT GROSSES

ARTIST(S)	Venue	Date(s)	Gross Ticket Price(s)	Attendance Capacity	Promoter
PINK FLOYD	Hermanos Rodriguez Autodromo, Mexico City.	April 9-10	\$5,235,862 (15,183,999 Mexican pesos) \$125/ \$28.13	90,476 two sellouts	Concert Prods. International USA Ocesa Presents
GRATEFUL DEAD	Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Uniondale	Mar 23-25, 27-28	\$2,273,535 \$27.50	82,674 five sellouts	Metropolitan Entertainment
GARTH BROOKS	Point Depot, Dublin	March 30-31, April 2-3, 5-7, 9	\$1,806,240 (1,263,465 British Pounds) \$28/ \$25	68,000 eight sellouts	Aiken Promotions
PINK FLOYD	Rice Stadium, Rice University, Houston, Texas	April 5	\$1,502,047 \$60/ \$22.50	45,021 47,000	Concert Prods. International USA PACE Concerts
THE ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND	Beacon Theatre, New York	April 1-3, 5, 6, 8-10	\$770,640 \$32.50	23,712 eight sellouts	Delsener/Slater Enterprises
BILLY JOEL	Reunion Arena, Dallas	April 4	\$502,267 \$29.50	17,039 sellout	PACE Concerts
BILLY JOEL	The Summit, Houston, Texas	APRIL 6	\$476,714 \$29.75	16,155 sellout	PACE Concerts
BILLY JOEL	North Charleston Coliseum, North Charleston, S.C.	April 10	\$375,830 \$29.50	12,740 sellout	MCA Concerts Cellar Door
REBA MCENTIRE JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY FAITH HILL	Hartford Civic Center, Hartford, Conn.	April 8	\$332,784 \$35/ \$26.50	11,654 12,000	Ben & Beau Segal
REBA MCENTIRE JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY FAITH HILL	Baltimore Arena, Baltimore	April 10	\$314,466 \$25.50	12,594 13,000	Chesapeake Concerts Disposition:

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