

Aerosmith pays fans for Maui cancellation

UNITED STATES In what was thought to be a nuisance lawsuit, a class action of 8,700 concert-goers against Aerosmith for a no-show in September 2007 has been settled with the plaintiffs realising most of their claims.

They will not only get free tickets to an upcoming concert at the end of Aerosmith's North American tour, but will also receive out-of-pocket expenses such as hotels, travel and lost work time.

The lawsuit claimed cancellation of the show, due to be held at the 10,000-capacity War Memorial

Stadium in Maui, Hawaii, cost ticket buyers as a group between \$500,000 and \$3 million.

Aerosmith cancelled its Maui date after rescheduling a postponed concert in Chicago a few days before the scheduled Maui performance. The band then claimed it could not fly its equipment to Hawaii in time, but performed at a private performance in Oahu, Hawaii, a few days after the scheduled Maui concert for a reported \$1m fee.

The Maui show was never rescheduled.

Managers on message

UNITED KINGDOM The Music Managers Forum (MMF) is to redefine its remit and change its name in a bid to become a major force within the music industry.

After a survey of 225 artiste representatives - initiated by recently-appointed MMF chairman and Radiohead manager Brian Message - the organisation is to become more inclusive and pro-active.

"Today's music industry is fundamentally different from the way it was when the MMF was formed in 1992," says Message. "Managers not only have to be more entrepreneurial, but, as the people closest to the artiste, they are the first port of call for an ever-widening range of

deal and revenue opportunities."

The MMF survey revealed that 85 per cent of managers polled relied upon live revenue to sustain their artistes, 73 per cent expected recorded music to make up less than 50 per cent of their clients' revenues over the next 12 months and over 90 per cent wanted an overhaul of current ticketing and merchandising practices.

A number of interim sub-committees have been set up to report in September on how the MMF can move forward in various sectors. The name change will also be announced then.

See feature pages 20-27.



Brian Message

Reselling in a recession for Ticket Summit debate

UNITED STATES Ticketing in a recession economy will be one of the keynote topics being debated at Las Vegas secondary ticketing trade show and conference The Ticket Summit.

The 15-17 July event - sister to the New York edition in January - will also

feature discussions on The Futures Market, Ticketing Tax Law and the best ways of pricing inventory.




Crystal Astrachan

Speakers include Stubhub's Sean Pate, Richard Kastelein of Worldticketshop, Joe Cohen of Seatwave and Dustin Brighton of eBay.

"We expect to see

500 attendees, 20 exhibitors, and 50 panellists," says publisher of *Ticket News* Crystal Astrachan, who is organising the conference.

"There are a lot of changes in the secondary ticketing market at the moment, particularly after media attention over to resale of Bruce Springsteen and Miley Cyrus tickets [see *Audience*, issues 109 and 103 respectively]," she adds.



Managing the managers

Special feature see pages 24-28

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