

features

POWER PLAYERS

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POWER PLAYERS 2006

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1 **LUCIAN GRAINGE** (Universal Music Group International)
UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP INTERNATIONAL, CHAIRMAN/CEO, LONDON
www.usmusic.com

2 **JOHN KENNEDY** (PIAS)
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE PHONOGRAPHIC INDUSTRY, CHAIRMAN/CEO, LONDON

On July 1, Lucian Grainge took over the reins of Universal Music Group International from Jürgen Larus, overseeing the global operations of the world's largest record company, outside of the U.S.

For the past five years, Grainge has been running Universal Music U.K., a company he has turned into a powerhouse with the likes of Jamie Cullum, Sade, and others. Grainge has already made a mark at UMG, with a renewed focus on A&R issues throughout the company.

The company's recent achievements include the success of Iggy Azalea's *Golden Rules*, the greatest-selling album in the U.K. to date. Universal acts have hit gold in the U.S. market, with German acts like Rammstein and the German duo Silberstein.

Grainge's business philosophy is that great music and strong artists are paramount. Then a company needs the best structure and staff to bring those artists to the top. And he never loses sight of the music consumers.

"What motivates him?" Working with artists on their songs, recording and executing, meeting their partners, making things move, he says. "It's like breathing me."

John Kennedy (PIAS)
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE PHONOGRAPHIC INDUSTRY, CHAIRMAN/CEO, LONDON
www.ifa.com

For the past year, John Kennedy took over the chairmanship of the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry from Jay Berenson, who has been in the job for six years.

The British executive has since traveled widely to promote the industry's position in the global market, and he has been instrumental in the merger of EMI and Warner in 2005, which has been a landmark moment for the industry.

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5 **MICHAEL McDONALD** (UMRG)
UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS, CEO, NEW YORK

6 **MARTINA McBRIDE** (RCA Nashville)
RCA NASHVILLE, CEO, NASHVILLE

Michael McDonald, CEO of Universal Motown Records, has been instrumental in the success of the label's artists, including Kenny Rogers and the Commodores. He has also been a key player in the label's expansion into new markets.

Martina McBride, CEO of RCA Nashville, has led the label's efforts to promote country music and has been instrumental in the success of artists like Dolly Parton and Loretta Lynn.

18 **HUGH PANERO** (XM Satellite Radio)
XM SATELLITE RADIO, CEO, NEW YORK

20 **CHRIS DeWOLFE** (MySpace.com)
MYSPACE.COM, CEO, SAN FRANCISCO

Hugh Panero, CEO of XM Satellite Radio, has led the company's efforts to expand its reach and has been instrumental in the success of its satellite radio service.

Chris DeWolfe, CEO of MySpace.com, has led the company's efforts to become a major player in the social networking space and has been instrumental in the success of the site.

MOVE WITH THE BEST IN THE BIZ!

Billboard 2005 Power Players

1 **IC Group, New York** (Chairman, BPIAS)
www.icgroup.com

2 **JOHN MAYER** (Columbia Records)
COLUMBIA RECORDS, ARTIST

3 **TIM MCGRAW** (Mercury)
MERCURY RECORDS, ARTIST

IC Group, New York, has been instrumental in the success of its artists and has been a key player in the industry's expansion into new markets.

John Mayer, artist for Columbia Records, has been instrumental in the success of his album *Wild Love* and has been a key player in the industry's expansion into new markets.

Tim McGraw, artist for Mercury Records, has been instrumental in the success of his album *Before He Cheats* and has been a key player in the industry's expansion into new markets.

NO THANKS: HOLIDAY WEEKEND A DOWNER FOR MUSIC RETAIL

4 **Shape Digital** (CEO)
SHAPE DIGITAL, CEO, NEW YORK

5 **Universal Motown Records Group, New York** (CEO)
UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS GROUP, CEO, NEW YORK

6 **Michael McDonald** (UMRG)
UNIVERSAL MOTOWN RECORDS, CEO, NEW YORK

Shape Digital, CEO, has led the company's efforts to expand its reach and has been instrumental in the success of its satellite radio service.

Universal Motown Records Group, CEO, has led the company's efforts to expand its reach and has been instrumental in the success of its satellite radio service.

Michael McDonald, CEO of Universal Motown Records, has led the company's efforts to expand its reach and has been instrumental in the success of its satellite radio service.

Billboard 2005 Power Players special feature highlights the achievements of individuals and companies in the music industry.

The list includes executives from major record labels, artists, and industry organizations, highlighting their contributions to the music business.

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