# Wheeling And Dealing

## This Summer Sees A Slew Of Signings And Acquisitions

Deal-making is in full swing for publishers this summer.

EMI Music Publishing has landed hot new songwriter **Kristal "Tytewriter" Oliver**, who hails from Philadelphia. We had a chance to hear some of her songs in April when Oliver met with EMI's **Jessica Rivera**, director of creative/A&R, East Coast, and **Big Jon Platt**, executive VP of urban music. She is definitely one to watch.

"The first time I heard a song written and performed by Kristal, I knew I had to meet this girl and be a part of the team to take her songwriting career to the next level," Rivera says. "Her songs are so conceptual, and tracks are a playground for her melodies."

Oliver co-wrote MTV "Making the Band" act **Da Band's** first single, "Show Stoppin' " (Bad Boy Records). Her songs have been recorded and are in the running to be on forthcoming albums by **Mario** (J Records), **Paula Campbell** (Sony) and **Mya** (Motown Universal), among others.

Separately, EMI inked a licensing deal with Lyric Jeans, the music-inspired clothing company. The publisher's catalog will be used for lyric-driven premium denim wear.

Songs in the catalog that may end up appearing on legs near you include "Rebel, Rebel," "Daydream Believer," "Stop in the Name of Love" and "What's Going On."

Lyric Jeans says that each pair of jeans reflects the personality, style and flare of the artist and song through its design. Universal Music Publishing Group announced a deal with the company in May.

**TAKING ROOT:** Warner/Chappell Music is the new home for **Timbaland's** entire back catalog. The publisher acquired the catalog as part of a deal in which it re-signed the songwriter/producer.

Warner/Chappell reports that the catalog includes more than 40 top 10 songs on various Billboard charts, including **Missy Elliott's** "Get Ur Freak On" and **Justin Timberlake's** Grammy Award-winning "Cry Me a River."

Timbaland is executive producer of **Nelly Furtado's** current album "Loose," which debuted at No. 1 on The Billboard 200. He co-wrote nine of the 12 songs on the album including the No. 1 single, "Promiscuous." Timbaland's upcoming projects include Timberlake's highly anticipated sophomore album.

During the past 10 years, Timbaland has also collaborated with such acts as **Jay-Z**, **Ginuwine**, **Destiny's Child**, **Aaliyah**, **Bubba Sparxxx**, **LL Cool J**, **Tweet**, **Lil' Kim**, **Bjork**, **Hilary Duff** and **Jennifer Lopez**.

**A FAMILY AFFAIR:** Music Sales Corp. not only acquired the publishing rights to the catalog of lyricist/composer **Carl Sigman**, but tapped the services of Sigman's eldest son **Michael** as well.

Carl Sigman, who died in 2000 at 91, wrote about 800 songs during his six-decade career. The catalog that is moving from Major Songs to Music Sales includes Sigman's share of such classics as "Where Do I Begin (Love Story Theme)," "It's All in the Game," "Enjoy Yourself," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," "What Now My Love" and "Arrivederci Roma."

Michael Sigman, who was president/publisher of L.A. Weekly for nearly 20 years, will have a frequent presence at Music Sales West in Santa Mon-

ica, Calif. He will work closely with the company to bring more vitality to the catalog, the company says. Recent covers of the catalog include **the Pussycat Dolls'** version of "Right Now," **Barry Manilow's** "It's All in the Game" and **Rod Stewart's** "Crazy She Calls Me."

Music Sales is expected to publish a comprehensive Carl Sigman songbook.

**A SUMMER THONG:** Dimensional Music Publishing has snagged Atlanta-based songwriter/producers **Tim and Bob** (aka **Tim Kelley** and **Bob Robinson**), who signed a worldwide co-publishing deal.

Tim and Bob co-wrote **Sisqo's** "Thong Song," which went to No. 1 on the Rhythmic Top 40 chart in April 2000, as well as **Jon B.'s** "They Don't Know" and songs for **Boyz II Men**, **TLC** and many others. Tim and Bob also produced and co-wrote **Bobby Valentino's** "Slow Down," which peaked at No. 8 on The Billboard Hot 100 in May 2005.

The duo is in the studio writing and producing tracks for upcoming albums by Valentino and **Brian McKnight**. ••••

OLIVER