

## STUDENTS HUNGER TO STUDY MUSIC!

By Michael St. John

HELLO AMERICA!—I have been receiving tons of letters from students begging for advice concerning what music schools to attend. Well, since I was fortunate to attend not only the USC music school, under Dr. Charles Hirt, later at UCLA and finally at Dominican University of California at San Rafael, it is very easy for me to recommend the following institutions for the study of music on all levels. It was because of the support given my musical efforts at Dominican, I was to compose my first symphony “Flight of Columbia and Dances of Remembrance” which received a GRAMMY award.

Thornton School of Music

Running virtually neck-and-neck with Juilliard is USC, with its direct access to the region’s bustling film and music industries — making it a destination not only for local music students, but also for anyone seeking a path toward working in Hollywood.

“It’s probably one of the best in the country,” says legendary Motown songwriter and record producer Lamont Dozier, who taught classes in contemporary music at the school for over six years. “It has so many applicants and the people that come there are really talented. We turn away hundreds of people every year because they’re very strict about who they [accept], and their teaching is very rigid, [so] the people who want to be there have to be there talent-wise and have to have love and dedication.”

Director and chair of the screen scoring de-



### Dominican University is a great music school to attend!

partment Daniel Carlin brought a master’s degree to the program that gives students a pathway into academia as well as film and media scoring. Students in the screen scoring program collaborate with film students and video game designers to create music for over 100 yearly film, television and game projects, either generating music digitally or with acoustic scoring at the university’s John Williams Scoring Stage with student musicians. Students also have the opportunity to work on 10 projects with Los Angeles musicians and technicians on scoring stages in Hollywood, and a recording session of 64 players at the Warner Bros. Clint Eastwood Scoring Stage.

TUITION \$42,162

NOTABLE ALUM James Horner  
Berklee College of Music

Berklee offers a cutting-edge curriculum that emphasizes production, engineering and recording technology, giving students the skill sets they need to get into the music business quickly and evolve along with changing techniques and applications.

Songwriter and musician Taura Stinson earned Oscar and Golden Globe nominations for her work on “Mudbound,” and she’s self-taught — but she’s looking to enhance her music education and has high praise for institutions like Berklee. “At Berklee you learn everything from composition to marketing, so you come here and your discipline is in order. I feel like it gives you a safety net where if you go to one of these prestigious schools you might not be able to live like Sean Combs but you will be able to make a steady living at what

you’re gifted in, and that’s beating half the game.”

Composer Marcelo Zarvos (Ray Donovan) notes that Berklee’s focus on preparing students to work with technology gives it a leg up. “That’s a side that I think academia can sometimes leave behind,” he says.

UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music

UCLA Herb Alpert’s renowned ethnomusicology department and its determinedly multicultural approach to music education and performance make it as much a world music epicenter as a school, with concerts and lectures from A-list performers and artists from the Los Angeles area, while the school’s musical theater and opera productions draw in audiences from all over Southern California.

Composer Peter Golub (Con Man, The Great Debaters) teaches a seminar, Music for Visual Media, at the school. “I have [students] writing cues and we discuss them and revise them,” he says. “I bring in guests and we do some more analytical work where we look at film music of the masters and the leading contemporary film composers and we analyze what makes this work, what makes it effective.”

The school has added new B.A. programs in global jazz studies and music education and will soon add a new minor in Iranian music, and students can participate in or enjoy 45 ensembles in over 350 performances per year.

## ADELE AND MUSIC!

By Rose Quintiliano

HOLLYWOOD—What does Chris Rock and Adele have in common? Looks like they both will have hosted a sketch on “Saturday Night Live.” Adele announced on Instagram the other day, she is so excited yet at the same time terrified, to be on October 24. The Grammy-winning popstar who by the way, has lost a tremendous amount of weight to the point she is unrecognizable, will be entertaining us.

So how did she lose all that weight? She began making healthier choices. Cutting back on alcohol and following a diet and exercise routine. She quit smoking, as well. Despite negative comments when she posted last year on her birthday, she pays no mind to the haters.

Seems she has always wanted to be on the long-running NBC series. Adele has kept a low profile since her world tour ended early in 2017, but she has rumored to be in the studio making a new fourth album. On her private life, the star has been through a breakup with her husband Simon Konecki and on her 31st birthday, and she wrote that she had “changed drastically in the last few years.” She’s also the mother to 8-year-old son Angelo, whom she shares with ex-husband Simon.

The 32-year-old Londoner actually got her big break in America. Isn’t that the saying, if you can make it in New York, you can make it anywhere. Lately, I just don’t know about New York, since Broadway, Carnegie Hall and other venues are shut down till pos-



### Adele.

sibly 2021. Actually her big break came as a musical guest in 2008, when she appeared alongside US vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin in what turned to be one of the most-watched episodes ever.

For some reason she always shows up on a show prior to an election. Back in 2015, her album, “25,” she won Album of the Year at the Grammy Awards. She dedicated the award to “the artist of my life” Beyonce, who was looking on lovingly in the front row. With this announcement came fan theories that new music could be on the way. We will have to wait and see, and wish her good luck on October 24.

Wonder if Adele will follow suit in the

same footsteps as Beyonce? First, let’s begin with who who is Merck Mercuriadis? He used to manage artists, like Elton John and Iron Maiden before launching his latest business. Did you know that the Church of England is a co-owner of Beyonce’s “Single Ladies,” Rihanna’s “Umbrella” and Justin Timberlake’s “Sexyback?” Well, the Church is one of hundreds of investors in a company called Hipgnosis, which for the past three years has been snapping up the rights to thousands of hit songs, according to published reports.

The company has spent more than \$1 billion on music by Mark Ronson, Chic, Barry Manilow and Blondie. Its latest acquisi-

tion is the song catalog of LA Reid, which includes Whitney Houston’s “I’m Your Baby,” and Bobby Brown’s “Don’t Be Cruel.”

According to the founder, the music is worth more than gold or oil. The company Hipgnosis was launched on the London Stock Exchange in 2018 by Mercuriadis and Hipgnosis adviser NileRogers of Chic. You may recall that back in 1986, Mercuriadis joined the Sanctuary Group, where he became the CEO, and managed the careers of Elton John, Iron Maiden, Guns N’ Roses, Destiny’s Child and Beyonce, as well as relaunching Morrissey’s career in 2004.

Kanye West has recently called him, one of the most powerful and knowledgeable people in music. The idea came to him back in 2009, around the same time Spotify launched in the UK. An estimated 88 million subscribe to streaming services in the US, more than a quarter of the population. The way it works, is that Apple, Amazon and Spotify keep 30 percent of the money for themselves and they pay 70 percent to the rights holders.

Rose’s Scoop: Mr. Mercuriadis now controls about 13,000 songs. I’m quite sure he can afford to buy Derek Jeter’s Tampa, Florida’s mansion which listed for \$29 million last month by listing agent Stephen Gay, with Smith & Associates Real Estate inn Tampa.