



PRESS RELEASE: Winners European Festival Awards announced

Groningen, 12 January, 2012

The best European festivals, artists and promoters of 2011 were revealed last night at a sold out ceremony, featuring performances from James Vincent McMorrow, Selah Sue and Dog is Dead.

Taking place at Groningen's De Oosterpoort in The Netherlands, the third edition of the awards was bigger and better than ever with over 350,000 votes and 200 festivals taking part from 32 different countries. A record breaking edition!

Decided by a combination of public vote and industry juries, European Festival Awards is the only event solely dedicated to recognising the contributions and achievements of the event organisers and performing artists that generate billions of Euros for local economies and brighten up the summer for tens of millions of festival-goers each year.

And the winners are;

Best Major European Festival – Sziget Festival (Hungary)
Best Medium-Sized European Festival – Off Festival (Poland)
Best Small European Festival – Haldern Pop (Germany)
Best New European Festival – Extrema Outdoor (Belgium)
Best Indoor Festival – I Love Techno (Belgium)
Best European Festival Line-Up – Rock Werchter (Belgium)
YOUROPE Green 'N' Clean Festival Of The Year – Melt! (Germany)
Artist's Favourite European Festival – Southside / Hurricane (Germany)
Best Newcomer association with Eurosonic Noorderslag – James Blake
Best Headliner – Coldplay
Festival Anthem of the Year - Coldplay 'Viva La Vida'
Virtual Festivals Europe presents Promoter Of The Year – FKP Scorpio (Germany)
YOUROPE Lifetime Achievement Award – Michael Eavis, Glastonbury (UK)

Said Fruzsina Szep from Sziget festival after receiving the Best Major Festival award and inviting everyone to join her in a drink of Palinka: "We were very much hoping to win this award and it really means a lot to us because 2012 will be the 20th edition of our festival."

On receiving his lifetime achievement award Glastonbury founder Michael Eavis said: "42 years ago I started something on my farm towards the end of the flower power era in the 60's and we had less than a thousand people and now we have 150,000 people registered to buy a ticket for 2013. Thank you very much to everyone and thanks to all the people who have been involved in our show and thanks to all the people who buy tickets every year. I hope there are a few more years to go yet, another 10 years maybe."

James Drury, MD of Festival Awards Ltd, which organises the Awards said: "The further growth of the European festival awards and another record-breaking event highlights just how important festivals are to people across the continent. It's testament to the hard work and passion of everyone involved with festivals that they continue to be so popular. With Glastonbury being the inspiration for so many festivals, I was especially delighted to welcome Michael Eavis to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. He has been seminal in the success of the festival scene in the world."

Christof Huber, General Secretary YOUROPE commented: "Michael Eavis is an icon in the European festival scene and in my view, Glastonbury is the mother of all European festivals. He is just the right person to get the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Festival Awards Europe."

For more info <http://eu.festivalawards.com/>

Notes to Editors:

Contact:

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Top 5 Festivals in each category;

BEST MAJOR FESTIVAL

Hurricane Festival (Germany)
Roskilde Festival (Denmark)
Sziget (Hungary)
Tomorrowland (Belgium)
Wacken Open Air (Germany)

Winner: Sziget (Hungary)

BEST MEDIUM-SIZED FESTIVAL in association with Megaforce

Berlin Festival (Germany)
Melt! Festival (Germany)
Off Festival (Poland)
Pohoda Festival (Slovakia)
Rock for People (Czech Republic)

Winner: Off Festival (Poland)

BEST SMALL FESTIVAL

Appletree Garden (Germany)
Blues in Hell (Norway)
Extrema Outdoor (Belgium)
Halderm Pop (Germany)
Springtime Festival (Belgium)

Winner: Halderm Pop (Germany)

BEST NEW FESTIVAL

Extrema Outdoor (Belgium)
Festival Hongerige Wolf (Netherlands)
Luna Festa (Belgium)
The Green Village (Ireland)
Waves Vienna (Germany)

Winner: Extrema Outdoor (Belgium)

BEST INDOOR FESTIVAL

Blues in Hell (Norway)
I Love Techno (Belgium)
Montreux Jazz Festival (Switzerland)
Reeperbahn Festival (Germany)
Springfestival (Belgium)

Winner: I Love Techno (Belgium)

ANTHEM OF THE YEAR

Aloe Black - I Need a Dollar
Arcade Fire - Wake Up
Coldplay - Viva La Vida
Foo Fighters – Rope
Foster The People - Pumped up Kicks
Winner: Coldplay - Viva La Vida

HEADLINER OF THE YEAR

Arctic Monkeys
Chemical Brothers
Coldplay
Foo Fighters
Queens of the Stone Age
Winner: Coldplay

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR in association with Eurosonic Noorderslag

Anna Calvi
James Blake
Magnetic Man
Selah Sue
The Vaccines
Winner: James Blake

BEST EUROPEAN FESTIVAL LINE-UP

Heineken Opener Festival (Poland)
Hurricane / Southside (Germany)
Oya Festivalen (Norway)
Rock am Ring (Germany)
Rock Werchter (Belgium)
Winner: Rock Werchter (Belgium)

YOUROPE GREEN 'N' CLEAN AWARD

Melt! (Germany)
Oya Festivalen (Norway)
Shambala (UK)
SOS 4.8 (Spain)
Winner: Melt! (Germany)

ARTISTS' FAVOURITE FESTIVAL

End of the Road Festival (UK)
Paléo Festival Nyon (Switzerland)
Southside / Hurricane (Germany)
Sziget Festival (Hungary)
T in the Park (Scotland)
Winner: Southside / Hurricane (Germany)

2010 winners;

Best Major European Festival: Heineken Open'er Festival – Poland
Best Medium-Sized European Festival: Electric Picnic Music & Arts Festival – Ireland
Best Small European Festival: 5 Tauron Nowa Muzyka Festival – Poland
Best New European Festival: Temple House Festival – Ireland
Best Indoor Festival: Rolling Stone Weekender – Germany
Best European Festival Line-Up : Oxegen – Ireland
Best Newcomer – Florence and the Machine
Best Headliner – Muse
Festival Anthem of the Year: Muse 'Uprising'
YOUROPE Green 'N' Clean Festival Of The Year: Boom Festival – Portugal
Artist's Favourite European Festival – Melt! – Germany
Virtual Festivals Europe presents Promoter Of The Year: Kilimanjaro/K2
YOUROPE Lifetime Achievement Award: Leif Skov, Roskilde

About Festival Awards Ltd:

Festival Awards Ltd is the producer of the Festival Awards UK, Festival Awards UK Conference, and Festival Awards Europe. As well as giving fans chance to tell festival organisers which events they think are the best, it also provides industry networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities through the associated UK conference.

www.festivalawards.com

About YOUROPE:

Yourope is the association for European Festivals, with over 60 members which are among the most well established festivals in Europe. All Yourope's members are dedicated to improving the European festival scene in terms of working conditions, health and safety, environmental and music talent. The overall aim of the association is to collaborate and share best practice, and to pinpoint areas that would benefit from a joint approach. Yourope is also founding partner of the European Talent Exchange Programm and the live music lobby European Live Music Forum.

www.yourope.org

About Eurosonic Noorderslag:

Eurosonic Noorderslag is Europe's most important live music industry conference and showcase festival for European talent. With over 2800 delegates, showcases by 260 artists and a conference with 100 panels, keynote speakers, interviews and meetings, Eurosonic Noorderslag is the key exchange and networking platform for European music, European artists, international music industry professionals and organizations.

www.eurosonic-noorderslag.nl

About Intellitix:

Intellitix is the market leader in RFID access control and cashless payment systems. This year alone we activated over 1 million RFID Tags at festivals including Coachella, Bonnaroo, Lollapalooza, Outside Lands, Electric Zoo and Austin City Limits. We cut queues to a minimum, eradicated ticket fraud and unwanted resale, and our proprietary software and fully integrated hardware proved 100% secure and reliable. Rather than be a cost, the Intellitix platform is designed to generate new revenues. Having recently opened a European office (based in central London), we are currently looking for a selection of forward-thinking festivals to work with in Summer 2012 and beyond.

<http://www.intellitix.com/>

Megaforce:

Megaforce is a European-wide acting stage company. The company was founded 1992 and became shortly after being accepted as one of the most capable providers for stage solutions throughout Germany. The company produces and provides classical open-air-stages for festivals as well as arched roof stages for classical concerts. With a large choice of stages of each kind, it is able to provide stages for all the big festivals and open-air-concerts all over Europe at the same time. Megaforce also builds all kind of staging and rigging solutions for corporate events, sporting events, exhibitions or open-air festivals and has an international trucking company of its own. <http://www.megaforce.de/>

About Virtual Festivals Europe:

Virtual Festivals.com has grown by purely organic means since 1999 to become the UK's market leading online portal and social network for music festivals, successfully consolidating this marketplace (from the hundreds of events that take place to the millions who attend them) in one place on the web. The website currently commands more influence and credibility with both industry and consumers in the festival sector than any other single media property.

Building on its UK success, Virtual Festivals Europe was launched in collaboration with YOUROPE in July 2008 to aggregate the pan-European festival marketplace in a similar way.

eu.virtualfestivals.com