

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 22.30 MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER**

**\*\*\*NEWS\*\*\***

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SUPPORTING THE BRIT TRUST AND NORDOFF ROBBINS

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### **ARTISTS PAY TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL EAVIS AS HE IS HONOURED WITH THE MUSIC INDUSTRY TRUSTS AWARD**

Michael Eavis CBE, creator of the much-loved and world-famous Glastonbury Festival, was this evening honoured with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Music Industry Trusts Award (MITS). The Award, presented by Lars Ulrich (Metallica), was in recognition of Michael Eavis's outstanding contribution to the UK's live music industry and many charitable causes.

The evening was hosted by Glastonbury regular Jo Whiley and guests were treated to live performances from Rudimental, Nick Mulvey and a stunning three song finale by Florence + The Machine. Coldplay, Rolling Stones, Paul McCartney, Lily Allen, Ellie Goulding, Kasabian and Dolly Parton were amongst those that paid tribute to Michael Eavis.

Over 1200 guests attended this charity event which is in aid of Nordoff Robbins and The BRIT Performing Arts & Technology School. The Music Industry Trusts Award is sponsored by Spotify, PPL, Ingenious Media and Live Nation.

Michael Eavis, said: "After crawling through a hole in the hedge to take a peep at Freddie Bannister's Bath Blues Festival in 1970, I can't believe that 44years of semi-controlled chaos has led to me receiving this prestigious award. Thank you all so much."

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The many artist tributes to Micheal Eavis told their own stories of playing Glastonbury and what the opportunity had meant to them. Here are some extracts:

Lily Allen: "Your Festival is literally better than Christmas...I get that same feeling in my gut that I did on Christmas Eve as a kid but for the whole week leading up to that last weekend in June. I love you, you have made the world a bearable place."

Dolly Parton - "We think you're IT!!! I mean, Glastonbury - what else is there??!"

Damon Albarn "I'd like to thank you for your husbandry of the musical health of the British Isles and far further afield."

Ellie Goulding: "I won't ever forget my first Glastonbury performance, there was a different kind of magic in the air to anything I had performed at before, it seemed like a defining moment in my career and I thank Michael for believing in me and letting me be there. I want to congratulate Michael on the colossal amount he has achieved with Glastonbury and its legacy – keeping music alive with the most exciting festival in the world – long may it continue!"

Rudimental: "Hard to explain how grateful we are to Michael. To perform at Glastonbury, especially the Pyramid stage, was literally a dream for us as kids...we've played so many festivals around the world but none of them even compare to what Michael Eavis has created."

Coldplay: "Thanks you for the incredible experiences you've given us and so many others".

Mark Cooper, BBC Head of Music Television "Possibly the first time won by a man in shorts" - "You (Michael) have created a world that people believe in. A world that supports music, supports artists, supports fans, and gives them a unique place to be themselves."

The Music Industry Trusts Award, now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, will after tonight's event have raised £5 million for Nordoff Robbins and the BRIT Trust. It has earned its

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respected place in the entertainment industry due to the great names that have held this honour: Sir George Martin, Ahmet Ertegun, Sir Elton John and Bernie Taupin, Lucian Grainge CBE, John Barry OBE, Sir Michael Parkinson CBE, Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sir Tom Jones, Kylie Minogue OBE, Sir Harvey Goldsmith, Jools Holland OBE, Gary Barlow OBE and Annie Lennox OBE. The Award was founded to recognise outstanding achievement in the UK music industry as well as to benefit the charitable work of Nordoff Robbins and the BRIT Trust.

- The Award is unique because it recognises the outstanding contribution that an individual has made to British music and the British music industry. This recognition is more than about an individual's success in music, it also reflects how the honouree has used – over the course of a career – his (or her) achievements and influence to benefit and inspire others.

The Award evening has become renowned for its magic moments, with unique live performances.

*Ingenious said: "Ingenious is delighted to support the Music Industry Awards once again and we congratulate Michael Eavis on his much deserved award. Michael has made an exceptional contribution to the music industry and in doing so, has raised millions of pounds for charity. Ingenious is proud to be involved with the work of the MITS and our continued support of the BRIT Trust and Nordoff Robbins.."*

*Peter Leatham, CEO, PPL, said: "Annually, the Music Industry Trusts Award dinners honour the creativity of an individual who has been an inspiration to so many in the music industry and beyond. This year, we are delighted to be celebrating the achievements of Michael Eavis, a true visionary whose tireless dedication to the live music scene and numerous charitable causes has earned him this award. Michael is an inspiration not just to those of us lucky enough to share the evening with him, but also to the hundreds of thousands of people of whom he has benefitted in pioneering the annual Glastonbury Festival – now the largest and most prestigious live music festival in the world."*

*Angela Watts, VP Global Communications, Spotify said "Michael has worked tirelessly over the years for the enjoyment and benefit of so many of us,*

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*supporting many wonderful charities and countless musicians through the utterly legendary Glastonbury Festival. Congratulations Michael, from your great fans at Spotify."*

John Reid, President of Concerts, Live Nation said: *"Michael Eavis has made an invaluable contribution to the music industry and an area of music that Live Nation are proud to be at the forefront of. Glastonbury Festival is The shining example of the power of live music and what an incredible impact such an event can have not only on it's attendees but to the causes that Michael holds so dear. He is a man whose reflected ideals and values have created, curated and run something that is unparalleled in Global music today. No other music festival event in the world has the cultural importance of Glastonbury. From all at Live Nation, many congratulations, we are proud to continue to support the MITS and the life changing work of the BRIT Trust and Nordoff Robbins"*

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### **Note to editors:**

**Nordoff Robbins** is a music therapy charity, dedicated to transforming the lives of vulnerable children and adults. They work with people with a range of challenges such as autism, dementia, depression and physical and learning disabilities. They carry out their work in their own music therapy centres, in schools, community centres, hospitals and care homes. Nordoff Robbins is a small organisation but needs to raise £3 million every year to continue to provide music therapy to all those who desperately need it. [www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk](http://www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk)

**The BRIT School** is the UK's leading performing arts and technology state school, providing an unique and free education for 1,200 pupils aged between 14 and 19, from a wide range of backgrounds and academic abilities. 'BRIT' stands for the British Record Industry Trust, which is the charity whose mission is to 'support young people in music and education'. The BRIT School is very different to normal vocational schools, with a very diverse intake of talented kids who would otherwise not have the opportunities to develop their potential in music, musical theatre, dance, digital arts, theatre, media, art and design or technical theatre (production). It is a unique place with a history of success and innovation. [www.brittrust.co.uk](http://www.brittrust.co.uk)