

Jermaine Dupri Joins Writing Camp's Judges For 'Platinum Hit'



Evan Bogart, Erika Nuri and David 'DQ' Quinones

Platinum producer/performer/entrepreneur Jermaine "J.D." Dupri, in addition to spinning as a premier DJ with SKAM, is a judge for the new Bravo reality series, "Platinum Hit." JD joined the cast of the "America's Next Top Model" type show where songwriters compete. Each show features a different challenge. In the premiere, the challenge is to write a chorus about Los Angeles in half an hour. The judges' panel, led by Kara DioGuardi, chose four hooks and then teams were selected to complete the song. The winner of "Platinum Hit" receives a publishing deal from Sony/ATV and a recording contract with RCA/Jive. Platinum Hit premiered on Bravo May 30. Other judges that will appear during the weekly series include Leona Lewis, Donna Summer and Taio Cruz.

Perfect Harmony



Multi-platinum singer/songwriter Taio Cruz collaborates in the studio with Coca-Cola on the Perfect Harmony program where he writes part of a song and calls on the fans to finish the lyrics on AmericanIdol.com. He then performed the single on the finale of "American Idol." This is just part of the new Coca Cola music program, Perfect Harmony, offering teens the inside track to the latest in music through opportunities to express themselves and collaborate with popular artists. A Hispanic emphasis is scheduled to launch later this year. —Photo by AP/Wilford Harewood

The Writing Camp, which is comprised of Grammy-nominated songwriters Evan Bogart, David 'DQ' Quinones and Erika Nuri have added the title of TV producers to their company's resume. The trio, who have written and produced hits for the likes of Chris Brown, Beyoncé, Britney Spears, Adam Lambert, Enrique Iglesias, Fantasia, J-Lo, and Keyshia Cole, are the producers of the new Bravo TV show "Platinum Hit" and have collectively amassed more than 2 million in record sales in the past year alone, not including catalog sales.

Larry Wade, who was recently promoted to Executive VP of the Writing Camp, "has been instrumental in building the writing camp from its inception. He is an invaluable cornerstone of our foundation and will continue to grow the company in many directions," stated Bogart, about the company's expansion. And the group welcomes Big Billy Clark as its new GM, a successful A&R and manager at Deffjam, Atlantic and Sony BMG. "He has an incredible ear and knack for developing young talent and songwriters," says Bogart.

Steve Harvey Goes Green



Steve Harvey continues to expand his reach. Now the comedian, best-selling author, syndicated radio personality and "Family Feud" host is joining film icon Tyler Perry to bring Hollywood to the A-T-L. Harvey has opened Green Screen Studio, a state-of-the-art facility in the trendy Atlanta area of Buckhead. One of the first major orders of business will be taping the very popular TV game show "Family Feud" this summer.

With more than two decades of experience entertaining audiences worldwide on stage, television and movie screens, radio and in books, Harvey is hoping to bring more Hollywood-quality production home to the South. The studios have already been the site for numerous corporate and network video and photo work. Clients already include BET, State Farm, Premiere Radio Networks and the Gospel Music Channel.

"It only feels natural to fill a production need in a growing entertainment market like Atlanta, and offer a well-sized alternative to the smaller green screen rooms I've seen," Harvey commented.

The facility includes a full range of amenities, including a kitchen, exercise area, video security and office space. On the technical side, it offers ISDN line availability, free Wi-Fi/DSL Internet, free local and long distance calling and a TriCaster unit for live web streaming. Green Screen Studio boasts the space to shoot almost anything, with 1,405 square feet of working space. The three-sided cyc wall green screen area measures 665 square feet, with an additional open area of 740 square feet. The rest of the stage area includes a lighting grid with power, sound room and control room.

Film/TV Show Production Nets Georgia Billions

Georgia is now among the top five U.S. states for film and TV production with more than 274 projects shot in the state since July 2010, according to the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. The AJC puts the economic impact of the filming at an estimated at \$2.1 billion. Movies filmed in the state are premiering throughout the summer and fall, ranging from "X-Men: First Class" to the upcoming remake of "Footloose," set for an October release. Other Georgia-based films coming out include "The Change-Up," starring Ryan Reynolds and Jason Bateman, and "Wanderlust" with Jennifer Aniston and Paul Rudd. Also state-based TV shows include "Family Feud" from Steve Harvey's new studio, MTV's "Teen Wolf," the Discovery Channel's "Auction Kings" and AMC's "The Walking Dead."

The state gives a tax break of 20 percent to many productions, with an additional 10 percent break to films and shows that feature a Georgia promotional logo.