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What are the UK record industry's initiatives when it comes to paid internships?



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The BMG UK boss on her firm's international reach - and its unique offering for artists



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The company's UK in-house record label readies new releases

Monkey business

ARCTICS TAKE TWO AT BRITS ● RUDIMENTAL WINNERS



EVENTS

BY TIM INGHAM

Arctic Monkeys were the big winners at this week's BRIT Awards 2014, taking home two gongs - British Group and MasterCard British Album Of The Year.

Collecting one of the band's

gongs, lead singer Alex Turner told the crowd at The O2 Arena in London: "That rock'n'roll, eh? That rock'n'roll, it just won't go away. It might hibernate from time to time - sink back into the swamp... the cyclical nature of the universe in which it exists demands that [we] acquiesce to some of its rules. But

it's always there, just around the corner."

One Direction also picked up two gongs - for British Global Success and the British Video Award. Other UK acts honoured included Rudimental (featuring Ella Eyre) for British Single, Bastille for British Breakthrough Act, Ellie Goulding for Best

BRITS 2014: ALL OF THE WINNERS

- **BRITISH MALE SOLO ARTIST**
David Bowie
- **BRITISH BREAKTHROUGH ACT**
Bastille
- **BRITISH FEMALE SOLO ARTIST**
Ellie Goulding
- **BRITISH GROUP**
Arctic Monkeys
- **CRITICS' CHOICE**
Sam Smith
- **BRITISH GLOBAL SUCCESS AWARD**
One Direction
- **BRITISH SINGLE**
Rudimental featuring Ella Eyre - Waiting All Night
- **MASTERCARD BRITISH ALBUM OF THE YEAR**
Arctic Monkeys - AM
- **BRITISH PRODUCER OF THE YEAR**
Flood & Alan Moulder
- **BRITISH VIDEO AWARD**
One Direction - Best Song Ever (social vote via Twitter)
- **INTERNATIONAL MALE SOLO ARTIST**
Bruno Mars
- **INTERNATIONAL FEMALE SOLO ARTIST**
Lorde
- **INTERNATIONAL GROUP**
Daft Punk

British Female Solo Artist and David Bowie for Best British Male Solo Artist. Bowie's award was collected on his behalf by Noel Gallagher and Kate Moss, who recited a written speech in which Bowie addressed the call for independence in Scotland, saying: "Scotland, stay with us."

New Zealander Lorde, signed to Virgin EMI in the UK, won International Female Solo Artist, while Daft Punk picked up International Group. Bruno Mars triumphed in the International Male Solo Artist category.

Universal puts faith in George



Universal Music boss David Joseph believes that next month's Symphonica album could signal the start of a sustained period of creativity for George Michael - one which could even surpass his career highs to date.

Symphonica will be released on March 17 on Virgin EMI. It will be Michael's first album since 2004's Patience and his first ever within the Universal Group.

Joseph is certain, however, that there won't be a long wait for album number seven. The next as-yet-untitled release will be a collection of original songs. Symphonica is a selection of Michael's catalogue and covers.

Joseph told *Music Week*: "George is incredibly involved in [the Symphonica release], but my intel is telling me that right now his attention is on that next studio record. I've heard bits and pieces and it is stunning."

"The global anticipation for a totally new collection is going to be enormous. Whether that's 10, 11 or 12 years after the last one, I don't really mind, because I know he won't entertain the thought of a release until it's perfect."

■ **George Michael special feature: pages 21-49**