

EMERALD FOREST ENTERTAINMENT

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In 1989, Emerald Forest Entertainment was established by Linda Blum-Huntington and Marla McNally. To arrive at the company name, it took a pile of legal pads with "words that were important to us... It's magical but it's strong for us," says Marla. "We like the tree and the growth... and emeralds, because they're the most expensive gems in the world," Linda notes. "And the most beautiful," adds Marla.

Marla's music business career began in 1979 as Assistant To The President at Big 3 Music (UA) and from there she moved to a sales position at United Artists Films. In 1981 she accepted a position as Head of Int'l. Repertoire for Intersong Music, where Marla was responsible for finding talent and catalogs in the U.S. for foreign subpublishing. Marla's next position was as Director Of Talent Acquisition and Int'l. for Chappell/Intersong in 1985. In that position she moved from New York to Los Angeles to join

Ira Jaffe, Linda Blum and Susan Collins on the creative staff. When Warner Brothers bought Chappell/Intersong in 1987, McNally stayed with the company as V.P. Of Talent Acquisition, where she stayed until she became disillusioned with the size of the operation. Unfortunately, shortly after leaving to join Jaffe and Blum-Huntington at EMI, that company merged with SBK creating another monster publisher.

Linda began as a Professional Manager in 1978 at Landers-Roberts Entertainment before joining Billy Meshel at Arista Music the next year, also as a Professional Manager. Within two years she was promoted to Director of Professional Activity, where she was responsible for over 100 cover recordings as she worked closely with several of today's most successful songwriters. In 1985 Linda accepted a position as West Coast Head of the Professional Department at Chappell/Intersong, working with Irwin Robinson, Ira Jaffe, Bob Skoro and Marla McNally. The next year she was promoted to National Director and then to V.P. in 1987. When Warner Brothers acquired the company, Linda moved with Irwin and Ira to EMI Music as National V.P. of Professional. After setting up a number of major signings for the company, when EMI and SBK merged Linda and Marla left to form Emerald Forest Entertainment in April of 1989.

By June 1989, they moved into their first office space. Linda explains, "One important thing for us was to be able to do subpublishing deals territory by territory... We were very happy to be able to put together our joint venture with a Japanese independent company, Hori Pro Entertainment, which gave us the freedom that we wanted."

At present their roster includes **WRITERS & PRODUCERS:** Michael Dan Ehmig, Randy Jackson, Paul McKenna, John O'Brien, Marc Tanner, Richard Wagner, Scott Wilk, Hawk Wolinski. **ACTS & BANDS:** Tyler Collins(RCA/BMG), Electric Boys(ATCO), Sophie B.Hawkins(SONY), Kik Tracee(RCA/BMG), Vincent Rocco(Elektra), Roxy Blue(Geffen), Mark Spiro(Interscope), Michelle White, Johnnie Fiori.

Emerald Forest Entertainment's recent recordings included: the **Eddie Money** release "She Takes My Breath Away," co-written with Marc Tanner; **Alice Cooper's** "Might As Well Be On Mars," co-written by Richard Wagner; the **Julian Lennon** single, "Saltwater," co-written by Leslie and Mark Spiro; seven tracks co-written by Michael Dan Ehmig on the new **Lita Ford** album; two tracks co-written by Mark Spiro on the latest **Bad English** record; **Bette Midler's** "All of A Sudden," written by EFE artist, Scott Wilk, and included on her last platinum LP; and several other cuts by such artists as Teddy Pendergrass, Freddie Jackson and Celine Dion.

Current and upcoming releases by Emerald Forest artists are **Vincent Rocco** on Elektra, **Sophie B. Hawkins** on Sony Records, **Roxy Blue** on Geffen, **Tyler Collins** on BMG Records, and the **Electric Boys** on East/West. The company is also looking forward to other releases including: songs co-written by John O'Brien for **Bonx Style Bob** on Sire Records; a new Geffen album for **Fiona**, co-produced and co-written with Marc Tanner; material by Mark Spiro for **Robin Zander** on Interscope; two cuts by Mark Spiro for **House Of Lords** on their Victory Record's debut album; the upcoming Hawk Wolinski produced album for the **Neville Brothers**, and others.

In the area of artist development, the EFE roster also includes such new artists as Michelle White and Johnnie Fiori.

Marla and Linda explain that, "Emerald Forest was originally established to be competitive financially with the major conglomerates and to also provide an environment where old fashioned, creative publishing can take place. We've always said that we can compete with the majors, but they can't compete with us."