

## Lifestyle | Music &amp; Movies



Beyoncé performs with Jay-Z Saturday during the Coachella Music and Arts Festival in Indio, California, Saturday. — AFP Photos



A fan walks through the festival grounds with a Beyoncé cloth draped over during the Coachella Music and Arts Festival.

# Beyoncé throws Coachella homecoming with Destiny's Child reunion



Nile Rodgers & Chic perform during the Coachella Music and Arts Festival.



Haim performs Saturday during the Coachella Music and Arts Festival.



Benjamin Booker performs during the Coachella Music and Arts Festival.

Beyoncé returned spectacularly to the stage Saturday with a joyous, homecoming-themed party at the Coachella festival where she delighted fans with a rare reunion of her former trio Destiny's Child. Before a sea of some 100,000 people in the southern California desert, the pop superstar headlined the second night of the premier global music festival, ending a year-long hiatus from live music as she gave birth to twins.

Beyoncé showed no sign of slowing down after her maternity leave, singing and strutting her stuff with little break for two hours as she led around 100 back-up dancers and musicians. Her husband, rap mogul Jay-Z, popped up on stage toward the end of her set to join in their song "Deja Vu." But he turned out to be only a preview of a less routine guest appearance. With an audio recording of novelist Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's essay "We Should All Be Feminists" allowing Beyoncé a moment to prepare, she re-emerged being elevated to the stage in an unmistakable silhouette of three figures. Fellow Destiny's Child members Kelly

Rowland and Michelle Williams joined Beyoncé for three of the trio's songs, including "Say My Name." It was their first reunion since Beyoncé's Super Bowl halftime show in 2013. The group propelled Beyoncé to stardom but was also beset by internal friction. On Saturday, Beyoncé referred to her bandmates as her "sisters"—and was also joined on stage by her real sister, Solange Knowles.

Beyoncé made clear from the start that Coachella was about reuniting, with an announcer starting the show by welcoming guests to her "homecoming." A school's worth of brass and string players played from stadium-style stands as Beyoncé entered to a New Orleans-style march. She sported an all-American outfit of tight jean shorts and a collegiate sweatshirt—the Greek letters, of course, starting with "B." After revving up the crowd with fireworks and the boisterous "Crazy in Love," Beyoncé offered a take on "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the unofficial African American national anthem. Beyoncé voiced pride that she was the first black woman to headline Coachella.

She is one of the few women to top the bill of any major festival, a sign of lingering male dominance of the music industry. Coachella takes place over two consecutive weekends with identical lineups. Next weekend, Beyoncé may want to check her shoes—after changing into a racier bodysuit, she appeared to hold herself back at moments for fear of dancing her feet out of her boots.

#### Protest by Byrne

While Beyoncé went light on the politics, New Wave pioneer David Byrne of Talking Heads fame delivered a forceful statement against racism as he covered Janelle Monáe's protest anthem "Hell You Talmbout." Set only to percussion, Byrne updated the song about African Americans fatally shot by police or in other racially charged incidents. Reciting each name, from Emmett Till who was lynched in 1955 to Stephon Clark who was shot dead by police last month in California's state capital Sacramento when holding his cell phone, Byrne's band implored the crowd, "Say his

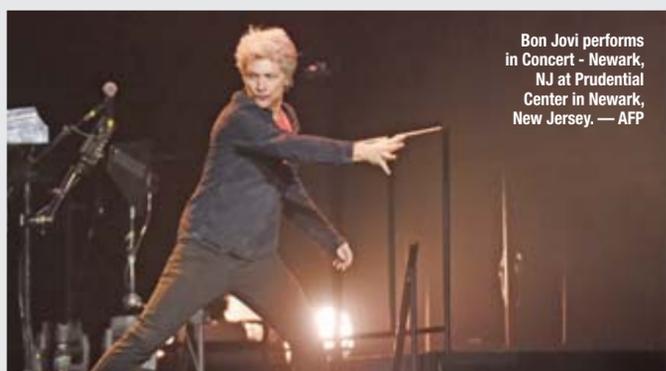
name!" The track belied the tone of Byrne's set, which was infused with his signature sly irony. Barefoot in a gray suit, Byrne opened sitting in a school desk and holding a brain, which he serenaded with "Here," a track about neuroscience off his new album "American Utopia." Byrne, in what he has described as his most ambitious stage project since Talking Heads, designed a strikingly sleek space with chain curtains delineating a clear floor and his 11-piece band, dressed identically to him, all wireless.

Dancing first with mime-like body thrusts, with Byrne throwing his hands forward as if off-kilter on the Talking Heads classic "Same As It Ever Was," the band took the shape of a campfire party as the sun set on the palm trees behind them. The band took turns playing solos that showed the scope of Byrne's global influences, from Latin-inspired bongo drums to a Middle Eastern-tinged whammy bar session on guitar by Byrne himself.

X Japan reunites with hologram  
Coachella also marked an unusually intimate

return for X Japan, megastars of Japanese metal in the 1980s who are planning their first new album in more than two decades this year. Accustomed to packing arenas, the group managed to pull in a smaller but respectable crowd of hundreds despite the misfortune of playing at the same time as Beyoncé. X Japan paid tribute to its two late members—guitarist Hide and bassist Taiji, who both died in apparent but contested suicides—with the song "Endless Rain" as well as holograms that reunited them on stage.

Previewing the new music, which frontman Toshi will sing in English in his piercing voice, X Japan showed its blend of furious hard rock and symphonic structure with key songwriter Yoshiki-topless with a neck brace after years of physically devastating head-banging—alternating between drums and piano. X Japan also brought two guest guitarists—Wes Borland of Limp Bizkit and Richard Fortus of latter-day Guns N' Roses—a sign of the deep esteem the band enjoys in the rock world, if not yet the US general public. — AFP



Bon Jovi performs in Concert - Newark, NJ at Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey. — AFP

## Bon Jovi, Nina Simone enter Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

Bon Jovi, the Moody Blues, Dire Straits, the Cars, Nina Simone and Sister Rosetta Tharpe joined music royalty on Saturday as they were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Richie Sambora, the original guitarist for arena-packing rockers Bon Jovi reunited with the band for a rousing set at the Public Auditorium in Cleveland that included hits "You Give Love a Bad Name" and "It's My Life." R&B-infused progressive rockers the Moody Blues took the stage to perform "Your Wildest Dreams," while New Wave pop songwriters the Cars played "Just What I Needed."

Soul legend Nina Simone and Sister Rosetta Tharpe, the gospel inspiration for early rockers, both of whom were posthumously inducted, and British rockers Dire Straits rounded out the 2018 Hall of Fame class. The shrine to rock culture surveyed some 1,000 historians and music industry players to select the new inductees. Bon Jovi, the hard rockers from New Jersey led by namesake Jon Bon Jovi, came out on top in a survey that drew 6.8 million fans, whose preferences were taken into account to give an extra vote to five acts.

With a string of quickly memorable hits such as "Livin' on a Prayer" and "Wanted Dead or Alive," Bon Jovi became kings in the 1980s, packing arenas on their exhaustive tours full of pyrotechnics. Simone, who won induction on her first nomination, was widely considered one of the most influential singers of the 20th century who brought the

sensibilities of classical music to gospel and jazz. Raised in segregated North Carolina, Simone became a passionate advocate for racial equality, with her best-known song perhaps the civil rights anthem "To Be Young, Gifted and Black." She died in self-exile in France in 2003.

Tharpe, who died in 1973, was chosen for her early influence on rock. With her confident stage presence and distortion on her guitar, Tharpe took gospel music to new audiences in the 1930s and 1940s, helping set the stage for rock 'n' roll after World War II. Dire Straits, led by Mark Knopfler, emerged from Britain's so-called pub rock scene of the 1970s, which emphasized blues roots and no-frills musicianship in an era of angry punks and flamboyant glam bands. In its citation, the Hall of Fame credited the London band with its revival of Americana, saying, "Dire Straits dragged rock kicking and screaming back to its gritty, country roots using beefy guitar licks and bluesy vocals."

The Cars, led by Ric Ocasek, went in a different direction, bringing the quirky electronic effects of New Wave to classically structured pop songs, generating a string of hits such as "You Might Think," "Shake It Up," and "Drive." The Moody Blues started in R&B but shifted gears sharply with 1967's concept album "Days of Future Passed." With its incorporation of classical music, the album helped create progressive rock, with its more ambitious structures. — AFP

## Oscar-winning 'Cuckoo's Nest' director Milos Forman dies at 86

Oscar-winning Czech-born film director Milos Forman, celebrated for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "Amadeus," has died aged 86, his agents told AFP on Saturday. "I heard from (Forman's wife) Martina Forman very early this morning letting me know Milos passed away at Danbury Hospital near his home in Warren, Connecticut," his friend and agent Dennis Aspland said.

"I can confirm the news," added the director's Czech agent Radka Kadlecova, as Forman's official Facebook page displayed a black square in the place of his profile picture, complete with the dates of birth and death. The Czech news agency CTK quoted Martina Forman as saying her husband died suddenly on Friday after a short illness. "He passed away quietly, surrounded by his family and his closest people," she said. In an obituary on Twitter, Hollywood actor Antonio Banderas labeled the cigar-smoking director a "genius of cinematography."

"Milos Forman has left us. Genius of cinematography and master in the portrayal of the human condition. RIP," the "Desperado" star said. Jim Carrey, who played comedian Andy Kaufman in Forman's "Man on the Moon" (1999) — a film that inspired Forman to name his twins James and Andrew-hailed Forman as "a force" and a lovely man. "I'm glad we got to play together. It was a monumental experience," he tweeted. Born in the town of Caslav east of Prague on February 18, 1932, Forman lost both parents in Nazi concentration camps.

In the 1960s, he joined the New Wave of filmmakers standing up to the Communist regime in what was then Czechoslovakia, making himself famous with "Black Peter," "Loves of a



In this file photo taken on October 10, 2010 Czech-born US director Milos Forman poses during a photocall after being awarded for his contribution to cinema during the second edition of the Lumiere 2010 Film Festival in Lyon, eastern France.

Blonde" and "The Firemen's Ball." Shortly before the 1968 Soviet-led occupation of Czechoslovakia, which put an end to a liberal period known as the Prague Spring, Forman moved to the United States via France.

#### 'I'll miss his laughter'

His career overseas started with "Taking Off" in 1971, followed by "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" four years later, which brought him his first "best director" Oscar. An American citizen since 1977, the father-of-four returned to still-Communist Prague in 1983 to film "Amadeus," which earned him a second Oscar for best director and won eight out of 11 nominations. "Milos Forman was... a master filmmaker

— no one better at capturing small unrepeatable moments of human behavior," tweeted Forman's screenwriter Larry Karaszewski.

"We made two movies together and every day spent with him was a unique adventure," said Karaszewski, who wrote the screenplays for Forman's "The People vs Larry Flynt" (1996) and "Man on the Moon" together with Scott Alexander. "Milos loved life. I will miss his laughter," he added. Larry Flynt, the publisher of sexually graphic magazines, said he would miss Forman's "presence on this Earth." "I will always be grateful to him for telling my story in The People vs Larry Flynt. He was a remarkable man with extraordinary talent," Flynt tweeted. — AFP



In this file photo taken on February 11, 2012 Italian director Vittorio Taviani gestures during a press conference for the film "Caesar Must Die" (Caesare Deve Morire) in Berlin. — AFP

## Award-winning Italian filmmaker Vittorio Taviani dies

Italian filmmaker and Cannes Film Festival winner Vittorio Taviani has died aged 88, according to media reports yesterday citing family sources. Taviani and his brother Paolo formed one of Italian cinema's most famous duos and together they made more than 15 films.

One of their best-known was the gritty biopic "Padre Padrone", set in Sardinia, which won the top Palme d'Or prize at Cannes in

1977. Born in San Miniato, Tuscany, on September 20, 1929, Taviani died in Rome after suffering from a long-term illness.

Another of the brothers' critically acclaimed films is 2012's "Caesar Must Die", for which they won the Golden Bear prize at the Berlin International Film Festival. The pair's father was an anti-fascist lawyer and they had an early interest in social issues, which they later translated onto the screen. — AFP