

for the first "Metal Masters" tour this summer, which also will feature Heaven & Hell, Motorhead and Testament. The trek begins Aug. 6 in Camden, N.J. The tour will come to the Post-Gazette Pavilion on Aug. 16. — Reuters

Top 10 CDs

1. **Mariah Carey**, "E=MC²"
2. **Leona Lewis**, "Spirit"
3. **Miley Cyrus**, "Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus: The Best Of Both Worlds Concert"
4. **Lady Antebellum**, "Lady Antebellum"
5. **Various Artists**, "NOW 27"
6. **George Strait**, "Troubadour"
7. **Soundtrack**, "Alvin and The Chipmunks"
8. **Soundtrack**, "Juno"
9. **R.E.M.**, "Accelerate"
10. **Taylor Swift**, "Taylor Swift"



— Billboard.com

Arts Festival sets lineup

By **Regis Behe**
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Get ready to dance, boogie and move your feet.

The musical portion of this year's Three Rivers Arts Festival has a definite jamband cast, starting with festival opener moe., a diverse, progressive rock band with a sound ranging from Led Zeppelin to Frank Zappa, on June 6 at a Downtown site yet to be pinpointed.

The complete schedule:

- moe., with Teddy Thompson, June 6
- James McMurtry, with Scott Blasey, June 7
- Lizz Wright, June 8
- Artist to be announced, June 9
- Artist to be announced, June 10
- Entrain, June 11
- Rustic Overtones, June 12
- Maceo Parker, June 13
- Phoebe Snow, June 14
- New York Dolls, June 15
- Formula 412, June 16
- Israel Vibration, June 17
- Lotus, June 18
- The Holmes Brothers, June 19
- Shelby Lynne, June 20
- The Avett Brothers, June 21
- Alejandro Escovedo, June 22

All shows start at 7:30 p.m. and are free. For details, call 412-281-8723, or visit www.artsfestival.net.

Top 5 concerts

Artists ranked by average box office gross per city and includes the average ticket price for shows in North America:

1. **Bon Jovi**, \$2,615,869; \$88.69
2. **Spice Girls**, \$1,665,476; \$108.68
3. **Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band**, \$1,373,761; \$92.02
4. **Van Halen**, \$1,256,744; \$103.84
5. **Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus "Best Of Both Worlds"**, \$982,382; \$57.46

— The Associated Press

The road: A mix of marriage, career

STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

After seven failed attempts, Steve Earle finally might have found a way to make marriage work: He brought his new wife on the road with him.

The alt-country hero and outspoken radical married fellow singer-songwriter Allison Moorer in 2005, after she toured with him as an opener. The couple now share the stage and, essentially, everything else on tour.

"It's not effortless, but it's easier than being away from each other for months on end," Earle said of their travels.

Earle's junior by 18 years, Moorer, 35, concurred about the practicality of pairing their careers and personal lives. She also brought up another benefit of touring together.

"Having me on the bill brings some younger girls out to the shows who wouldn't otherwise go see him, so he's happy about that," she quipped. "His audiences look a little better now."

Marrying Moorer had a brightening effect on Earle's music, too. After two politically steaming records, the singer took a relatively lighter approach on his latest, "Washington Square Serenade," which won him another Grammy for best contemporary folk album last month.

Earle paints a picture of their life in the new album's opening track, Just as politics filled his previous two albums, the romantic stuff worked its way onto this record, Earle said: "I can only make art about the things going on around me."



Touring together works for Earle and Moorer

STEPHEN LOVEKIN/GETTY IMAGES

"I was at a point where I thought I was going to be single for the rest of my life," he said. "Part of the problem before was I always wanted to be in a relationship a little bit too badly. I'd force the issue. In this case, it wasn't anything either of us was looking for. It was just kind of undeniable."

So, is the fact that Moorer is a fellow artist and road hound the ingredient that was missing from his other marriages?

"That might be a part of it, but probably a bigger thing is the fact

Steve Earle & Allison Moorer

When: May 7, 5:30 dinner and 7:30 p.m. show
Where: Pepsi-Cola Roadhouse, Burgettstown
Cost: \$39-\$59
Details: 412-323-1919

that I'm not an alcoholic or a heroin addict anymore," he said.

Before marrying Earle (her second husband), Moorer had built up her own sturdy fan base and critical acclaim with five albums of modern, folksy but fiery country music. Her breakout song was "A Soft Place to Fall" from the "Horse Whisperer" soundtrack, which she performed at the Academy Awards in 1999. She also sang with Kid Rock in the first version of his hit "Picture," which was later released with Sheryl Crow.

Moorer's latest record, "Mockingbird," is a covers album featuring songs by other female artists, including Nina Simone, Joni Mitchell, Gillian Welch, Patti Smith and Moorer's big sister, twangy soul singer Shelby Lynne.

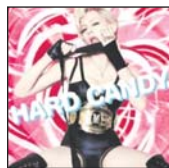
"I had written and recorded five albums over the course of about seven or eight years, so I was a little bit tired of that process at the time I was getting ready to record again," Moorer recalled. "I also felt like I wanted to go back to school in a way. One of the best ways for me to learn about songs is to work with other people's songs and figure out how to make them work."

Madonna

"Hard Candy"

Madonna might be a 49-year-old, but she still loves her dance floor, her catsuits and her pop hooks. She's also an expert chameleon, co-opting current musical tastes for her own pleasure. In the case of "Hard Candy," Madonna aims high, enlisting two heavyweight producers — Timbaland and the Neptunes. The album jumps off the disco with thunderous, uptempo club grinds but also some surprisingly dark moments. However, there's still a tendency on "Hard Candy" toward too many throwaway dance clichés. Madonna might be strutting her way into AARP-territory, but she still belongs on that forever shimmering dance floor.

— Solvej Schou, Associated Press



Ashlee Simpson

"Bittersweet World"

After listening to Simpson's new album, she actually might have no idea what year it is. It's not 1983. The album's first single, "Outta My Head (Ay Ya Ya)" has Simpson channeling Missing Persons' Dale Bozzio's quirkiness over a beat that approximates Madonna's "Burning Up." It's not 1995. With its jittery guitar and vocals, "Ragdoll" could have been built for No Doubt's "Tragic Kingdom." It's not 1998. There was a time when a good, catchy power-pop-tinged number like "No Time for Tears" would be strong enough to sell a whole album, despite the rest of it being packed with misguided filler.

— Glenn Gamboa, Newsday



Lady Antebellum

"Lady Antebellum"

Lady Antebellum features a progressive blend of middle-American grooves, rootsy harmonies and lyrics that probe relationships with a youthful point of view. They present snapshots of relationships that boldly go beyond the boundaries of most current country music themes. The emphasis is on energizing rhythms, upbeat fare and personal empowerment. With Charles Kelly's throaty growl and Hillary Scott's breezy self-assurance, they sound ready to take on the world — and capable of conquering it.

— Michael McCall, Associated Press



New releases

Mark Chesnutt, "Rollin' With the Flow"
Def Leppard, "Songs From the

Sparkle Lounge"
Estelle, "Shine"
Lyfe Jennings, "Lyfe Change"
Earl Klugh, "The Spice of Life"

Madonna, "Hard Candy"
Mana, "Arde el cielo"
Portishead, "Third"
The Roots, "Rising Down"

Santogold, "Santogold"
Carly Simon, "This Kind of Love"
Phil Stacey, "Phil Stacey"
Steve Winwood, "Nine Lives"