

RAVE QUARTERS

JULY 2026 MAG

SENTINEL

MELBOURNE TRIO'S GLOBAL DANCE RISE

FEATURING:

ADE, ALESSO, APPLE MUSIC, AVICII, BAD BUNNY, DAVID GUETTA, DEADMAU5, DEFQON.1, EDC LAS VEGAS, ERIN MICHELLE, GEMA, HAALAND, HARDWELL, HBO, HOMOBLOC, INSOMNIAC, JOHN SUMMIT, KYGO, LYKKE LI, PAROOKAVILLE, Q-DANCE, REMITLY, SCOOTER, SHAZAM, SUNO, SWEDISH HOUSE MAFIA, THE WAREHOUSE PROJECT, TOMORROWLAND, ULTRA MEXICO, UNTOLD, UNVRS, VIBEE

ALESSO SAID "I DO" IN ITALY — AND THE EDM WORLD SHOWED UP

Alesso and Erin Michelle officially became husband and wife in Italy, with a guest roster resembling a Tomorrowland afterparty far more than a typical wedding crowd. Set against Italian hillsides bathed in golden hour light, the front row featured dance music heavyweights: Martin Garrix, Sebastian Ingrosso, Marshmello, and Dillon Francis were all in attendance to mark the occasion.

For a man who usually spent his year hopping between festival lineups and overnight flights, the ceremony represented a rare, settled moment. Watching performers who normally headline Ultra and EDC trade backstage passes for wedding invitations felt like an authentic change of pace, no pyrotechnics this time around, just Prosecco, vows, and no doubt a killer after-party setlist.

Snapshots from the event spread rapidly across social media, capturing Italian villas, sunset scenery, and outfits considerably more refined than what this crowd normally wears while crowd-surfing. Given that Alesso has been a staple of the scene for more than ten years, a low-key wedding was never in the cards, and his high-profile friends confirmed exactly that.



APPLE MUSIC'S CLUB LIVE EXPANDED WITH A TOMORROWLAND PARTNERSHIP

Apple Music revealed that Tomorrowland Belgium was now part of Club Live, its livestream series found only on Apple Music Club radio, the platform's dedicated space for dance and electronic music. The streams put listeners right in the middle of some of the planet's most renowned dance floors, delivering each event's sound and energy to audiences as it happened.

After Club Live debuted with EDC Las Vegas and grew further through The Warehouse Project, Tomorrowland stepped in as the series' next big partner, with a handful of performances broadcast live from July 17-19. Throughout the weekend, Apple Music Club radio offered free livestreams across 6 stages, and afterward some sets were made available on demand in Spatial Audio for subscribers. The weekend also included rebroadcasts of each previous day's shows.

Held every year at De Schorre in Boom since 2005, Tomorrowland Belgium had become a worldwide benchmark for electronic music, drawing roughly 400,000 attendees from over 200 countries annually across more than 16 stages.

"Tomorrowland is one of the most iconic festivals in the world and a defining global gathering for dance music culture," said Stephen Campbell, Global Head of Dance, Electronic Music & DJ Mixes at Apple Music. He explained that folding Tomorrowland into Club Live gave fans everywhere a real-time link to the festival's creativity and energy, while also keeping the sets available for people to watch again later.

Relying on the same technology that powers Apple Music's DJ Mix program, driven by Shazam's identification tools, Club Live made it possible to broadcast licensed live DJ sets on a large scale, a sustainable setup that guaranteed mixes were correctly cleared, tracked, monetized, and paid out. Additional Club Live sessions were planned to keep rolling out from clubs, festivals, and Apple Music's own studios, growing into a collection of live dance performances found nowhere else.



Apple Music Radio

PAROOKAVILLE 2026 CLOSED WITH A SOLD- OUT EDITION, WELCOMING 225,000 CITIZENS

PPAROOKAVILLE 2026 reached full capacity, drawing 225,000 Citizens over three days of performances and five days of camping at Weeze Airport in Germany's NRW region. "The Aquarius" Mainstage, the newly built CUPRA 360° Desert Valley stage, and an upgraded Ceremony and Closing Show pushed the festival to new heights.

Over 300 acts took the stage, among them Hardwell, Armin van Buuren, The Chainsmokers, Charlotte de Witte, SCOOTER, Axwell, Fisher, Argy and R3hab. Standout moments included Charlotte de Witte stepping onto the Mainstage for the first time, Fisher's debut Mainstage appearance, and Steve Aoki keeping up his tradition of throwing cakes, while Bill's Factory featured performances from Alle Farben, Bausa, DJ Ötzi and SCOOTER.

Away from the music, PAROOKAVILLE's city-themed setup produced its usual memorable touches, such as a legally recognized wedding held at the Warsteiner Parooka Church and nonstop provisions from the "world's largest PENNY supermarket." Co-founder Bernd Dicks described the weekend as a fantastic, peaceful success, and mentioned focus was already shifting to the brand's other festival, San Hejmo, coming up in four weeks.

Looking ahead to 2027, PAROOKAVILLE made its earliest headliner reveal yet: BUNT. In The Round, Lost Frequencies, Don Diablo and Steve Aoki, who was preparing for his 11th festival appearance. A limited pre-sale, featuring a discounted Young Ticket for those aged 18-25, kicked off July 21, with general sales starting August 1 and all ticket categories opening up October 4. PAROOKAVILLE 2027 was scheduled for July 16-18.



Photo: Robin Boettcher



Photo: Robin Boettcher

HOMOBLOC 2025 MIXES LANDED ON APPLE MUSIC IN SPATIAL AUDIO

Manchester's The Warehouse Project put out a fresh batch of exclusive DJ mixes from Homobloc 2025, captured in Spatial Audio and now streamable on demand for Apple Music subscribers.

Taped in Manchester on December 6, 2025, the collection preserved sets from Fat Tony, Todd Edwards, Mr Mulatto, Forbid, Ana Matronic, Gina Breeze, Sally C b2b I. JORDAN, and harrsn featuring House Gospel Choir.

The release brought one of The Warehouse Project's most vital cultural moments to Apple Music, preserving the sound and spirit of Homobloc for fans to revisit beyond the dancefloor. Built around queer club culture, community, and the full spectrum of electronic music, Homobloc had become one of Manchester's defining events, bringing together generations of artists and club-goers under one roof. Released in Spatial Audio, the recordings placed listeners at the center of the dance floor, recreating the energy and atmosphere of the parties.

The arrival of the Homobloc 2025 mixes marked another step in The Warehouse Project's expanding footprint on Apple Music, offering subscribers on-demand access to DJ mixes from one of the UK's most influential club institutions. This launch came right after the reveal of the Homobloc night at Warehouse Project 2026, scheduled for September 26.



ULTRA MEXICO UNVEILED PHASE 1 LINEUP FOR ITS HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED THIRD EDITION

ULTRA Mexico revealed the Phase 1 lineup for its third edition, scheduled for Saturday, November 7 through Sunday, November 8, 2026, at Estadio Banorte, marking the very first electronic music festival ever held at that venue. Making its comeback after being absent since 2018, ULTRA Mexico 2026 further solidified its standing as one of Latin America's leading electronic music festivals.

The 2026 lineup brought together a remarkable range of international talent, with headliners Steve Angello, Hardwell, and Grammy-winning Afrojack topping the bill. Also confirmed were Boys Noize, Subtronics, Boris Brejcha, dubstep trio Levity, Ukrainian duo ARTBAT, trance icon Armin Van Buuren, and Alesso.

Completing the first wave were Sara Landry, Klangkuenstler, Marlon Hoffstadt, Eric Prydz, CamelPhat, and Miss Monique.

Three stages made up the festival, among them the Main Stage and the RESISTANCE Stage, ULTRA Worldwide's platform for underground house and techno, with more stages still to be revealed. Spaces set aside for homegrown Mexican artists rounded out the bill, completing a showcase of the country's electronic music scene.

ULTRA Mexico continued to be part of the ULTRA Worldwide family, a festival brand with active events spanning all six inhabited continents, including its flagship gathering in Miami, recognized for combining elite talent with massive production values.



SENTINEL ON "BRING THE HOUSE DOWN," TOURING WITH ALESO, AND AUSTRALIA'S RISING SCENE

'Bring The House Down' feels built for festival mainstages. What was the first idea that sparked the record?

"It started with a really simple bass line that we could hear emanating from Mike's studio. We just kept hearing it over and over again through the walls.

We spent weeks trying to tighten it up. Then we found a sick sample to match and after enough time we realised we had something special and had to put this one out."

What's been the most memorable crowd reaction to 'Bring The House Down' so far?

"Our favourite live response was probably during the recent Venice Beach popup when we played together with Alesso for his OneRepublic collaboration release party. It was an honour to close out the night and was so fun because it felt like a house party, just with way more friends than we can usually fit into our house."

As a trio, how do you divide responsibilities in the studio? Has that workflow changed over the years?

"It's different for every song. Thankfully, modern technology has made collaboration so easy that it can take so many forms. We can be in the studio together or a lot of times we can just be sharing versions and songs and melodies and ideas and chords with one another via a very busy group chat."

You recently made your US debut supporting Alesso in San Francisco. What stood out about that experience?

"What an insane first show on US soil. That was the biggest indoor venue we've ever played. It was a shock to the system. It was crazy watching the crowd just grow and grow and grow, and especially crazy to see how many people knew the words to the songs we've been making for many years."

When you're building a live set, what's more important: telling a story or keeping the energy at its peak?

"It depends almost entirely on your role. As a headliner, you should build your set however you like. In our recent sets with Alesso across the US, it's our job to warm up the dance floor. So, it's more important to cultivate the energy and gradually build things in a way that serves the whole night and not just our own interests."



Australian producers are gaining more global recognition than ever. Why do you think that's happening now?

"There's definitely something in the water in Australia. I think we're just cultivating such an amazing dance music culture in Australia in so many different genres from EDM, to trance to house music, to tech house to ambient electronic. We seem to just have all the bases covered and we're striving to help do our bit for the country on the global stage in our own lane."

What can fans expect this year? Are there any collaborations, big shows or an EP on the way?

"We're just wrapping our first North American run and ending the run in Sweden for the very first time, so we're going to go home with all of this new inspiration to work on the next chapter of Sentinel music."

We have some crazy collaborations and edits that are planned for this year and beyond. We won't say too much and spoil any of the surprises now but rest assured there's a lot on the way for everyone following our journey."





UNTOLD BECOMES FIRST EUROPEAN FESTIVAL TO OFFER FREE HPV TESTING AND BREAST ULTRASOUNDS

In the run-up to its 11th edition, UNTOLD unveiled a fresh health initiative aimed at its predominantly female audience. In a first for a European festival of this size, attendees were able to get free HPV screenings and breast ultrasounds via a mobile medical unit, operated jointly with the Renașterea Foundation and staffed by physicians from the Oncology Institute in Cluj-Napoca.

Foundation President Mihaela Geoană described it as a historic milestone, marking the first time cancer prevention had been brought into a festival environment. Ambassador Andreea Esca expressed hope that the initiative would turn checkups into a normal, even welcome part of attending the festival. UNTOLD's Ioana Chereji added that the festival saw it as a responsibility to combine entertainment with genuine impact for its community.

Across twenty years, the Renașterea Foundation had conducted more than 40,000 free screenings throughout Romania. UNTOLD headliner Zara Larsson had also been a longtime advocate for health awareness issues.

UNTOLD's 11th edition takes place August 6-9 in Cluj-Napoca, with a lineup that included Sting, Zara Larsson, Lewis Capaldi, Martin Garrix, Kygo, and Steve Aoki, among others.

VIBEE & INSOMNIAC ANNOUNCED TWO-WEEKEND HOTEL EDC LAS VEGAS EXPERIENCE FOR 2027

Insomniac and Vibee reveal that, for the very first time, EDC Las Vegas and Hotel EDC will both stretch across two complete weekends. Hotel EDC will take over Virgin Hotels Las Vegas throughout EDC Dusk (May 14-17), EDC Dawn (May 21-24), and the entire Dusk Till Dawn Experience (May 14-24).

Available only through Vibee, Headliners have the option to pick packages tied to a single weekend or the whole experience, with festival passes included or left out, plus the choice to extend their stay with extra nights. After Hotel EDC 2026 sold out entirely, Vibee's packages now stand as one of the few remaining routes to grab passes for the second weekend, given that both EDC Dawn and the full festival are already sold out. Packages can be purchased now at hoteledclasvegas.com.

Virgin Hotels Las Vegas transforms once more into Headliner HQ, offering surprise DJ sets, pool parties, wellness experiences, and themed activations across both weekends.

Package options include flexible stays of 3 or 10 nights in EDC-themed rooms that accommodate up to four guests, along with exclusive merchandise, daily wellness programming, glam stations, and entry to Insomniac-themed day parties. Additional resort perks cover free parking, gym access, a spa discount, daily dining credits, and around-the-clock onsite concierge service.

Guests also have the choice between GA+ or VIP festival pass levels, which come with perks such as expedited entry, premium restroom access, VIP viewing decks, gourmet dining, and exclusive lounge access.



SHAZAM REVEALED THE MOST IDENTIFIED TRACKS AT TOMORROWLAND 2026

Tomorrowland 2026 came to a close in Boom, Belgium, and Shazam shared the songs fans scrambled to identify over both weekends, giving a live look at which festival moments landed hardest with the crowd. The Top 10 ranged across well-known anthems, surprising remixes, and the summer's fastest-climbing tracks.

Dimitri Vegas appeared on four of the ten entries, showing up on a Sylver flip, a Makina-style throwback alongside Marlon Hoffstadt, a Junkie Kid remix, and a collaboration of his own with Like Mike. Martin Garrix showed up twice on the chart, with his Madonna collaboration "Bizarre" sitting at No. 5 and "High on Life" featuring Bonn at No. 9. Deeper tracks from ANOTR, Cassian & AR/CO, and a Twr72 remix of Fatima Yamaha's classic also secured spots.

The complete Top 10:

1. "Free Your Mind" - Prospa & Cloonee
2. "Turn The Tide" (ft. Sylver) - Dimitri Vegas, Sylver & Pat B
3. "Talk To You" (feat. 54 Ultra) - ANOTR
4. "Makina Time" - Dimitri Vegas & Like Mike, Marlon Hoffstadt, DJ Konik
5. "Bizarre" - Madonna & Martin Garrix
6. "Come To Life" - Cassian & AR/CO
7. "Woops (Dimitri Vegas & Junkie Kid Remix) [Brandon Edit]" - Junkie Kid, Dimitri Vegas & Bountyhunter
8. "What's a Girl to Do" (Twr72 Remix) - Fatima Yamaha
9. "High on Life" (feat. Bonn) - Martin Garrix
10. "Om Namah Shivaya" - Electric Universe & Greg Hilight
- 11.

"Free Your Mind" by Prospa & Cloonee, which topped the chart, had already been gaining traction at festivals throughout the summer, though its Shazam numbers really took off at Tomorrowland. The inclusion of Fatima Yamaha's 2004 underground favorite, given a 2026 remix, revealed just how much the audience still appreciated the deeper cuts from the back-catalogue, effectively turning the Shazam data into a listening record pulled directly from the phones of Tomorrowland's worldwide crowd.



HARDWELL WORE AVICII'S JACKET AT TOMORROWLAND - A PIECE FROM TIM'S FINAL WRITING TOUR

In one of the most heartfelt moments of Tomorrowland 2026, Hardwell walked onto the festival grounds in a jacket that had once belonged to his close friend Avicii. The jacket traced back to 2016 and Tim Bergling's final writing tour across America, the very period when "Without You" came together.

Talking with One World Radio at the event, Hardwell recounted the story with clear emotion, calling it one of the last jackets Tim had worn during that tour and describing it as an honor to wear, both personally and as a tribute to his friend's memory.

He continued by clarifying that the 2016 tour wasn't a run of concerts but rather a writing tour, tied to the making of Avicii's new album at the time, and that jackets like his had been produced specifically for the crew.

The moment felt even more significant given the continued work to honor Avicii's legacy, including the fan platform recently launched by the Avicii Estate. For Hardwell, a fellow Dutch icon who rose alongside Avicii, putting on the jacket at Tomorrowland became a deeply personal gesture, a way to keep Tim's spirit alive at the world's biggest festival, seven years after he passed away.

NEARLY €50,000 IN DRUG FINES ISSUED DURING TOMORROWLAND'S "RELATIVELY CALM" FIRST WEEKEND

Belgian authorities released their complete crime and drug enforcement report as the first weekend of Tomorrowland 2026 came to an end in Boom, describing the weekend overall as "relatively calm" even though nearly €50,000 in immediate drug-related fines were handed out.

Officials issued €48,150 in on-the-spot fines and carried out 38 arrests. Police found 192 festivalgoers in possession of drugs for personal use; these individuals faced immediate financial penalties, had their substances taken away, and were escorted off the grounds, numbers that were broadly consistent with the prior edition.

An additional 13 people were caught in the act of dealing and were judicially arrested, given summonses for a special Tomorrowland court session set for November 25. Suspects hailed from countries including Australia, France, China, North Macedonia, the Netherlands, Japan, Turkey, the UK, and the US, and one suspect from North Macedonia was reportedly arrested twice over the course of the weekend.

Onsite drug testing conducted by the National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology examined 358 of 471 registered samples, discovering that 81% contained a controlled substance, most often MDMA, cocaine, and ketamine. Officials pointed out that lab findings didn't always align with what users thought they had bought, and roughly 15% of those caught were carrying more than one type of substance. Twenty warnings tied to high-dose MDMA and other dangerous substances were passed along to Belgian public-health institute Sciensano.

Altogether, police carried out 21 judicial arrests, mostly tied to dealers and pickpockets, and administratively detained 17 individuals for offenses such as public intoxication. Six suspected pickpockets going after luxury goods were caught during a targeted operation at peak exit times. Police also logged 107 parking and traffic violations, towed seven vehicles, impounded eight unauthorized taxis, and seized four drones flown into restricted airspace above the festival.

TOMORROWLAND AROUND 60,000 HOTEL STAYS IN BRUSSELS, NEW REPORT REVEALED

New reporting revealed the extent of the economic boost Tomorrowland brought to Belgium every summer: the festival was responsible for an estimated 60,000 overnight hotel stays in Brussels alone across its two weekends, solidifying its place as one of the country's largest annual tourism engines.

With about 200,000 festivalgoers each weekend heading to De Schorre in Boom, the overwhelming majority arriving from outside Belgium, the ripple effect on accommodation demand spread across the whole region. While homeowners in the small town of Boom profited from short-term rentals and makeshift campsites, the spillover reached far beyond the festival grounds, with nearby Brussels emerging as one of the biggest winners thanks to its quick train link.

Sixty thousand overnight stays amounted to a huge number even for a city as busy as Brussels, roughly on par with a mid-sized convention stretched across several weeks, all packed into just two weekends. Hotels spanning boutique spots to major chains booked out months ahead of time, with prices climbing as a result.

The ripple effect stretched further still, touching restaurants, taxis, public transport, and retail throughout Brussels, Antwerp, Boom, and the surrounding towns. Tomorrowland had already reported hundreds of millions of euros in combined economic impact per weekend in the past, and this new Brussels-specific figure highlighted just how much value the festival delivered to Belgium's tourism industry.

With 2027 destinations already hinted at across Belgium, Brazil, France, Ibiza, Las Vegas, and Thailand, the Tomorrowland brand, along with its tourism reach, showed no signs of slowing down.



BIANCO & ALYCIA BEZGO ON THEIR ACCIDENTAL TOMORROWLAND MOMENT, CREATIVE IDENTITY, AND WHAT'S NEXT

You literally just walked off Tomorrowland, one of the biggest festivals in the world. Was there something that one of you did tonight during your back-to-back show that caught one of you off guard, or were you both really in sync?

AB: Wow, well, we need to start with the story of the back-to-back because we had a really special moment.

B: We did, and it was my fault.

AB: BIANCO actually thought that our set ended at 5:30 PM, but that wasn't the case. She told me, "Can you fade out at 5:30?" and I was like, "I don't know what she's talking about." Then she actually stopped the music, and we were both confused. The good thing is that we both realized right away, and no one knew it was an accident. It really felt like it was intentional. We reset the vibe and went on again for another half hour. We made it work.

B: There was one track with a vocal that I thought would be the perfect way to end the set. At 5:30 I mixed it in and thought, "Okay girl, let's take it down, we're done." Meanwhile, Alycia was just staring at me like, "What?!" I only slept two hours the night before, so I was completely confused about our set time. In the end, it actually created a really dramatic moment. We're both strong mixers, so we figured out how to make it musical, reset the tempo, and then took the energy up to eleven.

AB: I asked my boyfriend and my manager afterward, and they both said nobody noticed. It actually worked really well.

B: They thought it was intentional.

AB: We need to find footage of my face because I was definitely panicking. We still had another thirty minutes to play!

Was there a track that one of you played individually that caught the other off guard a little bit, or were you both linked in a way that you knew what was coming next?

AB: I feel like we were so in sync. I already knew we'd match well, but it was even better than I expected. Even when one of us wanted to go in a different direction, we communicated immediately. We instantly understood where we wanted to take the set.

B: I was really impressed with Alycia because she dropped some incredible breakbeat tracks, and I did not expect that. I was like, "Girl is ripping!"

Both of you have very distinct identities. How do you find the balance between showcasing your own individual sounds while still keeping it a proper back-to-back set?

AB: I think our individual sounds fit together really well, so neither of us had to change much. She's leaning more toward acid, while I'm more into groove, but that's actually a great combination.

B: Good DJs care more about the audience than their own ego. We were focused on reading the crowd instead of trying to push our own sound. We also prepared a lot beforehand. This was Tomorrowland, so we were honestly really nervous. I've never prepared this much for a set before.

AB: Same here.



Has there been a moment in your career where you realized, "This is the artist I want to be, this is the image I want," or are you still discovering that?

AB: I'm definitely getting there. At the end of last year, I went through a phase where I was really searching for myself because everything happened so quickly. I kept asking myself what my sound really was. Now I finally feel confident in what I play and the artist I'm becoming. I'm really happy with where I am right now.

You've built a very unique identity as a performer with your voice and hardware. What is it that drives you creatively?

B: I'm a very emotional person, and right now I'm honestly pretty angry about the state of the world. That's reflected in my new music because I actually have something to say. Earlier in my career, I wanted to prove that I could make club tracks. Now I care more about expressing myself than simply making functional DJ tools. That passion and anger fuel my creativity. You could even see that energy in our set tonight. I'm older now, and I don't want to waste time making empty music anymore.

A lot of aspiring DJs and producers are watching right now. What advice would you give to someone trying to land their first club show or maybe even their first Tomorrowland set?

AB: It sounds cliché, but believe in yourself. Even before I played big shows, I always believed I would eventually end up here if I kept working hard. You have to be willing to put in the work. You can go viral and rise quickly, but afterward you still need to prove yourself. Keep learning, improve your technical skills every day, and you'll continue to grow, no matter how long it takes.

Is there one piece of hardware, synthesizer, or software you would recommend to bedroom producers or live performers?

B: The first thing I'd recommend isn't hardware at all. Learn to play piano and understand music theory because it completely changes the way you understand keys, harmonies, and even the Camelot Wheel as a DJ. As for hardware, you can quote me on this: I'm trying to break the Guinness World Record for the largest acid synthesizer. My team will probably kill me for revealing that. But I absolutely love the Roland TB-303. It's one of the most expressive synthesizers ever made. It can sound like someone singing, screaming, or whispering, and it works across so many different styles of dance music.

What's something fans can be excited about from each of you over the next few months? Any new music, shows, or maybe even a collaboration?

AB: You never know what could happen, but for me the biggest thing is that I'm working really hard on new music. I'm very excited to release my first project.

B: I'm excited for that too because she actually played one of those songs during our set today. As for me, I've been sitting on an album for quite some time. It's coming from a very honest and passionate place. My first single from this project comes out next month. For the first time in my career, I'm telling one complete story across two EPs. A lot of people already know the first single because it's gone viral for something else, but it's definitely a risk because it's more of a song than a traditional DJ tool, although there's still plenty of acid in it.





DAVID GUETTA WAS OFFICIALLY NAMED A 2027 HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME STAR RECIPIENT

David Guetta received official confirmation from the Hollywood Walk of Fame as one of its star recipients for 2027, representing the greatest accolade yet in the French superstar's career and further establishing him as one of the most influential dance music producers of the 21st century.

Born Pierre David Guetta in Paris back in 1967, he rose through the French house scene during the 90s before achieving worldwide breakthrough with 2009's "One Love," which produced both "When Love Takes Over" alongside Kelly Rowland and "Sexy Bitch" alongside Akon. Its successor, 2011's "Nothing But The Beat," introduced "Titanium" with Sia and "Turn Me On" with Nicki Minaj to the world, solidifying his position as one of the most commercially successful producers in contemporary music.

From that point forward, Guetta accumulated a series of major achievements: two Grammy Awards, a Guinness World Record for producing 2022's most streamed track with Bebe Rexha's "I'm Good (Blue)," several Billboard No. 1 hits, and consecutive top spots on the DJ Mag Top 100 in both 2020 and 2021. He had topped the bill at virtually every major festival worldwide, including a landmark recent run at Tomorrowland, and assembled a collaboration portfolio featuring Rihanna, Justin Bieber, Beyonce, Madonna, Bruno Mars and numerous others.

He additionally curated the recent Tomorrowland 2026 Mainstage, maintained Ushuaia Ibiza residencies over multiple years, and put out "Human" with Third Party feat. John Martin, marking his debut release on Tomorrowland Music, earlier in that same month. Combined with his labels Jack Back and Big Beat and a charity concert benefiting Paris's Charite hospital that reached millions of viewers, the Walk of Fame recognition felt long overdue.

While the precise date for the star ceremony remained unannounced, Guetta was slated to be inducted as part of the broader 2027 class, a group that also featured prominent figures from film, television and music.

DEADMAU5 PUBLICLY CLAPPED BACK AFTER RECEIVING A DEATH THREAT ON INSTAGRAM

A direct message on Instagram, supposedly sent from an account located in Brazil, contained an image of a small handgun paired with threatening language aimed at deadmau5. Instead of handling it quietly behind the scenes or letting it slide, the producer opted to publicly identify the sender and fire back directly through his own social media with a series of biting one-liners.

"I don't normally dox people, but I also don't appreciate death threats. Do whatever," deadmau5 posted as he exposed the conversation. His responses within the DM exchange went even further, casting doubt on whether the threat was legitimate and poking fun at how small the gun in the photo looked.

The Canadian producer followed up with what fans described as a quintessential deadmau5 comeback, joking that anyone threatening him should at least pick a more "useful" weapon, and sarcastically noting the gun seemed like it would fit right into a purse.

The story spread fast across social media, with fans and fellow producers backing deadmau5's choice to expose the threat publicly. Although threats aimed at well-known artists online were far from rare, his reaction, dismissive, sarcastic and unapologetically funny, captured the unfiltered attitude that had made him one of dance music's most divisive and adored personalities for more than twenty years.



BEING A DJ IS THE NO. 1 DREAM CAREER IN NEW ZEALAND, NEW GLOBAL STUDY FINDS

A fresh international study conducted by financial services firm Remitly reveals that becoming a DJ ranks as the top dream career in New Zealand, surpassing veterinarian, actor, accountant, YouTuber, CEO, creative writer, and pilot. These results, first covered by DJ Mag and Mixmag, speak volumes about how mainstream electronic music culture has become.

The Remitly report examines Google search data, monitoring phrases such as "how to become a DJ" and "how to be a DJ" across more than 140 countries to figure out which careers people aspire to most. Within New Zealand, "how to be a DJ" emerges as the most-searched career change overall, while music producer also appears at No. 15, pointing to a wider fascination with creative fields throughout the country.

New Zealand is unique as the only nation in the whole study where DJing takes the number one position outright. On a global scale, though, acting claims the title of the world's most sought-after profession for the first time since Remitly launched the study, dethroning pilot, which had held that spot previously. Firefighter, lawyer, YouTuber, veterinarian, flight attendant, police officer, estate agent, and DJ fill out the remainder of the global top 10.

Within the arts sector specifically, DJ sits as the second most-searched career path, behind only acting, drawing just under 98,000 searches around the world.

Outside of New Zealand, DJing also breaks into the top national rankings in Australia, Canada, the United States, Ireland, Namibia, Grenada, and Trinidad and Tobago, although it doesn't reach the number one spot outright in any of those places.

The climb has been steep: DJing career searches sat at just 24th globally the last time Remitly ran this research in 2024, marking a striking surge in interest within only two years. Remitly clarifies its approach by noting that it intentionally steers clear of standard job-search terms like "pilot jobs," opting instead for the more telling phrasing "how to be a..." and "how to become a...", the kind of language used by people who are still in the dreaming phase.

The report further points to a wider shift happening in the job market: AI-related careers, such as Prompt Engineer and AI Specialist, show up in the rankings for the first time, reflecting how new technology is reshaping career dreams right alongside creative pursuits.

The results signal an unmistakable cultural shift: what was once a niche interest, DJing has entered the mainstream imagination, with figures like Fisher and Peggy Gou redefining what fans view as a legitimate creative career path.

JOHN SUMMIT'S EXPERTS ONLY IBIZA RESIDENCY WAS CANCELLED AFTER POWER OUTAGE AT UNVRS

Ibiza's newest superclub ran into an unforeseen setback when John Summit's much-anticipated Experts Only residency at UNVRS had to be called off following a power outage at the venue, leaving organizers no choice but to cancel the night even though doors had already opened.

Reports indicate the outage struck after a significant portion of the crowd had already made their way in, prepared for what was supposed to be one of the Chicago producer's headline island shows of the summer. Instead, the club was left completely dark, making it impossible for the party to go on.

UNVRS, Ibiza's ambitious next-generation superclub, had already made plenty of headlines since its summer opening, hosting the likes of Armin van Buuren, Carl Cox and Charlotte de Witte. Yet as with any venue in its debut year, growing pains were clearly part of the picture, and the weekend's electrical failure made clear just how logistically demanding running a venue of that scale could be.

Summit had been riding one of the strongest streaks in dance music, with his Experts Only imprint expanding into full-scale festival and residency territory throughout the summer. His Ibiza booking at UNVRS had been among the most anticipated of the season, which made the cancellation especially disappointing both for him and for the fans who had traveled expecting to see him perform.

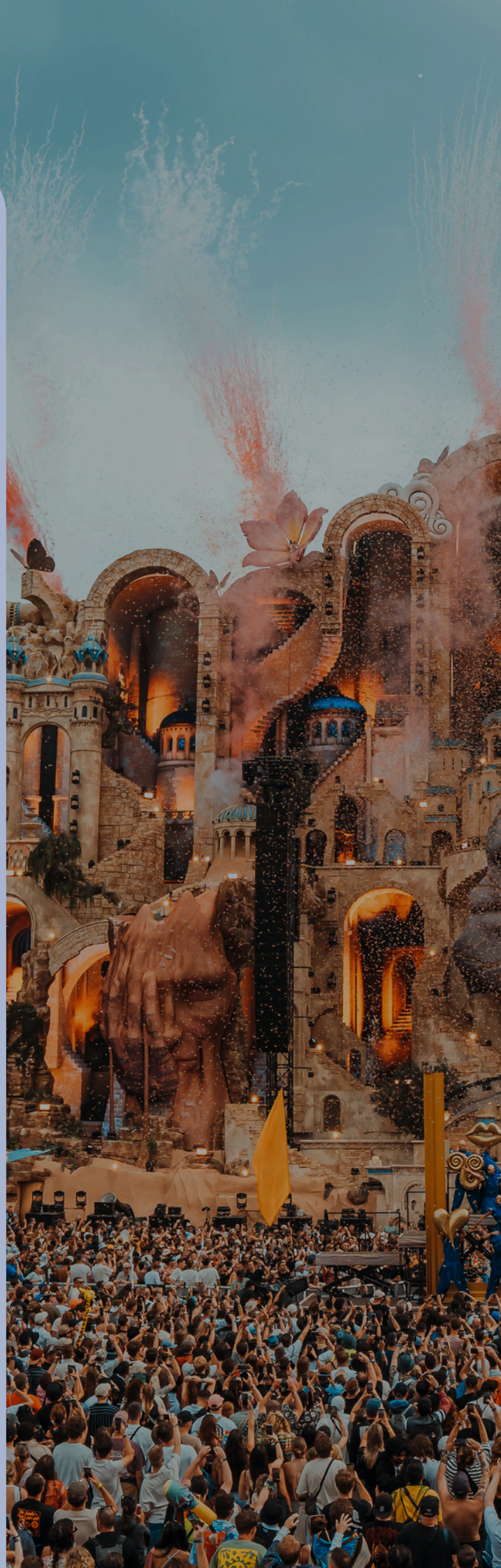
TOMORROWLAND CLOSED ITS BELGIAN CONSCIENCIA CHAPTER WITH RECORD LIVESTREAM VIEWS

Over the course of two weekends in July, Tomorrowland Belgium 2026 brought together 400,000 People of Tomorrow representing more than 200 countries at De Schorre in Boom, structured around the six emotions central to its "Consciencia" theme spread across 16 stages. The global livestream drew a record-breaking 233 million views, climbing from 193 million the previous year.

Standout Mainstage moments featured closing performances from Martin Garrix and Calvin Harris, surprise appearances by Farruko and Greeicy during Steve Aoki's set, and Bebe Rexha making history as the first American popstar to headline the Freedom stage. Dimitri Vegas, Amelie Lens, David Guetta and Armin van Buuren also turned in memorable performances, joined by Belgian artists Andromedik, Amber Broos and MANDY. The festival also marked notable Mainstage debuts for Novah, Marlon Hoffstadt, and Chase & Status.

Fans had the chance to relive the festival through complete sets posted on Tomorrowland's YouTube channel, along with ongoing coverage via One World Radio, and Prospa & Cloonee's "Free Your Mind" emerged as the most-played track of the weekend.

The Consciencia theme was next set to make its way to Tomorrowland Thailand and Tomorrowland Brasil.





DEFQON.1 CONFIRMED REFUND OPTIONS AND 2027 TICKET ROLLOVER FOLLOWING 2026 CANCELLATION

Q-dance officially verified refund and 2027 ticket rollover choices for Defqon.1 ticket holders, in the wake of last week's abrupt cancellation of the 2026 edition. The organization sent emails to all primary buyers outlining next steps and posted a dedicated refund FAQ on defqon1.com.

The 2026 edition had been called off in its entirety after an unprecedented KNMI code-red heat warning, a decision that started out as a restriction on Friday and Saturday attendance before growing into a complete cancellation once the safety situation became unmanageable, triggering chaotic scenes on the campsite and an emotional reaction from the community online.

Under the new arrangement, visitors who bought tickets through the official Q-dance shop had the option to either hold onto their tickets for the 2027 edition or request a full refund. Q-dance also released a comprehensive FAQ addressing ticket refunds, Travel & Stay products, camping, weekend packages, and merchandise pre-orders.

"Warriors, although this year's journey came to an unexpected end, our commitment to the tribe hasn't changed," the organizers wrote, expressing gratitude to the community for its patience and support while voicing hope to carry the story forward together in 2027.





SCOOTER ANNOUNCED SPECIAL ADE 2026 TAKEOVER AT AMSTERDAM'S ZIGGO DOME

Scooter's spot at ADE 2026 received official confirmation: on Sunday, October 25, the German trio would take over Amsterdam's Ziggo Dome for a special closing show at the Amsterdam Dance Event, dubbed "Scooter Crushes ADE." Promoted by MOJO, Sheffield Tunes, GG Promotion, Insomniac and Q-Music, the event was positioned as one of the flagship stadium moments of the milestone 30 YEARS ADE edition.

Scooter, consisting of H.P. Baxxter, Sebastian Schilde and Michael Simon, continued to stand as one of the most influential and commercially successful electronic acts to emerge from Germany, boasting a catalogue that includes "Hyper Hyper," "Ramp! (The Logical Song)," "Nessaja," "Weekend!" and a more recent wave of renewed popularity. Their live performance had grown into a full pyrotechnic spectacle, making the Ziggo Dome takeover a fitting choice.

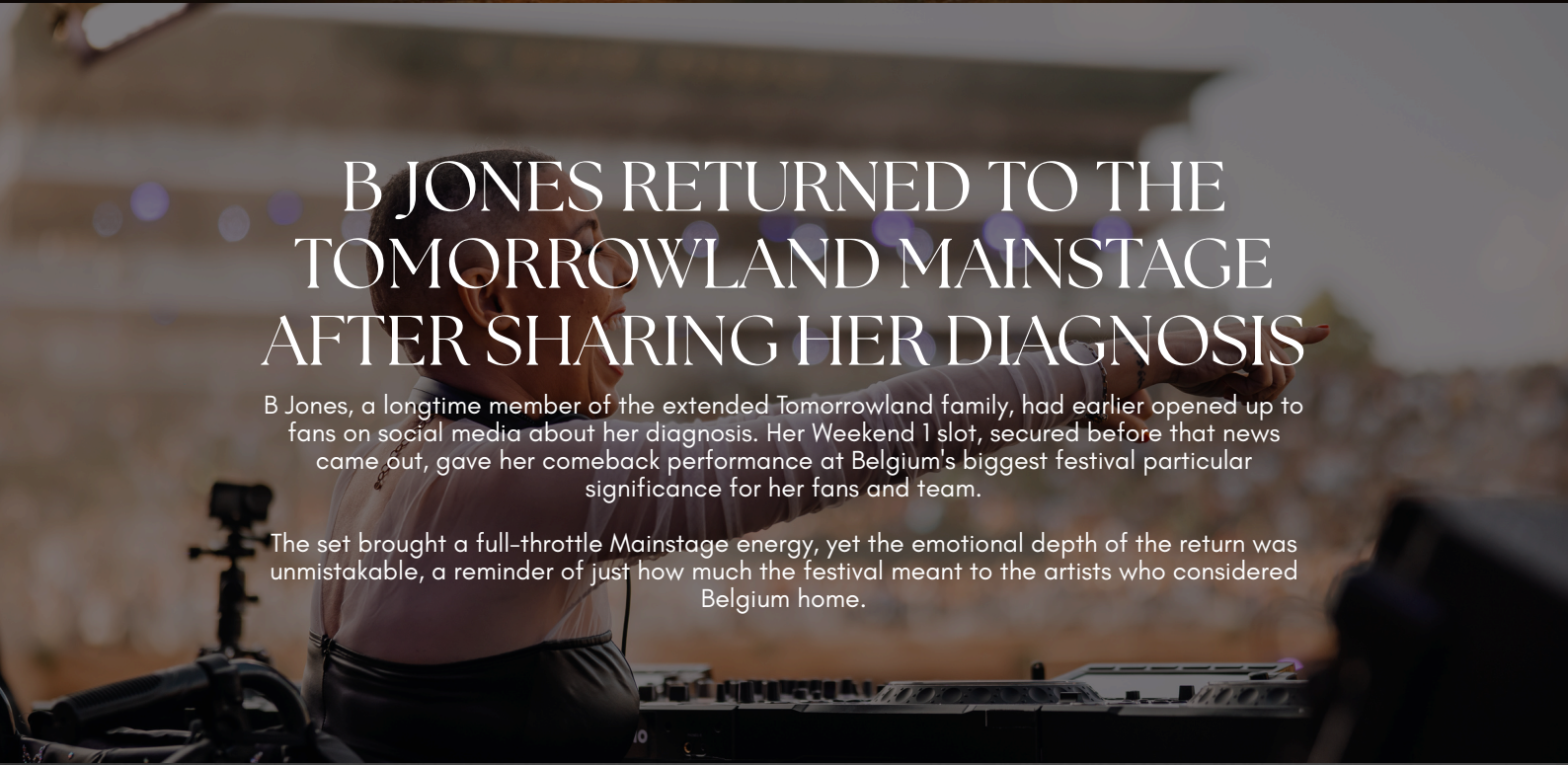
The show landed on the closing day of Amsterdam Dance Event 2026, which ran October 21-25 for the conference and festival's 30th anniversary edition. ADE had just revealed its first wave of over 350 artists, featuring David Guetta, Armin van Buuren, Adam Beyer, Amelie Lens, Adriatique and Jeff Mills, with the Scooter closing party completing the milestone lineup.



TOMORROWLAND RELEASED HAND-DRAWN CONCEPT ART FROM THE CONSCIENCIA MAINSTAGE

Tomorrowland put out a collectible print release showcasing the hand-drawn concept art that shaped its *Consciencia Mainstage*, the fan-favorite production that headlined both weekends of the 2026 Belgian edition. Printed to museum-quality standards, the prints gave a rare glimpse into the design journey, from initial sketches through to the final visual identity.

In line with previous Tomorrowland collectible drops, this release was anticipated to sell out fast. Full details were available at store.tomorrowland.com



B JONES RETURNED TO THE TOMORROWLAND MAINSTAGE AFTER SHARING HER DIAGNOSIS

B Jones, a longtime member of the extended Tomorrowland family, had earlier opened up to fans on social media about her diagnosis. Her Weekend 1 slot, secured before that news came out, gave her comeback performance at Belgium's biggest festival particular significance for her fans and team.

The set brought a full-throttle Mainstage energy, yet the emotional depth of the return was unmistakable, a reminder of just how much the festival meant to the artists who considered Belgium home.

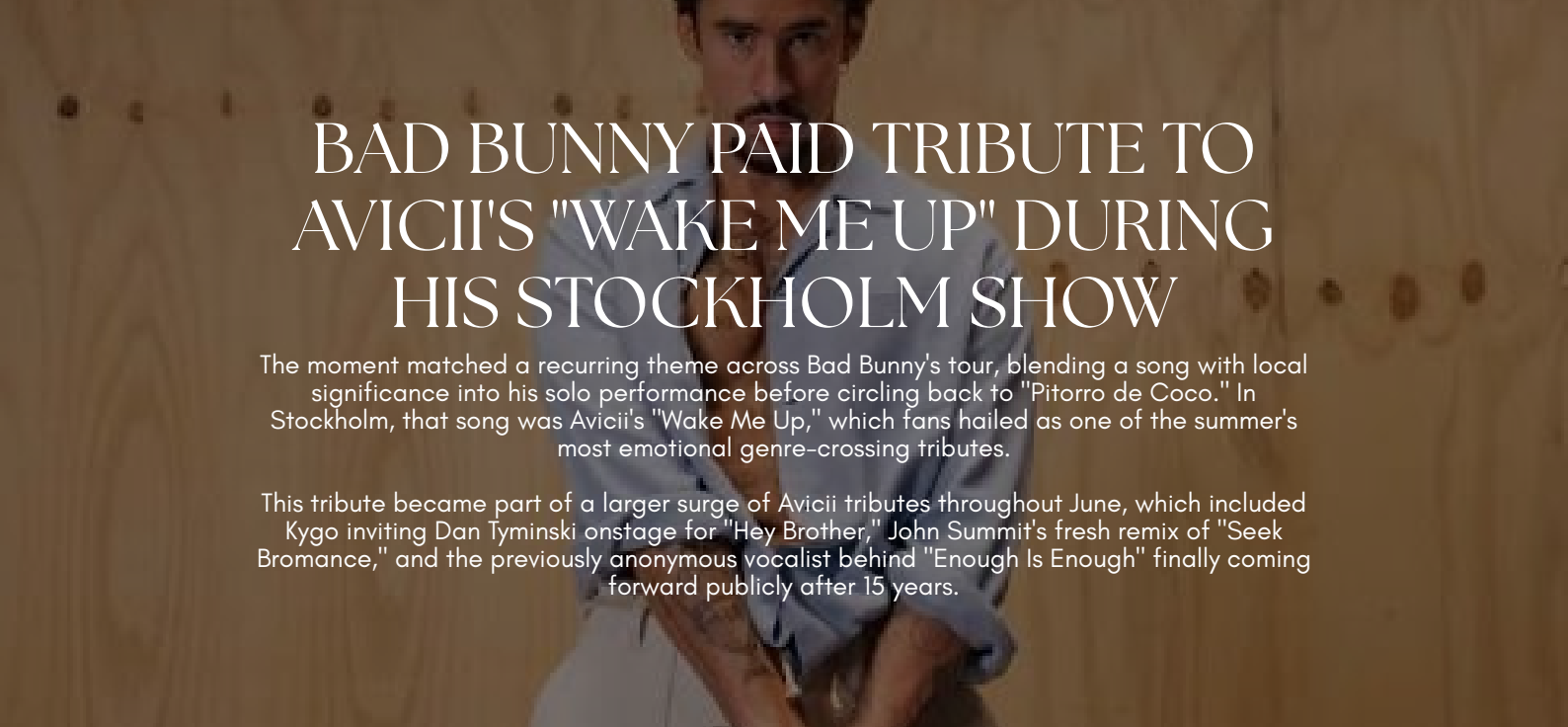


SWEDISH HOUSE MAFIA & LYKKE LI RELEASED "HAPPINESS IS SO SAD"

The song brought together a lineup of major Swedish musical talents, produced by Swedish House Mafia together with PARISI and Fred Again., while Max Martin and Oscar Holter contributed as songwriters. It made its debut on Apple Music 1 with Zane Lowe.

In terms of theme, the track delved into the bittersweet territory between joy and grief. It represented Lykke Li's first new music since "The Afterparty" back in May, coming after a summer that saw her play Coachella along with shows in London and Athens.

Swedish House Mafia had already been performing the track throughout their Ushuaïa Ibiza residency, including a standout moment at Tomorrowland 2026 where Steve Angello joined Sebastian Ingrosso onstage.



BAD BUNNY PAID TRIBUTE TO AVICII'S "WAKE ME UP" DURING HIS STOCKHOLM SHOW

The moment matched a recurring theme across Bad Bunny's tour, blending a song with local significance into his solo performance before circling back to "Pitorro de Coco." In Stockholm, that song was Avicii's "Wake Me Up," which fans hailed as one of the summer's most emotional genre-crossing tributes.

This tribute became part of a larger surge of Avicii tributes throughout June, which included Kygo inviting Dan Tyminski onstage for "Hey Brother," John Summit's fresh remix of "Seek Bromance," and the previously anonymous vocalist behind "Enough Is Enough" finally coming forward publicly after 15 years.



KYGO RELEASED A REMIX OF ERLING HAALAND'S 2016 TRIBUTE TRACK AFTER A WORLD CUP BET

The story traced back to 2016, when a young Haaland recorded himself doing a playful homage to fellow Norwegian Kygo with Flow Kingz. Ten years on, with Haaland having become football's most feared striker and Kygo one of the world's biggest melodic producers, the two brought things full circle with an official remix.

The release came out of a public wager: Kygo pledged to make the remix if Haaland scored against Brazil in the World Cup Round of 16. Haaland came through with two goals. The remix was now available to stream through Kygo's official channels.



SNIFFER DOG CAUGHT MAN TRYING TO SMUGGLE DRUGS INTO CREAMFIELDS

Choudry tried to hide drugs inside his body to get past festival security, but Cheshire Police confirmed that a sniffer dog caught the scent within mere seconds of his arrival at the checkpoint, prompting an immediate search. Officers found 14 bags of cocaine and nine MDMA tablets, carrying an estimated street value of between £640 and £800. He subsequently pleaded guilty to possession with intent to supply Class A drugs.

The case stood as a reminder, ahead of that year's Creamfields, of just how effective modern festival security had become, with drug-detection dogs now stationed at most major UK dance events. Police emphasized that concealing drugs internally wasn't a viable workaround, and doing so could result in years behind bars.

GERMANY'S MUNICH COURT RULED SUNO INFRINGED COPYRIGHT IN LANDMARK AI MUSIC CASE

On Friday, the Munich Regional Court determined that Suno had breached copyright law by training its AI music model on protected compositions without securing a license, and ordered the platform to reveal revenue connected to the infringement while holding it responsible for damages still to be determined.

GEMA's case focused on six specific works whose melodic, harmonic and rhythmic structures the court found had been reproduced in Suno's outputs, including Alphaville's "Forever Young" and "Big in Japan," Boney M.'s "Daddy Cool" and "Rasputin," Lou Bega's "Mambo No. 5," and Kristina Bach's "Atemlos." Evidence introduced at the March hearing revealed that Suno had pulled the tracks directly from YouTube, circumventing a technical safeguard called Rolling Cipher meant to block automated downloads.

Suno had contended that converting audio into statistical model weights didn't amount to copyright reproduction since no distinct audio file was ever saved. The court dismissed that argument, ruling that embedding musical characteristics within a neural network's parameters met the legal standard for physical fixation under EU copyright law, applying the same reasoning it had used in its 2025 decision against OpenAI regarding song lyrics. The text and data mining exemptions that Suno pointed to were likewise rejected, as the court concluded that commercial generative models generating substitutive outputs fell outside what those exemptions covered.

GEMA CEO Tobias Holzmüller described it as a ruling of global significance. Suno, valued at \$5.4 billion after a June funding round, stated it disagreed with the decision and would weigh all its options, including filing an appeal. The ruling was anticipated to shape how labels and platforms handled AI music licensing throughout the European market going forward.



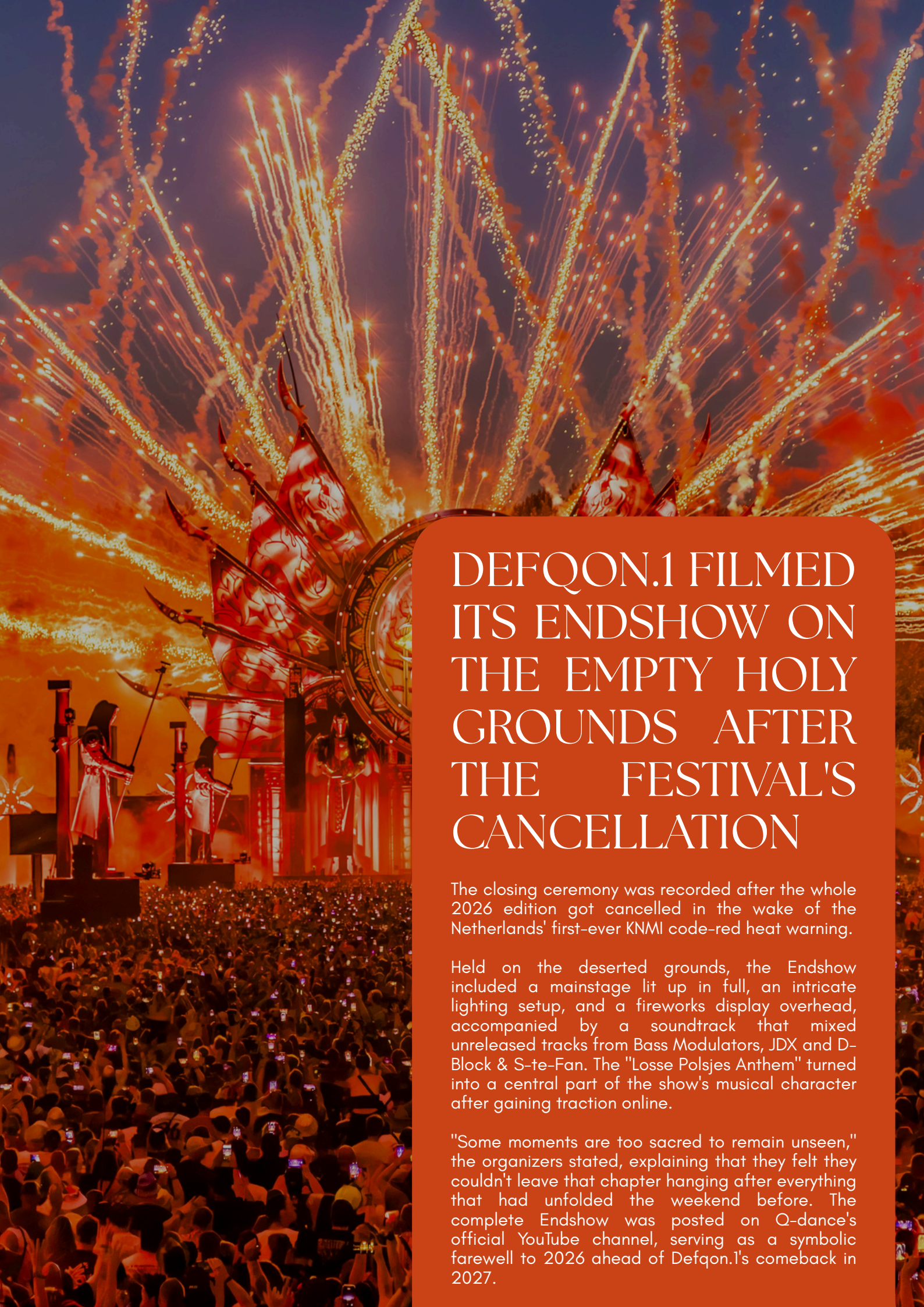
INVESTIGATION FOUND ETHANOL SPILL DURING FLAMETHROWER TEST CAUSED TOMORROWLAND 2025 MAINSTAGE FIRE

The inquiry into last year's destructive Tomorrowland mainstage fire has now come to a close. Founder Michiel Beers stated that the July 2025 blaze, which destroyed the festival's signature mainstage, originated from a poorly secured fuel line, after a subcontractor improperly installed an effects device that allowed liquid ethanol to leak while being tested.

On July 16, 2025, fire erupted during testing of at least four fire bowls used to create flame effects. A minor fire rapidly spread to the stage structure, which was constructed largely from polystyrene and wood, wiping out one of electronic music's most recognizable mainstages. Cleanup and rebuilding costs reportedly reached into the tens of millions of euros, and more than 30 parties are now caught up in both a criminal probe into suspected accidental arson and a civil investigation focused on technical responsibility.

The findings also brought procedural concerns to light: municipal approval had specifically stated that fireworks were not to be stored on the grounds, yet an inspection revealed lapses in storage practices. Even with the disaster, the Tomorrowland team managed to rebuild the mainstage in time for the festival's opening a week later in 2025, and the case is now expected to influence how production is managed moving forward.





DEFQON.1 FILMED ITS ENDSHOW ON THE EMPTY HOLY GROUNDS AFTER THE FESTIVAL'S CANCELLATION

The closing ceremony was recorded after the whole 2026 edition got cancelled in the wake of the Netherlands' first-ever KNMI code-red heat warning.

Held on the deserted grounds, the Endshow included a mainstage lit up in full, an intricate lighting setup, and a fireworks display overhead, accompanied by a soundtrack that mixed unreleased tracks from Bass Modulators, JDX and D-Block & S-te-Fan. The "Losse Polsjes Anthem" turned into a central part of the show's musical character after gaining traction online.

"Some moments are too sacred to remain unseen," the organizers stated, explaining that they felt they couldn't leave that chapter hanging after everything that had unfolded the weekend before. The complete Endshow was posted on Q-dance's official YouTube channel, serving as a symbolic farewell to 2026 ahead of Defqon.1's comeback in 2027.

HBO DROPPED FIRST TRAILER FOR FOUR-PART BURNING MAN DOCUMENTARY SERIES "THE MAN WILL BURN"

HBO released the debut trailer for its four-episode documentary series "The Man Will Burn," an inside look at Burning Man set to premiere on HBO Max on July 9. Helmed by Academy Award nominee Jehane Noujaim alongside filmmaker Vikram Gandhi, the series followed the festival's transformation across several straight years of turmoil.

Released on July 3, the trailer included interviews with veteran Burners and members of the community behind the annual gathering in Black Rock Desert. Per Tribeca Film Festival's description, the series examined the pressures that had pushed Burning Man to its breaking point in recent years, including financial struggles following the pandemic, when the festival's CEO publicly appealed to fans for help raising \$20 million just to keep things running.

The documentary also looked back at the turbulent 2023 edition, when heavy rain left thousands of attendees stranded in the desert for days, along with the previous year's tragedy, when 37-year-old Vadim Kruglov was discovered dead on site in what is still being investigated as a suspected homicide.

"The Man Will Burn" premiered July 9 on HBO Max.





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