



**Newly-Appointed Recording Academy Co-Presidents Valeisha Butterfield Jones and Panos A. Panay to Keynote Mondo.NYC 2021 Music & Tech Law Symposium on October 15**



**New York, NY, September 9, 2021** — [Mondo.nyc](https://www.mondo.nyc), the global music, arts, and technology conference, announced today that the keynote speakers for the [2021 Mondo.NYC Music & Tech Law Symposium](#) will be the newly-appointed **Recording Academy Co-Presidents Valeisha Butterfield Jones and Panos A. Panay**, interviewed by noted music and entertainment lawyer **Adrian Perry**, Partner and Co-Chair of Music Industry Practice at Covington & Burling LLP. In one of their first public appearances together in their new roles, all Mondo.NYC attendees will be treated to an insightful conversation discussing the Recording Academy's® plans to drive innovation and accountability in the organization at 1pm ET on Friday, October 15, the closing day of Mondo's 6<sup>th</sup> annual conference. The 2021 Mondo.NYC Music & Tech Law Symposium is presented in conjunction with Michelman & Robinson, LLP and Covington, and sponsors include Manatt, RAP @ Harvard Law School, TIDAL and Angielaw.

“We are so proud to welcome Valeisha and Panos as this year’s CLE Symposium keynote speakers with Adrian Perry – what an extraordinary opportunity for all our attendees to hear from them,” said Joanne Abbot Green, Managing Director and Executive Producer of Mondo.NYC. “Our participants will be treated to an insightful conversation discussing diversity, the future of the Recording Academy, and more.”

“We are thrilled to take the Mondo.NYC stage as we continue to build a strong community and work towards a shared vision across our industry,” said Valeisha Butterfield Jones, Co-President of the Recording Academy. “What a fitting setting for Panos and I to discuss the increasing complexity and global nature of today's music business as we continue to usher in a new era at the Recording Academy, and address the ways that we can better serve our members, as well as the industry at large.”

“Coming to Mondo.NYC and speaking at the CLE Symposium is an important moment for the Academy and also for Valeisha and I in our new roles,” said Panos A. Panay, Co-President of the Recording Academy. “We are committed to modernizing the Academy in ways that ensure our industry is as diverse, inclusive and forward thinking as possible. There is no better audience with which to engage for these kinds of conversations.”

**The Mondo.NYC Music & Tech Law Symposium** brings together top music lawyers and thought leaders for an all-day, virtual entertainment law seminar addressing some of the biggest legal developments affecting the music industry, including recent court decisions upending fundamental industry issues, the re-imagining of key policy matters and how multiple aspects of the industry have been affected by – and forced to adapt to – a post-COVID world. Up to seven Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits can be earned for the New York and California Bar, and a Uniform Certificate of Attendance will be provided for all other jurisdictions, which attendees may submit to their respective state bar associations for CLE review.

The agenda for October 15 is below, with additional speakers to be announced (all times ET):

**10:00-10:55 am Digital Streaming: Envisioning a More Equitable Model**

The recent pandemic has led many streaming royalty recipients to take a hard look at their royalty statements and question the fairness of how streaming and other digital royalties are split. This panel will look at the recent UK-based government hearings on this issue, user-centric and other digital payment models, and the laws and regulations which would have to be changed in order to start rebalancing digital royalty payments.

**11:00-11:55 am International Deal Making**

With Latin and K-pop music infiltrating US pop culture, we believe it is time to take a closer look into the nuts and bolts of deal making in those genres. From recording agreements, publishing agreements, endorsement agreements and the general advantage of cross-cultural collaborations, it is important to understand the distinctions in business models, accounting practices, and strategies, along with the development of multicultural literacy when working with global talent. Join us as a diverse and dynamic group of practitioners with deep knowledge in the area engage in a conversation about important issues pertaining to these exciting and growing markets.

*Moderators*

Sonja J. Kim, Vice President, Commercial Counsel, TIDAL at Square  
Angela Martinez, Angielaw.com

*Panelists*

Jessie M. Abad, VP, Business & Legal Affairs, Rimas Entertainment LLC  
Bernie Cho, President/Founder, DFSB Collective  
Ginam Lee, Principal Attorney, LPL Lawyers

Simran Singh, Managing Partner, Singh, Singh & Trauben Law, LLP

**12:00-12:55 pm The Risks and Rewards of NFTs in the Music Industry**

NFTs continue to present exciting revenue opportunities and novel legal risks for both music industry players and the NFT platforms working with them. This panel will discuss the ever-changing landscape of NFTs in the music industry, touching on the latest developments from a legal perspective, trends in commercial opportunities, and common intellectual property rights and regulatory issues impacting NFT partnerships. This panel will also explore how the NFT explosion may impact royalty and rights tracking in the music industry.

*Moderator*

Adrian Perry, Partner, Co-Chair of Music Industry Practice, Covington & Burling LLP

*Panelists*

Joe Conyers III, EVP NFT, Crypto.com

Tonya Evans, Professor, Penn State Dickinson Law School

**1:00-1:55 pm: Keynote Conversation with Recording Academy Co-Presidents Valeisha Butterfield Jones and Panos A. Panay**

*Interviewed by*

Adrian Perry, Partner, Co-Chair of Music Industry Practice, Covington & Burling LLP

**2:00-2:55 pm Catalog Shopping 2021:**

The catalog sale market continues to expand and evolve, with existing buyers expanding their holdings, the major labels getting back into acquisitions, and new players emerging on a weekly basis. In addition, the types of assets being acquired, and the deal sizes (both larger and smaller), are broadening in ways never before seen. This panel will discuss these changes in the marketplace and will feature the voices of several prominent buy-side and sell-side experts as they discuss how these changes are affecting the deal-making process.

*Moderator*

Michael Poster, Partner; Head of Corporate Securities Group, Michelman & Robinson, LLP

**3:00-3:55 pm Music Litigation Update:**

From the recording studio to SDKs to virtual worlds and NFTs, litigants and courts are delving more deeply and broadly into novel applications of copyright at the intersection of music and technology. This panel of established litigators will distill recent developments in music litigations and discuss risk assessment and enforcement strategies in this dynamic and evolving music ecosystem.

*Moderator*

Phil Hill, Attorney, Covington & Burling LLP

*Panelists*

John M. Gatti, Partner, Entertainment Litigation, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP

Luke Nikas, Partner, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP

#### **4:00-4:55 pm Better, Stronger and Recouping Faster: The Super Powers of the Audit**

There are few rights in any contract that have the power, the might, or the righteousness of the audit. It has the power to expose human errors, bad business practices, and outdated customs. It can accelerate income, facilitate communication, and expose systemic problems. Audits are essential to good business hygiene and to getting artists paid what they are due, but they are especially important if you are contemplating an asset sale and want to maximize a catalog's valuation. This roundtable discussion will include when and how to initiate an audit, what to expect during the process, and how you can ensure you are harnessing its full potential to improve your business and its bottom line.

##### *Panelists*

Chris Hull, Partner, Citrin Cooperman

Michael Closter, President, Reach Music Publishing

Lewis Kovac, Chief Operating Officer, 10th Street Entertainment

Monika Tashman, Partner, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP

#### **5:00-5:55 pm The Restatement of Copyright: What You Need to Know**

The American Law Institute's Restatement of Copyright project has garnered unprecedented attention from practitioners, scholars, the RIAA and NMPA, the Register of Copyrights, and even members of Congress. In this session, we will explore the Restatement project and its implications. Panelists will include members of the advisory group for the Restatement Project and will offer a range of perspectives and insights.

##### *Moderator*

Simon Frankel, Partner, Covington & Burling LLP

##### *Panelists*

Robert Brauneis, Professor of Law, The George Washington University Law School

Jane Ginsburg, Professor of Law, Columbia University

Hon. Pierre N. Leval, Senior Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

Lydia Loren, Professor of Law, Lewis & Clark Law School

Registration with the option for CLE credit is [now available](#); lawyers seeking to earn up to seven (7) CLE credits in New York or California can register for \$349; a Uniform Certificate of Attendance will be provided for all other jurisdictions, which attendees may submit to their respective state bar associations for CLE review. CLE attendees have access to all four days of Mondo.NYC virtual and live events, October 12-15. The Symposium panels can also be viewed by all registrations without CLE credit; Professional Pre-Registration rates are currently \$175 (regularly \$199), and the Student & Indie rate is \$148.78 (regularly \$169).

Mondo.NYC 2021 runs October 12-15 in venues in New York City and online worldwide. In addition to the Law Symposium, conference tracks and key panels include The New Normal in a Post-COVID World; The future of Financial Rights; Artist Management; Emerging Global Markets; Live Music Opportunities & Challenges; Career Transitions; Music Creation & Production; Music Supervision; Music Technology; Songwriting & Publishing; Hot New Startups; Streaming; Podcasts & Livestreams; Video Games & Esports; NFTs; the debut of Mondo.Cannabis; plus need-to-know content collaborations with the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), Guild of Music Supervisors, SoundExchange,

Recording Artists Project at Harvard Law School hosting Pro Bono sessions for emerging artists, AIMP, MMF-US, Women in Music, and the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA).

All in-person attendees will need to present evidence of COVID vaccination, in addition to compliance with all current NYC, New York State and federal health guidelines. Venues may limit capacity and/or have minimum age requirements. All in-person Mondo conference events will also be available remotely.

Stay tuned for more announcements in the coming weeks. For the most-up-to date info, please visit [Mondo.NYC](#) and sign up for the email list.

- **Interested in being a Mondo speaker?** Click [here](#).
- **Media inquiries**, please contact [here](#).
- **Marketing**, sponsorship, partnership, and business opportunities, please contact Bobby Haber [bobby@mondo.nyc](mailto:bobby@mondo.nyc)

###

**About MONDO.NYC:**

[MONDO.NYC](#) is an international festival and global business summit of and for music and tech industry insiders and innovators, emerging artists and their fans. Mondo connects fans and creators in a shared mission of empowering artists and advancing ideas in an ever-changing music business and technology landscape. Founded in 2016 by Joanne Abbot Green and Bobby Haber, the event and its year-round content programming have brought together thousands of industry professionals, artists and fans both in-person and online.

**Please note all Mondo.NYC 2021 events are subject to change without notice.**

**Follow us on social media!** #mondoNYC

Facebook: @mondofestivalnewyork

Instagram: @mondo.nyc

Twitter: @mondonewyork

LinkedIn: @mondo-nyc

**Media Relations for MONDO.nyc:**

Laurie Jakobsen / Jaybird Communications

917.697.2274 / [laurie@jaybirdcom.com](mailto:laurie@jaybirdcom.com)

Tracy Zamot / Jaybird Communications

917.579.6704 / [tracy@jaybirdcom.com](mailto:tracy@jaybirdcom.com)