



This file photo shows recording artist Celine Dion performing at the 'Sinatra 100 An All-Star Grammy Concert' in Las Vegas, Nevada. — AFP

## Celine Dion ready with first new song since husband's death

Canadian pop superstar Celine Dion on Wednesday announced her first new song since the death of her husband and manager Rene Angelil as she mourns him through music. The French-language song, "Encore Un Soir," which means "One More Night," will come out in several days as the first track of her next album, Dion said on her website.

The song is an homage to her late husband, the French celebrity site Tele Star said. It is set to come out on May 24 as Dion opens nine concerts in Paris, the magazine Paris Match reported. The bilingual star—one of the most successful artists of all time with more than 220 million albums sold—is also due to perform Sunday at the Billboard Music Awards in her adopted home of Las Vegas.

Angelik died in January at age 73 following a long struggle with throat cancer. The music producer had been so struck hearing Dion's voice when she was 12 that he took her under his wing and married her in 1994 when she was 26. Dion returned to her concert residency in Las Vegas six weeks after his death in keeping with his wishes.

In an interview broadcast Wednesday with ABC television's "Good Morning America," Dion said that she thought of her late husband when singing "The Show Must Go On." She said that in their last conversation, she told him not to be concerned about her or their three children together. "I started to talk to him and I said, you know what, I want you to just go in peace," she said. "I want you to not worry."

Dion's brother Daniel died of the same type of cancer two days later. "I said to myself, 'For his birthday, my husband came and got my brother because my brother was too weak to fly on his own,'" she said. — AFP

## More potential Prince heirs come forward

Two more people came forward Wednesday as heirs to Prince as the administrator of the pop legend's estate laid out plans for genetic testing. The two new potential heirs both said they were descended from Prince's older half-brother Duane Nelson, who headed security for the singer before becoming estranged. He died in 2011. Brianna Nelson said in a sworn statement to the court in Carver County, Minnesota that she was Duane Nelson's daughter and his only living child after her brother Duane Nelson Jr. died.

Another woman, Jeannine Halloran, said that she had an 11-year-old daughter with the late Duane Nelson Jr. The existence of the minor heir, known in court documents as VN, first emerged last week as a lawyer said he had tried and failed to contact the mother. Prince died suddenly on April 21 and had no recognized children or will even though his estate may be worth hundreds of millions of dollars and includes vast vaults of unreleased recordings.

In addition to members of Prince's extended family, a 39-year-old inmate in prison for gun possession in a stolen car is

seeking recognition as Prince's son. The mother of Carlin Williams said she had sex with Prince in a Kansas City hotel in 1976. Williams is also a little-known rapper who has written songs with scenarios in which he kills the "Purple Rain" star.

A special administrator handling Prince's estate said in a submission to the court that it would review all documents from people who say they are heirs. The administrator said it may ask claimants to undergo blood or other genetic tests at their own expense to prove their relationships to Prince when necessary. The court set a June 27 date to hear any objections to the proposal. The outside administrator had been requested by Prince's sister, Tyka Nelson, to keep order in his estate after his sudden death. One of the most influential and prolific artists of his era, Prince lived quietly in the suburbs of his hometown Minneapolis, where he kept his Paisley Park estate. — AFP



This file photo shows Prince performs at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena, in Las Vegas. — AP

## Alanis Morissette says manager swindled millions

Rocker Alanis Morissette has sued her former business manager for allegedly stealing \$4.7 million from her savings. The Canadian-born, Los Angeles-based singer, a giant in the alternative rock boom of the 1990s, said her former manager cost her \$15 million overall both through theft and other malfeasance. Morissette said that Jonathan Schwartz made at least 116 cash transfers worth a total of \$4,767,900 without her knowledge from 2010 to 2014. Schwartz convinced Morissette that her savings were in "fantastic" shape while in fact the transfers were "draining her assets and leading her on a road that could have led to financial ruin," she said in the lawsuit filed in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

Morissette said that she in fact wanted to live solely on her current income and interest and had instructed Schwartz not to touch her investments. The singer said she turned down a "lucrative" offer to perform five shows in Las Vegas after Schwartz convinced her that she did not need the money. Morissette said she fired Schwartz in March this year after growing suspicious when he could not provide timely information on her finances.

When a new manager discovered the alleged theft, the lawsuit said that Schwartz

came up with fictitious explanations including saying that the singer was investing in the marijuana business. Morissette also named in the suit GSO Business Management, where Schwartz was a partner, saying the prominent Los Angeles-area firm bore responsibility.

"It is inconceivable that a sophisticated certified public accounting and business management firm—which counts some of the world's wealthiest celebrities amongst its clientele—would permit a partner to with-

draw millions of dollars in cash from a client's account without a 'red light' going off somewhere," the lawsuit said. GSO Business Management filed a separate lawsuit against Schwartz, who could not be reached for comment.

The firm said it suspended Schwartz after the allegations came to light and was seeking an undetermined amount in damages as well as his formal dismissal. The company said its own investigation revealed that Schwartz sustained a "lavish lifestyle" that included a \$50,000 vacation to the Pacific island of Bora Bora, a \$75,000 debt from a casino in The Bahamas and "substantial" unpaid taxes.

Morissette was the voice behind a string of energetic rock anthems in the mid-1990s including "You Oughta Know," "Hand in My Pocket" and "You Learn." Her 1995 album "Jagged Little Pill" won the Grammy for Album of the Year, making the then 21-year-old Morissette the youngest winner of the prestigious award until Taylor Swift. Morissette's lawsuit comes a decade after a court found that a former manager had stolen some \$5 million from Leonard Cohen, another prominent Canadian artist who settled in Los Angeles. — AFP



Alanis Morissette