



Paul McCartney, left, is joined by Neil Young during his performance on day 2 of the 2016 Desert Trip music festival at Empire Polo Field in Indio, Calif. —AP photos



Paul McCartney, right, performs alongside guitarist Rusty Anderson during his performance on day 2 of the 2016 Desert Trip music festival.

Neil Young rocks for 2 hours to open day 2 of Desert Trip

Neil Young performed for nearly two hours to open the second night of the Desert Trip music festival, matching the energy of band members half his age. Wearing his trademark black hat, Young started his set alone behind the piano, opening with "After the Gold Rush," accompanying himself on harmonica. He then strapped on an acoustic guitar to play "Heart of Gold" and "Comes a Time" before his band, Promise of the Real, joined Young onstage.

There were subtle and overt political overtones to the performance. Women dressed as farmers, in plaid shirts and overalls, pretended to throw seeds and tend small plants onstage before Young came out. Later, men in hazmat suits acted as though they were spraying the grounds. Young wore a T-shirt that read "Water is life." The band's nonstop set included "Harvest Moon," "Powderfinger," and "Welfare Mothers," which Young joked was "Donald Trump's new campaign song." A highlight was "Down By the River," which became an extended 10-minute jam, with Young shredding his well-worn Les Paul. "Tomorrow night come back," Young told the crowd. "Roger (Waters) is going to build a wall and we'll

make Mexico great again!" Paul McCartney topped Saturday's bill.

'Beatles fanatic'

Despite a bill of septuagenarians (Bob Dylan and the Rolling Stones played Friday), Desert Trip is not just for baby boomers. The performers' average age is 72, and there may be a lot of gray hair in the audience, but millennials are in the mix as well. Nineteen-year-old McKenna Haner said she was "raised on the Beatles" so she came to the festival to see McCartney. "I'm a Beatles fanatic," she said. Haner and her friend Seven Pappanastos, 17, said they were acutely aware they were among the youngest in the crowd. They didn't mind, but said the older concertgoers are "very aggressive."

"They act like, 'We're older. We deserve this,'" she said. Pappanastos said attending the show came with a cost - beyond the \$199 single-day ticket price. "I got invited to three parties this weekend," he said. "All their parents are out of town here." The Desert Trip festival is being held at Empire Polo Club in Indio, California, home to the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival each spring. But where Coachella is



Paul McCartney, center left, is joined at the microphone by Neil Young during McCartney's performance on day 2.

aimed at millennials, Desert Trip targets more affluent baby boomers who grew up with the festival's featured rockers. "You guys are going

to have a rocking, wild weekend in Palm Springs," Mick Jagger said, adding coyly, "We're looking forward to seeing the dinosaur park!"

(There actually is a dinosaur exhibit in nearby Cabazon, California.) The Stones brought literal and figurative fireworks to the stage for their two-hour set. Jagger was his inimitably energetic self, skipping and shuffling across the stage and chatting warmly with the crowd.

The hit-packed performance included "Wild Horses," "Miss You," "Gimme Shelter," "Midnight Rambler" and "Sympathy for the Devil." They even covered the Beatles' "Come Together." When the band closed with "Satisfaction," pyrotechnics lit up the desert sky. Bob Dylan kicked off the festival just after sundown with an 80-minute performance. Wearing a black suit with a white hat, the 75-year-old rocker took the stage without fanfare and sat behind the piano. He did not address the audience or say anything between songs.

Backed by a five-piece band, he performed selections from throughout his catalog, including "Tangled Up in Blue," "Ballad of a Thin Man" and "Make You Feel My Love." Dylan occasionally crept out from behind the piano to sing at a microphone center stage, pulling a harmonica from his pocket to play. He closed with "Masters of War" and silently left the stage. The festival repeats next weekend. — AP

Nancy O'Dell calls Trump's crass remarks sad, unwarranted



In this file photo, Nancy O'Dell arrives at the 68th Primetime Emmy Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. — AP

Nancy O'Dell of "Entertainment Tonight" is calling Donald Trump's 2005 taped lewd remarks about her sad and disappointing. In a statement released by the show Saturday, O'Dell said no one should be the subject of such crass comments and that everyone deserves respect, whether or not cameras are rolling. "As a woman who has worked very hard to establish her career, and as a mom, I feel I must speak out with the hope that as a society we will always strive to be better," O'Dell said.

During a visit to a soap opera set a decade ago, Trump's crude sexual banter with then-"Access Hollywood" anchor Billy Bush was caught on video. It was released Friday by The Washington Post. At one point, Trump referred to "Nancy," using an expletive to say he had tried and failed to sleep with her and mentioning that she was married.

"Politics aside," O'Dell said, "I'm saddened that these comments still exist in our society at all." In an "Access Hollywood" report Friday about the tape, host Natalie Morales identified O'Dell as the person Trump was discussing. A publicist for O'Dell did not immediately respond to a request by The Associated Press to independently identify O'Dell as the "Nancy" referred to in the video. Trump has apologized for his remarks. — AP

Reeves stars in action-packed 'John Wick: Chapter 2' trailer

Keanu Reeves has no time for leisure in the new trailer for "John Wick: Chapter 2," released on Saturday at New York Comic Con. "Welcome to Rome," a man greets Wick in the beginning of the trailer. "Is this a formal event, or a social affair?" Related "John Wick Chronicles" Virtual Reality Game Unveiled "Social," Wick responds. "How many buttons?" "Two." "And what style?" "Tactical."

With that, the trailer launches into a serious of action-packed sequences. In the upcoming film, Wick is forced out of retire-



Keanu Reeves

ment in order to travel to Rome and face off against some of the world's deadliest killers.

"John Wick: Chapter 2" is the sequel to 2014's "John Wick." Chad Stahelski directs the follow-up which is written by Derek Kolstad. Common, Bridget Moynahan, Ian McShane, Laurence Fishburne and John Leguizamo also star in the film. In addition to the film Lionsgate and Starbreeze teamed up to create a VR game based on the franchise. "John Wick: Chapter 2" is set to hit theaters Feb 10, 2017. — Reuters

Busan veteran Ghosh returns with 'Mi Amor' and 'The India Project'

Indian film maker Suman Ghosh is no stranger to the Busan Film Festival. His "Nobel Thief," "Uncle Shyamal Turns off the Lights" and "Peace Haven" received world premieres in 2011, 2012 and 2015 respectively. He is back for the 2016 edition with the debut screening of "Mi Amor," which screens as part of the 'A Window on Asian Cinema' strand. "I love the way it is organized and the selection of films. Of course there is the best of world cinema, but given my fondness for Asian cinema - Korea, Iran, Philippines, China and of course Japan- where else can we see such a range of Asian films? Having been to Busan a few times before I have a personal connection with the festival too," says Ghosh.

The film maker describes the US-set "Mi Amor" as "an examination of identity in relationships in the modern techno world." It stars Parambrata Chatterjee and Raima Sen, who are hugely popular in India's Bengali-language film industry.

The film is a co-production between Bongflix, Ghoshal Media and Kolkata 24*7 from the US, and Macneill Media from India, with the University of Miami also a

partner in the project.

Ghosh is also at the festival's Asian Project Market with "The India Project," a working title for a social satire about an indigent farmer's predicaments after he receives an Aadhaar Card, India's equivalent of a social security number. The project will begin its life at the market with Ghosh aiming to attach a principal producer and secure financing. Besides making films, Ghosh who holds a Ph.D in Economics from Cornell University, is an associate professor at Florida Atlantic University with his main fields of research being personnel economics and development economics. "I don't consciously balance the two worlds. They have become a part of my existence and I enjoy this apparent duality. It gives a wider perspective," says Ghosh. — Reuters

Director Suman Ghosh of Bangladesh walks on the red carpet of the opening ceremony of the 21st Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) in Busan. — AFP



Shinkai seeks global success for film that conquered Japan

Makoto Shinkai's animated hit "Your Name" has conquered Japan. Now the director hopes the world will fall for its charms. "It is a unique film and has been a unique sensation," said Shinkai, speaking before his film screened at the 21st Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) in South Korea, the premier event of its kind in Asia. "It's hard for us to believe that it's been viewed by more than 10 million people in Japan-mostly the young generation-and hopefully we can see the same result around the world."

"Your Name" is a touching fantasy-romance set around the lives of two high school students who swap bodies when they dream, and who try to alter history. It has topped the box office charts in Japan for the past six weeks, with a total take coming into the weekend of \$126 million, according to industry figures. That's moved the film past "Godzilla Resurgence" as the number one box office hit in Japan this year. Shinkai believes the film has tapped into emotions still raw in Japan following the earthquake and tsunami disasters of 2011 that claimed an estimated 16,000 lives.

"They took away the lives of so many people and they changed everyone in Japan," said Shinkai. "The wish afterwards was that we could all live longer, and so this film's biggest motivation was to reflect these dreams of the Japanese nation. Life means so much more to us now." Shinkai's film has now passed the \$119 million made by "The Wind Rises" (2013), the last full-length production directed by the now-retired animation master Hayao Miyazaki. Miyazaki was responsible for the Oscar-winning "Spirited Away" (2001), the film that remains Japan's all-time biggest earner with around \$290 million in global box office takings.

Since the 75-year-old left his director's chair in 2013, fans across the globe have been waiting for a successor to emerge. The 43-year-old Shinkai certainly fits the bill, having found previous acclaim-although on a far smaller scale-with the likes of the romantic fantasy "Children Who Chase Lost Voices" (2011). "I am always being compared to Mr Miyazaki but at this stage of my career I am still learning about how I can connect with the audience, especially the young audience-and I think I have a long way to go," said Shinkai. "Your Name" is the first non-Miyazaki animation to top the \$100 million barrier in Japan and its distribution rights have been sold to more than 80 countries, including the United States.

Festivals such as BIFF are testing the international waters for Shinkai's production before its general global release, expected to begin in January. Tickets to the three screenings of "Your Name" in Busan sold out in minutes, according to festival organizers. "Your Name" has been a cultural sensation in Japan. The story was lifted from the pages of a successful manga novel of the same name written by Shinkai and fans flocked to take selfies at the sites which were re-imagined in the film in the director's small home town of Kōumi in Nagano prefecture. Other scenes were shot in Gifu prefecture and the capital Tokyo. BIFF will screen around 300 films during its 10-day run and continues until Saturday. — AFP



(From left) Actors Lucas Jade Zumann, Billy Crudup, Annette Bening, director Mike Mills, and actress Elle Fanning attend the premiere of '20th Century Women' at the 54th New York Film Festival in New York City. — AFP