



Contact Information:

Natalie Bogdanovic, Operations Coordinator  
41 Valleybrook Drive  
Toronto ON M3B 2S6  
416-961-1588 Ext. 1 (office)  
Natalie@songwriters.ca (email)

**S.A.C Congratulates Eddie Schwartz’s Elected as New President of the International Council of Music Creators**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Toronto, Ont., November 16, 2017 – The International Council of Music Creators (CIAM) announced the election of Eddie Schwartz as their new President on November 7, 2017, in Tokyo. Eddie succeeds renown Italian composer Lorenzo Ferrero, appointed as honorary President of CIAM.

Eddie serves as President Emeritus of the Songwriters Association of Canada, Co-Chair of Music Creators North America, Chair of Fair Trade Music International, Vice-President of the International Council of Authors of Music, and was elected to six consecutive terms on the SOCAN board and Executive as well as being a Director on the boards of CARAS and the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Eddie Schwartz will be the first North American delegate to hold this office in the 50 years since the Council’s inception. Reflecting on his acceptance of the position he stated, "I am deeply honoured to have been elected President of the International Council of Music Creators (CIAM). As songwriters and composers from around the world we speak many languages, represent many cultures and work in distinctive genres and traditions. Today we stand together in our determination to make the world a better place for the creation of music and those who will dedicate their lives to music in the years to come. I have always been proud to play any role I can in that effort, and will continue to do so."

The new CIAM president is a Canadian songwriter—“Hit Me with Your Best Shot” and “Don’t Shed a Tear,” among other classic hits—and a native of Toronto. Eddie has won numerous music industry awards including multiple JUNO, BMI and SOCAN awards, and SOCAN’s prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition, Eddie is a graduate of the acclaimed Leadership Music program in Nashville, where he has lived since 1997. In late 2012, Eddie was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada.

As a record producer, he has enjoyed success with numerous projects, including the Doobie Brothers’ *Cycles* album, Paul Carrack’s *Groove Approved*, Rita Coolidge’s *Fire Me Back*, as well as his own recordings as an artist. His worldwide physical sales are currently well in excess of 65 million units.

The Songwriters Association of Canada (S.A.C.) began in the mid-1980s when a group of songwriters led by Terry McManus were concerned with the lack of input songwriters were having in the music industry, as well as the apparent absence of real copyright registration in Canada. With the help of Stephen Stohn (lyricist and lawyer) and esteemed songwriters such as Eddie and Rich Dodson, the Songwriters Association of Canada was founded (originally under the name Canadian Songwriters Association). The S.A.C. has enjoyed tremendous change and growth since its inception and is excited to be celebrating its upcoming 35th anniversary in 2018.

On behalf of the S.A.C. board, staff, association members and the many music creators representing Canada, we are grateful to the CIAM electors for recognizing Eddie Schwartz’s tremendous success as an arbiter of change and his role in galvanizing music creators around the world.

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