

Rockin' out in the Lone Star State

SXSW music festival celebrates its 20th

By CHRIS M. JUNIOR
STAFF WRITER



Susan Cagle

They rocked and they partied, although not necessarily in that order or in equal amounts.

Fans, musicians and industry types from around the world gathered in Austin, Texas, last week for the South by Southwest (SXSW) music festival/conference, which this year celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Neil Young spoke about making his concert film "Neil Young: Heart of Gold" during his jam-packed keynote conversation with Harp magazine's Jaan Uhelszki and Oscar winner Jonathan Demme, who directed the film.

Other big-name artists who visited the self-proclaimed "live music capital of the world" to discuss their latest projects included The Beastie Boys, Pretenders singer Chrissie Hynde and soul legend Sam Moore. "Overnight Sensational," Moore's upcoming album, features guest appearances by Bruce Springsteen and

Jon Bon Jovi, among other stars.

Impressive performances were turned in by many up-and-coming acts, among them Susan Cagle, The Brilliant Mistakes and The Soft Explosions, all three of which hail from New York.

Be on the lookout for Justin King, a Sony artist who effectively works a percussive fingertapping guitar technique into his melodic pop-rock tunes; and The Architects, an explosive rock quartet from Kansas City, Mo., that has great stage presence.

New Jersey was represented by the likes of Cranford's Socratic and Jersey City's Black Hollies. And for the second straight year, Asbury Park's deSol had SXSW attendees dancing with delight to the band's Latin rock sound.

Speaking of deSol, the group will perform a hometown gig tonight at The Stone Pony in Asbury Park. For information, call (732) 502-0600.



Alto Masterson of deSol

deSol

IN CONCERT

WHEN: 8 p.m. today

WHERE: The Stone Pony, 913 Ocean Ave., Asbury Park

ADMISSION: \$10

WWW: (732) 502-0600