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Nashville Press Release

September in "Music City USA" saw the much-anticipated **Next Big Nashville** - an event that in just five days managed to showcase around 130 up-and-coming bands at a dozen venues around town. Determined to prove that the city had more to offer than just good ol' country music, Next Big Nashville celebrated every aspect of contemporary music. Among the names being talked about as the Next Big Thing were American Bang, Cage The Elephant, Dixie Dirt, the Features and the Gabe Dixon Band. For details of the 2008 event, go to www.nextbignashville.net

"If the sheer range of musical genres on display at the Next Big Nashville festival... is impressive," wrote David Sinclair in The Independent of this year's festival, "the standard of musicianship right across the board is world-class."

And if you want to see what New Musical Express found most impressive about this year's Next Big Nashville, try visiting www.nme.com

A more permanent celebration of Nashville's musical diversity can be found at the Musicians Hall Of Fame & Museum which opened for the first time in 2006. Exhibits include a fascinating display of musical instruments which have featured on some of the most memorable recordings ever released: Bridge Over Troubled Water; California Dreamin'; Brown Sugar; Your Cheating Heart... Get a flavour of what's on show at www.musicianshalloffame.com

But, of course, there's always been more to Nashville than just music. The city's stunning Frist Center for the Visual Arts is always worth a visit - but this autumn an exciting new exhibition opens: Modernism In America, which brings together works by Marcel Duchamp, Max Ernst, Paul Klee and Ferdinand Leger. For more information about this show (which runs from 26 October 2007 to 3 February 2008), and for full details on the Frist's permanent and upcoming exhibitions, visit www.fristcenter.org



Davy Crockett - the "King of the wild frontier" - and arguably Nashville's first celebrity, moved into the Nashville area in 1811, became a Tennessee state representative in 1821, and died defending the Texas Alamo in 1836. Today, the city is home to stars such as Nicole Kidman, Steve Winwood and the White Stripes' Jack White.

Another fascinating slice of Nashville history can be found by visiting the beautiful ante-bellum mansion at Belle Meade Plantation. Completed in 1853, the Greek revival house is world-famous as a thoroughbred stud farm. To get a real taste of Nashville's past, visit www.bellemeadeplantation.com

You can read much more about Nashville on the city's website www.visitmusiccity.com, or for details about visiting Nashville from the UK telephone 01462 440784.