



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tennessee Press Release**

Of all the American States, Tennessee has the best claim to be the heartland of American music in all its forms. Most visitors already know it as the place where Elvis created rock'n'roll, but Tennessee also boasts the capital of country music, and the home of sweet soul music.

Memphis's legendary Stax label celebrates its 50th birthday during 2007. Stax was the musical home of Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, Booker T & the MGs, Sam & Dave, Carla Thomas, William Bell, Rufus Thomas, the Staple Singers and many, many, more. For further information about the label's 50th anniversary plans, go to [www.memphissoul50.com](http://www.memphissoul50.com)

RCA's historic Studio B is the oldest surviving recording studio in Nashville, Tennessee. Following its opening in 1957, the studio quickly became known as the "Home of the Hits" - where Elvis Presley alone cut over 250 songs. But it wasn't just Elvis - Roy Orbison, the Everly Brothers, Waylon Jennings, Dolly Parton, Jim Reeves and Willie Nelson all recorded #1 hits here. The studio, which was first opened to the public in 1996, is now one of the most popular stops for tourists on the Tennessee music trail. Find out more about the studio's 50th birthday plans at [www.countrymusichalloffame.com](http://www.countrymusichalloffame.com)

The Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum in Nashville, Tennessee are opening a major new exhibition to trace the legacy of country music's most iconic figure. Family Tradition: The Hank Williams Legacy, Presented by SunTrust, will be opening on Friday March 28 2008, for a near two-year run and will explore the connections between country music's most iconic figure and his creative heirs - both biological and musical - and examine the ways in which American music continues to be measured by the standards Hank Williams set. For further information and to read Hank Williams' story visit [www.countrymusichalloffame.com/site/news.aspx](http://www.countrymusichalloffame.com/site/news.aspx)

The Stax Museum in Memphis is a 17,000 square foot tribute to soul music's most legendary label. Over 2000 artefacts are on display, celebrating some of the best-loved music ever recorded... '(Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay', 'Green Onions', 'I'll Take You There', 'Theme From Shaft', 'Soul Man', 'Private Number', 'Respect Yourself', 'Knock On Wood'... For more about Stax, visit [www.soulsvilleusa.com](http://www.soulsvilleusa.com).



The Rockabilly Hall Of Fame in Jackson, Tennessee, celebrates the music that came immediately after Elvis exploded onto the scene, half a century ago. Beatle favourite Carl Perkins is widely hailed as “the Father of Rockabilly”, and so it is only fitting that the museum is situated in Carl’s home town. The hall of fame currently has plans for a dramatic expansion and full details of the three-tier development can be found at [www.rockabillyhall.org](http://www.rockabillyhall.org)

The Beatles were another legendary group who planned to record at the Stax Studios in Memphis, during their final tour in 1966. But word of their plans soon got out and it was feared that hysterical Beatle fans would lay siege to the studio, so the session had to be cancelled.

Booker T & the MGs paid their own tribute to The Beatles with the 1970 album McLemore Avenue, which was a note-for-note cover of The Beatles’ classic 1969 album, Abbey Road. The Memphis group are even pictured on the sleeve crossing McLemore Avenue, home of the original Stax Studios, parodying the Fab Four’s cover photo for Abbey Road!

For a list of featured upcoming events in Memphis, please visit [www.memphistravel.com](http://www.memphistravel.com) or for information on the State’s musical landmarks and for details on visiting Tennessee from the UK, telephone 01462 440787.