

MR. BIG 'DEFYING GRAVITY' WITH NEW ALBUM SET FOR RELEASE JULY 7 ON FRONTIERS MUSIC SRL;

U.S. TOUR STARTS MAY 31 IN MILWAUKEE, WI

May 8 2017 – "Alright, we're rolling..."

The call went out. Time for a new MR. BIG album. They convened in a Los Angeles studio and in a matter of six days, the boundless result of all that musical talent is <u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u>, with the release of their ninth original studio album and start of a new worldwide tour.

Set for release July 7 on Frontiers Music Srl, <u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u> will be available at traditional retail and all digital service providers, as will a deluxe edition version with CD and bonus DVD that features music videos and a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the new album. The album will also be made available on vinyl in the coming months. An official trailer for <u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u> can be seen <u>here</u>.

<u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u> deftly showcases that patented MR. BIG blend of crunch and melody, from the freight-train ride of opening cut "Open Your Eyes" to the harmony-laden wonderment of "Damn I'm in Love Again" to the grateful/wistful nostalgia of "1992" (recalling the days when the band was flying high atop the singles charts with their international #1 smash "To Be With You") to the barnburning slide-blues closer, "Be Kind." Overall, <u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u> is prime evidence that the only thing MR. BIG remains tethered to is their ongoing pursuit of achieving creative excellence.

Original members Eric Martin (lead vocals), Paul Gilbert (guitars), Billy Sheehan (bass) and Pat Torpey (drums) reunited with producer Kevin Elson (who was behind the boards for the band's 1989 self-titled debut, 1991's <u>LEAN INTO IT</u> and 1993's <u>BUMP AHEAD</u>) for an intensive six-day recording session in Los Angeles. While Torpey was unable to perform some of the songs on <u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u> due to a recent diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, Matt Starr has been filling in for him on a majority of the album. Starr also been touring with the band for the past couple of years, with Torpey able to play a couple of songs at each stop.

"It was great to get back in the studio with our original producer, Kevin Elson," says guitarist Paul Gilbert. "Kevin recorded all of our original classic albums from the '80s and '90s, and we immediately felt that magic chemistry with him on <u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u>. We basically played live in the studio. Over the years, we've all had a chance to experiment with every recording technique possible, but it's still always the best just to play together as a band. Most of my guitar solos were tracked live with the band. I've worked hard on my improvisation in the last few years, and it really paid off on this record...both melodically, and on the face-melting stuff."

<u>DEFYING GRAVITY</u> is the follow-up to 2014's <u>THE STORIES WE COULD TELL</u> (Frontiers Music Srl), which <u>Ultimate-Guitar.com</u> described as "An exceptional offering of accelerated hard rock from one of the more dominant 'supergroups' of the late 1980s, MR. BIG return with a vengeance on <u>THE STORIES WE</u> COULD TELL."

(more)

MR. BIG is gearing up for the launch their latest worldwide tour which starts May 31 in Milwaukee, WI at the Potowatami Casino. For all the latest tour dates, fans should check the band's official website.

"2017 is filling up quickly with tour dates all around the world," proclaims Gilbert. "I can't wait to play the new songs, and of course our favorites from the old days like 'Daddy, Brother, Lover, Little Boy' 'Just Take My Heart,' 'Green Tinted Sixties Mind,' 'Wild World,' and 'To Be With You."

Here's the complete track listing for **DEFYING GRAVITY**:

- 1. Open Your Eyes
- 2. Defying Gravity
- 3. Everybody Needs a Little Trouble
- 4. Damn I'm In Love Again
- 5. Mean to Me
- 6. Nothing Bad (About Feeling Good)
- 7. Forever and Back
- 8. She's All Coming Back to Me Now
- 9. 1992
- 10. Nothing At All
- 11. Be Kind

Check out MR. BIG at any of the following tour stops:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
Leg 1:		
Wed 5/31 Fri 6/2 Sat 6/3 Tue 6/6 Wed 6/7 Fri 6/9 Sat 6/10 Mon 6/12 Wed 6/14 Fri 6/16 Sat 6/17 Mon 6/19 Thu 6/22 Fri 6/23 Sat 6/24	Milwaukee, WI St. Charles, IL Wetland, MI Warrendale, PA Newton, NJ Uncasville, CT New York, NY Nashville, TN Lexington, KY Dallas, TX Houston, TX Kansas City, MO Tempe, AZ Agoura Hills, CA Pasadena, CA	Potowatami Casino Arcada Theatre The Token Lounge Jergel's Rhythm Grille Newton Theatre The Wolf Den/Mohegan Sun B.B. King Blues Club & Grill Basement East Manchester Music Hall Gas Monkey Live Scout Bar Knuckleheads Saloon Marquee Theatre Canyon Club The Rose

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Official album trailer (ok to post online): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JsZXXmwkP4o&feature=youtu.be