**Music**

**ACM Back to Vegas**

As fests boom, a ‘push’ to include female singers

**PALM SPRINGS, United States, April 12 (Agence Premières Lignes):** Coachella, currently the most powerful bellwether of music trends, will not be the only major music festival this year that will look towards gender parity.

With the festival season booming across the Western world, actions by major festivals to increase the percentage of women, female representation and female voices have become an issue that has become particularly important over the last few years.

The festival(',')[which will take a regular schedule break this month,] has featured an injury to her face and wrist last year due to a fall. The singer, who has been away from the spotlight for nearly a year, has revealed that she suffers from bipolar disorder and has entered treatment. She has also shared a post on her website that she is healing called “Cry Pretty” and shared via Twitter after months of silence on the topic of Drake’s ongoing rap battle with Pusha-T.

The song is a sweeping power ballad that touches on the many facetsof a relationship. The album, which was accused of sexual misconduct, leading promoter to the controversy when he told reporters that women were “dumb” and didn’t know what they were doing when it came to music. Neil Portnow, the head of the Recording Academy, has been widely criticized for his comments, which touched off a wave of criticism from women and fans of the genre.

**At the ACM Awards Sunday night,** there will be some interesting changes to the usual lineup of male headliners. The festival goers in 2015 were millennials with women making up a significant percentage of the audience. One event that will have only female headliners this year is the ACM Awards, which will feature a mix of established female artists as well as newer, up-and-coming talent.

The franchise spawned four films that have grossed over $1 billion worldwide. The latest instalment, “Fortnite: Battle Royale,” was released earlier this year and has become an instant hit, with millions of players around the world engaging in the game if they’ve unlocked them. Characters to perform specific dances are a key part of the game, and the latest update includes new emote dances in the game, including “Fortnite” music, Blevins is particularly excited about the new update, saying “It’s been a long time coming.”

The union kicked off its campaign with a petition to the site can sign. Equity has also sent letters to the White House and the Department of Justice, asking for the reversal of the decision to close the pre-1972 loophole.

By Steven Wine

DUA LIPA: Singer, songwriter, producer, actress, dancer.

**Variety**

**NEW YORK:** pop-scion Mark Ronson has told us that he is ready to start on his new album. He will be working with a new producer for the first time, which he says is exciting.

The singer, choosing to perform from the second floor of his house this year, said the difference in the style of female artists at the Grammy Awards. “Not only has there been a shift in the way women are being represented,” she said, “but the way they are being heard.”

Leading female alternative rocker Kim Deal, who is in the band Sonic Youth, has spoken about the struggle she faced as a woman in music. “One of the most difficult things is being a woman in this industry,” she said. “But just because you don’t want to go back in time to an era when women had less power, it doesn’t mean that they don’t exist.”

**LOS ANGELES:** Singer Dua Lipa has signed a deal with Warner Music Group, ending a tortured tenure with Moshi Monsters for her second album.

Dua Lipa’s American debut, “Hotter Than Hell,” is set for release in May. The album will feature collaborations with artists such as Migos and Major Lazer.

The singer, who rose to fame in the mid-2010s with her debut album “Demi Lovato,” has been praised for her powerful vocals and ability to connect with fans.

**NASHVILLE, Tennessee:** A new country music festival, the 2020 Country Music Association Awards, has been announced for later this year. The festival, which will be held in Nashville, is set to feature some of the biggest names in country music.

“Country music has a rich history of talent and we’re excited to bring a new country music festival to Nashville that will showcase the best and brightest in the genre,” said festival founder and CEO Brad Paisley.

The festival will feature more than 50 artists, including some of the biggest names in country music. Paisley also said that the festival will be “a celebration of the American spirit.”

This year, the festival is set to feature a mix of established and up-and-coming talent, including some of the biggest names in country music such as Carrie Underwood, Dierks Bentley, and Keith Urban.

Paisley also said that the festival will feature a range of acts from different genres, including country, pop, and rock.

The festival will be held over two weekends, with performances each day.

**Underwood drops new song ‘Cry Pretty’**

Small stones will roll with all-star LP

Singer Kase Nash performs at The Florida Theatre on April 10, in Los Angeles, California. (AFP)