CURTIS NEWART BIO

Contact: Robert Newart, Immaculate Records Administrator

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Curtis Newart is a Canadian/American recording artist, songwriter, producer, publicist and stage manager.

His second studio album Rock the Chandeliers (2018), featured dance, pop and rock, including a cover of R.E.M.’s “Man on the Moon”. The album ranked #43 on College Radio Charts for North America during the week of September 5, 2018. The album cover art was painted by celebrity tattoo artist Justin Lewis. Newart signed music licensing deals with Discovery, Inc, Oprah Winfrey Network, and NASCAR.

**Early Life**

Born in Calgary, Canada, Newart attended seven schools by Grade 12. He participated in school choirs, bands, fine arts and speech arts. At age 11, he received an award for Outstanding Success in Speech Arts from the Dr. F.H. Mewburn OBE Chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE). His first job at age 12 was as a magician, and at age 13 he home recorded an instrumental album of television and film songs. His first job after high school was co-writing and acting in murder mysteries, most notably at the Kilmorey Lodge in Canada's Waterton Lakes National Park.

He worked Alfred Sung‘s Fall ’90 Collection preview for Holt Renfrew Calgary in September 1990, then joined the advertising and public relations departments of CinemaScope and CityScope magazines at Vantage Publishing Inc. in 1991.

Newart photographed **Phyllis Diller** during the making of the film The Perfect Man. He moved to Vancouver, Canada, in 1993 to pursue a career in the arts at age 22.

**Theatre, charity and public relations**

In Vancouver, Newart worked as a stage manager, publicist and producer. Newart collaborated with **Thor Arngrim** and **Norma Macmillan** for many years. Thor was known for his work as a theatre producer and personal manager to **Liberace** and **Debbie Reynolds**, while Macmillan was best-known as the voice of TV cartoon characters **Casper the Friendly Ghost** and **Gumby**. Newart was the publicist for their daughter **Alison Arngrim** (Little House on the Prairie) for her Healing Through Humour stand-up comedy show at the Coast Plaza Hotel on November 10, 1994, and her co-hosting duties for Starry Night 9 at The Orpheum theatre on November 13, 1994.

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He stage-managed the musical B-Average: A Musical About Passing during its six-week holdover from the 1993 Vancouver Fringe Festival at Celebrities Cabaret November 5 – December 13, 1993, and New York City’s Unity ’94 Cultural Festival during Gay Games IV at HERE Arts Center on June 21 & 22, 1994. The Consulate General of Canada in New York hosted a reception on opening night.

He also stage-managed the Jessie Richardson Theatre Award-nominated play The Laundry at Studio J in Vancouver during December 1993.

Newart conceived and produced The Red Ribbon Party fundraiser at the Vancouver Art Gallery on April 1, 1994 as a consultant to AIDS Vancouver. The event, hosted by **Denis Simpson**, featured Newart’s parody theatrical production of the 1962 film What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?, plus a celebrity auction of items solicited by Newart from **Oprah Winfrey**, **RuPaul**, **Carol Burnett**, **Bob Hope**, **Joan Collins**, and **Elizabeth Taylor**, followed by a concert of local musicians.

Newart produced the theatrical holdover of What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? (re-branded as Baby Jane: The Impersonation) at Celebrities Cabaret in Vancouver from May 6 – 28, 1994.

Newart did street promotion for **Penny Arcade** (of **Andy Warhol**'s film Women in Revolt) for her True Stories performances at The Cultch from January 11– 13, 1996, and did publicity for the 1996 BC Home & Garden Show, featuring **Jerry Mathers** (Leave It to Beaver) and **Dean Johnson** (Hometime) at BC Place in Vancouver from February 17 – 25, 1996.

Newart, Thor Arngrim and **William Simpson** co-founded Crusaid Canada Foundation (1996-2004) with board members Norma Macmillan and **Norman Young**, to benefit HIV/AIDS support agencies, launching the foundation with a sold-out production of George Bernard Shaw’s Don Juan in Hell (with co-presenter Western Gold Theatre Society) at Bard on the Beach, on July 8, 1996. Starring **Douglas Campbell CM**, **Mavor Moore CC OBC**, **Betty Philips** and **Lee Taylor**, with musical accompaniment by **Harold Brown**, the sold-out event directed by **Joy Coghill CM**, and co-hosted by Alison Arngrim, **Christopher Gaze**, and **France Nuyen**, was an official event of the 11th International Conference on AIDS Cultural Program. Show Boat’s sold-out Crusaid Canada Nights at the Ford Centre for Performing Arts, featuring **Ned Beatty** and **Cloris Leachman**, took place on July 9 - 10, 1996. **Angie Bowie** filmed a public service announcement for Crusaid Canada Foundation, advocating safe sex (in French and English). Crusaid Canada produced a fundraiser for the cinematic premiere of Bravo! Channel's Editor’s Pick of the month Motifs & Repetitions on March 25, 1997 at The Cinematheque in Vancouver. Newart publicized the movie and the event.

Newart was talent liaison at the AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) 12th Annual Summer Party comedy stage at Universal Studios Hollywood, hosted by Alison Arngrim, on August 3, 1996. The event raised over $500,000 for charity.

Newart publicized sold-out theatrical shows in Vancouver including Oscar Wilde’s Salomé (**Gerard Plunkett**, Director) from September 12 - 17, 1995 at Station Street Arts Centre, Born Naked Died Blond (EDAM Dance & NOW Orchestra) from November 6 – 9, 1996 at Firehall Arts Centre, and The X-Mas Files (Vancouver TheatreSports League, concept by **Ian Boothby** of Simpsons Comics), co-starring **Roman Danylo**, **Ellie Harvie** and **Dean Haglund** at Arts Club Theatre in December 1996. Newart previously played the role of Peter Pan at Performance Works in Vancouver for a private function with Harvie as Tinkerbell in August 1994.

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Newart worked public relations and media relations for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in Vancouver, including the UNDP Seminar for APEC Business Media (co-organized by University of British Columbia), with guest speakers including **Mike Harcourt** (former Premier of British Columbia), **Anders Wijkman**, and **Emil Salim**, plus four public debates from November 22 – 25, 1997.

During the 14th Vancouver Fringe Festival (1998), Newart wrote reviews of theatrical productions for online magazine Review Vancouver.

**Music**

Newart released his debut album Exploits in a Modern World on July 21, 2006, on Immaculate Records, the record label he founded in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in 2005. He promoted songs from the album during the Vancouver Pride Parade on August 6, 2006 for an estimated crowd of 300,000. Exploits in a Modern World was sold at Toronto’s Sam the Record Man store, and HMV’s flagship store in Vancouver, plus online stores and retail order desks worldwide. Newart’s first chart appearance was at #30 on Montreal’s CIBL 101.5 FM Alternative Chart on September 3, 2006. His music video for “Ridicule” was filmed in New York City and Vancouver in 2007, and his video for “I Would” was filmed in Mexico in 2008.

Newart peaked at #4 in Vancouver, BC on March 13, 2009, on the ReverbNation Pop Chart, and his song “Dead Religion” charted at #36 on Amazon UK’s Religion chart. His song “Real Life” was added to online music trivia game SongPop 2.

Newart spent 30 consecutive weeks on the ReverbNation Vancouver Pop Chart Top 10 with his original song "Perverse" (co-written by **Stefan Arngrim** of Land of the Giants) from July 14, 2014, to February 8, 2015. He ranked #1 with the song from November 10-14, 2014, then again in January 2016, following his performance of “Perverse” during his set at New West Pride (Canada) on August 15, 2015, on the same lineup as **Bif Naked**. MTV published an artist biography of Newart on their official website.

His second album, Rock the Chandeliers, was released in 2018. It was added to over 100 radio stations, and charted at #43 on College Radio Charts.

Newart performed with **The Hallow Society** at Shawbucks in Jamestown, NY on February 29, 2020.

**Lauperland: The World’s Largest Cyndi Lauper Fansite**

Between 1995 and 2005, the **Cyndi Lauper** fansite Page After Page (created by **Jean-Marc Piraprez**) was visited over four million times and was Lauper’s official website before it was retired. In 2018, with contributions by a core group of Lauper supporters, Newart recovered much of the archives, added interviews, rebranded it as Lauperland: The World’s Largest Cyndi Lauper Fansite and launched it in February 2019. Lauperland hosted The Cyndi Lauper Library, and premiered Lauper’s official “Hope (Live)” music video on October 2, 2020. The site featured original artwork by **Brett Willis** of TOONARAMA.

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Newart did features with Grammy™ Award-winner **William Wittman**, Grammy™ Award-nominees **Eric Bazilian** and **Rob Hyman** (of **The Hooters**), and Grammy™ Award-nominee **Steve Gaboury**, plus New York Film Festival Award winner **Jan Pulsford**, **Matt Katz-Bohen** (**Blondie**), percussionist **Sue Hadjopoulos**, makeup artist **Jody Morlock**, drummer **Sandy Gennaro**, fashion designer **Veritée Hill**, drummer **Caitlin Kalafus**, makeup artist **Patrick Lucas**, True Colors United, and **Robin Christensen-Roussimoff** (**André the Giant**’s daughter). Newart closed the site in 2022.

**JAENY**

Newart founded Jamestown Area Entertainment New York (JAENY) social media arts listings and coverage in 2019. His husband **Robert Newart** and he previewed, photographed, videographed, and reviewed performances and attractions including **Lucille Ball**’s childhood home, the historic Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion, the National Comedy Center, and the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum.

Newart acted as talent liaison and photographer for Tony™ Award-nominated **Tom Wopat** (The Dukes of Hazzard) during his meet and greet for the Tom Wopat Christmas concert on December 13, 2019, in Jamestown, NY.

Several pieces of Newart’s photography were displayed as part of the Over 100 Under 100 exhibit at the 3rd on 3rd Gallery at the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts in Jamestown, NY from November 21 – December 23, 2019.

**The Rock Times**

Newart founded The Rock Times online music magazine in March 2022, with a cover story and concert review on **Princess Goes to the Butterfly Museum**, featuring **Michael C. Hall** (TV’s Dexter), Matt Katz-Bohen and **Peter Yanowitz** (**The Wallflowers**). All musician Spotlights from Lauperland were re-homed to The Rock Times.

**GOVERNMENT WORK**

Newart worked for the Government of Canada from 1995 to 2014, including contracts with DFO, HRDC, SDC, and CRA.

**HOME LIFE**

Curtis Newart resides in Montana with his husband Robert.