

Media Release

25 August 2022



**Hipgnosis Song Management Limited appoints Ben Katovsky as
President and Chief Operating Officer**

Ben Katovsky has been appointed President and Chief Operating Officer of Hipgnosis Song Management Limited reporting directly to Chief Executive Officer Merck Mercuriadis.

In his new role, Ben will lead daily operations of the business. With responsibilities including leading Hipgnosis' Song Management teams, Ben will oversee the maximization of opportunities for the administered catalogues while also leading strategic initiatives such as the development of Hipgnosis' proprietary technology and data platform.

Ben has almost two decade's experience working in the music industry with particular expertise in the commercial and operational management of the associated creative works, most recently as Chief Operating Officer at BMG where he spent 7 years. Ben began his career at Counterpoint Systems, the leading provider of music rights and royalties software solutions, where he worked across software engineering, product management and professional services consulting.

Commenting on the appointment, Merck Mercuriadis CEO and founder of Hipgnosis Song Management Limited said:

"We've had an incredible four years at Hipgnosis Song Management but we are still only just beginning. I don't believe there is anyone better than Ben Katovsky to help us reach the goals we have set for Hipgnosis. He has all the qualities of leadership, innovation and ambition and believes in our mission of establishing Song Management as the new paradigm while at the same time using our success to advocate for songwriters. I am delighted to welcome him to the Hipgnosis family as our President & COO and look forward to a long rewarding relationship."

Ben Katovsky, President and Chief Operating Officer, Hipgnosis Song Management Limited said:

"What Merck has built at Hipgnosis in such a short period of time is truly incredible. Equally remarkable though is the ambition to build further on this success and the passionate desire to create even greater opportunities for songwriters and artists alike.

"As someone who has always loved being at the forefront of innovation in our industry, I am incredibly excited about working with Merck and the Hipgnosis team to drive this ambition and to ensure that our phenomenal and growing catalogue enjoys the legacy it so richly deserves."

Ben will take up his position on 1 October 2022.

Further to Ben's appointment, Ted Cockle will become Chief Music Officer overseeing Marketing, Synchron and Promotion as well as Hipgnosis' relationships with Songwriters, Artists, Managers and the Digital Service Providers.

- ends -

For further information please contact:

Hipgnosis Song Management

Merck Mercuriadis

Giles Croot (Media)

Rufina Pavry (Investors)

+44 (0)20 4542 1511

+44 (0)20 4542 1530

The Outside Organisation

Alan Edwards / Nick Caley

+44 (0)7711 081 843

FTI Consulting

Neil Doyle/ Paul Harris/ Laura Ewart

+44 (0)7771 978220; +44 (0)7809

411882; +44 (0)7761 332646

All US music publicity enquiries

Fran Defeo

+1 917 767 5255

About Hipgnosis Song Management Limited

Hipgnosis Song Management Limited, led by its Founder / CEO Merck Mercuriadis is the Investment Adviser for Hipgnosis Songs Fund (SONG.L) – a FTSE 250 company – and Hipgnosis Songs Capital – in partnership with Blackstone. Across both Funds HSM has acquired and is responsible for the Song Management of over 150 of the most extraordinarily successful and culturally important Song catalogues of all time with a Net Asset Value over \$3 billion. These include Nile Rodgers, Neil Young, Leonard Cohen, Chrissie Hynde, Journey, Christine McVie and Lindsey Buckingham of Fleetwood Mac, Kenny Chesney, Shakira and Justin Timberlake.

Merck Mercuriadis is former manager of globally successful artists, such as Elton John, Guns N' Roses, Morrissey, Iron Maiden and Beyoncé, and hit songwriters such as Diane Warren, Justin Tranter and The-Dream, and former CEO of The Sanctuary Group plc.

The Investment Adviser has assembled an Advisory Board of highly successful music industry experts which include award winning members of the artist, songwriter, publishing, legal, financial, recorded music and music management communities, all with in-depth knowledge of music publishing. Members of Hipgnosis Song Management Limited Advisory Board include Nile Rodgers, The-Dream, Giorgio Tuinfort, Starrarah, David A. Stewart, Poo Bear, Bill Leibowitz, Ian Montone and Rodney Jerkins.