

Steve Lurie, Founder & President

Hailed by the New York Times as “an impresario,” Steve Lurie is founder and President of Music Without Borders, LLC, a music business solutions company primarily focused on the concert industry. MWB presents and produces concerts in NYC, throughout the Northeast and US for numerous performing arts centers, clubs, festivals, charity events and private/corporate functions. With nearly 30 years of experience in the music industry, Lurie’s expertise and encyclopedic knowledge of music and artists combined with a keen understanding of consumer tastes, have helped him create a niche for himself as a much sought-after specialist.



As a concert presenter and producer, Lurie has presented over 7,000 concerts in most genres of live entertainment. Collectively, MWB has presented over 10,000 concerts. Lurie enjoys excellent relationships with all of the major and boutique agencies in North America and Europe. With an unrivaled knowledge of the music business, he has helped turn around many arts organizations.

Lurie began his career in the live music business in 2003 when he was Music Director and partner of Satalla, “The Temple of World Music,” a 200-seat venue located in Manhattan that presented over 1,500 concerts from artists around the globe in just a two year period. In 2004 Conde Nast Traveler Magazine picked Satalla as one of the “50 Hot Spots for the World.”

Lurie continues to present and produce concerts at numerous venues throughout the NYC area and the US including: The Beacon Theatre (NYC), Symphony Space (NYC), Tarrytown Music Hall (Tarrytown, NY), Troy Music Hall (Troy, NY), Tribeca Performing Arts Center (NYC), 92ndStreet Y (NYC), Lebanon Opera House (Lebanon, VT), The F.M. Kirby Center (Wilkes-Barre, PA), the Emelin Theatre (Mamaroneck, NY), Garde Arts Center (New London, CT), Grunin Center (Toms River, NJ), Hawaii Theatre (Honolulu, HI), Landmark on Main Street (Port Washington, NY), Massry Center for the Arts (Albany, NY), South Orange Performing Arts Center (South Orange, NJ), Palace Theater (Stamford, CT), Palace Theater (Waterbury, CT), Tibbits Opera House (Coldwater, MI), The Bull Run (Shirley, MA) and other locations around the US.

Lurie also produces a number of special projects and charity events including The NYC Rockin' the River Cruises (formerly the NYC Blues Cruise) for Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises, one of NYC's top tourist attractions; the critically acclaimed Naked Soul series at the Rubin Museum of Art in NYC; The Annual John Lennon Tribute, the Positively Bob Dylan Tribute series, and the Songs of Love & Revolution series among others.

From 2010-2018 Lurie was Director of Clearwater's Great Hudson River Revival (The Clearwater Festival), founded by Pete Seeger. He grew the attendance at the annual event in Croton-on-Hudson, NY in Westchester County from less than 7,500 to nearly 20,000. While at Clearwater, Lurie restored its national reputation with the artists, audience, industry and press. In 2012 Clearwater was picked as "One of the Top 4 Festivals" in the US by Outside Magazine. Lurie also produced several large-scale fundraising concerts for Clearwater in NYC and other areas.

Prior to presenting and producing concerts, Lurie was VP and co-owner of Al Franklin's Musical World in Greenwich and Hartford, Connecticut, and helped build this taste-maker business into one of the finest and most highly-regarded record and audio chains in the country. With an acute awareness of consumer preferences and an innate sense of what makes a hit, Lurie helped break dozens of new artists in key music markets through unique programs offered to record labels and distributors.

In 2000, Lurie developed the Music Business Certificate for New York University's School of Continuing and Professional Studies where he taught "How to Start a Record Label" from 2000-2007. From 1998-2004 he was on the faculty of the University of Hartford's prestigious Hartt School of Music where he taught undergraduate classes in the Music Management Program. He was also a consultant to The New School University in Manhattan where he developed music business programs for graduate and undergraduate students.

Lurie wrote a popular music column for The Greenwich Times newspaper and has contributed articles to Rhythm Music Magazine and Percussive Notes Magazine. He has been interviewed on television and radio and in print on industry trends with features in The New York Times, Billboard, WNYC, WFUV, Stamford Advocate, Alaska Airlines Magazine, Forbes.com and numerous other news outlets.

Lurie has lectured on music industry issues throughout the US, Canada and Europe. In 1998, Lurie was invited to keynote at WOMEX (Worldwide Music Expo) in Stockholm, Sweden on the topic of record retail in the United States. In May of 2002, Lurie was a featured speaker at The Book Expo in New York City. In February of 2005 he presented several lectures on music publishing and copyright at the Folk Alliance/Strictly Mundial Convention in Montreal. In January of 2006 he presented a lecture on independent retail and distribution at MIDEM in Cannes, France. Lurie was also asked to be a Grant Reviewer for the Connecticut Department of Culture and Tourism, an honor that is only bestowed upon the most distinguished members of the arts community.

As a performer, Lurie played with orchestras, pop, jazz and world music ensembles in North America, Europe and Asia. He received his Bachelor of Music degrees in both in Percussion Performance and Music Management at the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford and his Master of Music degree in World Music Performance and Research from the School of Visual and Performing Arts at Northern Illinois University.