



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jackie Marushka
Phone: 615-261-6439
pr@pmgsonybm.com

**MATT MAHER GARNERS PRESTIGIOUS “ARTIST OF THE YEAR”
AND “PRAISE AND WORSHIP ALBUM OF THE YEAR” HONORS**

Maher Partners with Fellow Worship Leaders and Radio Stations on Worship Workshops

(Nashville, Tenn.) November 5, 2008 – Singer/songwriter/worship leader Matt Maher can add two prestigious awards to his list of accomplishments for 2008.

After the April release of his debut album, *Empty & Beautiful* his song “Your Grace Is Enough” quickly rose in popularity on radio charts. Last weekend, Maher was honored with two Christian music awards at two separate ceremonies: “Praise and Worship Album of the Year” and “Artist of the Year.”

Maher received the “Praise and Worship Album of the Year” for *Empty & Beautiful* at the **Covenant Award**’s 30th Anniversary in Calgary, Alberta on October 24. The Covenant Awards are part of GMA Canada Week, which includes five days of artist-related activities for Christian musicians. Maher, a Newfoundland native, was nominated in five categories, including New Artist of the Year.

The following day, Maher was honored with “**Artist of the Year**” at the 9th annual **Unity Awards** in New Orleans. The Unity Awards are held by the United Catholic Music and Video Association.

In other news, Maher spent part of October working with radio stations to conduct a series of workshops for worship pastors at local radio market churches. Drawing from his success as a worship leader and songwriter over the past 13 years, Maher shared his music, experiences and inspirations to audiences in Portland, Ore., Winston-Salem, N.C., Fayetteville, N.C. and Fort Wayne, Ind.. The hour-long seminars also included a Q&A forum where Maher moderated discussions on issues pertaining to today’s worship leaders.

About Matt Maher

Essential recording artist Matt Maher has taken his calling to be a “musical missionary” from dedicated work in his local community to substantial impact on a national and global stage. As a songwriter, Maher gained notice as the co-writer on the internationally renowned modern-worship hit “Your Grace Is Enough,” as recorded by Chris Tomlin. Maher’s current project *Empty & Beautiful* (his first major-label effort after three independent releases) has jumpstarted his work as a touring artist, placing him in front of audiences totaling more than 750,000 in 2008 alone. Maher has shared recent stages with artists such as Tomlin, Leeland, MercyMe, Michael W. Smith and Jeremy Camp, and has been involved with ministries such as Life Teen, Adore Ministries, Catholic Relief Services and Spiritandsong.com.

Outside of music, he has written for *Billboard Magazine* and is an active, bylined contributor to the site *OnFaith* (newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith), an interactive conversation on religion.