

# GRANDERSON DES ROCHERS, LLP

## **Damien Granderson, Founding Partner and Chair of Music Practice**

Granderson's clients include a diverse slate of global superstars and influential independent labels. He represents A\$AP Rocky, RAYE, J Balvin, Rod Wave, Ne-Yo, Wizkid, Bryson Tiller, Ayra Starr, Snoh Aalegra, Queen Naija,

Lay Bankz, Ms. Lauryn Hill, Issa Rae's Raedio LLC, Young Thug, Buju Banton and Shaggy, as well as groundbreaking labels such as Quality Control Music (Lil Yachty, Lil Baby, JT), Rancho Humilde (Fuerza Regida, Junior H), Paper Route Empire (Key Glock, Young Dolph), AWGE (Playboi Carti), R&R (Adam Melchor, Mk.gee), Hitmaker (Busta Rhymes, Bhad Bhabie) and the U.K.-based Neighbourhood (Dave). Granderson has recently negotiated

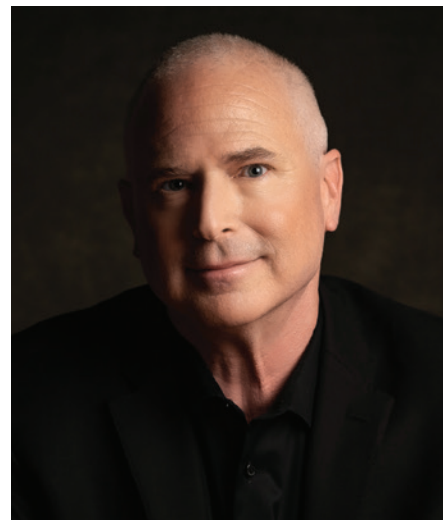
high-profile deals spanning music, fashion and live performance, including RAYE's Grammy and Academy Awards performances, J Balvin's Back to Rayo Tour and Ne-Yo's Champagne and Roses Tour. He led the Paper Route-Republic Records joint venture for Key Glock, secured Native Lands' label deal with Warner Records and structured The Black Label's venture with Capitol Records for

rising artist Meowv. In the brand and fashion space, Granderson brokered A\$AP Rocky's partnerships with Ray-Ban (as its first-ever creative director), Puma Formula 1 and Bottega Veneta, as well as Kelsey Lu's Gucci 2025 Cruise Collection campaign and J Balvin's Futura x Marc Jacobs capsule collaboration.

## **Guy Blake, Founding and Managing Partner, Chair of Music Publishing Practice**

Renowned music industry attorney Blake developed a unique practice, representing music legends such as Harvey Mason Jr., Bernie Taupin

and Shaggy, in addition to lending his unparalleled publishing expertise to the GDR teams repping RAYE, J Balvin, Wizkid and A\$AP Rocky, as well as entertainment companies Quality Control, SoundCloud and Issa Rae's Raedio LLC. Blake has handled numerous catalog deals for such artists as The Notorious B.I.G., Ne-Yo and Timbaland, in addition to helping launch and develop independent companies. Additionally, he represents record producer, songwriter and musician Bekon, who recently wrote and produced Hozier's #1 record "Too Sweet." Prior to launching GDR,



From left: Damien with A\$AP Rocky, Taraji P. Henson and Spike Lee in Cannes; with J Balvin and Valentina Ferrer



From left: Elizabeth Moody, Colin Morrissey, Lynn Gonzalez and Corey Martin

Blake served as a partner at Davis Shapiro Lewit Grabel Leven Granderson & Blake, LLP, and as SVP of legal & business affairs at Warner Chappell Music.

### **Elizabeth Moody, Senior Partner and Chair of New Media Practice**

Moody is a digital-media trailblazer who has shaped the evolution of music and video licensing since the post-Napster era. She's worked as both outside counsel and in-house at leading platforms including YouTube and Pandora, helping drive the industry's transition to digital.

Moody remains at the forefront of music and technology, advising clients on licensing strategies that open new revenue streams and business models. She is currently working with multiple generative-audio and voice-AI companies, some publicly launched, others in stealth, crafting partnerships that bridge the gap between rightsholders and emerging tech. These are among the first licensing frameworks in the AI music space, designed to protect creators while supporting innovation. Moody encourages the industry to view AI as a tool to enhance, not replace, human creativity. Her work also spans the gaming world. She serves as music counsel to Roblox and Wave XR and leads licensing strategy for Styng's music-gaming platform.

She continues to shape the future of streaming by advising companies focused on fan connection and artist-first models. She represents Coda Music and Trio, both forthcoming platforms reimagining how users engage with music and how artists get paid. She is also advising Vocana, a new social streaming platform built for the independent label community.

### **Colin Morrissey, Founding Partner**

Morrissey has built an incredibly impressive client roster, which includes SoFaygo, Nic Nac, rapper-model-skateboarder Sage Elsesser p/k/a Navy Blue and label and management company SinceThe80s. He spearheaded the negotiation of SoFaygo's recording agreement with Travis Scott's Cactus Jack Records and his publishing deal with BMG, as well as a label venture for SinceThe80s with Epic Records. Morrissey is also an invaluable member of the GDR teams handling high-profile artists A\$AP Rocky, Wizkid, Rod Wave, Ne-Yo, Bryson Tiller and Young Thug, and label clients including SoundCloud, Paper Route Empire, R&R and Hitmaker. Beyond his legal practice, Morrissey devotes much of his time to mentoring GDR's associates, training the firm's next generation of young lawyers. He began his career in the music business at Warner Music Group, followed by nearly 10 years in the New York office of Davis Shapiro Lewit Grabel Leven Granderson & Blake, LLP.

### **Lynn Gonzalez, Partner**

Before joining GDR in September 2023, renowned entertainment attorney and executive Gonzalez spent a decade at Def Jam Recordings, ultimately serving as EVP and head of business affairs and business development. As the label's lead attorney, she oversaw legal matters for a roster of renowned artists and personally handled deals for Justin Bieber, 2 Chainz, Teyana Taylor, Pusha T and Rihanna (including the deal for her single on the soundtrack for *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*), as well as handling the label deal for DJ Khaled. At GDR, Gonzalez plays a central role in growing the firm's Latin music practice. She works on high-profile Latin clients including Rancho Humilde, J Balvin, Danna Paola and Lara Project. She is a member of the GDR team representing singer-songwriter RAYE, who last year made history by winning six BRIT Awards, including Song of the Year, Artist of the Year and Album of the Year. Gonzalez draws on her experience leading the business affairs department at a major label to guide entrepreneurs and independent labels, including Issa Rae's Raedio LLC, SoundCloud, L.A. Reid's Mega and Ben Persky's R&R, as they grow their businesses in today's rapidly changing label landscape. She is also a member of the GDR team working with Christian R&B artist Lee Vasi, navigating her negotiations with major secular and Christian labels, and represents prolific Indian superstar Sid Sriram.

### **Corey Martin, Managing Partner and Chair of Entertainment Finance Practice**

Martin guides the firm's clients as they navigate complex mergers and acquisitions, licensing, JV and financing transactions. In his role as chair of the firm's entertainment finance practice, Martin oversees all corporate transactional matters on behalf of entertainment industry luminaries. In connection with this role, he was an integral member of the GDR teams representing QC Media Holdings, Inc. in its sale transaction with HYBE USA, the principals of Neighbourhood Records Ltd. in their recent transaction with Universal Music Limited and Notorious, LLC in its catalog sale transaction with Primary Wave. Martin began his legal career at Shearman & Sterling, LLP, where he practiced corporate law in the mergers & acquisitions practice group. He later joined Loeb & Loeb, LLP as a partner in the private equity practice group and subsequently joined Davis Shapiro Lewit Grabel Leven Granderson & Blake, LLP as a partner and chair of the corporate practice group. ■