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## **MATT MAHER'S 'ALIVE AGAIN' QUICKLY JUMPS INTO TOP 20**

### ***Embrace of Title Track Stirs Enthusiasm for Sept. 22 Album Release***

(Nashville, Tenn.) September 15, 2009 -- Worship artist and renowned songwriter **Matt Maher** vaults into the Top 20 of *Billboard's* National Audience Chart this week with "Alive Again," the title track of his highly anticipated sophomore album. In addition, Matt's song is up six spots to No. 22 on the Christian AC Monitored chart, with two new adds in Jacksonville and Roanoke.

Early adds came from many of the largest Christian AC stations in the nation, including K-LOVE Network, KSBJ/Houston, KTIS/Minneapolis, KCMS/Seattle, FISH-Los Angeles and KSOS/Las Vegas, and positive audience testing has already pushed "Alive Again" into heavy rotation in Houston and Seattle at a quicker-than-normal pace.

"Matt is one of our favorite emerging artists! I love his heart for the music and I am anxious to see 'Alive Again' begin to impact our audience," says Chuck Tyler, Program Director of FISH-Los Angeles.

As the Sept. 22 album release approaches, Maher is confirmed for performances at fan appreciation events in markets including Houston (KSBJ), San Antonio (KLOVE), and Las Vegas (KSOS).

*Alive Again* solidly captures the penetrating spirit and charisma Maher has become known for in a live setting. Produced by **Christopher Stevens** (Delirious, tobyMac) and **Paul Moak** (Mat Kearney, Shane & Shane), the 12-song studio project—with all compositions co-written by Maher—spotlights his addictive organic-pop sound melded with vulnerable and engaging lyrics, making *Alive Again* a soundtrack for believers in both personal times of worship and corporate moments on Sunday mornings.

"*Alive Again* is my favorite CD of the year so far—it's moving, beautiful and original. God has uniquely gifted Matt Maher to be the next global worship leader," says Darren Garrett of CBNNewsChannel.com. "I cannot recommend it highly enough for someone interested in great music and in drawing closer to God."

Maher will be touring the U.S. this fall as part of GRAMMY® winning and multi-Platinum **Michael W. Smith's** "New Hallelujah World Tour." Traveling to 17 major markets in October and November, the tour sees Maher serving as musical host of the concert's first half, which also features his Provident Label mate **Phil Stacey** ([www.philstacey.com](http://www.philstacey.com)) and new artist/worship leader **Meredith Andrews**.

For more information on "A New Hallelujah World Tour," including itinerary and tickets, please visit [www.mattmahermusic.com](http://www.mattmahermusic.com) or [www.michaelwsmith.com](http://www.michaelwsmith.com). For the latest in Matt Maher news and updates, follow him on twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/mattmahermusic>.

### **About Matt Maher:**

**Matt Maher**—artist/worshipper, worship leader, songwriter, singer and recording artist—has taken his calling as a “musical missionary” to create a substantial impact on a national and global stage. An award-winning songwriter, Maher first gained notice as the writer of the internationally renowned modern-worship song, “Your Grace Is Enough,” from his 2008 major label debut, *Empty & Beautiful* (Essential Records).

Highly sought after for his poignant and poetic writing style, Maher co-wrote Chris Tomlin’s current Top 10 CCM hit “I Will Rise” and contributed two songs to Tomlin’s upcoming Christmas CD (10/6). In addition, Maher’s songs have appeared in the top 15 ranked songs on the CCLI chart, marking their popularity in church worship services around the world.

The opening musical host on the American leg of Michael W. Smith’s “New Hallelujah World Tour,” launching October 22, Maher recently performed several concert dates with Mac Powell, Trevor Morgan, Aaron Shust and Laura Story on the *Glory Revealed* tour, which will join Third Day on its upcoming national fall tour.

Amid busy writing and touring schedules, Maher finds it important to serve alongside ministries including Life Teen, Adore Ministries, and Catholic Relief Services while still playing an active role with Oregon Catholic Press’ [spiritandsong.com](http://spiritandsong.com). Further, he serves as a regular host for Worship Together’s “Newsong Café.”

Honored with a Praise Award as *Worship Leader’s* Breakout Artist of 2008, Maher was also selected as part of the publication’s **Best of the Best** in the “Worship CD” category, featured in the Oct. 2009 issue. In addition, Maher has been featured on the covers of *Breakaway* and *Christian Single*, performed live on “FOX & Friends,” written for *Billboard* magazine and is a frequent bylined contributor to *OnFaith.com* ([www.newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith](http://www.newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith)), an interactive conversation on religion.

Maher’s 12-song *Alive Again*, with its title track gaining momentum at Christian radio, releases on Sept. 22. For more information on Matt Maher, please visit [www.mattmahermusic.com](http://www.mattmahermusic.com) or follow him at [www.twitter.com/mattmahermusic](http://www.twitter.com/mattmahermusic).

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