

Backbeat: Evanescence Rocks New York, Has Spinal Tap Moment Backstage

NEWS

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Evanescence's Amy Lee gives former Wind-Up Records exec Diana Meltzer a hug while surrounded by (from left) Evanescence bassist Tim McCord, drummer Will Hunt, and guitarists Troy McLawhorn and Terry Balsamo. Meltzer's ex-husband, label co-founder Alan Meltzer, passed away over the weekend. (Photo: Christa Titus)

As a flagship band for Wind-up Records, Evanescence did the memory ofrecently deceased label co-founder/chairman Alan Meltzer proud with its performance at New York's Terminal 5 Wednesday night. The multi-tiered hall, packed to the gills with fans, was awash in stunning blue, magenta and white lights as the quintet powered through hits new and old like "Going Under" and "What You Want." Taking a moment from blowing the crowd away with her soaring voice, frontwoman Amy Lee thanked fans for sending the band's new self-titled album to No. 1 on the Billboard 200 earlier this month and "for letting me perform at home, so I can go home and sleep in my own bed."

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Backstage, guitarist Troy McLawhorn revealed a Spinal Tap-esque moment the band experienced post-show-even though security had just watched the act perform, they initially refused to let the band members return to their dressing rooms because they weren't wearing all-access passes. Former Wind-Up VP of A&R (and Alan Meltzer's ex-wife) Diana Meltzer, in an eye-catching red dress, reminisced about the journey she's been on since signing frontwoman Amy Lee. Meltzer recalled hearing Lee sing for the first time: "I didn't even see her. I heard a tape of her singing 'My Immortal,'" Meltzer recalled. "I signed her the next day."

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