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Contacts: Telemundo: Claudia Santa Cruz
(305) 220-8887
csc@santacruzpr.com
Billboard: Barbara Grieninger
(646) 654-4675
press@billboard.com

**SUPERSTAR RICKY MARTIN, COLOMBIAN ROCKER JUANES AND
LATIN MUSIC LEGEND CELIA CRUZ
TOP THE LIST OF FINALISTS FOR THE 2004 BILLBOARD LATIN MUSIC AWARDS**

**Awards will take place April 29th at the Miami Arena and
will be produced and broadcast LIVE on Telemundo**

Miami, FL, February 12, 2004 – Finalists for the *2004 Billboard Latin Music Awards* were announced today by Telemundo and Billboard. **Ricky Martin, Juanes, Celia Cruz, Thalía, David Bisbal, India, Chayanne, Mana, Marco Antonio Solís, and Obie Bermúdez** are featured among finalists in multiple categories. The ceremony will be held on **Thursday, April 29th at the Miami Arena and will be produced broadcast live on Telemundo.**

"Through this top quality original production, Telemundo is proud to honor the work of these talented artists and another remarkable year in Latin music," said Ramon Escobar, Executive Vice President of Programming and Production for Telemundo.

"The Billboard Latin Music Awards is the only awards show that highlights the most popular artists, songs, and albums in the various Latin genres, as determined by objective sales and radio airplay data," says John Kilcullen, President and Publisher of the Billboard Information Group. "From regional Mexican to pop, from tours to radio, these awards really reflect the hottest trends in Latin Music today. We know that the winners at our awards ceremony truly connect with music consumers and radio listeners."

Topping the finalist list is the Latin music legend **Celia Cruz**, a finalist for *Top Latin Albums Artist of the Year*; *Tropical Album of the Year-Female* for "Exitos Eternos", "Hits Mix" and "Regalo del Alma"; *Latin Greatest Hits Album of the Year* for "Exitos Eternos" and "Hits Mix"; and *Tropical Airplay Track of the Year* "Rie y Lloro".

Among the major categories, *Top Latin Albums Artist of the Year* finalists include Regional Mexican Group **Intocable**, Latin rock group **Mana** and singer/songwriter **Marco Antonio Solís**. Featured for *Hot Latin Track of the Year* are **Obie Bermúdez** for "Antes", **Chayanne** for "Un Siglo Sin Ti", **Juanes** with **Nelly Furtado** for "Fotografía," and **Ricky Martin** for "Tal Vez." Finalists for *Latin Tour of the Year* include **Ricardo Arjona, Vicente Fernandez, Mana and Luis Miguel**.

Colombian rocker **Juanes** is a finalist in five categories as is Puerto Rican artist, **Ricky Martin**. Also a standout at this year's event, and a finalist up for four awards is Mexican songstress **Thalía** and up-and-coming Puerto Rican singer/songwriter **Obie Bermúdez**.

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Billboard Latin Music Finalists 2/2/2

Finalists up for three awards include **A.B. Quintanilla III & Kumbia Kings, Akwid, Chayanne, Conjunto Primavera, David Bisbal, India, Intocable, Mana, and Marco Antonio Solis.** Several artists are competing for two awards including **Gloria Estefan, Jaci Velasquez, Jerry Rivera, Luis Miguel, La Oreja de Van Gogh, Olga Tañon, Ana Barbara, Briseyda y Los Muchachos, Divino, Jae-P, Fabian Gomez, Sin Bandera, Limite, Pepe Aguilar, Lunytunes & Noriega, Son de Cali, Tiziano Ferro, and Valentin Elizalde**

The Billboard Latin Music Awards honor the most popular albums, songs, and performers in Latin music, as determined by the actual sales and radio airplay data that informs Billboard's weekly charts during a one-year period from the issue dated February 15, 2003 through this year's February 7 issue. Albums that charted before Nov. 16, 2002 and albums that won the previous year are ineligible. Based on sales data compiled by Nielsen SoundScan and radio information monitored by Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems, Billboard's charts are the world's most authoritative music charts. For a complete list of finalists, please visit www.billboard.com.

Telemundo, a U.S. Spanish-language television network, is the essential entertainment, news and sports source for Hispanics. Broadcasting unique national and local programming for the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population, Telemundo reaches 91% of U.S. Hispanic viewers in 118 markets through its 15 owned and operated stations, 32 broadcast affiliates and nearly 450 cable affiliates. Telemundo is wholly-owned by GE (NYSE:GE) and is managed by NBC, the nation's leading broadcast network.

Now in its 110th year, Billboard is the world's premier music industry publication and a diverse brand licensing platform. Billboard publishes the most trusted charts and offers unrivaled reporting about the latest music and video entertainment issues and trends. Billboard is the flagship property for the Billboard Information Group, which also consists of Billboard.com, Billboard.biz, Billboard Chart Alert, Billboard Information Network (BIN), Billboard Directories, Billboard Licensing & Events and Airplay Monitor. The Group is a unit of VNU Business Media, a worldwide media company that provides specialized publications, electronically delivered data, expositions and marketing services and is owned by VNU Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Netherlands-based VNU, an international publishing and information company.

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MEDIA: To view a complete list of finalists, obtain more information regarding the 2004 Billboard Latin Music Awards, and to apply for press credentials, please visit <http://www.telemundomv.com>.