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## SOARING MUSICALITY

For The Piano Guys, using helicopters to transport grand pianos to desert cliffs, lush forests, moving trains, the Great Wall of China, and nearly ever place imaginable is the norm. Their ambitious set locations visually push their "quirky yet virtuoso" (*USA Today*) mashups that range from Swedish House Mafia to Vivaldi to the next level.

Paul Anderson (producer/videographer), Jon Schmidt (pianist/ songwriter), Steven Sharp Nelson (cellist/songwriter), and Al van der Beek (music producWer/songwriter) serendipitously met at Anderson's piano store in St. George, Utah. Anderson originally wanted to create videos to drive pianos sales at the store, but when their innovative piano and cello compositions quickly garnered viral status, performing became their full-time careers.

Since 2011 they have produced

more than 50 videos with more than 500 million views and nearly four million subscribers on YouTube. Adding to their track record of success, their self-titled 2012 release, their follow-up: *The Piano Guys 2* (2013), and 2014's *Wonders* all hit No. 1 on *Billboard*'s Top New Age Albums chart and made it to the Top 50 of the *Billboard* 200.

#### **Record-setting Feats**

The Piano Guys' 2014 music video of "Angels From the Realms of Glory" helped them break a Guinness World Record for Most Living Figures in a Nativity Scene with 1,039 participants.

#### **Traveling Stars**

The Piano Guys have appeared in People magazine, and have made major television appearances on The Today Show, Katie, The Tonight Show, Fox & Friends, CBS This Morning, Huckabee BBC Breakfast (U.K.), Globo TV (Brazil), Mario Barth Show (Germany), and many more. In 2013 they performed in the PBS special, Live at Red Butte, which aired more than 600 times around the country.

-Mariam Aburdeineh

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