

JAM WITH THE BAND

# A Night at the Symphony?

Finally, when your girlfriend wants you to take her to the orchestra, you'll actually say yes.

Video games have been around for quite a while, but the true creativity of their music has until now been underappreciated. The Video Games Live concert tour looks to change that with a series of performances throughout the summer. When the festivities kick off on July 6 at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles, Video Games Live's executive producers Tommy Tallarico and Jack Wall—both of them veteran music composers—promise no ordinary night at the symphony. We had a chance to get a few details from the duo about the show just days before kickoff.

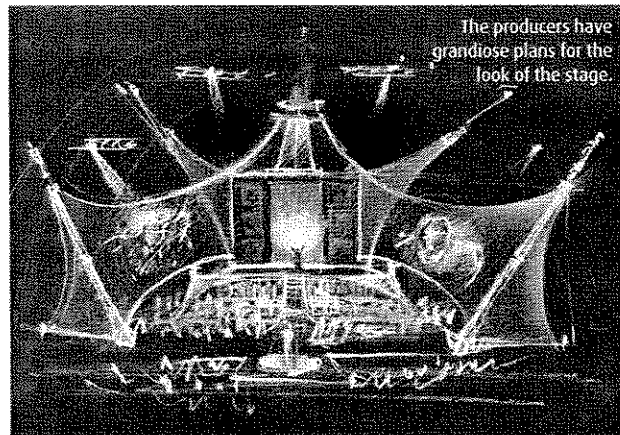
Many of Nintendo's stars will be represented at the concert. The orchestra will perform "classical" tunes such as the Super Mario Bros. theme and the music from the underground and underwater levels, as well as the original The Legend of Zelda theme song. The original Donkey Kong arcade music will also be included as part of a retro medley. Patrons will also hear newer scores from games such as EA's Medal of Honor and Ubisoft's Beyond Good & Evil.

The show will feature a live orchestra, giant, high-tech screens playing footage from the associated games, and a full

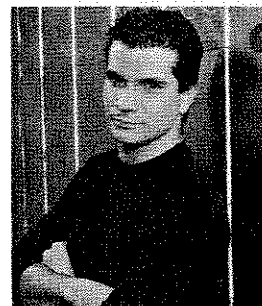
laser light show aimed toward creating rock-concert intensity, headed by a lighting designer who has worked with the likes of Kiss and Aerosmith. The screens are nearly invisible at night until images are displayed on them. "It's pretty cutting-edge stuff. It makes the video look like it's floating in midair," says Tallarico. Video games won't be the only thing displayed onscreen, however. Stuntmen will interact with the giant video game images in three segments, where they will assume the roles of game characters and play out a famous scene.

Being hard-core gamers themselves, Video Games Live's producers have put a lot of effort into ensuring the performances take the subject matter seriously. "[It] has always been of paramount importance to us to pull off a very professional show," Wall says. Tallarico further explains, "Because we are true gamers, the scenes we are reenacting are done tastefully and with class."

For more information regarding the tour, including locations, dates and ticket information, head to [www.videogameslive.com](http://www.videogameslive.com). —Chris S.



The producers have grandiose plans for the look of the stage.



**“We’ve made it cheese-proof because we don’t intend on having Lara Croft’s Dance Review or Mario wrestling Sonic.”**

—Tommy Tallarico

**“We want to bring gamers and non-gamers alike out to see the orchestra to really hear what it is capable of.”**

—Jack Wall



## DON'T MISS Calendar

A double handful of space-shooter and two Daisy Dukes? The 2005 halftime show has the goods, including a triple hit of Madden!



### 7-19

#### Nanostray set to dominate.

Nintendo fans haven't had a superbeautiful, überdifficult space-shooter since the GCN's Ikaruga. Now Nanostray on the DS plans to seduce pilots with its graphics, then punish 'em with hard-core challenges. Sign us up!

### 7-26

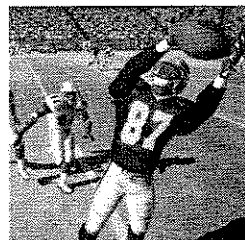
#### Harvest Moon is girl-crazy.

Getting your crop planted—that's your duty in the play-as-a-gal remixes of the '04 GCN and GBA titles. You'll go to a farm town to socialize with all the local studs, and you'll make sure your plants grow, too.

### 8-9

#### Madden mans up on all three Nintendo systems.

Pigskin fans can hit the field in full force on the GCN, DS and GBA with Madden NFL 06, kicking off a new season of armchair quarterbacking—and endless, endless snacking.



### 8-16

#### SSS eye candy, sweet & spicy.

Listen to your mother. Didn't she say that you couldn't trust a girl with symbiotic armor? Sigma Star Saga will put you in her path in a GBA game that's half space-shooter, half RPG. Hot, hot, hot! Go take a cold shower.

### 8-22

#### War. Puppies. Why choose?

Nintendo puts the DS into '05 overdrive with the release of Nintendogs and Advance Wars: Dual Strike. Just remember to come home from the battlefield to let your pups out to pee.

