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Round Hill Music Sets a Target of \$375m to Raise for Its New Music Royalties Investment Fund

Round Hill Music, a New York-based publishing firm, announced their upcoming launch of an investment trust on the London Stock Exchange to buy the back catalogues and music royalties from well-known songwriters and artists around the world.

The firm intends to raise \$375m (£288m), with an IPO in November, acquired from an investment pipeline of over 40 catalogues and more than 120,000 timeless songs by the likes of The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Backstreet Boys and Celine Dion to name just a few. Their aim is to provide investors with total returns of 9-11% per annum, including a dividend yield of 4.5%.

Co-Founder and Managing Director of Stellwagen Ventures, Jeff Walker, comments on the new investment trust saying, “the recent news on Round Hill is further evidence that this monetization strategy centred around artists IP rights remains extremely hot. Although we have a diversified portfolio across sport, media and investments here at Stellwagen Ventures, the music sector continues to occupy the lion’s share of our time.”

With the increased interest in music copyrights, Music Business Worldwide explain that ‘deals for music rights have never been more competitive, with new-school players like Hipgnosis Songs Fund and Round Hill Music building (and spending) considerable war chests to acquire catalogs’. It seems everyone is wanting to throw their hat into the ring of investments and will have to share the stage with Warner Music Group as they turn up the heat and announce that they have raised \$250m, via a private offering, to fund future catalogue acquisitions.