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**NEW YORK POST**

## Disgruntled Madonna fans sue over late concert starts



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It's just like a prayer — for relief.

Two disgruntled local Madonna fans are suing the legendary singer for refunds to a pair of concerts in Brooklyn last year — because she showed up hours late and ruined their nights.

Queens resident Antonio Velotta and New Jersey man Andrew Panos say they each shelled out around \$300 to see the “Material Girl” at the BAM opera house in Fort Greene on Sept. 21 and Oct. 1, respectively, for her “Madame X” tour.

Madonna was supposed to kick off both concerts at 8:30 p.m. — but didn't get into the groove until 11:30 p.m. at the September show and 10:40 p.m. at the October gig, wrapping up around 1 a.m., the men say.

The two men on Monday filed a class-action suit in Brooklyn Supreme Court against the “Like a Virgin” crooner, along with concert promoter Live Nation, claiming false advertising and breach of contract.

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“She totally screwed her fans over,” fumed Velotta, 40, who says he didn’t get home from the show until 3 a.m.

The hairstylist — who says he moved to the Big Apple from Cleveland 14 years ago after seeing Madonna in the 1985 film “Desperately Seeking Susan” — at least enjoyed the performance once it got underway.

But Panos, 35, told The Post he and his wife “immediately hated” the show and left early.

The couple still had to pay their baby-sitter extra to watch their two kids due to the late night — they didn’t get back home to Union County, NJ, until 3 a.m.

“There are artists who appreciate their fans and I think she just had no regard for anyone else,” Panos said.

The suit notes that concertgoers also had to hand over their phones at the start of the show — so many couldn’t arrange for rides home until after the gig was over.

The legal action comes after a Florida man sued Madonna over the late start of a Dec. 17 show in Miami Beach.

Marcus Corwin, an attorney who represents the plaintiff in that case, said Panos and Velotta contacted him about filing their own complaints in New York.

“You go to a Broadway show, or you go to a basketball game or go to a baseball game or to a concert with Billy Joel, they start when they say they will,” Corwin said. “To show up two hours late is not right.”

Corwin noted that Madonna’s lateness wasn’t the only thing she did on the “Madame X” tour that irritated fans — she also has venue air conditioners shut off during her shows.

At a Dec. 14 concert in Miami, fans began chanting “A/C!” the Miami New Times reported.

In response, the singer reportedly snapped at the crowd, “F–k you, I’m cold. Take your f–king clothes off!”

Madonna’s publicist and Live Nation did not respond to requests for comment.

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