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IN THIS ISSUE...

ON THE COVER



30 Michael Matthews
The Man Behind the Technology That Has Revolutionized Radio Airplay Tracking
By Jackson McKee

Features

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>6 Contemporary Jazz Guitarist Les Sabler Finds "Tranquility" on New Album Produced by GRAMMY Winner Paul Brown
By Rick Scott</p> <p>8 Shane Cruse
<i>Failure Isn't Final</i>
By MaryAnne Wagoner</p> <p>10 Tyler Cullens: "Southern Thang"
By Jackson McKee</p> <p>12 Dana Gregory & Jake Shafer: Bring on the Sunshine
Staff, Nashtown Entertainment</p> <p>18 Delmark Records
<i>The Revival of a Historic Blues and Jazz Record Company</i>
Staff, Western Publicity</p> <p>36 The Music Lives On: Remembering the Lives and Legacies of Five Beloved Performers
By Robin Tanner</p> | <p>40 Tim Atwood Steps Outside the Box with His Critically Acclaimed Album, "Who I Am"
By Randi Haynes</p> <p>46 Don McLean: 50 Years of an Iconic Anthem, "American Pie"
Staff, 2911 Media</p> <p>54 Lady A
<i>Waves of Success</i>
By Robin Tanner</p> <p>56 Harry Connick, Jr. : Alone with My Faith
By Robin Tanner</p> <p>58 Bobby Bones "Does it All"
By Jennifer Springs</p> |
|--|--|

Series

- 16 ICON Series - Cher, "Goddess of Pop"**
Staff, Cashbox Magazine
- 52 Where Are They Now? - Ruben Studdard and Jordan Smith**

Departments

MUSIC CHARTS

- 22 Cashbox Charts - DRT Global**
- 34 Cashbox Charts - Independent**
- 44 Christian Servant Top 50 Pick**
- 48 Cashbox Southern Gospel Top100**
- 50 Cashbox Country Gospel Top 100**

NEWS

- 24 Cashbox Music News**

CASHBOX

MARCH / APRIL 2021

CASHBOX Magazine was originally founded by Bill Gersh in 1942. However, in the late 1950s George Albert took over until his death in 1997. In 1941 the name was associated with pinball machines and jukeboxes as Cashbox Wurlitzer.

CASHBOX MAGAZINE

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SUBSCRIPTION

www.cashboxmagazine.org

OWNER

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82 McFadden Lane • Ridgeway, SC 29130
803-820-0170
www.usmusicchartsmagazine.com

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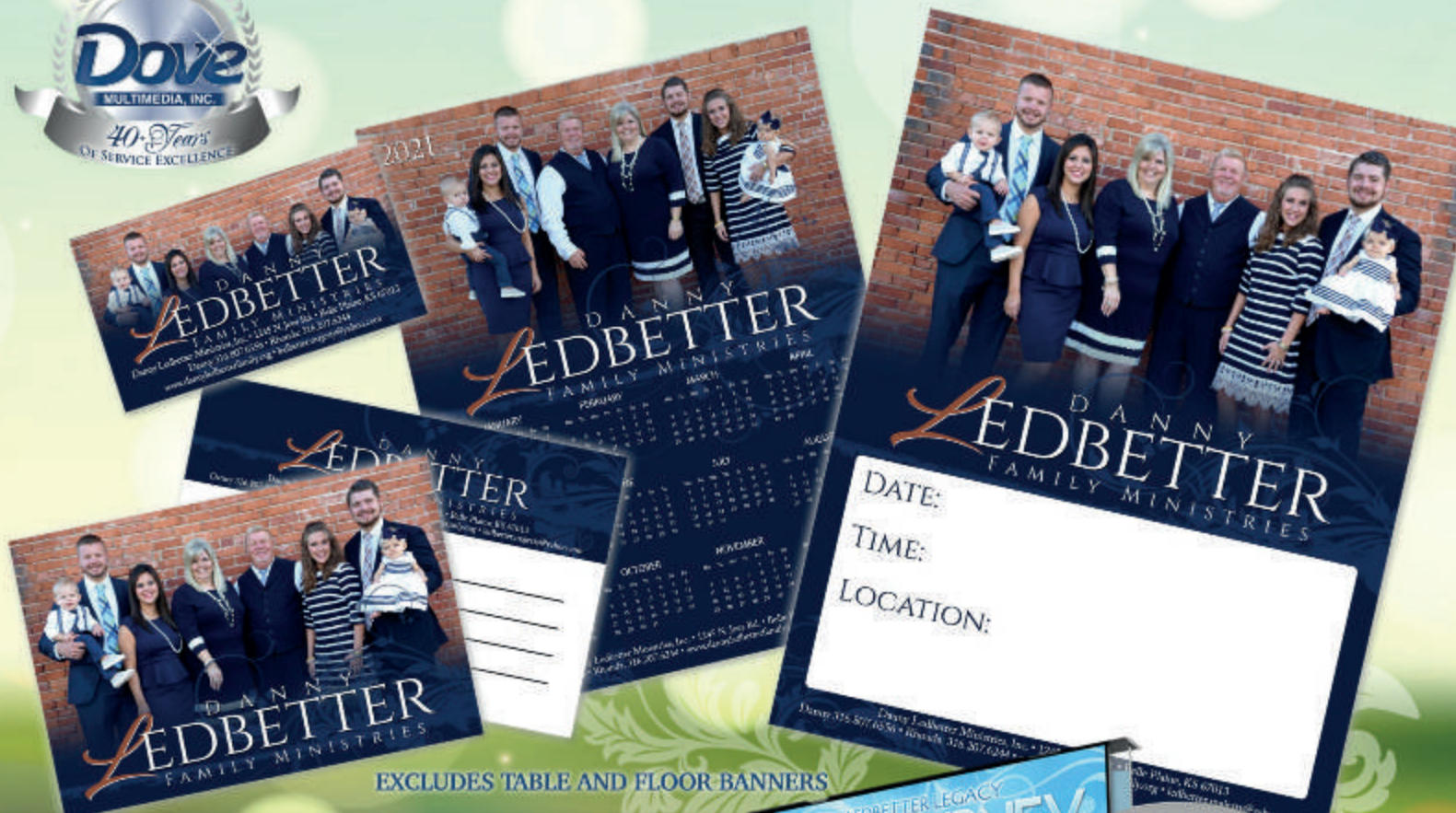


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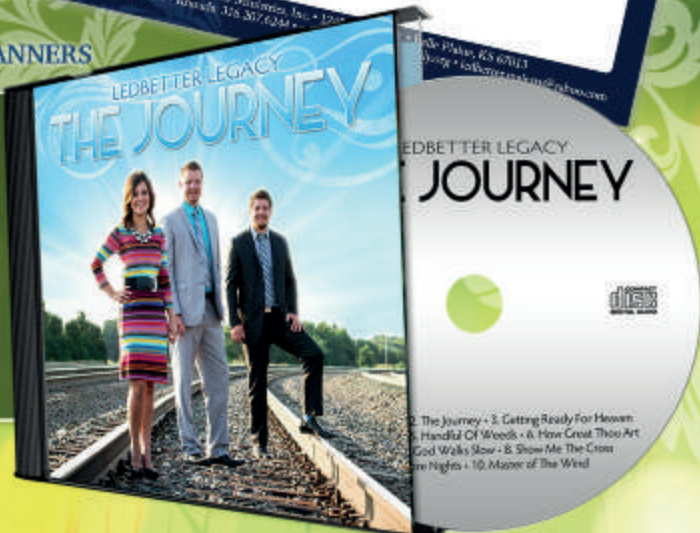


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Contemporary Jazz Guitarist Les Sabler Finds “Tranquility” on New Album Produced by GRAMMY Winner Paul Brown

By Rick Scott

Like a trusted friend, Contemporary Jazz guitarist Les Sabler finds that playing guitar brings him tranquility, especially when the noise of the world becomes too much. He can disappear by slipping into an electric guitar groove and find calmness while exploring a nylon string guitar riff. While sheltering in place in his Nashville home during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic and as civil unrest erupted, Sabler quieted his mind while getting to know the vintage Gibson Johnny Smith guitar model recommended by his producer, two-time GRAMMY winner Paul Brown. The resulting album, “Tranquility,” a soothing cocktail of Cosmopolitan Jazz, soul-powered R&B grooves and mellifluous Pop instrumentals, dropped recently on the New Vista label.

After tracking two songs last February in Brown’s Los Angeles recording studio, work on the 10-track set, Sabler’s eighth album and first since 2014, had to be put on hold. When the project resumed in July, they were joined by the socially distant bassist Roberto Vally, drummer Gorden Campbell, percussionist Lenny Castro, Lee Thornburg (trumpet and trombone), and saxophonist Greg Vail.

Sabler and Brown teamed to write eight songs for the set, collaborating on compositions with Shane Theriot (*Crescent City Strut*, *City Rhythm*, *Three Dee*, *Esselle’s Dance* and *Tranquility*), Lew Laing (*Keep Pushin’* and *Where Has She Gone*) and Jeff Carruthers (*Easy Moves*).

The seeds of “Tranquility,” which hit number 7 on Amazon’s New Releases in Jazz chart, were planted nearly two years ago when Sabler wrote, recorded and released *In The Light*. He re-recorded his guitar parts for the slick cool Jazz single that spent three weeks at number 1 at WAVE.FM in Sabler’s native Canada.

While in lockdown last May, Sabler issued *Keep Pushin’* as a single. It was the first track recorded using the guitar suggested by Brown. Sabler’s 1967 instrument has an expressive tone that gives him a new sound on an electric

guitar reputed for bringing high-quality amplification and high-quality acoustic sound together for the first time. The guitarist describes the chill groove with a sweet melody as a song that is “a subtle call for resiliency and the unwillingness to let up on the drive to press on during challenging times.”

Theriot’s New Orleans heritage informs Sabler’s new single, *Crescent City Strut*, which has earned Billboard’s Most Added and Most Increased Plays honors in recent weeks. Like the *Crescent City* itself, the tune offers mystery, intrigue and seductive allure marked by crafty guitar play amplified by lush horn section work.



Another “Tranquility” highlight is *Esselle’s Dance*, an exquisite dalliance on nylon-string guitar that has already received over 800 plays on YouTube. “Tranquility” concludes by revisiting George Benson’s *Sunrise*, an apropos selection that ends the disc with the striking rays of hope and promise of a new day.

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FAILURE ISN'T FINAL

Romans 3:23 states, “All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” All of us have failed God to one extent or another, and He is faithful and just to forgive us. But, what do you do when the enemy comes in like a flood and you fall?

By MaryAnne Wagoner



shane cruse

Shane Cruse grew up listening to Southern Gospel music - and singing it. But his very first public performance as a young child was quite a show. His uncle sat him up on the altar and told him to sing for Jesus. In innocent child-like fashion, the boy began to bellow out, “*Delta Dawn, what’s that flower you have on?*” Of course, his uncle stopped him immediately and directed him to sing *Jesus Loves Me*.

Even in spite of the mishap, Shane began to sing frequently at church - standing behind the piano. “Back in those days, I was so shy I could hardly get up in front of the church and sing without turning red,” Shane recalls. Humorously, he adds, “I’m sure some still wish that was the case, as I have gotten much bolder.”

Not only has Shane continued to sing all his life, he has also served the church in many capacities - pastor, youth pastor, worship leader and choir director. He says, “My heart is and has always been to see the hurting ministered to and lives changed by the power of God. I now use a blended variety of music in the services to reach and bridge all generations.”

He has enjoyed many other ministry opportunities outside the local church. As a Christian performing artist, he has shared the stage with such notable artists as Judy Jacobs, Jason Crabb, The Bowling Family, Lindell Cooley, Kari Jobe, Nancy Harmon, and others. One highlight that stands out for Shane is his trip to Germany, where he performed and helped plant a new church. He has also enjoyed being a featured artist in recent years on the annual Victory Voyage Gospel Music Cruises.

Another area of ministry opportunity for Shane has been concert promotions. He has had the pleasure of working with many great artists, including the Crabb family, Gold City (late 80s and 90s group), Vestal Goodman, Dottie Rambo, Michael

English, and others. In addition to his other ministry endeavors, Shane continues to promote Gospel concerts, hosting some of today’s finest talents.

In 2015, Shane was privileged to win the MAC Records talent contest. He won a full recording package which resulted in his first CD release entitled, “*Restored*.” He debuted his first radio single entitled, *I Held On*, from that project. His current radio release, *Didn’t I Walk On The Water*, has gained traction as the message resonates with listeners and is steadily climbing the national music charts. It currently sits at the #73 position on the Christian Voice Southern Gospel Top 100.

While Shane enjoys all that he does, he admits ministry can be very challenging. But, he says, “If you are, without a doubt, called by God, then you can’t do anything else. I’ve tried to do other things and just can’t get over feeling called by God to sing and preach His Word. I have thrown in the towel on many occasions and God threw it back and said wipe your face and go to work.”

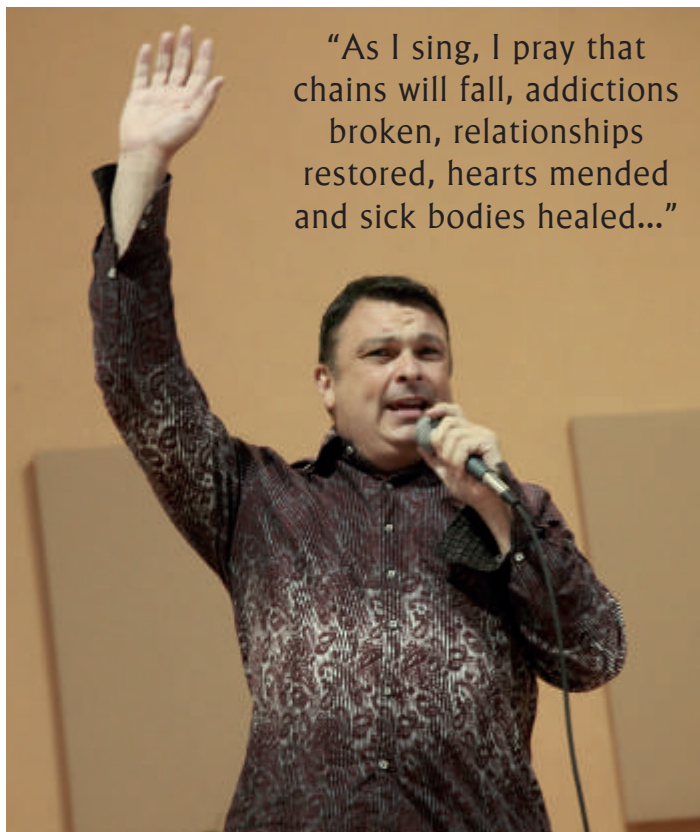
He doesn’t make this statement lightly. There is no doubt that Shane has a clear calling of God on his life. But when God’s anointing is on someone, that person is a target for Satan’s destruction. Indeed, the enemy has done everything within his power to destroy Shane and his ministry.

In 2017, at a high point of successful ministry, the enemy struck, and Shane found himself in circumstances that nearly destroyed him and any hope of ever having a ministry again. He shares, “I endured one of the toughest battles of my life. I actually don’t know how I’m still standing. BUT GOD! I have failed God so many times in my life, but He has never once failed me.”

Shane believes that failure is only final if you fall and fail to get back up, and he points to the verse of scripture in Isaiah 61:3, that states, “To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning,

the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He might be glorified.”

After enduring the terrible storm for some time and facing uncertainties about his future, Shane heard a song that helped him eventually see the sunshine again. He explains, “It was a song by Gerald Crabb called, *He Could Love What Was Left Of Me*. It grabbed my attention in two ways. One, I could relate to the story of utter failure as told in the lyrics. Two, it helped me regain perspective that God still loved me and had a plan for my life, even as broken as I was. I know I listened to that song literally thousands of times, and now I sing it as a testimony of how God loves us, even when we feel we don’t deserve it.”



“As I sing, I pray that chains will fall, addictions broken, relationships restored, hearts mended and sick bodies healed...”



“From living in the projects in Aberdeen, Mississippi as a child to where I am now has been nothing less than a miracle,” he continues. “I plan on writing a book, hopefully in the near future, to share my testimony.”

Believing that we are living in the last days, Shane says he wants to remain a faithful voice for God and His Word. He expresses that he doesn’t want to promote himself, but rather only to be an instrument to further the Kingdom of God. “I don’t want people to experience ‘Shane Cruse Ministry.’ I want them to experience the anointing and power of the Spirit of God,” he states. “As I sing, I pray that chains will fall, addictions broken, relationships restored, hearts mended, and sick bodies healed, all because we lifted up the ONLY one who is worthy to be lifted up and praised!”

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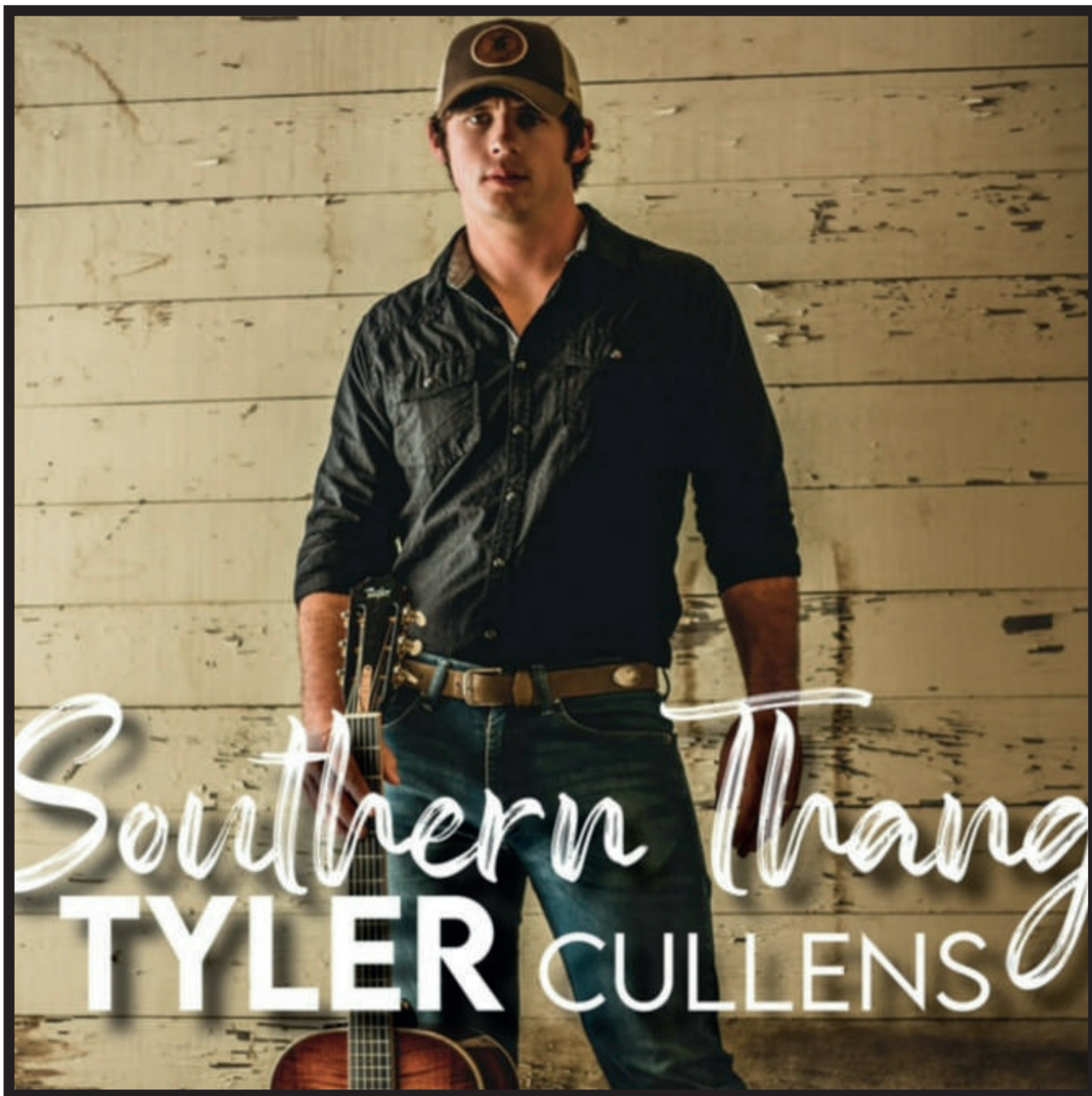
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By Jackson McKee

There must be something in the water in Georgia that inspires so many young songwriters and singers. Tyler Cullens is a new guitar slinger from Sandersville, Georgia that is making waves in Nashville and throughout the World. He is 24 years old and the son of Fred Cullens, the only veterinarian in their town, and an awesome singer and guitar player in his own right. He is the husband of a Georgia girl, Kendall Cullens, and a mama's boy to Michelle Cullens. He graduated from Georgia Southern University and was planning to follow his dad's footsteps into veterinary medicine when this mistress called music began to pull him in a different direction.

Tyler began to play guitar at ten years of age. His dad, who taught him some chords, said, “Tyler sung *Folsom Prison Blues* more times than Johnny Cash.” Like most musicians, Tyler began to write his own material. By the time he was eighteen he was a songwriter. “When I say he is a writer I mean that in every sense of the word,” says Tyler’s producer and award-winning artist, James Payne. “Tyler is one of the most prolific writers that I have encountered in my 44 years in the music business.”

James goes on to explain, “Three years ago, at an award show where I was performing, he handed me his first CD that was produced by his father in their home. He had local talent doing the music and back up. The cover was not professionally done and having been handed many projects like this over the years my expectations were not very high. That all changed when I put the CD in the player in my pickup. His writing knocked my cowboy hat in the creek. He wrote with the heart of Hank Williams, the feeling of George Jones, and the skill of Kristofferson. My wife Lori, who has a great ear and intuition about songs and singers, said, ‘James this young man is a star.’ So, we set out to find him. Unfortunately, there was no contact information on the CD. It took a couple of weeks to locate him. When I told him I wanted to help him and did not want any money for my services we decided to meet and put together a game plan. The next few weeks I listened to songs he had written, and I began to critique lyrics, melodies, and arrangements.”

“One of the songs that stood out to me and needed nothing, was a song titled *California Beautiful*. This was the first song Tyler wrote when he was eighteen. I did not know at the time it was the first song he ever penned. It is a song about a Georgia boy dreaming about one day going to California, but for the moment he is content with the beauty of his Georgia girl. Great Song!”

Tyler has a very strong family foundation that serves him well in his writing. His grandfather is ninety years young. He had his parents sign for him to enter the military at fifteen years of age. He served during World War II, the Korean Conflict, and Vietnam war. His grandfather served as inspiration for Tyler’s favorite song he has written, which

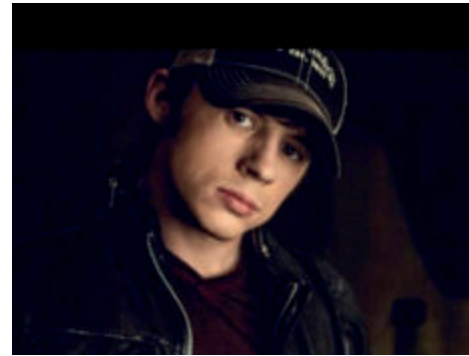
received over one million views on YouTube. Tyler performed this song at the Georgia Sheriff’s Association Banquet, where celebrity football star Hershel Walker was appearing, and Mr. Walker invited Tyler to appear on his talk show and perform the song. Two additional songs were inspired by his other grandfather, *I Knew* and *Grandpa’s Chevrolet*.

Even though Tyler is young he has already worked with superstars in the music business. He opened a show for the late, great Joe Diffie who was recently taken from us by COVID-19. Joe was a great influence, and he would be proud that young writers and singers like Tyler will ensure Country music remains strong and vibrant. On Tyler’s Freshman CD, “2 Lines Short,” he performed a duet with the incredible Linda Davis. This song is as current as today’s newspaper.

“Southern Thang” is Tyler’s Sophomore CD, and it is filled with hit songs. The current single is *Southern Thang*. All the songs on this CD are great but three stand out, *Southern Thang*, *Me Time*, and *Learning Who I Am*.

James reveals, “We have been in the studio working on Tyler’s third CD. We have been fortunate to use the very best A-Team musicians in Nashville. Keyboards - Buddy Hyatt, Rhythm Guitar - Joel Key and Bobby Terry, Lead guitar - Brent Mason, Drums - Lonnie Wilson, Steel Guitar - Scotty Sanders and Mike Johnson. This CD has a breakout single that I think is one of the best Tyler has ever written, titled, *Slow Sad Ole Country Song*.”

Check Tyler out on YouTube, or Live on Facebook each Thursday night. Log into Tyler Cullens Music.



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Bring on the Sunshine



Dana Gregory & Jake Shafer

Staff, NashTown Entertainment

Singer, songwriter and actress, Dana Gregory grew up in the small town of St. Charles, MO located on the edge of St. Louis. By the age of nine she developed her wide range of musical influences, which includes Whitney Houston, Collin Ray, Deana Carter, Third Day and Amy Grant to name a few.

During high school Dana joined the praise and worship team at the church she attended. She was also a member of a music ministry drama team. In her senior year of high school, she landed her first commercial acting job in St. Louis. After graduating, Dana went to college and enrolled in general music courses. She then began attending songwriting workshops to help structure her writing skills. She quickly learned that she not only wanted to be the songwriter but the artist who performed the song.

In July of 2020 Dana signed with NashTown Entertainment to release her debut single, *You're The Place*. The song was written by Dana along with her producer Justine Balzer and she recorded it during the pandemic quarantine lockdown via Skype. Dana states, "No matter what challenges arise, when fans reach out and say how much they love

your music it encourages and drives me to continue doing what I love."

During the Summer of 2020 Dana connected with former New York Yankee pitcher, Jake Shafer, through social media. She learned he was also a singer/songwriter from her home state of Missouri. Dana and Jake became friends and she quickly became a fan of his music. Dana received an email from her friend in Tennessee with a song for her to record as her next single. The song, titled *Bring On The Sunshine*, was written by Stephanie Kay Bentley, Micah Wilshire and the award-winning Cliff Downs (Foreigner, Wynonna, Gabby Barrett). Dana listened to the song and knew it needed a male duet partner to make it complete. She immediately thought of Jake, sent him the song and he loved it.

Former New York Yankee pitcher turned Country music singer, Jake Shafer has taken an interesting road from Lincoln County, MO to Music City, TN. There is not a single road that leads to Nashville from Lincoln County and Jake knows that better than anyone.

Growing up in the small town of Moscow Mills, MO. with a population of a little over 2,000, Jake listened to a lot





of Country music. His love of the genre would cause him to start singing and playing guitar at an early age. In high school Jake became heavily involved in baseball. After graduation he was offered a full-time scholarship based on his vocal talents, but instead Jake opted for a baseball scholarship to Missouri State University. While playing for MSU he got the opportunity of a lifetime in 2007 when he was drafted by the New York Yankees. Shafer pitched for the Yankees for two years until he came down with a case of what is commonly called “the YIPS.” It is what led to the demise of Major League pitcher Rick Ankiel. “All of a sudden I couldn’t play catch anymore. If you were sixty feet away I might as well kick it to you, but if you were 350 feet away I could hit you in the chest every time,” said Shafer.

Wanting to get back to his roots Shafer headed back home to Missouri. He then began singing, recording and booking gigs. Jake has had the opportunity to headline many festivals and fairs sharing the stage with Jarred Niemann, Scotty McCreary and many more. It has been an interesting journey

to say the least for Jake Shafer from Lincoln County, MO. to the Country music scene in Nashville, TN. It is a road that has included show choir, the New York Yankees, high times and low times.

Gregory & Shafer join with NashTown Entertainment to release *Bring On The Sunshine*, an encouraging and uplifting tune that gives hope of good things to come, especially after a worldwide pandemic and quarantine lockdown. Dana and Jake may come from the same neck of the woods, but both have different stories and unique vocals. They have come together to find a truly great blend that critics and fans alike have come to love.



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CHER

“GODDESS OF POP”

Staff, Cashbox Magazine



Superstars come and go. Cher is forever. For six straight decades, only one unstoppable force has flat-out dominated popular culture - breaking down barriers, pushing boundaries, and letting nothing and no one stand in her way. The multi-talented, singer, actress and television personality Cher has been referred to as the “Goddess of Pop.” She has been described as embodying female autonomy in a male-dominated industry. Cher is known for her distinctive contralto singing voice and for having worked in numerous areas of entertainment, as well as adopting a variety of styles and appearances throughout her long career.

Cher gained popularity in 1965 as one-half of the folk-rock husband-wife duo Sonny & Cher after their song *I Got You Babe* peaked at number one on the US and UK charts. By the end of 1967, they had sold 40 million records worldwide and had become, according to Time magazine, rock’s “it” couple. She began her solo career simultaneously, releasing in 1966 a top three single, “*Bang Bang (My Baby*

Shot Me Down). She became a television personality in the 1970s with her CBS show, *The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour*, watched by over 30 million viewers weekly during its three-year run. She emerged as a fashion trendsetter by wearing elaborate outfits on her television shows.

While working on television, Cher established herself as a solo artist with the US Billboard Hot 100 number-one singles *Gypsys*, *Tramps & Thieves*, *Half-Breed*, and *Dark Lady*, becoming the female artist with the most number-one singles in United States history at the time. After her divorce from Sonny Bono in 1975, she launched a comeback with the disco album, “*Take Me Home*” in 1979. From 1979 - 1982 Cher held a concert residency in Las Vegas.

In 1982, Cher made her Broadway debut in the play “*Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*” and starred in its film adaptation. She subsequently garnered critical acclaim for her performances in films such as *Silkwood* (1983), *Mask* (1985), *The Witches of Eastwick* (1987), and *Moonstruck* (1987), the latter of which won her



Las Vegas, 2017

the Academy Award for Best Actress. She then revived her music career by recording the rock-inflected albums “Cher” (1987), “Heart of Stone” (1989), and “Love Hurts” (1991), all of which yielded successful singles such as *I Found Someone*, *If I Could Turn Back Time*, and *Love and Understanding*.

Cher reached a new commercial peak in 1998 with the Dance-Pop album, “Believe,” whose title track won her the Billboard Music Award for ‘Hot 100 Single of the Year’ and became the biggest-selling single of all time by a female artist in the UK. It features pioneering use of Auto-Tune to distort her vocals, known as the “Cher effect.” Her 2002 - 2005 Living Proof: The Farewell Tour became one of the highest-grossing concert tours of all time. In 2008, she headlined the Colosseum at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas for three years. In 2018, Cher returned to film for her first on-screen role since 2010’s *Burlesque*, starring in the musical romantic comedy film, *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again*.

The Cher Show, based on Cher's life and music, officially premiered at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago, on June 28,



Sonny & Cher, early 1970s

2018, and played through July 15. It began Broadway previews November 1, with its official opening on December 3, 2018. Written by Rick Elice, it features three actresses playing Cher during different stages of her life. The Cher Show is set to launch a US tour in 2021 after being postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cher launched a new perfume, Cher Eau de Couture, which was four years in the making. Described as “genderless,” it is Cher’s second fragrance after 1987’s *Uninhibited*.

Having sold 100 million records to date, Cher is one of the world's best-selling music artists. Her achievements include a Grammy Award, an Emmy Award, an Academy Award, three Golden Globe Awards, a Cannes Film Festival Award, the Billboard Icon Award, and awards from the Kennedy Center Honors and the Council of Fashion Designers of America. She is the only artist to date to have a number one single on a Billboard chart in six consecutive decades, from the 1960s to the 2010s.

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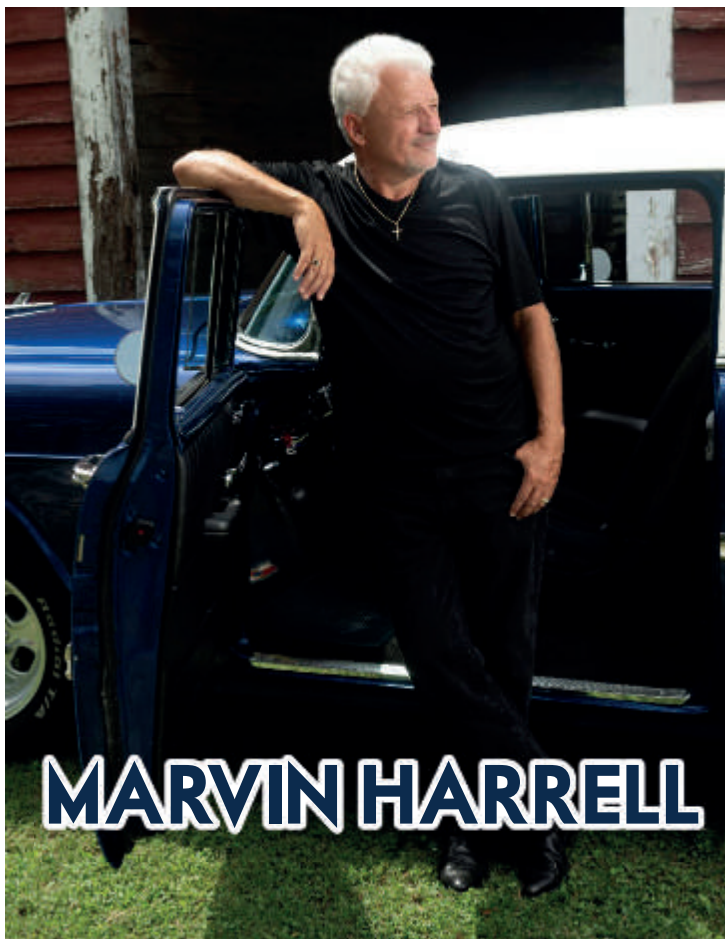
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The story of Delmark Records began in 1953. It's the oldest continuously operating Blues and Jazz label in the United States. Delmark was founded by Bob Koester, a record shop owner and Blues and Jazz aficionado who haunted the nightclubs of Chicago's South and West sides. He ultimately released records by Blues legends like Magic Sam, Robert Nighthawk, Jimmy Dawkins, Junior Wells as well as Jazz greats like Earl Hines, Archie Shepp, Coleman Hawkins and Lonnie Smith. By 2018, Bob was in his 90s and ready to retire, so he sold the label and its recording studio to musician, composer, and educators Julia Miller and Elbio Barilari. In these past few years, they've been working through their five-year business plan to revitalize the label, which has a catalog of 782 albums.

They've released twenty albums since taking over, many of which received critical acclaim and various award

nominations, including artists like the late Mojo Morganfield, 92-year-old Bluesman Jimmy Johnson, Johnny Iquana, Johnny Burgin, Dave Specter and others. One of their ambitions was to expand their digital footprint, which is well under way, and to reissue some of the dormant titles on vinyl again. They've also introduced reel-to-reel versions for their audiophile audience. They have deals with synch agencies and digital distro to further build the label's profile and have hosted and promoted dozens of live-streams during the pandemic, making them available live internationally in every time zone, worldwide. Delmark's recording studio has been updated and upgraded, Miller and Barilari are both audio engineers as well, so they were uniquely suited for the project.

www.delmark.com



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DRT GLOBAL R&B / HIP HOP

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Chris Brown & Young Thug	Go Crazy
2	Megan Thee Stallion ft. Beyonce	Body
3	Drake ft. Lil Durk	Laugh Now Cry Later
4	Pop Smoke Ft. Lil Baby & Dababy	For The Night
5	Saweetie ft. Jhene Aiko	Back To The Streets
6	Dababy ft. Roddy Rich	Rockstar
7	H.E.R.	Damage
8	Cardi B feat. Megan Thee Stallion	WAP
9	Alex Harris	Falling For You
10	Cardi B	Up
11	Myoka	Soldier Boy
12	The Gore Boyz	Spend A Bag
13	Trav Torch	Do It Again
14	Randy Hall	A Beautiful Dream
15	Spyda ft. Trevail	Knockin
16	SBE feat. Boosie Badazz	Long Day
17	The Real McKoy	See It Thru
18	Pop Smoke	What You Know Bout Love
19	Jan Daley	How I Love The Rain
20	Mike Burton ft. P J Morton	And So It Goes

DRT GLOBAL ADULT CONTEMPORARY

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Ed Sheeran	Afterglow
2	The Weeknd	Blinding Lights
3	Sam Smith	Diamonds
4	Post Malone	Circles
5	Ava Max	Kings & Queens
6	Lewis Capaldi	Before You Go
7	Justin Bieber ft. Chance The Rapper	Holy
8	Harry Styles	Adore You
9	Taylor Swift	Willow
10	The Weeknd	Save Your Tears
11	Olivia Rodrigo	Drivers License
12	Harry Styles	Golden
13	Harry Styles	Watermelon Sugar
14	Miley Cyrus	Midnight Sky
15	Dua Lipa	Break My Heart
16	Dua Lipa	Don't Start Now
17	24KGoldn ft. iann Dior	Mood
18	Maroon 5	Memories
19	Dua Lipa	Levitating
20	Ariana Grande	Positions

DRT GLOBAL ROCK

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Foo Fighters	Waiting On A War
2	Royal Blood	Trouble's Coming
3	Papa Roach	The Ending
4	Cleopatra	Hometown
5	Foo Fighters	Shame Shame
6	Five Finger Death Punch	Living The Dream
7	Kings Of Leon	The Bandit
8	Chevelle	Self Destructor
9	Mammoth WVH	Distance
10	Bring Me The Horizon	Teardrops
11	Corey Feldman	Rockin Revolution
12	Skinsnbones	There's Reason
13	Julian Kerins	Varlet
14	Ivan Comar And Gabrielle Saro	Beautiful Stanger
15	Pop Evil	Breathe Again
16	Bad Wolves	Killing Me Slowly
17	Gabrielle Saro & Roberto Fabbro	Bextasy
18	Corey Taylor	Samantha's Gone
19	Greta Van Fleet	My Way, Soon
20	Dinosaur Pile-Up	Back Foot

DRT GLOBAL COUNTRY

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Chris Stapleton	Starting Over
2	Luke Bryan	Down To One
3	Luke Combs	Better Together
4	Niko Moon	Good Time
5	Thomas Rhett	What's Your Country Song
6	Darius Rucker	Beers And Sunshine
7	Florida Georgia Line	Long Live
8	Gabby Barrett	The Good Ones
9	Kelsea Ballerini	Hole In The Bottle
10	Tenille Arts	Somebody Like That
11	Brett Young	Lady
12	Rascal Flatts	How They Remember You
13	Dustin Lynch	Momma's House
14	Eric Church	Hell Of A View
15	Jordan Davis	Almost Maybes
16	Kenny Chesney	Happy Does
17	Lee Brice	One Of Them Girls
18	Dierks Bentley	Gone
19	Blake Shelton ft. Gwen Stefani	Happy Anywhere
20	Blake Shelton	Minimum Wage



Canyon Creek Records is a full service compilation company serving Christian Country and Country Gospel.

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www.canyoncreekrecords.com

DRT GLOBAL POP

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Ariana Grande	Positions
2	24KGoldn ft. Iann Dior	Mood
3	Dua Lipa	Levitating
4	Justin Bieber ft. Chance The Rapper	Holy
5	Ed Sheeran	Afterglow
6	Olivia Rodrigo	Drivers License
7	The Weeknd	Save Your Tears
8	Billie Eilish	Therefore I Am
9	Tate McRae	You Broke Me First
10	Miley Cyrus ft. Dua Lipa	Prisoner
11	Harry Styles	Golden
12	Ava Max	My Head & My Heart
13	Taylor Swift	Willow
14	Jason Derulo	Take You Dancing
15	Internet Money & Gunna ft. Don Toliver & Nav	Lemonade
16	Sam Smith	Diamonds
17	The Weeknd	Blinding Lights
18	Joel Corry & Mnek	Head & Heart
19	Gabby Barrett ft. Charlie Puth	I Hope
20	Miley Cy	Midnight Sky
21	Jason Derulo & Nuka	Love Not War (The Tampa Beat)
22	Justin Bieber	Anyone
23	Master KG ft. Burna Boy	Jerusalema
24	Justin Bieber & Benny Blanco	Lonely
25	Jason Derulo ft. Adam Levine	Lifestyle
26	Shawn Mendes & Justin Bieber	Monster
27	Ariana Grande	34 + 35
28	Clean Bandit & Mabel ft. 24KGoldn	Tick Tock
29	Twocolors	Lovefool
30	Ava Max	Kings & Queens

DRT GLOBAL GOSPEL / INSPIRATIONAL

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Tamela Mann	Touch From You
2	Marvin Sapp	Thank You For It All
3	Needtobreathe	Who Am I
4	James Fortune	Nobody Like Jesus
5	Koryn Hawthorne	Speak To Me
6	Jokia	Yahweh
7	Kelontaie Gavin	Hold Me Close
8	Elevation Worship	Graves Into Gardens
9	Charles Jenkins	He'll Make It Alright
10	Cece Winans	Never Lost
11	Colton Dixon	Devil Is A Liar
12	Pttthegospelpitter ft. Emcee N.I.C.E.	Sftk
13	Malakh Bahn Masha	Heaven On Earth
14	Lecrae ft. John Legend	Drown
15	Prez Blackmon	Thank God For What Didn't Happen
16	Daniel Musgrove ft. Ca Jo, Papa San & Nigel Lewis	Wave It
17	Xavie Shorts ft. Trey B	Nobody
18	Terrence Cotton	For All You've Done
19	Global Rhythm	Reset The Scene
20	Minister E J Bolden	I Couldn't Stay There



Greg McDougal

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Country Music Hall of Fame Member Ray Stevens Announces Four New Albums

Country Music Hall of Fame member Ray Stevens may have just turned 82, but to him, age is just a number. The ever-energetic Stevens revealed he's planning to release four brand new albums over the course of the next few months.

Stevens recently returned to Curb Records to bring his music to fans across the globe. The GRAMMY® Award-winning singer, through Curb, has just digitally dropped new material in February with the release of "Great Country Ballads." Additional releases throughout the spring include "Melancholy Fescue" (High Class Bluegrass) on March 26, "Slow Dance" on April 23, and "Nouveau Retro" (What's Old Is New Again) on May 21.



"I've been working in my recording studio for the last few years recording songs that I've heard all through my life," explains Stevens. "These new recordings are the 'soundtrack of my life,' so to speak. I had a great time making these records and I hope others will enjoy them too."

On "Great Country Ballads," Stevens pays tribute to timeless songs of the genre in his own unique way, while on "Melancholy Fescue" (High Class Bluegrass), he takes the idea he explored with "Misty" to new heights as he gives a bluegrass treatment to songs you'd never expect to be performed that way, and then adds symphonic strings and chorale. "Slow Dance" gives Stevens' take on classic love songs of the yesteryear. With "Nouveau Retro" (What's Old Is New Again), he takes very familiar, favorite songs and presents them in a brand new, completely different way.

Stevens and Curb are also planning to release all four new albums in a special edition box set, "Iconic Songs of the 20th Century (The Soundtrack of Our Lives)," available for purchase on June 18.

'High School Musical: The Musical: The Series' Season 2 Finally Has a Release Date

School is back in session, East High Wildcats! The second season of High School Musical: The Musical: The Series will premiere on Disney+ on May 14.

The announcement was made on Wednesday (Feb. 24) during the Television Critics Association Winter Press Tour. This



time around, the East High Wildcats will face off against their North High rivals in a cutthroat student theater competition while gearing up for their spring musical Beauty and the Beast. Olivia Rodrigo and Joshua Bassett wrote brand new solo songs for this season, as the two teenage stars have broken out into their respective careers as artists.

Rodrigo has been on cruise control at No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100, Billboard Global 200 and Billboard Global Excl. U.S. charts with her blockbuster debut single *Drivers License* for a sixth consecutive week, boasting the biggest song in the world. Meanwhile, Bassett's single *Lie Lie Lie* earned him a spot under Billboard's Emerging Artists Spotlight last month.

The pair will join the previously announced slate of recurring guest stars: Derek Hough (Zack), Roman Banks (Howie) and Olivia Rose Keegan (Lily), as well as series regulars Olivia Rodrigo, Joshua Bassett, Matt Cornett, Sofia Wylie, Larry Saperstein, Julia Lester, Dara Reneé, Frankie Rodriguez, Joe Serafini, Mark St. Cyr and Kate Reinders.

Jennifer Lopez Is a Romantic Bride In 'Shotgun Wedding' Photo

Jennifer Lopez is on the set for her upcoming movie "Shotgun Wedding," and shared the first look of her character Darcy on social media.

"Day 1!" she captioned a behind-the-scenes photo that shows her all glammed up in a white wedding gown on Feb. 23. She also tagged Nuyorican Productions' Elaine Goldsmith-Thomas, who is co-producing the movie with Todd Lieberman, David Hoberman, Benny Medina, and Lopez.



"Shotgun Wedding," helmed by Pitch Perfect director Jason Moore and written by New Girl creator Liz Meriwether and Mark Hammer, is a Lionsgate action-comedy that follows the story of

Darcy (Lopez) and Tom (Josh Duhamel) as they gather their families for a destination wedding that sees the entire party taken hostage.

Leslie Jordan's 'Angel Band' With Brandi Carlile Previews Gospel Duets Album

Brandi Carlile joins with Leslie Jordan for an inspiring rendition of the traditional Gospel song *Angel Band*. The collaboration between the Americana superstar and the legendary actor previews a full album of duets from Jordan, famous for his role on *Will & Grace* and currently a star of *Call Me Kat*.

Angel Band is a musical adaptation of "My Latest Sun Is Sinking Fast," a poem by Jefferson Hascall, which was first set to music by J.W. Dadmun in 1860. The most common version of the song features a melody by William Batchelder Bradbury, first published in 1862. Emmylou Harris and the Stanley Brothers have both recorded the hymn, with the latter's version appearing on the hit soundtrack for the 2000 movie, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"



"Brandi Carlile deserves to be accompanied by more than a single band of angels," says Jordan in a press release, "not only for being a singular artist of our time but also for living an exemplary life full of love and devotion to everyone she meets."

Angel Band is the first single from "Company's Comin'," a star-studded album of Gospel duets from Jordan. In addition to Carlile, the actor sings with Tanya Tucker, Brothers Osborne's T.J. Osborne, Katie Pruitt, Travis Howard and more to-be-announced artists on the project.

Jordan, who was raised as a Southern Baptist in East Tennessee, was inspired to create the record, co-produced by Howard and Danny Myrick, by the success of his Sunday Mornin' Hymn Singin' livestream, during which he performed any number of old hymns.

"Singing these songs, it felt like I was recapturing the joy of what this music meant to me as a kid, but without all the baggage.

When I was growing up, I wanted so badly to be a good Christian, but I knew that the church would never accept me for who I was," reflects Jordan, who is gay. "It's liberating now to come back to these hymns, completely at peace with myself, and sing without any hint of the guilt or shame I felt in my youth."

"Company's Comin'" is due out on April 2 via the Platoon record label. In the meantime, Jordan has just premiered a new Gospel music-focused Apple Music Country Show, "Hunker Down With Leslie Jordan" on February 28. He'll release a new book, "How Y'all Doing?," featuring essays inspired by his life, on April 27.

Luke Bryan Named Country Radio Broadcasters 2021 Artist Humanitarian Award Recipient

Luke Bryan has been named Country Radio Broadcasters (CRB) 2021 Artist Humanitarian Award recipient. Luke was recognized with the honor during his appearance on the annual "CRS Artist Interview," sponsored by BMI, during CRS 2021: The Virtual Experience.

CRS/CRB Board President Kurt Johnson commented, "Luke is a big star with a bigger heart. From his earliest days to as recently as Super Bowl LV, he's leveraged his influence for good and helped songwriters, farmers, children, small businesses - people in so many different walks of life that Luke Bryan's philanthropic work has touched. We're so proud to honor him with this much-deserved award."



L-R: CRB/CRS Executive Director RJ Curtis, UMG Nashville EVP, Promotion Royce Risser, Luke Bryan, CRB/CRS Board President and Townsquare Media's Kurt Johnson, and UMG Nashville Chairman & CEO Mike Dungan.

Luke is recognized for his charitable work with numerous organizations over the years, including ACM Lifting Lives, CMA Foundation, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Shriners Hospital, St. Jude, TJ Martell, and more, as well as his ongoing efforts with the Brett Boyer Foundation and Bayer's #HeresToTheFarmer campaign through his annual Farm Tour.

The Brett Boyer Foundation is an organization that is very dear to Luke's family, formed in honor of his late niece, Sadie Brett

Cashbox News continued...

Boyer. Their mission is to raise awareness for Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) and fund research for advance treatment options. Luke and his wife Caroline established Brett's Barn at their farm outside of Nashville as part of Caroline's promise to buy Brett a pony someday. The barn is now the home of a growing species of animals.

The 42nd Annual Blues Music Awards

Rick Estrin & the Nightcats, John Németh & the Blue Dreamers, and Sugar Ray & the Bluetones lead the nomination count in this virtual celebration presented by The Blues Foundation on June 6, 2021.

With an expansive list of nominees whose music stretches across genres, The Blues Foundation's 42nd Annual Blues Music Awards (BMA) will reflect the widening influence of Blues music and Blues artists.



Widely recognized as the highest honor bestowed by the Blues community, the BMAs applaud the past year's exceptional achievements in Blues music recording, performance, and songwriting, as well as supporting the Blues' rich cultural traditions. The 42nd Annual BMA program will be presented as a virtual event on June 6, 2021 starting at 4 p.m. CT. The world is invited to watch the celebration, which will be live-streamed on The Blues Foundation's Facebook page and its YouTube channel at no charge.

The complete list of Blues Music Award nominees can be found on The Blues Foundation's website, www.blues.org.

The Blues Foundation is a world-renowned Memphis-based organization whose mission is to preserve Blues heritage, celebrate Blues recording and performance, expand worldwide awareness of the Blues, and ensure the future of this uniquely

American art form. Founded in 1980, the Foundation has approximately 4,000 individual members and 180 affiliated Blues societies representing another 50,000 fans and professionals worldwide. Its signature honors and events - the Blues Music Awards, Blues Hall of Fame inductions, International Blues Challenge, and Keeping the Blues Alive Awards - make it the international hub of Blues music.

The Blues Foundation's COVID-19 Blues Musician Relief Fund and HART Fund provide financial and medical assistance for musicians in need, while Blues in the Schools programs and Generation Blues Scholarships expose new generations to Blues music. The Blues Hall of Fame Museum, located in Downtown Memphis, adds the opportunity for Blues lovers of all ages to interact with Blues music and history. Throughout the year, the Foundation staff serves the global Blues community with answers, information, and news.

This year, due to COVID-19 precautions, The Blues Foundation will present the International Blues Challenge (IBC) as an engaging social media experience that combines music, memories and insights unique to IBC. Follow The Blues Foundation on Facebook and Twitter to be part of the virtual IBC that will include musical performances as well as a full calendar of online panel discussions, book talks and workshops for Blues artists, industry professional, and fans.

JUS' EPIK ft. Krystal D Releases their Mellow Soul Groove "I Can't Breathe"

The R&B Soul and Hip-Hop artist Jus' Epik aka Eric Jordan has re-released his George Floyd tribute single, *I Can't Breathe* featuring Krystal D.



The song, *I Can't Breathe* had a soft regional release during the Summer of 2020. DJ's around the Dallas, Texas area took to Jus' Epik and Krystal D's new school lyrics, laid over a throw-back music bed of the 1975 Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes classic sound of *You Know How to Make Me Feel So Good*.

Arlie Neville

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The National release of the *I Can't Breathe* single comes out on the heels of the inauguration of the new USA President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

The recording is a reminder from Jus' Epik and Krystal D to the world, that 2021 marks a new beginning and presents an opportunity for all to begin the healing process and move forward, leaving the hate, division, and injustice of all people behind and lean towards world unity.

I Can't Breathe is a reality check record that should be heard as an inspirational anthem, created to keep you aware of what needs repairing on our planet. Marketing, Promotion and Distribution provided by the Chicago based KES Music and Video Distribution network.

The Marshall Tucker Band Signs with UTA for Worldwide Representation

Legendary Southern Rock group The Marshall Tucker Band (MTB) has signed with UTA (United Talent Agency) for exclusive worldwide representation in all areas (live concert bookings, literary deals, film, television, etc).

Next year the MTB celebrates 50 years since it was originally founded in Spartanburg, SC in 1972. With the band's "gold" anniversary on the horizon, MTB lead singer and founding member Doug Gray is excited for what the future holds.

"There are no words to describe how excited we are that we will be working with United Talent Agency," explains Gray. "Individually and wholly, we feel as if this company is the organization to take us into our 50th year. Looking forward to seeing you all down the road!"

"We are beyond excited to represent The Marshall Tucker Band. We look forward to working on expanding the group's iconic legacy to the next generation through touring, content, and branding," says UTA's Alec Vidmar, Greg Janese, and Lance Roberts in a joint statement.

The MTB is managed by Charlie Brusco and Darren Hagen in the Atlanta division of Red Light Management.

Nearly fifty years ago, The Marshall Tucker Band was founded in Spartanburg, SC. Thanks to hits like *Can't You See*, *Heard It In A Love Song*, *Fire On The Mountain*, and *24 Hours At A Time*, the 5x Gold, 3x Platinum-selling Southern Rock group has sold millions of albums worldwide. MTB songs have been featured in major

motion picture films and television shows including *Breaking Bad*, *Blow*, *The Box*, *Swing Vote*, *Half Nelson*, *My Name Is Earl*, *Cold Case Files* and *Good Guys*. CMT (Country Music Television) named the MTB's *Can't You See* the #4 Greatest Southern Rock Song.

The MTB's debut album, "The Marshall Tucker Band," reigns as Gibson Guitar's #5 Greatest Southern Rock Album. *UltimateClassicRock.com* crowned the MTB's *Can't You See* as the #1 Southern Rock Song and in 2013, GRAMMY® Magazine named the group's logo as one of the most distinctive and iconic brands in music.



A promotional graphic for NashTown Entertainment. On the left is the logo, which features the word 'NASH' in a large, bold, white font with a crown above the 'A', and 'TOWN' in a smaller font to its right. Below this, the word 'entertainment' is written in a white, cursive script. Underneath the logo is the website 'NashTownEntertainment.com' and a Facebook icon. At the bottom left, contact information is provided: 'info@nashtowntertainment.com', 'NASHVILLE, TN.', and '615-681-2748'. On the right side of the graphic, a list of services is presented in red, bold, sans-serif font with white outlines, each preceded by a red circle with a white dot. The services listed are: 'RADIO PROMOTIONS', 'ARTIST DEVELOPMENT', 'MANAGEMENT', 'MARKETING', 'STUDIO / VIDEO PRODUCTIONS', and 'AND MORE'.

Steve Warren



Thanks DJs for playing and charting

CHICKEN EATING PREACHER MAN

Written by Terry L. Nunley and Danny K. Hathcock • Tribute to Momma Pub / BMI / ©Fleetwood Records

#33 on the Cashbox Christian Country Top 100



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Steve Warren – Nashville Recording Artist

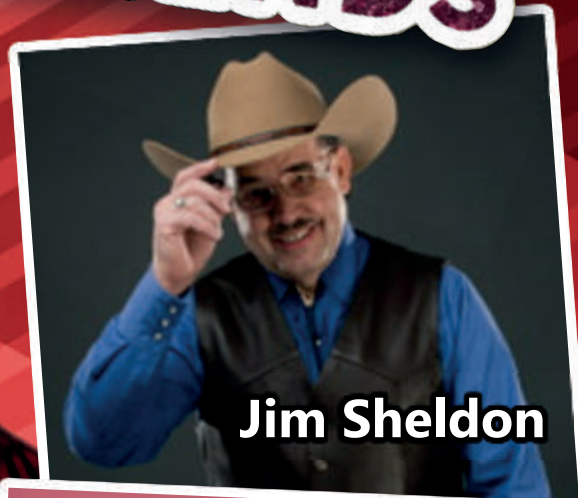
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Founder / CEO, DigitalRadioTracker.com, Inc.

michael matthews

**The Man Behind
the Technology
that has
Revolutionized
Radio Airplay
Tracking**

By Jackson McKee

In today's world, information is not an option - it's a necessity. Can you imagine going back to a world without the Internet? Remember the time when things were handwritten on paper and manually compiled? Can you visualize a society without computers? The reality is technology has become a part of our everyday life and will forever be a permanent fixture. If you want to be on top of the market leaderboard you must keep up with today's technology and use it to revolutionize your business products and services.

Succeeding in today's global market requires more than just keeping pace with the Joneses. Competition is fierce and new products are very volatile. However, great innovators make it look easy, almost magical. Behind that magic is immense time, dedication, discipline, faith, drive, and determination. These virtues, in regard to advancements in modern technology, are what gave birth to DigitalRadioTracker.com, Inc. in August, 2011.

"Success in the modern-global-business arena means having the right tools to measure success," says DRT's Michael Matthews. "We provide the right analytics to our clients for them to adequately assess their target audience, making it easier for them to plan their marketing campaigns and increase sales!"

Also known as DRT, DigitalRadioTracker.com, Inc. has an exclusive technique that provides the music industry with lucrative, innovative, and creative marketing research initiatives throughout the world. DRT provides insights that are personally designed to assist music related companies all over the world drive profitable growth and expand to new heights.

DRT is a leading global Internet radio monitoring company which tracks radio airplay of songs played on over five thousand radio stations around the globe. These stations - major to independent - are comprised of FM terrestrial, college, commercial and non-commercial as well as thousands of streaming Internet radio stations.

"One of DRT's mission is to give a voice to small radio stations, both online and small-market terrestrial FM that would otherwise go unheard. DRT will continue to develop better solutions to help everyone in the music industry to achieve sustainable growth for their business and to develop a clear mission to combat the ultra-competitive marketplace!" explains Mr. Matthews.

DigitalRadioTracker.com, Inc. has customized a technology that monitors radio airplay detections of songs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. This amazing technology requires no special encoding or fingerprinting. The system's unique database logs every song that is played on all radio stations that DRT currently monitors. A timestamp of the date and time a song is played along with which version of the song is being played is recorded by DRT's system. In the past, clients had no clue if other version(s) of their songs were being played as they were undetected and/or never reported by other monitoring

companies. DRT has filled this void within the music industry.

The DRT system can detect all versions of songs aired on radio. DRT's system not only provides a voice to the small internet radio stations that tends to be overlooked by other monitoring companies, but captures songs played on major broadcasting networks such as Clear Channel/iHeart Media, Radio One/Urban One, Shoutcast, Live365, Icecast, Dash Radio, OnlineRadioBox, Internet-Radio.com, TuneIn, Citadel, Cumulus, Emmis, Cox Radio, Disney Radio, Entercom/CBS Radio, Radio.net and thousands of independent radio broadcasters worldwide. DRT specializes in monitoring radio airplay by broadcasters of the following various genres such as Contemporary Hit Radio/Pop (Top 40), Urban-Hip-Hop-Rap/R&B, Country/Americana, Rock/Alternative, Gospel/Christian/Inspirational, Adult Contemporary and some Blues/Jazz.

DRT tracks and records millions of songs that are played each week and compiles the information for chart creation as well as DRT reports for its clients. A DRT Report provides information about a song that received airplay on a specific station, the exact time of day/night it was played and most importantly, it displays the number of times the song was played. DRT also offers historical eight-week reports which list the history of airplay detections on all of our monitored stations during the previous eight weeks. In addition, DRT provides comprehensive reports which outlines the exact time of day a song is played on each of our monitored stations as well as any remix versions being played. Since the conception of music monitoring, no other company has provided this type of specialty information. Other broadcasting monitoring companies have only merged the information into one report, making it impossible to determine which version of a song is being played. Also, DRT is the only company in the U.S. to monitor BBC Radio which is the largest radio network in Europe as well as radio stations in other continents such as Asia, South America, Africa and Australia. This allows DRT to become more intrinsically valuable to its clients as well as expanding into the most popular European and major markets abroad.

DigitalRadioTracker.com, Inc. understands the importance of knowing who, when, where and how often a song is being played. That's our mission and passion, which creates the nucleus of who we are as a service provider. It doesn't matter if you're a multinational enterprise or a small start-up; we believe innovation is the key to success in both what is created and how one markets a product or service. DRT will continue to develop better solutions to assist artists, songwriters, publishers, producers, and music related companies around the world achieve sustainable growth for their business and to develop a clear mission to combat the ultra-competitive marketplace.

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A close-up portrait of Donna Kilmurray, a woman with voluminous, wavy brown hair and light blue eyes. She is smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark, possibly black or dark red, off-the-shoulder top. The background is a solid black color.

*Donna
Kilmurray*

AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

#53 on the Cashbox Christian Country Top 100



Donna Kilmurray Ministries
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IND. ROCK / POP / PROGRESSIVE ROCK

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Mammoth WVH	Distance
2	Royal Blood	Trouble's Coming
3	Papa Roach	The Ending
4	Chevelle	Self Destruction
5	Five Finger Death Punch	Living The Dream
6	Cleopatra	Hometown
7	Pretty Reckless	And So It Went
8	Asking Alexandria	They Don't Want What We Want
9	Foo Fighters	Waiting On A War
10	Pop Evil	Breathe Again
11	Bring Me The Horizon	Teardrops
12	AC/DC	Realize
13	Architects	Animals
14	From Ashes To New ft. Anders Friden of In Flames	Scars That I'm Hiding
15	Corey Taylor	Samantha's Gone
16	Greta Van Fleet	My Way, Soon
17	Seether	Bruised And Bloodied
18	AC/DC	Shot In The Dark
19	Foo Fighters	Shame Shame
20	Rob Zombie	The Triumph Of King Freak

IND. BLUEGRASS

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Alan Bibey & Grasstowne	Hitchhiking To California
2	Barry Abernathy ft. Vince Gill	Birmingham Jail
3	Dale Ann Bradley	Falling Down
4	Balsam Range	Richest Man
5	Bronwyn Keith-Hines	Last Train
6	Daryl Mosley	In A Country Town
7	Undley Creek	I Gotta Go
8	Phil Leadbetter & The All Stars of Bluegrass	One Way Rider
9	Phil Leadbetter & The All Stars of Bluegrass	Swing For The Fences
10	The Sharp Flatpickers	Keep The Lamp On Sadie
11	The Sharp Flatpickers ft. Claire Lynch & Ronnie Bowman	Goodbye Again
12	Stoney Creek Bluegrass Band	Fast Train (Live)
13	Dale Ann Bradley	Living On The Edge
14	Ry Cooder	Feelin' Bad Blues
15	Fast Track	Come On Down
16	Tina Adair	Eighteen Wheels And Dozen Roses
17	Marty Raybon	Ghost In This House
18	Nate Lee	Wonderbat
19	Nate Lee	Rock Roller
20	Dale Ann Bradley	She's Still Here

IND. EASY LISTENING

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Ariana Grande	34 + 35
2	Olivia Rodrigo	Drivers License
3	Chris Brown x Young Thug	Go Crazy
4	Ariana Grande	Positions
5	Billie Eilish	Therefore I Am
6	Ritt Momney	Put Your Records On
7	24KGoldn ft. iann Dior	Mood
8	Justin Bieber & Benny Blanco	Lonely
9	Tate McRae	You Broke Me First
10	The Weeknd	Save Your Tears
11	Machine Gun Kelly & Blackbear	My Ex's Best Friend
12	Dua Lipa	Levitating
13	Pop Smoke	What You Know Bout Love
14	Harry Styles	Golden
15	Justin Bieber & Benny Blanco	Anyone
16	Ava Max	My Head And My Heart
17	Taylor Swift	Willow
18	Dua Lipa	We're Good
19	All Time Low ft. Blackbear	Monsters
20	Jason Derulo ft. Adam Levine	Lifestyle

IND. CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Andrew Ripp	Jericho
2	Elevation Worship	Graves Into Gardens
3	Mathew West	Truth Be Told
4	Cain	Rise Up (Lazarus)
5	Cory Asbury	Sparrows
6	Jeremy Camp	Out Of My Hands
7	Phil Wickham	Battle Belongs
8	Josh Baldwin	Evidence
9	We Are Messengers	Image Of God
10	Tauren Wells ft. Jenn Johnson	Famous For (I Believe)
11	Casting Crowns	Start Right Here
12	Zach Williams	Less Like Me
13	Danny Gokey	New Day
14	MercyMe	Say I Won't
15	Crowder	Good God Almighty
16	Hillsong United	Another In The Fire
17	I Am they	Faithful God
18	Matt Maher	Run To The Father
19	Micah Tyler	New Today
20	Jordan St. Cyr	Fires

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IND. TRAD. COUNTRY / OUTLAW / ROCKABILLY

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Dave Alvin	Mobile Blue
2	Sturgill Simpson	I Don't Mind
3	Jesse Daniel	If You Aint Happy Now You Will Never Be
4	Sarah Jarosz	Eve
5	Matt Stell	Prayed For You
6	Corb Lund	90 Seconds Of Your Time
7	Michael Thorpe	Freedom Warrior
8	Lindsey Ell	Don't Love You
9	Brennon Lee	Don't You Know I'm From Here
10	Miranda Lambert	Bluebird
11	Anthony Liguori "Tony Sands"	Midnight In Memphis
12	Allison Wood	Little Sista
13	Tom Russell	Isadore Gonzalez
14	Wild & Blue	Ain't Got Much time
15	Nitty Gritty Dirt Band	The Times They Are A-Changin'
16	Luke Bryan	Down To One
17	Keith Urban	God Whispered Your Name
18	Tim McGraw	Good Taste In Women
19	Sturgill Simpson	Oh Sarah
20	Chris Stapleton	Maggie's Song
21	Tony Joe White	Boot Money
22	Cordovas	Rain On The Rail
23	Darius Rucker	Beer & Sunshine
24	Jana And The Rebels	Rid My Memory
25	The Hammond Brothers	Susie
26	Bob Dylan	False Prophet
27	Barry Abernathy ft. Vince Gill	Birmingham Jail
28	Dave Alvin	On The Way Downtown
29	Steve Earle & The Dukes	Harlem River Blues
30	Barry King	Woodstock (Every Time An Old Rock Star Dies)

IND. LATIN

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Olivia Rodrigo	Drivers License
2	Bad Bunny ft. Jahay Cortez	Dakiti
3	Juhn ft. Myke Towers	Bandit
4	The Weeknd	Save Your Tears
5	Camilo	Expensive Clothes
6	Dua Lipa ft. Dababy	Levitating
7	Pot	The Business
8	End Argus ft. Sabrina Carpenter	Clouds
9	Alejandro Fernandez ft. Christian Nodal	Hurts
10	The Kid Laro	Without You

IND. AMERICANA

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Hiss Golden Messenger	Sanctuary
2	Sturgill Simpson	I Don't Mind
3	Parker Millsap	The Real Thing
4	Nathaniel Rateliff	Redemption
5	Charlie Crockett	I Can Help
6	Steve Earle & The Dukes	Harlem River Blues
7	Sturgill Simpson	Oh Sarah
8	Valeria June	Call Me A Fool
9	Aaron Lee Tasian	Up All Night
10	Lucers	Back In Ohio
11	Dawes	Free As We Wanna Be
12	Great Peacock	High Wind
13	Chris Stapleton	Cold
14	Kathleen Edwards	Glenfern
15	Marty Stuart	I've Been Around
16	Jana And The Rebels	Rid My Memory
17	Josh Ritter	Old Black Magic
18	Anthony Liguori (aka Tony Sands)	Midnight To Memphis
19	Barry Abernathy ft. Vince Gill	Birmingham Jail
20	Nitty Gritty Dirt Band	The Times They Are A-Changin'
21	Grain Thief	Disel Baby
22	The Hammond Brothers	Susie
23	Tony Joe White	Boot Money
24	Dave Alvin	On The Way Downtown
25	Cordovas	Rail On The Rail
26	Wild & Blue	Ain't Got Much Time
27	Barry Gibb ft. Jason Isbell	Words Of A Fool
28	Sarah Jarosz	Hometown
29	Steep Canyon Rangers	Sunny Days
30	Barry King	Purple Garage

IND. BLUEGRASS GOSPEL

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Appalachian Road Show	Tribulations
2	Bama Blu-Grace	It's Not
3	King James Boys	Much More Than I Asked For
4	Churchmen	Wings Of Your Love
5	Eagle's Wings	The Lost Sheep
6	Lakeside	Some Days I Feel Like David
7	Whites	Don't Tune Him Out
8	Heaven's Mountain Band	I Know The Tomb Is Empty
9	New River Bluegrass	In The Lord's Will Again
10	Gospel Plowboys	One Day I Will

CASHBOX TOP 10 R&B / HIP HOP VIDEO COUNTDOWN

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE	POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Ariana Grande	Positions	6	Dua Lipa	Levitating
2	24KGoldn ft. Iann Dior	Mood	7	Justin Bieber ft. Chance The Rapper	Holy
3	The Weeknd	Save Your Tears	8	Billie Eilish	Therefore I Am
4	Olivia Rodrigo	Drivers License	9	Chris Brown & Young Thug	Go Crazy
5	Ed Sheeran	Afterglow	10	Tate McRae	You Broke Me First



All Country. All Christian.

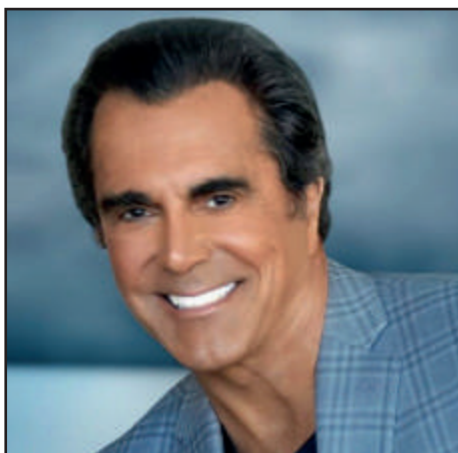
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The Music Lives On: Remembering the Lives and Legacies of Five Beloved Performers

We pause to remember these individuals whose music and legacies will live on in the hearts of music fans for generations.

By Robin Tanner



Carman Licciardello
(1956-2021)

Born on January 19, 1956, in Trenton, New Jersey, Carman Licciardello started his musical career at the age of fifteen, playing in a band with his mother. Licciardello currently holds the world record of being the only Christian “stadium act” to lead tens of thousands of people in worship. The record for the largest concert was set at Texas Stadium with more than 71,000 fans and again he gathered 80,000 fans in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Sunday’s on the Way, The Champion, Lazarus Come Forth, Revival in the Land, Witches Invitation, This Blood and *The Courtroom* were among Licciardello’s most popular compositions.

Licciardello has said several times throughout his career that he counted “winning millions of souls to Christ” as his greatest lifetime achievement.

His 1985 first number one song, *The Champion*, made him a household name in Christian music. He won numerous awards, including the House of Hope of Humanitarian Award for his positive influence in the lives of youth in America. That particular award was also given to such figures as Ronald and Nancy Reagan along with Billy Graham. Billboard named him ‘Contemporary Christian Artist of the Year’ in 1992, 1993

and 1995. Licciardello was inducted into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame in 2018.

“When Carman resumed touring again a few years ago, he was concerned that no one would care that he was back. He was wrong. Every night fans packed out venues, and his ministry was as powerful as it ever was. This world has lost a light in the darkness but today Carman saw firsthand the fruit of his labors,” Matt Felts, Licciardello’s manager, said in a statement shared with The Christian Post.

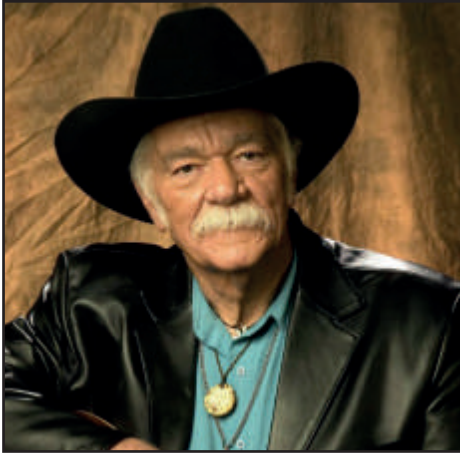
After being in remission from cancer over the past six years, Licciardello’s recent surgery led to internal bleeding. Last month, one of his representatives asked his half a million social media followers to urgently pray for the entertainer. A statement released on February 16 from Conduit Media revealed that the entertainer died “after fighting a series of complications resulting from surgery to repair a hiatal hernia.” He was 65.

He is survived by his wife, Dana. After a long life of singlehood, he was married in December 2017 in Dallas, Texas.

GMA Dove Awards paid tribute to Licciardello on Facebook. “Today we honor GMA Gospel Music Hall of Fame Inductee, Carman Licciardello who passed away yesterday at the age of 65. Carman was often described as part evangelist, part Vegas Showman ... If there was any original trademark to Carman’s repertoire, it was his signature story songs. A combination of drama, rock, comedy, funk, satire, acting, singing, and preaching, all woven together ... Our hearts go out to his family,” the dedication read.

“We remember you Carman.....we are grateful for the times we had with you,” wrote Christian artist TobyMac, who started his career with DC Talk, on Twitter. “You were so kind to me, Michael and Kevin. When we were young punks, you welcomed us. You are home now. A Champion for real.”

Samuel Rodriguez, president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, joked that Carman opened the door for churches to use videos. “Thank you for providing a significant portion of my generation’s Christian soundtrack,” he wrote on Twitter.



Ed Bruce
(1939-2021)

Ed Bruce was born on December 29, 1939 in Keiser, Arkansas. He started writing songs in his early teens and, in the late 1950s, he first recorded with Sun Records as a senior in high school. His label-mates included Jerry Lee Lewis, Charlie Rich, and Johnny Cash. Writing the B-side of Tommy Roe's million seller *Sheila* furnished funds and motivation for Ed to move to Nashville in 1962. A year later CMA Hall-of-Famer Charlie Louvin recorded *See The Big Man Cry*. It earned Ed his first BMI award and Charlie credits the song with establishing him as a solo artist.

Ed recorded for RCA and Monument Records. His songs continued to be recorded by others like Crystal Gayle and Tanya Tucker. Also, during this time, Ed spent four years hosting an early morning TV show on Nashville WSM. Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings released a duet version of Ed's song, *Mammas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys* in 1978. The song had previously been a chart-climber for Ed in 1975. This time it went to the top and the lyrics became indelibly written on the minds of millions. The song received a 1978 Grammy nod for 'Best Country Song' and a 1978 CMA Awards nod for 'Song of the Year.' Bruce received a 1980 nomination at the Academy of Country Music Awards for 'Top New Male Vocalist.' He was also awarded the Arkansas Country Music Award for 'Lifetime Achievement' in 2018 at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Ed continued his success yet again with *The Last Cowboy Song*, a poignant tribute to the passing of the American cowboy and his way of life. It seems only fitting that Willie Nelson would lend his voice to the song, released in 1980. More hits would soon follow.

With a string of hits, both as an artist and a writer, Ed maintained a successful career for more than four decades. In addition to performing and writing, Ed also had a very successful acting career. He appeared in many CBS and NBC movies. Bruce co-starred in "Bret Maverick" with James Garner, Thunder Malloy in the "Walker Texas Ranger," inspired "Sons of Thunder"; and Ed's favorite, the

curmudgeonly rancher Mitch in Sundance Film's, "The Outfitters."

Ed and his wife Judith lived in a log home in Tennessee. Ed loved sitting on the back porch, overlooking a river and the mountain beyond. He enjoyed sitting with friends and talk sports, horses and dogs, and he loved to talk about the change Jesus has made in his life.

Ed Bruce's career pans both sides of the Atlantic and he had gained an enormous following in Europe. But his heart was to lead people to the Cross of Calvary - wherever he had the opportunity to sing. Bruce released two Gospel albums, "Changed" in 2004, and the most recent, "Sing About Jesus."

The next time you see the movie "Electric Horseman" or hear *Mammas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys* on the radio, rejoice with the angels in Heaven that THIS baby grew up to be Ed Bruce - singer, songwriter, actor and God's messenger of His life-changing love through Jesus Christ.

Ed Bruce passed away January 8, 2021 of natural causes in Clarksville, Tennessee. He was 81.



K.T. Oslin
(1942-2020)

Born Kay Toinette Oslin in Crossett, Arkansas in 1942, she had an unusual path to Country music stardom. She performed in folk acts and in theatrical productions in the '60s and '70s. It wasn't until she was well into her 40s that she found major success as a Country singer, following her discovery in Nashville by producer Harold Shedd during the mid-1980s.

After signing to RCA, Oslin released her debut album "80's Ladies" in 1987. The title track ballad *80s Ladies* was a breakout hit and became Oslin's signature song. Winning 'Song of the Year' at the 1988 CMA Awards, she was the first-ever female songwriter winner in the category, and 'Best Country Vocal Performance' female at the '88 Grammys. Oslin's next two singles, *Do Ya* and *I'll Always Come Back* both topped Hot Country Songs, and she also appeared on labelmates Alabama's own chart-topping *Face to Face*.

Oslin's sophomore album, "This Woman" was similarly successful, following "'80s Ladies" to RIAA-certified platinum status and introducing another three Country songs top five hits in *Hold Me* (No. 1), *Hey Bobby* (No. 2) and the title track (No. 5). The set took home 'Album of the Year' at the 1988 Academy of Country Music awards, while the man-and-wife odyssey *Hold Me* won best country song at the next year's Grammys. Third album "Love in a Small Town" spun off Oslin's fourth No. 1 hit in 1990 with the breakup-to-be song *Come Next Monday*. Oslin's music videos, narrative-driven clips and dramatic dialogue also found great success during this period on rising Country music video channels, TNN and CMT.

In the '90s, Oslin retired from touring and would not release another album until 1996's Americana-themed "My Roots Are Showing." Oslin stayed visible throughout the '90s as a television guest star and late-night host and appeared in the 1993 film "The Thing Called Love." She recorded two more albums: 2001's "Live Close By, Visit Often" and 2015's "Simply," before retiring from music. Her legacy was recognized in 2014 with her induction into the Texas Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2018.

K.T. Oslin, Country singer-songwriter and hitmaker of the late '80s and early '90s, passed away on December 21, 2020. She had been suffering from Parkinson's disease, and was diagnosed with COVID-19 the week before her death. She was 78.

Country singer-songwriter Brandy Clark paid homage to Oslin, recalling first meeting the Nashville veteran backstage in 2013. "Larger than life, smart, funny, elegant, beautiful...the list could go on and on," she described Oslin. "I'll never forget our conversation that night, just like I'll never forget KT and her music."

Sarah Trahern, CEO of the CMA, also issued a statement about Oslin, saying she "had one of the most soulful voices in Country music and was a strong influence for women with her hit 80s Ladies..." She truly had one of the best voices in the history of our format.

"Did we look up to her? Did we admire her? Hell, we studied her. As a young artist I knew she knew things I wanted to know. I met K.T. Oslin on her terms and never regretted it. We all just loved her," stated Pam Tillis.

The world changes from year to year, our lives from day to day, but the love and memory of you shall never pass away.

(Author Unknown)



Mary Wilson

(1946-2021)

Mary Wilson, the legendary diva and founding member of The Supremes, who served with the soul group longer than any other singer, passed away suddenly at her Las Vegas home on Monday night, February 8, 2021. She was 76.

Wilson was always at the core of The Supremes, a steady force in the all-girl supergroup as members rotated out. The Motown icons earned 12 number one singles on the Billboard Hot 100 chart - the record for the most number ones among American groups. Five of those number ones were consecutive: *Where Did Our Love Go*, *Baby Love*, *Come See About Me*, *Stop! In the Name of Love* and *Back in My Arms Again*. It was a hot streak few artists will ever touch.

Formed in Detroit in 1959, then a quartet of 15-year-olds called The Primettes, The Supremes and Wilson were more than performers. They were unifiers and pioneers whose music and style triggered social, racial, and gender barriers to come crashing down.

Mary was with the Supremes until their final album, "Mary, Scherrie & Susaye," in 1976 and through 1977 when they disbanded. Afterwards, Wilson continued as a solo artist. She was rarely far from the spotlight, and in recent months had teased a new album, due out this year.

In 2019, she competed in *Dancing With The Stars* and published *Supreme Glamour*, her fourth book. Outside of music, she threw her energies into numerous social and civic causes, from ending hunger and continuing the conversation on HIV/AIDS. And she was an advocate behind the Music Modernization Act, which extends copyright protection to her fellow recording artists and was signed into law in October 2018.

Motown founder Berry Gordy was heartbroken by the news of her passing. "Mary Wilson was extremely special to me," he says in a statement. "She was a trailblazer, a diva and will be deeply missed."

Diana Ross posted her tribute on Twitter, stating: “My condolences to Mary’s family. I am reminded that each day is a gift. I have so many wonderful memories of our time together. The Supremes will live on in our hearts.”

Wilson was honored in 1973 with a “Mary Wilson Day” in Detroit, and The Supremes were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1988. On that night, Wilson delivered a speech on behalf of the group.

January 21st of this year marked the 60th anniversary of the day The Supremes signed with Motown in 1961. Wilson was front and center in the celebrations.



Randy Parton
(1953-2021)

Country Music artist Randy Parton is remembered as the brother of Dolly and Stella Parton. Randy Parton formed his own path in Country Music and singing to millions for decades as a fan favorite at Dollywood.

Dolly Parton revealed that her younger brother died in a heartfelt statement shared to Facebook. She wrote, “Randy is shining in heaven now.” The sad news comes just two days after she celebrated her birthday.

“The family and I are grieving his loss, but we know he is in a better place than we are at this time,” Dolly began her statement. “We are a family of faith and we believe that he is safe with God and that he is joined by members of the family that have gone on before and have welcomed him with joy and open arms.”

Born December 15, 1953, Randy Parton was raised by Avie Lee Parton and Robert Lee Parton in Sevierville, Tennessee. Randy came from a big family of twelve brothers and sisters. In order from birth they were named Willadeene, David, Coy, Dolly, Bobby, Stella, Cassie, Randy, Larry, Floyd, and twins Freida and Rachel.

Randy began his musical career in the 1970s, releasing singles including *Hold Me Like You Never Had Me*, *Shot Full of Love*, and *Roll on Eighteen-Wheeler*, which was later a hit for Alabama. He also sang the song *Too Much Water* for the

soundtrack to the 1984 movie “Rhinestone.” Eight years younger than his sister, Dolly, he recorded duets with her including *Old Flames Can’t Hold a Candle to You*.


Randy last appeared on an album in 2020, singing with his sister on *You Are My Christmas*. Dolly dedicated the song to her brother, releasing it on her “A Holly Dolly Christmas” record. “He was born around Christmas time and he was our Christmas baby,” Parton told *The Tennessean* in 2020. “We always called him ‘Christmas’ just for fun. I just thought, well, I’m gonna write a song for him to sing with me.”

“He was a Dollywood fixture, connecting visitors to the musical East Tennessee family with popular live performances, including the seasonal favorite “My People, My Music,” at the park.” He began hosting shows at Dollywood in 1986, according to Parton’s post.

Randy’s sister, Stella Parton shared on Instagram, “My Heart is broken as my family and I grieve the loss of our precious brother Randy. Thanks for all the kind words and compassion.”


In a statement, Dollywood leadership described Randy Parton as a “creative leader” at the longstanding attraction in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. “He has left a lasting legacy at Dollywood with his talent, his creativity and his leadership,” said Paige Bales, director of Dollywood entertainment. “We will all miss him but heaven has gained another star.”

Randy passed away at 67, on January 21, 2021, after a battle with cancer. Those wishing to honor Randy Parton may donate to the Imagination Library in honor of the entertainer and his late father, Lee Parton.



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TIM ATWOOD

Steps Outside the Box with His Critically Acclaimed Album, "Who I Am"

By Randi Haynes

Even though it is an odd consideration, Country entertainer Tim Atwood could be compared to one of those exquisite plants that you nurture and love for years - waiting for it to bloom. And when it finally does, you sit back and revel in its beauty and uniqueness, admitting with satisfaction that it was well worth the wait. Tim Atwood was well worth the wait.

After a thirty-eight-year journey playing piano in the Grand Ole Opry staff band, a coveted position backing an all-star list of music's elite that included Grammy award winners and Hall of Famers, Tim decided his journey was not complete. He still had a lot more of the ride left in him. So, in a bold move, vowing it is never too late to live your dream, Tim shifted his sideman view in the spotlight's fringe to the view of a center-stage artist in the spotlight's circle, and he hasn't looked back.

Now with the release of his fourth studio album, "Who I Am," Tim is receiving the critical acclaim and validation he's always deserved from the music industry. We caught up with Tim in the lobby of his hotel after a sold-out show in Indiana that ended in a rousing standing ovation. Tim was on cloud nine as we talked candidly about his new CD, his music career and some of the challenges he has faced getting to this point in his life.

That was quite the show tonight, Tim. It looked like you were having as much fun as the audience.

I always do, Randi. Music brings me joy. Seeing people smile, clap and laugh brings me joy. Let's face it, it's been a crazy past twelve months, if we can safely brighten someone's day with music, then I'm all in.

Tonight, I performed a dueling piano show with my dueling partner Chrissy Sparks who happens to be a music teacher in Illinois and an incredible player. I don't perform a lot of dueling piano, although Chrissy and I will perform for our sixth consecutive year on the big Country music cruise in November. But Chrissy asked me if I wanted to play a Sunday afternoon show at a dinner theatre. I jumped at the chance. The show sold out immediately, so we added a Saturday night show, which led to our Friday night show.

I hope this is a harbinger of good news to come for 2021. I believe people are ready for live music and to be entertained again. If that many people braved -5 degree temperatures to get here, they are ready for sure.

We understand that even with the down time faced by most of the music industry in 2020, you've been busy.

Yes, like a lot of my artist friends, I sat around for most of March and April 2020 waiting for the world to heal. It didn't take me long to realize that we were in it for the long haul. So, I used my time this past year to collaborate with friends. I even won a 2020 Telly Award for 'Social Media Event of the Year.' That was HUGE! I performed alongside Tim Rushlow, Bryan White, Wade Hayes, T Graham Brown, Ronnie McDowell, David Frizzell and LuLu Roman to lift the spirits of Country music fans who missed live music. Goodness knows, we missed it too.

I was also blessed to tape a couple of television episodes of Larry's Country Diner and the Merlin Gene Show, as well as a return appearance on Huckabee. And I devoted a lot of my time to writing new songs, and recording and releasing my brand new album, "Who I Am." I guess I did keep busy.

Tell us about your new album "Who I Am." I have read a lot of great reviews on your new album.

I am definitely a Country artist, but I like variety in my Country music. I wanted to produce an album, that when listened to in its entirety, gave the listener a feeling of what it would be like to attend one of my concerts. The fifteen songs I chose for "Who I Am" are a roller coaster of feels and emotions. In the course of an hour, I want you to dance, laugh, cry, think and join me in songs of praise.

I have included a Country Shuffle on this album that my wife and I wrote called *Migraine Heartache*. Isn't it strange that you can sing about a sad heartache, but when you put it in shuffle time, you find yourself smiling?

I also covered a couple of songs by Delbert McClinton and John Prine on this new project. Ordinarily these songs

wouldn't work on a Country album. But I believe they absolutely have a place on this CD. I am this crazy amalgamation of Ray Price, Elton John, Jerry Lee, Jerry Reed, Ronnie Milsap and Bill Gaither. This album reflects my personal truth.



What do You mean by that?

I have finally come to terms with the realization that I must be true to myself, and not worry about what other people expect me to be. My greatest challenge in finding my truth has been stepping outside the box that my peers have placed me in. For 38 years I played piano on the Grand Ole Opry so I was placed in the "musician" box. I love that moniker by the way - MUSICIAN. I wear that title proudly. However, it surprised me that when I began to step outside of the musician box and cross over to the "artist" box, there were musicians who wanted to keep me inside the musician box.

Likewise, there were a few singers who were slow to welcome me inside the artist box. They too tried their best to keep me inside the musician box. Maybe they thought I hadn't earned my place alongside them. I believe four decades of survival in the music business has at least earned me an opportunity for a shot at my dreams.

I hate boxes and labels of any kind. Maybe boxes are important because they help define you, but they also limit you. I'm proud that I can play AND sing. If you put me in any box at all, make it an entertainer's box. It's been a challenge, but I am making believers as I go.

We know you made a believer of Duane Allen with the Oak Ridge Boys. Let me read to you what Duane said about your rendition of *Sending Me Angels*. He wrote: *When the song started, I had to sit up in my chair. I have known Tim for decades, and I always admired his keyboard work. However, this vocal work by Tim announces to the world, "Hear me. I have something to tell you." Tim has surrounded his great vocal work with awesome musicians and background vocalists. Sending Me Angels is powerful. This album is powerful. Tim nailed it! Tim, how do you respond to something like that?*

You say thank you, after you pick yourself up off the floor! Duane Allen is one of my heroes. For him to hear my work and then say such incredible things is mind blowing.

Over the years, I have been fortunate to play with the best musicians and singers in the world. So, it was only natural for me to call my friends to share their incredible talents on "Who I Am."

One of the artists who joined me on "Who I Am" was Country Music Hall of Fame member Charlie McCoy. Every time I hear Charlie play, I tap my wife on the arm and say, "That's Charlie McCoy! Listen to how tasty that sounds." It makes me very happy that we featured Charlie on *Sending Me Angels*. That song is special to me.

Why is *Sending Me Angels* Special to You?

Well, for one reason, I sang it to my wife Roxane on our wedding day. Before Roxane, I was married to Dianna who passed away from illness at the age of 49. After her death, I wasn't sure if I wanted to be here anymore. The depression was that bad. But then God sent me another soulmate.

Roxane and I will be married eighteen years on April 16th. Some people never find one love in life. I found two. God keeps sending me angels.

What an incredible story! Are all of the songs on your new album that meaningful?

They are to me. I recorded songs that spoke to me - pure and simple. I think you need to believe in a song for the song to be believable.

It took me almost a year before I could record the song, *You First* without crying through it. I feel that song all the way down to my bones. *Saved By Grace* tells the story of how the love for a girl led a boy to the love for the Lord. *Monkey Around* is a groove piece. It's sassy and fun, and if you listen to the lyrics, you need to know I actually own a little red hat, and I rock it! And by the time me and the guys finished our recording of *Shortnin' Bread Rock*, the song

found its own way when everyone just stretched out and played for the fun of playing.

I watched you play *Shortnin' Bread Rock* tonight at your show. You were having such a good time on stage that I found myself dancing in my chair and singing along. Opry legend Jeannie Seely said you amaze her. She said, "I've watched Atwood rock out on a number and have them dancing in the aisles; then tell them a joke that will have them in stitches, then just as quick, lay a ballad on the crowd that will bring tears to their eyes. Atwood is a true entertainer."

Wow! Another great compliment. That means a lot to me because Jeannie is one of the best entertainers on the planet! I love her. She has been in my corner from day one. She and I are going into the studio to record together next month, and I am thrilled. I am one of Jeannie Seely's greatest fans... and so very proud to call her a friend.



So how do we find this new album, "Who I Am," and where can we learn more about Tim Atwood?

I guess this is the part where I direct you to my website timatwood.com and ask that you go by and give my Facebook page a LIKE and a FOLLOW. I really hope you do. You can also find my music on most streaming platforms. And don't forget to check out our tour dates. I know we booked a date in New Jersey last week, and it looks like we are headed to Maine again this year and South Carolina if the good Lord is willing. It's slow going, but we are coming back. **Your album is called "Who I Am," so in one sentence tell me who is Tim Atwood.**

I am a very grateful man - a husband, father, friend, entertainer and Christian - who is blessed beyond measure and knows it. That's who I am.



Ron Hemphill

Thanks for playing and charting "Thank A Soldier"
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MARCH 2021

SONG TITLE	ARTIST	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
Better Man	Darryl Worley and Back Home	I Just Want To Thank You	Lulu Roman
We Need A Move Of God	James Payne and Bruce Haynes	This Time's For The Lord	Greg McDougal
You Gotta Go Down	Tina Wakefield	God's Getting Your Attention	Keith McKinney
Come On Back	Pardoned	The Healing Stream	Chuck Day
Legacy	Luke Hendrickson	Is There A Place I Can Go	Debbie Bennett
I'll Be There	Randy Brooks	I Want It Back Like It Was	Chuck Hancock
Promise To My Heart	Cindy Hughlett	Will The Circle Be Unbroken	Sonshine Road
Fragments	Chris Holder and Journey	Your Fire Burns In Me	Kenny Cable
Blue Collar Jesus	Faith Country Band	I'm Still Saved	Tim Davis
Old sinner Like Me	David Smith	Promised Land	Sam L Smith
I Love To Tell The Story	Mary James	I Believe	Ricky Atkinson & Compassion
Make The Last Days Count	Tim Livingston	Ain't No Way At All	Pam Blackstock
Empty Me	Kelly Coberly	That I Could Still Go Free	Roy Anderson
Well Done	Johnathan Ray Smith	Look Down In Love	The Reed Brothers
Oh I Want To See Him	Tim Goshen	His Sweetest Gift	Ina And Buddy Gore
Turn To Jesus	Bill Baker	The Great I Am	Jeff Arandale
We're American Proud	Mike Leichner	Count The Stars	Jan Harbuck
Old Chevorlet	Marvin Harrell	Heros Are Humans Too	Melanie Walker
Free	Rex Robard	Earth To God	John Rich
Keep The Faith	Makayla Jones	I Love To Hear The Story	Randy Day
Good Time	Greg Login	God Save The World	Jeff Carson
Mom	Ken Harrell	The Gift Of The Son	Troy McManus
God Made That	Heather Thomas Van Deren	I Talk To God	Mary Burke
He Got What I Deserved	Don Stiles	Boulevard In Heaven	Barbara Fairchild
Nothing Is Impossible	Wink Kelso	Ease My Troubled Mind	Dwain Messer

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50 Years of An Iconic Anthem, "American Pie"

DON McLEAN

Don McLean is a Grammy award honoree, a Songwriter Hall of Fame member, a BBC Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, and his smash hit *American Pie* resides in the Library of Congress National Recording Registry and was named by the Recording Industry of America (RIAA) a top five song of the 20th Century.

Staff, 2911 Media

A New York native, Don McLean is one of the most revered and respected songwriters in American history. After paying his dues in the New York club scene in the late '60s, he went on to score mega-hits like *Vincent (Starry, Starry Night)*, *Castles in the Air* and many more. His catalog of songs has been recorded by Madonna, Garth Brooks, Josh Groban, Drake, Weird "Al" Yankovic, and countless others.

In 2015, one of McLean's four handwritten manuscripts of the lyrics to *American Pie* was auctioned by Christies, selling for just over \$1.2 Million. 2019 honored Don with a star on the Las Vegas Walkway of Stars and his song, *And I Love You So* was the theme for Prince Harry and Megan Markle's wedding.

In 2020, Don signed a recording contract with Time Life to release his catalog of recordings as well as the highly anticipated new album, "Still Playin' Favorites," was released October 23rd. *American Pie* will be featured in the Avengers Black Widow and the Tom Hanks movie BIOS and much more to be announced.

And when you think things are slowing down, not so for Don McLean! 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of *American Pie*. The iconic song was released on the "American Pie" album in 1971, and the single was the number one US hit for four weeks in 1972. Fifty years later, all-vocal Country entertainers Home Free and the legendary Don McLean has brought their special rendition of *American Pie* to life with the brand-new video for their collaboration on the time-tested anthem that's available now. "Any song which has a legitimate melody lends itself to an a cappella rendition," McLean explained to The Tennessean. "The guys in Home Free just did their thing and did a tremendous job at it, too."

The video first premiered exclusively on The Tennessean. The clip visually enhances the making of this all-vocal rendition of *American Pie* - spotlighting each Home Free member and their individual parts as they come together with McLean to sing the story of the rise and fall of Rock & Roll in the 1960s.

On the released date of the video (February 3rd), the collaborators are also observing the 62nd anniversary of 'The Day the Music Died' - affectionately coined after the lyric in McLean's signature anthem - in remembrance of Rock & Roll legends Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and J.P., 'The Big Bopper' Richardson. The song was written to honor the legacies of the early rock legends who lost their lives in the tragic plane crash.

McLean acknowledged that he first learned about Buddy Holly's death - McLean was age 13 - when he was folding newspapers for his paper route on the morning of February 4, 1959 (hence the line "February made me shiver/with every paper I'd deliver").

"February 3, 1959 was a tragic day for all of us who lost our heroes in that plane crash. While writing *American Pie*, I felt it was important to remember this incident that to me, was still fresh," shares McLean.

Home Free's tenor Austin Brown adds, "It starts in a way that's just very introspective, very true to the words and to the moment 'The Day the Music Died,' and just how powerful that can be. "But also, the hope that can come from the movement associated with an event like that... It really changed so much musically. While it was 'The Day the Music Died,' in a lot of ways, it was also the day that music was reborn."

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CASHBOX music charts

MARCH / APRIL 2021 Southern Gospel Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
1	2	Good Mornin' Lord	Carroll Roberson
2	12	I've Been Washed Clean	Greater Vision
3	14	Your Help Is On The Way	Jason Crabb
4	8	Dear John	Kingsmen
5	7	Going To The Promiseland	Troy Richardson
6	10	Make The Last Days Count	Tim Livingston
7	35	I Talked To A Man Today	Gil Magee
8	25	Jordan	Nelons
9	16	Devil's Hand	Adam Crabb
10	19	Prodigal Son	Greg Kelly
11	21	City Of Gold	Chronicle
12	20	Little Kaleb	Jim Sheldon
13	18	God's Getting Your Attention	Keith McKinney
14	27	I'm Saved	Hoppers
15	15	Hear My Voice	Scotts
16	31	When Your Back Is To The Wall	Big Mo
17	28	He'll Be There	Chosen
18	17	Til The End	Freemans
19	1	Come To Jesus Meetin'	Gerald Crabb
20	26	To The Great I Am	Jeff Arrandale
21	43	Turn To The Cross	Hyssongs
22	29	Chicken Eating Preacher Man	Steve Warren
23	37	Fear Not	Tribute Quartet
24	40	Send It On Down The Nile	Jeff & Sheri Easter
25	33	A Brighter Day	Primitive Quartet
26	51	Little Things	Melissa Evans
27	45	Been To Calvary	Ben McGalliard
28	36	Planted By Grace	Cathy Rauch
29	42	Heaven In The House	Greenes
30	57	Climbing On Up The Mountaintop	Perfect Grace
31	38	God's Still Got A Plan	Reborn
32	23	Hallelujah Homecoming	Wilburn & Wilburn
33	60	This Valley	Candy & Jeremy
34	50	Goliath	Joseph Habedank
35	52	Made Right	Karen Peck & New River
36	41	My Home	Browders
37	68	I Will Not Be Shaken	Gold City
38	65	They Gently Whisper	Trinity Heirs
39	53	Heavenly Music	Mark Dubbeld Family
40	49	The Master Of Me	Aaron Wilburn
41	44	Tougher Than Nails	Bev McCann
42	59	America's Hope	Keith Barkley & Family Tradition
43	95	Into The Fold	Hope's Journey
44	62	Just Drink The Water	Kingdom Heirs
45	72	This Side Of Heaven	Michael Booth
46	54	In Times Like These	Sue Dodge
47	92	They'll Never Take Jesus Out Of My Heart	Michael Combs
48	-	Born	Sunday Drive
49	-	Home Is Sounding Sweeter	Inspirations
50	78	Thankful And Sincere	Isbell Family

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
51	61	No Place Like Home	Singing Cookes
52	-	Look At All I Lost	Old Paths
53	54	Hope For The World	Jordan Family Band
54	99	Faith	Singing Epps Family
55	-	Nobody	Poet Voices
56	56	I Wish I Could Tell You	Guardians
57	58	Always Enough	Bowling Family
58	96	Your Son	Chris Golden
59	-	This Is Your Day	Phillips & Banks
60	88	Joseph	Greg Sullivan
61	-	Good News	Wilbanks
62	87	At Midnight	Cana's Voice
63	-	Glory	Steeles
64	-	Plan Of Salvation	Dennis Jolly
65	-	Movin' On	Bibletones
66	-	Good Times	Greg Logins
67	-	Hold On My Child	New Beginning
68	67	What Love	Down East Boys
69	75	Better Off There	Browns
70	-	He Will See Me Through	Don Stiles
71	76	The Wilderness	Isaacs
72	94	The Hem Of His Garment	Mark Tammell Quartet
73	-	Foundation	Steve Hess & Southern Salvation
74	69	He Will Be God	Whisnants
75	37	It's True	Roberta Blevins
76	81	Above All Heights	Babbs
77	-	Say I Won't	Tim Goshen
78	-	Workin On A Building	Troy Burns Family
79	-	God Is Good	McKameys
80	-	He Still Moves Mountains For Me	Purpose
81	-	Because Of The Cross	Greesons
82	55	I Talk To God	Mary Burke
83	74	One Drop Of Blood	Deborah Baliles
84	-	Child Of The King	Gaither Vocal Band
85	-	Practice What You're Preaching	LeFevre Quartet
86	34	Mary Cried	New Salem
87	-	Walk Me Through	Perrys
88	89	I'm Goin' Back	Alan Frink
89	-	How Good Does Grace Feel	Brian Free & Assurance
90	-	Wake Up	Ernie Haase & Signature Sound
91	83	Vision	MaHarreys
92	90	When You Have To Bear Your Cross	Messiah's Call
93	-	When I See You Again	Michael Wayne Smith
94	-	Love Walked In The Room	Battle Cry
95	100	Here's A Reminder	Hoskins Family
96	-	When Heaven Opens Up	Subject To Change
97	-	You Gotta Have A Song	Jim & Melissa Brady
98	97	Ready To Serve	Rochesters
99	-	Who He Is To Me	Ascension Quartet
100	-	First Church Of Mercy	The Sound

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CASHBOX music charts

MARCH / APRIL 2021 Country Gospel Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
1	9	Your Son	Chris Golden
2	3	Strange Wind Blowin'	Chuck Day
3	10	If That Ain't God	Chris Young
4	4	Father Forgive Me	Michael Knight
5	8	Joy	Branded
6	12	It's Gonna Be Different	David House
7	13	Jesus Take A Hold	John Conlee
8	7	Be A Light	Thomas Rhett
9	20	We Love Our USA	Tommy Brandt
10	16	I Want It Back Like It Was	Chuck Hancock
11	22	I Talked To A Man Today	Gil Magee
12	14	God Save The World	Jeff Carson
13	19	Shelter Over Me	John Penney
14	1	I Stand With This Country	Carl Ray
15	25	I Love To Tell The Story	Mary James
16	30	I'll Go Through The Valley With You	Bruce Haynes
17	2	The Father, My Son and The Holy Ghost	Craig Morgan
18	18	Little Kaleb	Jim Sheldon
19	27	Sometimes Memories Just Aint Enough	Terry Davis
20	11	I Turn To You	Reed Brothers
21	6	Make The Last Days Count	Tim Livingston
22	37	This Time's For The Lord	Greg McDougal
23	31	We Need A Move Of God	James Payne
24	17	Not Just A Cross In The Ground	Mike Leichner
25	41	Jesus And Jessie James	Mike Wellman
26	15	Going To The Promiseland	Troy Richardson
27	40	Me And Jesus	Bill Green
28	29	Planted By Grace	Cathy Rauch
29	97	Build Me A Daddy	Luke Bryan
30	32	At The Waterfall	Anna Tamburello
31	21	A Day	Carol Barham
32	35	Some Things Change	Jerry Branscomb
33	47	Chicken Eating Preacher Man	Steve Warren
34	34	Fragments	Chris Holder & Journey Home
35	56	He Got What I Deserved	Don Stiles
36	24	To The Great I Am	Jeff Arrandale
37	53	For Your Freedom	Johnny Rowlett
38	5	He Even Loves Me When I Fall	Greg & Brooke Day
39	39	God Lives	Lisa Daggs
40	59	Old Chevrolet	Marvin Harrell
41	64	Walking Me Down The Road	Donna Morgan
42	50	My God Made That	Heather Thomas Van Deren
43	26	Stand By Me	Kesha Parish
44	44	The Red, White And Blue	Loretta Hummel
45	38	Tougher Than Nails	Bev McCann
46	28	We Know	Jimmy R Price
47	57	Ain't No Grave	Tiptons
48	52	God's Still Got A Plan	Reborn
49	82	The Lord Will Provide	Dan Looper & Mountain Sound
50	65	What I Did Today	Jack Gafford

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
51	96	Faith	Singing Epps Family
52	74	The Gift Of The Son	Troy McManus
53	71	At The Foot Of The Cross	Donna Kilmurray
54	92	Good Mornin' Lord	Carroll Roberson
55	61	Stand Together	Wade Phillips
56	54	Old Guitar	Byron Hildreth
57	60	I Grew Up On That	High Valley
58	55	Middle Man	Kelly Coberly
59	-	Living For Jesus	Bruce Hedrick
60	62	He Is Worthy	David Livingston
61	70	Find Jesus Now	LizzyG
62	45	Livin' The Dream	Lonnie Hardy
63	69	Preachin' To The Choir	Julie Reese
64	46	Goin' Up	Kenneth Cole
65	49	Why Don't We Pray	Perfectly Broken
66	43	My Refuge	Murphys
67	42	When God Whispered Your Name	Keith Urban
68	73	Legacy	Luke Hendickson
69	-	How To Live	Cindy Hughlett
70	81	I Believe	Mark Umfleet
71	-	Country Gospel Is Rocking The Country	Dan Duncan
72	-	The Master Of Me	Aaron Wilburn
73	23	Love Ain't Love Till We Give It Away	Jan Harbuck
74	76	Stand For The Flag, Kneel At The Cross	Ann Davenport
75	95	Repentance Still Works	Appointed 2
76	68	The Man	Edwards Family
77	58	Thank A Soldier	Ron Hemphill
78	83	Blue Collar Jesus	Faith Country Band
79	33	I Talk To God	Mary Burke
80	55	Fit For A King	Gene Watson
81	72	What A Beautiful Day	Waymasters
82	75	I Think It's Beautiful	Amy and Adam
83	80	The Grandma Song	Johnny Jones
84	-	Tougher Than The Nails	Singing Byrds
85	88	When God Calls His Children	Ava Kasich
86	94	Every Scar	Christian Davis
87	87	The Lost Sheep	Eagle's Wing's
88	89	Your Fire Burns In Me	Kenny Cable
89	-	Come On Back	Pardoned
90	100	Saddle Up	TK Brown
91	99	Take My Life And Let It Be	Wes Hampton
92	91	This Side Of The Cross	Debbie Bennett
93	85	When He Comes Down	Paul Winchester
94	48	Mary Cried	New Salem
95	78	He Didn't Throw The Clay Away	Gene Reasoner
96	98	You Don't Know Lonely	Kurt & Kymee and The Band Enemy Line
97	-	Tools Of The Trade	Roger Barkley
98	-	Old Sinner Like Me	David Smith
99	-	Will The Circle Be Unbroken	Sonshine Road
100	-	Well Done	Jonathan Ray Smith

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Where Are They Now?

A Retrospective Glimpse at Yesterday's Rising Music Stars
Who Became Icons and Where They Are Today

THIS EDITION: Ruben Studdard • Jordan Smith

By Robin Tanner



American Idol Alum, Ruben Studdard

Ruben Studdard, also known as “The Velvet Teddy Bear,” is an R&B, Pop and Gospel singer and actor. He was born in Germany but grew up in Birmingham, Alabama.

Studdard rose to fame as winner of the second season of *American Idol*. He received a Grammy Award nomination in 2003 for ‘Best Male R&B Vocal Performance’ for his recording of *Superstar*. That happened to be the song he auditioned with for *American Idol*, sung by Luther Vandross. Since his *American Idol* win in 2003, Studdard has released seven studio albums, including his platinum-selling debut, “Soulful,” and the top-selling Gospel follow-up, “I Need an Angel.”



He is most well-known for his recording career, which has produced hits including *Flying Without Wings*, *Sorry 2004*, and *Change Me*, but he has also segued into television and stage work. Most notably, he starred as Fats Waller in a national tour revival of *Ain't Misbehavin'*, which spawned a Grammy-nominated soundtrack.

In 2013, Studdard appeared as a contestant on the fifteenth season of weight-loss competition show *The Biggest Loser*. He later signed to Verve Records and collaborated with the label's chairman, David Foster, on Studdard's sixth studio album, “Unconditional Love,” in 2014. That album received strong reviews and included a tour with Lalah Hathaway.

In 2018, Studdard, who has long been compared to R&B singer Luther Vandross, released a cover album called “Ruben Sings Luther” and launched his Always & Forever national tour. He made his Broadway theatre debut in December 2018 in Ruben & Clay's First Annual Christmas Carol Family Fun Pageant Spectacular Reunion Show (aka Ruben & Clay's Christmas Show) at the Imperial Theatre. Studdard shares, “I want to be around for a long time. I want to make sure I continue to make good music that my mom and everybody around me can be proud of.”

The Voice Alum, Jordan Smith

Jordan Smith showed the world his musical gift in 2015 when he became the “Best-selling artist in the history of *The Voice*” and the winner of Season nine.

The Kentucky native began singing in his church choir and continued through his college education at Lee University. During this time, he fell in love with the likes of Gospel singer Shirley Caesar, Pop songstress Sara Bareilles, Whitney Houston, and more. This diversity would transform his own sound and style.

“Smith auditioned for *The Voice*, made it to the show with a four-chair turn, joined Adam Levine's team, and eventually emerged as the 2015 victor. Following the season's conclusion, he headed right to the studio with legendary Grammy Award®-winning producer David Foster [Céline Dion, Michael Bublé, Josh Groban, and Grammy Award®-winning artist and writer Kirk Franklin [Gladys Knight, John Tesh] in order to begin work on “Something Beautiful.”



Jordan's honesty made history. Not only did he cement himself as The Voice's biggest seller, moving 1.5 million singles in six months, but he launched eight songs to the Top 10 of iTunes - the first artist from any season to hit the iTunes Top 10 every single week of the live rounds. He also became one of two of The Voice artists to notch three #1s during the show's season.

"The medium is music, but the message is the most important thing to me," Jordan says. "I want my music to inspire people. Some of these songs are about love, some are about strength, and some are about personal experiences. Music is a very powerful tool. I'm thankful and blessed to use it in order to spread hope with "Something Beautiful."

Notably, Jordan co-wrote *Ashes* for the Deadpool 2 soundtrack, which was performed by Celine Dion.

Jordan married Kristen Denny on June 25, 2016 in Middlesboro, Kentucky. "She's been there every step of the way," he said.

Jordan shared via his website, "It's extremely important for me to let everyone know it's ok to be different," he affirms. "I feel like it's taken a long time for me to love different parts of myself. The world is hurting and searching, because we think there are flawed parts of who we are. It's important to accept yourself and have confidence, and then you can love others."



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Lady A

Waves of Success

By Robin Tanner

For more than a decade in the spotlight, Lady A - Dave Haywood, Charles Kelley, and Hillary Scott - has ridden its waves and weathered its storms of success. Between chart topping career, starting families and exploring their own uncharted musical territory, they've also discovered another, more beautiful side to the squalls and swells.

Lady A has been one of the most iconic vocal groups, blending deeply felt emotions with classic Country sounds. The talented trio has more than 18 million album units, 34 million tracks sold, and nearly five billion digital streams. They recently earned their 11th career #1 with the multi-week chart topper *Champagne Night*. Known for their 9X Platinum hit *Need You Now*, which is the highest certified song by a Country group, they have earned CMA 'Vocal Group of the Year' trophies three years in a row

and countless other honors including five GRAMMY awards, Academy of Country Music Awards and many more.

Most recently Lady A was invited to become members of the Grand Ole Opry during the group's performance taping for the NBC special, "Grand Ole Opry: 95 Years of Country Music" that aired in February. Opry member Darius Rucker extended the invitation to Hillary, Charles and Dave on the Opry stage and announced their membership is effective immediately. The invitation and the group's first performance

as an Opry member were shared with fans and viewers everywhere as very special moments during the television special. “This is the best surprise we could ever ask for,” Lady A’s Hillary Scott said. “I’ve been coming here since I was a little girl so to say we are honored is an understatement. We are so truly grateful to officially be a part of this amazing family.” Lady A made their Opry debut on November 2, 2007. Lady A shares details of their seventh studio album on their website. The group embraces everything the ocean of life has to offer. “Ocean is all of the things that we think and feel when we hear the word,” says Scott. “This album is immersed in life stories about barely keeping your head above water all the way to those times that make you feel like everything is smooth sailing.”

But it does mark a special moment for the band, relaunched and refocused. “It’s definitely a cleansing record,” Kelley shares. “There’s this theme of returning to the core of who we are - as writers, vocalists and people - that came out in each of these songs,” Dave Haywood agrees. “Our time in the studio had an excitement that felt like we were making our first album all over again.”

While “Ocean” is full of deeply emotional moments, Lady A lets loose, too, featuring *You Can Do You*, *Boots*, *Crazy Love* and *Alright*. But the maturity that comes with thirteen years together is ever present, giving added heft to songs like the longing first single, *What If I Never Get Over You*. Also included is *The Thing That Wrecks You*, featuring fellow Country superstars Little Big Town for a true duet; “We thought, ‘If we’re going to do something, let’s get as artistic on this as we can,’” says Kelley, explaining the thinking behind the track’s stunning, seven-part harmony. “Getting to work out the parts with them in the room was really cool - to see their process, how they divvy up their responsibilities. It just came together pretty great. It’s definitely one of my favorites off the record.”

Be Patient With My Love (which Kelley wrote with Dave Barnes and Ben West) is a beautiful ode to commitment that, in the tradition of great ballads, balances big feelings with emotive guitars. “It’s very much autobiographical for me,” says Kelley. “I can be a lot to handle at times, so my wife has to put up with the ups and downs. We’ve just never given up.” “Charles wrote *Be Patient With My Love* so many years ago, and it’s still so perfect for this album,” Scott explains. “I think we can all relate, if we’re willing to get honest enough with ourselves. That’s one of the reasons that I’m so proud of this album. We’re challenging ourselves to be better humans, all around.”

What I’m Leaving For (written by Sam Ellis, Micah Premnath and Laura Veltz) chronicles the pain of having a physical ocean between the band and their loved ones. It’s a touching portrait of people who support their families by being apart from them - as the group’s three members have often done. “I wore that demo out so much,” recalls Haywood. “It’s hard stepping away from your family the way we do, and [that song is] such a great, beautiful way of articulating what we’re out here doing this for - our families, and those that we love and the fans that love us, too. That song is a beautiful picture of our journey.”

The title track, “Oceans” closes the album featuring Scott’s beautiful voice. “It’s such a cinematic and theatrical melody that became the cornerstone of this record for us,” says Scott, who recorded the bulk of the song’s vocal in a single, tear-filled take. “That was one of the most creatively uncomfortable days of my life.”



“I love to hear that beautiful spot in her voice,” Haywood says, explaining how the ballad became *Ocean’s* creative center. “I love the metaphors of the waves and the ups and downs of life, alongside the ups and downs of the record. It’s just such a beautiful way to represent a whole body of work.” “The message of that song, it just resonates,” Scott adds. “I wish we could all see ourselves the way the person who loves us sees us - imperfections, flaws and all. With all humility, I’m proud that I pushed through the fear - it’s probably one of my favorite things that I’ve ever done musically.”

The trio recently announced details for their newly formed LadyAID Scholarship Fund, supporting students attending historically black colleges and universities. With the hopes of helping relieve financial barriers to higher education and empower black communities around the country, the applications will be available in early 2021.

www.ladya.com



With the pandemic casting a long shadow in 2020, Grammy and Emmy Award winning multi-instrumentalist Harry Connick, Jr. retreated to his home studio during the lockdown and emerged with an album of new music.

Alone with my Faith Harry Connick, Jr.

By Robin Tanner

Long regarded as one of America's finest vocalists and pianists, the sheer breadth of Connick's talents has never been more on display than with the forthcoming album, "Alone With My Faith" to be released jointly by Universal Music's Verve and Capitol CMG on March 19th.

Connick wrote and arranged all the songs, played every instrument, and sang every part. Both the album cover and the first video, *Amazing Grace*, were conceived and directed by Harry's daughter Georgia Connick. Harry shared his personal journey in creating this singular musical work in his liner notes, re-printed below.

In March 2020, right after news of the pandemic hit, when my tour was cancelled and I headed home for however long it would last, I decided to record some music. Not only because I wanted to, but because I needed to. With no tour dates in sight, and with everyone's realities upended and futures uncertain, recording was what was necessary for me to help guide me through the uncharted odyssey in which we all unexpectedly found ourselves. I found myself alone (with my faith!) in my home studio, surrounded by instruments and gear, bursting with an abundance of ideas. I was able to go deep within myself as a musician and a man, uninterrupted by the normalcies of collaboration or human interaction. It was a sort of "musical isolation chamber," a silent retreat, the silence only broken by the sound of my own voice, the instruments I played and the occasional microphone I inadvertently knocked over, as I'm not the most graceful recording engineer that ever lived!

Seven months later, after countless tracks and edits, I can say that it was not only the secluded nature of the recording process, but the content of the songs themselves that helped me through this strange period. In fact, this was the first time that I found this level of comfort, peace and truth throughout

the process of making music. Because the lyrics are all about the spectrum of faith, I found myself interpreting them in real time - they were allowing me to heal as much as I wanted them to help heal others. I didn't have to pretend or put myself in another place or time, as one often does as a singer or actor.

Besides the familiar, traditional songs, I wrote and recorded new music that tells the story of my experience during the lockdown. I, like most of us, felt joy, sadness, doubt, conviction, melancholy and inspiration - all the emotions that faith, or lack thereof, can elicit. Even though many of the songs are Christian, my hope is that they will resonate with people of all faiths, as it gives me great comfort to know that faith is an immeasurably beautiful gift that, with its universal spirit, can help bring us together in the most arduous of times.

Some notes on the recording process... I set up the mics and did all of the tracking. I used Logic to track and edit. When I was playing an immovable instrument, like drums or organ, I used Logic Remote, with my iPad as the controller. I sang all of the lead and background vocals, as well as played each of the instruments. In addition to all of the acoustic instruments, I used many electric instruments - basses, guitars, synthesizers, etc. However, there are no "soft synths" on this recording - all synthesizers, keyboards and organs are real. No instruments were "in the box." After all of the edits were made and all of the tracks consolidated, I sent the files to my good friend, Tracey Freeman, to mix. A couple of weeks later, I rented an RV and drove to New Orleans to finish the mixing process with him at his home studio.

www.harryconnickjr.com

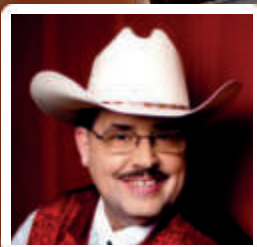


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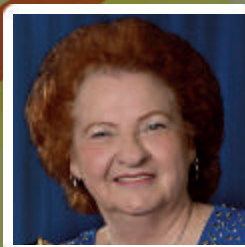
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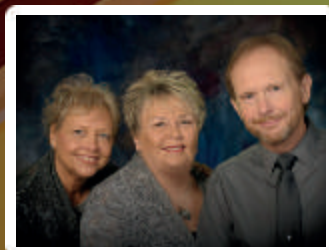
Loretta Hummel
The Red, White, And Blue



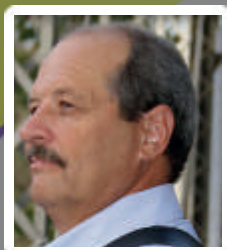
Paskel
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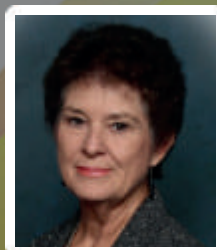
Bruce Haynes
I'll Go Through The Valley
With You



The Tiptons
Ain't No Grave



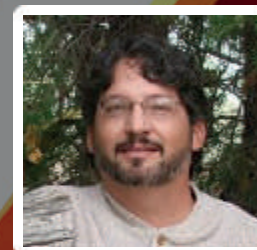
Paul Winchester
When He Comes Down



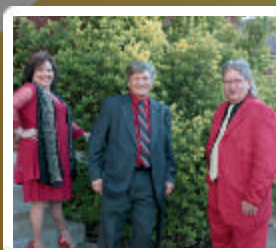
Ann Davenport
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Dan Duncan
Country Gospel Is
Rocking The Country



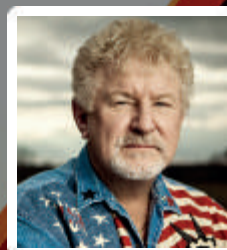
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BOBBY BONES

“Does it All”

By Jennifer Springs

There are many individuals who can “do it all!” Bobby Bones would definitely fit in that category. Between hard work and multi-tasking, Bones manages to have time to be a radio DJ, stand-up comedian, best-selling author, chart-topping recording artist, and TV personality. He has received several awards, including a CMA Award for ‘National Broadcast Personality of the Year’ and is a two-time recipient of the ‘National Personality Award’ from the ACMs. He’s also become the youngest ever inductee into the National Radio Hall Of Fame, joining radio legends such as Dick Clark, Howard Stern and more.

Bones grew up in Mountain Pine, Arkansas. He got his first radio job as a college student and through the years landed jobs at Pop, Hip-Hop, and sports stations. The Bobby Bones Show started in Austin, TX and became the city’s top-rated morning show. Then the show moved to Nashville and became a nationally syndicated radio program in 2012. Bones’ career hit hyperdrive. Country music was in his blood. Country music had expanded its boundaries since Bones’ days in Arkansas too, taking some inspiration from Pop music and

Hip-Hop along the way. No other DJ was better prepared to tackle that growing genre that’s reaching a new generation of fans than Bobby Bones.

Overseeing a daily radio show requires teamwork and Bobby has built his own team from the ground up, including longtime co-hosts Lunchbox and Amy, to join him in the studio. The Bobby Bones Show, where visiting artists are encouraged to let their guard down and become, as Bobby says, “the most human version of themselves,” Bones treats everyone like a member of the family, pulling real emotion out of the genre’s biggest stars.

Along with the syndicated radio show Bones has his own podcast, BobbyCast, a “treasure trove of unusually candid anecdotes...” (Washington Post) The podcast gives listeners a unique behind-the-scenes look at the Nashville music scene and conversations with today’s hottest talent. Currently, the podcast has over 100 episodes and more than two million downloads.

Being a standup comedian is a job he’s enjoyed since his teenage years. It continues to be a welcome challenge, too,

putting Bones face-to-face with his audience and eliminating his cast of on-air sidekicks. “I’m up there alone, telling stories from my life and sharing observations from my warped mind,” Bones says. “It’s all about honesty and awkwardness. I can’t react to something my partner has just said, because there’s no one else up there with me. I love the challenge. I love running the risk of failing at something, because if you fail, at least it means you’re trying.”

Bones shares personal stories and off-the-wall anecdotes in his first book, “Bare Bones: I’m Not Lonely If You’re Reading This Book,” published in 2016. The book topped several best-sellers lists upon its release, including the New York Times, USA Today, and the Wall Street Journal. Kicking off with memories of his childhood days in a Mountain Pine trailer park, Bare Bones takes a candid look at Bones’ life, even on the struggles he faced while growing up in a broken home. Bones isn’t looking for sympathy; instead, he’s reaching out to others who may find themselves in similar situations, having an addicted parent or challenged by the limited horizons of a small, rural town. Bones’ story is the American Dream, and his goal is to encourage others to live their own version of that same dream. Bones continues

doing it because others did it for me. If I hadn’t received a ton of help growing up, like church groups bringing us food, I wouldn’t be here.”

Bobby Bones and The Raging Idiots, the comedy-country band was founded by Bones and his Bobby Bones Show sidekick, Eddie. What started off as an excuse to play a handful of lighthearted songs at local charity events quickly snowballed into a genuine musical project, with multiple sold-out shows and studio collaborations with singers like Carrie Underwood, Garth Brooks, and Brad Paisley. Bones co-writes the band’s material and handles lead vocals. He insists that the Raging Idiots aren’t meant to be taken too seriously. “Just look at our name!” he says, laughing. “We’re idiots! Don’t take us seriously, please.” That didn’t stop the band’s first release, *The Critics Give It 5 Stars*, from becoming a crossover hit topping the Comedy chart and debuting at Number 4 on the Country chart. They also released, “The Raging Kidiots” EP, a children’s project, which spent two weeks at Number 1 on the iTunes Kids Chart. The Raging Idiots also released a full-length album titled “Kiddy Up” that debuted at #1. Serious or not, the Raging Idiots have become seriously popular.



to inspire with his second book, “Fail Until You Don’t: Fight. Grind. Repeat.,” which debuted at No. 1 on the New York Times Best Seller list after hitting shelves in June 2018.

Bones’ charitable efforts have helped raise millions for needy children, shelter animals, hospital patients, and victims of natural disasters. From his annual “Pimpin Joy” movement on The Bobby Bones Show to his work with organizations like Musicians On Call, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, and the National Humane Society, Bones has encouraged a high level of charitable involvement amongst his listeners, while also walking the walk himself. “I’m not doing it so people can pat me on the back,” he says. “I’m

Bones also works on several television projects. He was the first ever full-time mentor for American Idol and continues to be. He was crowned the winner on Season 27 of Dancing With The Stars, and currently hosts Opry Live on the new Circle Network.

Bobby and his longtime girlfriend, Caitlin Parker, were engaged in the fall of 2020. The happy couple will be getting married this spring. Bobby proves that with hard work and determination you can accomplish anything. It’s safe to say with Bobby Bones, there is more to come!

www.bobbybones.heart.com

A photograph of a man with short, light-colored hair, wearing a dark brown button-down shirt and blue jeans. He is sitting and playing a dark-colored acoustic guitar. His eyes are closed, and his head is tilted back, looking towards the upper right corner of the frame. The background is a dark, solid color. The lighting is soft, highlighting the contours of his face and the texture of his shirt.

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