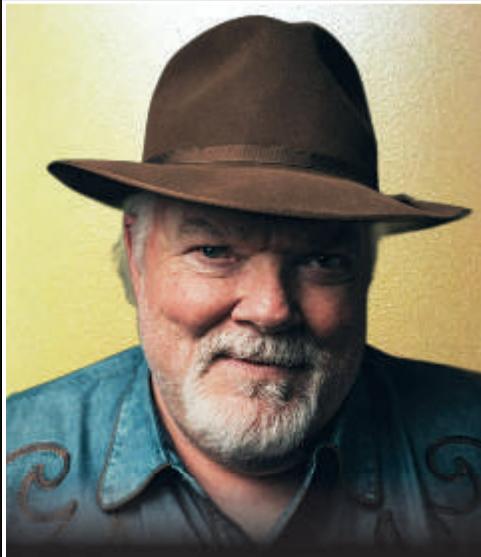


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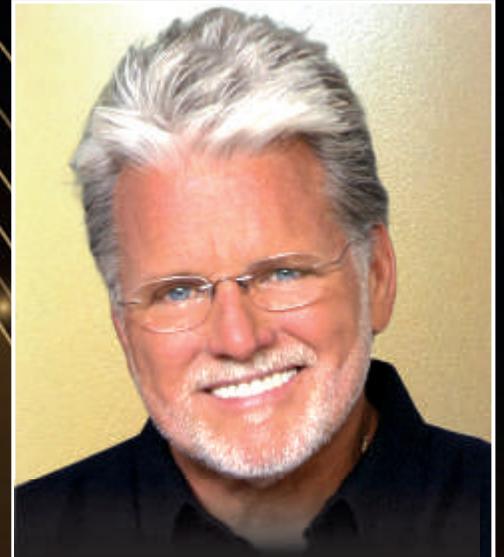
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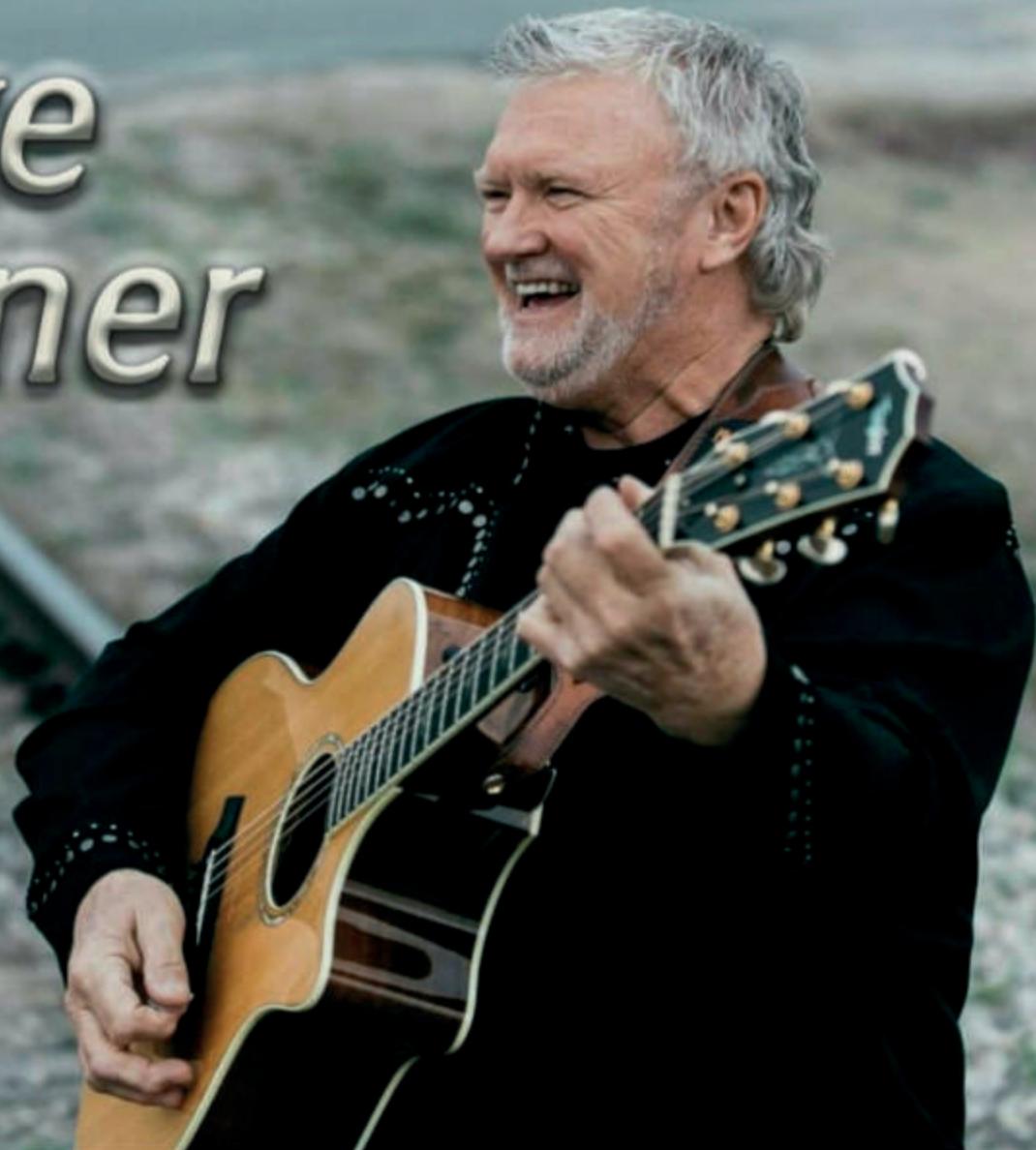
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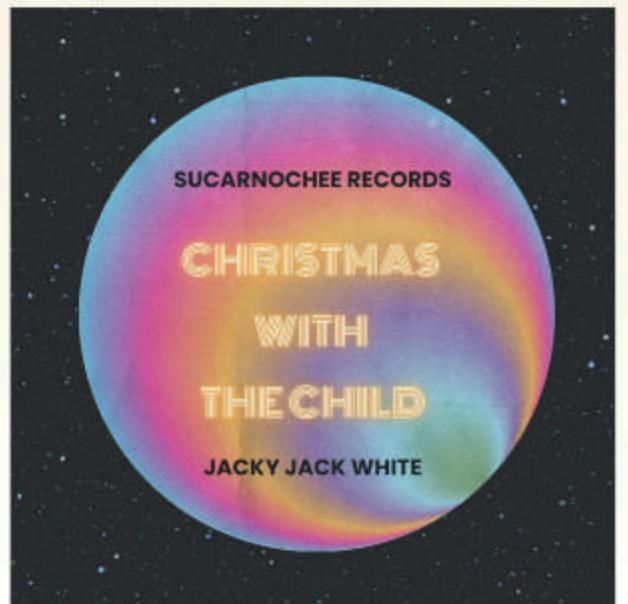
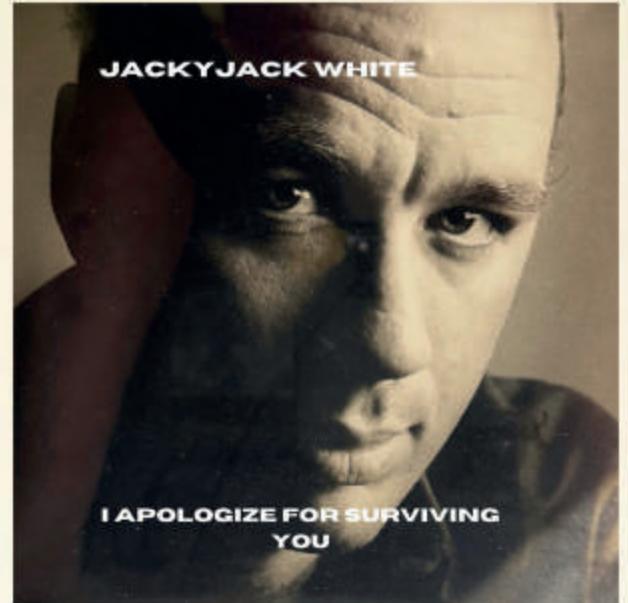
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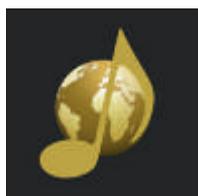


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CANYON CREEK RECORDS, INC



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Cash Box was founded by Bill Gersh in 1942. George Albert took ownership from the late 1950s until his passing in 1997. In 2006, Bruce Elrod, a music professional and record producer, revived the magazine as an online publication with the revised name, Cashbox. Bruce partnered with music promoter and magazine publisher, Randall Wilds, in 2018. This partnership re-established Cashbox as a printed publication. Today, Wilds & Associates continues the publication of Cashbox with integrity and pride, preserving the legacy of its founders and former owners - the late Bill Gersh, George Albert, and Bruce Elrod.

CASHBOX MAGAZINE

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www.cashbox-magazine.com

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The New Guitar Slinger

Inside the Rise of Ethan Lake, the Blues-Born Country Voice Shaking Up America's Roots Scene

By Jackson McKee



At just twenty-three, Ethan Lake is emerging as one of the most compelling young voices in modern Country-Blues, a guitarist shaped by the grit of Baltimore, the soul of the Delta, and the restless drive of a generation finding its sound. With a band that's growing tighter by the mile and songs that feel both lived-in and brand-new, he's stepping into a moment that seems to be meeting him halfway.

Legendary Blues guitarist and singer/songwriter Buddy Guy once said, "The Blues is alive and well." If you need proof, look no further than a young man from Baltimore who picked up a guitar at twelve, fell in love with the Blues at sixteen and now, at twenty-three, is emerging as one of the most compelling new voices in American roots music. His name is Ethan Lake, and his rise has been anything but ordinary.

The Early Years: A Teenager Who Found the Blues

Long before he became a Country-Blues powerhouse, Ethan was a curious kid digging through his dad's music collection. "My dad started introducing me to old Rock and Roll stuff like the Stones," he recalls. "Then it just kind of took off from there. I started getting into older music like the Blues, and just stuck with it."

That spark ignited a deep dive into the genre's roots. He followed the trail from the Rolling Stones and Led Zeppelin back to the Chicago sound, then further into the Delta, Memphis, Austin, and every Blues landmark he could find.

His father, Todd Lake, remembers watching it unfold. "I may have introduced it to him," Todd says, "but Ethan, completely on his own, started really deep-diving into the old, original stuff. I'm blown away by how he went there, stayed there, and is completely loyal to it. What's more is he really enjoys it."

By sixteen, Ethan wasn't just listening, he was studying. "I'm definitely into Chicago and Delta Blues," he says. "What really influenced me is [the music of] Howlin' Wolf, Clapton, Robert Johnson, all those people. Jimi Hendrix is definitely a big one too, but he had his own style."

Blues, his growth exploded. He quickly outpaced his peers - especially in a genre few teenagers were exploring.

By sixteen, he was showing up at local Blues jams, unafraid to climb onstage with anyone who would let him play. His favorite spot became Baltimore's iconic Cat's Eye Pub. "I played my first Blues jam there," he says. "Plus, it's a really nice place. The crowds get really into it. It's the Blues bar to play at in Baltimore."

Age restrictions made it tough to find stages, but Ethan's talent opened doors. Musicians welcomed him. Crowds cheered him on. Word spread.

He even caught the attention of Beale Street guitarist and historian Robert Allen Parker, who invited the Lake family to Memphis.



When asked about his dream lineup of guitar heroes, he didn't hesitate: "My fantasy team would be Robert Johnson, Howlin' Wolf, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Muddy Waters, Bo Diddley, Jimi Hendrix, and especially Clapton."

His method for discovering these legends was simple, and very Gen Z. "I would go to an artist I knew and enjoyed, then scroll down until I reached their related artists. Then I would just click on the music of different artists until I found the ones I liked."

From First Guitar to First Stages

Ethan got his first guitar at twelve, took lessons, and joined School-of-Rock-style programs. But once he found the

And before he was old enough to vote, Ethan had already recorded a three-song EP, "15 Year Old Dreams," featuring *Little Wing*, *Bright Lights*, and *The Thrill Is Gone*. Arranged and mixed by Stephen Antonelli (SongBuilders Studios, Baltimore) and mastered by John Webber (AIR Studios, London), the project showcased a young artist with real fire.

Fast-Forward to Today: A 23-Year-Old Rising Star

Now, at twenty-three, Ethan Lake is no longer the Blues kid from Baltimore. He's one of Country music's most exciting emerging voices. The Blues foundation is still there, but his sound has evolved into something richer, bigger, and unmistakably his own.

There are no gimmicks. No shortcuts. Just pure talent.

Known for his powerhouse vocals and crafty guitar work, Ethan blends Classic Country roots with a Bluesy, modern edge that feels both authentic and radio-ready. Influences like Chris Stapleton, Charlie Crockett, Billy Strings, and Vince Gill shape his palette, but the voice is all Ethan.

To bring that sound to life, he's assembled a standout band featuring regional heavyweights, including pedal steel master Matt Zuckerman.

A Breakout Run: 2025/2026

Ethan's recent achievements read like the résumé of an artist on the brink:

- 1st Place out of 40 bands - Harmony Woods Music & Arts Festival Band Contest
- 1st Place (Judges) - Dirty Boots Country & Wine Festival Talent Contest
- Headliner - ZenWest Main Stage (Baltimore)
- Performances at Harmony Woods, NeverEarlyFest, and Dirty Boots Country Fest
- Opener for label artist Alyssa Flaherty - Old Line Country Festival
- Opener for Josh Tobias - Baltimore's iconic 8x10
- Release of his first major streaming single, *If I Could See Tomorrow* (January 14, 2026)

His current radio single is already gaining traction, signaling that Ethan's rise is accelerating.



The Road Ahead

From a twelve-year-old with a new guitar... to a sixteen-year-old Blues prodigy... to a twenty-three-year-old Country-Blues force... Ethan Lake's story is still unfolding. But one thing is certain: he's not just chasing a dream, he's building a legacy.

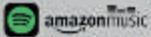
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Country Tonite Theatre

A Smoky Mountain Tradition That Still Steals the Show

By Robin Tanner

After nearly three decades on the Parkway, Country Tonite still feels as fresh and electric as the day it opened. Now celebrating its 29th year, the show continues to earn its title as the Best Show in the Smokies - and the 2026 season raises the bar even higher.

Step inside the 1,500-seat Country Tonite Theatre in Pigeon Forge, and the atmosphere hits you before the first note ever rings out. Ushers greet guests with warm smiles, families settle into their seats, and the hum of anticipation fills the room. When the lights finally dim, the stage erupts into a two-hour celebration of music, comedy, and heart - the kind of live entertainment that reminds you why people keep coming back to the Smokies year after year.

Country Tonite has mastered a rare blend: honoring the roots of Classic Country while embracing the energy of today's hits. The cast, a dynamic mix of seasoned performers and talented young artists, moves effortlessly from high-octane numbers to tender ballads. Their harmonies are tight, their choreography sharp, and their chemistry unmistakable. Between musical sets, comedy sketches bring genuine, belly-shaking laughter, the kind that leaves the whole room wiping their eyes.

The Gospel segment remains one of the show's most moving moments. Voices rise in harmony, filling the theatre with songs of faith, hope, and gratitude. It's a moment of stillness in a fast-moving world, delivered with sincerity that feels personal and deeply rooted in the Smoky Mountain spirit.

Then comes the finale - a patriotic tribute that never fails to bring the audience to its feet. As the American flag unfurls across the stage, the cast delivers a stirring salute to the land

of the free and the home of the brave. It's emotional, powerful, and unforgettable.

Whether you're visiting Pigeon Forge for the first time or you've lived in the Smokies your whole life, Country Tonite offers something rare: a show that truly is for everyone. Kids laugh at the comedy, grandparents hum along to the classics, and every generation in between finds something to love.



Located at 129 Showplace Blvd. on the Parkway, the theatre features state-of-the-art sound and lighting, two giant video screens, and a stage built for spectacle. Throughout the year, the Celebrity Concert Series brings legendary artists to town, and when November arrives, the theatre transforms for its beloved Christmas Show — a holiday tradition that fills the room with joy, nostalgia, and Christmas spirit.

For tickets or more information, call 865-453-2003 or visit www.countrytonitepf.com. Whether you're planning a vacation or simply looking for a night out, make room on your itinerary for Country Tonite. It's a Smoky Mountain experience you'll be glad you didn't miss.



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A portrait of a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a red collared shirt and large hoop earrings. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a warm, orange-red color with a subtle geometric pattern.

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Walker

LATEST RELEASE

If That Ain't True Love



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

By Robin Tanner

LEVI COBY

Country music singer/songwriter Levi Coby grew up in a small town in Tillicoultry, near Stirling, off the coast of Scotland. He would often watch his father perform as a Scottish singer. “I grew up watching my dad sing, never dreaming I’d be trading boots with him or that I’d trade Scotland’s shores for Nashville’s bright lights. Life threw some curveballs - losing loved ones and surviving a near-fatal car wreck. So, I packed my bags, moved to Louisiana, and chased my dream to Music City.”

Levi grew up listening to George Jones, Jim Reeves, Randy Travis, Johnny Cash, and was influenced by Christian music. “I later fell for the music of George Strait, Tim McGraw and Jason Aldean’s style of music. Their sounds shaped my own, and I’ve penned over 1,000 songs since. I studied music and more at Stirling and Glasgow Universities, learning the ropes of production, voice, and business.”

His dream was to make music in Nashville, Tennessee, he shares. “When I arrived in Nashville, I met my mentor, Ralph Murphy, who lit a fire in my songwriting soul, helping me carve out a spot as Nashville’s first Scottish cowboy.” It was through this experience that he gained confidence and direction in songwriting, which has dramatically furthered his career. Levi is in a class of his own as there has never been a Scottish cowboy Country singer in Nashville!

Since coming to America in 2017, Levi has been presented numerous music awards, including ‘Best Love Song of the Year’ for *Lucky One* and ‘Best Male Vocalist of all Genres.’ He also won the ‘World Gospel Song of the Year’ award for *Let Your Light Shine Through* and ‘Best Modern Country Song of the Year’ award for *Ariat Boots*. Also, his songs *My F150* and *Southern Girl* received many awards in the USA, Netherlands, Australia and the United Kingdom. Levi recalls receiving these special honors. “I have won 27 awards since I came to the USA eight years ago. I was awarded a gold medal from the Veterans, for my Veterans songs. I just won ‘Best Male Inspirational Country Artist of the Year’ from the Infinity Music & Film Awards, which I love as it means my songs are making a difference. I also won ‘Original Country Male’ and ‘Best Country Song’ for *My F150*.”

After many life-long challenges and a recent heart attack, Levi realized he had yet another mission to fulfill with his music. “After a recent heart scare, God showed me a new



path. I’m on a mission to lift up motherless and fatherless kids, cancer fighters, and veterans battling PTSD with my music. I wanna help them shine through the darkest days, one song at a time.”

Levi recently performed for St. Jude Children Research Hospital. He was gifted a special belt buckle by Chad Gist from Gist Buckles for his kindness and performance for St. Jude.

He adds, “I just recorded many new songs with one of the top producers in Nashville, Bill McDermott.” His brand-new single release is *Let’s Make America Great Again*. He states, “It’s about my love for this country. I dedicated this song to Charlie Kirk who, I found out, has the same birthday as me which was on October 14th.”

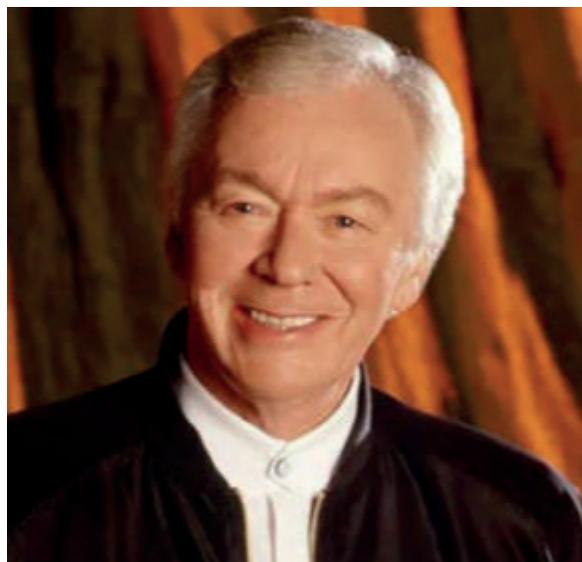
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We pause to remember these individuals whose music and legacies will live on in the hearts of music fans for generations.

Staff, Cashbox



Stuart John Phillips

January 19, 1933 – December 25, 2025

Stuart John “Stu” Phillips was born on January 19, 1933, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and from his earliest years he carried a deep love for music, storytelling, and the wide-open world beyond his childhood home. As a young boy, he received his first guitar and spent countless hours learning to play and sing the songs of his hero, Gene Autry. Those early melodies shaped a lifelong passion that would eventually carry him across nations, airwaves, and generations.

By his early teens, Stu was already performing on radio shows in Montreal, and by sixteen he was singing at fairs and rodeos across western Canada. His warm baritone voice, natural charm, and gift for connecting with audiences quickly set him apart.

Stu’s first major breakthrough came in the 1950s through Canadian broadcasting. He became the host of several popular radio programs: *Stu for Breakfast*, *Town and Country*, and *Cowtown Jamboree*, each one expanding his reach and establishing him as a rising voice in Canadian Country music. These successes led to television opportunities on CBC, where he starred in *The Outrider* and later hosted *Red River Jamboree* from 1960 to 1964. During this era, he earned the affectionate nickname “The Travelling Balladeer.”

As a recording artist, Stu released early Canadian folklore albums on Rodeo Records beginning in 1957, including “Echoes of the Canadian Foothills,” “Visit Old Québec,” and “A Visit to British Columbia.” His music celebrated the landscapes and stories of his homeland, laying the foundation for a career that would soon expand far beyond Canada’s borders.

In 1965, Stu moved to Nashville and signed with RCA Victor under the legendary Chet Atkins. His hit singles during this period - *Bracero*, *The Great El Tigre*, *Juanita Jones*, and *Vin Rose* - introduced him to American audiences and solidified his place in the Country music world. His albums “Singin’ Stu Phillips” (1966), “Grassroots Country” (1967), and “Our Last Rendezvous” (1968) were warmly received and showcased his smooth, expressive voice.

As a young boy listening to distant Grand Ole Opry broadcasts on a crystal radio, Stu dreamed of one day standing on that stage. On June 1, 1967, that dream came true when he was inducted as a member of the Grand Ole Opry. He became a beloved and frequent performer, and at the time of his passing, he was the Opry’s oldest living member - a distinction he cherished deeply.

Stu toured extensively throughout his career, performing across the United States and internationally in England, Germany, and South Africa. In the 1970s, he hosted more than 50 episodes of *The Stu Phillips Show*, a nationally syndicated television program taped in Louisville, Kentucky.

In the 1980s, Stu followed a long-held spiritual calling. He earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, and was ordained as an Episcopal priest. He balanced ministry and music with grace, often blending the two in ways that touched countless lives.

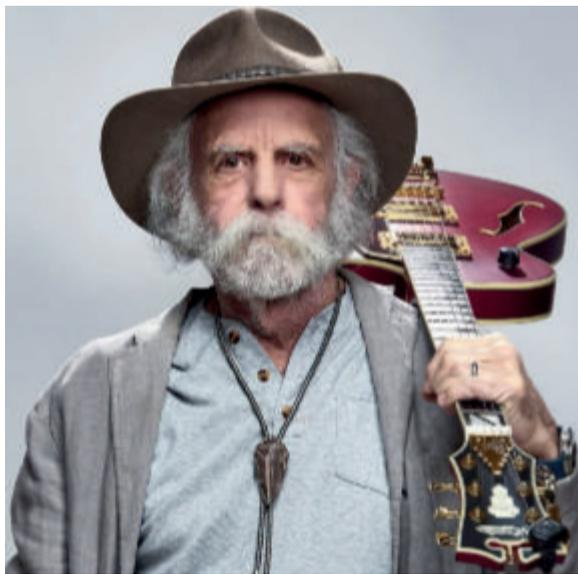
His achievements were recognized in 1993 when he was inducted into the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame. He remained known for his storytelling style, his smooth baritone voice, and his unwavering devotion to God, family, music, and fans.

Stu was also an entrepreneur. He founded Long Hollow Winery, Inc. in Goodlettsville, Tennessee, later passing it to his son and daughter-in-law, Joel and Benita Phillips, in 2013. In 2019, he founded Stage d’Or LLC, an entertainment venue and coffee shop that reflected his love for community and creativity.

Stuart John Phillips passed away peacefully on December 25, 2025, surrounded by his wife and family in Goodlettsville, Tennessee. He was 92. Known to many as “The Travelling Balladeer,” Stu looked “just beyond the next green hill” and stepped into the presence of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

His family shared a final reflection that beautifully captures his spirit: “As Stu passed beyond the heavenly gates, we feel he looked back at us one more time to say, ‘Good night, and remember, just beyond the next green hill there’s a brand-new day awaiting you!’ Our love goes with him!”

Stu Phillips leaves behind a legacy of music, ministry, storytelling, and kindness, a life lived with purpose, faith, and joy. His voice, his songs, and his gentle spirit will continue to inspire all who were touched by his remarkable journey.



Bob Weir

October 16, 1947 – January 10, 2026

Robert Hall “Bob” Weir was born on October 16, 1947, in San Francisco, California, and adopted shortly after birth into a loving home in Atherton. From the beginning, his life carried a sense of wandering curiosity, a mind drawn to sound, rhythm, and the wide-open possibilities of music. By his early teens, the guitar had become his constant companion, the instrument through which he would eventually help reshape American culture.

At age 16, a chance encounter in Palo Alto altered the course of music history. Bob heard Jerry Garcia playing banjo, struck up a conversation, and the two began jamming together. Their early jug band, Mother McCree’s Uptown Jug Champions, soon evolved into the Warlocks and ultimately became the Grateful Dead. What began as a spontaneous meeting between two young musicians became one of the most influential partnerships in modern music.

Bob’s rhythm guitar style quickly became one of the defining elements of the Grateful Dead’s sound. His unconventional chord voicings, percussive approach, and instinctive interplay with Garcia’s lead lines created a musical language all their own. Through the band’s fusion of Rock, Psychedelia, Folk, Country, and improvisational exploration, Bob’s playing served as both anchor and spark, a rhythmic engine that helped propel the Dead’s legendary live performances.

As a vocalist and songwriter, Bob contributed to many of the band’s most enduring works. Among the songs he co-wrote are *Sugar Magnolia* (with Robert Hunter), *Truckin’* (with Hunter, Garcia, and Phil Lesh), *The Other One*, *Playing in the Band*, and *One More Saturday Night*. His work helped shape albums such as “American Beauty,” “Aoxomoxoa,” and “Wake of the Flood,” and in 1994 he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame alongside his Grateful Dead bandmates.

After Jerry Garcia’s passing in 1995, the Grateful Dead disbanded, but Bob remained a central figure in the extended Dead musical universe. His post-Dead projects reflected both his versatility and his restless creativity. He formed RatDog in the mid-1990s, joined The Other Ones (later renamed The Dead), co-founded Furthur with Phil Lesh, and led Bobby and the Midnites during the 1980s. In later years, his Wolf Bros project expanded into symphonic collaborations, performing at venues such as the Kennedy Center and Royal Albert Hall. In 2015, he co-founded Dead & Company with former bandmates and guitarist John Mayer, continuing to bring the Dead’s music to new generations through 2025.

Bob’s life extended far beyond the stage. He was the subject of the 2015 Netflix documentary *The Other One: The Long Strange Trip of Bob Weir*, and he co-authored the children’s book *Panther Dream: A Story of the African Rainforest* with his sister. A longtime vegetarian and advocate for animal rights, he supported organizations such as Farm Sanctuary and the Rainforest Action Network. His compassion, curiosity, and commitment to causes he believed in were as much a part of his legacy as his music.

Bob Weir passed away on January 10, 2026, at the age of 78. Though he had recently faced cancer, his family shared that he ultimately succumbed to underlying lung issues. He passed peacefully, surrounded by loved ones.

Those who knew him best remember not only the musician, but the man - gentle, thoughtful, endlessly creative, and deeply devoted to his family. His bandmates, collaborators, and fans speak of a spirit that was both grounded and adventurous, a soul who lived with openness, generosity, and an abiding love for the music that connected millions.

Bob Weir leaves behind a legacy that spans generations: a body of work that helped define an era, a musical language that continues to inspire, and a life lived with authenticity and heart. His songs, his playing, and his unmistakable presence will echo for decades to come - a long, beautiful, and unforgettable trip.



Francis Buchholz

February 19, 1954 – January 22, 2026

Francis Buchholz was born on February 19, 1954, in Hanover, Lower Saxony, West Germany. From an early age, he gravitated toward music, drawn especially to the deep, resonant voice of the bass guitar. His first public performance came while he was still in high school in Hanover, the beginning of a journey that would eventually place him on some of the world's largest stages.

Though music was his passion, Francis was equally gifted academically. He studied mechanical engineering at the University of Hannover and took classes at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover. These parallel pursuits - precision and creativity - would later shape his disciplined, melodic approach to bass playing. Eventually, music won his full attention, and he stepped into a career that would help define one of Hard Rock's most iconic bands.

In 1973, Francis joined Scorpions following a merger between the band and his previous group, Dawn Road. His first recording with Scorpions appeared on the 1974 album "Fly to the Rainbow," marking the start of a nearly two-decade tenure that would coincide with the band's rise to global fame. Over the next 18 years, he contributed to 12 albums and helped power some of the most enduring songs in Rock history, including *No One Like You*, *Rock You Like a Hurricane*, *Still Loving You*, and *Wind of Change*.

As Scorpions' sound evolved from progressive Hard Rock to international arena dominance, Francis's bass lines remained a steady, driving force. His musicianship helped propel the band to tens of millions of album sales worldwide and more than 50 gold and platinum awards. His work became part of the soundtrack of a generation, music that filled stadiums, shaped Rock radio, and crossed borders during a time when few German bands had broken through globally.

After leaving Scorpions in 1992, Francis continued to share his expertise and creativity. He authored the instructional book "Bass Magic," offering insight into the techniques and musical philosophy that shaped his career. He

later performed with Dreamtide and joined Michael Schenker's Temple of Rock, touring and recording well into the 2010s. His playing remained as precise, powerful, and expressive as ever - a testament to a lifelong dedication to his craft.

Francis Buchholz passed away on January 22, 2026, at the age of 71, following a private battle with cancer. "He departed this world peacefully, surrounded by love," his family shared in their announcement.

Their tribute continued: "Throughout his fight with cancer, we stayed by his side, facing every challenge as a family, exactly the way he taught us. To his fans around the world: we want to thank you for your unwavering loyalty, your love, and the belief you placed in him throughout his incredible journey. You gave him the world, and he gave you his music in return. Though the strings have gone silent, his soul remains in every note he played and in every life he touched."

Francis Buchholz leaves behind a legacy of musicianship, innovation, and quiet strength - a life marked by discipline, creativity, and a deep love for the music that carried him across continents. His bass lines continue to echo through arenas, headphones, and hearts around the world, a lasting reminder of the power of a single musician to shape the sound of an era.



LaMonte McLemore

September 17, 1935 – February 3, 2026

LaMonte McLemore was born on September 17, 1935, in St. Louis, Missouri, and from the beginning his life carried the unmistakable imprint of curiosity, creativity, and quiet determination. Adopted into a loving family and raised with strong values, he grew into a young man whose talents would eventually span music, photography, sports, and cultural diplomacy - a rare and remarkable blend that shaped one of the most multidimensional careers in American entertainment.

STEVE WARREN

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MIKE MCCARRELL



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Produced by Beverly Jenkins

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<<< *The Music Lives On, continued from page 20*

Before the world knew his voice, LaMonte served in the United States Navy, where he trained and worked as an aerial photographer. The camera became a lifelong companion, opening doors to a parallel career that would run alongside his musical achievements for decades. After his military service, he pursued professional baseball in the Los Angeles Dodgers' farm system, becoming one of the first African Americans to participate. Though his baseball career was brief, it reflected the same courage and trailblazing spirit that would define his later work.

Settling in Southern California, LaMonte turned his attention fully to music and photography and in Los Angeles, he co-founded The 5th Dimension with Billy Davis Jr., Florence LaRue, Marilyn McCoo, and Ron Townson. His warm bass vocals, steady presence, and natural charisma helped anchor the group's sophisticated harmonies and modern Pop sensibility. Together, they broadened the palette of Soul and R&B on mainstream radio, bringing a polished, genre-blending sound to American Pop in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

With The 5th Dimension, LaMonte helped create era-defining hits including *Up, Up and Away* and *Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In*. The group earned two Grammy Awards for Record of the Year: first for "Up, Up and Away" (1968) and again for *Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In* ("The Flesh Failures") (1970). Both recordings were later inducted into the GRAMMY Hall of Fame ("Up, Up and Away," 2003; "Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In," 2004). The *Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In* medley topped the Billboard Hot 100 for six weeks in the spring of 1969, becoming one of the signature recordings of its generation.

Other major hits included the No. 1 *Wedding Bell Blues* and the iconic *Stoned Soul Picnic*, all part of a catalog that contributed to seven Gold albums and six Platinum RIAA-certified singles. In 1991, The Original 5th Dimension received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, a testament to their enduring cultural impact.

Beyond the stage, LaMonte built a distinguished reputation as a photographer. His work spanned entertainment, sports, and editorial portraiture, capturing many of the defining figures of 20th-century popular culture. His images appeared for decades in *Jet* magazine, where he became one of the publication's most recognizable contributors. His artistry behind the lens was marked by the same warmth and intuition that defined his music.

In later years, LaMonte and The 5th Dimension reached new audiences through Questlove's Oscar-winning documentary *Summer of Soul (...Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)*, which revisited the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival and its profound musical legacy. In 2014, he co-authored his autobiography, *From Hobo Flats to The 5th Dimension: A Life Fulfilled in Baseball, Photography, and Music*, reflecting on a life that moved effortlessly between the stage and the camera.

LaMonte McLemore passed away on February 3, 2026, at his home in Las Vegas, surrounded by his wife of 30 years

and his family. He was 90. He died of natural causes following complications from a stroke suffered several years earlier.

LaMonte McLemore leaves behind a legacy of joy, harmony, artistry, and generosity - a life lived with purpose, creativity, and a heart turned toward others. His music, his images, and his spirit will continue to inspire generations, reminding the world that kindness and creativity are among the greatest gifts a person can give.



Bradley Kirk Arnold

September 27, 1978 – February 7, 2026

Bradley Kirk Arnold was born on September 27, 1978, in Escatawpa, Mississippi, where small-town life shaped the humility, honesty, and grounded spirit that would later define both his music and his character. Even as a boy, Brad carried a natural gift for melody and storytelling, a quiet creativity that emerged long before the world ever heard his voice.

His musical journey began early. At just 15 years old, he wrote the lyrics to *Kryptonite*, a song that would one day become a global anthem. In 1996, he co-founded 3 Doors Down with friends Matt Roberts and Todd Harrell, stepping into the rare dual role of drummer and lead vocalist before ultimately becoming the band's full-time frontman. What began in a small Mississippi town soon grew into one of the most recognizable sounds in modern Rock.

The band's debut album, "The Better Life" (2000), became a phenomenon, achieving septuple-platinum status and introducing Brad's earnest, unmistakable voice to the world. His songwriting - emotionally direct, accessible, and deeply human - resonated with listeners navigating hope, heartbreak, and the search for meaning. Albums like "Away from the Sun" (2002), "Seventeen Days" (2005), and "3 Doors Down" (2008) continued that momentum, with *Seventeen Days* and *3 Doors Down* both debuting at No. 1 on the Billboard 200. His work earned multiple Grammy

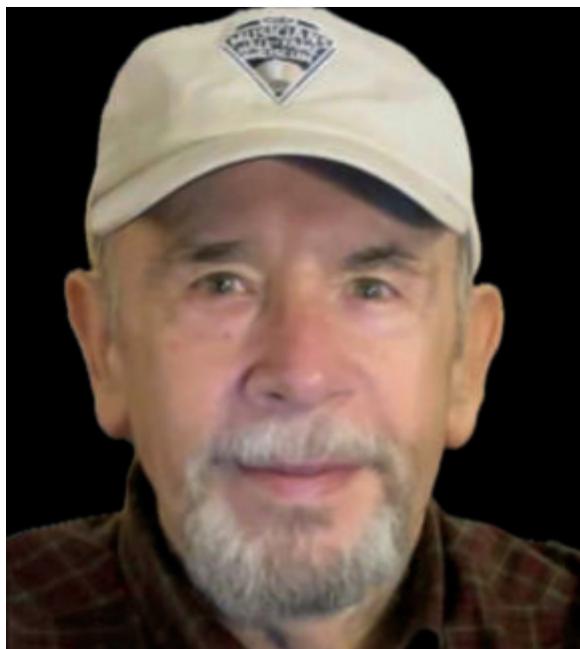
nominations, including for *Kryptonite* and *When I'm Gone*, and his lyrics became cultural touchstones for a generation.

Yet for all the accolades, Brad remained a man of humility and faith. He carried success lightly, always more interested in connection than acclaim. His kindness, humor, and generosity were constants, whether he was onstage before thousands or sitting quietly with friends and family. Those who knew him best speak of a man whose warmth was as memorable as his voice.

In May 2025, when Brad publicly acknowledged his stage IV cancer diagnosis, he did so with the same honesty and faith that marked his life. "You know what? We serve a mighty God, and He can overcome anything," he said. "I have no fear. I really, sincerely am not scared of it at all." It was a window into the courage and peace that carried him through his final season.

Brad passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at the age of 47, with his beloved wife Jennifer and his family by his side. In a statement, the band wrote, "As a founding member, vocalist and original drummer of 3 Doors Down, Brad helped redefine mainstream Rock music... His music reverberated far beyond the stage, creating moments of connection, joy, faith and shared experiences that will live on long after the stages he performed on."

Bradley Kirk Arnold leaves behind a legacy of anthems, a voice that shaped an era, and a life marked by sincerity, faith, and connection. His songs will continue to echo across generations - reminders that the truest art comes from a heart anchored in humility and hope.



Jerry Glenn Kennedy
August 10, 1940 – February 11, 2026

Jerry Glenn Kennedy was born on August 10, 1940, in Shreveport, Louisiana, to Gordon and Essie (Laird) Kennedy. From the beginning, his life carried the unmistakable mark

of a prodigy. At just eight years old, he picked up a guitar for the first time, took lessons, and quickly mastered the instrument with a natural ease that astonished everyone around him. By the age of ten, he had already signed his first major record deal - the earliest sign of a career that would become one of the most influential in American music.

As he grew, Jerry's gifts only deepened. His musical instincts, versatility, and creative intuition allowed him to move effortlessly between roles: musician, vocalist, songwriter, record producer, and industry executive. His fingerprints can be found across some of the most iconic recordings of the 20th century. Over the decades, his work became woven into the artistry of legends including Roger Miller, Tom T. Hall, Elvis Presley, Reba McEntire, Kris Kristofferson, Ringo Starr, Bob Dylan, Tammy Wynette, Jeannie C. Riley, Roy Orbison, and many others. His influence was not confined to a single genre, Jerry helped shape Country, Pop, Rock, and Americana with equal mastery.

His achievements were recognized at the highest levels. Jerry was honored with four Grammy Awards, inducted into the Musicians Hall of Fame in 2007, and celebrated by the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2008 as part of their prestigious "Nashville Cats" series. These accolades reflected not only his technical brilliance, but the respect he earned from peers, artists, and industry leaders who knew the depth of his talent and the integrity of his character.

Jerry Glenn Kennedy passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, surrounded by his loving family. He was 85. Though the world knew him as a music icon, his greatest legacy was the one he built at home. He leaves behind his sons - Gordon, Bryan, and Shelby - each of whom has followed in his footsteps with their own successful and celebrated music careers. Jerry shared a deep love of sports with his boys, and he cherished every family gathering, every holiday, and every moment spent together.

His life was a testament to talent, discipline, humility, and heart. Jerry Kennedy shaped the sound of generations, mentored countless artists, and left behind a body of work that continues to inspire. But to those who loved him most, he was simply a devoted father, a steady presence, and a man whose passion for music was matched only by his love for family.

Jerry's legacy lives on in every note he played, every artist he lifted, and every life he touched - a lasting melody that will continue to echo for years to come.





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Adam Grant

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POWERHOUSE LEGEND GOLD ATEAM Artist ADAM GRANT

Singer/Songwriter does it again after going to #5 in July 2025 with his hit song

"IN AMERICA"

Adam reaches #1 spot in February kicking 2026 off strong with

"Even Though You're Gone"

#1 in CASHBOX MAGAZINE INDEPENDENT COUNTRY TOP 100 CHART for February 2026

With his 1000s of followers (30,000 right now)) and millions of views on his platforms,

Adam Grant is one to keep eyes and ears on in 2026.





ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

BILLY RAY ROCK

By Jason Airy

When Billy Ray Rock calls himself the “King of Funk Rock,” there’s no wink, no irony - and no hesitation. But it’s not bravado either. For him, the crown wasn’t claimed in a moment of ego. It was earned over time.

“I believed in Funk and Rock when a lot of musicians abandoned them,” he says. “Funk especially - some people thought it was an old genre. But you can’t spell Funk without FUN. It embodies people’s ability to dance, to connect.”

For Rock, staying loyal to both genres - keeping them vibrant and relevant - is what gives him the right to wear the title. He didn’t chase trends. He stayed the course.

That belief pulses through his latest single, *4 Fingers Get Up*, a celebration of nightlife, rhythm and release. Yet when the lights go down and the crowd disperses, Rock isn’t living in permanent afterparty mode.

“I’m a guy who loves to laugh. I love quiet time. I love intelligent conversation,” he says. He’s fascinated by human interaction - relationships, dating, the ways people connect. Offstage, he often centers himself with 1970s Alternative Rock. “It gives me my hippie moments,” he laughs. “That’s how I reset.”

Despite earning a #1 iTunes hit and a #2 chart success, Rock insists accolades don’t fuel his hunger. “There isn’t a chart listing that can make me hungrier than I already am,” he says. That hunger, he explains, was forged early, shaped by doubters who questioned his voice, his bass playing, even his path.

“Most skills are learned,” he says. “Nobody’s born making shots like Michael Jordan. But if you practice enough, rehearse enough, prepare enough, you can become highly skilled.” For Rock, that work ethic is baked in. Success didn’t create his drive. It revealed it.

His ambition extends beyond music charts. His videos have won Film Festival Awards, and he’s a 2021 LJ Diamond Awards nominee. Visually, he wants audiences to see him without limits.

“I don’t want to be viewed through one lens,” he explains. A headlining stand-up comedian for nearly 20 years, Rock has often kept his comedy separate from his music to avoid being boxed in. “Once people find out you’re funny, they don’t take your music seriously.” He points to Jamie Foxx as one of the few who successfully balanced both worlds. “I just want people to embrace what applies to them.”



Growing up the youngest of 11 siblings shaped him in unexpected ways. While age gaps meant he didn’t fight to be heard, he admits he sometimes lacked attention from fatigued parents. “Maybe my music is part of an endless search for that love and attention,” he reflects. But the upside was freedom - space to create - and a work ethic inherited from his father.

For all the bravado of Funk Rock, Rock makes space for quiet vulnerability. “I’m all those things at different points of my day,” he says simply.

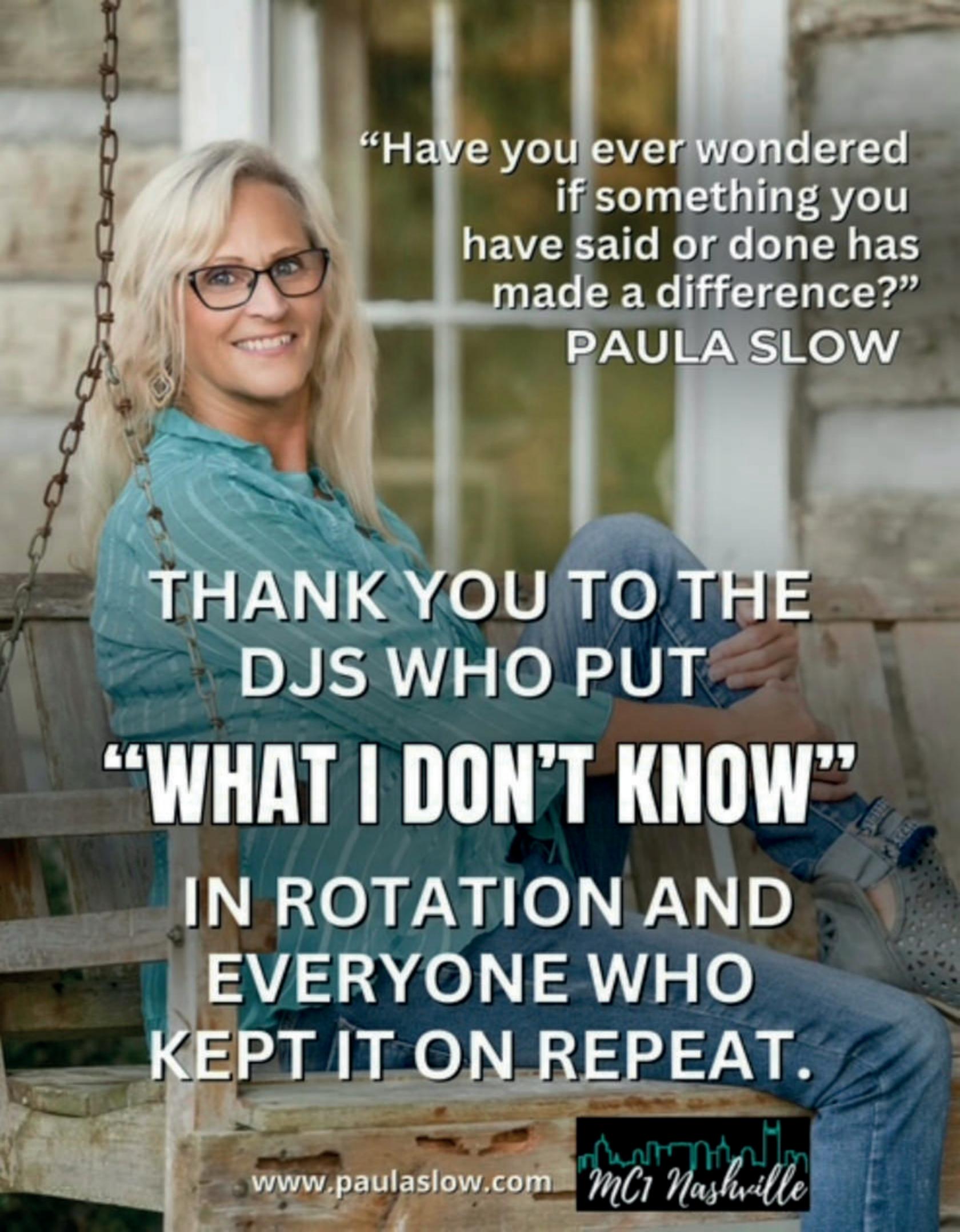
And it’s the people who keep him grounded. He recalls a recent show where a woman, newly divorced, found strength in his lyrics about love and mental health. “She left feeling better,” he says. “If she becomes a better parent because of that night, that matters.”

Moments like that, he says, outweigh any streaming milestone. The screaming festival crowds, the hotel lobby conversations, the quiet thank-you messages from fans - they accumulate. “It’s a lot of little moments,” he explains. “Those are what make me believe this is possible.”

Looking ahead five or ten years, Rock defines impact not by trophies but by memory. “If someone says something I did made them smile, helped them through a day, or inspired them - then I’ve been successful.”

For Billy Ray Rock, the crown isn’t about status. It’s about connection - one groove, one memory at a time.

www.billyrayrock.com



“Have you ever wondered
if something you
have said or done has
made a difference?”

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MC1 Nashville

**Country Music Star Craig Morgan
Promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 2
by Secretary of War Pete Hegseth**

Country music star, Army veteran, and patriot Craig Morgan has officially been promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 2 (CW2) in the United States Army Reserve during a ceremony held at the Pentagon and officiated by Secretary of War Pete Hegseth.

Morgan - whose full name is Craig Morgan Greer - received the honor surrounded by family, military leadership, and supporters. The promotion marks a significant milestone in a military journey spanning nearly two decades and reflects Morgan's continued commitment to service while maintaining a successful music career.



L-R: Karen Greer (wife of Craig Morgan), Craig Morgan, Pete Hegseth

Morgan previously served 17 years in the U.S. Army and Army Reserve, including time with the 101st Airborne Division and 82nd Airborne Division, before reenlisting in 2023. His reenlistment took place on one of Country music's most iconic

stages - the Grand Ole Opry - symbolizing his dual dedication to his country and to Country music.

At age 61, Morgan continues to balance his artistic career with military service, contributing his experience to Army initiatives, including efforts supporting mental health and suicide-prevention programs within Army bands.

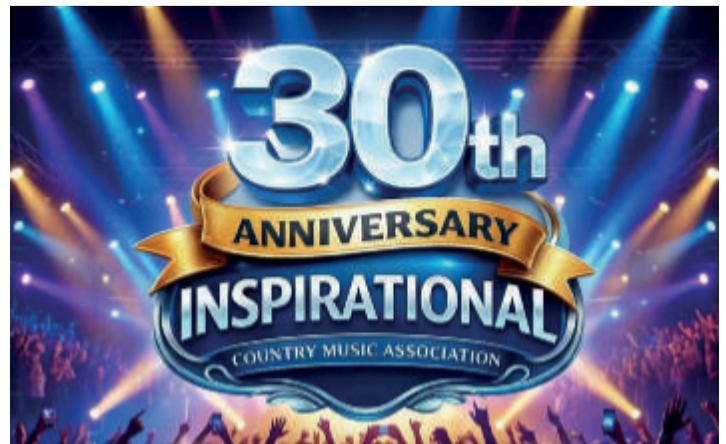
Speaking about the promotion, Morgan expressed "humility and pride," noting how deeply honored he felt to continue serving his country in this new capacity.

Secretary of War Pete Hegseth, who presided over the ceremony, praised Morgan's unwavering dedication to service, patriotism, and leadership - qualities that have defined both his military and musical careers.

**30th Annual Inspirational Country Music Awards
Set for the Grand Ole Opry House**

The stage is set for a landmark evening of faith, harmony, and heritage as the Inspirational Country Music Association (ICMA) presents the 30th Annual Inspirational Country Music Awards on April 6 at the world-famous Grand Ole Opry House.

This milestone celebration will honor the artists, songwriters, and industry leaders who continue to shape and elevate the Christian Country genre. For three decades, the ICMA Awards have stood as a beacon of Christ-centered creativity, spotlighting music that inspires, uplifts, and transforms lives. Find more information at www.opry.com.



About the Inspirational Country Music Association

The ICMA is dedicated to advancing the Christian Country music movement worldwide. Rooted in Christ-centered values and a mission of compassion, the organization equips artists with the tools, community, and support needed to expand their reach and impact audiences across the globe.

To learn more about the ICMA, its initiatives, and its ongoing commitment to the genre, visit www.inspirationalcountrymusic.com.

Veteran Artist and Trailblazer Announces New Album "Undefeated"



After more than three decades of breaking barriers and shaping the sound of Christian music, acclaimed artist and pioneer DPB announces the release of his highly anticipated album, "Undefeated," arriving March 9.

From his early days singing with the Brooks Family to rapping onstage with Salt-N-Pepa, his journey has been anything but ordinary. His career expanded further as a member of the Grammy- and Dove-nominated group D.O.C, and sharing stages with iconic Christian artists including TobyMac and Kirk Franklin. His influence spans worship, Black Gospel, Contemporary Christian music, and even a historic crossover moment - becoming one of the first Christian rappers to reach No. 1 on the Country music charts.

Across 35+ years of faithfully following Jesus, he has endured pain, betrayal, love, loss, and the loyalty of those who stood by him. Through every season, one truth remained constant: Jesus at the center.

"Undefeated" is more than an album - it's a sonic autobiography. Each track draws from the genres and legends that shaped his life: *Find No One* carries the influence of Michael Jackson, reflecting the Pop brilliance that inspired him as a young artist. *Consume Me* emerges from his deep love for worship. *God Loves Ya* channels the unmistakable funk of Bootsy Collins and the late-70s Groove era.

The project blends decades of musical evolution into a cohesive celebration of resilience, faith, and artistic survival. "This album represents my life," DPB says. "The highs, the lows, the genres that raised me, and the God who carried me. After more than three decades in this industry, I'm still standing. I am Undefeated."

Gaither Music Group and Capitol Christian Music Group Celebrate 30 Years of Partnership and Surpass 10 Billion Career Streams

Gaither Music Group and Capitol Christian Music Group (Capitol CMG) commemorated a landmark moment in their long-standing alliance as executives and staff from both organizations gathered in Nashville to celebrate 30 years of partnership and the achievement of more than 10 billion global career streams across the Gaither music brand.

The milestone reflects a relationship that has shaped and sustained one of the most influential catalogs in Gospel and Inspirational music. Since joining forces in the mid-1990s, Gaither Music Group and Capitol CMG have worked together to bring the music of Bill and Gloria Gaither - along with the Gaither Vocal Band and the broader Homecoming family - to audiences across generations and formats.



(From L to R) Brad O'Donnell, President CCMG; Bill Gaither; Gloria Gaither; Paul Sizelove, President Gaither Music Group

"With God's strange sense of humor, this whole thing happened," said Bill Gaither. "All I am is a cook in the kitchen. To have any claim on the success of this would not be honest. There are many people who are involved in [the process]."

"I still believe that when I write a song and shoot it into the air, I have no idea where it's going to land and what life it's going to change," said Gloria Gaither. "We hear from folks all over the planet who tell us, 'That arrow landed in my heart.' I believe in art. After the debates are done, and the news is turned off... art will still speak."

"For more than 30 years, our partnership with Gaither Music has been built on a shared commitment to music that brings people together across generations and around the world," said Brad O'Donnell, President of Capitol Christian Music Group. "We're grateful for what we've accomplished together and excited about what's ahead."

"I've been blessed to be part of this for 30 years. We create and build community by partnering with artists, ministries, musicians, and songwriters," said Paul Sizelove, President of Sun Label Group. "Our partnership with CCMG has brought our music to the world."

Over the course of their career, the Gaithers have written more than 700 songs, many of which have become foundational standards in Gospel music. Their partnership with Capitol CMG has helped ensure these songs continue to reach new listeners through traditional recordings, touring, television, digital media, and today's streaming-first landscape.

The celebration underscored not only the longevity of the partnership but also its continued relevance in a rapidly evolving industry - demonstrating how a body of work rooted in tradition can thrive in a digital world.

"We're going to write just as long as it takes for us all to set sad, heavy spirits free," said the Gaithers. "It's all we know."

Harry Styles Together, Together 2026 Tour



Harry Styles is going back on tour this year with all new music. The newly announced tour, called Together, Together, features 50 dates in a total of seven cities with Styles visiting Europe, North America, Latin America and Australia. The tour is in support of the British artist's upcoming fourth solo LP, "Kiss All the Time. Disco, Occasionally," due for release on

March 6 via Columbia. The first show kicks off in Amsterdam, Netherlands, on May 16 and is slated to conclude in Sydney, Australia, on December 13.

The first stop in America is in New York on August 26 at Madison Square Garden and will end in the same place, Madison Square Garden, on October 31. That's a 30-night stint at the iconic New York venue, giving American audiences plenty of time to see the star before he heads to Melbourne.

Celebrity hitmakers will be making appearances on Styles' tour, including Robyn, Shania Twain, Fcukers, Jamie xx, Jorja Smith, Fousheé, Skye Newman and Baby J. This is his first tour since his "Love On Tour" ended in 2023.

Cody Johnson Announces "Live 26" Tour

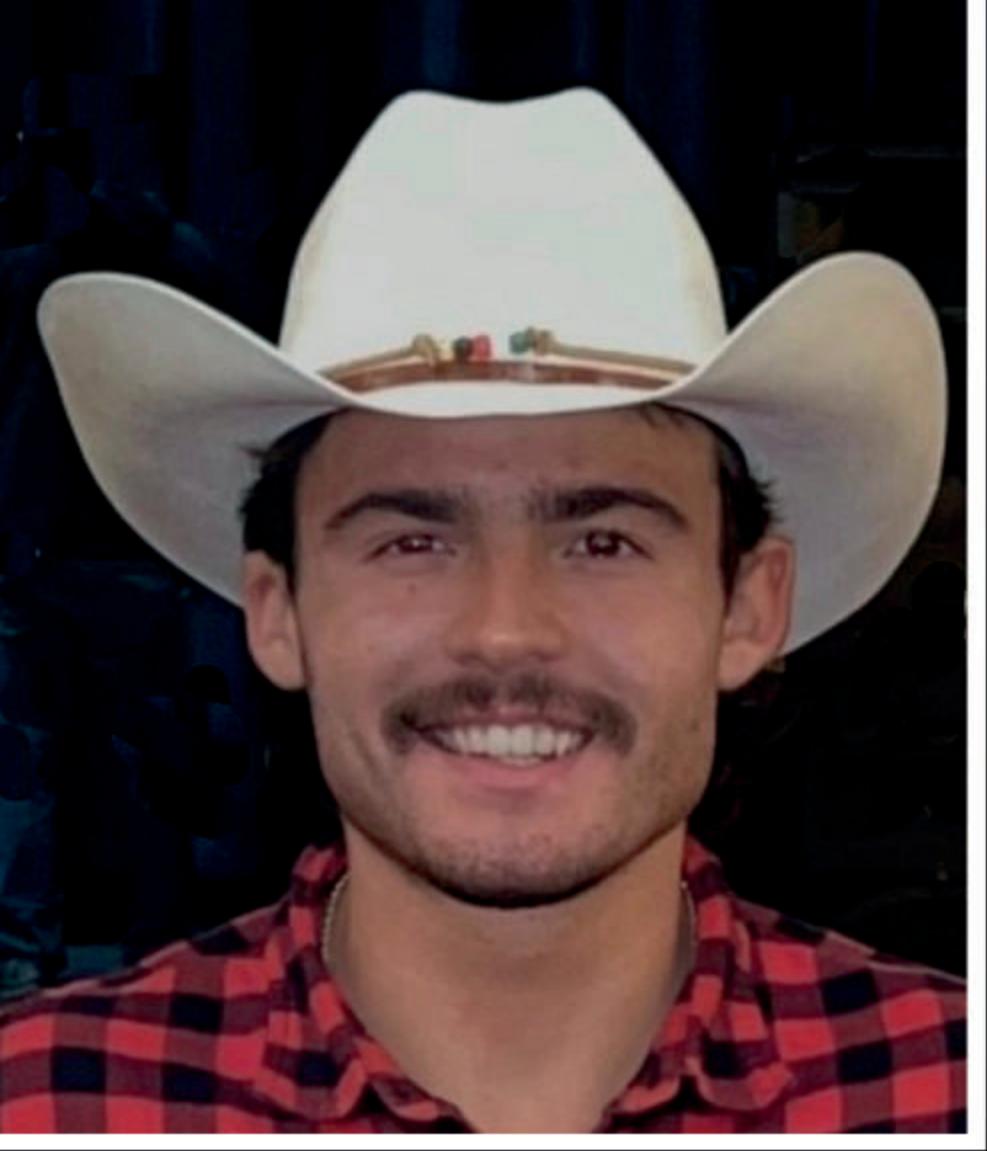
Country music powerhouse Cody Johnson has officially launched his "Cody Johnson Live '26" Tour, kicking off the year with two sold-out nights at Birmingham's Legacy Arena at The BJCC. The shows mark Johnson's return to the road after undergoing eardrum surgery last fall, and fans welcomed him back with overwhelming enthusiasm.



The Live '26 Tour will continue across the United States with nearly 30 dates scheduled through September 12, including major stops in Champaign, Louisville, Tacoma, and more. Fans can expect to hear Johnson's rising single *The Fall*, along with his new collaboration *When a Cowboy Prays* featuring Christian artist Brandon Lake.

Johnson's 2026 tour features an impressive lineup of rotating special guests, including Clint Black, Randy Houser, Scotty McCreery, Kip Moore, Jon Pardi, Ian Munsick, Drew Baldridge, Chayce Beckham, Carter Faith, Alexandra Kay, Walker Montgomery, and Emily Ann Roberts.

Cashbox News & Scoops continued on page 33 >>>



EDDIE JOHNSON

Eddie is a 20-year-old up-and-coming country music artist has a deep passion for country music. Inspired by his grandfather who introduced him to the guitar at a young age and who cultivated his love of country music, Eddie has recorded original songs at the renowned Curb Studios in Nashville, backed by talented session musicians including the legendary guitarist, Brent Mason. In addition to his own compositions, Eddie's repertoire covers a wide range of country music, from classic artists like Johnny Cash to contemporary stars like Luke Combs and Riley Green. He also incorporates a touch of Southern rock into his performances, showcasing his versatility and musical prowess. Eddie is the recipient of the 2025 Hugs 24/7 Radio Best New Male Artist Award and his song 'I Reckon,' won 2025 Song of the Year honors. His song 'Don't Meet Your Heroes' just earned the #1 spot on Hugs 24/7 Radio's Top 200 Chart.

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and charting
"I Reckon"

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In response to growing international demand, Johnson has also announced his first-ever UK and Ireland headline arena run, set for fall 2026. The six-date expansion includes: UK/Ireland Extension: Dates announced for October and November 2026 include Manchester, London, Birmingham, Glasgow, Belfast, and Dublin, with Parker McCollum and Emily Ann Roberts supporting. More information is available at www.CodyJohnsonMusic.com.

With more than 400,000 tickets sold in 2025 and a spot on Billboard's Top 100 Tours, Cody Johnson continues to solidify his place as one of Country music's most electrifying live performers. His blend of Traditional Country roots, heartfelt storytelling, and powerhouse vocals has earned him a devoted global fanbase and widespread critical acclaim.

Chart-Topping "King of Funk Rock" Returns with a High-Energy Party Anthem on MTS Records

Acclaimed Funk Rock powerhouse Billy Ray Rock, widely known as the "King of Funk Rock," is set to electrify fans once again with the release of his new single, *4 Fingers Get Up*, available on all major digital platforms via MTS Records, on March 6, 2026.

With the previous success of a #1 iTunes chart-topper and a #2 iTunes hit, Billy Ray Rock continues his upward momentum with a bold, infectious anthem built for clubs, festivals, and packed arenas. *4 Fingers Get Up* blends swagger, groove, and raw Rock energy into a celebratory soundtrack for nightlife, unity, and unapologetic fun.



Driven by chant-ready hooks, booming production, and undeniable attitude, the single captures Billy Ray Rock's signature fusion of Funk, Rock, and Hip-Hop. It is a track designed to move crowds and elevate live performances, further cementing his reputation as one of today's most exciting independent artists.

"Music is about the people, and people are about the music," says Billy Ray Rock. "This song is about coming together, letting go, and feeling that energy in the room."

Originally from Mount Pleasant, Texas, and the youngest of 11 siblings, Billy Ray Rock brings a rich and diverse musical background to every project. A multi-instrumentalist who plays more than 10 instruments, he has worked as a ghost producer and built his foundation in EDM and Rock before rising as the lead vocalist of Level 21.

His creative impact extends beyond music. Billy Ray Rock's music videos have earned Film Festival Awards, and he was recognized as a 2021 LJ Diamond Awards nominee, highlighting his influence across both music and visual storytelling. Billy Ray Rock recently appeared on the mega-hit television show, *Yellowstone* (Season 5.)

Drawing inspiration from legends such as Earth, Wind & Fire, Cameo, Ray Parker Jr., Van Halen, In Living Colour, and Metallica, Billy Ray Rock delivers performances with the presence of Rick James and the impact of Mick Jagger. Known for treating every audience "like a sold-out show at Madison Square Garden," his live shows are celebrated for their energy, authenticity, and connection.

4 Fingers Get Up represents the next chapter in his ongoing mission to redefine modern Funk Rock and inspire audiences worldwide.

Harry Kappen Releases "After the Crossing," a Bold New Album Marking a Life Transformed



International recording artist, producer, and multi-instrumentalist Harry Kappen announces the release of his new album, "After the Crossing" - his first full-length project created since relocating from Europe to Mexico, a move that reshaped both his life and his music.

The album features ten deeply personal songs that reflect the emotional, spiritual, and geographical journey behind his "great crossing." Ranging from understated acoustic moments to expressive, full-bodied arrangements, the project showcases the signature musical breadth listeners have come to expect from Kappen. Every track is written, performed, and produced by Harry himself.

"After the Crossing" explores themes of transformation, truth, love, and resilience. Several songs reflect pivotal moments in Harry's own story - choosing a new future,

crossing an ocean for love, and embracing a new chapter in Mexico City. Others speak to broader human experiences: the search for balance in a polarized world, the plight of refugees, the value of honesty in an age of distortion, and the quiet power of everyday Good Samaritans.

While each song stands on its own, the album as a whole forms a narrative arc - one that moves from reflection to renewal, from loss to hope, and from uncertainty to purpose.

"After the Crossing" marks Harry's fifth album since the Covid era, following "Escape," "Time Will Tell," and "Four." With "After the Crossing," Harry Kappen offers a compelling, heartfelt portrait of a man who has crossed oceans - literally and figuratively - and emerged with renewed clarity, purpose, and artistic fire.

The album is available now on all major streaming platforms.



Kid Rock Announces 2026 Freedom 250 Tour Dates

Kid Rock announced the Freedom 250 Tour this spring that includes several mainstream hitmakers on tour with him in 2026.

The Freedom 250 Tour includes 10 dates from May 1 to June 20. It's mostly outdoor dates for the Country Rap-Rocker and it surrounds his scheduled appearances on the Rock the Country Festival series.

Kid Rock's Freedom 250 Tour begins on May 1 in Dallas. Jon Pardi, Brantley Gilbert and Big & Rich are among a rotating group of support acts. Parker McCollum and Them Dirty Roses are two more acts opening for Kid Rock this spring. The Freedom 250 Tour celebrates America's 250th birthday in 2026.

Visit www.Kidrock.com for more information.

 A promotional graphic for Judi Kellar's single "Come to the Water". The background is a dark green with a blurred image of a woman with red hair. The text is white and red. At the top, it says "Thank You to all DJs for playing and charting my new Radio Single". Below that, the title "COME TO THE WATER" is written in large, red, serif letters. Underneath, it says "Available now at Christian Radio Stations everywhere and at Pattersonmusicgroup.com on DJ Corner". Further down, it says "Also available on all major digital music outlets" and lists logos for Amazon Music, Spotify, Apple Music, and Pandora. Below that, it says "Scheduling & Contact Information: Judi Kellar Ministries | (865) 640-5982 | judikellar@comcast.net | www.judikellar.com". At the bottom left, there are logos for "PATTERSON PROMOTIONS" and "Chapel Valley". At the bottom right, the name "Judi Kellar" is written in a large, white, cursive font.

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Where
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Eleyet McConnell

By Jason Airy

For Angie and Chris of Eleyet McConnell, music isn't something they clock in and out of. It's stitched into the fabric of their marriage, their home life, and the quiet rituals that anchor their days. When the studio lights go down and the business calls stop, they don't so much separate music from marriage as they return to the rhythm that started it all.

“**M**usic has always been a strong bond between us,” Chris says. Long before it became a business, it was the language that brought them together. Angie agrees. Creating songs feels as natural as tending their garden, sitting around a backyard fire, or taking a morning drive for coffee that stretches into hours of conversation. They live on a small homestead where Chris, now retired, builds fences and sheds while Angie works from home in the medical field. They carve out space for individual quiet time, but more often than not, they find themselves missing each other.

That closeness wasn't forged without fire. Their sophomore album, “The Journey,” due March 6, 2026, lays bare storms of betrayal, resilience, and renewal - chapters pulled directly from their own lives. There was a time, Angie admits, when she believed they might not make it. She had begun imagining a future without him. Chris remembers a 45-day stretch when they didn't see each other at all. “The music felt shallow without her,” he says. “When we write songs, it's our spirit of us. You can't get that with someone else.”

That separation ultimately revealed how deeply intertwined they were - not just creatively, but emotionally. Today, they can joke about those early days. But the scars left their imprint on their songwriting. “We got all the hard stuff out of the way in the beginning,” Angie says with a laugh that carries both humor and hard-earned wisdom.

That lived experience fuels her voice. Onstage, Angie's vocals carry a striking duality - strength braided with vulnerability. When she sings about breaking chains or standing on a ledge, she isn't playing a role. “Both,” she says when asked if she's reliving or releasing those moments. “We lived every bit of life described in these songs.” Joy, heartbreak, anger, frustration - it's all there. She channels it, not as performance, but as testimony.

Chris, as bassist and co-writer, moves around her vocals with instinctive grace. “I just dance around her voice,” he says. Live, he sometimes has to remind himself they're onstage at all. The emotional pull of the songs can be overwhelming. Though he's quick with humor - joking that his “real claim to fame” is being the bass player who got the lead singer - his creative role is anything but secondary. He's

fiercely critical of every note, every breath in a recording, even if he prefers to let Angie represent the band publicly.

Their dynamic thrives on mutual respect and a willingness to experiment. They don't shy away from creative disagreements. Instead, they try new ideas, even if it means Angie occasionally changes a vocal delivery in the studio that makes Chris cringe later. "I like to keep it fresh," she says with a grin. It's a push and pull that sharpens the work rather than splintering it.

Songs like *King of Glass* confront illusion and ego without fear of who might recognize themselves in the lyrics. They don't name names, but they don't soften the truth either. "These are our lived experiences," Angie says. The universality of those experiences is what makes their performances resonate. Before playing certain songs, they share the backstory with audiences, deepening the emotional connection.

Recognition and award success, rather than straining their bond, have strengthened it. If there's pressure, it's self-imposed: the urgency to keep creating. Even as they prepare to release "The Journey," they're already planning the next record. Time, they know, is precious.

Onstage, when they look at each other, they see more than a spouse or bandmate. They see the road traveled - blood, sweat, tears - and the blessing of having endured it together. "If we lose it all tomorrow," Chris says, "I know I have a friend and a soul by my side."



For young couples dreaming of building a life and art together, their advice is simple but profound: protect the love first. Enjoy the small things. Stay open. Compromise. Don't chase recognition at the expense of your values. Above all, love one another for the love of it all.

In the end, Eleyet McConnell isn't just a band. It's a marriage set to music - a testament to what can happen when two people refuse to retreat from adversity and instead choose to write their way through it, together.

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SAY IT TWO TIMES

*Pam Ross on
Love, Lyrics,
and the Courage
to Mean It*

By Jason Airy

For Pam Ross, “I love you” isn’t a throwaway phrase or a sentimental reflex. It’s a declaration that deserves to be spoken clearly, repeated freely, and backed up by action. Her latest single, *Say It Two Times*, captures that philosophy with warmth and conviction - asking to hear the words again not out of insecurity, but because they matter.

Ross believes there are many reasons people hesitate to repeat those three words. Sometimes, she suggests, it’s because they don’t truly mean them and don’t want to keep saying something hollow. Other times, it may be fear - uncertainty about whether the feeling is returned. But in her own life, repetition isn’t a problem. “My wife and I are always saying it,” she shares simply. In her world, love is not rationed.

Though *Say It Two Times* is undeniably joyful, Ross doesn’t see happiness as emotionally riskier than heartbreak. Writing about pain may come easily to many artists, but for Ross, crafting a happy love song carries no sense of vulnerability. On the contrary, it’s something she delights in.

She relishes walking into the room and playing a new love song for her wife, watching the reaction, sharing that private spark. Joy, for her, is not fragile - it’s worth celebrating out loud.

The song almost didn’t make it to listeners. Originally slated for her previous album, “When Therapy Fails,” Ross pulled it back after rhythm tracks were already recorded. The issue wasn’t doubt in the sentiment but dissatisfaction with the structure. She felt the lyrics could go deeper, that one verse echoed another too closely. Rather than rush it, she set it aside. Over the following months, she honed her craft, and when she returned to the song, she rewrote the section that needed movement. The result is a track that feels lived-in and forward-driving - emotionally and musically.

Part of what gives *Say It Two Times* its resonance is its focus on the everyday. Ross paints scenes of morning coffee and rocking a child to sleep - small domestic rituals that often slip past unnoticed. She believes we absolutely undervalue those moments. As life speeds up, people rush from obligation

to obligation, forgetting to pause and recognize what truly holds meaning. "The simplest and most precious things get pushed aside," she notes. Her song gently pushes them back into the spotlight.

Ross speaks openly about the road that led her to this happiness. Before the love she now celebrates, she endured difficult relationships. Looking back, she would tell her former self that better days were coming. That reassurance - simple, steady, hopeful - echoes through her music. It's not naïve optimism. It's hard-earned belief.

Despite chart success and industry accolades, Ross defines achievement in far more intimate terms. When she considers what success means today, it isn't applause or airplay. It's lying in bed at night with her wife, her cat, and her dog. "They are the glue that holds me together in this crazy world," she says. A happy home, she emphasizes, is not something everyone gets. For her, that's the real prize.

Ross has built her career on refusing to fit neatly into any genre box. Her album "Outside The Box" reflects that refusal to conform. Traditional labels never quite fit, so she created her own lane - what she calls "Pam Music," a multi-genre blend that reflects who she is without compromise. At first, she wanted to belong somewhere specific. Eventually, she realized being different was better. It wasn't about escaping confinement; it was about declaring independence and embracing authenticity.

In a culture that often equates independence with distance, Ross sees lasting love differently. She doesn't believe commitment requires sacrificing individuality. Instead, she views enduring relationships as rooted in communication, trust, and dedication. People struggle with those elements, she admits. Communication falters. Trust wavers. Many give up when things get hard. Love, she says plainly, is "never beer and roses 24-7." Sometimes you have to step back, remember what it all means, and dig in deep. Another song on the album, *Tonight*, explores that reality.

Ultimately, Ross hopes *Say It Two Times* leaves listeners smiling. She wants them to dance. More importantly, she wants them to think about the priceless pieces of life that build a happy home. And when the song ends, maybe they'll turn to someone they love and say the words again.

As for the last time she truly heard "I love you?" About an hour ago. Her wife says it before leaving in the morning, texts it during the day, and repeats it in the evening. They say it often. And the best part, Ross adds, is that it's never just words.

They mean it.

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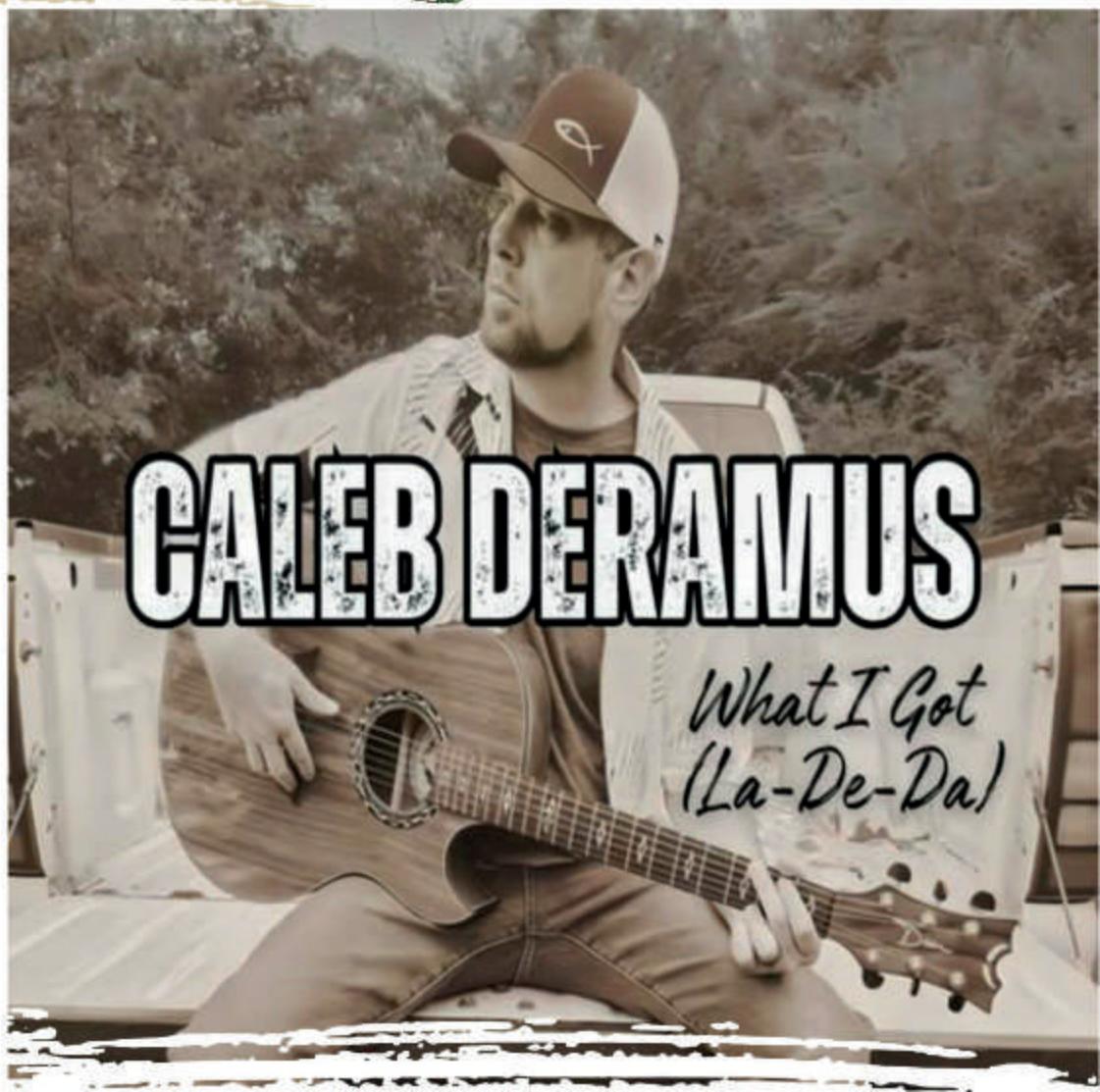
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SAMMY SADLER

Second Chances & Saving Grace

By Robin Tanner

Country recording artist Sammy Sadler's journey is one of resilience, talent, and unwavering faith. His career, marked by triumph and tragedy, is unlike any other in Nashville. Through music and testimony, Sammy shares a story of second chances and saving grace - making new memories while honoring the past.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Sammy was raised in the small town of Bonham in Northeast Texas. His father hailed from Texas, his mother from Tennessee, and the family returned to Texas when Sammy was just two years old. He's called it home ever since.

Music was woven into Sammy's life from the beginning. "When I was just a little kid, my mom and dad said I pulled myself up to the stereo and danced with the music," he recalls. "I've had it in me ever since."

Early on, Sammy was captivated by Elvis Presley. As he grew older, his love for Country music deepened through the voices of George Jones, Merle Haggard, Marty Robbins, and Johnny Cash. But it was Steve Wariner who left a lasting impression. "I love his singing style and phrasing," Sammy says. "Some interviews and reviews have compared me to Steve Wariner, Collin Raye, and Vince Gill. I'm humbled - those are some of my favorite artists and the greatest singers in the business."

Sammy's parents nurtured his musical passion, taking him to Nashville several times a year. "We were typical tourists, exploring downtown and Music Row," he says. "It's a lot different now!" They also took him to Opry-style shows

across Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana, including The Louisiana Hayride. Eventually, Sammy became a regular on Johnnie High's Country Music Revue in Fort Worth, touring with the roadshow.

By high school graduation, Sammy faced a pivotal decision: pursue baseball or chase music. "I love music," he says simply. "That's the road I chose."

He spent a couple of years as lead singer for the band Perfect Strangers before moving to Nashville in 1984. One memory stands out from his tourist days: "One time, instead of navigating Nashville ourselves, my parents rented a limousine. The driver showed us where everyone lived and all the sights. He gave us his number and said, 'Stay in touch, I've got a lot of contacts.'" That driver was Ronnie Cummings. When Sammy moved to Nashville, the two became friends and roommates. "Sure enough, he had a lot of contacts in the music business."

Ronnie introduced Sammy to Mae Axton, legendary songwriter of Elvis's *Heartbreak Hotel*. "I was so excited to meet her," Sammy says. "She ended up writing my first single." Together, they shopped Sammy's demo around town, eventually landing a deal with Evergreen Records. From 1985

to 1989, Evergreen released several singles, including Sammy's breakout hit, a cover of Aaron Neville's *Tell It Like It Is*. The song climbed the Billboard and Cashbox charts, and plans were underway to complete his debut album.

Then tragedy struck.

In 1989, just as his album was set to launch, Sammy was critically injured in the infamous shooting that killed Cashbox chart director Kevin Hughes, an event later dubbed the "Murder on Music Row." The high-profile case and long recovery brought Sammy's rising career to a sudden halt.

He returned to Texas to heal. "I had to come home to recuperate," he says. "Thankfully, my mom and dad were there. I never moved back to Nashville, just visited."

Sammy had only known Kevin for eight months, but their friendship was growing. "There are people you meet who become lifelong friends," he reflects. "I know what I went through, and I can only imagine what Kevin's family endured. At the time, I didn't know Kevin was a Christian. I wasn't. But God took Kevin and left me. I'm so thankful He thought enough of me to save me."

"If you'd told me this is what my life would look like, I wouldn't have believed it. But God had His hand on me, even when I didn't know it. I still get emotional. Whatever you're going through, you're not alone. Just call on the name of God, He's there."

Sammy shares more of his story in his autobiography, "A Hit With A Bullet." "I'm here to talk about my music, my life, and my career," he says. "I'm so much more than a survivor of the Murder on Music Row. I thank God every day for saving me and giving me a second chance."

Back in Texas, Sammy leaned into his faith. Raised in church, he remembers attending Pentecostal services as a child. "We never missed a day," he says. "But in high school, I drifted and rebelled."

Eventually, Sammy found his way to a small church near his home. "I'll never forget the pastor, Jerry Newton," he says. "He preached like a Pentecostal, but he was Baptist. I got baptized there. Afterward, he said, 'Sammy, I want to hear your story.' I told him about Kevin and the shooting. He said, 'You're like Job. The Lord said you can shoot him, but you can't kill him.' That stuck with me."

The pastor offered another analogy: "When you go fishing, you cast your line and wait. Sometimes you get nothing. Then you change your lure and cast again. Suddenly, you get a tug. That's how the devil works - he throws darts to see what gets your attention." Sammy adds, "Whatever you're going through - alcoholism, depression, anything - if the devil's throwing it at you and it upsets you, it can take

you down the wrong road. Be cautious. It could be the devil leading you to destruction."

After nearly a decade away from the spotlight, Sammy made a strong comeback with *Hard On a Heart* (2004), scoring Top 10 success in Texas and topping charts in Europe. He followed with *Heart Shaped Like Texas* (2009) and toured with Doug Stone, Ken Mellons, and Jeff Carson on the "Taking the Country Back Tour." Over the years, he's earned four Top 15 hits on the Texas Music Chart and was named 'Male Vocalist of the Year' in Dallas-Fort Worth in 1993.

In 2021, Sammy released "1989," featuring T. Graham Brown, Marty Raybon of Shenandoah, and Larry Stewart of Restless Heart and The Frontmen. "I wanted to revisit 1989 and record number-one songs from that era," he says. "The best music came from the '80s and early '90s. I'm so grateful to Larry, Marty, and T. Graham for joining me - it was humbling."



Sammy and Dave

Sammy continues to honor the legacy of '80s and '90s Country with the release of his latest single and music video for *I Can't Get Close Enough*. The video, filmed by Studio Dunlap, in Dunlap, Tennessee brings the song's emotion to life through heartfelt storytelling and Classic Country imagery, offering longtime fans a fresh new way to experience the track.

Originally penned by J.P. Pennington and Sonny LeMaire and first recorded by Exile, *I Can't Get Close Enough* continues to stand the test of time. Sadler's rendition not only pays tribute to the timeless original but also showcases his enduring ability to connect with listeners through sincerity and tradition. "Sammy has had more than his share of adversity and has found a way to persevere and keep believing in his dream of making music," shared Sonny LeMaire of Exile. We, Exile, are honored that he has recorded our song

and that he asked us to sing harmony vocals as well. Sammy, you've done us proud!" Exile appears on this recording courtesy of Clear Water Records.

"Country music has been my greatest passion since I was a little boy," shares Sadler. "My journey hasn't always gone the way I expected, but I'm grateful that God continues to give me the strength to keep sharing my music. Filming the video for *I Can't Get Close Enough* brought this song to life in such a powerful way - it's a reminder of how deeply love and faith can connect us. Here's to the next chapter."

Sammy's previous single in the Summer of 2025, *If I Had a Cheating Heart*, was first recorded by Mel Street around 1978. He mentions, "I heard the song from Ricky Lynn Gregg who had it out in 1993. Ricky and I have been friends for a long time, I was doing it at my shows. I went back and I re-recorded this song and a couple other things that I thought I just really loved. I'm a late 80s, 90s, Country singer and I just loved this song."

The singles are on an upcoming album. "I can't change who I am as a singer and entertainer," Sammy says. "I have to feel the songs I sing. I'm not trying to fit a trend, I'm just trying to record the music that I love and hopefully it connects with the people."

Sammy Sadler and Dave Gibson launched the Hits and History Tour in 2025. Dave Gibson was the lead singer of the Gibson/Miller Band in the early 90s, winning 'Top New Vocal Group' at the ACM Awards. Dave is an accomplished songwriter, writing many iconic hits such as, *Jukebox In My Mind*, for Alabama, *If It Don't Come Easy* for Tanya Tucker, *Ships That Don't Come In* for Joe Diffie, and including songs recorded by Confederate Railroad, Conway Twitty, and Montgomery-Gentry.

Sammy shares details about their tour. "Dave was one of the first guys that I met when I came to Nashville and over thirty years later, we put a tour together called the 'Hits and History Tour.' It's going to be a good mixture of the 80s and 90s Country. Dave's going to tell stories behind some of the hits and his history coming to Nashville and I'm going to tell the history of things that I've been through and sing the 80s and 90s hits as well as some of my original stuff."



Sammy will be writing another chapter for his book and a song and that will go with the book. "If anybody is interested in reading the story, it's through my eyes of what I lived through and everything that's gone on. Available anywhere you buy books and on Audible, or, for an autographed copy, on the website.

"It's always going to be a part of me, and a part of who I am. I didn't choose it, it chose me and there's so much more to Sammy Sadler than surviving and being a victim of a shooting. I'm still here! I've never left this business. I came to Nashville, just like any other young singer, to make music and to hopefully make a mark in music. I've never went away. I'm still here fighting and believing in what I came there so many years ago to do. I just thank God every day that I'm still here and he's gave me a voice and a talent and I've got music to be heard and a song to sing. If what I've been through can help somebody with what they are going through, I thank God that he's given me the opportunity."

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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

CELLO

By Cory Parker

Marcello Valletta has always lived at the intersection of story and sound. Under the name cello, he transforms that instinct into a body of work that feels less like music and more like a confession—raw, genre-fluid, and unafraid of emotional exposure. A singer-songwriter, poet, and seasoned actor, Valletta carries his narratives across mediums, but it is in music that they become their most unguarded. Every track he releases feels like a door cracked open, an invitation into the interior world he has spent years learning to articulate.

His creative identity was shaped long before he ever stepped into a studio. As an actor and published poet, Valletta learned to treat storytelling as survival—an anchor, a mirror, and a way to make sense of the fractures and revelations that define a life. Under the moniker cello, that instinct becomes sonic: voice as ritual, melody as reckoning, performance as release. His songs blur the line between art and admission, carried by a sound that refuses to sit neatly inside any single genre.

That ethos reaches its boldest expression yet in his upcoming LP, “Singing to Serpents,” arriving March 1, 2026. The project draws from personal mythology and emotional excavation, weaving nine tracks that explore transformation, faith, longing, and the quiet violence of growth. Rather than offering tidy resolutions, cello leans into honesty—letting the tension breathe, letting the truth stay uncomfortable, letting the listener sit with him in the dark. The album will be celebrated with a free release-show performance in Pittsburgh on March 12, a fitting setting for an artist whose work thrives on intimacy and connection.

For cello, music is not a performance of emotion - it is the practice of it. And in *Singing to Serpents*, he invites listeners into that practice with a voice that trembles, steadies, and ultimately tells the truth.




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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: Kim Carnes

By Robin Tanner

Born in Los Angeles, Kim Carnes penned her first song at the tender age of four and hasn't stopped since. Her first publishing deal, which teamed her with famed producer Jimmy Bowen, had her sharing demo-recording time with Bowen's other writers, which included future Eagles' Don Henley and Glenn Frey, as well as J.D. Souther. In 1971, Carnes sang *Nobody Knows*, written by Mike Settle, over the end credits of the road film, "Vanishing Point." Carnes also scored her first cut as a songwriter with *Sing Out for Jesus*, recorded by Big Mama Thornton for that same film.

Carnes signed with A&M Records and released a pair of albums. The second, "Sailin'" featured the American Song Festival grand prize-winning *Love Comes From Unexpected Places*, which also won 'Best Composition' at the Tokyo Song Festival and was the first of three songs she would eventually have cut by Barbra Streisand, one of which, *Make No Mistake (He's Mine)*, Carnes wrote and co-produced. In 1978, Carnes became the first artist signed to the EMI-America label and earned her first Top 40 hit, *You're a Part of Me*.

In her breakthrough year, 1980, Carnes was commissioned by Kenny Rogers to co-write the songs for his concept album, "Gideon." Their duet, *Don't Fall in Love with a Dreamer*, was a number four Pop hit, number three on the Country chart and number two on the Adult Contemporary survey. "Gideon" would go on to sell more than three million copies.

Carnes' first solo Top 10 hit followed with a sultry, soulful reworking of the Smokey Robinson classic, *More Love*. The following year, Carnes would release "Mistaken Identity," with the success of *Bette Davis Eyes*, reigning in the number one position for nine weeks. The album spent four weeks at number one in the U.S. and charted throughout the world. Meanwhile, *Bette Davis Eyes* would win a pair of Grammys for 'Record' and 'Song of the Year.'

While her place in music history was already secure, Carnes followed "Mistaken Identity" with "Voyeur," another Grammy-nominated collection that showcased her gift for both hard-charging rockers and passionate ballads. Her hitting streak, spread across the Pop and Adult Contemporary charts would continue with such tunes as *Crazy in Love*, *I Pretend*,



What About Me, *Crazy in the Night* and more. She also won her second Grammy award for *I'll Be Here Where the Heart Is* from the blockbuster movie soundtrack, "Flashdance." In 2000, she performed *Ring of Fire*, a duet with Jeff Bridges, for his film, "The Contender" and has contributed to the soundtracks of a wide variety of films, from "Spaceballs" to "Valentino: The Last Emperor."

In 1985, Carnes was among the cadre of singers who contributed vocals (as U.S.A. for Africa) to the all-star single and music video, *We Are the World*, which sold 20 million copies worldwide. In 1988, Carnes reunited with producer Jimmy Bowen and recorded "View from the House," which featured her Top 10 AC hit, *Crazy in Love*.

Continuing to perform and write songs, Carnes and family relocated to Nashville full-time in 1994. "I was making so many trips from Los Angeles to write songs with different people that it just got to the point where I needed to be there," she says. "Nashville has a great creative atmosphere. It's a small, close-knit music community that you can't find anywhere else."

It's that same sense of community that helped Carnes craft what has been one of the highlights of her professional career, the 2004 album, "Chasin' Wild Trains." The collection featured guest appearances from such notables as Kings of Leon producer Angelo, Al Anderson, Matraca Berg, Chuck Prophet, Anders Osborne, Kim Richey, among others. "It's the only album I did exactly the way I wanted," says the singer-songwriter. "Nobody told me 'no.' I did it with the help of these incredible songwriters. It was a collaborative 'love' project."

Carnes continued her songwriting credits on two number one Country songs, including, *The Heart Won't Lie*, a smash duet for Reba McEntire and Vince Gill and *Make No Mistake (She's Mine)*, recorded by Ronnie Milsap and Kenny Rogers. Carnes' Music City experience has paired her with other top tunesmiths including Kim Richey, Matraca Berg, Greg Barnhill, Al Anderson, Jeffrey Steele, Tim Nichols and Connie Harrington. Carnes' songs have been covered by Country superstar Tim McGraw, Deana Carter, Sawyer Brown, Tanya Tucker, Suzy Bogguss, Pam Tillis, and more.

In 2011, a pair of songs she wrote for (and with) the husband-and-wife duo O'Shea topped the charts in Australia. Around Nashville, you might find her sharing an "in-the-round" stage with the likes of John Hiatt, Michael McDonald, Lori McKenna, Barry Dean or any of her frequent collaborators.

She continued to take her full band out for shows, special events and TV in the U.S., Paris, Rome, Berlin, Chile, Argentina, and other destinations worldwide. "I write what I love and have always done that," she says, "I'm so lucky to be writing and performing with some of the best writers in the world. I'm having a blast."

In October 2012, American label Culture Factory reissued Carnes' "Mistaken Identity," "Voyeur" and "Cafe Racers" albums. In 2015, Carnes recorded *Under My Thumb* by The Rolling Stones for "80s Re:Covered," a conceptual compilation album featuring 80s-influenced covers of songs from the 1970s.

In the following year, Carnes featured on the track *To Be with You Again* from Frankie Miller's duets album, "Double Take." In 2021, Carnes performed at the Rheneypalooza Jam, an online concert and auction to raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis.



Carnes has enjoyed a remarkable global recording, performing, and songwriting career that has now spanned five decades. Carnes' ability to fuse heart-piercing lyrics to indelible melodies, her songs have distinguished the artist's own platinum-selling albums as well as those of her many peers. As respected Nashville music journalist Peter Cooper has noted, "Carnes' voice is a delight: Sorghum and whiskey and a howl of the heart, with phrasing that recalls Blonde on Blonde-era Dylan."

From Carnes website, "There's this whole part of what I do and what I started out doing, being a songwriter, that few people know," says Carnes. "I've always written songs, every day. That's how I started out and that's still so important to me. I'll be doing it forever."

www.kimcarnes.com



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ANANDA XENIA SHAKTI

From Punk Rebellion to Sacred Fire

There are artists who reinvent themselves. And then there are those whose lives unfold like a single flame - changing shape but never losing heat. Ananda Xenia Shakti belongs to the latter.

By Jason Airy

Long before she was leading devotional chants or guiding students through breathwork and mantra, she was immersed in the raw, defiant energy of Punk Rock. At first glance, the worlds of punk rebellion and Bhakti yoga seem irreconcilable - one loud and confrontational, the other reverent and still. But for Ananda, they were never opposites.

“I have often felt that the Punk days were like a light that was shining me forward to who I am now,” she reflects. Both paths, she explains, require the heart of a seeker. Both demand dissatisfaction with surface living. Punk shuns, disrupts, and shouts. Yoga includes, heals, and listens. Yet beneath the outer expression lies the same inner fire - the refusal to accept a life without meaning. That fire would eventually lead her into profound spiritual awakening.

Her understanding of trauma shifted dramatically when she met her first mentor. Describing herself as a “live wire,” deeply sensitive to spiritual energies, Ananda experienced something that would redefine her relationship with her own history. Without prior knowledge of concepts like cellular healing, her body began spontaneously releasing old memories when exposed to spiritual teachings.

The awakening was not frightening, it was clarifying. “Alongside the memory came the knowing of what was

happening to me,” she says. It was a doorway she didn’t know existed, one that answered lifelong questions about patterns, emotions, and choices. Trauma, she realized, is not confined to the mind. It lives in the body, in breath, in muscle, in memory. This embodied awareness would later shape her work as both musician and teacher.

Through rigorous yogic training, she immersed herself in Sanskrit chanting, sometimes for 24 hours at a stretch. The experience was transformative. The vibration of voice, sustained and intentional, created tangible healing. In that realization, performance ceased to be entertainment. It became medicine.

Determined to carry that healing into public space, she formed Love Power the Band, a musical offering built not around spectacle, but around transformation. After experiencing the potential of sound as a tool for awakening, she says, there was no other version of being a musician that interested her. Song became ceremony. Celebration became therapy.

Her spiritual path eventually led her to India, where immersion in Bhakti practice altered her understanding of suffering and forgiveness. Surrounded by visible poverty and hardship, she observed something paradoxical: some of the most materially deprived people carried radiant joy.

Suffering, she came to see, is less about circumstance and more about relationship to circumstance. In India's karmic framework, mistakes are expected, part of the soul's journey. Forgiveness is not a grand gesture, it is embedded in the understanding that everyone is here to work something out.

Yet speaking openly about her own trauma did not come easily. Ananda describes herself as both transparent and fiercely protective. Sharing her story publicly meant risking misunderstanding or judgment. Still, she believes offering one's truth is among the greatest teachings possible.

"You can't control how another will take what you say," she explains. People filter truth through their own perceptions. Some respond with compassion; others react defensively. But in the act of sharing, she discovered a deeper layer of self-love. Ultimately, our lives unfold between ourselves and Creation.

At the core of her philosophy is what she calls "the inner fire." It is not reserved for mystics or artists. It lives in everyone. "Every single person reading this now has an inner fire," she insists. The choice lies in whether we allow it to transform fear into love.

For those overwhelmed by trauma or emotional strain, her advice is disarmingly simple: begin with the breath. The rhythm of our breathing reflects our stress. Learning to slow and deepen it through yogic techniques can shift the nervous system from fight-or-flight into coherence. It costs nothing. It travels everywhere. And it gently restores balance.

To skeptics who question yoga's role in mental health, Ananda points to physiology. Trauma tightens muscles, upsets digestion, disrupts sleep, and dysregulates emotion. Yoga intentionally relaxes the body, guiding it from

sympathetic activation into parasympathetic restoration - a state where healing becomes organic and intelligent.

In her live gatherings - where mantra, movement, and music converge - she witnesses the impact firsthand. Participants leave visibly transformed, often emotional, describing joy, release, and renewed vitality. The reflections she receives affirm what she already knows: this work matters.



And when the stage is empty? When there is no audience, no role to embody? Healing, she says, now looks like trust. Trust in the Divine presence guiding each moment. More stillness. More silence. More communion with what is. Less seeking. More remembering.

The punk rebel and the devotional yogini were never separate identities. They were chapters in the same unfolding, an ongoing journey toward a life lit by sacred fire.

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NORTH AMERICA COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

Hall of Fame **CLASS OF 2026**

By Robin Tanner

The North America Country Music Association International (NACMAI) proudly announces the 2026 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, honoring six distinguished artists whose careers have made a lasting impact on Country music.

This year's inductees into the North America Country Music Hall of Fame are musical legends and storytellers, each blazing their own path on their musical journey. The impressive 2026 inductees include Dallas Wayne, The Malpass Brothers, Con Hunley, Ken Mellons, Stevie Lee Woods, and David Wills. We honor the life, music, and career of these extraordinary artists.

Co-CEO of the North American Country Music Association International (NACMAI) and CEO of the NACMAI Hall of Fame, Brian Orr, stated: "These talented individuals have made significant contributions to the Country music genre, each leaving an indelible mark on the industry. This induction ceremony is not just a celebration of their achievements but also a recognition of their dedication to the craft and their impact on aspiring artists. We look forward to honoring these remarkable musicians and celebrating their legacy in the world of Country music. Together, we will ensure that their contributions are remembered and cherished for years to come."

The ceremony will be held March 28th at 7 PM at the Country Tonite Theatre in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, nestled in the beautiful Smoky Mountains.

Past inductees include legendary artists such as Randy Travis, Mel Tillis, Marty Raybon of Shenandoah, Mark Wills, Barbara Fairchild, Leona Williams, William Lee Golden & The Golden, T. Graham Brown, Bobby G. Rice, and many others.

The North America Country Music Association, International was founded by Ms. Peggy Franks in March of 1997. Over the past 29 years, more than 135 music professionals have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. It stands as a place to honor and pay homage to the true legends of Country music while keeping the genre close to its roots. As Founder Peggy Franks states, "Without the past, there is no future." The goal remains to instill and preserve the history and sounds of Country music in the ears, minds, and hearts of today's generation.

Cashbox Magazine has partnered with NACMAI Hall of Fame for over three years. “Cashbox Magazine is proud to be part of the NACMAI Hall of Fame once again. Working with CEO Brian Orr and the NACMAI Board is always a pleasure as we join together to recognize and honor such outstanding talent,” states Cashbox Associate Editor Robin Tanner.

Dallas Wayne

Dallas Wayne has spent more than forty years chasing the sound that first stirred him as a kid in Springfield, Missouri - a sound built on truth and a lived experience. Today he’s known as a singer, songwriter, radio personality, voice-over artist, actor, and producer. But long before the titles stacked up, he was simply a young musician with a big voice and an even bigger work ethic.



He started performing professionally while still in school, cutting his teeth in clubs and dance halls before heading to Nashville. The Missouri native found his footing singing demos for major publishing companies. Dallas’s path has never been confined to one place. In the early 1990s, a European tour opened unexpected doors, leading him to sign a record deal overseas and relocate to Scandinavia. For four years he served as a staff songwriter for Warner/Chappell Music, writing daily and absorbing the rhythms of a culture far from the honky-tonks where he started.

When he returned to the United States, he signed with HighTone Records and later settled in Austin, Texas. Albums followed on the Koch Nashville and Smith Entertainment labels, each one reflecting a different chapter of his journey as an artist. He contributed to numerous compilation and band projects, including the honky-tonk supergroups Heybale! and the TwangBangers, as well as a Grammy-nominated Bluegrass album, further cementing his reputation as a versatile and deeply respected musician.

Across 13 albums, Dallas has built a catalog shaped by emotional honesty and a voice that feels both familiar and

deeply his own. His most recent release, “Coldwater, Tennessee” (2022), produced by the legendary Buddy Cannon and released on BFD/Audium Nashville with distribution via Sony Orchard, stands as one of his most personal works. The all-original collection showcases the depth of his songwriting. Before that, he paid tribute to the music that shaped him with “Songs The Jukebox Taught Me, Volumes 1 & 2” - two acclaimed collections of Classic Country songs recorded for Heart of Texas Records, featuring duets with Willie Nelson, Jeannie Seely, Darrell and Mona McCall, and Paula Nelson.

Dallas Wayne is one of the most recognizable voices on SiriusXM Radio, where he’s heard six days a week on both Willie’s Roadhouse and Outlaw Country. His radio career began in 1989, drawing on the same natural ease and authenticity that defined his work onstage. In 2005, he joined the lineup at Outlaw Country on Sirius, quickly becoming a listener favorite for his wit, deep musical knowledge, and unmistakable baritone. His presence has remained a cornerstone of the channel ever since, connecting generations of listeners to the heart of Country music.

What remains constant is the voice: rich, resonant, and rooted in the tradition he has spent a lifetime honoring. Dallas Wayne is not just part of Country music’s story, he is one of the storytellers who keeps it alive.

The Malpass Brothers

The Malpass Brothers - Chris and Taylor - stand today as modern-day troubadours, carrying forward the timeless sound of Classic Country music. Raised on their grandfather’s LP collection, they were shaped early by the close harmonies of Jim & Jesse, the Louvin Brothers, and the Wilburn Brothers, as well as the unmistakable voices of Hank Williams, Lefty Frizzell, Charley Pride, Merle Haggard, and other Country music legends.



Mentored first by steel guitar legend Don Helms and later handpicked by Merle Haggard as an opening act for seven years, the brothers have become torchbearers for traditional Country on stages across the nation.

Chris and Taylor began performing professionally at a young age, singing in churches throughout the Southeast alongside their father, Chris Malpass, Sr. Even then, they were honing a sound rooted deeply in tradition. While Taylor finished high school, Chris sharpened his songwriting skills under the guidance of Don Helms - an original member of Hank Williams' Drifting Cowboys. Not long after, Chris found himself on Merle Haggard's bus, singing for the icon who would soon invite both brothers to join him on the road. Taylor, who had been playing lead guitar in a local band, graduated and stepped immediately into the role of Haggard's opening act with his brother, a seven-year run that shaped their musical identity.

Their debut album, "Memory That Bad," was produced by Haggard and released on Hag Records in 2011. In 2015, Bluegrass Hall of Fame member Doyle Lawson produced their self-titled sophomore album on Organic Records. Two years later, they captured the energy of their live show with "Live at the Paramount."

Their most recent project, "Lonely Street" (released May 12, 2023), produced by Doyle Lawson and Ben Isaacs of the multi-Dove Award-winning and Grammy-nominated group The Isaacs, may be their strongest work yet. The 12-song collection brims with brand-new traditional Country songs that feel as though they were pulled straight from a smoke-filled jukebox of the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. Chris Malpass penned most of the material, with co-writes from Dickey Lee, Shawn Camp, Conrad Fisher, and Taylor Dunn. The album also includes standout covers such as Merle Haggard's *Love Slips Away* and Jeannie Seely's *We Don't*.

The Malpass Brothers are widely regarded as the "real deal" - artists mentored by the giants of Country and Bluegrass who continue to create new music firmly rooted in tradition. Their unwavering commitment to Classic Country has earned them respect from the industry and a devoted worldwide fan base.

The brothers made their Grand Ole Opry debut in December 2018 and have since returned to the famed circle more than a dozen times. They have headlined international tours and festivals in Ireland, Switzerland, and Scotland. Chris and Taylor have appeared on national television programs including TBN's Huckabee, RFD-TV's Country's Family Reunion, and Larry's Country Diner. Now in its third season, their own successful RFD-TV show, The Malpass Brothers Show airs on Saturday nights.

Chris and Taylor are currently on tour and have launched a new podcast called Songs, Stories and Sideroads. The Malpass Brothers will release a Gospel album this year on the Gaither label.

Con Hunley

Con Hunley grew up in the Fountain City community of Knoxville, Tennessee, where music wasn't just entertainment, it was a way of life. One of six children in a close-knit, faith-centered family, he was surrounded by Gospel harmonies from the time he could walk. Church singing,

family jam sessions, and a well-worn guitar his parents bought him at age nine became the foundation of a musical identity rooted in heart, humility, and soul. Those early years taught him how music could comfort, uplift, and connect - truths that would define his career.



After serving in the U.S. Air Force, Hunley returned home and began performing in Knoxville clubs. His smooth, soulful delivery quickly caught the attention of industry leaders, setting the stage for a breakout run through the late 1970s and 1980s. In 1979, he earned a nomination for 'Top New Male Vocalist' at the Academy of Country Music Awards, a sign of the momentum building around his rising career.

Hunley soon became one of Country music's most distinctive voices, delivering a string of Top 10 and Top 20 hits including *You've Still Got a Place in My Heart*, *No Relief in Sight*, and *Week-End Friend*. His blend of Country, Gospel, and blue-eyed Soul earned him national acclaim and a devoted fan base, solidifying his reputation as one of the genre's most respected vocal stylists.

When he stepped away from recording for a season, Hunley poured his energy into a successful business career, yet the pull of music never left him. Guided by faith and a renewed sense of purpose, he returned to the stage with fresh recordings, high-profile performances, and the unmistakable voice that had made him a favorite across East Tennessee and beyond.

Today, Con Hunley remains deeply connected to his Knoxville roots, his faith, and the fans who have followed him for decades. His recordings continue to resonate with listeners who appreciate heartfelt storytelling and timeless vocal artistry. He still makes select appearances, stays active in his community, and maintains a warm presence through his official platforms, carrying forward the same humility, soul, and sincerity that have defined his life's work.

Ken Mellons

Ken Mellons was born in Kingsport, Tennessee, and grew into one of Country music's most recognizable torchbearers for classic honky-tonk. Raised in Nashville, he absorbed the sounds of George Jones, Merle Haggard, Lefty Frizzell, and Keith Whitley - artists whose influence would later shape his unmistakable baritone and heartfelt storytelling.

He began performing in high school talent contests and local clubs, quickly earning a reputation for his rich voice and emotional delivery. By the late 1980s, his talent landed him a regular spot at Nashville's Opryland USA theme park, a proving ground for many rising Country performers.

His breakthrough arrived in 1994 with his self-titled debut album, "Ken Mellons." The record featured *Jukebox Junkie*, a boot-stomping ode to heartbreak and neon-lit nights that climbed into the Top 10 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs chart. At a time when Country music was leaning increasingly Pop, Mellons stood firmly in the tradition of steel guitars, fiddles, and raw emotion. He followed his debut with a run of 1990s fan favorites, including: *I Can Bring Her Back*, *Rubba Dubbin'*, *Lookin' in the Same Direction*, and *Workin' for the Weekend*.



Throughout his career, Mellons remained devoted to the roots of Country music. His songs explored everyday struggles, love, loss, and redemption with sincerity and grit. In 2004, he released the independent album "Sweet," which included *Paint Me a Birmingham*. Though Tracy Lawrence later turned the song into a major hit, Mellons' original recording is still admired for its emotional depth and vocal honesty.

Beyond his own albums, Mellons has contributed to Nashville as a respected songwriter. His work has been recorded by artists such as George Strait and Dierks Bentley, further cementing his quiet but enduring influence on the genre. Over the years, he has continued to write, record, and perform, building a lasting legacy rooted in traditional Country and honky-tonk music.

Stevie Lee Woods

Stevie Lee Woods is a seasoned Country music artist whose career spans decades of hit records, powerhouse performances, and national television appearances. A native of Bluefield, Virginia, he grew up in a musically gifted family that helped shape his unmistakable sound and stage presence. Woods broke into the Nashville scene in the early 1990s, quickly earning attention for his dynamic vocals and heartfelt delivery.



He rose to national prominence with charting singles such as *Is There Anything Left*, showcasing both his range and his ability to connect with audiences. His high-energy live shows became a signature calling card, earning him a loyal fan base and steady demand on stages across the country.

Beyond the recording studio, Woods is the star of Nashville Roadhouse Live, a hit Branson, Missouri production celebrated for its blend of music, comedy, and rotating guest stars. The show highlights his versatility, charisma, and award-winning stage presence - qualities that have made him a fixture in Country entertainment.

With his Southern charm, strong vocals, and enduring work ethic, Stevie Lee Woods continues to captivate audiences and remain a vibrant force in the ever-evolving landscape of Country music.

David Wills

David Wills was born in Pulaski, Tennessee. His musical journey began early when he joined Frank Speer's local Rock-and-Roll band, The Dynamic Downbeats, performing at school dances and community gatherings around Pulaski. A defining moment came when he entered a talent contest in Lakeland, Tennessee, where he met Sy Rosenberg - manager of Charlie Rich - who offered him a contract with Epic Records on the spot.

Between 1974 and 1988, Wills charted twenty-one singles as a recording artist, including the 1975 Top 10 hits *There's a Song on the Jukebox* and *Barrooms to Bedrooms*. His work

as both an artist and a writer quickly established him as a respected creative force in Music City.

Wills also became a prolific songwriter for the Charley Pride Music Group, contributing to some of the most memorable songs in modern Country music. His songwriting catalog includes *If You're Thinking You Want a Stranger (There's One Coming Home)* - co-written with Blake Mevis for George Strait, which climbed to No. 3 on the U.S. Country Charts in 1981. He went on to co-write *Leona* with Bill Shore for Sawyer Brown, a Top 20 hit in 1984, and *Charlotte's in North Carolina* for Keith Whitley, written alongside Blake Mevis, Dean Dillon, and Kent Robbins that same year. In 1986, he co-wrote John Schneider's chart-topping *You're the Last Thing I Needed Tonight*, further cementing his reputation as a writer of emotional depth and commercial appeal. His songwriting legacy continued into the next decade with *Wild Horses*, co-written with Bill Shore for Garth Brooks' landmark "No Fences" album. When the song was released as a single in 2000, it reached No. 7 on the U.S. Country Charts, contributing to an album that has sold more than 23 million copies.

Over five decades, he has made a lasting impact on Country music as both an artist and a songwriter, connecting generations while remaining grounded in the East Tennessee roots that shaped him.



In the spring of 2025, Wills began work on his third album with Tugalo Records of Royston, Georgia. Titled "Way Too Much Fun," the project features a heartfelt military tribute called *Honor Bound*, a maritime-themed love song titled *No Anchors*, and a celebration of rustic outdoor living called *Unplugged*.

For more information on the North America Country Music Hall of Fame visit their website at www.nacmai.org.



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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

ALEX KRAWCZYK

Staff, Cashbox

Alex Krawczyk is a Canadian singer-songwriter from Toronto whose deeply personal, Folk-inflected music has earned growing recognition for its emotional honesty, spiritual depth, and gentle resilience. She emerged onto the Folk music scene in 2022 with her debut album, "Le Olam."

Her newest album, "Wonders Await," co-written with frequent collaborator Robbie Roth, is a poignant tribute to the spirit of unity and healing through music. Through her music, Alex strives to create an emotional discourse that beckons her listeners to contemplate different aspects of life. From grief and loss to love and new beginnings, Alex's music takes listeners on an emotional journey that ultimately helps them feel uplifted.



A nurse and community builder, Alex turned to songwriting and recording as a way to process her grief following the traumatic loss of her parents. When she's not working on her music, Alex devotes much of her time to her two charitable foundations, the Krawczyk Family Foundation and the Honey & Barry Sherman Legacy Foundation.

Alex's work has also earned her industry recognition. She was nominated for a Josie Award and as Best New/Emerging Artist at the Canadian Folk Music Awards (CFMAs) - a nod to her rising impact in the Folk community. She continues to write and record new music, sharing her journey of hope and healing through song.

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STEVIE WONDER

By Robin Tanner

Born in Saginaw, Michigan in 1950, Stevie Wonder became blind shortly after birth. He learned to play the harmonica, piano, and drums by age nine. By the time he was ten, his singing and other musical skills were known throughout his neighborhood, and when the family moved to Detroit, impressed adults made his talents known to the owners of Motown Records, who gave him a recording contract when he was age twelve.

His early hits included *Fingertips*, *Uptight (Everything's All Right)* *For Once in My Life*, *My Cherie Amour*, *Signed, Sealed, Delivered, I'm Yours*, and *If You Really Love Me*. He undertook the study of classical piano, and later, music theory, and beginning in 1967, he began writing more of his own material. In the early 1970s, Wonder toured with the Rolling Stones and had major hits with the songs *Superstition* and *You are the Sunshine of My Life*.

In the mid-70s, his album "Songs in the Key of Life" topped the charts for fourteen weeks. Over the years, Stevie Wonder has garnered 25 Grammy Awards, as well as the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 1996. He collected an Academy Award for the 1984 hit *I Just Called to Say I Love You* from the film *The Woman in Red*. In 1989, he was inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame. In 1999, Stevie became the youngest honoree of the Kennedy Center Honors. He was inducted into the Songwriters' Hall of Fame in 1983, and in 2004 he won the Johnny Mercer Award in recognition of a lifetime of outstanding creative work.

In 2005, the Library of Congress added Stevie Wonder's 1976 double album "Songs in the Key of Life" to the National Recording Registry, which recognizes recordings that are "culturally, historically or aesthetically important, and/or inform or reflect life in the United States."



In August 2024, Wonder took the stage at the Democratic National Convention where he played his inimitable hit *Higher Ground*, from 1973's "Innervisions." Prior to performing, Wonder gave a keynote address at the event.

"This year I pray very hard for peace to come to our world's nations," Wonder said in his speech. "But, also, to each one of our hearts, even though our hearts have been beaten and broken. Beyond prayer, I know the importance of action, and now is the time to understand where we are, and what it will take to win."

He added: "We must keep on keepin' on, until we truly are a united people of these United States. And then we will reach a higher ground."

Released in 2024, Stevie's current single is *Can We Fix Our Nation's Broken Heart?* The song is a call for unity and empathy.



Ethan Lake

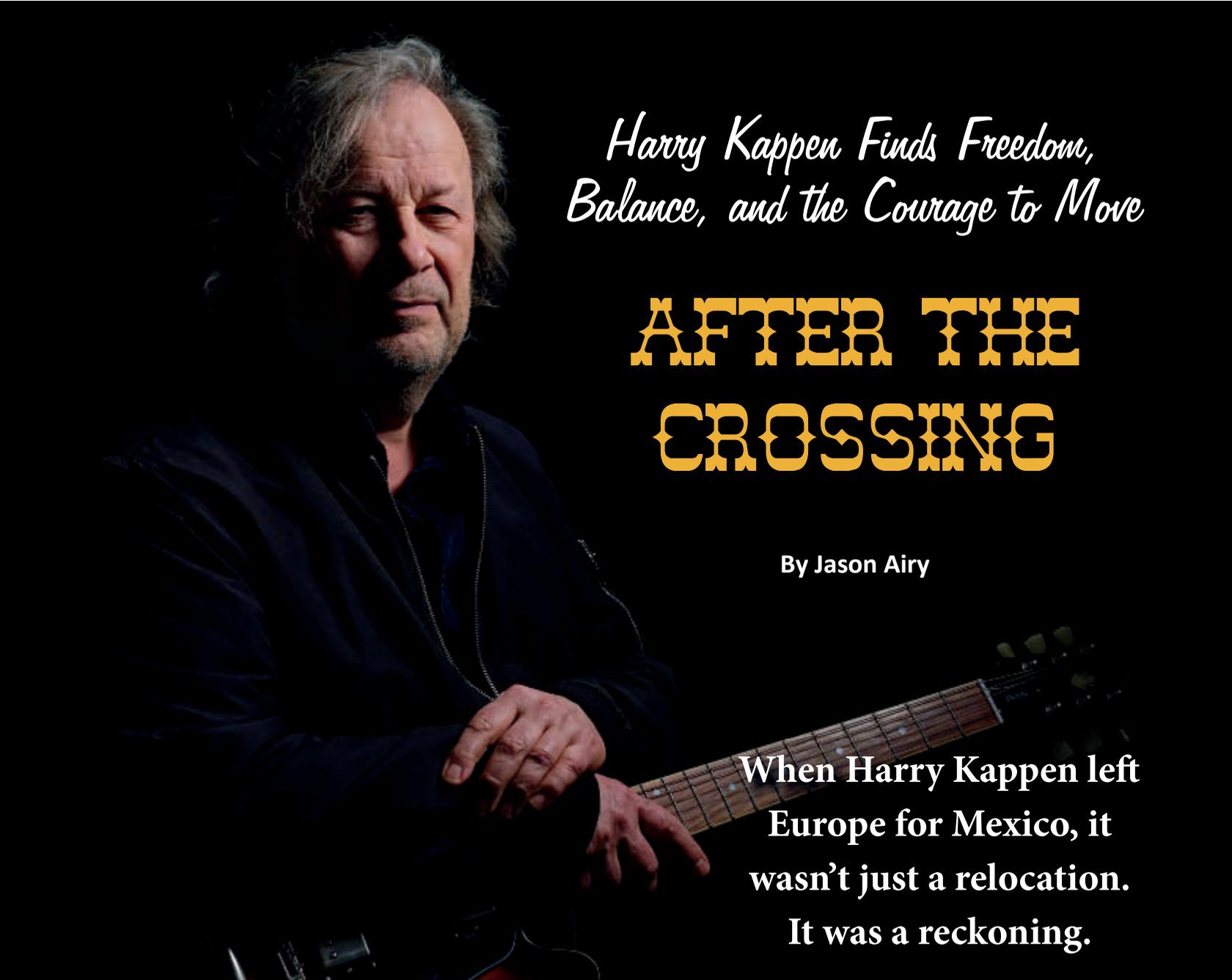
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*Harry Kappen Finds Freedom,
Balance, and the Courage to Move*

AFTER THE CROSSING

By Jason Airy

When Harry Kappen left Europe for Mexico, it wasn't just a relocation. It was a reckoning.

The Dutch musician, therapist, and songwriter had built a life across decades - family, friends, professional identity - all rooted in familiar soil. Crossing the ocean meant more than geography; it meant confronting attachment, culture shock, and the quiet ache of distance. Yet, for Kappen, the emotional reality arrived immediately. He knew he would miss his son, his sisters, and the rhythm of Dutch life. At the same time, he recognized the strange gift of modern connection. Technology would keep conversations flowing. Love would stretch across time zones. And living under the same roof as his wife, after years of distance, would make the sacrifice worthwhile.

"After the Crossing," his latest album, is the sound of that upheaval settling into clarity. Recorded and produced almost entirely by Kappen himself, it is a deeply personal document: ten songs shaped by migration, maturity, and reflection.

The album's centerpiece, *Balance*, feels especially urgent. In it, Kappen addresses a world split between extremes, arguing for the strength of the gray middle ground. While outrage dominates headlines and online discourse, he believes the majority of people reside in a quieter center where compromise and democracy still matter. He doesn't worry about being misunderstood by those shouting from either end of the spectrum. What concerns him more is that the middle often stays silent. *Balance* is less a political slogan than a plea: enter the conversation, bring reason, and find common ground.

That instinct toward understanding is no accident. Kappen has spent more than 20 years as a music therapist, working with young people to uncover the roots of their pain. Through improvisation and reflection, he helps clients surface subconscious emotions and reshape harmful patterns. That process, he admits, has shaped him just as profoundly. After two decades of sitting with other people's suffering, he has

gained sharper insight into his own frustrations and motivations. The result is songwriting that feels grounded, observant, and emotionally literate. His music doesn't dramatize pain, it studies it.

Nowhere is that perspective more evident than in *Distant Shore*, a haunting meditation on the refugee experience. Kappen's own relocation was voluntary, even privileged. Watching global crises unfold in the news forced him to confront the stark difference between choosing to move and being forced to flee. He speaks with admiration of those who risk everything for safety and a future for their children. The song is not performative empathy; it is a recognition of luxury, courage, and the tragedy of suspicion that refugees often face. It has become one of his favorite tracks on the album, and a likely single.

Despite the album's thematic weight, "After the Crossing" is not heavy-handed. There are love songs - radiant, steady, and unembarrassed in their devotion. Tracks like *We're Going to the Max* and *While Life's Rushing By* are tributes to the woman for whom he crossed continents. For Kappen, commitment was never complicated. When he met his wife, the love was immediate and undeniable. The ocean between them was an obstacle of logistics, not of feeling. The crossing, then, became inevitable.

That sense of inevitability extends to his creative process. Playing and producing nearly every note himself was not about control, it was about freedom. Freedom to shape each

song without compromise. Freedom to embrace imperfection. Freedom to be vulnerable without filtering his instincts through market calculations. Commercial pressure, he laughs, is foreign to him. Art, for Kappen, must reflect truth plainly. Facts are not negotiable. Emotion is not packaging.

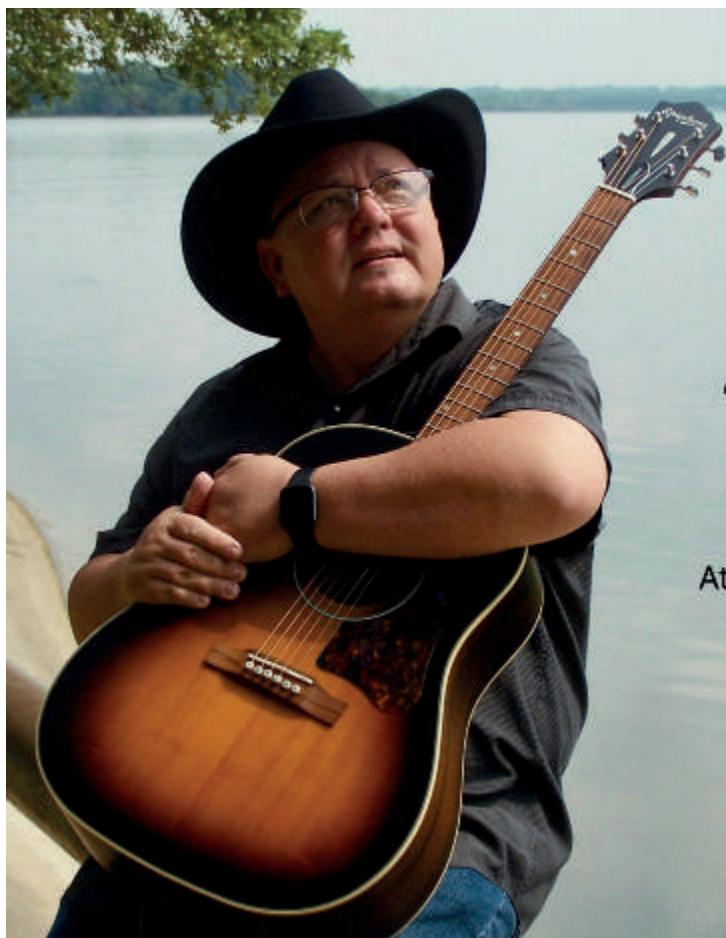
His skepticism of image culture surfaces in songs critiquing ego, distortion, and "plastic smiles." In an industry often driven by branding, Kappen remains deliberately grounded. He sees himself less as a player in "the music business" and more as an observer translating the world into sound. Art, he believes, is a mirror for the times - and he intends to hold it steady.

The album closes with *Now*, a meditation on time's fragility. At this stage of life, "now" is not urgency, it is presence. It is breathing. It is choosing or choosing not to. It is making music without obsessing over career trajectory. It is meeting the world moment by moment.

Ultimately, "After the Crossing" is not just about relocation. It is about movement itself. "Change always comes from movement, never from stagnation," Kappen says. Begin moving, and the world shifts around you.

The album invites listeners to feel many things - comfort, challenge, reassurance - but above all, courage. The courage to step into the gray. The courage to love without reservation. The courage to cross whatever ocean lies before them.

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Todd Lee

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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	9	Who Was I	Jeremy Parsons	MTS Records
2	14	Saving Grace	Briscoe	ATO Records
3	3	Back At The Start	Patty Griffin	PGM/Thirty Tigers
4	8	Time Well Spent For A Man	Jesse Daniel(Feat.Charles Wesley Godwin)	Lightning Red Records/Thirty Tigers
5	17	Wreck	Neko Case	Anti Records
6	22	Mountain Daughter	Presley Haile	Columbia Records
7	15	Already Miss You	John Michael Ferrari	Millennium Music Group
8	12	Rabbit	Cactus Lee	Western Vinyl
9	28	Dark Stretch Of Road	Midnight Sky	MTS Records
10	26	Read'Em And Weep	Dallas Burrow(Feat.Ray Wylie Hubbard)	Forty Below Records
11	18	Borrow My Boots	Tami Neilson ft. Ashley McBryde, Grace Bowers & Shelly Fairchild	Outside Music
12	5	Resurrection Road	John Cowan & Andrea Zonn Are The Herculeons	True Lonesome Records
13	24	Hey Ah Nothin'	John Prine	Oh Boy Records
14	25	Voodoo Charm	Christone Kingfish Ingram	RedZero Records
15	20	Memphis Whiskey Blues	Cory M. Coons	MTS Records
16	34	Poison In My Well	Maggie Rose & Grace Porter	One Riot Music
17	30	One Ray Of Shine	Alison Krauss & Union Station	Down The Road Records
18	35	Daisy	Marfa	Ascend Music
19	1	Hear My Call	Cristina Vane ft. Molly Tuttle	Blue Tip Records
20	58	Bring Me A Flower	Baldy Crawlers	MTS Records
21	33	I Was Never Yours	Karin Ann	3am Records
22	37	One Shot Away	Micky & The Motorcars	Micky & The Motocars Music
23	46	Reading Your Text	Pam Ross	MTS Records
24	39	Find It Where I Can	Sunny Sweeney	Aunt Daddy/Thirty Tigers
25	45	Can't Please Em All	The Band Loula	Warner Records/Red Light
26	4	Trampoline	The Shootouts ft. Lindsay Lou	Transoceanic Records
27	50	Rock N Roll	Langhorne Slim	Dualtone/MNRK
28	10	Better Angels	Pete Price	MTS Records
29	38	Cold At Night	The Mountain Goats	Cadmean Dawn/Thirty Tigers
30	11	Bad Feelin'	Brent Cobb & The Fixin's	Ol' Buddy Records/Thirty Tigers
31	29	Life By The Numbers	Noble Hops ft. Miss Freddy	MTS Records
32	40	Dumpster Diving	Brennen Leigh	Signature Sounds
33	19	Love Through Sound	Alex Krawczyk	MTS Records
34	16	High Country	Jason Scott & The High Heat	Leo33
35	6	I'm Alright	Johnnyswim	Mr And Mrs LLC
36	32	It's Time Lord	Eddy Mann	MTS Records
37	73	The World's Gone Wrong	Lucinda Williams(Featuring Brittney Spencer)	Highway 20 Records/Thirty Tigers
38	44	Pretty Much	Lukas Nelson	6 Ace Records/Sony Music Nashville
39	51	Dat Ain't Right	Melissa Carper & Theo Lawrence	Bee & El / Warner Records
40	43	You Don't Have To Stand	Ken Holt	MTS Records
41	63	Rubber Band Man(With Hozier)	Mumford & Sons	GOTR/Columbia/Glassnote
42	56	Ain't No Grave	The Curse Of KK Hammond	MTS Records
43	71	Division	West Texas Exiles	Floating Mesa Records
44	70	Heartlands	Marcus King	Republic Records
45	61	Bitin' List	Tyler Childers	Hickman Holler Records/RCA Records
46	55	Sis Draper	Shawn Camp	Truly Handmade Records
47	65	Mockingbird	Larkin Poe	Tricki-Woo Records
48	62	Human	Brandi Carlile	Interscope/Lost Highway
49	54	Effortless	Caroline Spence	Tone Tree Music
50	2	Elegantly Wasted	Hermanos Gutierrez Feat. Leon Bridges	Easy Eye Sound/Concord

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CASHBOX music charts

MARCH 2026 Americana Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	42	I Don't Care	Kelly Willis	Hummin' Bird Records
52	23	The Others	Cody Jinks	Late August Records/Red Light
53	76	Ain't No Crime	Paul Cauthen	Velvet Rose Records/Thirty Tigers
54	66	Boom	Sierra Hull	Sierra Hull Music LLC
55	47	American Rose	Digney Fignus	MTS Records
56	95	Never Gonna Let You Go	Drew & Ellie Holcomb	Magnolia Music
57	59	The Highway Knows	Molly Tuttle	Nonesuch
58	68	Fire Sign	S.G. Goodman	Slough Water Records/Thirty Tigers
59	57	Sometimes	The Wildmans	New West Records
60	79	Honeydew(No Light)	Josh Ritter	Pytheas Records /Thirty Tigers
61	31	Puff Of Smoke	The Wood Brothers	Honey Jar / Thirty Tigers
62	74	Eternal Love	Avtt / Pttt	Ramseur Records/Ipecac/Thirty Tigers
63	37	You Ain't Gotta Die (To Be Dead To Me)	Kaitlin Butts	Kaitlin Butts/Soundly
64	82	Fall Moon	St.Paul & The Broken Bones	Oasis Pizza Records/Thirty Tigers
65	60	Work Is Work	Willi Carlisle	Signature Sounds
66	80	When The Truth Comes Out	Kathleen Edwards	Dualtone/MNRK
67	64	The Candy Wrapper	Bob Augustine	MTS Records
68	36	Hard Heart To Hold	Grayson Jenkins	Covered Bridge Creative
69	84	Boogie Woogie Tennessee	Joshua Hedley	New West Records
70	49	Where Did I Go Wrong	Crowe Boys	EMI Records Nashville (UMGN)
71	77	Taking Flight	Rodney Crowell Feat. Ashley McBryde	New West Records
72	97	Human Mind	Mavis Staples	Anti
73	83	Another Dimension	Daniel Donato & Elle King	Retrace Music/Red Light Management
74	86	El Cortez	Natalie Del Carmen	Torrez Music Group
75	88	1800 Miles	Colter Wall	La Honda/RCA Records
76	93	Pocket Change	Sophie Gault (Featuring Mando Saenz)	Torrez Music Group
77	72	Another Planet	Will Hoge	EDLO Records
78	78	Believe	Kashus Culpepper	Big Loud Records
79	89	Simple Side Of Me	Nicki Bluhm	Little Sur Records
80	100	While We Still Have A Chance	Todd Snider	Lightning Rod Records/Thirty Tigers
81	53	We're Only Human	Hayes Carll	Highway 87 Records/ Thirty Tigers
82	--	Flowers On The Dash	William Prince	Six Shooter Records
83	96	If She's Lonely	John Hollier & The Reverie	WhollyABar/Thirty Tigers
84	--	Like The Passing Clouds	Alex Krawczyk	MTS Records
85	90	The Cowboy (Small Texas Town)	Waylon Jennings	Son Of Jessi/Thirty Tigers
86	87	On My Own	Jon Nolan & Good Co.	Strolling Bones Records/New West Records
87	67	Should I Go Missing	Jason Isbell	Southeastern Records / Thirty Tigers
88	91	Piece Of Mind	Amanda Shires	ATO Records
89	94	Big Money	Jon Batiste	Verve/Interscope
90	92	Keeper	Courtney Marie Andrews	Loose Future Records/Thirty Tigers
91	--	Boy	Baldy Crawlers	MTS Records
92	69	Before You Hit The Ground	Dean Johnson	Saddle Creek
93	99	This Little Heart	Ramona And The Holy Smokes	Ramona Martinez and The Holy Smokes Music
94	--	Paradise Road	Clover County	Undercover Lover Records /Thirty Tigers
95	98	Who's That	Brother Wallace	ATO Records
96	85	Spitfire	Cliff & Susan	MTS Records
97	--	Cowboy Dreams	Boy Golden (Featuring Cat Clyde)	Six Shooter Records
98	--	Returning To Myself	Brandi Carlile	Interscope /Lost Highway
99	--	Dirtbag Saloon	Emily Scott Robinson	Oh Boy Records
100	--	It's Alright	Sons Of The East	Metropolitan Groove Merchants



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	8	Come Jesus Come	CeCe Winans & Cody Johnson	Pure Springs/Fair Trade
2	3	Do It Again	Kirk Franklin	Fo Yo Soul /RCA Inspiration
3	9	I Prayed For You	Major	Mnrk
4	7	Work It Out For Me	Zacardi Cortez	Blacksmoke
5	12	Trust And Obey	Erica Campbell	My Block/MNRK
6	--	The Light	Jor'dan Armstrong	Jor'da Armstrong/LKG
7	18	Still Knocking	100 A.K.A. The Messenger	Mpact
8	19	Your Glory 2 C U	Earnest Pugh	Black Smoke
9	13	Peace In The Valley	Lil Blair & The Fantastic Violinaires	Millennium Music Group
10	6	Let The Church Sing	Tauren Wells	Sparrow/Capitol CMG
11	1	Grateful (ft. Fridayy)	Dante Bowe	True/Motown Gospel
12	24	Church Parking Lot	Otis Kemp	Motown Gospel
13	17	In The Room	Mr.Jae Tyson	Wilson
14	--	Nobody But Jesus	Josh Copeland	RNU/Anointed
15	2	He's Alive	Keith Mitchell	Kemitc
16	28	I'm In A Change	Mack Holland	Octiive
17	29	Live Breathe Fight	Tamela Mann	TillyMann
18	33	Unspoken	Jackee H	Musgrove
19	22	Make A Way	Vashawn Mitchell	Fair Trade / Columbia
20	21	Right On Time	Fantastic Spiritual Voices	VSC Promotions
21	26	I Can Count On You	The Group Fire	Jet North / East
22	31	God Getting Your Attention	Keith McKinney	Grace Records Nashville
23	27	Church Medley	John P. Kee	Kee/Tyscot
24	34	Give You All My Worship (ft.Leon McCrary)	Marvin Dexter Moore	Give Me Moore/Never Stop
25	5	Searching	Anthony Reels	Anthony Reels
26	37	Working On A Building	Larry Hill	VSC Promotions
27	38	God Is Amazing	Dee Echols	VSC Promotions
28	30	God Did It	Kenny Lewis & One Voice	Puresound / Waynorth
29	32	God Don't Cancel Me	Rudy Currence	Mike Chek/TRIBL
30	15	Words	Donald Lawrence	Provident/Sony
31	39	Rescue Me	Dr Leon Thompson	VSC Promotions
32	43	Your Name	Jovonta Patton	Newton Street
33	48	I'm A Child Of The King	Micahel GI	D & D
34	--	Praise In The Choir Stand	Brent Jones	JDI
35	25	Nobody Knows	Prophet Yoshua	VSC Promotions
36	44	Somebody Touched Me	David Moore& Focused	VSC Promotions
37	42	Don't Faint	Jekalyn Carr	Waynorth
38	50	Blessings	Tanya Nolan	ArtSessionz
39	49	When I Think	Ricky Dillard	Motown / Capitol CMG
40	47	Confident	Bri Babineaux	Tyscot
41	35	All About The Love	Calvin Bridges	Millennium Music Group
44	--	God's Prodigy	Jackee H	Millennium Music Group
42	--	Lift Me Up	Blessing Offor	Sparrow/Capitol CMG
43	--	Count It All Joy	The Scotts	Patterson Music Group
45	--	On The Way	Adia	Rock City
46	--	In The Room	James Fortune	Fiya World / Mnrk
47	--	Do It Again	James Grear & Company	Blacksmoke
48	--	Vessel Or Mercy	Jennifer Gray	Grace Records Nashville
49	--	Promises	Lisa Knowles	Eworld
50	--	Church (ft. John Legend)	Tasha Cobbs Leonard	Motown / Capitol CMG



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Awards



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	21	Broken Angels	The Grascals and Dolly Parton	Mountain Home
2	4	Outrun	The Steeldrivers	SteelDrivers
3	22	That's What Kentucky Means To Me	Hammertowne	Independent Records
4	9	Amazing Grace	Tony Trischka ft. Sierra Ferrell	Down The Road
5	25	Way Back When	Larry Sparks	Rebel Records
6	15	Uncle Jake	Dale Ann Bradley	Pinycastle
7	11	The Devil's Train	Junior Sisk	Turnberry Records
8	18	The Hills Of Carter County	Southern Legacy	Pinycastle Records
9	8	She's Heavenly	Del McCoury Band	McCoury Music
10	1	North Side Gal	Alison Krauss & Union Station	Down The Road
11	17	Seth Mulder & Midnight Run	1916	Rebel
12	28	The Death Of John Henry	Daniel Grindstaff & The Uptown Troubadours w/Marty Stuart	Pinycastle
13	16	Seesaw	Etsu Pride Band	Now And Then Records
14	3	Polly's Revenge	Ralph Stanley II & The Clinch Mountain Boys	Stanley Family Music
15	29	50 Ways To Leave Your Lover	Travelin' McCoury's	McCoury Music
16	33	Just A Holler Over	Sister Sadie, The Po' Ramblin' Boys	Mountain Home
17	51	The First Time I Heard About Heaven	Cox Family	Will House Records
18	10	Big Train	Don Rigsby w/ Ronnie Reno	Rebel
19	31	Hazel Creek	Nick Chandler & Delivered	Pinycastle Records
20	39	A Different Kind Of Lonesome	Will Clark	Mountain Fever
21	34	Glory Land Is Just In Sight	Gospel Plowboys	Morning Glory
22	26	Bear Creek Clay	Pitney Meyer	Curb
23	27	The Road Back To You	Songs From The Road Band	Charles Humphrey III
24	37	One Tin Soldier	Bibelhauser Brothers with Sam Bush	Independent
25	41	Above The Clouds	Eighteen Mile	Mountain Home Records
26	49	Come On Home	Lakeside	Independent
27	6	I've Always Been A Rambler	Po' Ramblin' Boys	Sound Biscuit
28	65	Ridin' My Thumb To Mexico	Jeff Brown & Wayne Taylor	Turnberry
29	7	I'll Be Here In The Morning	David Parmley	615 Hideaway Records
30	45	What's The River Running From	Eddie Sanders	True Lonesome
31	40	Is Now The Time	Blue Highway	Down The Road
32	5	I've Got No Tears Left To Cry	Darren Nicholson	Mountain Home
33	47	Alabama Sugar	Haven Slay	Buckshot Records
34	38	1682	Shawn Lane & Richard Bennett	Bonfire
35	63	Cost Of Living	Authentic Unlimited	Edisonic
36	61	Along The Shenandoah	Crandall Creek	Copper Mountain
37	59	The Song Of The Mountains	Burnett Sisters Band	Pinycastle Records
38	53	With A Vamp In The Middle	Jason Carter and Michael Cleveland	Fiddleman
39	12	Midnight Fire	Matt Wallace	Huckleberry
40	43	Polly's Revenge	Ralph Stanley II & The Clinch Mountain Boys	Stanley Family
41	55	Mama Took Her Ring Off Yesterday	Vickie Vaughn	Mountain Home
42	60	Nora McNally	Greg Blake	Turnberry
43	42	Gulf Shore Line	Kevin Denney	Turnberry
44	13	Lining Track	Women of Kelley	Independent
45	80	No Business Mountain	Lonesome River Band	Mountain Home
46	75	Broke Down In Georgia	Kristy Cox	Billy Blue
47	90	New Cluck Old Hen (ft. Della Mae)	Alison Brown And Steve Martin	Compass
48	19	Who We Were Back Then	Ashleigh Graham and Russell Moore	Pinycastle Records
49	2	Jesus Sweet Jesus	Mark Houser & Bluegrass Drive w/ Rhonda Vincent	Mark Houser
50	72	Love Through Time	Amanda Cook	Mountain Fever



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CASHBOX music charts

MARCH 2026 Bluegrass Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	52	New Camptown Races	Deanie Richardson & Kimber Ludiker	Mountain Home Records
52	82	Love Gone Missing	JaeLee Roberts	Mountain Home
53	66	Old Rueben No. 1	Seth Mulder & Midnight Run	Rebel
54	54	I've Just Seen A Face	Val Storey	Mighty Cord
55	67	Highland Rim	Andy Leftwich	Mountain Home
56	64	Virginia Girl	Balsam Range	Mountain Home
57	30	Part Of The Burn	Elaine Roy	Grace Records Nashville
58	20	In The Circle	Kody Norris Show	Rebel
59	32	Sis Draper	Shawn Camp	Truly Handmade
60	96	Working Man Blues	Bryan Sutton W/ Doc Watson	Mountain Home
61	73	Wyatt Ellis	Choo Choo Coming	Knee High Records
62	71	More Than Tell Me	Throwdown Thursday	Mountain Fever
63	77	Country Boy Rock & Roll	Wyatt Ellis	Knee High
64	99	Bending The Iron	Nick Dumas	Skyline
65	93	My Runaway	Kenny & Amanda Smith	Farm Boy
66	94	Under Over	Chris Jones & The Night Drivers	Mountain Home
67	84	Leave A Light On	Volume Five	Mountain Fever
68	46	Come On Back	Downriver Collective	Independent
69	56	Take Your Circus On The Road	Gena Britt	Melton & Miller Music
70	86	Can't Outrun The Blues	Trey Hensley	Pinecastle
71	--	Christmas Time Back Home	High Fidelity	Rebel
72	--	Let 'Em Know I'm From Virginia	Po' Ramblin' Boys	Sound Biscuit Productions
73	95	Bully Of The Town	Benson	Mountain Home
74	--	Soldiers Of Heaven	Ashleigh Graham	Pinecastle
75	97	Working Man Blues	Infamous StringDusters	Americana Vibes
76	--	Coal Dust	Irene Kelley W/ Kruger Brothers	IRK Records
77	63	Whirlwind	Nu-Blu	Turnberry
78	92	In The Mexican Sun	Red Caramel Collective	Pinecastle
79	--	Maple On the Hill	Tony Trischka W/ Sister Sadie	Down The Road
80	--	Angels From The Realms Of Glory	Rrinaco	Rebel
81	88	You Don't Come	Big Richard	Independent
82	--	King Of Tripoli	Jeff Autry	Huckleberry
83	69	Nothing So Blue	Deeper Shade Of Blue	Turnberry
84	--	I Can Pray	Daryl Mosley	Pinecastle
85	--	Honey Babe Blues	Jason Bureson	Jason Bureson
86	83	Wagon Wheel	Rhonda Vincent	UMG
87	--	Down Life's Road	Olivia Jo	ATS
88	100	Refugee	Unspoken Tradition	Mountain Home
89	98	I'm Leavin'	Jim Hurst	Pinecastle
90	--	The Lamb, The Lion , And The King	New River Bluegrass	Sound Biscuit
91	--	Blue Skies	Buddy Melton	Melton & Miller
92	87	Come Jesus Come	Grascals	Mountain Home
93	--	The Sun Is Setting In Barrow	Milan Miller	Melton & Miller
94	--	Won't Be Long	Appalachian Road Show	Billy Blue
95	--	Everybody's Got Their Nine Pound Hammer	Ashby Frank	Mountain Home
96	81	Two Story Shack	Green River Revue	Mighty Cord
97	--	Followin' You	East Nash Grass	Mountain Fever
98	--	Truth Be Told	Sierra Hull	Sierra Hull
99	--	Let's Get Out Of Here	Alison Brown & Steve Martin	Compass
100	--	Above The Clouds	Eighteen Mile	Mountain Home



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The Pauls



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Brother Daniel

JOHAN SMYTHS



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Johan Smits (aka John Smyths) was born in March 1961 in the old town of Nijmegen and was introduced to the world of music by his parents and older brother. Although it wasn't the kind of music he liked, it was music.

When his wild years were over, he got more and more into country music and listened to Conway Twitty, Hank Williams, Waylon Jennings, Kenny Rogers, Tammy Wynette and so on. Moving to Germany, he would go to the studio regularly to record covers of some well-known country songs, even recorded three of his own songs and was on stage several times, mostly in Germany and Belgium. While he might have only started releasing music on digital platforms under the moniker John Smyths, Johan Smits has been sharing singles for years – so he's not all that much of a newbie on the scene.

Raised on a diet of Kiss, Van Halen, Iron Maiden and AC/DC, Smyths found a base in the oldschool rock scene; however, he's not afraid to saunter across different genres and found himself wading through country music with Hank Williams, Kenny Rogers and Waylon Jennings.

For 2025, John Smyths was on stage in Viechtach (Bavaria), Gerolstein, Stolberg, Wolfhagen, Nijmegen (NL) and many more. He has been awarded for his song "Loving You Makes Me A Better Man" at the Red Carpet Show International in Wageningen (NL) where he also was on stage. Another nomination was done by "the Elite Music Awards" in the States. He released his single at the end of August, called "Now I'm Wiser" which got great critics all over the world. And now getting back with "Last Night" which is a beautiful Country ballad.

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	5	Soldiers Of Heaven	Ashleigh Graham	Pinecastle
2	6	Lay 'Em Down	Benson	Mountain Home
3	9	Above The Clouds	Eighteen Mile	Mountain Home
4	15	Can't You Hear Jerusalem Moan	Hammertowne	Independent
5	26	I'll Never Feel The Fire	Tim Davis (featuring Jeff Tolbert & Josh Swiff)	Independent
6	19	There's A River	High Road	New Day Records/New Day
7	10	Blue Collar Gospel	Jerry Salley & The Oak Ridge Boys	Independent
8	18	That Sweet Land Of God Somewhere	Primitive QT	Independent
9	31	Are You Praying Hard	Gospel Plowboys	Mountain Fever Records
10	21	That Reunion	Tim Raybon Band	Independent
11	12	Come On Home	LakeSide	Independent
12	17	The News That Never Changes	King James Boys	Pinecastle Records
13	23	Good Time Get Together	Jesse Smathers	Mountain Home /Crossroads
14	24	Follow The Leader	Nick Chandler & Delivered	Pinecastle Records
15	8	Two Old Church Pews	Danny Paisley	Pinecastle Records
16	28	No Empty Chairs In Heaven	David Parmley	615 Hideaway
17	3	Jesus Sweet Jesus	Mark Houser & Bluegrass Drive w/ Rhonda Vincent	Mark Houser
18	2	More Than A Hollow Hallelujah	The Isaacs	House Of Isaacs
19	1	Build Me An Ark	Caroline Owens	Skyline Records
20	33	When I Get There	Russell Moore & Illrd Tyme Out	Independent
21	25	I've Made It Home	Shelton & Williams	Turnberry Records
22	34	Child Of The King	Daniel Grindstaff	Pinecastle Records
23	44	Memories Of Mother	Junior Sisk with Ricky Skaggs	Mountain Fever
24	29	In Spite Of My Yesterday	The Kapples	SGH Promotions
25	7	Jesus Satisfies	Danny Roberts	Independent
26	30	Rock Pile	Dave Adkins	Billy Blue Records/New Day
27	39	On The Battlefield For My Lord	Larry Sparks	Rebel
28	50	These Old Burdens	Williamson Branch	Pinecastle
29	35	When Jesus Calls My Name	Don Rigsby	RBR
30	32	How Can You Refuse Him Now	Rhonda Vincent	Upper Management
31	45	Heaven Is Your Hometown	Wilson Banjo Company	Pinecastle
32	41	Master Carpenter	Lincoln Mash & Heather Alley	ASMR Grass Records
33	13	I Need Jesus	Carson Peters & Iron Mountain	Billy Blue Records/New Day
34	43	Call On Him	Eagle's Wings	Independent
35	40	He's Gone	Jaelee Roberts w/ Ricky Skaggs, Sharon & Cheryl White	Mountain Home
36	4	Jordan	Darin & Broooke Aldridge w/ Ricky Skaggs, Mo Pitney, Mark Fain	Independent
37	11	My Lord Is Taking Me Away	High Fidelity	Independent
38	48	Even Better When You Listen	Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers	Billy Blue
39	--	In The Shadow Of The Cross	Right Side	Independent
40	49	No One But Jesus Can	Kristy Cox (with The Blackwood Brothers)	Billy Blue Records / New Day
41	--	I Can Pray	Daryl Mosley	Pinecastle
42	47	Little White Church	Crandall Creek	Copper Mountain
43	--	There Is A Rock	High Road	New Day Records/New Day
44	--	I Am The One	Jeff Tolbert & Primitive Road	Independent
45	--	I Found It All In The Blood	Bama Blu-Grace	FMG Bluegrass
46	--	I'm Just A Nobody	Eric Horner	Sermon Song Records
47	--	The Lamb, The Lion , And The King	New River Bluegrass	Sound Biscuit
48	--	That Eternal Home	Eagle's Wings	Independent
49	--	Angels From The Realms Of Glory	Rrinaco	Rebel
50	--	The Outlaw (feat. Becky Isaacs Bowman)	Becky Buller	Dark Shadow



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	10	It's Never Too Late	Chuck Hancock	Canyon Creek Records
2	5	God Talks To Me	Dawson Road	Nashville Christian Country
3	3	Hallelujah	Dust and Grace	MTS Records
4	8	Mama's Old Chest Of Drawers	Marvin Harrell	Millennium Music Group
5	17	If That Ain't True Love	Melanie Walker	Canyon Creek Records
6	9	Anyway	The Pauls	Canyon Creek Records
7	16	Country Sinner	Victoria Steelman	Millennium Music Group
8	6	Just Me	John Penney	Millennium Music Group
9	12	Living Proof	Ken & Kim Stull	Nashville Christian Country
10	20	I Saw A Miracle Today	Michael Ray Fain	Grace Records Nashville
11	4	You Can't Box Me In	Fortner Brothers	Nashville Christian Country
12	22	New Man	Chuck Day	Millennium Music Group
13	15	Greatly To Be Praised	Melissa Evans	Millennium Music Group
14	14	Hand In Heaven	The Murphys	Canyon Creek Records
15	1	Through Christ	Jimmy R Price	Canyon Creek Records
16	30	Blood Bought Cowboy	Marty Deroche	Nashville Christian Country
17	26	Get Out Of The Boat	Felicia Deramus Paul	Canyon Creek Records
18	27	Back Pew Prayer	Woodie Kitchen	Nashville Christian Country
19	23	Pushing You Away	Mike McAdoo	Canyon Creek Records
20	19	Waiting In The Water	Debbie Mills	Millennium Music Group
21	21	Even When I Fall	Thomas Brown	Canyon Creek Records
22	7	You Can Call On Him	Aaron Partridge and Steve Apirana	Grace Records Nashville
23	38	Everything You Do	Norman Lee Schaffer	Millennium Music Group
24	28	Say Hello To Heaven	Steve Warren	Millennium Music Group
25	11	When Love Arose	Joy LaVallee	Canyon Creek Records
26	33	I've Been Thinking	Waymasters	Millennium Music Group
27	29	Daddy's Hat	Debra Camp	Millennium Music Group
28	41	Shout Of Testimony	Mike Leichner	Canyon Creek Records
29	2	Here's My Heart	Scott Peacock	Millennium Music Group
30	87	Three Nails And A Cross	George Strait	MCA Records
31	36	In Times Like These	Bruce and Betsy Mullen	Millennium Music Group
32	13	Looking In The Rearview	Daryl Baker	Millennium Music Group
33	47	Preachers In Hell	Troy Ervin	Nashville Christian Country
34	24	That's When God Moves	David Timms	MMG /Straight Arrow Records
35	64	It's Time, Lord	Eddy Mann	MTS Records
36	44	Hannah Whooped The Devil	Jason Welch	Nashville Christian Country
37	37	Where Are You Now	Ken Mobley	New Beginnings Music Group
38	39	Footsteps Of My King	Todd Lee	Canyon Creek Records
39	48	My Everything	Tarrance Phillips	Millennium Music Group
40	18	Father To The Fatherless	Jim Sheldon	Millennium Music Group
41	51	He Made It All	Dust And Grace	MTS Records
42	54	God Don't Waste The Hurt	Gary Russ	Nashville Christian Country
43	49	My God Can	Valerie Ellis Hawkins	Canyon Creek Records
44	66	Honey In The Rock	Mary James	Canyon Creek Records
45	58	If That Isn't Love	Bruce Minchey	Canyon Creek Records
46	52	In The Morning	Hunter Logan	Canyon Creek Records
47	46	It'll Be Good To Be Home	The Journeys	Canyon Creek Records
48	60	What I Got (La-De-Da)	Caleb Deramus	Canyon Creek Records
49	57	Wish You Were Here	Johnathan Bond	Canyon Creek Records
50	31	My Home In Glory Land	Beverly Brown Simms	Millennium Music Group



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	53	Take Over Me	Rex Robards	Canyon Creek Records
52	59	Footprints In The Sand	Dwight Sanders	SGH Promotions
53	--	Make Heaven Crowded	Cole Swindle	CDX Records
54	25	Wake Up Call	Cyndi Reynolds	Canyon Creek Records
55	34	Lighthouse In The Harbor	Gina White	Canyon Creek Records
56	92	Why Me Lord	Richard Lynch	MTS Records
57	40	Bucket List	Daniel Wheeler	Nashville Christian Country
58	61	Your The Man	Judy Bailey	Canyon Creek Records
59	63	If I Know Him	Kevin Kappler	Nashville Christian Country
60	68	Why Me	Jenny Dean	Grace Records Nashville
61	--	Blessings	Steven Paul McCollum	MC 1 Nashville
62	35	Somebody's Praying	Michael Knight	Canyon Creek Records
63	69	Somebody Bigger Than You And I	David Smith	Millennium Music Group
64	42	When I Saw You There	Eternal Vision	Millennium Music Group
65	98	Give It All You've Got	Steve Anthony	CDX Records
66	89	Man From Galilee	Jennifer Sides	Canyon Creek Records
67	70	Meanwhile Back At The Cross	Ron Hemphill	Millennium Music Group
68	72	The Most Perfect Gift	Clare Cunningham	Canyon Creek Records
69	73	No Thought To Pray	Jerry Weatherly	Millennium Music Group
70	84	He Lives	Ed Bruce	Canyon Creek Records
71	88	Warrior Of God	Mark Umfleet	Millennium Music Group
72	83	Love Like Jesus Does	Aaron Justice	Canyon Creek Records
73	43	Always Enough	Dale Rochell	Millennium Music Group
74	71	You Can Talk To The Father	Richard Strong	New Beginnings Music Group
75	56	One Of These Days	Carol Barham	Millennium Music Group
76	74	Country Church	Claude Davis	Millennium Music Group
77	97	Walking Out Of Egypt	One Voice	New Beginnings Music Group
78	79	Don't Cry For Me	Teresa Johnson	Canyon Creek Records
79	82	I Feel Knew	J'Lee	Canyon Creek Records
80	80	The Way You Do	Michael Walsh	New Beginnings Music Group
81	86	What I Don't Know	Paula Slow	MC 1 Nashville
82	45	Get On Board	Carl Ray	Sucarnochee Records
83	94	Picture This	Jessie Ritchie	MMG/New Beginning Music Group
84	91	That's The Least That I Can Do	Greg Marlow	Canyon Creek Records
85	85	Find Your Way Back Home	LizzyG	Grace Records Nashville
86	77	Gravel Gospel	Shellem Cline	Red Country Records
87	95	Tell Me That There Ain't A God	Jon Brennan	CDX Records
88	--	Let Me tell Ya' Bout My Faith	Kali Rose	Canyon Creek Records
89	93	Saving Grace	Krystina B	CDX Records
90	90	The Crossroads	Richard Sprayberry	Canyon Creek Records
91	96	God's Great	The Messengers	SGH Promotions
92	--	Jesus Is The Way	Rachel Taylor	Millennium Music Group
93	99	Build Me An Ark	Caroline Owens	Skyline Music
94	--	When I Hear His Name	Victoria Steelman	Millennium Music Group
95	100	Brothers And Sisters	Ken Lehning	American Windsong Music
96	--	Cherished Memories	Jeff Hamilton	New Beginnings Music Group
97	--	Someday Things Are Gonna Get Better	Johnny Jones	Millennium Music Group
98	--	Jesus Is The King	Ken Mobley	New Beginnings Music Group
99	--	This One's For You	Rocky and Tammie Smith	Grace Records Nashville
100	--	God Is Good Ya'll	Wings of Love	New Beginnings Music Group

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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	3	I Prayed For You	Major	MNRK
2	19	Come Jesus Come	CeCe Winans & Cody Johnson	Pure Springs / Fair Trade
3	8	Still	Crowder & Zach Williams	Sparrow / Capitol CMG
4	9	Place In This World	For King & Country	Word-Curb
5	35	Praise In The Choir Stand	Brent Jones	JDI
6	11	Heaven On My Mind	Toby Mac	Forefront/Capitol CMG
7	12	Yahweh	Jason Nelson	Fair Trade/Tyscot
8	14	No Survivors	Jeremy Camp	Sparrow / Capitol CMG
9	5	Oh Death	MercyMe	Fair Trade/Columbia
10	4	What An Awesome God	Phil Wickham	Fair Trade / Columbia
11	27	How Good It Is	Chris Tomlin	Sparrow/Capitol CMG
12	2	Somebody Prayed	Crowder	Sparrow/Capitol CMG
13	24	Won't Start Now	Seph Schlueter	Essential / PLG
14	29	Don't Stop Praying	Matthew West	Reunion/PLG
15	21	Amen	Pastor Mike Jr	Motown Gospel
16	6	Jesus Loves	Zach Williams	Essential / PLG
17	48	God Story	Anne Wilson	Sparrow/Capitol CMG
18	1	God Did It	Micah Tyler	Fair Trade/Columbia
19	33	Your Glory 2 C U	Earnest Pugh	Black Smoke
20	17	I Believe You	Megan Woods	Fair Trade / Columbia
21	34	I'm In A Change	Mack Holland	OCTIIVE
22	39	Dusty Bibles	Josiah Queen	PLG / Capitol CMG
23	42	Blessings	Tanya Nolan	ArtSessionz
24	25	Give You All My Worship(ft.Leon McCrary)	Marvin Dexter Moore	Give Me Moore / Never Stop
25	44	I Can Count On You	The Group Fire	Jet North/East
26	37	Blessings	Yolanda Adams	Epic
27	26	Honest	Leanna Crawford	Reunion / PLG
28	47	Live Breathe Fight	Tamela Mann	Tillymann
29	45	Have Your Way	Katy Nichole	Centricity
30	18	Til The Horns Blew	Chaz Chesson ft. Brian Angel	Viciouz Society
31	--	Get Behind Me	Emerson Day	Fair Trade
32	--	Breakdown	Andrew Ripp	Holly Street
33	46	Church Medley	John P. Kee	Kee/Tyscot
34	--	Can't Steal My Joy	Josiah Queen & Brandon Lake	PLG / Capitol CMG
35	--	Church (ft.John Legend)	Tasha Cobbs Leonard	Motown/Capitol CMG
36	--	Our King Has Come	Katy Nichole & Matt Maher	Centricity
37	38	Make A Way	Vashawn Mitchell	Fair Trade/Columbia
38	--	Homesick For Heaven	Phil Wickham	Fair Trade / Columbia
39	40	That's Who I Praise	Brandon Lake	Provident/Sony
40	--	In The Room	James Fortune	Fiya World / MNRK
41	--	God's Prodigy	Jackee H	Millennium Music Group
42	49	God Did It	Kenny Lewis & One Voice	Puresound/Waynorth
43	--	I've Just Seen Too Much	Big Daddy Weave	Word-Curb
44	43	Church Parking Lot	Otis Kemp	Motown Gospel
45	--	For You	Ashes Awaken	MTS Records
46	--	Is This The Thanks I Get	Ashley Collins	Grace Records Nashville
47	--	The Love I Have For You	Colton Dixon	Fair Trade /Atlantic
48	--	Mighty Name Of Jesus	Hope Darst & Josh Baldwin	Fair Trade
49	--	Do It Again	James Gear & Company	Blacksmoke
50	--	Three Kings	We Are Messengers	Word - Curb



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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	3	This Time	Billy Payne	BGJ Promotions/MMG
2	4	Hey Baby Que Paso	Cody Winkler	Colt Records
3	7	Need A Shot Of You Again	Gary Grant Chamberlain	Colt Records
4	6	An Empty Glass	Brayden Ryle	Clarksville Creative Sound
5	8	She's Talkin' With Her Eyes	Sean Poole	MC1 Nashville
6	11	The Whiskey Ain't Workin'	Burt & Cody Winkler	Colt Records
7	12	Where Are You	Brent Beaudeaux	Matador Legacy Records
8	13	The Cows Are Out	Kenny Crider	Colt Records
9	15	Burning Bridges	Hammond Brothers	Millennium Music Group
10	19	Red Red Wine	Liz Beth	Timber Records
11	26	It's A Free Country	Kevin Tuckfield	Colt Records
12	22	Take My Hand	Mission Road	779 Music
13	5	When Love is Love	John Michael Ferrari	Millennium Music Group
14	33	As Cowboy As They Come	Aspen Black	Independent
15	24	We Must Have Been Out Our Minds	Brian Moon & Leona Williams	Clarksville Creative Sound
16	31	Did I Catch You On A Good Day	Hank Hopkins	Century II Records
17	2	You Can Count On Me	Donna Fargo	MMG/PrimDonna Records
18	1	Even Though You're Gone	Adam Grant	BGJ Promotions/MMG
19	35	Walk Me To The Door	Mike Hughes	Big Bear Creek Music
20	32	Have A Good Time	Pam Ross	MTS Records
21	29	He Made It All	Dust And Grace	MTS Records
22	30	The Ballad Of Carl Dean	Kevin Randolph	Independent
23	14	Thing About Texas	Ronnie McDowell, Rodney Collins & Johnny Rodriguez	MMG/Lanier Records
24	49	Barstow To HB	Ryan Bodine	Clarksville Creative Sound
25	18	Leaving On His Mind	Gale Jenkins	BGJ Promotions/MMG
26	34	Bucknaked	Johnny Nashville	Independent
27	37	Past The Point Of Rescue	Lee Sims	Adelphos Records
28	9	People Like Me	Robert Ross	MTS Records
29	17	I Ain't Hurting Much	Adam Grant & Billy Payne	BGJ Promotions/MMG
30	67	Wayfaring Stranger	Paul Williams	Colt Records
31	47	Two Steppin' Song	Kent Thompson	Matador Legacy Records
32	63	Sugar Lake	Lynne Taylor Donovan	Pacific Records
33	10	Carry Me	Terry LeMaster	Clarksville Creative Sound
34	38	Wild Mustang	Abby Laine	Clarksville Creative Sound
35	52	Angelina	Marty Chambers	Clarksville Creative Sound
36	42	Bait A Hook Cast A Line	Kish Moody	Century II Records
37	57	Little Things	Ryan O' Neill	Independent
38	44	Silver Eagle	J.K. Coltrain	Colt Records
39	50	We Love Our Boys	Chris Mabb	Steam Whistle Records
40	41	Alabama Sugar	Haven Slay	Buckshot Records
41	64	White Picket Fence	Mahlissa	MidLand Records
42	21	Our Flag Flies in Dover	JW Jackson	Millennium Music Group
43	71	Honky Tonk In Texas	Peggy Haverly	Matador Legacy Records
44	25	The Back Of My Truck	Jace Aaron	MC1 Nashville
45	43	In America	Dawn Rix	BGJ Promotions/MMG
46	60	Freedom's Calling	Thomas Charles Clukey	Independent
47	27	Jesus, Girls And Cold Beer	Mark Ware	Independent
48	59	The Mirror Has My Soul	Ed Williams	Matador Legacy Records
49	73	Faded Love	Lizzy Beth Goldman	Clarksville Creative Sound
50	46	Wish You Were Here	Johnathan Bond	Millennium Music Group



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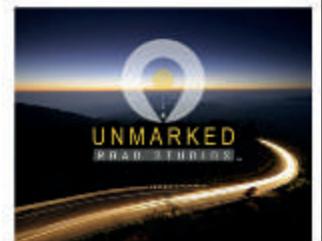
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SGH Promotions

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	16	Birds Of A Feather	Jessie Blake	Millennium Music Group
52	87	Uncertain Texas	Sheila And The Caddo Kats	Independent
53	62	That's How I Lost Mine	Robbie Cockrell	Grace Records Nashville
54	68	Ain't No Grave	The Curse Of KK Hammond	MTS Records
55	70	Honor Bound	David Wills	BGJ Promotions/MMG
56	36	Throw In The Towel	Gale Jenkins & Adam Grant	BGJ Promotions/MMG
57	58	My Own Worst Enemy	Johnathan Len	Millennium Music Group
58	40	The Last Outlaw	Michael Sparger & Billy Payne	BGJ Promotions/MMG
59	--	Mended Fences	Christine J. Scott	Major Record Distribution LLC
60	53	Life In A Country Song	Craig Hendricks	BGJ Promotions/MMG
61	51	Bed Of Roses	Eleyet McConnell	MTS Records
62	85	Get Ready	Middy And The Crew	Formula Records
63	39	You Again	Dan Knight	Steam Whistle Records
64	99	Thanks To You	Caleb Montgomery	Label22 Records
65	--	I Reckon	Eddie Johnson	BGJ Promotions/MMG
66	74	I Got To Drunk Again Last Night	Michael Deese	BGJ Promotions/MMG
67	88	Old Church Songs	Ken Mobley	New Beginning Music Group
68	90	What's Wrong With This Jukebox	Dennis Ledbetter	Saint and Sinner Records
69	80	Hard Times In Arkansas	Ozark Gypsy	BGJ Promotions/MMG
70	--	Back When We Were Young	Webb Dalton	BGJ Promotions/MMG
71	98	High Roller	Brendan Kelly	Independent
72	--	My Dream Lover	Carol Stevens	Colt Records
73	56	Leaving Idaho	Dusty Leigh Huston	Independent
74	--	Memories	Adam Grant	BGJ Promotions/MMG
75	--	Show The World What Love Is	Markey Blue	MC1 Nashville
76	--	Who Needs Whiskey	J. Abbott	Grace Records Nashville
77	96	AA Meetings	Travis Reid Ball	Independent
78	91	For A Minute There	Vern Gosdin	BGJ Promotions/MMG
79	--	Good Kind Of Crazy	Paula Slow	MC1 Nashville
80	--	Country Roots	Brian Shartzter	BGJ Promotions/MMG
81	89	Set 'Em Up	John Landry	BGJ Promotions/MMG
82	--	The Drizzle	Cat Lion	My Redemption Records
83	--	Goodbye	Jenny Dean	Grace Records Nashville
84	--	Cowboy Killer	Macy Tabor	MC1 Nashville
85	93	What I Believe Is Right	Michael G. Sparger	BGJ Promotions/MMG
86	--	Show Me	Mike McCarrell	BGJ Promotions/MMG
87	--	Whiskey Road	Michael Tetrick	Grace Records Nashville
88	100	My Man	Rose Angelica	Big Bear Creek Music
89	82	While I Was Broken Too	Rylee Austin	Grace Records Nashville
90	--	Got No Reason Now For Going Home	Cody Winkler	Colt Records
91	84	I Wonder What Love Is	Leon Seiter	Colt Records
92	--	Old Country Road	Juliette Brown	Millennium Music Group
93	--	If I Could See Tomorrow	Ethan Lake	BGJ Promotions/MMG
94	--	Should I Be Doing This	Brian Moon	Clarksville Creative Sound
95	--	One More Minute	Marie Norris	Millennium Music Group
96	--	Rockin and Rollin	Mary Hoey	BGJ Promotions/MMG
97	--	Just Go To Church	Gary Grant Chamberlain	Colt Records
98	--	As Close As We Get To The Mountains	Robin Johnston	Millennium Music Group
99	--	Stop	Cat Lion	My Redemption Records
100	--	Stand In	Kerr Donnelly	K.D.M.I. Records



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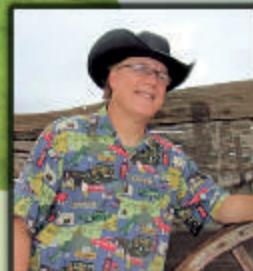
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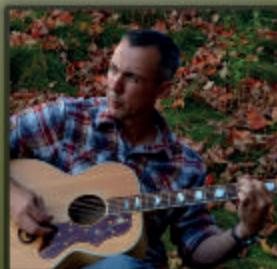
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LEON EVERETTE

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	2	I Dare You	Rascal Flatts with Jonas Brothers	Big Machine Records/Republic
2	8	Stay Country Or Die Tryin'	Blake Shelton	Wheelhouse Records
3	7	Favorite Country Song	Hardy	Big Loud/Mercury/Republic
4	18	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney	Columbia Nashville
5	10	Country Song Came On	Luke Bryan	Capitol Records Nashville
6	20	Don't Mind If I Do	Riley Green(Feat.Ella Langley)	Nashville Harbor Records
7	14	The Fall	Cody Johnson	CoJo Music / Warner Music Nashville/WMN Radio & Streaming
8	11	Darlin'	Chase Matthew	Warner Music Nashville/WAR Radio
9	23	Til The Last One Dies	Chris Young	Black River Entertainment
10	4	2 Pair	Kane Brown	RCA Records
11	16	Straight Line	Keith Urban	Capitol Records Nashville (UMGN)
12	49	Ain't A Bad Life	Thomas Rhett(Featuring Jordan Davis)	The Valory Music Co.
13	26	Would If I Could	Ernest	Big Loud Records
14	3	Somewhere Over Laredo	Lainey Wilson	Broken Bow Records
15	5	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes)	Max McNown	Magnolia Music Group/Fugitive
16	9	What He'll Never Have	Dylan Scott	Curb Records
17	25	Weak	Preston Cooper	The Valory Music Co.
18	6	Thing About Texas	Ronnie McDowell, Rodney Collins & Johnny Rodriguez	Lanier Records
19	27	Me & A Beer	Chris Janson	Warner Music Nashville/Harpeth 60
20	65	Days Like These	Luke Combs	Columbia Music
21	51	How Far Does A Goodbye Go	Jason Aldean	Broken Bow/Macon Music
22	13	Time's Ticking	Justin Moore	The Valory Music Co.
23	35	Killed The Man	Lee Brice	Curb Records
24	53	Brunette	Tucker WetMore	Back Block/EMI Nashville/Mercury
25	34	Fireworks	Kelsey Hart	Curb Records
26	12	Good Times & Tan lines	Zach Top	Leo33
27	45	Cowgirl	Parmalee	Stoney Creek Records (BBRMG)
28	32	Baggage	Kelsea Ballerini	Black River Entertainment
29	19	A Song To Sing	Miranda Lambert & Chris Stapleton	Big Loud/Republic
30	41	Pontiac (So Tell Me Momma)	Aaron Watson	Adub Records
31	54	Drink With You	Brett Young	BMLG Records
32	55	When She Kissed Me	Casey Donahew	Amost Country Records
33	15	House Again	Hudson Westbrook	Warner Music Nashville/WAR Radio/River House
34	48	Hate How You Look	Josh Ross	Mercury Nashville/Universal Music Canada
35	1	Back In The Saddle	Luke Combs	Columbia Nashville
36	22	Golden Child	Meghan Patrick	Riser House
37	44	Same Moon	Mitchell Tenpenny	River House/Columbia Nashville
38	56	What Kinda Man	Parker McCollum	MCA Nashville
39	47	The Hell You Are	Ashley Cooke	Big Loud Records/Back Blocks Music
40	46	Kid Myself	John Morgan	Night Train Records/Broken Bow Records
41	39	Wish You Well	Vincent Mason	MCA Nashville / Music Soup/Interscope
42	40	Chevy Silverado	Bailey Zimmerman	Warner Music Nashville / Atlantic Records / WMN Radio
43	59	Choosin' Texas	Ella Langley	SAWGOD/Columbia Records
44	28	Hard Fought Hallelujah	Brandon Lake(With Jelly Roll)	Provident Label Group/Essential Records/Lyric Ridge Records
45	69	Hell That I Call Home	Porter Martin	Loveable Music
46	24	Paper Umbrellas	Tim McGraw ft. Parker McCollum	Big Machine Label Group
47	58	She Gone	Dillon Carmichael	Riser House
48	52	Amen	Shaboozey & Jelly Roll	Empire/Magnolia Music/Stoney Creek
49	87	Making Good Time	Old Dominion	Three Up Three Down LLC/Columbia Nashville
50	80	Said No Redneck Ever	Aaron Goodvin	New Motor Records/Warner Music Canada

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Tire Swinger Records

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	64	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (ft. Chase Matthew)	Big Loud Records
52	33	Wrong Hearts	Locash	Galaxy Label Group
53	75	20 Cigarettes	Morgan Wallen	Big Loud Records/Mercury/Republic
54	29	I Ain't Coming Back	Morgan Wallen (ft. Post Malone)	Big Loud Records
55	31	Cloud Of Dust	Tracy Lawrence (ft. Rick Huckaby)	Independent
56	76	Wish You Wouldn't Go	Ken Domash	Thunder Mountain Records
57	43	Easy To Love	Dustin Lynch	Broken Bow
58	62	Burned Down Heaven	Chase McDaniel	Big Machine Records
59	38	Long Live Country	Shane Profitt	Triple Tigers
60	89	Turn This Truck Around	Jordan Davis	MCA Nashville
61	37	I Wish You Would	Mackenzie Carpenter (ft. Midland)	Big Machine Records/The Valory Music Co.
62	85	Dream Come True	Carly Pearce	Big Machine Records
63	68	Past The Point Of Rescue	Ghost Hounds	Gibson Records
64	30	Freedom	Harper Grace & Kelsey Hart	Curb Records
65	79	Worth Your Wild	Russell Dickerson	Triple Tigers
66	81	No Tellin'	Caroline Jones	Nashville Harbor Records And Entertainment
67	66	Turquoise & Silver	Billie Jo Jones	Get Joe Records
68	77	Last One To Know	Gavin Adcock	Warner Music Nashville
69	91	Water At A Wedding	Greylan James	Big Machine Label Group / Nashville Harbor Records And Enter
70	42	My Crazy	Ashley Ryan	Spinville Entertainment
71	78	Perfume On My Jersey	Caleb Lathrop	CAL Production
72	60	It Won't Be Long	George Birge	Records Nashville
73	94	Straight For the Heart	Alexandra Kay	Wheelhouse Records
74	90	Want You Back	Brantley Gilbert	The Valory Music Co.
75	71	Heaven Passing Through	Turnpike Troubadours	Bossier City Records / Thirty Tigers / Akando Music
76	95	Second Hand Smoke	Alex Miller	Billy Jam Records
77	86	Pretty Much	Marynn Taylor	Black River Entertainment
78	84	Smells Like Whiskey	Jessie G	Jessie G Music
79	83	Devil Ain't Done	Atlas	Stoney Creek Records (BBRMG)
80	100	Keeps Me Sane	Tyler Nance	Santa Anna / Akando
81	92	Two Hands	Pat Green & Corey Kent	Greenhouse Records Inc.
82	--	Three Sheets To The Wind	Kelly & Sarah	Kelly & Sarah Music
83	93	Turn The Night On	Chris Kizzia	CAL Records
84	99	Cowgirl	ParmaLee	Stoney Creek Records
85	73	We Can Always Move On	Cole Swindell	Warner Music Nashville
86	--	South Of Sanity	Zach Top	Leo33
84	96	Rebel	Drew Baldridge	Stoney Creek Records (BBRMG)
88	--	The Church On Cumberland Road	Shenandoah & Nickelback	8-Track Entertainment
89	--	I Want It All	Skip Ewing	Write! Records
90	98	After Midnight	Nate Smith (ft. Tyler Hubbard)	RCA Nashville (SMN)
91	--	Travelin' Soldier	Cody Johnson	CoJo Music / Warner Music Nashville / WMN Radio & Streaming
92	97	Wildfire	Michael Martin Murphey (ft. Cody Johnson)	Wildfire Production
93	--	Ends Of The Earth	Ty Myers	Records Nashville / Columbia Records
94	--	Boots Off	Jon Pardi	Capitol Records Nashville
95	--	Life's Highway	Soul Circus Cowboys (with Andy Griggs)	Kismet Nashville
96	82	Hide And Go Cheat	Eric Lee Beddingfield	Marshalls Of The Revolution
97	--	Beautiful Things	Megan Moroney	Columbia Nashville
98	--	Rocky Mountain Low	Corey Kent (ft.Koe Wetzel)	RCA Nashville (SMN)
99	--	Kick Rocks Cowboy	Ashland Craft	Leo33
100	--	Gary	Stephen Wilson Jr	Big Loud Records



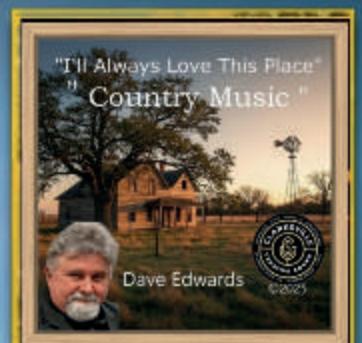
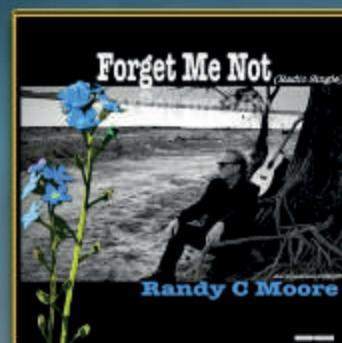
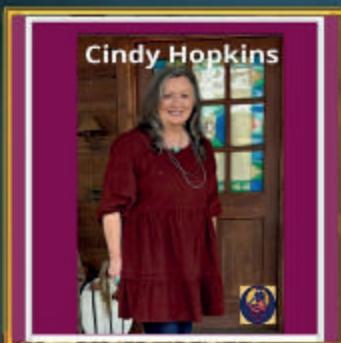
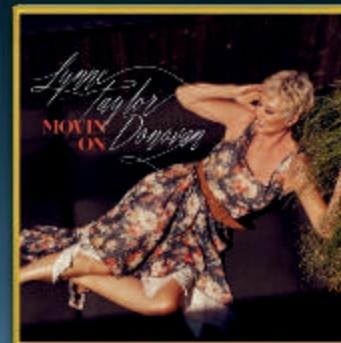
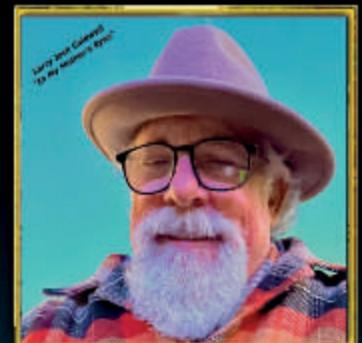
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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	4	Lachryma	Ghost	Loma Vista/Concord
2	7	Espresso	Sabrina Carpenter	Hollywood/Island
3	21	Born Again (ft. Doja Cat & Raye)	Lisa	Lloud/RCA
4	11	Hot Pepper Doll	Cerrito	MC1 Nashville
5	3	Daisies	Justin Bieber	RBMG/Def Jam
6	29	Never Enough	Turnstile	Roadrunner
7	15	Sapphire	Ed Sheeran	Gingerbread Man/Warner
8	19	Archbishop Harold Holmes	Jack White	Third Man/Orchard
9	23	Lose Control	Teddy Swims	Warner
10	33	The Garden	Jeremy Parsons	MTS Records
11	24	Glitterati	Argyro	MTS Records
12	28	Wonderful Life '25	Hurts & Purple Disco Machine	Columbia/Sony UK
13	52	Nice To Meet You	Myles Smith	Sony UK
14	39	Time Will Heal	Volbeat	Vertigo Berlin/Universal
15	31	Birds Of A Feather	Billie Eilish	Darkroom/Interscope
16	12	Beautiful People	David Guetta & Sia	Parlophone/Warner UK
17	36	How Do You Know	Out Of The Ashes	Javi
18	1	Ordinary	Alex Warren	Atlantic
19	50	Midnight Sun	Marc Atlas	Valeria/Republic
20	27	Be Mine	Kamrad	Epic Germany
21	35	Life By The Numbers	Noble Hops ft. Miss Freddye	MTS Records
22	2	Blue Strips	Jessie Murph	Disruptor/Columbia
23	49	That's So True	Gracie Abrams	Interscope
24	14	All My Friends	A Day To Remember	Fueled By Ramen
25	8	Suzanne	Mark Ronson & Raye	Columbia/Sony UK
26	9	Water Knows	Elvira Kalnik	MTS Records
27	13	Apologies	Three Days Grace	RCA
28	44	Show Me Love	Wizthemc, Bees & Honey	Bamboo/10K Projects
29	20	End Of The World	Miley Cyrus	Smiley Miley/Columbia
30	42	Which One Is Real	Shweta Harve Ft. Dario Cei	MTS Records
31	93	Opalite	Taylor Swift	Taylor Swift/Republic
32	53	I Could Do Much Worse	We Are Scientists	Groenland
33	5	Blessings (ft. Clementine Douglas)	Calvin Harris	Sony UK
34	40	The Emperor Wears No Clothes	Digney Fignus	MTS Records
35	76	Twilight Zone	Ariana Grande	Republic/Universal
36	18	I Will Not Break	Disturbed	Mother Culture/Reprise
37	43	Glide	Neiked & Portugal.The Man	Columbia / Sony Germany
38	64	Gabriela	Katseye	HYBE/Geffen
39	83	Luther	Kendrick Lamar & Sza	TDE/Interscope
40	65	Up From The Bottom	Linkin Park	Warner Brothers
41	60	FreeFall (ft. Chris Daughtry)	Nothing More	Better Noise
42	70	Out Of The Night	Luke David Carlsen	MTS Records
43	66	Man I Need	Olivia Dean	Island/Republic
44	71	Lift	Toy Called God	Warner Brothers
45	59	Love Of My Life	XDB	MTS Records
46	74	Love Me Not	Ravyn Lenae	Atlantic
47	72	No Broke Boys	Disco Lines & Tinashe	Good Good / Atlantic
48	68	The Longing	Harry Kappen	MTS Records
49	99	Mutt	Leon Thomas	EZMNY/Motown
50	41	Pink Pony Club	Chappell Roan	Island

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CASHBOX music charts

MARCH 2026 Pop / Rock Top 100

TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	38	Priceless	Marron 5 & Lisa	222/Interscope
52	95	The Dead Dance	Lady GaGa	Streamline/Interscope
53	67	What The Troll	Shweta Harve featuring Dario Cei	MTS Records
54	78	Adore Ya	ClockClock	Wefor
55	85	Golden	Huntr/X	Republic
56	84	From Disco To Disco	Alle Farben & Majestic	Universal Germany
57	81	Someday	Novai	MTS Records
58	79	Pride	Felix Jaehn Feat. Jhart	Crash Your Sound/UMG
59	55	I Had Some Help (ft. Morgan Wallen)	Post Malone	Republic
60	--	Say It Two Times	Pam Ross	MTS Records
61	92	Jealous Type	Doja Cat	Kemosabe/RCA
62	--	Asking For A Friend	Foo Fighters	Roswell/RCA
63	42	Anxiety	Doechii	TDE/Capitol
64	46	Too Sweet	Hozier	Columbia
65	--	Downstairs	Matt Maeson	Neon Gold / Atlantic
66	98	Don't Click Play	Ava Max	Atlantic
67	--	For I Am Death	The Pretty Reckless	Fearless
68	--	12 To 12	Sombr	Warner
69	58	Timeless	The Weeknd & Playboi Carti	Republic
70	--	Unravelling	Muse	Warner UK
71	82	Like It Like That	Dasha	Warner
72	--	Lost All Control	Seether	Fantasy
73	61	Anthem (ft. Norma Jean Martine)	Glockenbach	Wefor/UMG
74	--	Sorry I'm Here For Someone Else	Benson Boone	Night Street / Warner
75	90	Glide	Meiked & Portugal. The Man	Columbia/Sony Germany
76	--	Pale Horse	Chevelle	Alchemy / BMG
77	100	Tit For Tat	Tate McRae	RCA
78	--	The Horizon	Eleyet McConnell	MTS Records
79	57	Messy Day One	Lola Young	Day One/Universal
80	--	The Spell	Mammoth	BMG
81	97	Body	FireBoy DML, Nico Santos, Topic	Universal Germany
82	--	Lifeline	Argyro	MTS Records
83	--	Song For My Friends	The Perfect Storm	MTS Records
84	--	All I Got Is Time & Beer	Southern Outlaws Band	SOB Records/MMG
85	--	All Time High	Nico Santos	Universal
86	--	As Alive As You Need Me To Be	Nine Inch Nails	The Null
87	--	Blind Love	Elvira Kalnik	MTS Records
88	--	For You	Ashes Awaken	MTS Records
89	--	Band-aids	Katy Perry	Capitol
90	--	No Need To Try Harder	Laura Cox	VeryCords/EarMusic
91	--	Searchlight	Shinedown	Atlantic
92	--	The Bottom	Daughtry	Dogtree / BMLG
93	--	The Perfumed Garden	Ananda Xenia Shakti	MTS Records
94	--	Man Get Out	Wet Leg	Domino
95	--	If Darkness Had A Son	Metallica	Blackened / Rhino / ADA
96	--	The Trunk	Noble Hops	MTS Records
97	--	Gone Gone Gone (ft. Tones And I)	David Guetta & Teddy Swims	Parlophone / Warner UK
98	--	Run Free	Michael Patrick Kelly	Columbia
99	--	Losing My Mind	Seraphina	In-Sanan -TY
100	--	Coastin'	Cathleen Ireland	MTS Records



MARIE NORRIS
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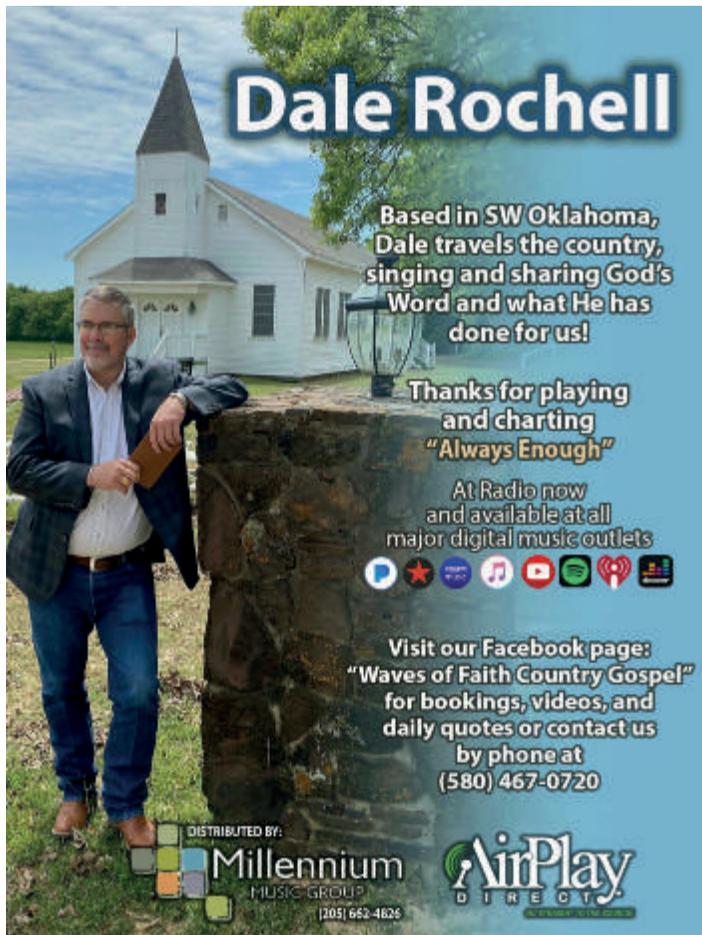
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Thanks to all radio stations for continuing to play my music and also for giving me 2 Top 40 hits! "Perfume & Diesel" is #26 and my current chart song is "End Of The Road" which just broke into the Top 40 at #39 for the month of May!



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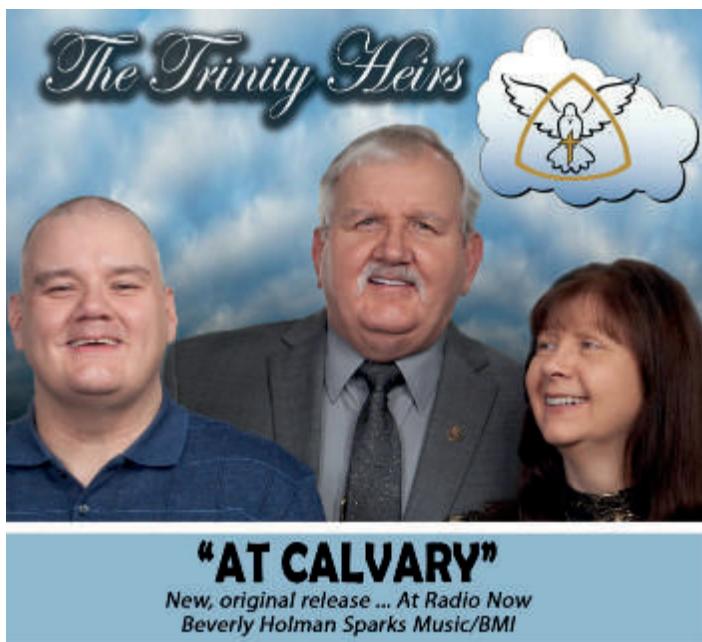
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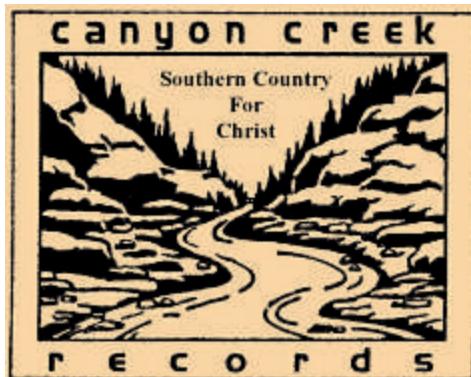
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TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	7	Residuals	Chris Brown	RCA
2	3	Creepin' (ft. The Weeknd & 21 Savage)	Metro Boomin'	Boominati/Republic
3	8	Bad Girl	TN Da Entertainer	Platform
4	11	Humanity	Denisha Osbourne	Three 2 Go
5	16	Trash	Ramp Lo	Push Artist
6	15	Soulfully Sublime	Ingram Street	Ingram Street
7	5	Like That (ft.Kendrick Lamar)	Future & Metro Boomin'	Epic / Republic
8	24	King Of Kings	Gods Son Orlando	Hottraxx
9	22	In The City	Cathleen Ireland	MTS Records
10	14	Guess What	Blah DE	Laid-Back Hardkore
11	4	You And Me Baby	Elaine Stepter	Elaine Stepter
12	6	30 For 30	SZA & Kendrick Lamar	Top Dawg /RCA
13	20	What's My Name	Gran Centennial	Gran Centennial
14	1	Burning Blue	Mariah The Scientist	Epic
15	31	Boss	Stelly	Showout
16	32	Affirmations	Flippa T	Flippa T/Hitmaker
17	35	Young Hearts Run Free	Cindy Davis	The Sound Of LA
18	9	Somebody	Latto	Streamcut/Rca
19	26	Pop	AL99	TPC
20	2	Let's Do It Again (ft.Sean Dolby)	Kami Cole	Troutman
21	29	Be Mine (ft. Cher Trease)	Styngray	First Kings
22	33	Heart Of A Woman	Summer Walker	Lvryn/Interscope
23	12	All She Do Is Shake (ft. Sexy Red)	J Traxx	Untouchable
24	30	Island Summer (On My Mind)	Heidi Tann & Kinsman Dazz Band	Bell Telephunk/Ecmd
25	34	Big Hearted PT.II	Austn Taylr	Jaylivan
26	18	It's What I'm Made For	G.Dep & Shzyz Bando	Black Market
27	19	Type Dangerous	Mariah Carey	Columbia
28	42	Still Wanna Go On	The Al Ur Pal Project	WordLaw/The Sound Of LA
29	17	Remember	Tony Mack	Tony Mack
30	45	Deep Down(ft.Kozze)	Grizz Da Bizz	Grizz Da Bizz
31	13	Gonna Push Me Too Far (ft. Tito Jackson)	KT & Rocc Thomas	SFG
32	43	On This Silent Night	U Of Soul	U Of Soul
33	38	How You Been	YK Osiris	ToTheTop
34	46	Our Favorite Things	Iani	Laudation Records
35	48	Get To Know You (ft.Angie Stone)	Omar Wilson	BSE
36	50	Who's Next (ft.Compton AV)	BlackDiamond	RunAMok
37	23	Can't Lie	Cam Royale	Wake Up
38	28	Nokia	Drake	OVO/Republic
39	27	Leon On It (ft. KatieGotBandz)	Donnell Langs	Donnell Langs
40	21	Feels Like Magic (ft.Siya)	Celina Graves	Three 2 Go
41	--	Wet Like The Rain	Harold Kiel	Harold Kiel
42	49	You I Adore	Ron C Walters	GT/ STYLZ
43	47	Bring It On Back	Illegal	HBN
44	41	Grindin (ft.Boosie BadAzz)	Cedric Mayfield	Muziccity/Chalant
45	37	Typa	Glorilla	CMG/Interscope
46	--	TV Off (ft.Lefty Gunplay)	Kendrick Lamar	TDE/ Interscope
47	36	American Strong	DPB	MTS Records
48	--	Mutt	Leon Thomas & Chris Brown	EZMNY/ Motown
49	--	No Regrets	Novai	MTS Records
50	--	All This Time	Mr. B. E. I.	The Parish Empire

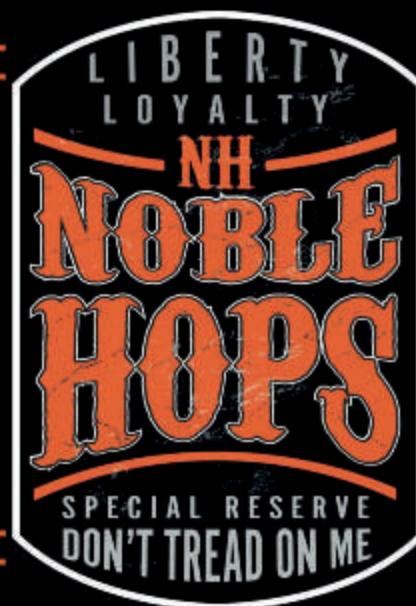


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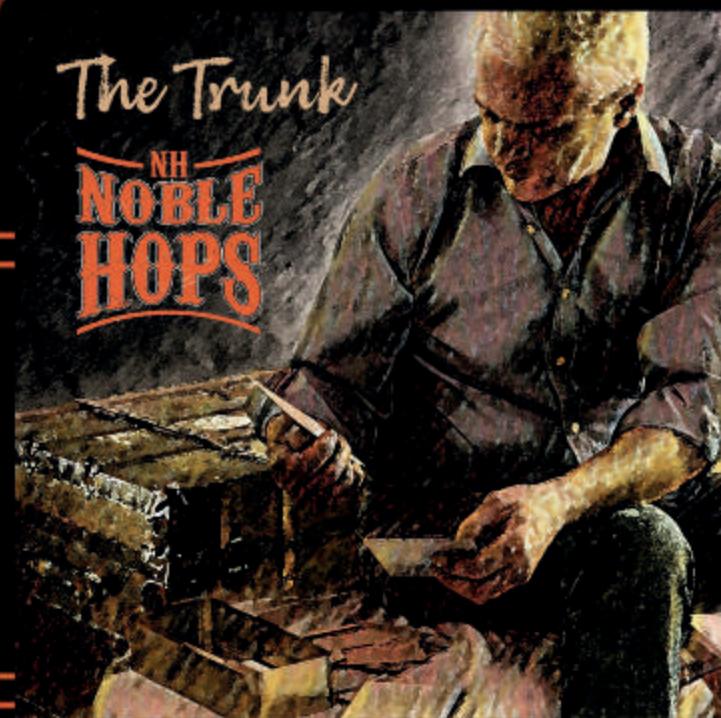
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MTS
Artist Management and Promotions



TM	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	16	When Believers Will Be Leaving	Down East Boys	Sonlite/Crossroads
2	6	I Will Sing	Hoppers	Gaither Music/Capitol Christian
3	2	Tell The Devil	Joseph Habedank	Daywind/New Day
4	4	Troubled	LeFevre Quartet	New Day Records
5	12	Sow The Good Seed	Greater Vision	Daywind/New Day
6	1	More Than A Hollow Hallelujah	Isaacs	House of Isaacs
7	31	I Speak Jesus	Karen Peck & New River	Daywind/New Day
8	18	The Big Move	The Masseys	New Beginning Music Group
9	48	All He's Ever Been	Chronicle	New Day
10	11	His Mercies Are Fresh Everyday	Carroll Roberson	Millennium Music Group
11	15	On My Way Back	Donna Burke	Millennium Music Group
12	17	Father Forgive Me	Michael Walsh	New Beginning Music Group
13	50	He'll Never Stop Being God	Sunday Drive	Stow Town/Provident Sony
14	10	Fired Up And Filled Up	Angela Seng	Millennium Music Group
15	27	Grand Homecoming	Lorraine Howard	Millennium Music Group
16	56	I'm Gonna Make It	Freeman s	Millennium Music Group
17	43	Come Along Let's Fly	Keith Barkley & Family Tradition	Millennium Music Group
18	23	Audience Of One	The Pearly Gates	New Beginning Music Group
19	34	Highway To Heaven	Rick Towe	Millennium Music Group
20	9	Go Ahead And Shout	Sacred Call	Chapel Valley/Millennium Music Group
21	83	You Can Sleep Tonight	Big Mo	Tentop Music Group
22	36	Sent By The Father	Donna Kilmurray	Millennium Music Group
23	78	I Went Down	Kingdom Heirs	Sonlite/Crossroads
24	65	Behind My Praise	Brian Free & Assurance	Daywind/New Day
25	7	You Can Know How It Feels	Dean with Ronnie Hinson	Patterson Music Group
26	49	Overflowing	Kenny Keith	Millennium Music Group
27	25	The Name Is Jesus	Wendy Jones	Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group
28	14	His Hand Can Reach Your Heart	Keith Buchanan	Millennium Music Group
29	64	All I Need	Mark S Dubbels	Millennium Music Group
30	73	A Million Reasons	Perrys	StowTown Records
31	30	Come On Down The Road	Journey N Faith	Millennium Music Group
32	58	Robes Of Pure White	Heartland Quartet	SGH Promotions
33	28	It Should've Been Me	Amanda Rosales	Millennium Music Group
34	19	What A Friend	Oxendine Family	Millennium Music Group
35	85	I Am Saved	Tate Emmons	ARS/New Day
36	55	If The Good Lords Willin'	Doug & Gina Green	Millennium Music Group
37	52	Carry Me	Lori King	Grace Records Nashville
38	53	Thank God For The Darkness	Barbara Jean	Millennium Music Group
39	62	The Only Way He Knew How	Jeff & Sheri Easter	Gaither Music/Capitol Christian
40	38	I Surely Will Someday	New Salem	Millennium Music Group
41	63	Saved Delivered & Healed	Craig Stone	SGH Promotions
42	26	A Work In Progress	Denise Edwards	Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group
43	99	He Did It All For Me	Ernie Haase & Signature Sounds	Stow Town/Provident Sony
44	61	Bring Back The New Again	The Hagers	SGH Promotions
45	32	Open Hands	Amy Michelle	Grace Records Nashville
46	74	There's Coming A Day	Common Bond Quartet	Millennium Music Group
47	67	Where The Soul Never Dies	Joyful Sound Trio	SGH Promotions
48	96	So Many Reasons	Tribute Quartet	Daywind/New Day
49	41	All Ready	Alan Frink	SGH Promotions
50	95	God Said Your Going To Make It	Lore Family	Horizon/Crossroads



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51	40	I've Gotta Move	The Stones	New Beginning Music Group
52	70	Fear Not	Gil Magee	Millennium Music Group
53	72	Let Me Tell Ya	Rhapsody Praise	Millennium Music Group
54	--	Sea Of Forgetfulness	Inspirations	Horizon/Crossroads
55	87	Lord Are You Busy	Loretta Jent	Millennium Music Group
56	--	What's It Like At Home	Mark Dubbeld Family	Big Picture Records/New Day
57	--	God, You've Done Me Good	The Knight Family	Hey Yall Media
58	88	Hard Trials Will Soon Be Over	Gaither Vocal Band	Spring House Music Group
59	82	In Spite Of My Yesterday	The Kapples	SGH Promotions
60	68	All That Glitters	Cathy Guffey	Grace Records Nashville
61	37	According To John	Mark & Cindy Maynard	Millennium Music Group
62	--	Come To The Water	Judy Kellar	Patterson Music Group
63	77	Holy Ghost Conviction	Jennifer Leann Phillips	SGH Promotions
64	--	Greatly To Be Praised	Melissa Evans	Chapel Valley
65	--	Scars	Dean	Patterson Music Group
66	80	I Love The Lord	Greater Purpose Trio	SGH Promotions
67	45	All About the Love	Calvin Bridges	Millennium Music Group
68	97	In The Middle	Gold City	New Haven
69	89	I'm Not Worried	Jennifer Harris Gray	Grace Records Nashville
70	--	Don't That Sound Like Heaven	Porter Family	Chapel Valley
71	94	Say Something	Tim Menzies & The Isaacs	ARS/New Day
72	--	He's Still Writing In The Sand	Troy Burns Family	Hey Yall Media
73	--	Wish You Were Here	Jonathan Bond	MMG & SGH Promotions
74	--	We'll Understand It Better By And By	Collingsworth Family	Gaither Music/Capitol Christian
75	--	Count It All Joy	The Scotts	Patterson Music Group
76	92	Walking Each Other Home	Gordon Mote	New Haven
77	--	Saints	Kenny Evans	Millennium Music Group
78	--	Spread The News	Greg Sullivan	Hey Yall Media
79	79	When I Think Of Calvary	Violet Maynard Family	Millennium Music Group
80	93	Put Your Hand In The Hand	Ronnie Booth & The Blackwood Brothers	Daywind/New Day
81	--	Symphony Of Grace	Austin Glover	Patterson Music Group/MMG
82	--	Grace Is Sufficient	Jonathan Wilburn	Daywind/New Day
83	98	That's Who He Is	11th Hour	Sonlite/Crossroads
84	--	Leave Me Alone	Greg Logins	Hey Yall Media
85	--	I Just Stopped By On My Way Home	Kingsmen	Horizon/Crossroads
86	100	My Burdens Have Rolled Away	Pine Ridge Boys	Independent
87	--	To God It's Nothing New	McKamey Legacy	Horizon/Crossroads
88	--	Show Me The Way	Going Higher	New Beginning Music Group
89	--	Sound the Alarm	Bibletones	Hey Yall Media
90	--	They're Holding Up The Ladder	Allen Baker	New Beginning Music Group
91	--	Rise Up	Chris Perdue	SGH Promotions
92	--	Wayfaring Stranger	Debbie Bennett	Grace Records Nashville
93	--	You Me And Jesus	Robin Johnston	Millennium Music Group
94	--	Goodbye	Jenny Dean	Grace Records Nashville
95	--	One Nation Under God	John Westling	SGH Promotions
96	--	Sweet Holy Spirit	Singing Byrds	Millennium Music Group
97	--	Address Change Notification	Susan Hicks	Grace Records Nashville
98	--	Love From The Father	The Garmons	Patterson Music Group
99	--	It's Never Too Late For A Miracle	The Mayo Family	SGH Promotions
100	--	God Shows Up	Wings Of Love	New Beginning Music Group

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Calvin Bridges

The Voice God Anointed for the World

By Jackson McKee

Calvin Bridges has spent more than four decades proving that Gospel music isn't just sung - it's lived. From Chicago choir stands to global stages, his voice has carried faith, fire, and a testimony shaped by miracles, milestones, and divine appointments. His journey is a reminder that when God anoints a calling, the world can't help but hear it.

Few artists embody the soul of Gospel music the way Calvin Bridges does. For more than forty years, he has stood as one of the genre's most innovative and influential voices - an artist whose ministry has crossed continents, cultures, and generations. His songs have been sung by legends, his compositions have traveled the world, and his testimony continues to inspire audiences from Chicago to Kenya.

But ask Bridges how it all began, and he'll take you back to a little boy who simply loved music. "As a child, I loved music - singing in the choir, listening to records, and regularly attending concerts of the great artists and choirs of Chicago. I started at age 9 as a church musician, not realizing how much I would grow to love Jesus, and establish a career in Gospel music lasting decades!"

A Journey From Chicago Stages to Global Platforms

Before the world knew him as a Gospel icon, Bridges was a sought-after musician in Chicago's vibrant music scene. After high school, he played in bands, recorded in studios, and worked alongside R&B royalty - Curtis Mayfield, Natalie Cole, Jerry Butler - and opened shows for B.B. King, Ike & Tina Turner, Richard Pryor, Bill Cosby, Don Rickles, and others.

His talent eventually led him to Philadelphia, where he signed as an artist and writer with Gamble, Huff & Bell, the powerhouse behind the Sound of Philadelphia.

But God had a different assignment.

One Sunday morning, Bridges heard his pastor say something that changed everything: “When we pray, we talk to God; but when we read the Bible, God speaks to us.” That single line ignited a spiritual awakening. Bridges began devouring Scripture, seeking God’s voice, and soon realized his calling wasn’t in R&B, but in ministry. “I realized the greatest gift that I have received from God is my voice. I want to use it to sing to the whole world of God’s love!”

He asked to be released from his contract. Miraculously, Kenny Gamble agreed. And Calvin Bridges stepped into the purpose that would define his life.

A Career of Milestones, Miracles, and Music That Endures

Bridges’ Gospel career reads like a highlight reel:

- Grammy-nominated for his hit composition “Spread the Word”
- Featured performer on the 26th Annual Grammy Awards telecast with Albertina Walker
- Cast in the PBS National Special *Going Home to Gospel* with Patti LaBelle
- Performances at the 1996 Olympic Games, Michael Jordan Foundation Gala, Oprah Winfrey Show, and Umbria Jazz Festival
- Collaborations with Stevie Wonder, Patti LaBelle, and the Oslo Gospel Choir
- His classic *I Can Go To God In Prayer* recorded by Alicia Keys, Albertina Walker, Luciano Pavarotti, Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, Jessy Dixon, and many more
- His first solo album, “Renew My Spirit” (1985), stayed on the Billboard Gospel Chart for 53 weeks, cementing him as a rising force in Gospel music.



But the journey wasn’t without hardship. “I was told by major labels that I was too traditional to be contemporary and too contemporary to be traditional... so God encouraged me and I continued to write and record songs that spoke to my faith.”

He faced financial scams, unpaid royalties, and industry betrayal. Yet even in injustice, God redirected his path. “I wanted to sue them. But God took me to Psalm 37: ‘Seek peace and pursue it.’ That connection opened a door for European touring for the following 20 years.”

The Patti LaBelle Connection: A Door Only God Could Open

One of Bridges’ most cherished memories began with a letter - an actual handwritten fan letter - from Patti LaBelle and her husband, Armstead Edwards. “When I opened the letter, I was shocked and delighted beyond measure!”

That letter led to Bridges being cast in “*Going Home to Gospel*,” where three of his compositions were performed. Patti sang *Come On In This House*, Albertina Walker delivered *I Can Go To God In Prayer*, and Bridges himself performed *Stand Up for Jesus*.

Years later, he found himself backstage at a Patti LaBelle concert without a pass, standing among fans hoping to get in. When the door cracked open, Patti’s assistant pointed: “You can go up... you, you, and you.”

Bridges laughs when he tells it. “It was good that I knew Patti LaBelle... but it was better that Patti knew me! That experience taught me something. It’s good if we know God, but it’s even better when God knows us!”

Songs That Became Global Anthems

Bridges' catalog is a treasure chest of Gospel standards:

- *I Can Go To God In Prayer*
- *Spread the Word*
- *Chosen*
- *In Your Arms* (now included in the Norwegian National Hymnal)
- *Celebrate*
- *Come On In This House*
- *So Much To Be Grateful For*
- *All About the Love*

His latest single, *All About the Love*, is crossing genres and continents - featured on Amazon R&B playlists, charting on Cashbox Magazine's Southern Gospel and Black Gospel charts, and surpassing 1.1 million Instagram views.

And he's not slowing down. "I'm currently in the studio preparing another single for late Spring and an album for release in 4th quarter '26."

A Testimony of Healing and Purpose

In 2020, while touring in Switzerland and Denmark, Bridges contracted COVID-19. His condition worsened quickly. "I talked with God saying, Lord, if it's my time, take me home... but if it is not, heal me and raise me up so I can finish my work!"

He was hospitalized and given an experimental drug. Even in weakness, he ministered to nurses and doctors. After five days, he was released. "The doctor said my recovery was remarkable... I'm still here, in Jesus' Name! And I'm not tired yet, running for Jesus!"

A Ministry of Inclusion, Reconciliation, and Global Love

Bridges' ministry has taken him to more than 20 countries, including recent work in Nairobi and Nakuru,

Kenya, where Chicago Praise Ministries supports the Displaced Peoples Camp - thousands living in extreme poverty.

His message is simple and universal: "People are just people. Everyone appreciates and needs love and being valued."

"It doesn't matter what church you belong to or denomination you are. What matters is that we are a reflection of the Father's love."

His concerts, affectionately called Gospel Church, draw audiences ages 8 to 80. They sing the classics, dance, laugh, worship, and hear new music with timeless messages.



Still Spreading the Word

Calvin Bridges stands today as a Gospel statesman, an artist who has lived the music, carried the message, and walked the miles. His life is a tapestry of divine appointments, global ministry, and unwavering faith.

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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

CATHLEEN IRELAND

By Cory Parker

Cathleen Ireland's story unfolds with the energy of an artist who has spent years sharpening her craft while refusing to be boxed in by genre or medium. Her music lives at the intersection of emotional honesty and rhythmic sophistication, a place where soulful storytelling meets the kind of production that lingers long after the last note fades. That duality - heart and precision - has become her signature, shaped through collaborations with creatives like 4x platinum producer Dannyebtracks and Pittsburgh legend Sean McDonald. Together, they've helped her build a sound that feels both intimate and cinematic, grounded in lived experience yet polished with a modern edge.

Her rise has been marked by a steady stream of recognition from the global music community. *Body For You* became an early breakthrough, earning Honorable Mention in the USA Songwriting Competition's R&B category and later advancing as a semi-finalist in the UK Songwriting Competition, where both the single and its video received coveted Five-Star ratings. Another milestone followed with *Love Is A Luxury*, which reached the finals of the International Acoustic Music Awards - further proof that Ireland's writing resonates across genres and borders.

But her artistry doesn't stop at the studio door. Ireland has become just as known for the visual world she builds around her music. Working closely with film director Joe Chilcott, she has crafted videos that feel like short films - moody, narrative-driven, and visually striking. These projects have traveled the globe, earning official selections in more than seventy film festivals and taking home twenty-two awards. Among the standouts are *Elevator*, which won 'Best Independent Music Video' at the International Music Video Underground Awards, and *Drive*, which captured the Special Jury Award for 'Best Music Video' at the Thilsi International Film Festival in 2024. Each release reinforces her instinct for pairing sound with story, turning songs into immersive experiences.

Her roots run deep in Pittsburgh's music scene, where she first made her mark as the frontwoman of Friday's Child during the late '90s, followed by a new chapter with the FIVE6 in 2012. Those early projects helped shape her identity as a performer - bold, expressive, and unafraid to experiment. Today, she channels that same spirit as the founder and lead vocalist of Hot Weather Holiday, a band that blends her love of melody, groove, and emotional depth into a cohesive, evolving sound.



Ireland's newest creative chapter signals a fresh evolution. Partnering with multi-platinum producer Ryan M. Tedder - whose credits include Ariana Grande, Jennifer Lopez, and Meghan Trainor - she has stepped into a sonic space that feels both radio-ready and unmistakably personal. The collaboration has allowed her to refine a style built on infectious rhythms, memorable hooks, and the kind of emotional resonance that invites listeners to stay awhile. It's a sound that feels like the natural next step for an artist who has always balanced vulnerability with ambition.

Through every phase of her career, Cathleen Ireland has remained a storyteller at heart. Whether she's crafting a lyric, shaping a beat, or building a visual narrative, she approaches each project with the same intention: to create work that moves people. Her voice is powerful, her songwriting evocative, and her creative vision continually expanding. With a growing list of international accolades and a fearless approach to crossing artistic boundaries, she stands as a dynamic force - one whose influence is only beginning to reach its full horizon.

www.cathleenireland.com

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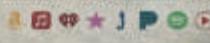
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SWAMP-BORN AND SHADOW-CROWNED: THE PRIVATE HAUNTINGS OF THE CURSE OF K.K. HAMMOND

By Jason Airy

There's something otherworldly about The Curse of K.K. Hammond, a presence that feels less like a stage name and more like a whispered legend carried on swamp mist. Yet behind the shadowed imagery and Southern gothic atmosphere stands an artist disarmingly clear about who she is and why she creates.

Step into the studio with her, and there's no costume change happening behind the curtain. "It's definitely a deeper layer of myself," she explains. "It's when I'm at my most honest." While her music videos may lean into character and ritualistic drama, the songs themselves are stripped of artifice. The persona amplifies the mood; the music reveals the marrow.

That marrow runs deep into the Delta. Hammond cites the legendary Skip James as her favorite artist of all time - not casually, but reverently. His haunting falsetto and stark, minor-key blues left a permanent imprint on her emotional landscape. "I've listened to his songs countless times and still get emotional every new occasion," she says. It's that fragile balance - exquisite beauty entwined with profound sorrow - that shapes her own sound.

But the pull isn't just musical; it's geographical and mythic. Hammond speaks of swampland the way poets speak of doomed lovers. Ethereally beautiful. Overflowing with extraordinary life. Yet bleak and dangerous. That duality - light and shadow, bloom and decay - is the axis on which her songwriting turns. Some of her most emotionally profound songs, she says, were written in that setting. You can hear it in the reverb-soaked slide guitar and the patient, brooding spaces between notes.

Her rendition of *Ain't No Grave* embodies that defiant spirit, rising when everything insists you should remain buried. Like most people, she has faced periods where life unraveled in ways she didn't anticipate. Dark battles. Private reckonings. Music became her processing ground. "Whatever I've been through tends to show up there," she admits, often cloaked in metaphor. The Blues has always been a vessel for transmuting pain into power; Hammond simply carries that lineage forward in her own voice.

To try and label her strictly as musician feels incomplete. She considers herself a "generalized artist," having explored poetry, sculpture, painting, story writing - nearly every art form except dance, she jokes. At its simplest, she believes artists transform lived experience and emotion into form. That philosophy explains the cinematic quality of her work. Her videos aren't literal translations of lyrics but visual languages that deepen atmosphere and emotional weight.

Watch one of her darker pieces alone at night, and it feels less like entertainment and more like initiation. She hopes her work stirs awe, anticipation, surprise - even fear - the way a good horror film might. Not to shock gratuitously, but to awaken something dormant in the viewer. To frame the music in a mood that lingers.

Loss has shaped her voice profoundly. So she has a keen awareness of the world's fractures. Sorrow and resilience live side by side in her tone, neither overwhelming the other. That equilibrium is the beating heart of the Blues, and she guards it fiercely. Despite chart recognition and growing acclaim, she insists she never set out to craft a calculated sound. "I just run on instinct," she says. Her music isn't rebellion against mainstream or tradition; it's simply the only honest way she knows to create, drawn from something primal and deeply internal.

The "curse" in her name speaks to that tension. Being a musician, for her, is a double-edged sword. She treasures the connection with fans but describes herself as extraordinarily private, perhaps even a hermit. The expectations of visibility can feel suffocating, like being paraded. It's why she has chosen not to tour, preferring instead to remain an enigma: heard but not constantly seen.

And yet, invisibility doesn't mean detachment. When the final note fades, she hopes listeners carry more than just a melody. She wants them to feel seen. Understood. To recognize that their private pain isn't strange or isolated. If her songs echo in their heads long after the silence settles - not just as earworms, but as quiet companions in the dark - then the conjuring has worked.

In that space between sorrow and strength, The Curse of K.K. Hammond doesn't play a character. She reveals a truth. Shadowed, yes, but fiercely alive.

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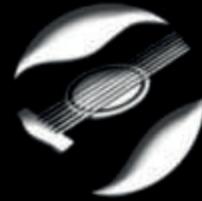
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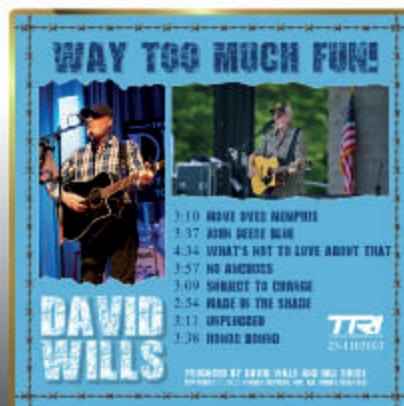
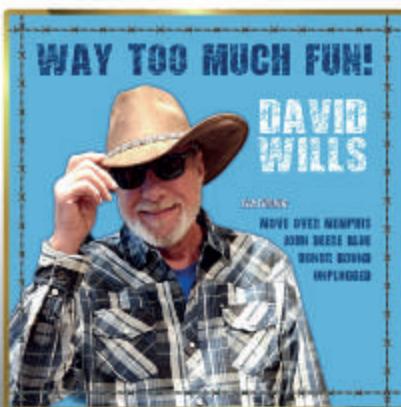
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