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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.

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# ADAM GRANT ATEAM ARTIST AND ATEAM STRONG



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Adam Grant was born and raised in Harris County Georgia in a small town called Shiloh. He is 48 years old, married with 1 son who is 16 years old named Brock and he's a leukemia survivor from age 5.

Now retired from law enforcement after 13 years, he survived a horrible crash with severe injuries while on a traffic stop that required three surgeries. Adam was medically retired after the accident and started focusing back on his music with songwriting, recording and performing live shows between Georgia and Texas.

Adam had an independent record deal with his band Badhorse from 2010-2012 in Nashville with 3 consecutive #1 songs on country radio on New Music Weekly charts and Nashville Music Row charts, one #2 song on Christian Country charts, voted Best New Group 2010 by New Music Weekly. Badhorse was in two motion pictures, one with Travis Tritt and the other with John Schneider.



Adam has just released his 2nd solo album titled "MY TURN" which currently has a hit single titled "LEAVE-ME-THE-HELL-ALONE" with over 900,000 views combined on YouTube. The song was recorded in Nashville with members of Ronnie Milsap's band, co-produced by John Heinrich. Adam has put out a total of five albums, three of which were with Badhorse, the two recent albums are solo albums. Badhorse had a music video to their song 'It's All Good' with Terry Bradshaw from the Steelers at the Titans stadium in Nashville.

The very first country artist Adam ever met in person on his very first trip to Nashville back in 98' was Vern Gosdin himself at the Nashville Palace while Adam was staying at the Opryland Hotel. Badhorse also had their song 'It's All Good' selected to be the 2012 NFL Alumni song during the 2012 NFL Alumni awards. Adam continues to write amazing country songs and performing live everywhere he can.



# PEACEMAKER"



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## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT AARON PARTRIDGE

By Chloie Wright

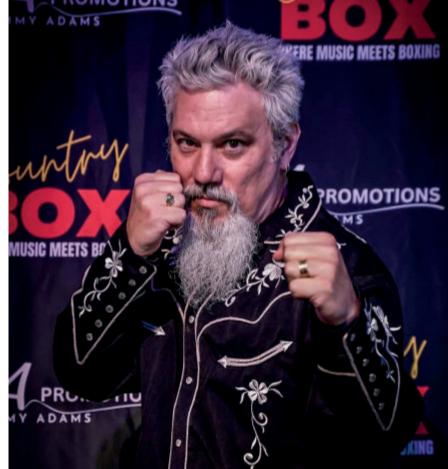
aron Partridge's musical journey first started at the roots of his family. Growing up, his mother played piano and organ in church, while his father performed in Country bands. At the age of thirteen, he began learning the harmonica, engaging himself in the Blues. Soon after, he transitioned to the guitar and spent two decades mastering Blues Rock, Rockabilly, and Country

styles, performing at local bars, clubs, festivals, and rodeos.

His influences are as diverse as his musical upbringing. From the classic sounds of the '50s and '60s to the soul of Gospel and Blues, Aaron was drawn to artists like the Beach Boys, Bob Dylan, Bob Seger, BB King, Ray Charles, Rosetta Tharpe, and Jerry Lee Lewis. During high school, he worked as a radio DJ and that introduced him to '60s Soul music, lighting a love for the mix of Blues, Rock, and Gospel that continues to shape his style today.

Aaron's career highlights reflect his commitment to his music and his faith. One significant moment was performing an original guitar instrumental with the late Phil Emmanuel, a legendary Australian guitarist. Another unforgettable moment was collaborating with Gospel legend Steve Apirana on the song *You Can Call On Him*. Yet, some of his most cherished moments come from unexpected places, like performing with the Gospel group Restore the Broken in a Somerset, Tennessee parking lot, reaching over 30,000 live viewers.

Aaron's achievements include songs currently charting in four U.S. charts, including his latest single released through Grace Records Nashville, LLC, *Heaven Help Me*. He's been nominated at the Prayze Factor Awards in Atlanta and the Josie Awards in Nashville for his song *Strongest Soldiers*. While accolades are meaningful, Aaron's faith has shifted his



perspective on success. Rather than focusing on awards, he values the chance to reach people through his music.

A turning point in Aaron's life came in 2012 when he met Sam Childers, the "Machine Gun Preacher." After seventeen years away from church, this encounter renewed his faith and redefined his purpose. Aaron realized that God had been preparing him all along, guiding his talents toward ministry. This led to meeting Country music icon Leon Everette. Aaron was invited to appear on his TV show, God and Country Time, and eventually started working with the amazing Debbie Bennett from Grace Records Nashville LLC, setting his commitment to sharing his faith through music.

In the future, Aaron hopes to broaden his music ministry around the world. His band, Brothers of Redemption, inspires people that feel different or like misfits, which is how, at one time, Aaron felt. One of Aaron's aspirations for 2025 is to return to the U.S. to continue on the connections made and share his new music. He wants to continue to share his message of faith and redemption with prayers and support.

At his concerts, fans experience a powerful blend of Gospel-inspired storytelling, smooth guitar, and heartfelt lyrics. Whether solo or with his band, Aaron's concerts and shows are deeply personal, offering a real connection from the stage to the audience. His music is raw, real, and filled with faith.

www.therealaaronpartridge.com

# Scott Peacock

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Perhaps her first words were not even spoken but likely sang. Billie Jo Jones started singing as soon as she could talk. This singer/songwriter is known for blending traditional Country music with her own, unique style and attitude. From her Texas roots to the global stage, she is captivating audiences everywhere. *B*illie Jo Jones was destined for stardom from a very early age. Raised by her Grandparents in Emory, Texas is where she began singing. She recalls, "I would go in the living room and put on shows for them when I was four and five years old and sing Loretta Lynn, Tammy Wynette, Ray Price, Shania Twain and all the greats. My grandparents would sit, watch me for hours, and clap for me after every song. I went from singing to them in their living room and now they go to my shows. They are 86 and 90. We laugh and joke and say that I have kept them young."

Billie Jo is excited to have released her fiery new single, *Flame*, the track showcases her powerful vocal range and signature style, combining classic Country grit with modern-day attitude. With a bold spirit and undeniable sass, Jones delivers a performance that leaves no doubt - she's a force to be reckoned with.

Jones shares the story behind the song. "I co-wrote it last year. It's a little bit of a true story. Dolly Parton is a huge influence on me and *Jolene* is one of my favorites to cover! I wanted to have a little twist, similar to Jolene and make it what Billie Jo Jones would have done in that situation. I co-wrote it with Len Snow, Tammy Marler and Bobby E. Boyd. I am very excited about it. I think it's going to be my next breakout hit." Lynn with Fist City or You Ain't Women Enough. The song sounds like something Loretta might have written. Flame is a confident anthem of resilience and determination, showcasing Billie Jo Jones' strength and willingness to stand up for what's hers.

Her previous single, Right Now Kinda Girl, topped the Texas Regional Radio Chart. With a growing popularity the dynamic blonde Texan is reviving her favorite style of Country music with hard-hitting, honest lyrics, clever hooks, is write better songs to inspire people."

and unforgettable melodies. Her single, Some Girls Don't Cry, is the title track of her debut full-length Country album.

Jones shares her thoughts on her career. "I have had a lot of success in Country music. I've been playing with my band for over ten years and working really hard and now things are kind of lining up and coming into the place they should have been. It's been a really fun, wild ride. I have done a whole lot put I also feel like I am just getting started."

Like many artists, Billie Jo has some goals she is aiming for in her growing career. "I have played at the Grand Ole Oprv with Lee Greenwood but I haven't stood in the circle or had my debut moment yet. I want to really play the Grand Ole Opry, The Ryman, I would love to go out on a big tour with an artist for several weeks. That would really be a big goal of mine. I want to keep writing songs and putting out more music that people can relate to and want to play over again."

Billie Jo shared who she looks up to as a songwriter. "Any and everybody, especially Loretta Lynn and Dolly Parton. I love all of Jack Ingram stuff he writes, Lori McKenna, Liz Rose, Paul Overstreet, Keith Whitley. I mean

there are so many I could name. I love to perform but I love wrote a song on her latest album, I Can't Take Keith Whitley Tonight. She adds, "I wrote that with Len Snow and it's one of my favorites so far."

A personal song that Jones wrote on the album was about her grandmother, entitled, She Did. "My grandparents raised me since I was one and my mom was and still is a drug addict to this day so I've only seen her a few times my entire life. My daddy is a truck driver and still is a big part of my life. I just didn't live with him. But my grandparents took me in and

When listening to *Flame*, it's like a throwback to Loretta loved me and made me into the woman I am today. So I am blessed because of them."

> Jones has held tight to her faith through all the ups and downs in life. "Being that my grandparents raised me, I grew up in a Christian home and that was very important to me and in my music. I am never going to put anything out that my grandma would not approve of. I have always said God didn't give me this voice just to sit at home with it. He gave it to share with the world. That is what I want to continue to do



L-R: Len Snow (Get Joe Records), Billie Jo Jones, Sharla McCoy (promotion), Kent Wells (producer)

She shares highlights during her career. "I did get to sing writing songs as well." Speaking of Keith Whitley, Jones with Lee Greenwood for the Veterans. I recorded my album with Kent Wells, and the big things I can't announce yet!" Jones was recently surprised with a #1 plaque for her single, Who's Tequila Are You Drinking, which was #1 on Amazon Music's Top Country Songs chart in February 2025. This makes three #1 songs from her debut album. Jones has been nominated for numerous awards with the Texas Regional Country Music Awards. She took home the award for 'Female Vocalist of the Year.'



At a Billie Jo Jones show, fans will hear her play some originals and cover songs like Patsy Cline, Maranda Lambert, Reba, Dolly and others. She admits. "I don't stand still, I am all over the place.".

Billie Jo continues to become one of Country music's most beloved artists. She has shared the stage with notable performers such as Deana Carter, Gene Watson, Linda Davis, Barbara Fairchild, The Oak Ridge Boys, Diamond Rio, Justin Moore, Wade Bowen, Pat Green, Stoney LaRue, Roger Creager, Sam Riggs, Bryan White, Jerrod Niemann, Josh Abbott, Wade Hayes, Sammy Kershaw, Shenandoah, Oscar Award Winner, Billy Bob Thornton, and many others. A personal highlight for her was opening for Ray Price, one of her biggest inspirations and a favorite she enjoyed listening to with her grandparents over the years. Billie Jo Jones lives near Dallas Texas and is the mother of four kids aged from eight through fourteen.

www.billiejojones.com



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# GOD HAS A WAY OF Workin' It Out

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## Artist Spotlight MARTONE

## By Jason Airy

artone's journey through the entertainment industry is one marked by passion, perseverance, and a powerful sense of purpose. From hosting the hit music video show Video Control at just fourteen years old, to becoming a rising force in the global house music scene, Martone's evolution is both inspiring and electrifying.

His early exposure to media through television and later radio - most notably as host of Industry Revue in the Mix, which grew into the independent IRMIX Radio - helped shape his signature voice. But it was his love for music, born from icons like Janet and Michael Jackson, Prince, Madonna, and house legends like Frankie Knuckles and David Morales, that truly ignited his artistic fire. Fusing high-energy house beats with

Electronic and Pop flair, Martone's sound is bold, expressive, and deeply personal.

A career-defining moment came with the release of "The Evolution of Martone", an album that not only celebrated its 10th anniversary with a special remix edition but also included tracks that hit the Top 10 on the dance/workout charts in 2016. Love You I Do Auoo (Extreme's Deep Love Remix) and Groove Tonight (Extreme's Late Night Remix) climbed to #5 and #9 respectively, affirming his status as a powerful voice in the Dance music world.

Recognition followed with a Global Music Award Silver Medal and a Detroit Music Award nomination for "Erogenous Zone." In 2016, Martone became a member of The Recording Academy and attended the Grammy Awards - a surreal night that included encounters with his childhood idols and unforgettable industry moments.

Martone's creative drive extends beyond music. His debut book, "Deep & Raw: The Erotica of Martone" opened new avenues of expression, showcasing a deeply introspective and sensual side. Yet, the road hasn't been without obstacles. Struggles with music distribution through Label Worx and TuneCore tested his resolve but reaffirmed his belief in trusting his own instincts.



Looking ahead, Martone is preparing to release his next album, "Phoenix Rising: The Emperor's Ascension" in July 2025. Before that, fans can expect the release of the lead single, *Too Bad, So Sad*, a collaboration with Intelligent Diva, dropping in May. These projects reflect his evolution as both an artist and a person - resilient, daring, and ever-transforming.

A self-described activist, Martone's artistry is grounded in a mission far deeper than the dance floor. As a Black gay man in music, he champions representation, inclusivity, and social justice, using his platform to challenge oppression and inspire change. "My music isn't just about making people dance - it's about empowerment," he says.

Martone's performances are more than concerts - they are immersive celebrations of life, love, and the liberating spirit of house music. And while he still dreams of acting in films and writing more books, his ultimate goal remains clear: to spread joy, spark connection, and empower others - one beat at a time.

With his fearless authenticity and relentless drive, Martone is more than a house music artist. He's a movement. And his evolution? It's only just begun.

www.martoneonline.com

# ANDREH DEAN

# Thanks for playing and charting "Ole Wagon Stand"

Andrew Dean was raised on Country music and Jesus, you'll find his songs focus on the important things in life: God, his wife, family, and life in general. Making music with his very talented friends, Andrew Dean and The Farm Machine continues to make a big splash on the music scene, riding the wave with over 70 National and International Awards for Songwriting, Vocalist, Band, Music Videos, Albums, Singles, Humanitarian and Entertainer of the Year.

> For more information, please contact: andrewdean@andrewdean.us | andrewdean.us

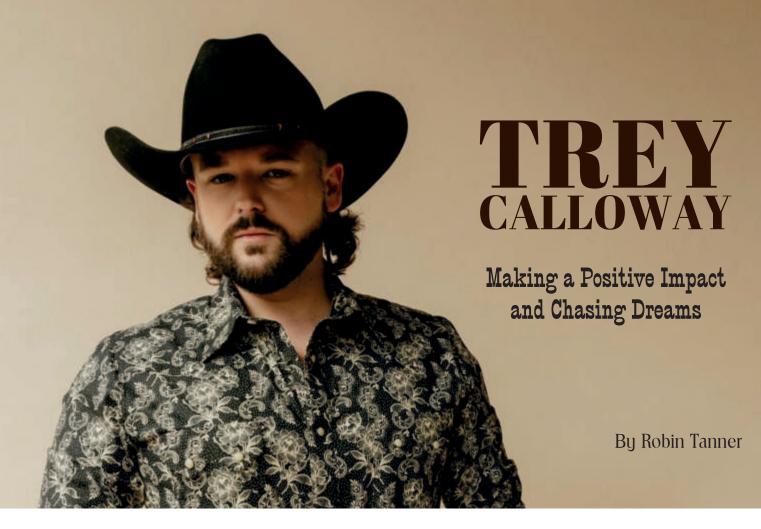
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Country singer/songwriter Trey Calloway has over sixteen years of professional experience and a lifetime of performing. The multi-award winner is passionate about energizing and inspiring live audiences and collaborating with diverse groups of musicians. With a creative talent, great stage presence, strong work ethic, and a positive attitude, Trey Calloway is living out his dream and is passionate about his craft and touching lives through his music.

rey was born and raised in North Carolina. The son of a preacher man, he grew up singing in church and was a seasoned performer by the age of ten. Trey reflects on those early years. "My folks are from the Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina originally, but my family and great grandmother moved to the Charlotte area. She was one of the first to come off the mountain and find work in Charlotte. My folks live in a town called Mooresville now. My dad was an evangelist, and it was hard to make a living as an evangelist so he worked construction and that's what he does to this day. We went to different churches in North and South Carolina, and he preached revivals. What got me into music was singing to those congregations, to different people and different crowds. I grew up with that deep love for Gospel music. I would say I love Gospel as much as I love Country music."

Trey remembers those Gospel influences. "The Watchmen Quartet, as a kid, was the first quartet I remember hearing, also Charles Johnson and the Revivers and Ray Bolz.

Then as I got older, I listened to the Newsboys, Mark Shultz and TobyMac. My dad exposed me to all the Gospel stuff. But once I got a hold of the Country music it was all over but the crying!"

Although Southern and Contemporary Gospel was his first musical loves, he was instantly mesmerized by the sounds of Country music after hearing songs from a Garth Brooks album. Trey recalls, "It was the Garth Brooks "Double Live" album that made me really want to do this. That album opened with *Callin' Baton Rouge*, and it was awesome. Then Mom and Dad bought me a "Country Gold" album with Geroge Jones, Loretta Lynn, Waylon and Wille, Patsy Cline and Conway Twitty. I had a deep-rooted love of Classic Country music and the 80s. I am a combination of different kinds of styles."

His passion for rocking, boot stomping, Country music artists such as Garth Brooks, Clint Black, Alan Jackson, and Travis Tritt started growing within him. "These musical influences inspired my artistic journey and changed my life." open mic nights. "I began writing songs and performing in clubs at the age of fifteen and knew early on without a doubt playing in bands and getting paid gigs."

Trey fronted multiple bands and won numerous awards in North Carolina before moving to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in 2016. "I had a nice house near Myrtle Beach out in the country. I knew Nashville was where I wanted to be. I sold almost everything I owned and moved in 2019. I was heroes, including farmers and soldiers. making some contacts and things were looking up

and going great."

He became one of the featured acts at the legendary Alan Jackson's Good Time Bar when the pandemic hit in March 2020. The Nashville music scene locked down and professional musicians faced unprecedented challenges finding work.

"Luckily, something good came out of it. I moved back to Myrtle Beach and started a new band and met my wife, Raina. She had just graduated from Ohio University and moved to Myrtle Beach two days before we met. I snatched her up off the market before anyone could get her!"

Trey admits, honestly, it was all in God's plan. "It was meant to happen the way it did. I went back to Nashville, and we really accomplished a lot in the last three years. I have a great team of people and proud of everyone that works with me. The older I get the more things happen in God's time. The more we try to plan, the more He throws a monkey wrench in there. You just got to hang on and you got to work hard and be prepared."

For true Country music fans and those who love a good story song, Trey's latest single, The Ballad of Righteous and Wrong ranks up there with the best. The song brings a modern edge while evoking the spirit of classics such as Pancho & Lefty, and El Paso, set in a world that would fit any Taylor Sheridan drama. With its strong storytelling, evocative melody, and rich production, The Ballad

Of Righteous and Wrong explores the enduring conflict between justice and morality, drawing listeners into every word.

Trey shares how this unique song was born. "I love talking about this song! I wrote it with two of my great friends Greg Wilson and Hal O'Dell. I walked in to write that day and I said, guys, I don't want to write another Popish love, Country song today. Let's do something interesting and experiment. Let's write a song that stands the test of time. I had always wanted to write a song like Devil Went Down To Georgia, Poncho and Lefty, Big Iron or something like that. We eventually settled on a story of two twin brothers in the wild west. One brother is an outlaw, the other is a Deputy. We wrote this little murder ballad that delves into the timeless struggle between right and wrong, It's a story song that you have to listen to beginning to end." Plans are in the works for

In his teens Trey began playing guitar and performing at a video of the song. But there is a lyric video that was released with the single.

This release follows the success of Calloway's previous I'd make music my career. Around the age of sixteen I started single Your Love Is Safe With Me. His debut album, "Wanted Man," which continues to gain momentum includes nine tracks and blends the traditional sounds of the '90s with a modern edge. Calloway released Forgotten Man last year. It's a high energy tribute to selfless people giving their all for others. Forgotten Man celebrates the altruism of our unsung



Trey has opened shows for Joe Diffie, Tracy Lawrence, McBride & The Ride, Pat Green, Edwin McCain, and Craig Campbell, and has played for audiences at the Charlotte Speed Street NASCAR Festival, the House of Blues, Billy Bob's Texas and The Tennessee State Fair Opry Stage.

Since mid-2023, Calloway has won 'Songwriter of the Year' at the Texas Country Music Awards, had a music video featured on CMT, been picked up by Spotify editorial playlists, and is approaching three million streams on Spotify alone.

Trey is working on getting back on tour after working on recordings for three years. "I got out the "Wanted Man" album this past year and we pretty much have not stopped and been working on a new album now. Then we will start releasing singles on this new record soon. I am excited to let the world hear the new music."

A special moment for Trey was when his son Cash, who is ten years old now, joined him on stage. "That was a special time during our vacation. I had no idea he knew a song I wrote called *Working Thing* and he got up there and snatched that microphone out of my hand and sang every word. He is musically gifted. I don't know what kind of music he is gonna end up playing but that is still to be determined. He loves Country music, Heavy Metal, Hip Hop and I am very excited to see where his music career goes. I want him to find music the way I did, very organically."



Trey relies on his faith and shares what keeps him grounded. "I think there have been times in my life where I doubted God. There have been times when I asked him, 'Why are you doing this to me?' I think we all battle that kind of stuff. I come to realize, as I put my faith and trust in Him, usually things work out the way they should. Honestly, what keeps me going now a days is wanting to be successful for my son. I want to be an example that he can look up to and say, 'my daddy chased his dream and took the time to be a good father.' You can do both! They say it's hard to do both in this career, but you can. You can chase a dream and be a good parent and be someone he and my future children can look up to. That sense of morality that the Lord has instilled in me I try to instill in him as well. I want him to look at me the way I look at my dad."

He adds, "While I love performing for fans and want to be a great entertainer, I hope that above all I'm remembered as a successful songwriter. My dream is to bring positive original music to life to help others in whatever way my music might touch them. I've come to know that music can work miracles. It can make you fall in love;

it can remind you of the best day of your life; it can get you through any tough times; and it can even heal a broken heart. I wholeheartedly believe that music is the universal language. It has saved me time and time again, and I'm continuously inspired to write songs and express myself through music. I truly hope my songs resonate with people and can bring happiness and understanding to others. If I can positively impact one life with my words and melodies, then that's a career I'll gladly hang my cowboy hat on."

www.treycallowaymusic.com



# DENISE EDWARDS



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Denise Edwards is a singer/Songwriter trained in classical piano from Brandon, SD. She has recently released her 4th album of all original material this year 2024. She has charted multiple times on the CMA European charts through promotions by TRIPLESTRAND PRODUCTIONS and received a Certificate of Eligibility from IAIRA for her Christmas CD, "OH, WHAT A GIFT!" She plays keyboard and organ for several local churches and continues to write Christian music.

Booking: lynn@alliancecom.net







# BGJ PROMOTIONS ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

yatt Massingille is a rising Country music star who is quickly making his mark on the industry. At first glance, Wyatt may seem out of place with his modern and edgy appearance, but when he opens his mouth to sing, his voice transports the listener to the heart of classic Country music.

Some folks might say some of the music that is packaged as Traditional Country nowadays has more in common with Neil Young than it does with George Jones. Though he clearly loves them all, it is Jones that shaped Wyatt Massingille's early love for Traditional Country. As a matter of fact, he could probably do a whole show just singing George Jones songs. One that is most requested and one that Wyatt enjoys performing the most is Jones' *He Stopped Loving Her Today*. The young singer says it is the epitome of what real Country music should sound like from the lyrics, to the music, to the voice.

You won't mistake Wyatt's voice for George or Keith Whitley, another hero. But you will hear their influence. You'll hear an honest empathy, and deep understanding of what hard Country is all about. Drawing inspiration from legends like Jones, Merle Haggard and Johnny Cash, Wyatt puts his own unique spin on the genre, infusing it with a fresh energy that has captivated audiences across the nation. *Lord It Sure is Drunk Tonight* is a Keith Whitley song that Whitley wrote but never released. Wyatt is the first person to ever release the song.

## WYATT MASSINGILLE



With raw talent and a passion for storytelling, Wyatt Massingille is a force to be reckoned with in the world of Country music. It's no wonder the Indiana native is a five-time North American Country Music Association International (NACMAI) award winner.

In a world full of diverse music Wyatt has always stayed true to his roots and influences in the vein of Classic Country music. He's certainly one to watch!

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Mark & Dubbel

MARK S DUBBELS

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# **The Music Lives On**

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

## Staff, Cashbox



**Troy Seals** November 16, 1938 - March 6, 2025

Troy Seals was born in Big Hill, Kentucky, and his family moved to Cincinnati, Ohio when he was eleven. Troy began his career at age 17 in 1956. He and his band, The Earthquakes performed on the Rock & Roll nightclub circuit during the 1950s, working with such legends as Fats Domino, Jackie Wilson, Bo Diddley, The Drifters, Lloyd Price, Dorsey Burnette and Chubby Checker.

Seals met Rockabilly recording artist Jo-Ann Campbell, who was featured in such teen films as "Go, Johnny Go" (1958) and "Hey Let's Twist" (1961). Not long after Seals and Campbell married, she scored a 1963 Country hit with *I'm the Girl From Wolverton Mountain*. Billed as "Jo-Ann & Troy," the couple had Pop success with *I Found a Love, Oh What a Love* in 1964.

After regular appearances on Dick Clark's TV shows American Bandstand and Where the Action Is, Campbell retired in 1965. Seals gave up music and founded a construction company in 1968. The couple moved to Nashville in early 1969. Seals continued to work in construction, building Music Row's Quadraphonic Studio. He also took work as a session musician, hoping to break into the Country industry.

By the 1970s, Seals had established himself as a respected songwriter. He earned his first No.1 hit when Conway Twitty recorded *There's a Honky Tonk Angel*. Twitty also had No. 1 hits with the Seals tunes *Don't Take It Away*, (19 79), *Red Neckin' Love Makin' Night* (1982) and *Fallin' for You for Years* (1987). Three Troy Seals songs were duet hits for Twitty and Loretta Lynn, *Feelins* (1975), *I Can't Love You Enough* (1977) and *From Seven Till Ten* (1978).

By the close of the 1970s, Seals was established as a Music Row tunesmith. He worked with a variety of cowriters, most successfully Eddie Setser, Max D. Barnes, Graham Lyle and Mike Reid. Seals and wife Jo-Ann were also sometimes cowriters. His early songs were recorded by Johnny Paycheck, Jeanne Pruett, Jerry Lee Lewis, Nat Stuckey, Bob Luman and Connie Smith. In 1979, Elvis Presley had a posthumous, top 10 Country hit with his revival of *There's a Honky Tonk Angel*.

Troy recorded his debut album at Quadraphonic in 1973. Titled "Now Presenting Troy Seals," the Atlantic Records collection included his version of *We Had It All*, as well as *There's a Honky Tonk Angel (Who'll Take Me Back In).* Producer Billy Sherrill recorded Seals as the songwriter's second album. It was issued by Columbia Records in 1976. Seals also recorded singles for Elektra, RCA, Polydor and several smaller labels. But he became increasingly known for his writing, rather than his recordings.

Seals was seen as a staple in Nashville's songwriting community. He went on to write some of the most memorable Country songs of the era and several Top 10 hits. His work included You Almost Slipped My Mind by Charley Pride, Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes by George Jones, Drinkin' and Dreamin' by Waylon Jennings, Ten Feet Away by Keith Whitley, and Lost in the Fifties Tonight recorded by Ronnie Milsap. Seals secured another No.1 hit in 1985 with Seven Spanish Angels, a duet between Willie Nelson and Ray Charles. He went on to write many more songs for artists like The Oak Ridge Boys, The Judds, Reba McEntire, Randy Travis, Faith Hill, John Anderson, John Berry, Neal McCoy and more.

Seals' songs reached beyond Country music. In 1983, Eric Clapton had a Pop hit with the songwriter's *I've Got a Rock and Roll Heart*. Over the years, Seals' copyrights were also recorded by such Pop and R&B stars as Joe Cocker, Millie Jackson, Celine Dion, Three Dog Night, Etta James, Jodeci, Delbert McClinton, Aretha Franklin, The Rolling release of the group's first full-length album. Other fan Stones and Barry Manilow, among others.

Seals' incredible contributions to Country music eventually earned him a place in the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1988. He was named 'Country Songwriter of the Year' by ASCAP along with winning numerous other awards and nominations.

The songwriter's family were also involved in the music business. His nephew Brady Seals was in the band Little Texas and a solo artist. The extended family also included Country stars Dan Seals and Johnny Duncan, Pop star Jim including three consecutive Gospel Music Workshop of Seals of Seals & Crofts and hit songwriter Chuck Seals.

Troy Seals died at home in Hendersonville, Tennessee on March 6. He was 86 years old.



Huev P. Williams September 21, 1938 - March 24, 2025

Huey P. Williams was born in 1938 into Gospel music royalty. He was the older brother of Frank Williams, who founded the Mississippi Mass Choir, and of Melvin, Doug, and Leonard Williams, members of the Grammy-nominated Williams Brothers. The Williams family is widely recognized for its significant influence in shaping the sound of modern Gospel.

As the longtime front man with The Jackson Southernaires, Williams' unmistakable voice and soulful storytelling made him one of the most beloved vocalists in the genre. He is revered as a trailblazer in traditional Gospel.

The Jackson Southernaires, founded in 1940 in Jackson, Mississippi, rose to national prominence in the 1960s with the breakout single, The Greatest Creator, released in 1963. Too Late (1968) became a major success, leading to the

favorites include Don't Let Him Catch You (With Your Work Undone) and How Long Will It Last.

In 1975, the group became the first gospel act to sign with Malaco Records, where it released projects that charted on Billboard's Top Gospel Albums list, such as "Down Home" (1975), "Legendary Gentlemen" (1979), and "Lord We Need Your Blessing" (1985). They were frequently named among Billboard's 'Top Gospel/Soul Artists of the Year.'

The Jackson Southernaires won multiple accolades, America awards for 'Traditional Male Group of the Year' in the late '80s, a Stellar Award in 1989, and a Grammy nomination in 1992. They were inducted into the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame, and in 2010, the city of Jackson renamed a stretch of road in their honor: Jackson Southernaires Drive.

Huey's commitment to Gospel never wavered. When asked if he'd ever retire, he famously replied, "My answer to that question is, how do you give up on God? How do you give up on Gospel? How do you say, 'I'm going to retire?' It's like a good marriage - until death do us part."

Williams' final performance with the group was in late 2024, a testament to his enduring passion for Gospel. On March 24, 2025, he died peacefully at his home in Smithdale, Mississippi. He was 86 years old. His passing marks the end of an era for quartet Gospel - a style he helped define and preserve for over five decades.

"My big brother Huey, in my eyes, was in a league of his own," said Doug, who is one of his brothers. "He possessed a signature voice that was unmistakably his own. His music ministry touched so many lives in such a positive way over the years. He had a big personality, but such a humble spirit. Huey was the epitome of a people's person, a man who loved everybody and never met a stranger. He would literally give you the shirt off his back. That's why so many people from across the country gravitated to him and loved him dearly. His presence will be sorely missed, but his undeniable legacy will live on forever."





## **LuLu Roman** May 6, 1946 - April 23, 225

Born Bertha Louise Hable on May 6, 1946, in Dallas, Texas, Lulu's life was a testament to the power of perseverance. Raised in an orphanage after a challenging childhood marked by abandonment, she transformed adversity into a radiant career that spanned music, comedy, and ministry.

Her indomitable spirit and infectious joy propelled her to stardom, beginning with her breakout role as a founding cast member of Hee Haw in 1969. Alongside Country music legends like Roy Clark and Buck Owens, Lulu's comedic brilliance, hearty laugh, and commanding singing voice made her a household name. Her performances brought warmth and humor to generations of viewers, cementing her as a cornerstone of the show's legacy and a beloved figure in television history.

Lou's talents extended far beyond the screen. As a trailblazer in Gospel music, she released over a dozen albums, which showcased her soulful voice and deeply personal faith. Her music earned her a Grammy nomination, a Dove Award from the Gospel Music Association, and a 1999 induction into the Country Gospel Music Hall of Fame.

Lou's concerts were more than performances - they were spiritual gatherings filled with hope, testimony, and connection. Her openness about her struggles with addiction and her transformative journey to Christianity in the 1970s resonated deeply, offering inspiration to those facing their trials. Her story of redemption became a cornerstone of her ministry, as she shared her faith through music, speaking engagements, and outreach.

Her unwavering love for her family defined Lulu's life. She often spoke of her sons, Damon and Justin, as her greatest blessings. Sadly, Justin passed away in 2017, a loss that profoundly shaped her heart and deepened her faith.

Beyond her professional achievements, Lou passionately advocated for causes close to her heart. Drawing from her own experiences, she supported organizations focused on children's welfare, addiction recovery, adoption, foster care, and heart health. She frequently spoke at churches, recovery centers, and prisons, using humor, humility, and testimony to uplift those struggling with hardship. Her compassion for the broken and her commitment to sharing hope made her a beacon of light for countless individuals, inspiring them to find purpose and healing.

Louise "Lulu" Roman, beloved Country and Gospel music artist, comedian, and cherished star of the iconic television show Hee Haw. aged 78, passed away unexpectedly on the evening of April 23, 2025. Her departure leaves an irreplaceable void in the hearts of her family, friends, and millions of fans worldwide, but her legacy of laughter, faith, and resilience will endure forever.

Her family and friends will forever cherish her infinite kindness, quick wit, and generous spirit, which touched everyone she met.



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There are numerous super-session musicians in Nashville, but very few with the longevity of Charlie McCoy. In addition to being a fixture in Nashville studios for over sixty years, he also has his own recording career.

The extraordinary harmonica player served as the music director for eighteen years for the syndicated television series, "Hee Haw." At 84, The Grand Ole Opry and Country Music Hall of Fame member Charlie McCoy is still enjoying the blessing of an extraordinary career and a God-given talent.

## The Musician **CHARLIE McCOY** and the Man

#### **By Robin Tanner**

harlie McCoy had a connection to Hank Williams before he knew anything about the Country legend. Charlie was born in Oak Hill, West Virginia. It was the town where Hank Williams passed away in the back of the car at the only gas station in Oak Hill. The driver was in route to take Hank to Canton, Ohio for a New Year's Eve concert. Hank's death was confirmed at the hospital where Charlie McCoy was born.

Charlie recalls, "I was eleven when Hank passed away and I didn't know anything about him at that time. Then, of course, when I moved to Nashville in 1960, I found out real quick who he was! I realized how important he was to Country music. He was only 29 years old with no high school education, but the songs he wrote are still popular seventy years later."

Charlie's family moved to Miami, Florida when he was nine. He attended a very musical high school and took Music Theory in the 12th Grade and began playing guitar in Rock Music, dropped out before the year was over and went back

& Roll bands. During a Country music dance, his job was playing Rock & Roll ten minutes each hour. Charlie shares his encounter meeting a Country artist that night. "Mel Tillis came in and heard me perform. I didn't know who he was. He said, 'Boy, if you come to Nashville I will get you on records tomorrow.' That was like throwing a steak to a wolf! The day after graduation, I went to Nashville and met Mel's manager and publisher, Jim Denny, and he said, 'Mel told me about you.""

Charlie auditioned for two iconic producers, Chet Atkins and Owen Bradley. He played the guitar and sang Chuck Berry's, Johnny B. Goode. Charlie admits, "They both turned me down, but Owen Bradley invited me to a recording session. I saw a thirteen-year-old, Brenda Lee record one of her first hits. When I watched that session and heard the first playback, I said, I don't want to be a singer, I want to do this!"

McCoy went back to the University of Miami School of

to Nashville. "My father was so upset because it was his dream for me to go to college. He forgave me years later when I introduced him to Dolly Parton!"

He moved in with a songwriter, Kent Westberry, who became a Nashville Songwriter Association Hall of Famer and wrote many hit songs. Charlie remembers how that friendship opened the door in the beginning of his career. "Every day, people would come over and write. I was fascinated and would sit and listen. One day, Kent was working on a song and asked me to play my harmonica. It sounded great and I played on the demo session."

asked, 'Are you the guy that played harmonica on that song.'

Yes Sir, I am! He wanted me on the session and to play the way I did on the demo. He was recording a young girl from Sweden named Ann Margaret. At twenty years old, I walked in the session and Chet said, 'I know you!' I said, Yes, I auditioned for you two years ago. 'You played a Gibson and sang Johnny B. Goode. I wish you would have played that harmonica for me!' The greatest part about that session was when Bob Moore walked up and said, 'You free Friday?' At that time, I was free the rest of my life! He was recording Roy Orbison and I was already a huge fan! We recorded the song *Candy Man*. The record hit the radio and my phone started ringing, and it's been 63 years and it's still ringing."

Charlie began working sessions in the early 60s and became one of the most in-demand session players in Nashville known as the A-Team. He has played over 12,000 sessions. His session credits are literally a who's who of Country music. In addition to Country sessions, Charlie was a mainstay on Elvis Presley recordings both in Nashville and Los Angeles. When Bob Dylan recorded Highway 61, Blond On Blond, John Wesley Harding, and Nashville Skyline, Charlie was there, playing on these landmark recordings. He was also heard on Simon and Garfunkle's The Boxer He has toured across the U.S. and made appearances in Europe and Japan.

Charlie shares out of the thousands of sessions which ones stand out to him. "My favorite song I played on was Tom T. Hall's, Old Dogs, Children And Watermelon Wine. The biggest Country record I played on was George Jones' He Stopped Loving Her Today or Delta Dawn by Tanya Tucker. I didn't play harmonica but some of the biggest records I played on was baritone saxophone on Pretty Women by Roy Orbison, Trumpet on Everybody Must Get Stoned with Bob Dylan and I played organ on Easy Lovin' by Freddie Hart. I was the guy who tuned the guitar on Bobby Bare's Detroit City. Those classic songs of the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s are going to last a lot longer than some of these songs today."

Charlie also played on I Was Country When Country Wasn't Cool by Barbara Mandrell, Loretta Lynn, When The Tingle Becomes A Chill, Dolly Parton's My Tennessee Mountain Home, Play, Guitar Play by Conway Twitty, Johnny Paycheck's hit, Take This Job And Shove It and thousands of other hits and recordings.

Artists that Charlie has played for include, Jerry Lee Lewis, Waylon Jennings, Blake Shelton, Marie Osmond, Ray Stevens, Willie Nelson, Wynonna, Carl Perkins, Fats Domino, The Oak Ridge Boys, Connie Smith, Tammy Wynette, Roy Acuff, Paul Simon, Charley Pride, The Jordanaires, Bill "A month passes, and I get a call from Chet Atkins. He Anderson, Gene Watson, Pasty Cline, Brenda Lee, Jim Reeves, The Happy Goodman Family and many others.



He won a Grammy in 1972 for his album, "The Real McCoy." He won CMA's "Instrumentalist Of The Year" two times and the Academy Of Country Music's "Specialty Instrument Award." Charlie was a member of a legendary recording band, Area Code 615. The band featured many of the top session players in Nashville. Charlie is predominantly known as a harmonica player, but his musical talents include guitar, bass, mallet percussion, (vibes, marimba, bells), keyboards, and various wind instruments. In addition to "Hee Haw", Charlie served as music director for other television shows including playing in the house band for the TNN show "Music City Tonight" with Crook and Chase.



#### Charlie on stage with Lynn Fox and Brenda Lee at Sunday Mornin' Country

Charlie reminisces about his legendary career. "It's been so amazing! For many years I was so busy. I was doing more than three hundred sessions a year. Then all the perks that came along with it. Hee Haw, The West Virginia Hall of Fame, The Country Music Hall of Fame, and the Musicians Hall of Fame. Then the real icing on the cake was in 2022. I was made a member of the Grand Ole Opry."

Sunday Mornin' Country is celebrating forty-three years this month and Charlie has been a major part of most of them. It's always a highlight when Charlie's harmonica rings the picture and we are the frame.' My advice for a new through the Opry House at this historic event. He states, "I started it when Joe Babcock, who was a member of the Nashville Edition and on Hee Haw, invited me. The first time I played was in 1990. I have missed a few years traveling abroad but I have made a bunch of them."

"I was fortunate when I first got to Nashville. I got with friends who were worship leaders at a church. They invited me to come join them and I did that," says Charlie concerning his love for the Lord. "I enjoyed doing that, I really got into the message. A friend from Holland that I played with in Europe and who didn't believe in God, asked me a question. 'Tell me why you believe what you believe?' I said that was easy. #1, It happened over two thousand years ago, and the church is still going strong. #2, The Bible was written by many people who had no cell phones or no way of communicating and lived miles apart, but the theme of the

Bible is constant all the way through. Then the third thing, Israel is the country that is surrounded by people who want them off the face of the earth, but they continue to thrive, and you can't deny those three things. I have also recorded three Gospel albums so far because I do believe it! I've been more blessed than I thought I deserved to be. I thank the good Lord for it every day!"

Charlie continues to tour, including dates with Jason Coleman who is Floyd Cramer's grandson and who was also part of the A-Team. He is still working sessions in the studio. He admits, "I did about sixty last year and over forty this year. I still love it! I just want to go in with great musicians and play for people that want to be there and have a love for it."

Now that he is a member of the Opry and played it thirty-nine times last year, he foresees being a frequent artist in that iconic circle. Charlie is currently working on a new album with more information to be announced soon.

The harmonica virtuoso has great advice to young musicians. "When I was with the A-Team, I was young and excited and wanted to play! One day my hero Grady Martin took me outside and gave me advice. 'You got to calm down. Listen and don't interrupt the words and play in between them.' Harold Bradley, Owen Bradley's brother, walked over after the session. 'I saw Grady take you outside, what did he tell you?' He said I was playing too much and he was right!"

"The motto of the A-team is 'the singer and the song are musician, it's more important to know where not to play than where to play. But when it is your turn, do something that fits the lyrics and fits the song."

"I think even though the music style has changed we still have great artists. These people give their heart and soul to Country music and if you can get a chance to come to Nashville, visit the Country Music Hall of Fame, the RCA Studio B tour which was the first place I recorded with Ann Margaret and Roy Orbison. The Grand Ole Opry is so great. We have veteran artists and feature newcomers and there is a good mix. The band and background singers are so great. It's so much fun to do it. For me it's a 25-minute drive. Play three songs to the greatest audience in the world. What's not to like?!"

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If you can get John Landry to open up about himself, the award-winning recording artist downplays his music industry achievements. The Canadian singer-songwriter is just as proud of being a father of two, a veteran of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and a newly certified Sailor.

After spending the first 15 years of the millennium touring the globe as a country music artist, Landry settled down to raise a family. Settling down, for him, meant taking to the skies as an elite RCAF Search & Rescue (SAR) helicopter pilot, a lifelong dream he's had since childhood. Recently, Landry acquired yet another esteemed credential: his (seafarers) pilot license, another childhood dream that one day he would sail the world's oceans. But that's for a later chapter. After travelling the world's Highways as a recording artist, and then flying the world's Airways as a Pilot, sailing the world's Waterways as a Sailor seems only fitting. After travelling the world's Highways as a recording artist, and then flying the world's Airways as a Pilot, sailing the world's Waterways as a Sailor seems only fitting. Listeners of Landry's unmistakable voice and intelligent songwriting abilities have been asking for years if the artist will return to public life. Well, that day seems to have come. Landry recently retired from his flying career and is back to making the music he loves. Landry and the team are ready to start re-introducing listeners to his music. Initially, much of the material will be familiar to devoted fans, but Landry will also be sharing new material, impromptu live performances of some of his favourite classics, and previously unreleased songs that never found a home on his albums.









Webb Dalton sang his first song on stage at **Tootsies Orchid Lounge** on Broadway in downtown Nashville, Tennessee. In that moment, the fourteenvear-old Alabama native knew that music was a big part of his DNA and would be a major part of his life. Today, he is a multi-award-winning Country music artist and songwriter.

Staff, BGJ Promotions

performed across Alabama, Tennessee, Florida and Arkansas at bars, Honky Tonks, festivals, fairs and regularly on World Famous Beale Street.

He recorded his first album in 1987 and moved to Nashville. He lived at Two River Campground in his truck for the first six months while performing at the Nashville Palace when Randy Travis was washing dishes in the kitchen. Webb put a Nashville band together and due to the success of his first album, began sharing the stage across the United States and Canada with George Strait, Randy Travis, Garth Brooks, Travis Tritt, John Conlee, George Jones, T Graham Brown, Mel McDaniel, Charlie Rich, Jerry Lee Lewis, Billy Joe Royal, The Gin Blossoms, and others. Webb had the honor of also opening for Opry stars such as Jack Green, Box Car Willie, Johnny Russell, Little David Wilkins, Little Jimmy Dickins, Kitty Wells, Johnny Wright, Porter Wagoner, and others.

Over the past 40+ years of playing music, Webb has released four albums - "I Won't Be Scared," "Honk If You Wanna Honky Tonk," "Mine's Bigger," and "Things Left Undone." The single At The Drop Of A Hat from Webb's first album ("I Won't Be Scared") reached #47 on Cashbox.

orn in Montgomery, Alabama, Webb put his first Undone." He recorded this album to launch a non-profit band together in Memphis, Tennessee and charity, Gulf Coast Musicians Medical Fund, with 100 percent Mississippi, of the sales going to the charity.

> Webb has enjoyed two #1 songs on the Independent Country charts and two #1 songs on the Top Rock charts airing across the United States. as well as Internationally in Romania, Belgium, the UK, Belize, New Zealand, Berlin, Australia, France and Brazil. With Webb's latest release, Don't Forget, Remember Me, he's showing no signs of slowing down.

> Webb founded the Gulf Coast Musicians Medical Fund in 2018 with the launch of his aforementioned Gospel CD, "Things Left Undone." The charity helps Gulf Coast musicians and songwriters in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida with financial assistance for medical care at no cost to the musician or songwriter. 100 percent of the sales from the CD ("Things Left Undone") goes to GCMM Fund and a fundraiser is held every year in Pensacola, Florida with two stages with different acts on both stages every hour from Noon until 10 PM. Gulf Coast Musicians Medical Fund is a non-profit 501(C)3.

In 2023, Webb was a Josie Music Awards independent music awards recipient for 'Artist of the Year' and 2024 JMA Award for 'Songwriter of the Year.' Standing in "The Circle" Webb's fourth album was a Gospel project, "Things Left at the Grand Ole Opry to receive these awards and deliver his

acceptance speech, Webb considers it an honor to be recognized with such a special award at such a special place as the Grand Ole Opry. Webb was also a 2024 nominee as 'BAMA Country Artist' at the Alabama Music Awards held in Bessemer, Alabama.

Webb's love to entertain and perform has spanned over four decades. He has also dedicated 37 years in public service working in the law enforcement profession in Tennessee and Alabama, protecting and serving the citizens. Over the years, Webb has received the 'Key to the City' for Memphis, Tennessee and for Bartlett, Tennessee for his charitable works. When asked about his charitable works he has done over the years, Webb says "Life is about passing it on. It's just something that God expects us to do and is pleasing to Him. The glory goes all to God."

Listen for Webb's latest release, "Startin' To Feel That Way," now playing on radio and across most streaming outlets.

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## **C**/**SHBOX**

**Country Music Hall of Fame Announces The Class of 2025 Inductees - Tony Brown, June Carter Cash, and Kenny Chesney** 



COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME MEMBERS-ELECT



TONY BROWN

**KENNY CHESNEY** 

Hailing from Virginia, June Carter Cash was a vibrant presence in Country music for more than sixty years as a singer, comedienne, songwriter, and Grammy-winning duet partner of her husband, Johnny Cash. Tony Brown from North Carolina advanced from being an in-demand keyboard player to shaping the genre's modern sound as a hit record producer and savvy label executive who signed many influential artists. A four-time CMA 'Entertainer of the Year.' Tennessee native Kenny Chesney parlayed a resonant baritone voice, a talent for songwriting, and a competitive spirit into more than fifty Top Ten country hits, sixteen platinum albums, and stadiumfilling tours.

#### Non-Performer

Born in North Carolina and schooled as a keyboard player in the topnotch road bands of Elvis Presley and Emmylou Harris, Tony Brown became a key record executive in shaping the sound of modern Country music. As a record producer, he supervised many best-selling recordings by Country Music Hall of Fame members Vince Gill, Wynonna Judd, Patty Loveless, Reba McEntire, George Strait, Marty Stuart, and others. As a label executive and talent scout at MCA Records, he also brought daring, outside talents into mainstream Country music, including Steve Earle, Nanci Griffith, Lyle Lovett, the Mavericks, and Kelly Willis.

#### Veterans Era Artist

June Carter Cash was a vibrant presence in Country music for over sixty years as a singer, comedienne, and songwriter. She began performing at age ten in 1939, singing with her mother, Maybelle Carter of the Carter Family, and her two sisters on Mexican border radio. Mother Maybelle & the Carter Sisters later starred on the Grand Ole Opry and joined Johnny Cash's roadshow. June Carter wrote more than 100 songs, including Ring of Fire, a #1 hit for Cash, whom she married in 1968. They recorded several hit duets, including Jackson and If I Were a Carpenter, both of which won Grammys.

#### Modern Era Artist

A former high school athlete from Luttrell, Tennessee, Kenny Chesney parlayed a resonant baritone voice and a competitive spirit into one of the biggest careers in Country music since the year 2000. He has earned sixteen platinum albums, more than fifty Top Ten Country hits, and twentythree #1s on Billboard's Hot Country Songs chart. Among his best-known hits are The Good Stuff, There Goes My Life, and The Boys of Fall, all of which crossed over to the Pop charts. A perennial top touring attraction, he's been voted the CMA 'Entertainer of the Year' four times - 2004, 2006, 2007, and 2008.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025 inductees into The Country Music Hall of Fame.

#### New Season of 'Today's Nashville' Debuts Tuesday, May 6th at 10 PM/ET

Highlighting stories of faith, fame, and overcoming struggles, Season 8 will start off with a bang for inspirational talk show "Today's Nashville," produced by Cornerstone Television Network. Viewers can tune in on Cornerstone Television (www.ctvn.org/watch-live) for the season debut Tuesday, May 6th, and every Tuesday following, at 10 PM/ET (also airs: Saturdays at 3:30 PM/ET; Sundays at 10:30 AM/ET).

Terry Squires, program host, is thrilled with the opportunity to bless new and returning viewers with heartfelt, inspirational stories from well-known musicians, authors, actors and more.

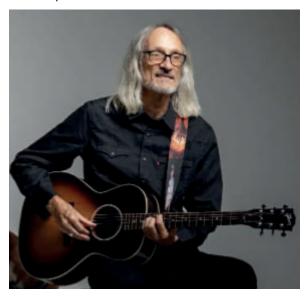


stories of those who have overcome life's struggles by their faith in Jesus," Terry shared. "We have several compelling stories of surviving physical and emotional abuse, living life again without your spouse, or even hitting the top of the charts without money in the bank. In our guest lineup, we're highlighting new artists and also catching up with some of everyone's favorite Grand Ole Opry legends."

Across episodes, viewers can expect to hear from guests such as Country music artist John Berry and his wife, Robin; Nancy Jones - wife of the late George Jones; Rudy Gatlin of the Gatlin Brothers; Ian Flanigan (3rd runner up on "The Voice," and past member of Team Blake), and more.

#### **Ken Holt Releases Soul-Stirring** New Single, 'I Did Not Know'

Americana singer-songwriter Ken Holt has just released his emotionally resonant new single, I Did Not Know. This intimate and reflective track continues Holt's lifelong pursuit of authentic storytelling through music, blending heartfelt lyrics with his signature mix of Country, Rock 'n' Roll, Bluegrass, and Classic Pop.



Written by Ken Holt and longtime collaborator Howard Laravea, and featuring additional vocals by Mary Kate Brennan, I Did Not Know explores the bittersweet realization that often comes with hindsight:

"If I had known then what I know now, it would be a whole different than the way it is now." In other words, Ken shares, "I may not have gotten it right the first time around, but I'm at least a little smarter and wiser now. Things are gonna be different - and better - from here on out."

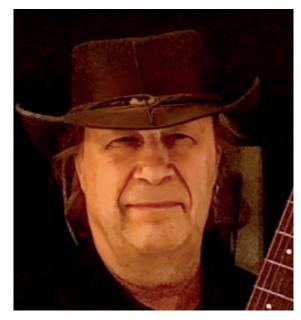
Played and sung with an easy Americana groove, I Did Not Know is like your favorite blanket in the winter and a cool dip in summer - warm, refreshing, and timeless. It's the kind of song that instantly feels like home.

Following the success of his January 2025 full-length album "Shades of Light," and first single, Shine, this new single

"What's exciting about this new season is sharing the offers fans a fresh glimpse into Ken's ever-evolving creative spirit. With themes of regret, growth, and personal transformation, the song captures a deeply human experience - those moments when hindsight brings clarity we didn't have in the moment.

#### **Dutch Musician Harry Kappen Unleashes** Powerful New Rock Anthem, 'Break These Chains'

Dutch musician, music therapist, and multiinstrumentalist Harry Kappen returns with Break These Chains - a fiery and thought-provoking Rock single now setting the airwaves on fire. The track is the second single from his highly anticipated album "Four," and it comes loaded with social commentary and a musical punch.



In Break These Chains, Kappen tackles urgent issues plaguing modern society: fake news, political deceit, the manipulation of facts, the erosion of moral standards, and the loss of basic human empathy. It's a bold, emotionally charged anthem for anyone who's frustrated with the current state of the world. "Where are the angels when you need them," Kappen sighs, capturing the song's desperate yearning for truth and integrity.

Harry Kappen is no stranger to creating music that matters. With three previous solo albums - "Pictures," "Escape," and "Time Will Tell" - he has built a strong reputation in the independent music scene for his eclectic sound and lyrical depth. His latest project, "Four," continues this tradition with ten deeply personal songs exploring themes of love, courage, truth, and the struggle to live authentically in turbulent times. All of this is framed by his unwavering devotion to his wife, who remains his constant source of inspiration.

Musically, "Four" is as diverse as ever, ranging from gritty guitar-driven Rock to smooth jazzy ballads and touches of Latin flair. Yet every song bears Kappen's unique signature: a sound that's both sophisticated and emotionally raw.

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Debbie Bennett

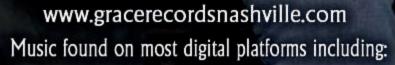
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#### < < < Cashbox News continued from page 41

### Eleyet McConnell Unveil Powerful New Single and Video, 'Bed of Roses', Now Streaming Everywhere



Beloved husband-and-wife Americana duo Eleyet McConnell return with their soul-stirring new single *Bed of Roses*, alongside an emotionally raw and visually intimate music video. The release marks another milestone for the award-winning pair, as the single has already climbed to #26 on the UK iTunes Country Songs chart, continuing their upward trajectory on the international music scene.

Bed of Roses is a poignant anthem of resilience and love, showcasing Angie McConnell's powerful, blues-laced vocals paired with Chris McConnell's evocative 70s-inspired guitar work. Together, they craft a musical tapestry that feels both timeless and urgent - steeped in emotion, authenticity, and storytelling. With influences ranging from Beth Hart and Fleetwood Mac to Pink Floyd and The Doobie Brothers, the duo once again proves their unique ability to blend grit with grace.

This release follows a string of recent successes for Eleyet McConnell, including a Top 5 single and multiple Top 30 hits on the UK iTunes charts. Their 2023 marriage added a deeper personal layer to their music, which continues to resonate with fans across generations. Their ability to channel shared life experiences into poignant musical expressions makes *Bed of Roses* not just a song, but a testament to love's ability to thrive through adversity.

With accolades from the International Singer Songwriter Association (ISSA) and the Josie Music Awards, Eleyet McConnell are quickly becoming staples of the modern Americana landscape. *Bed of Roses* is yet another heartfelt chapter in their ongoing story.

#### The Kody Norris Show Honors The Grand Ole Opry's 100th Anniversary With Their New Single, 'In The Circle'

The multi-SPBGMA Award-winning and International Bluegrass Music Association-nominated group, The Kody Norris Show, is thrilled to announce the release of their new single *In The Circle* which is available now. The song is the third single from their upcoming new album, "Highfalutin' Hillbilly," coming out June 6th.

The group is paying homage to the Grand Ole Opry for its 100th anniversary this year and to all of the legendary members who paved the way. Written by close friend and Grand Ole Opry square dancer Larry Chunn, the song paints a portrait of a young dreamer's perspective... bringing Kody's story full "circle." This single was premiered by Country Evolution.

"Our third single from our forthcoming album on Rebel Records features one written by my dear friend, Larry Chunn," shares Norris. "In The Circle is not your typical Opry tribute song but one that we feel shines a little different light on our journey to this hallowed circle. With a slower pace than what fans might typically expect from us, In The Circle gives us the opportunity to paint a picture of our biggest musical dream coming true... and just in time to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the world-famous Grand Ole Opry!"

Including a recent national TV performance on FOX & Friends, The Kody Norris Show is in the midst of their 'Rhinestone Revival' Tour, bringing their infectious energy to audiences nationwide. Fans can catch them live at upcoming festival dates across the U.S. and Canada.

The Kody Norris Show continues to captivate audiences with their electrifying stage presence, tight harmonies, and signature rhinestone suits. The group has become a staple in Bluegrass, earning multiple SPBGMA awards and IBMA Award nominations, and their albums "All Suited Up" (2021) and



"Rhinestone Revival" (2023) both charted on Billboard's Bluegrass Albums Chart. From the Grand Ole Opry to SiriusXM, they are a driving force in keeping traditional Bluegrass alive while bringing it to new audiences.

#### CeCe Winans, Michael W. Smith and Amy Grant Team Up For The Christmas Together Tour

This Christmas is sure to be one to remember, with three Gospel Music Hall of Fame members teaming up to kick off the holidays with the Christmas Together Tour.

The star-studded tour will feature Christian and Gospel music greats, Cece Winans, Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith, beginning November 28 in Greensboro, North Carolina. The tour will make seven more stops in states including Georgia, Illinois, Virginia and Ohio, before coming to a close in St. Louis on December 8.



Last year, Winans released the holiday set, "Joyful, Joyful: A Christmas Album," with her rendition of *Joy to the World* rising to No. 6 on Billboard's Hot Gospel Songs chart. Grant has released five studio Christmas albums, including 2016's "Tennessee Christmas." Her songs such as *Emmanuel, Breath of Heaven, My Grown Up Christmas List* and *It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year* have become holiday classics. Smith has also released a handful of holiday projects, including 2023's "Every Christmas." In 2013, his collaboration with Carrie Underwood on *All Is Well* reached No. 6 on the Hot Christian Songs chart.

More information can be found at the artist's websites: cecewinans.com, michaelwsmith.com, and amygrant.com.

#### **Stevie Nicks Announces First Album in 14 Years**



Stevie Nicks announced that she will be releasing her first album in fourteen years during her induction ceremony at the Pollstar Hall of Fame recently. The iconic singer of Fleetwood Mac and soloist called the forthcoming album "the ghost record," and it was born during the tumultuous California wildfires.

"I was sitting in a hotel for 92 days, and at some point, during that last part of the 92 days, I said, 'You know what? I feel like I'm on the road, but there's no shows," said Nicks. "I'm just sitting here by myself because everybody else is at the house, doing all the remediations and everything, and it's just me, sitting here.' And I thought, 'You need to go back to work.' And I did."

The album, which is still in the works, will be Nicks's first since releasing her seventh solo record, 2011's "In Your Dreams." The 76-year-old music legend described the record as "autobiographical, real stories where I'm not pulling any punches for probably the first time in my life."

Nicks will be touring with Billy Joel throughout the summer, including a stop at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford on August 8. "I can't wait to share these nights with you."

#### 2026 Ultimate Disco Cruise and Beyond Set to Sail February 23-28 Aboard the Norwegian Pearl

The Ultimate Disco Cruise and Beyond will return to the Norwegian Pearl as it embarks from Miami, Florida, on February 23, 2026, for its 5-day voyage headed to Montego Bay and Grand Cayman.

Cashbox News continued on page 48 > > >



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Featuring some of the most popular hits from the start of the decade, including, Genie in a Bottle by Christina Aguilera, I Want it That Way by the Backstreet Boys, Oops! ... I Did It Again by Britney Spears, and many more, this compilation album brings together some of the biggest hits from charttopping artists in one place. 2000 was all about breaking records and with their iconic music, Sony Music artists spent 35+ weeks at #1 on the Hot 100, 20+ weeks with #1 albums on the Billboard Top 200 and had 5 out of the 10 top selling albums of that year.

Filled with non-stop music entertainment that includes KC and The Sunshine Band, The Jacksons, WAR, The Ohio Players, Kid Creole and The Coconuts, Sister Sledge ft. Sledgendary, Evelyn "Champagne" King, The Sugarhill Gang, The Hues Corporation, The Fatback Band, Boogie Wonder Band, Urban Guerilla Orchestra, and Miami Sound Revue in a special tribute to Gloria Estefan & Miami Sound Machine, this 6th sailing is destined to bring back all your Disco dreams

"This cruise is a chance to go back and relive an era that gave us some of the greatest music of our lives and memories we can never forget," says Alan Rubens, Executive Producer of the Ultimate Disco Cruise and Beyond.

Music lovers of '70s and '80s great dance music will take a journey back in time with the most fun-loving songs that everyone sings along to all while the Norwegian Pearl comes to life with sparkling mirror balls, glitter, and a late-night dance club experience at Studio 55, the hottest nightclub at sea. All in all, the fun at sea will showcase over 40 live performances and countless themed events and parties.

The 2025 Disco Cruise and Beyond sold out, so don't miss your chance to dawn your bell bottoms, platform shoes, and jiggy accessories.

#### Legacy Recordings Announces Y2K25: The Music That Made the Millennium, Robust Compilation Album of Culture-Defining Songs From 2000

Legacy Recordings, the catalog division of Sony Music Entertainment, kicks off a year of Y2K celebrations with the announcement of its compilation album, "Y2K25: The Music That Made The Millennium."

2025 marks the 25th anniversary of the iconic start to the millennium and Sony Music's catalog is full of culture-defining albums from some of the most celebrated artists to ever perform. In celebration of 25 years of these smash hits, "Y2K25: The Music That Made The Millennium" is available for fans as an exclusive album on CD and vinyl.



Spanning Pop, Hip-Hop, Rock, and more, this cross-genre album offers fans the opportunity to enjoy and celebrate the music that continues to shape Pop culture today. "Y2K25: The Music That Made The Millennium" will be released on June 20th, just in time for summer. The album will be available on CD and LP vinyl formats (black vinyl widely and pink vinyl, exclusively through Target). The CD offers an additional eight For more information, visit www.ultimatediscocruise.com. tracks, not offered on vinyl, from Toni Braxton, Celine Dion, Savage Garden, Macy Gray, Whitney Houston, Lit, Mandy Moore and Jessica Simpson.

#### Patsy Cline's 'Lost Recordings' **Released 60 Years After Her Death**

The compilation of 48 never-before-released Cline recordings are now available in a two-LP set. More than 60 years after her tragic death, Country music legend Patsy Cline still has more to share with the world after never-beforereleased recordings of the iconic star were discovered in a basement.

A limited-edition, two-LP set, "Imagine That: The Lost Recordings (1954-1963)," which includes 48 songs from live concerts and radio and TV appearances, was released on April

where they'd been stored for thirty years, were found on their original acetate disc recorded at the old WARL radio station in recorded in D.C. or Virginia.

Cline, originally from Winchester, Virginia, only recorded a few studio albums before she died in a plane crash at 30 years old. "It's just like she's alive again," her daughter, Julie Fudge, told NBC Washington. "It is really very personal. I'm just so impressed with the work that these people did and so glad that we trusted them to do this."

The compilation spans Cline's career from the start of her professional work in the early 1950s to the peak of her popularity before her death in 1963, according to Elemental Music.

A New Season for The Hoppers



Few groups on the road today share the long-standing history that The Hoppers represent within Southern Gospel music. While the family has faced a plethora of obstacles throughout the years, including considerable health concerns, the group has continuously forged ahead with the mission of sharing the Gospel through song. As the award-winning family group guickly approaches their seventh decade of ministry, The Hoppers have announced a new season as they move into the future.

Group founder and patriarch, Claude Hopper, as well as Connie, a fan-favorite alto and the family matriarch, plan to take a step back: enjoying their home in beautiful North Carolina and some very well-deserved relaxation. Their youngest son, Mike Hopper, will come off the road to care for his parents. As a result, Dean and Kim Hopper, along with their daughter Karlye, and with Claude and Connie's blessing, will move forward as the latest configuration of The Hoppers,

18. Two of the oldest recordings, discovered in a basement continuing the family's long legacy as one of the prominent families of Gospel Music.

Dean, Kim and Karlye would like to say thank you for the Arlington, NBC Washington reported. Many of the tracks were continuous support and love throughout the years, and request prayers as they enter into the next chapter of The Hoppers.

> To learn more about The Hoppers, follow them on social media or visit www.thehoppers.com.

#### **Elton John and Brandi Carlile Announce New** Studio Album, "Who Believes in Angels?"

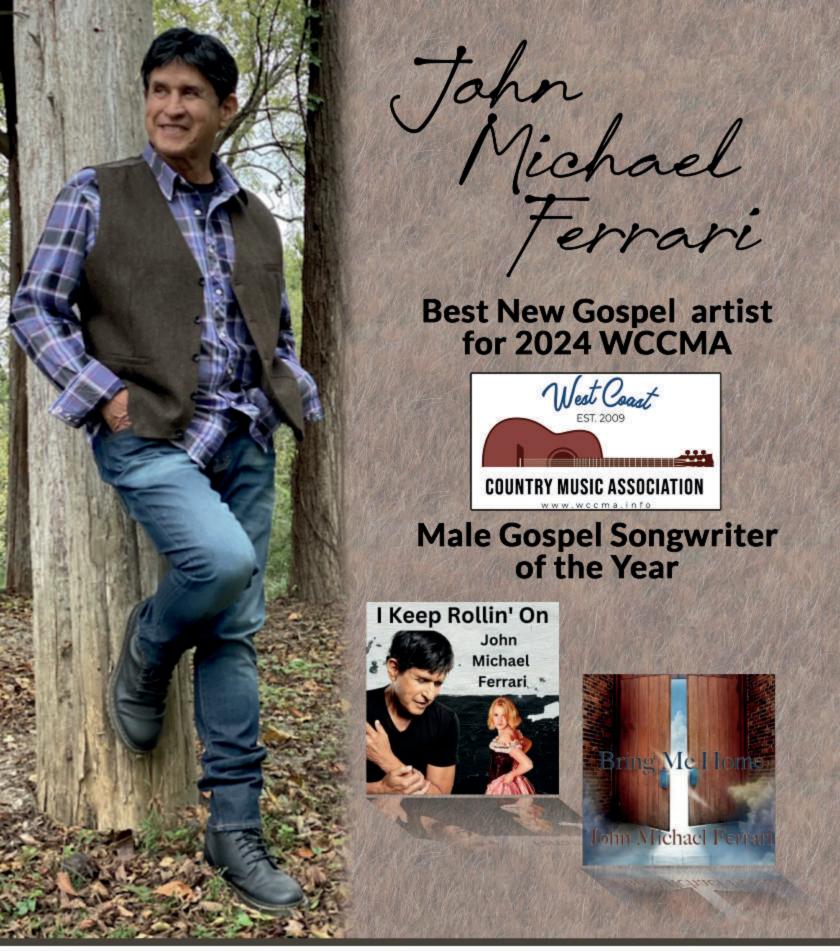
Elton John and Brandi Carlile released their collaborative studio album "Who Believes In Angels?" on April 4th via Island EMI Records.

The concept for "Who Believes In Angels?" was devised by close friends and regular collaborators Elton John, eleven-time GRAMMY winning US superstar Brandi Carlile and multiple GRAMMY Award winning producer and songwriter Andrew Watt. They set out to create a genuinely collaborative studio album between Elton and Brandi. The album would mix Elton-led songs and Brandi-led songs, with long term collaborator Bernie Taupin and Brandi both contributing lyrics, and producer and co-writer Andrew Watt acting as the producer, mediator and creative conduit. Entering Los Angeles' Sunset Sound Studios in October 2023 with a completely blank slate, they pushed each other out of their comfort zones to write and record an album completely from scratch in just 20 days.



A film crew was allowed in the process of making "Who Believes In Angels?" This is the first time that Elton has allowed cameras to film his writing and recording sessions. Static cameras positioned around the studio captured thousands of hours of raw footage, and ultimately documented the entire creative process - breakdowns, breakthroughs, tears, torn up lyric sheets and all.

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.The candid footage offers fans an unprecedented, searingly honest insight into the emotionally turbulent creative process for Elton, Brandi and the rest of the team.

The results of this creative friction are stunning, and the kaleidoscopic scope of "Who Believes In Angels?" draws comparisons with some of Elton's very finest works. Ballads co-exist with raw Rock and Roll, Pop songs and Country-hued Americana rub shoulders with synth-heavy psychedelia. It's an album as unexpected as it is triumphant. Elton sounds utterly revitalized. Brandi sounds like a singer-songwriter at the absolute top of her game, her voice melding with Elton's like a hand in a glove. The resulting songs somehow manage to be unequivocally the work of Elton John and Brandi Carlile, while sounding unlike any album either have made before.

made, but it was also one of the greatest musical experiences of my life. It has given me a place where I know I can move forward. "Who Believes In Angels?" feels like going into another era and I'm pushing the door open to come into the future. I have everything I've done behind me, and it's been brilliant, amazing. But this is the new start for me. As far as I'm concerned, this is the start of my career Mark 2."

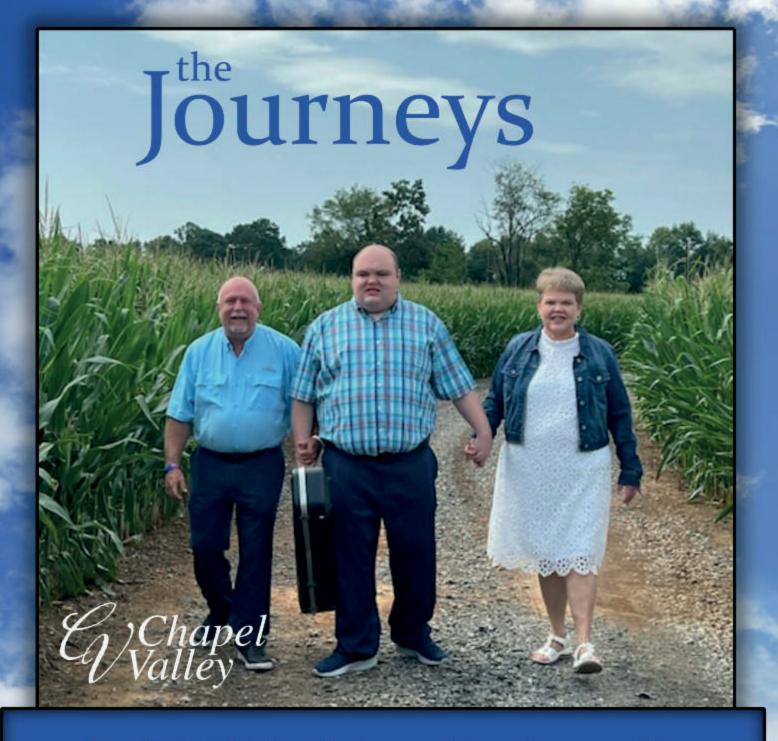
Brandi says, "I'm still reeling from the fact that I got to do it. I think all ships rise with Elton John's standards for songwriting, and it was an incredibly challenging and inspiring environment to work in, everybody throwing in ideas, everybody listening to everybody else's ideas. It felt like a

family. The world is a wild place to live in right now. It's hard to find peace and triumph. It's a radical act to seek out joyful and euphoric happenings. And that is what this album represents to me."

The eponymous single, Who Believes In Angels? is a true collaboration; Brandi penned the lyrics and Elton the theme, before Andrew joined them to bring it all together. From the opening piano chords, it's unmistakably a slice of classic Elton John, that at once manages to nod to past glories whilst sounding thoroughly modern and forward looking. Brandi's soaring vocals meld exquisitely with Elton's on a towering synth charged chorus, as hard hitting as many of his best-loved classics.

"Who Believes In Angels?" also features 2025 Oscar Elton says, "This record was one of the toughest I've ever nominated song Never Too Late, created especially for the Disney+ documentary of the same name and unveiled last year to widespread critical acclaim. A beautiful, reflective and ultimately uplifting story of finding happiness and redemption in love and family, Never Too Late is the truly fitting finale to the documentary that plays out over the credits of the documentary of the same name. The documentary follows Elton as he looks back on his life and the astonishing early days of his 50-year career in an emotionally charged, intimate and inspiring full-circle journey. Directed by R.J. Cutler and David Furnish the documentary is available to watch on Disney+ now.





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## **BGJ PROMOTIONS** ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

#### **By Malik Riaz**

illy Payne is not just a name in the world of traditional Country music; he's a force keeping its soul alive. Born and raised in southern West Virginia, Payne picked up a guitar at age twelve, setting himself on a path that would eventually take him across the world. From singing in church and family gatherings as a teenager to playing in local bars in the early '90s, his journey has been driven by passion, perseverance, and a deep respect for the legends who came before him.

Billy's career is filled with remarkable highlights. Performing at the Ernest Tubb Midnight Jamboree and the Famous Wheeling Jamboree were defining moments, but his biggest break came in 2014 when he became an official artist member of the Wheeling Jamboree. That same year, he was selected to tour and record with Waymore's Outlaws, the band that once backed the legendary Waylon Jennings. This opportunity took him across the world, including a stop in Ireland, where he performed on the Phil Mack Show and made television and radio appearances.

His European adventures didn't stop there. Payne also headlined the Barcelona Spain Cowboy Boots Festival, proving that real Country music knows no borders. Through all of this, his mission has remained steadfast: to keep the old-school real Country music alive in this day and age.

Billy Payne's talent has not gone unnoticed. He won Star Search in 1998, earning him a contract with Aaron Records in Nashville. His singles, No Limit on Love and Nadine both Music charts.

His latest single, I'll Find It Where I Can, written by veteran Nashville songwriter Zack Van Arsdale, is currently making waves on the CashBox charts. In 2024, Payne was honored with multiple awards, including the Josie Music Award for 'Outlaw Album of the Year' for his album "A Little Rough Around the Edges," which was presented at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville.



**BILLY PAYNE** 

Additionally, he took home trophies from The Red Carpet Awards in Holland, winning 'Best Blues Cover' for his rendition of Undercover Agent for the Blues and 'Most Appreciated Artist' of 2024. His name has been consistently nominated in prestigious award circuits, including The Elite Music Awards in New York and The International Singer-Songwriter Awards in Georgia.

Despite his success, Payne remains deeply connected to his values. His philosophy on navigating the entertainment world is clear: "Never stop dreaming. Stay away from negative people who do not know your struggle. Don't abuse yourself with substances," Payne states.

He also believes that integrity is key in the music business: "Morals are hard to keep in the entertainment world. The good people will survive. You have to learn to say no."

For Payne, music isn't just about fame, it's about climbed into the Top 10 on the Inside Country Independent preserving the legacy of real Country music. He avoids the distractions of political and spiritual debates, choosing instead to let his music speak for itself.

> Billy Payne's goals remain ambitious yet deeply rooted in his love for Country music. He aims to continue performing, recording, and sharing his passion with future generations. As he forges ahead, one thing is certain: "Billy Payne is not just making music; he's making history."

> > www.billypaynecountry.com



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## CRAIG HENDRICKS

From Small Stages to Stardom: A Troubadour's Road to Success



**By Malik Riaz** 

ountry music is more than just melodies and lyrics; it's about stories, struggles, and the soul of the South. Few embody this spirit better than Craig Hendricks, a southernborn troubadour whose journey from small-town stages to national recognition is a testament to faith, resilience, and an unbeatable passion for music. His story is not just about making music; it's about making dreams a reality, one note at a time.

#### From Barn Dances to Big Dreams

Born and raised in the South, Craig Hendricks' love for music began at the tender age of fourteen when his grandfather, a seasoned barn dance musician, handed him a 1969 Gibson Dove and began teaching him to play. It was more than just a music lesson; it was a lesson in storytelling, soul, and the unbreakable bond of tradition.

Inspired by Country legends like John Anderson, Alan Jackson, and George Strait, Craig honed his craft playing in local churches and farmers' markets. But for years, music remained just a passion, a dream tucked away as he worked The Capitol Theatre, Wheeling, WV (home of WWVA a steady job to support his family.

Then, in 2016, everything changed. Craig's wife, DeeDee, saw his growing unhappiness in a job he had dedicated over twenty years to and encouraged him to take a leap of faith. "We decided to give it to God," Craig recalls.

#### **Struggles Behind the Spotlight**

Like any artist carving a path in the music industry, Craig faced his share of struggles. Financial hardships loomed large, but just as faith had guided him before, it led him to a projects was "Songs for Heroes," where he transformed the

dedicated promotional team that believed in his talent. With their support, he recorded a full-length album, two EPs (one of which secured him a publishing contract), and several singles. They also provided assistance with gas and lodging, ensuring he could continue performing and sharing his music.

But perhaps the biggest battle was overcoming the voices of doubt. Rejections came often, but they only fueled his determination. "There have been numerous rejections, which pushed me to work harder and to find answers," Craig shares.

His perseverance led to major milestones: Performed at Jamboree US; Opened for Ashley Best, Dallas Moore, and Whey Jennings; Headlined the Morgan County Fair, Tennessee; Emceed and performed at the 2024 Alaska Folk Fest; Shared lineups with Cody McCarver, Todd Tilghman (The Voice winner), Whitey Morgan, and Rodney Crowell

#### A Songwriter with a Story to Tell

While Craig is an exceptional performer, his gift for songwriting is equally remarkable. One of his most heartfelt who served through song was an experience that left a lasting impact on him.

Wood Newton, Daniel Johnson, and Corey Lee Barker. His talent has earned him major accolades, including a Texaco Country Showdown feature song win, a regional vocal championship, and a semifinal spot in a Georgia song contest. In 2023, he claimed first place in the American Songwriter Lyric Contest and won WSA's songwriting competition.

His list of accolades doesn't stop there. Craig has been a seven-time 'Songwriter of the Year' nominee across four different associations, recognized for top songwriting honors at the Josie Music Awards (JMA), and was nominated three times for BAMA's 'Best Male Country Artist.' His music has been featured in prominent publications, including American

Songwriter and American Legion Magazine.

#### **Rising on the Charts and Winning Over Fans**

Craig's music isn't just winning awards; it's winning hearts. His debut single, Whiskey and Diamonds, topped indie charts for thirteen weeks. His song, I Found Grace reached #2 on the Independent Christian Country Charts. His latest release, South of Perfect, continues to climb, currently charting with CashBox, ranking in the top 40 for Cruisin' Country Radio, and securing a top 10 spot on the Christian Country Countdown.

Music critics and radio personalities are taking notice. Adrian Webb of Sound Wave Magazine had high praise for Craig's latest project, "Destination Home:" "Although 'Destination Home' is only six tracks and 21 minutes long, I find it definitely worth a listen. Hendricks

opens his album with Blackberry Whiskey and Nothing's Really Changed, which really impressed me as very commercially viable, upbeat hit songs that I would listen to on mainstream Country radio. As a matter of fact, I have friends at WCTY-FM Eastern Connecticut's Country station, and I'm going to suggest they possibly have him on their drive-time roster of songs."

With a growing fanbase, radio play, and new music on the way, Craig Hendricks is proving that his time in Country music is just beginning.

#### Faith, Family, and the Road Ahead

Through all the highs and lows, Craig has remained grounded in what matters most - faith, family, and the love of music. "Craig's dream of music came alive based on faith and perseverance instead of doubts of others," says one of his

stories of veterans into music. The opportunity to honor those close supporters. His journey is a testament to what can be achieved when passion meets persistence.

Whether he's performing in an intimate living room Craig has worked with top Country songwriters like setting or standing under the bright lights of a grand stage, Craig brings an authenticity that makes every performance feel personal. His storytelling, warm charisma, and deeprooted love for Country music create an experience that resonates with audiences everywhere.

> Looking ahead, Craig is gearing up for a packed tour schedule. He kicked off 2025 with performances in Texas, followed by an April tour in Alaska. This summer, he'll be traveling from Alabama to Montana, and from mid-July through October, he'll perform across all six New England states. On top of it all, he's preparing to release a full-length country album recorded with BGJ, a project that promises to further cement his place in the industry.



#### A Legacy in the Making

Hendricks' journey is more than a story of Country music success. It's a story of resilience, faith, and sustained dedication to a lifelong dream. From a teenager learning guitar with his grandfather to an artist performing on some of Country music's biggest stages, Craig's path has been anything but easy, yet he has never wavered.

For fans of authentic Country music, Craig Hendricks is an artist to watch. His journey is a reminder that with faith, hard work, and a relentless spirit, dreams are never out of reach. And as his music continues to touch hearts and climb the charts, one thing is clear; this troubadour's story is far from over.

www.craighendricksmusic.com



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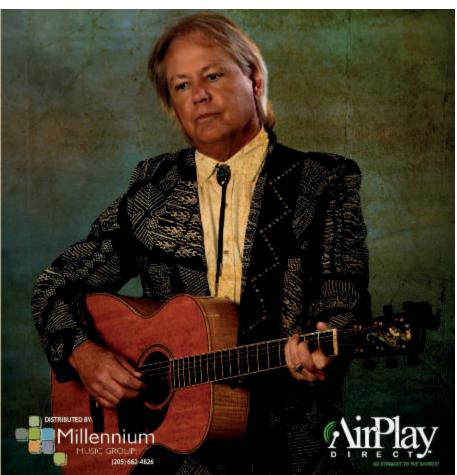


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## Where Are They Now?

A Retrospective Glimpse at Yesterday's Rising Music Stars Who Became Icons and Where They Are Today THIS EDITION: Ruben Studdard

**By Robin Tanner** 

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

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

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

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

In 2018, Studdard, who has long been compared to R&B singer Luther Vandross, released a cover album called "Ruben Sings Luther" and launched his Always & Forever national tour. All totaled, Studdard has released eight studio albums, with the most recent being "The Way I Remember" It in 2023.

He made his Broadway theatre debut in December 2018 in Ruben & Clay's First Annual Christmas Carol Family Fun Pageant Spectacular Reunion Show (aka Ruben & Clay's Christmas Show) at the Imperial Theatre. The pair has performed together often, most recently in 2023 in a tour celebrating the 20-year anniversary of their appearance on the show. In a recent interview with timesonline.com about the tour with Aiken, Studdard spoke about the milestone. He discussed wanting to return the favor to the fans who first



supported him all those years ago: "Twenty years is a real monumental moment in your life after achieving something I never thought would happen to us. I always wanted to be a part of the music industry, but I never thought in a million years it would happen the way it did, being on 'American Idol.' And we wanted to celebrate with the people who gave us the chance to live out both of our dreams in some ways. This is something to be proud of and celebrated and just thankful we're still here twenty years after."

He adds, "I want to be around for a long time. I want to make sure I continue to make good music that my mom and everybody around me can be proud of.."

## BRIAN SHARTZER

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#### Staff, BGJ Promotions

D ZA VA

"Country music is the greatest thing in the whole world," declares David Wills, and with a voice as rich and resonant as the Tennessee hills he hails from, it's easy to believe him. With a baritone that can both haunt and heal, and a pen that's crafted some of Country music's most unforgettable lyrics, Wills has carved his place among Nashville's elite - a storyteller at heart, and a true steward of the Country music tradition.

Steinfath, Wills' musical journey began early, when his mother bought him his first guitar. "My mother is the one that basically taught me how to play the guitar," he recalls. It wasn't long before the young prodigy was performing with local bands, sharpening his sound with every note. As a teenager, he joined the Dynamic Downbeats with lifelong friend Frank Speers, showcasing an early mix of Rock'n'Roll edge and Country Soul.

Wills' turning point came in a most Nashville-like fairy tale. At a local talent contest in Lakeland, Tennessee, he caught the attention of Seymour "Sy" Rosenberg - thenmanager of Charlie Rich. Impressed by the young singer's talent and charisma, Rosenberg asked a then 22-year-old Wills if he wanted to be a star. "Heck yeah!" was the eager reply. That moment sparked a career that would carry Wills million copies of his songs sold worldwide, his catalog reads

orn in Pulaski, Tennessee, to John and Roberta from small-town stages to opening at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum, sharing the bill with none other than Charlie Rich himself.

> His debut album "Barrooms to Bedrooms" (1974) was the perfect launchpad. With two Top Ten Billboard hits -There's A Song On The Jukebox and the title track - Wills instantly cemented himself as a Country mainstay. A year later came "Everybody's Country," which paid tribute to his roots and musical inspirations with renditions of Long Tall Sally and Rich's All Over Me. Collaborations with industry greats like Blake Mevis led to his RCA release "New Beginnings," showcasing his vocal range and storytelling prowess with tracks like The Eyes Of A Stranger.

> But it's not just Wills' voice that made waves - it's his songwriting that's reverberated across decades. With over 35

like a greatest hits collection for Country legends. His credits include George Strait's *If You're Thinking You Want a Stranger*, Sawyer Brown's *Leona*, John Schneider's *You're The Last Thing I Needed Tonight*, and Keith Whitley's poignant *Charlotte's In North Carolina*.

Perhaps most iconic is the ballad *Wild Horses*, co-written with Bill Shore and recorded by Garth Brooks for his "No Fences" album. Though the album debuted in 1990, *Wild Horses* was released as a single ten years later, charting at number seven on the Billboard Hot Country Singles and Tracks and contributing to the rodeo song's staggering 23 million units sold altogether.

In the early '90s, Wills' songwriting continued to shine. His gospel-leaning album "Line On Love" included *You Don't Know How Lucky You Are*, recorded by Patty Loveless, and *Line on Love*, featured on John Michael Montgomery's triple-platinum debut album.

Beyond commercial success, Wills has been a cornerstone at Charley Pride Music Group for over four decades, his songs crossing genres and audiences. *Holding Out Hope To You*, performed by Michael English, won 'Inspirational Recorded Song of the Year' at the 1994 Dove Awards, showcasing Wills' rare versatility.

More recently, in 2021, Georgia native and entrepreneur Wesley Fricks helped ignite a new era for Wills' music. Together, they planned two retrospective albums - one featuring previously recorded tracks and another filled with

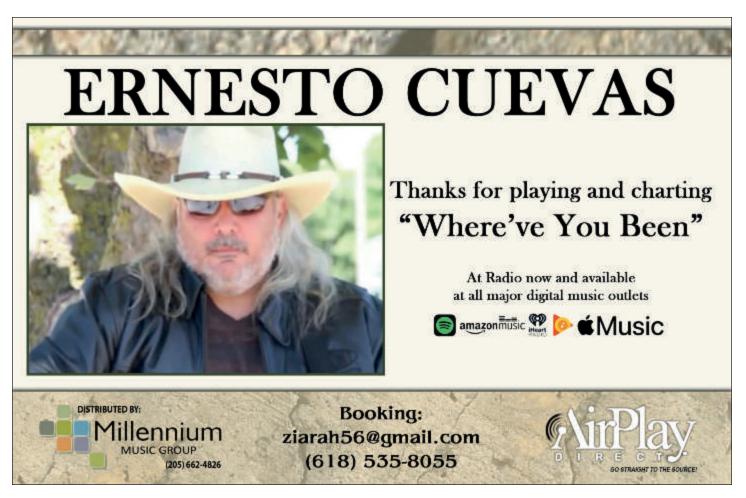
unreleased treasures from Wills' archives. Released in 2022 and 2023, the albums reflect a career steeped in sincerity, soul, and storytelling.

"I have never met a more talented singer or songwriter in my life," Fricks said. "It will be easy to understand why these albums will resonate with Country music fans around the world."

And the legend continues. David Wills is preparing for the release of his third album on Tugalo Records, titled "Way Too Much Fun." With tracks like *Honor Bound*, *Made In The Shade*, and *No Anchors*, this new project promises to deliver everything fans have come to love - authentic Country, from the heart. The single *Honor Bound*, accompanied by a music video, will debut the weekend of his upcoming concert at the Historic Ritz Theatre in Toccoa, Georgia, where he'll perform alongside Strait Country Tribute artist Howard Decker.

*"Honor Bound* is a moving tribute to our U.S. Military soldiers who have sacrificed so much of their lives for us to live safely and sleep comfortably while they are putting their lives on the line every day," said Wesley Fricks, Wills' manager and President of Tugalo Records.

From Pulaski to the Grand Ole Opry, from barrooms to Billboard, David Wills stands as a timeless figure in Country music - one who reminds us that behind every great country song is a story worth telling, and a voice like his to sing it.



# RAY Shavers

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Three Country music legends - Lynn Fox, Brenda Lee, and Charlie McCoy

Sunday Mornin' Country® is the longest running named Country/Gospel event associated with the week of CMA Music Fest, previously known as Fan Fair. It's sponsored by the Nashville-based nonprofit, Music City Christian Fellowship. For over four decades this legendary event always leaves fans and guests feeling uplifted and encouraged with memories that last a lifetime.

We look back at the history and special memories through the years with founding member Cowboy Joe Babcock and co-producers Lynn Fox and Melanie Walker. The event was birthed from the desire of a few Country music industry professionals to have a church service in Nashville during Fan Fair.

Cowboy Joe Babcock sang with the Nashville Edition, backing hundreds of artists on Hee Haw and on many hit songs. He is a founder of Music City Christian Fellowship and tells us how it all began. "We hired female artist Sandy Posey to be a part of the Nashville Edition in the early days which included Ricky Page, Hurshel Wiginton, Dolores Edgins, and myself. Sandy left to be a soloist and had some

#### **By Robin Tanner**

The tradition continues as Music City Christian Fellowship presents their 43rd Annual Sunday Mornin' Country® at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville Tennessee, June 8th. 2025. This special event has always blended the top Country music artists and your favorite Gospel music together for a time of celebration and Inspiration. The event is filled with many special moments as the presence of the Lord fills the Opry House each year.

hits. Sandy, who was a Christian had been to Fan Fair in Nashville. She said, 'Joe, there is no Christian influence at all during Fan Fair. We should do something.' We had seven of us to kick the idea around. We eventually got together and decided to call the organization Music City Christian Fellowship. I thought of the name Sunday Mornin' Country® and Teddy Wilburn from the Wilburn Brothers said, 'That's it! That's the name!'"

In 1980, Sunday Mornin' Country® began at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. Due to the huge production and number of artists performing, the time has changed through the years to the afternoon. Sunday Mornin' Country® still has the feel of a Sunday morning church service with many uplifting songs!

The first Sunday Mornin' Country® program was held at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. A few of the performers were Billy Walker who was the Master of Ceremony, The Stonemans, LuLu Roman and many others. After a couple of locations it was moved to the Ryman Auditorium. Cowboy Joe expresses his appreciation to those carrying on the tradition. "Sam Lovullo, who produced Hee Haw produced the show back then. Sam taught me the ropes then I placed it in good hands to handle the production. I give Lynn Fox, Melanie Walker and the board credit. The board that produces this show now has learned to do it in a professional manner and we have a production team that ranks with the best. I am proud of them! I helped produce Hee Haw along with Sam Lovullo and our production team ranks up there with them. It has been worth it to have it at the Opry House. It takes around thirty people to put this event together all year long."

From the award-winning Fox Brothers, co-producer Lynn Fox shares his experience from the beginning. "We started many years ago first at War Memorial, then a few years at Opryland in the Chattanooga Ball Room. LuLu Roman, Jeannie C. Riley, Billy Walker, Grandpa Jones, The Fox Brothers and many others were a major part of it. Then the board decided they would try to have it at the Opry house around 1985. That year we had an opportunity to get Tammy Wynette. In the mid-90s, Joe's daughter Lorrie Babcock started producing the show at the Ryman during that time because Fan Fair had moved downtown near the Ryman. We've been at the Opry house ever since, for many years now."

Christian Country artist Melanie Walker, who is the current president of Music City Christian Fellowship, has been a part of Sunday Mornin' Country® for over twenty years, Melanie recalls. "Songwriter Daniel Johnson invited me to a singing event, and it was there that Carol Babcock invited me. I started co-producing the show in 2016."

Melanie shares a special memory from SMC. "It would have to be the time we had Skeeter Davis on the show. Skeeter had been battling cancer. She gave her testimony, and literally there wasn't a dry eye in the place. The Opry band was weeping because they knew what she had been through with cancer. That was Skeeter's last performance, she passed away shortly after."

Lynn Fox shares these special moments. "We had Lynn Anderson perform and she did a Gospel version of the big Pop hit, *Drift Away* on our show. She came backstage and shook our hands and said, 'I really needed this today.' Then a month later she passed away. This year marks ten years since her passing and that memorable performance at Sunday Mornin' Country.®"

"Also, for our 40th anniversary we did a tribute to all the artists that had passed away. You don't realize how many who helped paved the way for this event that's no longer with us. Country music Hall of Fame and Grand Ole Opry member, Charlie McCoy played a beautiful rendition of the *Lord's Prayer* on harmonica while these artist's pictures were shown on the screen. From the production side of it, that was very important to me."

"Last year, Joe Babcock and the Babcocks performed a song for his wife Carol, *Until That Time*. The photographer

got the picture when Joe kissed Carol at the end of the song. That was an extra special moment to be captured in pictures."

Cowboy Joe's sweet wife Carol went home to be with the Lord in January. *Until That Time* has recently been in the Top Ten on several music charts.

Cowboy Joe was blessed to share that precious moment that day on stage and many times prior with his sweet wife and family. He remembers his good friend and fellow Hee Haw alum Roy Clark. "We had Roy Clark on the show. He gave a beautiful testimony. I have known Roy a long time and he was a good man but I never heard him share his testimony before and it was so touching for him to share that day."



#### This precious moment was captured last year as Joe Babcock kissed his wife, Carol, after performing the song *Until That Time* for her. Carol went home to be with the Lord in January.

Melanie mentions, "Two years ago a gentleman who was an Opry staff member had taken a lady to her car. The Opry staff host asked, 'How did you enjoy the show? She said, 'it was wonderful! I met Jesus tonight! My husband passed away recently, and I know I will see Jesus and my husband again.'" Lynn adds, "We hear all these stories about people that got saved and were touched by something on the show. It's just fabulous!"

They shared their goals for this year and the future of Sunday Mornin' Country.<sup>®</sup> "Artists scheduled are Brenda Lee, Ray Stevens, Mandy Barnett, Lori King with special guest Rhonda Vincent, John Berry, Cutter and Cash and Kentucky Grass, Charlie McCoy, Tennessee River Boys and many more." Lynn states, "As for the future it is our desire to keep this going for many years."

Melanie mentions, "It's a privilege to be a part of this. My goal and prayer is that God will continue to bring younger people and the next generation to us that can continue with this tradition in the future."

Many members of Music City Christian Fellowship come from all over the United States and Canada to sing in a ninety-voice choir known as the Country Chorale under the direction of Mark Thomas. Cowboy Joe shares what inspired the choir to become a staple of Sunday Mornin' Country® "We heard the Christ Church Choir from Nashville. They were wonderful but they weren't singing the choir numbers. It was a different sound when you do Country sounding songs with the choir. I called it the Country Chorale and it has grown to 80-90 members every year."

Lynn Fox says, "The choir is the backdrop of SMC. When it all comes together it's like a wall of sound. The Country Chorale are all amazing singers and are serious about this event. It's bigger and better than ever."

Sunday Mornin' Country's past artists and performers have also included Connie Smith, The Oak Ridge Boys, Lulu Roman, Ronnie McDowell, Barbara Fairchild, T. Graham Brown, Rhonda Vincent and many others.

are taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ across the world through and the VIP experience. His gift - the international language of music."



#### Christian Country artist Melanie Walker, president of Music City Christian Fellowship

For more information on the Music City Christian Fellowship, visit musiccitychristianfellowship.org and follow Cowboy Joe said, "I will leave you with our motto. 'We Sunday Mornin' Country on facebook for more information





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## The Gatlin Brothers

70th Anniversary Celebration

By Robin Tanner Group photo by Brandon Wood Vintage photos courtesy of The Gatlin Brothers Opry photo courtesy of The Grand Ole Opry

> It was March 8th,1955, in Abeline, Texas three little boys took the stage at the third annual Cavalcade of Talent at Hardin-Simmons University. The oldest brother Larry was six, Steve was four and the baby brother Rudy was two years old, and those little boys won the contest. To coin a familiar phase, the rest is history. Now, seventy years later, Larry, Steve and Rudy have been on a glorious run and it ain't over! We join the 70th year celebration by honoring the legendary career of Larry, Steve and Rudy - The Gatlin Brothers.

On that night in 1955 in Abeline, Texas, the siblings performed the Gospel classic, *Feelin' Mighty Fine* in their little cowboy outfits. Larry Gatlin reflects on his memories from that special night that started it all. "We have some old artifacts, newspaper clippings, pictures and we have the trophy we won. We still have the old suits we wore for the contest. If anybody calls us out saying 'we don't believe that,' we can show them the evidence!"

Since the brothers were so young, we asked Larry if he remembered performing that day. "Absolutely! I was almost

seven. Rudy doesn't remember it. Steve says he mainly remembers the TV shows we sang on as kids. A gentleman by the name of Slim Willet, a Country singer in Abilene, had a TV show. He wrote the song, *Don't Let The Stars Get Eyes* and was a million seller for Perry Como back in the '50s. Steve and Rudy remember a little bit because we were on there for two and a half years."

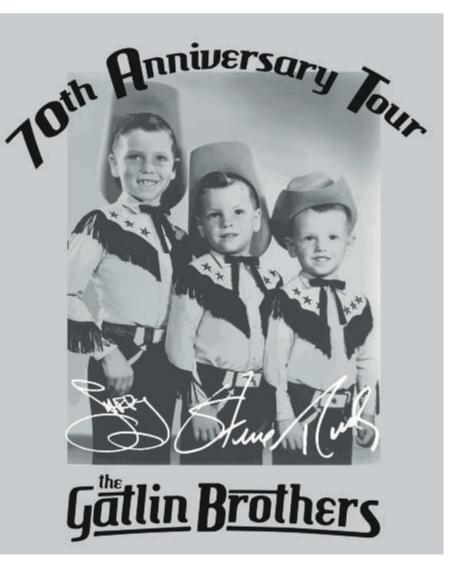
Larry recalls a funny memory about his brother. "Rudy was almost five. We would be singing on TV and Rudy would walk off camera. The camera man would roll nickels and dimes at him, and he would step on them and put it in his pocket and go off camera. He didn't care!"

Larry, Steve and Rudy officially launched their 70th Anniversary Tour. The kick-off celebration took place on Saturday, March 8th. with a concert in their hometown of Abilene, Texas. That's the exact date their storied musical journey began in 1955.

In the official press release, Larry says fans can expect more great things to come. "For the last seventy years, I have been greatly blessed and highly favored to make music with my two best friends, Steve and Rudy," he explains. "It's been a great run and it ain't over, boys. Let's keep doing this until just before we start stinkin' up the joint and not one minute longer. See y'all at sound check. Love, Larry Wayne." The 70th Anniversary Tour is set to make stops in cities across North America.

Fans can expect the hits and a trip down memory lane with stories highlighting their life career in a acoustic setting each with their instruments. The Nashville Songwriter Hall of Famer mentions, "We travel with our guitar player Steve Smith, who is one of the best guitar players I ever heard. We are blessed when friends and neighbors honor you with their hard earn money, their attention, laughter, applause, handshakes, hugs and good wishes. Singing in a little theatre in a downtown square is one of my favorite places rather it be In the Caralinas, Texas or anywhere, it is an honor for us and we take it humbly and very seriously."

Their parents were Curly and Billie, and their father was an oilfield worker. They lived in Abilene and Odessa. When they were younger, they often sang at their local church along with their sister LaDonna. The brothers grew up singing Gospel music after listening to James Blackwood and the Blackwood Brothers, Hovie Lister and The Stateman Quartet, and other Gospel artists. As children the brothers would sing for anyone that would listen. Soon they were singing from coast to coast and appeared at the World's Fair in 1964 in New York City. They recorded four Gospel records early in their career.



In 1966, Larry went to college where he studied English and Law at the University of Houston. In 1971, he auditioned for the legendary group, the Imperials, Elvis' backup group. While he did not get the job, he met Dottie West, who was the opening act for Jimmy Dean. Dean would become one of Larry's oldest and best friends. Larry has stated that Dottie told him, 'you looked so much like Mickey Newbury. that you had to be able to write great songs.' Dottie liked the songs Larry wrote so much she sent him a plane ticket to Nashville.

Through Dottie, he met Kris Kristofferson, who championed Gatlin's talent as a writer and singer. Larry received a recording contract with Monument Records. Larry's first album, "The Pilgrim," was released in December of 1973. Johnny Cash wrote the liner notes for the album and dubbed him "The Pilgrim," a name Cash called Larry his entire life. Larry would name his son after Cash. Steve and Rudy moved to Nashville in 1975 to sing backup with Tammy Wynette. The two later joined Larry in 1976 to form Larry Gatlin & the Gatlin Brothers.



The Gatlin Brothers and their mother, Billie Doan Gatlin perform in Abilene, Texas - circa 1955.

The Grammy Award-winning trio has dazzled audiences for seventy years with a lifetime of noteworthy achievements in their storybook career, including a Grammy for 'Best Country Song' (*Broken Lady*), three ACM awards for 'Single of the Year' (*All The Gold In California*), 'Album of the Year' ("Straight Ahead") and 'Male Vocalist of the Year' for Larry Gatlin, along with five nominations for CMA 'Vocal Group of the Year,' 'Single,' 'Album' and 'Male Vocalist of the Year.'

The Brothers have accumulated seven # 1 singles, 32 Top 40 records, 22 studio albums and 5 BMI "Million-Air" Awards. More #1 hits were *I Don't Wanna Cry, I Just Wish You Were Someone To Love, Statues Without Hearts, Love Is Just A Game,* and *Night Time Magic.* Larry ranks 4th as Solo Writer's with the most self-penned top 40 Billboard Hits. His massive song catalog has been recorded by the Who's Who of Entertainers, including Elvis Presley, Barbara Streisand,

Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Glen Campbell, Kris Kristofferson, Sir Tom Jones, Dottie West, Charlie Rich, Johnny Mathis and dozens of others, securing his legacy as one of BMI's top solo songwriters of all time.

In their seven decades, The Gatlin Brothers have experienced many memorable moments. Larry mentions some of the highlights. "That night we won that little contest seventy years ago, that was pretty good! I think singing at the

> Cathedral of Tomorrow in Akron Ohio or at Crystal Cathedral for Pastor Robert Schuller, for these Pentecostal boys to sing in some of those marvelous churches. I'm gonna tell you, the first time I walked on stage at the Ryman Auditorium and stood out there, if I had one song to sing, I would sing it there at The Ryman. If I had two songs to sing, I would sing one at the Ryman and the other song at the Grand Ole Opry that we have been members for the last 45 years. To have been on the stage at Cesear's Palace in Vegas, to sing at Carnegie Hall in New York, to sing at the World Series at Candlestick Park and at Yankee Stadium. We sang at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing China. It has been a glorious run!"

> Many other venues include Madison Square Garden, Billy Bob's, Radio City Music Hall, Disney World and Wembley Music Festival. They've sung for five of last eight U.S. presidents. In addition, they have graced the stage with legendary entertainers from all over the world, like Brad Paisley, Rascal Flatts, Vince Gill and Gospels acts, including the Oak Ridge Boys, the Gaither Vocal Band, the Isaacs and many others. The brothers have also proudly entertained U.S. Troops in Kuwait, Qatar, UAE, Germany, and at many military bases in the United States as well.

**iatlin** Larry and the brothers had support and encouragement from many of the legends and peers in the music business. Today, you can find them returning the favor to many of today's artists offering advice with their musical endeavors. Plus, Larry has given seminars sharing the stories behind the hits to upcoming songwriters.

Larry and Duane Allen from the Oak Ridge Boys have been friends for almost sixty years. "Somebody tried to pair us off against each other. I said it's a friendly competition for people who love each other and love the groups. Duane told me something mystical. He said, 'Be happy for everybody and when you open up Cashbox or other charts, whoever has the number one record, one of your friends, you root for them and are happy for them. Do the right thing!""

The Gatlin Brothers have relied on their faith in God even in the challenging times. Larry says. "By enlargement the people come to hear the hits when they come to a show. We gonna sing the Gospel songs I wrote. *Help Me* and *Fair Winds* is our closer and we might do some Gospel requests. We will talk about our faith at some points in the show. Most of the time we will sing, *Jesus Loves Me* or *Jesus Loves The Little*  *Children.* We are not a ashamed of our faith and we don't hesitate to share it."

Larry, Steve and Rudy, released their latest single last fall, There's A Hole In The Heart of America, which was recorded by Gospel group The Nelons, who tragically passed away in a plane crash in July of 2024. Larry mentions, "Bill Gaither and I wrote that song. The Brothers and I recorded it and perform it in honor of our dear friends The Nelons who we miss. It's a good ole Gospel song. Our version is a little different but it's one of the best songs we've ever cut. It went to number one in the Positive Country charts. It's

the first one we had in thirty years."

"We usually do around 50 dates a year," Larry mentions. "We used to do between 120 - 150. We used to fill up a 10,000-seat auditorium. We can't do that anymore but that's ok. We are grateful for what God has put in front of us and the friends that show up for us. Charlie Daniels wrote a book, "Never Look At The Empty Seats." You can't do that because that would destroy a person's heart and their will to keep doing it. We are not calling this a farewell tour. I guess we have been on a farewell tour since March 8th.1955! We are calling it the 70th Anniversary Celebration and we will probably have around fifty dates. Plus, we do the Opry almost thirty times a year. We don't have a bus or an airplane, Southwest Airlines is our private airplane! We fly in, rent cars, go sing music, go to the hotel and do the same thing the next day. At 71, 73 and 76 we are in great health! Thank God

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The Gatlin Brothers at The Grand Ole Opry

and we can still sing the notes. When we can't do it right then we gonna quit! I wrote a song that said, *I'd Rather Quit Ten Years Too Early Than Ten Minutes Too Late*. That is how we do it. The Gatlin boys are grateful for our friends coming to hear our music for 70 years."

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6	18	Wide Open Heart
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8	23	Fast Livin'
9	30	Spirits
10	20	Feeling Mortal
11	17	Arrow
12	24	l Can't Go Anywhere With You
13	3	Green Light
14	36	After Me?
15	25	Out Of Time
16	27	Scars
17	31	I'm Still Fine
18	5	Messy As A Magnolia
19	9	Crying In The Night
20	53	Bury Me
21	28	Johnny Moonshine
22	50	Cosmic Appalachian Radio
23	35	Gild The Lily
24	12	Halo
24	6	Wild Geese
25	38	
20 27	50 59	Tough Times Don't Last Say I Love You
27		If We Make It Til The Mornin'
	43	
29	14	Comin' Apart At The Seams
30	66	Up Close
31	4	Any Other Way
32	94	Highway 65
33	40	Getting Older
34	2	Waxahatchie Hoochie Coo
35	52	Silk And Petals
36	77	Lonesome Drifter
37	64	Easy Love (Part One)
38	65	House Of Mirrors
39	88	Believer
40	16	Save Your Drama For Your Momma
41	47	Money On 7
42	48	Crumbs '24
43	44	No One Gets Out Alive
	41	Found A Friend In You
45	61	Much Ado About Nothing
46	22	And They Called Her California
47	11	Solitaires
48	73	Drive
49	95	Sugar In The Tank
	~ -	

#### ARTIST

**Drew & Ellie Holcomb** Jason Eady + Taylor Hunnicut **Reckless Kelly Chuck Prophet** The Heavy Heavy Dwight Yoakam AJ Lee And Blue Summit ft. Molly Tuttle Teddy And The Rough Riders The Devil Makes Three Kris Kristofferson The Head And The Heart JD McPherson Drew Holcomb & The Neighbors ft. Vince Gill **Kashus** Culpepper Trampled By Turtles ft. Leann Rimes Fruition The Red Clay Strays American Aquarium Andrew Bird & Madison Cunningham Jason Isbell Maggie Antone Olivia Wolf **Billy Strings** Eddie 9V Liv Greene Paul Thorn Anderson East Jason Scott And The High Heat Jesse Daniel Them Coulee Boys Hayes & The Heathens Paige Plaisance Gary Louris Monte Warden And The Dangerous Few Amythyst Kiah **Charley Crockett** Larkin Poe Pete Price Pug Johnson **Bill Abernathy** Amy Helm Cory M. Coons Maggie Rose Southern Avenue Waxahatchee Ray Lamontagne Futurebirds Jason Boland & The Stragglers Julien Baker & Torres Alison Krauss & Union Station



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Christine Scott



**50** 81

**SUNDANCE** 

MUSIC GROUP

### *MAY 2025* Americana Top 100

LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
54	Thankful	Ringo Starr	Universal Music Group
29	Working Girl's Guitar	Rosie Flores	Bloodshot Records / Airplay Direct
84	People Of Substance	Craig Finn	Tamarac/Thirty Records
75	String Of Pearls	Eddy Mann	MTS Records
60	Something You Got	Jerry Douglas	Nolivian Records
89	Same Old Song	The Lumineers	Dualtone/MNRK
70	What We Had	Gillian Welch And David Rawlings	Acony Records
21	Old Tape	Lucius ft. Adam Granduciel	Fantasy Records/Concord
92	He's Gone	Caleb Klauder & Reeb Willms	Free Dirt Records
93	What's Left Of Me	Neal Francis	
85	Boom	Sierra Hull	Sierra Hull Music LLC
62	Here I Go	Yonder Mountain String Band	Frog Pad Records/Thirty Tigers
79	Better With Time	Robert Ross	MTS Records
63	Rosey	Mac Leaphart	Mac Leaphart Music
83	Rushmere	Mumford & Sons	Glassnote Records
45	Slippin' Away	Miss Freddye	MTS Records
90	Mama Drove A Mustang	Ron Pope	Brooklyn Basement Records
91	Louisiana	Miss Tess	Miss Tess
74	Call Me (Whatever You Like)	Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats	Stax/Fantasy Records/Concord
67	Tickets To Turnpike	Muscadine Bloodline ft. Kyle Nix	Stancaster Music/Thirty Tigers
82	Shine	Ken Holt	MTS Records
-	Wristwatch	MJ Lenderman	Anti-
71	Here Comes Tomorrow	Vento, Ziggy, Hawk & McCarthy	MTS Records
80	Keep Your Worries On The Dance Floor	Jontavious Willis	Strolling Bones Records/New West Records
96	A Heart That Never Closes	Mary Chapin Carpenter, Julie Fowlis, Karine Polwart	Lambent Light/Thirty Tigers
39	Lightning In July (Prairie Fire)	Noeline Hofmann	La Honda Records
-	Who Was That	Bobby Rush & Kenny Wayne Shepherd	Deep Rush Records/RAM Records/Thirty Tigers
49	Shouldn't Be	Lilly Hiatt	New West Records
-	Joy! Joy!	Valerie June	Concord Records/Concord
86	Haulin'	Nathan Bartgis	BGJ Promotions
-	Southside Of Forever	Sean McConnell	Metropolitan Groove Merchants
87	Spitfire	Cliff & Susan	MTS Records
98	Cry Baby	Sunny War	New West Records
72	After Midnight (Nothing Good Happens)	Twisted Pine	Signature Sounds
-	Tonight	Pam Ross	MTS Records
-	Mary Could You	Benjamin Tod	Benjamin Tod/ Thirty Tigers
97	Same Old Song	Lumineers	Dualtone/MNRK
-	Playboy	The Roamers	Roughneck Goods
-	Let Things Go	Caamp	Mom + Pop Music
-	Where I Belong	Galactic & Irma Thomas	Tchoup-Zilla Records/Thirty Tigers
99	Rein It In Cowboy	The Doohickeys	Forty Below Records
-	Dirt Roads Of Red	JD Clayton	Rounder Records/Concord
-	Up On The Mountain	Seth Walker	Royal Potato Family
100	For Emma	Trampled By Turtles & Sumbuck	Banjodad Records
-	The Forks Of Cypress	Patterson Hood ft. Waxahatchee	ATO Records
-	Every Day I Am	David Luning	Rent A Records
-	Did I Ever	Eddy Mann	MTS Records
-	Gas Money	Chatham Rabbits	Chatham Rabbits Music
-	Hear My Call	Cristina Vane ft. Molly Tuttle	Blue Tip Records
<b>)</b> –	1000 Wild Horses	Shane Smith & The Saints	Geronimo West Records/Thirty Tigers

Sundance Music Group is a full-service music company serving the Christian Country / Country Gospel music industry.

#### RECORDING RADIO SINGLE RELEASE VIDEO PRODUCTION

Contact John Penney Phone: 229-942-0857 • Email:john@johnpenneymusic.com

тм	LM	SONG TITLE
1	6	Father In Heaven (Right Now)
2	4	Call His Name
3	8	Don't Give Up
4	11	He Answers Prayers
5	5	Musgrove
6	9	Era
7	12	The Center Of Grace
8	1	Wait On You
9	16	Pray For Me
10	14	Lead Me On
11	21	My God Is Amazing
12	3	Never Be The Same
13	24	Send It Down
14	18	We Need God
15	19	Save Your Soul
16	23	Without You
17	17	Sunshine
18	10	Great And Mighty
19	26	Church Doors
20		No Weapon
21	2	Prazin' Amazin'
22	13	He Can Handle It
23	42	God Is
24	28	Only One Way Home
25	15	Everything
26	44 7	God Of Another Chance
27 28	7 20	Holy Ghost (Live)
20 29	20	Move Deserve To Win
30	32	Stand With You
31	27	In Him There is No Sorrow
32	49	He Was There
33	38	Gods Gonna Bless You
	29	It's Time
35	31	Hold On
	41	Take The Lord With You
37	35	Try Love
38	33	Example Of You
39	34	Where There's A Will There's A Way
40	36	Yahweh
41	46	Just Wait
42	40	Ride It Out
43	22	Afterwhile
44	-	Jordans
45	48	Working On A Building
46	50	Precious Lord
47	-	Great Is Thy Faithfulness
48	30	Going On In Jesus Name
49	47	Thy Blood
50	-	Clap My Way

#### ARTIST

**Bebe Winans** Kenny Lewis Earnest Pugh Irean Evon Henderson Kidratii Tory Lynn Lillian Lilly **Cindy Davis** Tina Campbell **Chandler Moore** Mack Holland Deitrick Haddon Karen Clark Sheard Perishia Jones ft. Peigh Jones Ptthegospelspitter ft. Preacherman Jevon Dewand Nia Allen Dorinda Clark-Cole Yolanda Adams Todd Dulaney Durand Crystal Aiken Melvin Crispell III Mississippi Mass Choir Otis Kemp 100 A.K.A. The Messenger Frozene Hayes Alex Savles Tamela Mann Carlington Roberts featuring Talein Donald Lawrence Marvin Sapp Minnie Carter Alexia Price Curry **Ricky Dillard** The Rising Stars Kirk Franklin Faith Hairston & The Chosen Vessels Ecclesiastics 5 Jason Nelson John Tillery& Voices II Voices Choir Tim Woodson & Heirs of Harmony Pastor RL Bush & Revived Sons **Blessing Offor** Larry Hill **Reggie Grantham** Leilani George Carter & Gentlemen of Faith Soul Revivals of GA Micah Lee



LABEL **Regimen/Malaco** Pure Sounds/Waynorth Black Smoke Irean Evon Henderson Musgrove Mpact Label XPress Music Group The Sound Of LA Gee Tree Creative Tribl Octiive Deitrick Haddon Karew/Motown Gospel Work Son Serving The Peace Black Smoke Lkg Malaco Epic Light/MNRK Independent MNRK **RCA** Inspiration Malaco Revive 5.0 Mpact VSC Promotions **VSC** Promotions Tillymann **VSC** Promotions Provident/Sony Elev8/Thirty Tigers **VSC** Promotions **VSC** Promotions Motown/Capitol CMG **VSC** Promotions Fo Yo Soul/RCA Inspiration **VSC** Promotions Scott Media/MMG Fair Trade/Tyscot **VSC** Promotions VSC Promotions **VSC** Promotions Sparrow/Capitol CMG **VSC** Promotions VSC Promotions **Kingdom Cathedral** VSC Promotions **VSC** Promotions Micahlee



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Co-Writer Wood Newton





CHARTS

On Succarnochee Records

GOING



Co-writer Daniel Johnson

### THANK YOU RADIO



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тм	LM	SONG TITLE A	RTIST	LABEL
1	4	Finnland	Daniel Grindstaff	Pinecastle
2	11	Get Along Stray Dog	Steve Martin-Steep Canyon Rangers	Concord Music Group
3	10	A Million Memories ( A Song For Byron )	Darin & Brooke Aldridge w/ Vince Gill	Billy Blue
4	1	Will There Be Any Stars	Alison Krauss & The Cox Family	Rounder Records
5	13	Great Big Sea	Danny Burns ft. Tim O'Brien	Bonfire Recording Company
6	15	Get Love	Steve Thomas & The Time Machine	Bonfire
7	20	Remember Who You Are	Big Country Bluegrass	Rebel
8	24	Ruby Jean	Bob Minner w/ Jesse Smathers & Zach Arnold	Billy Blue
9	17	To Make A Long Heartache Short	Carson Peters And The Iron Mountain	Billy Blue
10	21	Me and Mr. Howard	Daryl Mosley	Pinecastle Records
11	3	Ghosts Of Galway Bay	Milan Miller	Melton & Miller Music
	28	Don't Worry About the Rich Man	Roe Family Singers	Bonfire Music Group
13	27	I Wish I Had One More	Chosen Road	Thoroughbred Records
14	46	Hills I Used To Roam	Matt Wallace w/ Wayne Taylor	Huckleberry Records
15	31	Can't Live Without Love	Bronwyn Keith-Hynes	Sugar Petunia
16	52	Walk Softly On The Bridges	Tim Raybon Band	Pinecastle
17	30	Wall Guitar (Since You Said Goodbye)	Allison Brown & Steve Martin w/ Vince Gill	Compass
18	5	Play By Your Own Rules	Sam Bush	Sugar Hill Records
19	33	Old Yeller	The Grass Daddies	Prairie Grass Records
20	12	Blue Night	Ashby Frank	Mountain Home
21	45	Down That Road	Benson w/ Keith Garrett	Mountain Home
22	41	A Lonesome Feeling	Kathy Kallick Band	Live Oak Records
23	9	Peace of Mind	Chad Darou (featuring Rick Faris)	Turnberry Records
24	37	At Jesus' Feet	Eagle's Wings	Independent
25	83	Blue Ain't The Word	Kody Norris Show	Rebel
26	14	Square One	Mark Newton	Independent
27	42	Don't Let Your Deal Go Down	The Earls of Leicester	Rounder/Concord Music Group
28		Unfinished Bridges	Rock Hearts	615 Hideaway Records
	49	Better When We We're Livin'	Wood Box Heroes	Independent
30		Seven Weeks In County	Billy Strings	Billy Strings / Reprise
31		When I Get There	Russell Moore & Illrd Tyme Out	Independent
32		I'm In A Hurry (And Don't Know Why)	Unspoken Tradition	Crossroads
	64	Front Porch Of Paradise	Kristy Cox	Billy Blue
34		Looking Past The Pain (The Cowboy Song)	Seth Mulder and Midnight Run	Rebel
35		I'm In Tennessee	Sideline	Mountain Home
	59	She's Heavenly	Del McCoury Band	McCoury Music
37		Come Jesus Come	Grascals	Mountain Home
38	26	The Mighty Name Of Jesus	High Fidelity	Rebel Records
39	-	Aunt Mary's Spring	Green River Revue	Mighty Cord
40		Autumn Leaves Don't Fall	Thomas Cassell	Mountain Fever
41	-	Bisbee Blue	Calexico	Independent Dire seatle
42		Jackson Tennessee	Dale Ann Bradley	Pinecastle Mountain Homo
43 44	87 61	Coal Dust Kisses Last Summer	Grascals Kenny & Amanda Smith	Mountain Home
44 45	61 -	Daughter Of The Stars	Renny & Amanda Smith Red Camel Collective	Farm Boy Pinecastle
	- 75	5		
46 47		Regrets In The Rearview Oh What Love	Nefesh Mountain ft. Molly Tuttle Kentucky Just Us	Independent Independent
47 48	38 -	Pretty Flowers	Eddie Sanders	True Lonesome
48 49		Old Richmond Road	Larry Cordle	Mighty Cord
	92 76	Wall Dogs	Tim Stafford & Thomm Jutz	Independent
50	/0	waii Dogs		independent



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### *MAY 2025* Bluegrass Top 100

тм	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	35	Big Sky	Darren Nicholson	Mountain Home
52	-	Lonely As It Gets	Wilson Banjo Co.	Independent
53	81	Behind The 8 Ball	Andy Leftwich	Mountain Home
54	43	Don't Wash Away Our Home	Appalachian Smoke	Mountain Fever Records
55	73	Artful Dodger	Missy Armstrong	Independent
56	77	Runaway Train	Travelin' McCoury's	McCoury Music
57	-	Cruisin'	Yonder Mountain String Band	Independent
58	99	Courtin' Katie	Crandall Creek	Copper Mountain
59		Line The Avenues	Henhouse Prowlers	Dark Shadow
60	95	Give It Away	Jason Carter & Michael Cleveland	Fiddle Man Records
61		Even Better When You Listen	Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers	Billy Blue
62		Whirlwind	Nu-Blu	Turnberry
63		Back With A Lonesome Sound	Andrew Crawford	Bonfire
64		Sleepless Nights, Endless Tears, Broken Heart	- · ·	Down The Road
	97	l'm On To You	Lonesome River Band	Mountain Home
66		Ran Out Of Road	Reed Jones with Vince Gill, Harry Stinson & Redline	Independent
67		Boomerang	John Cowan	True Lonesome
68		What Love Looks Like Today	Jerry Salley	Very Jerry
	-	Rosie Bokay	C.J. Lewandowski, Paul Brewster	Turnberry
70		Ol' Rooster	Dave Adkins	Billy Blue
71	-	Dying All Over Again	Volume Five	Mountain Fever
	-	Ain't Got Time	Authentic Unlimited	Billy Blue
73		Just To Satisfy You	Balsam Range	Mountain Home
74	-	Mama Bake a Pie (Daddy Kill a Chicken)	Chris Jones & the Night Drivers	Mountain Home
75 76	-	In My Dreams	Kristy Cox w/ John Meador	Billy Blue
70		Toe The Line One More Lonesome Train	Woody Platt w/ Tim O'Brien Jim Hurst	Compass Pinecastle
78		Jubilee		Dark Shadow
78 79	63	This Sad Song	Becky Buller Dan Tyminski	8 Track Entertainment
	-	Sweet Lips And Sweeter Lies	Nick Dumas	Skyline
81		Amazing Grace	Tony Trischka ft. Sierra Ferrell	Down The Road
82		Rhythm Of The Road	Dalton Harper w/ Zac Top	Skyline
83		Jesus Satisfies	Danny Roberts	Mountain Home
84		1682	Shawn Lane & Richard Bennett	Bonfire
85		I'll Be Here In The Morning	David Parmley	615 Hideaway Records
86		Take Your Circus On The Road	Gena Britt	Melton & Miller Music
87		A Man Like Me	Junior Sisk w/ Dan Tyminski	Mountain Fever
	_	Boom	Sierra Hull	Independent
89		Wagon Wheel	Rhonda Vincent	UMG
	_	Lining Track	Women of Kelley	Independent
91		Walk Along With Me	Woody Platt	Compass
92		Never Did No Wanderin'	Nick Chandler & Delivered	Pinecastle
93	-	Looking For Yourself	Jaelee Roberts	Mountain Home
94	100	Winds Of Rowan County	Wyatt Ellis & Peter Rowan	Knee High
95		You Don't Come	Big Richard	Independent
96	88	Old Friends	Billy Droze	RBR
97	-	All Will Be Well	Sister Sadie	Independent
98	-	He Called Me Baby	AJ Lee & Blue Summit	Independent
99	-	Fences	Adam McIntosh	Independent
100	) —	Wanted in Kentucky	Marty Falle	Independent



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### *MAY 2025* Bluegrass Gospel Top 50

тм	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	14	Get On Board	Williamson Branch	Pinecastle Records
2	7	Come To Jesus	Amanda Cook	Mountain Fever
3	4	You'll Find Me	Authentic Unlimited	Billy Blue Records
4	3	I'll Meet You In The Morning	Becky Isaacs Bowman	House of Isaacs/New Day
5	6	That Sweet Land Of God Somewhere	Primitive QT	Mountain Heritage
6	12	Lay Em Down	Benson	Mountain Home
7	10	The Word	Teddy Barneycastle	Huckleberry
8	15	Old Rugged Me	Dave Adkins w/ Alecia Nugent & Jerry Salley	Billy Blue
9	18	That Reunion	Tim Raybon Band	Pinecastle
10	2	On The Tips of Angels' Wings	Alecia Nugent w/ Ben James & Jerry Salley	Billy Blue
11	29	There's A River	High Road	New Day Records/New Day
12	1	Can't You Hear Jerusalem Moan	Hammertowne	Mountain Fever
13	27	Numbers On A Stone	Mark Houser & Bluegrass Drive	Wurld Records
14		Nothing New	McBride Family	FMG Bluegrass
15	9	Redeemed	Ben Rochester Family	Horizon Records
16		In Remembrance Of Me	Po' Ramblin Boys	Smithsonian Folkways Recordings
17		Are You Born Again	Cedar Hill	Mountain Fever
18		Just Believe	Route 3	Pinecastle
19		My Lord Is Taking Me Away	High Fidelity	Rebel
20		Country Faith	Kristen Bearfield with Karen Peck Gooch	ARS/New Day
21		When I Get There	Russell Moore & IIIrd Tyme Out	Independent
22		Jesus Satisfies	Danny Roberts	Mountain Home
23		Leave It In The Hands Of The Lord	Darren Nicholson	Mountain Home
24		Even Better When You Listen	Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers	Billy Blue
25		Water Grave	Caleb Howard	Independent
26		God Never Made A Mountain	Kristy Cox	Billy Blue
27		At Jesus Feet	Eagle's Wings	Hey Y'All Media
28		Still The Solid Rock	Daryl Mosley	Pinecastle
29		I Wonder What Mary Thought Of Jesus	Eddie Sanders	True Lonesome RBR
30 31		When Jesus Calls My Name	Don Rigsby	Will House Records
31		The First Time I Heard About Heaven Here Comes Jesus	Cox Family	
33		Dear Lord	Jeff & Sheri Easter w/ Mo Pitney	Universal Music Group
34		The Storm Still Knows His Voice	Darin & Brooke Aldridge Chosen Road	Billy Blue Records/New Day Thoroughbred Records
35		Come Jesus Come	The Grascals	Mountain Home
36		Come To Jesus	Danny Burns & Sam Bush	Bonfire
37		Amazing Grace	Tony Trischka ft. Sierra Ferrell	Down The Road
38		Somewhere Down The Road	Steeldrivers	Gaither
39		Just Beyond	Barry Abernathy w/ John Meador, Tim Raybon, Bradley Walker	Billy Blue
40		God Knows	Balsam Range	Mountain Home/Crossroads
41		He's Gone	Jaelee Roberts w/ Ricky Skaggs, Sharon & Cheryl White	Mountain Home
42		What Are You Waiting For	Tim Menzies with the Isaacs	ARS/New Day
43		The Praying Kind	Troy Engle	Pinecastle
44		Child Of The King	Daniel Grindstaff	Pinecastle Records
45		Somewhere Down The Road	The Steeldrivers	Gaither
46		Let Me Be The Best Bible	Rock Hearts	Independent
47		Higher Than I	Adam McIntosh	Billy Blue
48		Heavenly Gain	Chuck Wagon Gang	Mountain Home/Crossroads
49		Come Jesus Come	Grascals	Mountain Home
50		Gospel Train	Mark Houser & Bluegrass Drive ft. Darin & Brooke Aldridge	Wurld Records



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It's Not Fools Gold Mike Leichner



Ain't Gonna Lay It Down Linda Lanier



Be That One Today Johnathan Bond



I Don't Have To Go This Way Again Wink Kelso



Too Much To Gain To Lose **Rusty Gilliam** 



When The Son Comes Down **Sonshine Road** 

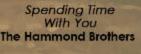


Wake Up Call **Cyndi Reynolds** 



Blues And The Badge **Corey Farlow** 







There Is Someone The Murphys



I Surrender If All Luke Hendrickson



No Fishina **Royel Clark** 



It Doesn't Seem Enough The Journeys



If I Don't Have Love **Jennifer Sides** 

### *MAY 2025* Christian Country Top 100

#### TM LM SONG TITLE Let's Get The Devil Outta Here 1 7 2 10 **Bright New Morning** 3 Going Home 8 I Wouldn't Be Surprised 4 14 5 15 Sin Is Color Blind Broken 6 21 Spending Time With You 7 27 8 1 Plenty Of Time 9 17 Friendly Fire **10** 33 Blues And The Badge 11 20 Jesus What Does That Name Mean To Me Grace Never Has Failed Me 12 22 13 Jesus Isn't Done Yet 23 **14** 4 Thank You **15** 49 Stand **16** 26 Only You **17** 30 When I Pray 18 37 One Heart 19 28 Another Day Ain't No Future In The Past 20 50 It's Not Fools Gold **21** 34 **22** 2 When Jesus Comes I Wanna Be Found Faithful **23** 38 **24** 31 Dead Man Walking 25 5 Just A Country Boy **26** 29 His Church Went Marching On **27** 13 Washed **28** 11 I'm Going Home **29** 19 Hold The Line The Hand Of The Man 30 57 31 48 Dash 32 36 Grandma's Bible **33** 6 Cast Your Cares **34** 43 Horses In Heaven **35** 40 I Stand 36 39 **Big Jesus Train** 37 9 Ink Stains 38 61 If I Don't Have Love **39** 42 Nothing Short Of A Miracle **40** 12 Home **41** 53 Thin Blue Line Going Down To The Church House **42** 18 **43** 32 Because He Changed Me 44 46 Preacher Man **45** 47 Gonna Be A Party **46** 55 Alone **47** 54 There Is Someone Hardwood Church Pew **48** 85 49 24 God Did That

50 52 Do You Remember

ARTIST

Chuck Hancock Marty Raybon John Pennev Keith Buchanan Jim Sheldon Scott Peacock The Hammond Brothers Gayla Earlene Angela Seng & Marty Smith Corey Farlow David Smith Kesha Parish Kenny Evans Todd Lee Anne Wilson Bruce Minchey Donna Kilmurray Felicia DeRamus Paul Wings Of Love Fortner Brothers Mike Leichner Jonathan Ray Smith **Thomas Brown** Paul Staggs **Ricky Paul** Troy Richardson Debbie Mills **Richard Spravberry** Victoria Steelman Ed Bruce Joe Arview **Debbie Bennett** Jimmy R. Price Woody Winn Ashley Collins **Brother Daniel** David House Jennifer Sides The Pauls Dale Rochell **Kevin Kappler** Terry & Debra Luna Carey Easley Marcus Ellis **Michael Tetrick** Kevin Woodv The Murphys The Kendricks Cody McCarver Joy LaVallee & Johnathan Bond

LABEL **Canyon Creek Records Rural Rhythm Records** Millennium Music Group **Canyon Creek Records** Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Millennium Music Group **Canyon Creek Records** Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Canyon Creek Records Independent Canyon Creek Records Millennium Music Group Canyon Creek Records Chapel Valley Music Nashville Christian Country Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Nashville Christian Country Canyon Creek Records Millennium Music Group Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Grace Records Nashville Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Grace Records Nashville Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Millennium Music Group Nashville Christian Country Canyon Creek Records Canyon Creek Records Millennium Music Group Grace Records Nashville Nashville Christian Country **Canyon Creek Records** Nashville Christian Country Independent Canyon Creek Records



radio

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### *MAY 2025* Christian Country Top 100

тм		SONG TITLE
51	64	Wake Up Call
52	94	String Of Pearls
53	82	They Laughed
54	59	There's Power In His Name
55	60	Heaven Help Me
56	88	Jesus and Bocephus
57	67	l'm Gonna Love You
58	68	Saving My Place
59	62	Let's All Get Together
60	71	When The Son Comes Down
61	72	Urgent
62	66	What Did I Do Today
63	35	Hell Don't Stand A Chance
64	65	The Well
65	69 75	Forever Your Praises
66 67	75	God's Love
67	84 73	A Little More Sunday What A Gift
68 60	70	Change Of Heart
69 70	70	Things That Didn't Work
70	74	Ain't Gonna Lay It Down
72	-	Horses In Heaven
73	80	Too Much To Gain To Lose
74	79	Ready And Waiting
75	51	Bring Me Home
76	83	Be That One Today
77	-	Believe
78	98	I Surrender It All
79	89	I Don't Need A Mansion
80	_	Little White Church Revival
81	86	Tell It Over And Over Again
82	92	Pray For Me
83	-	It Doen't Seem Enough
84	-	We Need Jesus
85	91	l Don't Have To Go This Way Again
86	87	Hey God It's Me Again
87	-	l've Seen It Rain Before
88	90	No Fishing
89	93	Better Felt Than Told
90	-	One More Sinner Saved
91	95	Jesus Saves
92	96	Saved By Grace
93	-	Beyond The Clouds
94	99	Porch Swings In Heaven
95	-	Angel Band
96	-	More Than You Know
97	-	Fueled Up Fired Up And Ready To Go
98	-	Right Where You Want Me To Be
99	-	Amazing Grace
100	-	I Thank God For Saving Me

#### ARTIST

Cyndi Reynolds Eddy Mann Steve Warren Gene Higgins Aaron Partridge **Richard Lynch** Cody Johnson & Carrie Underwood Jason Welch Melissa Couch Sonshine Road Darin Kinse **Bill Baker** Paula Slow Michael Lee Michael Walsh Marty Deroche Danny Hebert Gena Hamilton **Robert Blankenship** Judy Bailey Linda Lanier **Randy Travis Rusty Gilliam** Chosen 4:13 John Michael Ferrari Johnathan Bond Brooks & Dunn With Jelly Roll Luke Hendrickson Mary Fay Jackson New Covenant Gennie Ruth Cheatham Shellem Cline The Journeys Kenny Evans Wink Kelso Chase Rice Steve Roberson **Royel Clark Brandon Rowell** Norman Lee Schaffer Cooper Alan **Ray Hollis Christine Scott** Ma Bell Waymasters Tim Livingston Billy Gregg feat. Nikki Nelson Don Stiles Lady Redneck Harry Claytor

LABEL
Canyon Creek Records
MTS Records
Millennium Music Group
MC1 Nashville
Grace Records Nashville
MTS Records
Independent
Nashville Christian Country
Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group
Canyon Creek Records
Nashville Christian Country
Canyon Creek Records
MC1 Nashville
Nashville Christian Country
New Beginnings Music Group
Nashville Christian Country
Independent
Millennium Music Group
New Beginnings Music Group
Independent
Canyon Creek Records
Warner Music Nashville
Canyon Creek Records
Independent
Millennium Music Group
Canyon Creek Records
BMG Nashville
Canyon Creek Records
Independent
Chapel Valley Music
Independent
Independent
Canyon Creek Records
Millennium Music Group
Canyon Creek Records
Independent
Canyon Creek Records
Canyon Creek Records
Hey Y'all Media
Millennium Music Group
Independent
Hey Y'all Media
Canyon Creek Records
Grace Records Nashville
Grace Records Nashville
Canyon Creek Records
Millennium Music Group
Hey Y'all Media MTS Records
Millennium Music Group



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#### TAKING YOUR MINISTRY TO THE NEXT LEVEL.



### *MAY 2025* Contemporary Christian Top 50

тм	LM	SONG TITLE
1	9	Loves Got A Way
2	5	Call His Name
3	2	The Truth
4	13	Counting My Blessings
5	15	Praise
6	14	The God You Are
7	16	Miracle In Me
8	1	Place In This World
9	21	Still Waters (Psalm 23)
10	19	My God Is Amazing
11 12	17 8	Again Won't He Do It
12	0 10	Somebody Prayed
14	7	The Jesus Way
15	3	Without You
16	6	Father In Heaven (Right Now)
17	33	Let It Begin
18	4	Somebody Like Me
19	38	The Cross
20	29	Holy Forever
21	11	Praise God For That
22	27	Sunshine
23	31	Era
24	32	Lead Me On
25	34	What He Says About You
26	40	Made For More
27	42	Hard Fought Hallelujah
28	22	Beautiful Life
29	43	Up + Up
30	20	God Of Another Chance
31	24	Send It Down
32 33	25 -	Never Be The Same
33 34	- 26	Deserve To Win Take It All Back
35	20 44	All Yours
	48	God Is
37	46	He Was There
38	49	Try Love
39	_	Nothin' Sweeter
40	41	Don't Give Up
41	_	Great Is Thy Faithfulness
42	47	Take You At Your Word
43	-	Pray For Me
44	50	Save Your Soul
45	-	When I Fall
46	-	Clap My Way
47	-	Jordan
48	-	Yahweh
49	-	Jesus Guy
50	-	Goodbye Yesterday

**Andrew Ripp** Kenny Lewis Megan Woods Seph Schlueter **Elevation Worship** Sound Street Ashley Gronholm For King & Country Leanna Crawford Mack Holland Jeremy Camp We The Kingdom Crowder Phil Wickham Jevon Dewand **Bebe Winans Big Daddy Weave** Caleb & John Anne Wilson & Chris Tomlin **Chris Tomlin** Jordan Feliz Nia Allen Tory Lynn Chandler Moore Unspoken Josh Baldwin Brandon Lake Pat Barrett **Colton Dixon** 100 A.K.A The Messenger Karen Clark Sheard **Deitrick Haddon** Tamela Mann **Tauren Wells** Kierra Sheard Melvin Crispell III Marvin Sapp Kirk Franklin Tobymac Earnest Pugh Leilani Cody Carnes **Tina Campbell** Ptthegospelspitter ft. Preacherman Katy Nichole Michal Lee **Blessing Offor** Jason Nelson

Jeff Arrandale

**Elevation Rhythm** 

ARTIST

LABEL **Holly Street** Puresound/Waynorth Fair Trade/Columbia Essential/PLG **Elevation Worship** Sonlite Records The Sound Of LA/Be Free Word-Curb Reunion/Plg Octiive Sparrow/Capitol CMG Sparrow/Capitol CMG Sparrow/Capitol CMG Fair Trade/Columbia Black Smoke Regimen/Malaco Word-Curb Fair Trade/Columbia Sparrow/Capitol CMG Sparrow/Capitol Centricity LKG Mpact Tribl Centricity Bethel Provident/Sony Sparrow/Capitol CMG Fair Trade/Atlantic Mpact Karew/Motown Gospel **Deitrick Haddon** Tillymann Sparrow/Capitol CMG Karew/RCA Inspiration **RCA** Inspiration Elev8/Thirty Tigers Fo Yo Soul/RCA Inspiration Forefront/Capitol CMG Black Smoke **Kingdom Cathedral** Sparrow/Capitol CMG Gee Tree/Red Alliance Serving The Peace Centricity Micah Lee Sparrow/Capitol CMG Fair Trade/Tyscot Millennium Music Group **Elevation Worship** 



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### *MAY 2025* Independent Country Top

тм	LM	SONG TITLE	
1	10	She Makes Dirt Look Good	
2	3	Caney Fork	
3	8	21 Days	
<b>4</b> 6		Bootleggers	
5	11	She Lives In A Big House Now	
6	14	Run Away To Vegas	
7	17	I'll Find It Where I Can	
8	13	We Could Have	
9	16	Some Days Are Better Than Others	
10	24	Blackberry Brandy	
11	15	Dead Man Walking	
12	18	The Things I Haven't Done	
13	2	Anchor	
14	21	Right To Bear Arms	
15	23	A Few Good Years	
16	36	If I Ever Need A Lady I'll Call You	
17	1	First Last Time	
18	31	Lessons	
19	46	Kansas	
20	44	In America	
21	37	Southern Eyes	
22	27	For A Minute There	
23	12	I Wanna Thank You	
24	30	If You Remember The 1990s	
25	41	Between A Rock And A Hard Place	
	4	I'm The One That Ain't Coming Back	
27	5	I Need A Hug	
28	22	What Money Can't Buy	
29	7	Runaway Train	
	47	A Good Man	
31	20	Save Your Drama For Your Momma	
32	35	I Keep Rollin' On	
33	55	He's Gotta Get That Monkey Off His Back	
34	26	Burn It Down	
35	33	Old Memories	
36	25	Sunday In The South	
37 38	42	Her Way Ain't The Highway House Of Diamonds	
30 39	52 50	End Of The Road	
39 40	39		
40	59 58	Stormy Weather Wishbone	
42	58 54	I Can Make Anything	
43	29	Love Me	
43 44	29 49	Drunk Since Dallas	
45	61	Somethings Gotta Give	
46	57	Better With Time	
47	38	Runnin From The Truth	
48		Pray For This Country	
49	85	I Still Cry Over You	
	55		

#### ARTIST Alex Miller

Carl Ray Sara Evans Jeff Orson Dan Knight Johny Nashville **Billy Payne** Ken Grisham & Colene Walters **Richard Lynch** Waylon Hanel and Madison Hughes **Kevin Palmer** John Cowan Ashley Puckett **Dennis Ledbetter** Midnight Sky **Mike Hughes Ghost Hounds** Mark Ware Pam Ross Adam Grant **Rick Alvis** Vern Gosdin Chris Mabb Greg Pratt Brian Moon Lee Sims Pat Garrett Michelle Marie Rosemarie **Terry LeMaster Bill Abernathy** John Michael Ferrari Marty Chambers Pamela Hopkins Sandy Lane Shenandoah, Jason Aldean & Luke Bryan Jake Bush Angus Hemlock Marie Norris Sarah Gayle Meech **Bryan Martin** Kenny Crider **Rachel Ritchie** Grant Gilbert Kristi Stafford **Robert Ross Robbie Cockrell Missy Dunaway Brent Beaudeaux** Kevin Randolph

#### LABEL **Billy Jam Records** Sucarnochee Records Melody Place/Born To Fly Records Independent Steam Whistle Records Independent **BGJ** Promotions/MMG Colt Records MTS Records CDX Records Independent **Compass Records MTS** Records Saint & Sinner Records MTS Records **Big Bear Creek Music** Gibson Records Independent MTS Records **BGJ** Promotions/MMG Independent **BGJ** Promotions/MMG Steam Whistle Records PGMG Nashville **Clarksville Creative Sound** Adelphos Records **Golddust Records** Colt Records Colt Records **Clarksville Creative Sound** MTS Records Millennium Music Group **Clarksville Creative Sound** MTS Records Grace Records Nashville 8-Track Entertainment Jake Bush Music **Clarksville Creative Sound** Millennium Music Group **Airplay Direct** Average Joe's Entertainment Colt Records Steam Whistle Records **River House Artists** Colt Records MTS Records Grace Records Nashville Independent Matador Legacy Records Independent



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**50** 48

### *MAY 2025* Independent Country Top

LABEL

тм	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
51	32	Just A Country Boy	Ricky Paul
	64	When Love Comes Around	Wade Bowen
	94	Spitfire	Cliff & Susan
	60	You Know And I Know	Hammond Brothers
	68	3 Miles	Travis Reid Ball
	45	It's Only God's Call To Make	Billy Gregg
57	83	Dim Lights Thick Smoke	Denis Element
58	62	Some Kinda Fire	Mike McCarrell
	78	Smokey Mountain Memories	Cody Winkler
60	53	Leaving Macon	Gary Matheny
61	73	Hay Haulin' Blues	Michael Deese
62	90	What I Like To Do	Ronnie Call
63	76	South Of Perfect	Craig Hendricks
64	99	Ghost Town Road	Ryan Bodine
65	70	The Long Way Home	Jason Ray Welsh
66	59	Texas Honky-Tonk	Gale Jenkins
67	88	What About You	Mary Hoey
68	56	You're The Only One	Paula Slow
69	65	I Called Up Hell	Britt Black
70	79	No Jones On The Jukebox	Wyatt Massingille
71	86	Haulin	Nathan Bartgis
72	97	Good Ole Boys Like Me	J.K. Coltrain
73	93	Lady Lay Down	Burt Winkler
74	82	Kite High In Tennessee	Dennis DiChiaro & WNO
75	100	Running Out Of Reasons To Run	Winston Fox
76		Little Girl's Heart	Bee Smith
	-	The Man Who Walks On Water	Al Widmeyer
78		Damn Cowboy	Austin Hooks
	74	When We Get Together	Dean Weston
	96	Barrell Racing Queen	Peggy Haverly
	87	Carry On	Buried By The Crossroads
82	-	Let The People Who Love You, Love You	Jon Michaels
83 84		3 More Sets Yours	Duane Parker Tony Evans, Jr.
85			Trevor Carlesi
	_	Ship Without A Sea Holding The Moon	Robin Johnston with Mark Gibbons
87		Don't Dish It Out If You Can't Take It	Zach McKenzie
	98	Goodbye	Maria Stamper
	-	The Cows Are Out	Kenny Crider
90		If It Weren't For Jesus	Tom Mullally
91	_	A Few Tears Fell	Kerr Donnelly
92	-	Reckless Heart	Kim Ryan
93	_	Buy The World A Round	Aaron Watson
94	-	I Wouldn't Change You If I Could	Rob Knowlton
95	-	What I Believe Is Right	Michael G. Sparger
96	_	I Should Have Known Better	Dennis Led
97	-	Leaving On His Mind	Gale Jenkins
98	-	Clinging To A Saving Hand	Cindy Hopkins
99	-	In America	Dawn Rix
100	) –	Part Of The Burn	Elaine Roy

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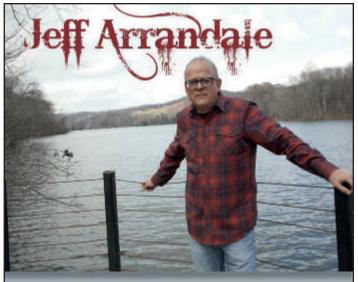
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MAY 2025 • CASHBOX 91

### *MAY 2025* Mainstream Country Top 100

	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	10	I'm Gonna Love You	Cody Johnson with Carrie Underwood	Warner/Cojo Records/ WMN
2	5	Where The Wild Things Are	Luke Combs	River House/Columbia
3	17	Holy Smokes	Bailey Zimmerman	Warner Music Nashville
4	19	Bigger Houses	Dan + Shay	Warner Music Nashville WAR Radio & Streaming
5	9	Broken Bow	Lainey Wilson	Broken Bow
6	12	Hometown Home	Locash	Galaxy Label Group/Studio2Bee
7	21	Miles On It	Kane Brown & Marshmello	RCA Nashville
8	11	Friends Like That	John Morgan ft. Jason Aldean	Night Train Records/Broken Bow Records
9	31	Think I'm In Love With You	Chris Stapleton	Mercury Nashville
10	98	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes)	Max McNown	Magnolia Music Group/Fugitive
	1	Texas	Blake Shelton	Wheelhouse/BBR/Bmg
12		Straight Line	Keith Urban	Capitol Records Nashville (UMGN)
13		This Town's Been Too Good To Us	Dylan Scott	Curb Records
14		Liar	Jelly Roll	BBR/Republic
15		Just To Say We Did	Kenny Chesney	Warner Music Nashville, WMN Radio & Streaming
	26	Would If I Could	Ernest	Big Loud Records
	18	Truck On Fire	Carly Pearce	Big Machine
18		I Ain't Sayin'	Jordan Davis	MCA Nashville
	30	Believe	Brooks & Dunn w/ Jelly Roll	BMG Nashville
	39	Everything I Need	Chayce Beckham	19 Recordings/Wheelhouse
21		Friday Night Heartbreaker	Jon Pardi & Luke Bryan	Capitol Records Nashville
22		Country Song Came On	Luke Bryan	Capitol Records Nashville
23		Tough People	Drew Baldridge	BBR Music Group/Stoney
24		Single Again	Josh Ross	Core/Universal Canada
	40	Tele-Man	Ira Dean & Ronnie Dunn ft. V. Gill, J. Osborne/B.Mason	8-Track Entertainment
26		Backseat Driver	Kane Brown	Sony Music/Zone 4
27		Smile	Morgan Wallen	Big Loud Records
28		Bulletproof	Nate Smith	Sony
29		Guy For That	Post Malone ft. Luke Combs	Mercury/Republic/Big Loud
30		21 Days	Sara Evans	Melody Place/Born To Fly Records
31		Country House	Sam Hunt	MCA Nashville
32		Over When We're Sober	Brantley Gilbert ft. Ashley Cooke	The Valory Music Co.
33		Am I Okay?	Megan Moroney	Columbia Nashville
34		Coming Home	Old Dominion ft. Megan Moroney	Three Up Three Down LLC/Columbia Nashville
35	23 54	Whiskey Drink	Jason Aldean	Broken Bow Records (BBRMG)
36		All Again	Charles Wesley Godwin	Big Loud Records
37 38		Run The Damn Ball Fall Of Summer	Jenna Paulette	Leo33 Triple Tigers
			Scotty McCreery	Triple Tigers
39 40	45 22	Three Wooden Crosses One Bad Habit	Cody Winkler Tim McGraw	Colt Records Big Machine Label Group
				Big Machine Label Group
	99 52	l Dare You Whose Tequila Are You Drinkin'	Rascal Flatts with Jonas Brothers	Big Machine Records/Republic
42		Whose Tequila Are You Drinkin'	Billie Jo Jones	Get Joe Rec
43 44		Wolves Cry This Heart	Bryan Martin	Average Joe's Entertainment
		Your Time To Stay	Corey Kent	Sony Music/RCA
	56		Aaron Goodvin	Warner Music Canada Brakan Bour Descards (BRDMC)
	16 19	Chevrolet	Dustin Lynch ft. Jelly Roll	Broken Bow Records (BBRMG)
47		I Never Lie	Zach Top Kalega Ballarini & Naah Kahan	Leo33 Black Divor Entortainment
	14	Cowboys Cry Too	Kelsea Ballerini & Noah Kahan	Black River Entertainment Columbia/Curb
49		Boys Back Home	Dylan Marlowe & Dylan Scott	
50	63	Sunday In The South	Shenandoah, Jason Aldean & Luke Bryan	8-Track Entertainment

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### *MAY 2025* Mainstream Country Top 100

TM LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
<b>51</b> 69	She Makes Dirt Look Good	Alex Miller	Billy Jam Records
<b>52</b> 74	Working On Me	Donice Morace	Bad Jeu Jeu Records/CDX Records
<b>53</b> 66	4x4xU	Lainey Wilson	Broken Bow Records (BBRMG)
<b>54</b> 29	Damn Good Day To Leave	Riley Green	BMLG Records
<b>55</b> 86	Run	Miranda Lambert	Republic
<b>56</b> 27	Memories To Burn	J.K. Coltrain	Colt Records
<b>57</b> 87	Park	Tyler Hubbard	EMI Records Nashville (UMGN)
<b>58</b> 81	Life With You	Kelsey Hart	Curb Records
<b>59</b> 49	Forever To Me	Cole Swindell	Warner Music Nashville/ WMN Radio & Streaming
<b>60</b> 44	High Road	Koe Wetzel & Jessi Murph	Columbia/Records Nashville
<b>61</b> 41	Golden Child	Meghan Patrick	Riser House
<b>62</b> 64	What Kinda Man	Parker McCollum	MCA Nashville
<b>63</b> 73	Maxed Out	Bayker Blankenship	Santa Anna Label Group
<b>64</b> 72	Hit The Hay Runnin'	Aaron Watson	Adub Records
<b>65</b> 77	Hey Dixie	Brian McComas	Independent
<b>66</b> 93	The Working Man	Cody Jinks	Late August Records
<b>67</b> 78	Hung Up On You	Bryce Leatherwood	Mercury Nashville/Republic Records
<b>68</b> 92	Weren't For The Wind	Ella Langley	SAWGOD/Columbia/Nashville Harbor Records and Entertainment
<b>69</b> 68	How It's Gonna Go	Marynn Taylor	Black River Entertainment
<b>70</b> 70	I Could Be That Rain	Randall King	Warner Music Nashville, WAR Radio & Streaming
<b>71</b> 38	Truck Still Works	Brad Paisley	EMI Records Nashville (UMGN)
<b>72</b> 60	This Is My Dirt	Justin Moore	Valory Music Co. (BMLG)
73 –	Dirt Cheap	Cody Johnson	Cojo/Warner Nashville
<b>74</b> 80	Cowgirl	Parmalee	Stoney Creek Records (BBRMG)
<b>75</b> 62	Cowboy Songs	George Birge	Records Nashville
<b>76</b> 89	Not Today	Mitchell Tenpenny	Riser House Entertainment/Columbia Nashville
<b>77</b> 88	10-90	Muscadine Bloodline	Stancaster Music/Thirty Tigers
<b>78</b> 57	Better Than You	Joe Nichols & Annie Bosko	Quartz Hill Records/Stoney Creek Records
<b>79</b> 90	Relapse	Warren Zeiders	Warner Music Nashville/WEA
<b>80</b> 71	Beatles And Eagles	The Forntmen	BBB Music Group
<b>81</b> 65	Heavens To Betsy	Jackson Dean	Big Machine Label Group
<b>82</b> 94	Somethin' Bout A Woman	Thomas Rhett ft. Teddy Swims	Valory Music Co (BMLG)
83 -	Forever Ain't Long Enough	Gene Watson with The Bellamy Brothers	Independent
<b>84</b> 95	If I Die Before You	Chris Lane	Red Street Records
<b>85</b> 91	Only Heart I'm Breaking	Due West	Unwound Records
<b>86</b> 83	Bones	Russell Dickerson	Triple Tigers
87 -	Lady Lay Down	Burt Winkler	Colt Records
<b>88</b> 85	Devil You Know	Tyler Braden	Warner Music Nashville/WEA
89 -	Down In Texas	Steve Anthony	CDX Records
90 -	Drill Here, Drill Now	Aaron Tippin	NIPPIT Records
<b>91</b> 97	Better Than You Left Me	Dylan Schneider	Wheelhouse (BBRMG)
<b>92</b> 100	Good News	Shaboozey	Empire/Magnolia Music
93 -	Somethings Gotta Give	Kristi Stafford	Colt Records
94 -	Send It on Down	Lee Ann Womack	Sugar Hill Records
95 – 06	Looks Like The End Of The Road	Alison Krauss & Union Station	Down The Road Records
96 - 07	Dirt Roads Of Red	JD Clayton	Rounder Records/Concord
97 –	Gone For Good	Gene Watson & Rhonda Vincent	Upper Management Music
98 – 00	Three Wooden Crosses	Cody Winkler	Colt Records
99 – 100	Cloud Of Dust	Tracy Lawrence (Featuring Rick Huckaby)	Independent
100 –	Sundown In Nashville	Marty Stuart	Sugar Hill Records



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### *MAY 2025* Pop / Rock Top 100

тм	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	7	Better Days	Glockenbach ft. Declan J Donovan	WEFOR/UMG
2	19	Friends	Kamrad	Epic Germany
3	13	The Garden	Jeremy Parsons	MTS Records
4	5	Nowhere To Run	Kings Of Leon	Lovetap/Capitol
5	9	Why Why Why	Shawn Mendes	Island
6	10	A Tear In Space (Airlock)	Glass Animals	Wolf Tone/Universal
7	12	Let's Get Back To Us	Michael Gilas	Kensington Road
8	15	Black Butterfly	Scott Stapp	Napalm
9	27	Stuck In My Head	Sleep Theory	Epitaph
10	3	Waiting For Stevie	Pearl Jam	Republic
11	25	Cruel Summer	Taylor Swift	Taylor Swift/Republic
12	18	Criminal Mind	Clozure	Wake Up! Rocks
13	34	Ok, But This Is The Last Time	The Offspring	Concord
14	29	Broken Sunshine	Michael Schulte	Universal
15	21	Cool Down	Harry Kappen	MTS Records
16	23	These American Blues	Levi Parham	Airplay Direct
17	28	Fall In My Arms	Allen Ling	Allen Ling
18	4	Awaken	Breaking Benjamin	Benjamin Burnley/BMG
19	30	Mountains	Jonas Blue, Galantis, Zoe Wees	EMI/UMG
20	36	l Had Some Help	Post Malone ft. Morgan Wallen	Republic
21	38	Dancing In The Flames	The Weeknd	Republic
22	1	Detroit	Badflower	Big Machine
23	43	Forever Young	David Guetta & Alphaville ft. Ava Max	Parlophone/Warner UK
24	51	Bad Guy	Falling In Reverse	Epitaph
25	35	That's So True	Gracie Abrams	Interscope
26	40	The Door	Teddy Swims	Warner
27	8	Diet Pepsi	Addison Rae	Columbia
28	54	Insecurity	Lemoyne Alexander	Wicked
29	37	Mean Woman Blues	Roy Orbison	Eagle Rock Records
30	42	All In My Head	Blink 182	Columbia
31	49	Dilemma	Green Day	Reprise
32	6	Surrender	Enemy Of Fate Surrender	Enemy of Fate
33	31	Darkness In Me	Ervsed	Ervsed
34	17	The Falling Sky	Greta Van Fleet	Lava/Republic
35	2	Too Sweet	Hozier	Columbia
36	88	Forbidden Road	Robbie Williams	Columbia
37	65	Born With A Broken Heart	Damiano David	Arista/Sony Italy
38	45	That's How I'm Feeling	Jack White	Third Man/Orchard
39	22	Die With A Smile	Lady Gaga & Bruno Mars	Streamline/Interscope
40	71	Bed Chem	Sabrina Carpenter	Hollywood/Island
41	52	Walls Come Down	Seether	Fantasy
42	11	Beautiful Things	Benson Boone	Warner
43	16	Illusion	Dua Lipa	Warner UK
44	20	The Future Is A Foreign Land	Ghost	Loma Vista/Concord
45	47	Toksik	Starset	Fearless/Concord
46	68	The Line	Twenty One Pilots	Fueled By Ramen
47	59	l Adore You	Hugel, Topic, Arash ft. Daecolm	Universal Germany
48	92	Chaotic Lover	Seraphina	In-Sanan-Ty
49	14	Rock N Roller	Kaleo	Elektra/Atlantic
50	79	Wave	Fast Boy & Rafwave	Universal Germany





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тм	LM	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
51	64	You Have You	Sarantos	MTS Records
52	58	Crazy World	Elevet McConnell	MTS Records
53	32	Stargazing	Myles Smith	Sony UK
54	82	Hell Is Empty	Memphis May Fire	Rise
55	91	Even If It Kills Me	Papa Roach	New Noize/ADA Warner
56	57	Te Imaginaba	Alvaro Soler	Lavadero/Epic Germany
57	86	Under You	Foo Fighters	RCA
58	89	Finally Over	Psycho Village	7Hard/7Us
59	77	Calm Down	Rema & Selena Gomez	Smg/Interscope
60	26	Birds Of A Feather	Billie Eilish	Darkroom/Interscope
61	70	Sunflower	Coldwards	Wake Up! Rocks
62	62	Heartbreaker	Purple Disco Machine ft. Chromeo	Sony Germany
63	60	Symptom Of Being Human	Shinedown	Atlantic
64	63	Ordinary People	Jeff Christie	MTS Records
65	83	Human Being	Nico Santos & ClockClock	Universal
66	67	Landmines	Sum 41	Sum41/Rise
67	90	Creepin'	Metro Boomin ft. The Weeknd & 21 Savage	Boominati/Republic
68	72	Just Don't Ask Me To Dance	Brendemere	MTS Records
69	84	Everything	Sevendust	Napalm
70	75	Bullet For Freedom	The Southern Outlaws Band	SOB Records/MMG
71	73	We Pray	Coldplay, Little Simz, Burna Boy	Parlophone UK
72	-	Jim Bob	Hardy	Big Loud Rock/Mercury
73	53	Stars Will Align	Kygo & Imagine Dragons	Kygo/Sony Sweden
74	96	Messy Day	Lola Young	One/Universal
75	87	Why So Busy	Shweta Harve Ft. Dario Cei	MTS Records
76	74	Sighommi	The Smashing Pumpkins	Thirty Tigers
77	80	White Heat	Midnight Sky	MTS Records
78	98	Love Is Pain	Rene Benton	MTS Records
79	66	Austin	Dasha	Warner
80	94	Bright Lights	The Killers	Island
81	99	The Dam	Daughtry	Dogtree/BLMG
82	100	Just Too Much	Tremonti	Napalm
83	-	TTYL	Olivia Millin	MTS Records
84	93	Sing Like Madonna	Sebastian Schub	Universal
85	76	Audacious	Franz Ferdinand	Domino
86	95	New Way Out	Рорру	Sumerian
87	-	Sports Car	Tate McRae	RCA
88	-	Birds Of Distinction	Brendemere	MTS Records
89	-	One Night Man	Captain Rick's Retrorockit	Retrorockit
90	-	What The Troll	Shweta Harve featuring Dario Cei	MTS Records
91	-	The Emptiness Machine	Linkin Park	Warner Brothers
92	97	BMF	Sza	Top Dawg/RCA
93 94	-	Courage	Harry Kappen Rose & Bruno Mars	MTS Records Atlantic
		Apt		
95 96	-	Watch You Burn	Southern Outlaws Band	SOB Records/MMG
96 97	-	People Watching Metaverse	Sam Fender	Universal 110/RCA
	-		Cage The Elephant The Kyle Jordan Project	Sodeh
	_	Demons Traitor	Zoe Wees	Capitol UK
99 100			Sarantos	MTS Records
100	-	Will You Marry Me?	Sarannos	INT 3 RECOLUS



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DAWN RIX



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MICHAEL DEESE



NATHAN BARTGIS BAND

**AUSTIN HOOKS** 



JASON RAY WELSH

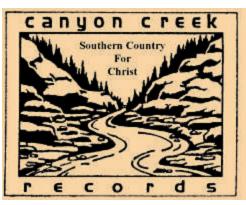
BRIAN SHARTZER

Michael Sparger Webb Dalton est fi JOHN LANDRY MICHAEL SPARGER KIM RYAN WEBB DALTON





тм	LM	SONG TITLE
1	5	She Keeps Calling
2	7	Chun King
3	9	Pack Me Up
4	10	Desire
5	12	Island Summer (On My Mind)
6	19	Heart Of A Woman
7	11	Ruined Me
8	3	Good Good
9	23	The Minimalist
10	16	Mad Love
11	1	Good Morning
12	20	Baby Mamma's Favorite Rapper
13	17	Dotw
14	28	La La Means I Love You
15	8	Residuals
16	2	Phone Call To Mama
17	4	Tru Story
18	30	Squabble Up
19	22	Intense
20	6	Step Step
21	25	Brokey
22	43	In The Mood
23	31	Make It Out Alive
24	37	You Burnt It Down
25	13	Socks And Drawers
	42	Mercedes
27	36	Tick Tock
	47	Pressure
29	39	Like That
30	_	Push 2 Start
31	44	Creepin'
32 33	41	Hello Miss Johnson
33 34	29 26	Tonight
35	20 46	What It Is
35 36	40	Do It For The Gram Be Mine
37	35	TGIF
38	45	Boy Bye
39	4J 50	What!!!!
40	38	Players
41	-	Let's Do It Again
42	34	Go Ahead
43	-	Patty Cake
44	_	4x4
45	_	Soulfully Sublime
46	48	S&S (Slow N Sexy)
47	-	Perr Pressure
48	-	Love Me If You Must
49	_	Denial Is A River
50	-	Dancing On The Moon



#### ARTIST

**October London** Sonny Jim/Statik Selektah Aartist Bby Celina Graves Heidi Tann & Kinsman Dazz Band Summer Walker Muni Long Usher ft. Summer Walker & 21 Savage Yah!z Kenneith Perrin Hunter ll Boi Musa Zadika Beyom Allie McIntosh Chris Brown Mo3 Jahdyn Faith Kendrick Lamar ft. Rey T Starrtrynea Reeves Belton Mouras, Jr. Latto Holly Joy Skyrah Bliss Special Request **SRJR** Productions Lil Flip & Z-Ro Wavewulf ft. Monica Young Keznamdi Future & Metro Boomin ft. Kendrick Lamar Tyla Metro Boomin ft. The Weeknd & 21 Savage Jack Harlow Bri Doechii Featuring Kodak Black Bonkers Styngray ft. Chertrease Glorilla Asia Caliste **Die Living** Coi Leray Kami Cole ft. Sean Dolby Mz. Coxx Sachet De'Aun Travis Scott Ingram Street K-Rob ft. Kitty Gatta DPB **ET Boys** Doechii Rocco Lupo



LABEL
Death Row
Webuygold
Stoney Burke/Myeh/Ecmd
Three 2 Go
Bell Tellephunk/Ecmd
Lvryn/Interscope
Supergiant/Def Jam
Brand Usher/RCA
Yah!Z
Kenneith Perrin
Prime USA
Gritty
South Tune
Drew Right
RCA
Drop Squad/AIMP
Rocstar World
TDE/Interscope
82-0 Starkat
Belton Mouras, Jr.
Streamcut/Rca
N-Joy/TMG
L.O.U.D.
MRE
SRJR
One Deep/CloverG/Up Above
Wavewulf
Keznamdi
Epic/Republic Fax/Epic
Boominati/Republic
Generation Now/Atlantic
CSP
TDE/Capitol
Bonkers
First Kings
CMG/Interscope
Asia Caliste
ITI
Republic
Troutman
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RICKY LEE

\*\*\*\*

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тм	LM	SONG TITLE
1	3	The Sound Of His Voice
2	5	Throne
3	14	When Its Gone For Good
4	6	You Can't Hurry God
5	11	The Mighty Word Of God
6	17	Keep Turning Your Eyes On Jesus
7	13	You'll Find Him There
8	12	When I Pray
9	27	Glory Up Ahead
10	2	Jesus Put My Life Together
11	29	What Are You Waiting For
12	8	Revival Broke Out
13	30	Right Where You Want Me To Be
14	26	Grateful For The Gospel
15	1	He Forgives And Forgets
16	45	Jesus Walked In
17	33	One Day
18	48	Gods Has A Way Of Workin It Out
19	29	Old Blind Bartimaeus
20	31	One Touch From Jesus
21	63	My Names Already There
22	61	I'd Rather Hear Preachin'
23	34	Just In Time
24	50	Praise The Lord
25	10	I'm Not Afraid
26	25	Glory In The Sky
27	55	Thank You For The Rain
28	9	l'm Gonna Fly Away
29	77	Under The Atoning Blood
30	82	The Rising Of The Son
31	15	Liberty
32	99	If Not For Christ
33	21	The Humble Cottage By The Sea
34	73	God Won't
35	16	In It For The Love (Live)
36	53	Crimson
37	28	If You Can't Shout
38	23	l Pray About It
39	51	Lily Of The Valley
40	54	There's Only One Way To Grace
41	-	Things We Cannot Change
42	74	Well Able
43	70	He'll Walk You Through
44	76	Golgotha's Call
45	35	He Whispers Sweet Peace
46	62	Angels In Flight
47	20	On A Day Like This
48	66 46	Because Of Who He Is
49 50	46 90	You Gave Me Mercy
50	90	I Love To Sing About Amazing Grace

### *MAY 2025* Southern Gospel Top 100

Emie Haase & Signature Sound StowTown/Provident-Sony Donna Kilmurray Millennium Music Group Hoppers Hopper Music Carroll Roberson Millennium Music Group Tim Menzies with The Isaacs New Day Records Gaither Vocal Band Gaither Music/Capitol Christian be Don Stiles Hey Yall Media Brian Free & Assurance Daywind/New Day Gordon Mote New Haven/Provident Sony Joseph Habedank Daywind/New Day Chronicle New Haven/Provident Sony Joseph Habedank Daywind/New Day Chronicle Patterson Music Group Jonathan Wilburn Daywind/New Day Melissa Evans Chapel Valley Music The Inspirations Horizon/Crossroads Greater Vision Daywind/New Day Ava Kasich Millennium Music Group Jonathan Wilburn Horizon/Crossroads Greater Vision Daywind/New Day Melissa Evans Chapel Valley Music The Inspirations Horizon/Crossroads Greater Vision Daywind/New Day Ava Kasich Millennium Music Group Bain Burchfield Millennium Music Group Brian Burchfield Millennium Music Group Briene Howard & Lora Long Millennium Music Group Shepherds Dove Music Tammy Caldwell Millennium Music Group Bibletones Hey Yall Media Don Frost Millennium Musi		ARTIST	LABEL
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Browns

The Singing Crowes

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Down East Boys

Kingdom Heirs Rick Alan King

The Masseys

Williamson

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Paul Tuttle

Debra Schultz

Luanne Hunt

Wink Kelso

Lori King

Rescued

**Robin Johnston** 

Jeff Arrandale

Michael Walsh

Ashley Collins

Barbara Jean

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**Beverly Simms** 

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Perry House

Megan Brianna

The Hendersons

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Joyce Chastain & Spirit Wind

**Clear Vision** 

Amanda Rosales

All About Jesus Ministries

Mark Trammell Quartet

Karen Peck & New River

Bobby Jones Family Freemans

Keith Barkley & Family Tradition

тм	LM	SONG TITLE
51	38	Ole Brother Noah
52	65	I Found Victory At The Foot Of The Cross
53	49	God Reached Way Below The Bottom
54	75	It Doesn't Seem Enough
55	68	Soldier
56	52	Double Dippin'
57	96	Sunshine On A Cloudy Day
58	36	I Don't Care
59	78	Go To The World
60	41	The Tomb Is Empty Now
61	42	Walk On Water
62	-	I Just Stopped By On My Way Home
63	88	He Keeps The Son
64	81	Glorious Day
65	_	A Few Good People Left
66	-	Mercy River
67	94	We Shall Behold The King
68	-	No Better Time
69	83	It Was For Love Of Me
70	-	Big Mighty And Strong
71	100	Message To The World
72	-	Can He, Could He, Would He
73	84	Public Display Of Affection
74	89	The Old Country Church
75	-	The Ladder
76	79	That's What Really Matters
77	91	When He Said It Is Finished
78	-	That's What Faith Looks Like
79	95	Please ay A Prayer For Me
80	-	Running To You
81	87	I Don't Have To Go This Way Again
82	-	Jesus Guy
83	-	Hallelujah Every Day
84	98	God's Got The Box
85	-	His Name Is
86	60	He Took My Place
87	-	Give Me Jesus
88	97	Redeemed
89	-	Without Him
90	-	Come On Down The Road
91	-	Till The Storm Passes By
92	-	I've Had Enough
93	-	Armed And Dangerous
94	-	It's Not Over
95	-	I'm Looking For Heaven
96	-	Let My Life Be A Light
97	-	I Know That I Know That I Know
98	-	Faith Song
99	-	Prodigal Son
100	-	Special Love

### *MAY 2025* Southern Gospel Top 100

LABEL Independent Grace Records Nashville Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group Hey Y'all Media Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group MMG/Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group Gaither Music/Capitol Christian Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group Millennium Music Group StowTown/Provident-Sony Independent Horizon/Crossroads Grace Records Nashville Heartsong Pigeon Forge Music Group Millennium Music Group Sonlite/Crossroads Cherith Music Group Sonlite/Crossroads Millennium Music Group New Beginning Music Group Real Southern Gospel Records Crimson Road Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group ARS/New Day/MMG Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Davwind/New Dav MTS Records Millennium Music Group Canyon Creek Records Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Grace Records Nashville New Beginning Music Group Hey Y'all Media Millennium Music Group Grace Records Nashville Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Millennium Music Group Grace Records Nashville MC1 Nashvilee/MMG Millennium Music Group New Beginning Music Group Millennium Music Group Grace Records Nashville New Beginning Music Group New Beginning Music Group

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### **CASHBOX** Artist Spotlight JULIETTE BROWN

#### **By Robin Tanner**

Gospel singer/songwriter Juliette Brown started writing music during her childhood. "Both my parents were singers, so singing has always been in my DNA," she mentions.

Growing up in Chicago, Juiliette had several positive influences including her parents, Mahalia Jackson, Shirley Ceasar, Aretha Franklin and listening to various Gospel artists. "Growing up in the church, I was engrossed in Gospel and it always moved me to want to spread a positive message."

Juliette was raised around music of every genre that was played in their house by her older brother and sister. "When it comes to music, I like it all! My sound is in a lane by itself because I will put a Gospel song on any type of music from a Rap beat to Blues. I consider myself an innovative Gospel singer who uses Rap beats to praise God! I can listen to beats of any kind and my soul fills with poetry. I've been writing songs since I heard my first beat without a soloist, so I became the soloist to that beat! If my music can touch one soul and make them believe in the goodness of the Father, I have done my job."

Juliette reflects on her life growing up. "I am from of God. Who am I to Judge anyone." She is inspired with Chicago, Illinois born and raised and still live there. From a commentaries about cultural, social, moral and spiritual issues.

young age singing has been a part of me. I grew up in the church with God fearing parents who instilled in me that God is the head of my life. There was a time when I thought my path to music was through the R & B route but that was not to be. It took time, but I finally realized that Gospel was in my soul and my path was to spread the God given talent that I was blessed with. Once I embraced my path, many doors opened for me."

She adds, "I am blessed to be the mother of six children and fifteen grandchildren. There have been many trials and tribulations along with loss that continue to shape my life but never deter me from the goal of



spreading the Gospel." She has been singing as an artist since 2014. She has recorded four albums ranging from nine songs to 16 songs; 72 songs altogether.

Juliette has endured criticism from nay-sayers, but she pressed through. "I have always wanted to sing but let negative comments from individuals I thought supported me deter my dreams. I finally started singing on my own terms in 2014. I have lost dear loved ones and that still hurts but with my God, I'm able to continue on this extraordinary journey."

"When I first got back into writing music, I started to throw in the towel and God sent a angel to me to tell me not to give up and do not stop. It felt like God sent one to me to not give up on music. Anybody is welcomed into the kingdom of God. Who am I to Judge anyone." She is inspired with commentaries about cultural, social, moral and spiritual issues.

> She has received several accolades such as 27th Newsome 'Songwriter of the Year,' 'Praise Worship Artist of the Year,' the 35th Newsome Awards 'Female TV Producer of the Year,' Kingdom Radio 94.9 'Gospel Artist of the Year,' 2021, and 'Recognition Award,' 2021. She is a member of the ISSA Song Writer Association and the Stellar Awards Gospel Music Academy (SAGMA)

> Juliette Brown's latest release is *My Truth*. Previous releases were *In My Church* and *Nobody But God* and many more encouraging songs.

Follow Juliette Brown on social media.





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### BENNETT HALL BAND Young Country Rising

**By Robin Tanner** 

The Bennett Hall Band is a sister trio with powerhouse voices. Individually, they each have a God given talent but when these three sisters combine all their talent and charm, mixed with dynamic harmonies, you have something special. The trio consists of Kat who is seventeen years old, Presley is fifteen, and Josie Hope Hall who is twelve. The band is named after their brother, Bennett, who passed away in 2010. The Bennett Hall Band has been on an amazing musical journey!

The Tennessee natives, known for their sibling harmony, have been playing all over Tennessee and beyond for over five years on various stages on Broadway in Nashville including The Station Inn, CMA Fest, Tootsie's, El Dorado Festival, Tom Petty Weekend, Jamey Johnson's Homecoming, The Palace Theatre, Dierks Bentley's Whiskey Room, Fox & Locke, The Johnny Cash Hideaway Farm, Kimbro's Pickin' Parlor, The Franklin Theatre, Hop Springs, Everett's Music Barn, Ole Red, and many others.

In 2023, The Bennett Hall Band released their debut album, "Say Yes," including ten original songs. With over 3 million streams, including Josie Hope's, *Keep on the Sunny Side*, from 2023's "The Hunger Games" soundtrack.

With experience under their belt and the ability to accompany themselves on guitar, keys, bass, drums, and more, TBHB thus far has built an organic following of over 300k followers on social media.

Kat acknowledges those who've helped them from the beginning. "We have had some influential teachers that have helped grow our talents and gifts in huge ways. In addition to that, we have had some incredible opportunities to be on stage with great artists like Jamey Johnson and 45 RPM and those opportunities have helped propel us forward in our music career."

The Bennett Hall Band has many musical influences through their early career. Presley Rose mentions an artist that has recently been an inspiration to them. "Someone who has really inspired us is Lainey Wilson. Watching her perform, the way she treats people, and her work ethic makes us want to work harder in hopes that one day we too can be influential and successful in Country music. This year we have had the privilege to be invited to Island Hopper Fest, Annapolis Songwriters Fest, and the Frank Brown Songwriter's Fest. These have all been SO MUCH fun. To get to be included amongst some of the best songwriters in the business and get their feedback and support has been huge for us as artists and songwriters."

The youngest sister, Josie shares a special highlight. "One of the coolest things I have done so far was to be chosen by producer Dave Cobb to represent the singing voice of Maude Ivory in the

newest Hunger Games movie, "The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes." With over 3 million streams, you can find my version of *Keep on the Sunny Side* on the movie soundtrack."

The sibling trio harmonized through the 2024 holidays with their new Christmas EP that was released on Thanksgiving last year. Presley states, "We went in the studio with our producer, Cody Leppo, and it has both originals and

covers on it, including our original, *Everybody Loves a Christmas Song*, which is the title track. Josie and I had a very successful online video of Irving Berlin's *Sisters* from the iconic movie "White Christmas" and we included that arrangement on the EP!"

Through their faith in God, the love and encouragement from their parents, Shawn and Melanie Hall, and their growing fan base, these three young ladies are on the right track to a music career that has seen numerous amazing moments already. "We have had a lot of ups and downs, good gigs and not so good gigs, great opportunities and missed opportunities and we just do our best to trust that God is putting us where we need to be, when we need to be there. We would encourage anyone following their dreams to do the same," Kat says. "Our goal is to be successful in Country music in a way that allows us to earn a living while using the platform we have built to inspire others to chase their dreams and use their giftings to bring Glory to God."

For a fun and entertaining show make sure you go see The Bennett Hall Band. You will be glad you did! Josie adds what you can expect from their concerts. "We have a family friendly show that consists of Country cover songs, original music - three sisters having fun together on stage and usually a few mistakes! LOL!"



The Bennett Hall Band will be performing the *National Anthem* at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville for the 43nd Annual Sunday Mornin' Country on June 8th.

www.thebennetthallband.com

### Ken Pridgeon and Ricky Lee: A Patriotic Collaboration

#### Staff, BGJ Promotions

ortrait Artist of the fallen, Pridgeon meet's Ken Country & Western singer Ricky Lee. A friend to veterans, these two servants are just trying to make things a little less hurtful for those in need of something they can hang on to until they can heal. Ken states, "We met ten years ago when he [Ricky] came here and put on a benefit for some Goldstar families. Ricky is from Pennsylvania, and we have only been together about four times, and each time has been a blessing."

Ricky has many songs and videos to his credit. Ken explains, "I paint fallen heroes and sing bass in church. I have

Comes Marching Back Again about three years ago. It was song I had written. I called Rick and he came to Houston. We not applicable at that time, so I wadded it up and dropped it made a record because the time was right for the song to be in the magazine rack that was in my bathroom. I don't know why it was never removed, but I was talking to Ricky on the phone, and he asked me what happened to it. I told him I had I was 75 years old, so don't you dare give up your dream or thrown it away. When I went to the bathroom later, I spied a vision to do something much bigger than you, but you must wadded-up piece of paper in the bottom of the magazine rack and thought 'no way that can't be that song.' I held it like you them in most every state and have even been to the oval office



Ken Pridgeon, Portrait Artist

**Ricky Lee, Country Music Recording Artist** 

written many poems which I call ditties and wrote America would hold a poker hand and sweated it out and it was the released."

> He adds, "I am 90 years old. I started my mission when start now. I have painted over 400 portraits since and have



of the White House and met Trump. You don't succeed your way to success - you fail your way to success."

Ricky Lee and Ken Pridgeon's single, America Comes Marching Back Again has been released to radio nationwide, distributed by BGJ Promotions.

Both Ricky and Ken can be found on social media. "Friend me on Facebook," Ken mentions. "Go to YouTube and to see Ricky's videos and listen to his songs. Folks, they are great and should be number one best sellers!"



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Contact: www.thehammondbrothers.com The Hammond Brothers are Rockabilly Hall Of Fame Inductees



# Artist Spotlight THE CURSE OF K.K. HAMMOND

The Curse of K.K. Hammond is a slide guitarist and singer-songwriter living deep in the back woods of the U.K. She takes her influence from the Delta Blues players of the 1930s infusing her music with Southern Gothic horror for a uniquely dark, dirty and haunting sound.

K.K.'s biggest success to date arose from the release of her debut album "Death Roll Blues" released in 2023. The vinyl and CD run sold out via pre-order prior to the album's official release date. Upon its release, the album hit the #1 spot in

the U.K. iTunes Blues chart and subsequently bagged another #1 spot in the US iTunes Blues chart. It also exceeded expectations by breaking into the #12 spot in the mainstream iTunes charts (across all genres) and the #18 spot in the UK iTunes mainstream chart. It was also the #3 best seller of all time for an iTunes Blues album pre-sale. "Death Roll Blues" enabled K.K.'s first breakthrough into the Billboard Blues Charts with a #7 position.



K.K.'s has also had some great successes with her self-produced and directed music videos. The music video for *Heart Shaped Box* won a multitude of awards including wins at the Video Nasties Genre Film Festival, the David Film Festival in Turkey, the Euro Music Video Song awards, the Anatolia Film Festival, The Golden Wheat Awards, as well as K.K. receiving an honorable mention at the London Director Awards.



K.K.'s music receives regular plays on esteemed Blues radio shows around the world including Cerys Matthew's BBC Radio 2 Blues show, Gary Grainger's award-winning Blues show, Steel Radio and Nola County.

K.K. recently joined forces with fellow Blues musicians Ian Davidson on cello and Kaspar 'Berry' Rapkin on slide guitar to create an epic and exciting, foot stomping, dark and broody ballad, *Walk With Me Through the Fire.* The result is an eclectic piece

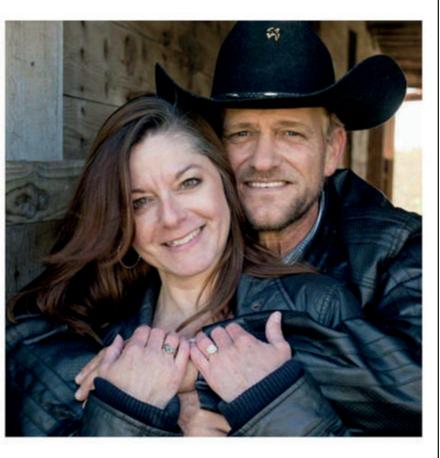
K.K.'s has also had some great successes with her with elements of traditional Blues, Country and Western, produced and directed music videos. The music video Folk, Southern Gothic and contemporary Blues Rock music.

With Spaghetti Western films and the music of Ennio Morricone being a huge inspiration to K.K., Trumpeter Lewis Taylor was invited to play some mariachi style licks on the track. The music video written by and starring K.K., Kaspar and Ian pays strong homage to the Spaghetti Western genre whilst also harnessing K.K.'s signature gothic horror accents.



Distributed by Tommy Smith with Canyon Creek Records

Contact: (816) 456-4875 or (816) 719-6426 www.sonshineroad.com







## Celebrating the Legends

# This Edition CECE WINANS

#### Staff, Cashbox

eCe Winans has long since cemented her status as one of the most accomplished and celebrated women in music history. Winans has sold over 19 million records, making her one of the best-selling Gospel music artists. Accolades include 15 Grammy Awards, 27 Dove Awards, and 16 Stellar Awards. All these accomplishments are a blessing but more than this is sharing the music and the love of God to the multitudes.

CeCe was born in Detroit, Michigan, to Delores and David Winans of the famed Winans Family Gospel group. For CeCe, nothing on the planet compares to her love of family. As one of ten siblings, CeCe has always been part of a large, musically-talented family. Her parents and siblings have released music under a wide variety of artist names including Mom and Pop Winans (CeCe's parents), The Winans (four of CeCe's Brothers), and BeBe & CeCe (a duet with her brother Benjamin). In an interview with Christian Voice Magazine CeCe shares, "My parents made an amazing impact oh my life and music. They not only taught us the Word but lived it in front of us. I saw how God worked in their lives. It played a very important part in my life."

"I enjoyed singing but never wanted to do it out front. Then my family started giving me solos," she admits. "I would sing here and there, but never pursued it like, 'oh this is my dream.' It wasn't until I was sixteen or seventeen that I realized I was anointed to do this. I still didn't know where it would lead me but I began to seek God for His perfect will in my life and He began to open doors.

CeCe first rose to prominence in the 1980s as a member of the double platinum selling Gospel duo BeBe & CeCe Winans with her brother, BeBe, before launching her own highly acclaimed solo career. Billboard magazine lists all of her solo albums as top Gospel, Christian, and R&B music sellers, and six albums as a duo with her brother Bebe. It would be easy to look back and rest on such illustrious honors, but Winans has always had her eyes fixed firmly on the future and is constantly evolving. The Michigan native mentions, "I am just an example if you give God what you have, it's amazing what he'll do with it."

CeCe continued to share her musical gift with the world closing out 2024 with the nearly sold-out Christmas tour, featuring special guest Roman Collins which she shared the last spring through PureSprings Gospel/Fair Trade Services, stage with on American Idol. Her new Christmas album titled, LLC. and recorded live at Rocketown in Nashville,



"Joyful, Joyful: A Christmas Album," was a reimagined and expanded version of her previous holiday release, "Something's Happening!"

This year the Grammy winner continues on her biggest tour ever - the CeCe Winans More Than This Live in Concert Tour. This extraordinary event took CeCe's powerful live experience to 28 cities across the U.S., redefining the worship encounter with a mix of her biggest hits and brand-new fan favorites. The tour continues internationally during the year.

Winans shared her excitement about the More Than This Tour, saying, "I'm deeply humbled by the outpouring of love and support. This journey has been beyond amazing, and I'm so grateful to keep sharing God's message through music. THANK YOU! The More Than This tour has been absolutely incredible - 27 out of 28 sold-out shows, but more importantly, God has shown up in every single one. I'm so grateful for each and every one of you who have come, sang, and lifted up the name of Jesus with us." CeCe is thankful to partner once again with her friends at Compassion International and TPR to bring this tour to life.

CeCe's latest offering, "More Than This" was released

initiated by her previous record, "Believe for It." The first single from "More Than This" was That's My King and is the album, Come Jesus Come and Holy Forever.

The live version of *Come Jesus Come* was previously released along with a radio version. This highly anticipated collaboration with the legendary Shirley Caesar is a standout track from Winans' Grammy award-winning album. The song showcases the unparalleled vocal power and deep-rooted faith of two of Gospel's most revered voices. Written by Hank many other forms. She is an accomplished author of four Bentley, Bryan Fowler, Stephen McWhirter, and Tara McWhirter, the lyrics deliver a heartfelt message of hope, redemption, and the longing for Christ's return.

Reflecting on the opportunity to work with Pastor Shirley and the importance of passing lessons of faith from generation to generation, Winans' shares, "It is an absolute honor to sing alongside the incomparable Shirley Caesar. Her voice, her spirit, and her unwavering faith have impacted Gospel music and the world for generations. Come Jesus Come is a song that speaks to the times we're living in and having Pastor Caesar join me on this track makes it even more powerful. I pray it blesses everyone who hears it."

Meanwhile, her signature songs Goodness of God and Alabaster Box continue to be fan favorites. "I pray this album, "More Than This," reminds people of God's greatness, not

Tennessee. This live album continues the wave of worship just his goodness. I want God to give us more of Himself and in return we give Him all He deserves," says Winans.

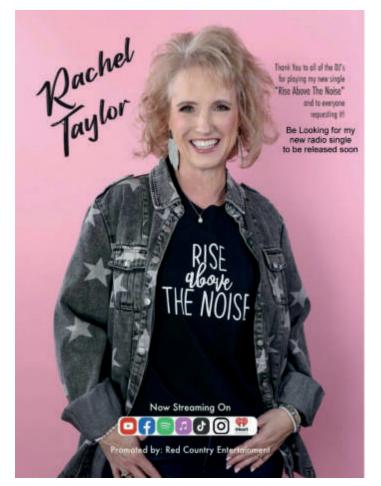
Along with her family, CeCe has influenced a generation seeing streaming popularity along with two other singles from of Gospel and secular vocalists over the course of her astonishing career. Most notably was close friend Whitney Houston. CeCe recorded a duet for the "Waiting To Exhale" movie soundtrack called Count On Me and performed with Whitney several times. CeCe honored her friend by singing at the music icon's memorial service in February 2012.

> CeCe's passion for sharing the Gospel carries over in books, and she continues to speak at conferences and events around the world.

> The musicality of her family remains today as she works closely with her family at Nashville Life Church. CeCe and her husband Alvin Love II serve as pastors, while their son Alvin Love III serves as Executive Pastor. When they aren't working together, gathering the family is still a priority and a passion for CeCe. Spending quality time and seeing her adult children, Alvin and Ashley, walk with the Lord is her greatest joy. CeCe is enthusiastically enjoying the growth of her family as she is a grandmother to three beautiful grandchildren.

> > www.cecewinans.com





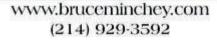
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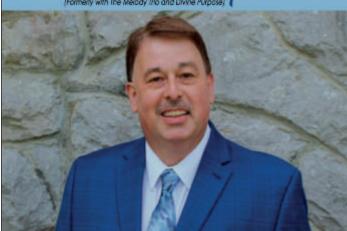
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## **SNAPSHOT HIGHLIGHTS**



### By Robin Tanner

The North America Country Music Association's International Hall Of Fame honored their Class of 2025 Inductees - Billy Dean, Mark Wills, Marty Raybon, William Lee Golden & The Goldens - on March 15th, at Country Tonite Theatre in Pigeon Forge Tennessee.

тм

The ceremony was co-hosted by Country Legend and songwriter and NACMAI Hall of Famer, Leona Williams and multi award-winning broadcast professional in television and radio, Jennifer Herron. Leona Williams kicked off the great night of music with *Working Girl Blues*.

Billy Dean performed a few of his hits: *Billy The Kid, Somewhere in My Broken Heart and Only Here For A Little While* to the enthusiastic crowd prior to his induction.

Mark Wills performed his first hit, *Jacob's Ladder*, followed by the fan favorite *Don't Laugh At Me*. Then the crowd sang along to his mega hit, *19 Something*.

Marty Raybon got the crowd going with *Church On Cumberland Road*, a soulful acoustic version of *Sunday In The South*, and then took the audience to church with the fan favorite, *Sweet Beaulah Land*.

More great music filled the auditorium as William Lee Golden & The Goldens took the stage with several memorable moments - William Lee singing *Thank God For Kids*, his Granddaughter Elizabeth Golden performed *You'll Never Leave Harlan Alive* with dad, Chris Golden and Billy Dean. The Goldens brought out Billy Dean, Mark Wills and Marty Raybon to join them on Elvira. Then closing out with *Will The Circle Be Unbroken* as a tribute to Rusty Golden.

The finale had the crowd on their feet singing along with all the artists on *I Saw The Light*.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025! Well Deserved!!

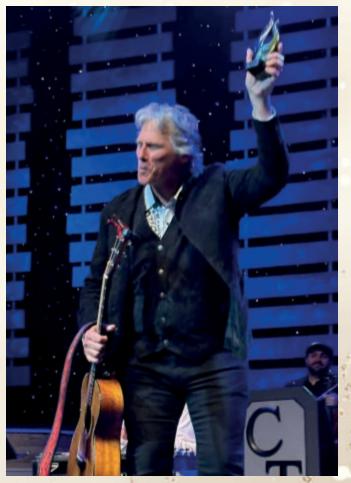


## **Marty Raybon**

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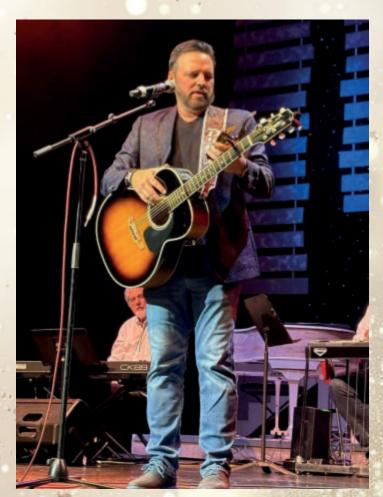


William Lee Golden & The Goldens



**Billy Dean** 

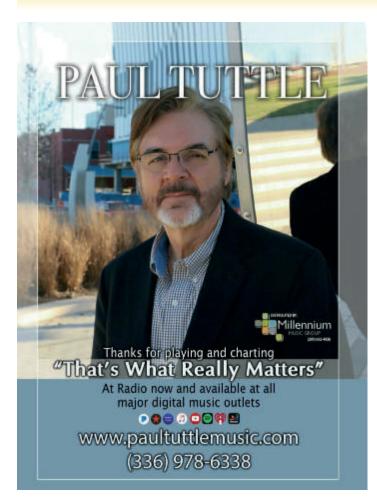
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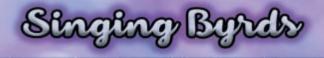


**Mark Wills** 



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# **CASHBOX** Artist Spotlight **RICK LANG**

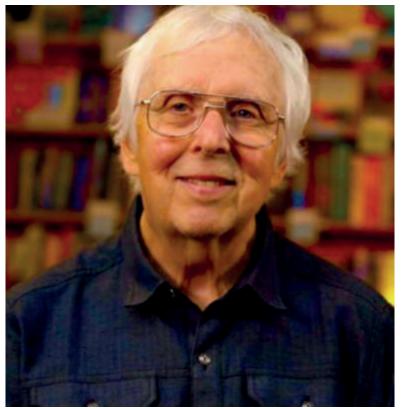
#### By Jacky Jack White

ery few writers have enjoyed as many cuts, hits, and joy than Stratham, New Hampshire 's Rick Lang. Rick has enjoyed some simply incredible accomplishments over the last three and a half decades. The New Hampshire native has been Grammy nominated, won numerous awards, and had well over two hundred of his songs recorded. Almost thirty of Rick's songs have hit #1 on the charts. His songs have been recorded by a virtual "Who's Who" in Bluegrass. These performances include Dave Adkins, Kristi Cox, Stephen and Jana Mougin, Daryl Mosley, Jerry Salley, Williamson Branch, The Grascals, Blue

Mosley, Jerry Salley, Williamson Branch, The Grascals, Blue Highway, Rick Faris, Nick Dumas, and Wilson Banjo Co. That's the short list. There are dozens more.

Some of the most exciting projects of Rick Lang's include his concept albums. According to a recent article, "Blue Collar Gospel" is Rick's 3rd multi-artist Gospel recording project. It was released in 2024 on Billy Blue Records. The album features eleven original Gospel songs, co-written by Rick with some of the top songwriters in Bluegrass. It was produced by his dear friend, and several times co-writer Jerry Salley, Some of the artists include Jerry Salley, The Oak Ridge Boys, Becky Buller, Nathan Woodard, Dave Adkins, Barry Abernathy, John Meador, Tim Raybon, Bradley Walker, Daryl Mosley, Jaelee Roberts, Danny Paisley, Ben James, Darin & Brooke Aldridge, Williamson Branch, Donna Ulisse, Alan Bibey, Magnolia Williams and Alecia Nugent.

The album's first single, *Just Beyond* reached #1 on three of the top radio airplay charts and was nominated for IBMA 'Gospel Recorded Event Of The Year' in 2024. It deserves mentioning, Rick's Gospel album "Gonna Sing, Gonna Shout" on Billy Blue Records made a tremendous impact on Bluegrass Gospel. The title track was awarded an IBMA 'Gospel Recording Of The Year' and the album received a Grammy Award nomination for 'Best Roots Gospel Album.' Two of the songs from "Gonna Sing, Gonna Shout," *Heavens Back Yard* and *Don't Tune Him Out* reached #1 on the Singing News Bluegrass Gospel Charts. At the time, radio programmer Buddy Michaels said, "Rick Lang has done it again! The master of the co-write with a knack for getting the most out of every line; and everyone involved too!"



With all this said, the most impressive traits I've personally noticed about Rick Lang would be his sincere faith in God and his kind-hearted humility. Plus, he's a natural dry humorist. He worked hard and conscientiously made a good living in the lumber business for many, many years. He married a good woman, Wendy. They raised two wonderful daughters who gave them three beautiful granddaughters.

All that time, Rick held a passion for music. He got his first, and only set of drums when he was a child. Soon, it was very obvious to himself, his family, the neighbors, and their pets that the Lord didn't mean for him to be a drummer. That didn't discourage him, or his good parents. Not long after, he received a Sears Roebuck guitar. Then, he was off to the races. He fell in love with the popular artists of that day - Roy Orbison. The Everly Brothers. The Kingston Trio. That's how it all started.

Before long, he discovered the simple, moving grace of Southern Gospel and Bluegrass. When he was in his forties, he gave his writing career more serious and disciplined effort. He discovered it was like most artistic endeavors. Everything doesn't come all at once. He loved the process. He stuck with it. In doing so, he gained a surprising benefit. The more he wrote sincere Bluegrass Gospel lyrics, the deeper, and more powerful his faith grew. Rick says, "I can't help but feel I was meant to write Gospel music, that it is my calling. I've been blessed by doing so." And so have we by his music, and by his attitude and example. Thanks for playing and charting "Public Display Of Affection"

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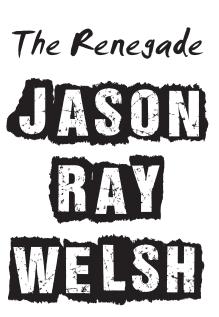
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## **A Life Rewritten Through Music and** Redemption

By Malik Riaz

Music has the power to heal, to transform, and to give a second chance. Few artists embody that truth as deeply as Jason Ray Welsh. A retired Army combat veteran, Jason's life has been a testament to resilience, redemption, and the undeniable influence of music. From the battlefields of Iraq to the dark depths of addiction, and finally to the bright stage lights of award-winning performances, his journey is nothing short of remarkable.

ason is not just another Country music artist; his songs are a lifeline, a testimony to survival and second chances. Through his heartfelt lyrics, raw emotions, and powerful melodies, he delivers a message of hope to those who are struggling. Whether it's addiction, mental health battles, or feeling lost in life, Jason's music resonates with anyone who has ever fought their own demons.

#### A Soldier's Journey: From War to Struggle

Born with music in his blood, Jason grew up traveling across the country with his family's Gospel band, Heaven Bound Express. He spent his childhood singing and performing, learning firsthand the power of music to bring people together and uplift the soul. But life had a different path in store for him.

Freedom, Jason sustained injuries that would change the changing decision to enter recovery. He knew that if he didn't

course of his life. Like many veterans, he found himself on prescribed pain medication to cope with the physical wounds of war. However, when the prescriptions no longer worked, he sought relief elsewhere, turning to IV drugs and alcohol as an escape from the pain both physical and emotional.

For the next ten years, Jason battled addiction, falling into a downward spiral. The vibrant, passionate musician he once was had been replaced by a man struggling to find his way back.

"It got to the point where I didn't recognize myself anymore. I had lost everything: my health, my relationships, my sense of purpose", Jason recalls.

#### The Turning Point: Music as a Lifeline

Every rock bottom has a turning point. For Jason, that In 2008, while serving in Iraq during Operation Iraqi moment came on April 2, 2018, when he made the lifefight for his life, he would lose everything for good. And in his fight to reclaim himself, he found an old friend waiting for him - his guitar.

Picking up his guitar again, he began writing and performing, using his songs as a vehicle for healing and hope. The emotions he had bottled up for years poured into his lyrics, and he soon realized that his music could be more than just a personal outlet; it could be a way to reach others who were going through the same struggles.

His influences are as vast as they are profound, spanning Country, Bluegrass, Gospel, and Rock 'n' Roll. From Hank Williams Sr. to Waylon Jennings, from the Beatles to Lynyrd Skynyrd, and from the Gaithers to the Hinsons, his music reflects a deep appreciation for storytelling and raw emotion.

#### **A Family Legacy: Honoring His Roots**

Jason's passion for music started at home. Traveling with his family's band, he learned not just the technical aspects of music but also the heart and soul behind it. Gospel music taught him the value of storytelling through song, a skill that would later define his own music career.

One of the most unforgettable moments in his career was recording I Heard You Crying alongside his mother, Brenda Turner. The song, written by his mother, holds deep personal meaning, and having her in the studio with him was a full-circle moment. "Having my mom in the studio with me, singing background vocals on her own song; it was beyond special," Jason shares.

#### The Challenges of Sobriety in the Music Industry

For a recovering addict, the music industry can be a tough place. Bars, concerts, and backstage parties often involve heavy drinking, and sometimes even drugs. But Jason remains steadfast in his commitment to sobriety, reminding himself of why he's here in the first place.

"It's rough sometimes," he admits. "But I remind myself why I'm here. I'm not just singing songs, I'm telling my story. And if my music can help even one person realize they're not alone, then it's all worth it."

#### Award-Winning Music with a Message

Jason's raw, heartfelt songwriting has earned him More Than Music - A Movement significant recognition in the music industry. His singles Lies In You, My Mind, and Running Out of Steam won 'Single of of songs, it's a movement. He stands as a beacon of hope for the Year' in 2019 and 2020, and his album "Write The Wrongs" was crowned 'Album of the Year' in 2021 by the International Singer-Songwriters Association (ISSA).

In 2021, he was named 'Male Artist of the Year' by the Carolina Country Music Association. His accolades span multiple prestigious platforms, including the World Songwriters Awards, the USA Songwriters Competition, the of addiction to standing on award-winning stages, Jason Ray InterContinental Music Awards, and more.

Most recently, at the 2024 ISSA Awards in Atlanta, Jason won 'Single of the Year' for Life Sentence, a song deeply personal to him. "Life Sentence is about cleaning up my past

drug addiction, homelessness, and criminal behavior," Jason explains.

The track was recorded at Tune Designer Recording Studios in Covington, Georgia, and recorded by Beverly Gosdin Jenkins, widow of the legendary Vern Gosdin, fittingly known as 'The Voice' of Country music.

#### A New Chapter: "Battle Born"

Beyond his personal story, Jason also finds inspiration in the struggles and triumphs of others. His latest song, Battle Born, is based on the book trilogy The Shield-Maidens: Warriors Through Time by Jennifer Laughlin Stevenson.

Jason's mission as an artist is clear: "to remain authentic, to speak truth through my music, and to reject the cookiecutter expectations of the mainstream music industry".

"There will always be those who rebel against the way things are done," he says. "And I'm proud to be one of them."



At its core, Jason's music is more than just a collection those who have felt like outcasts, misfits, or lost causes.

"Just because you're poor, or homeless, or struggling with mental health or addiction doesn't mean you're beyond help," he says. "There is always a way forward. And if I can find it, so can vou."

From his days on the battlefield to the darkest moments Welsh is proof that redemption is real and music can truly save lives. His journey is still unfolding, but one thing is transparent: Jason's melody will echo for years to come.

www.renegadejasonraywelsh.com

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# Felicia Deramus-Paul

# fiearta

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## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT ROBBIE COCKRELL



By Chloie Wright

Robbie Cockrell's experience in music began in South Carolina, where he learned from his grandfather and became part of a local church community. These experiences became the bedrock of a remarkable journey of intertwining faith with music. Robbie's first CD was sponsored by a willing church member, and this was where the journey began.

As the years passed, Robbie's passion intensified through his role as an assistant choir director, participating in church plays, and playing in Gospel bands. These roles honed his musical art and deepened his spiritual relationship to his art. In 2023, a major milestone came when he signed with Grace Records Nashville LLC, officially launching his radio music career and expanding his reach to a broader audience.

Robbie derives much of his musical inspiration from the On March 24, 24 likes of Alan Jackson, Keith Whitley, Ricky Van Shelton, and had delivered a George Jones. These legendary artists helped Robbie's him. The event understanding of storytelling and authentic music. With the him in His way.

unknowing help of these artists, Robbie has cultivated a sound that connects to one's inner core, perfectly balancing the elements of Country and Gospel and creating a new listen.

Singing in churches is among Robbie's best experiences as his heart is touched by these performances. His success also allows him the distinct honor of having opened for such renowned artists as Chappel Hart, Whey Jennings, and Wynonna Judd. He has long dreamed of sitting in a recording atmosphere with his idol and inspiration, Ricky Van Shelton. Robbie's catalog justifies his talent and efforts. His original song *Edisto* plays pretty regularly on various local radio stations. His tracks *On The Line* and *Come On Rain* have gained strong recognition on the Independent Country Charts, featured in Cashbox and Cross Country USA Magazines. His latest single is *Runnin' From The Truth*, which made it to the Top 40 market recently, signifying his mounting popularity. Every major digital platform now provides easy access to Robbie's music, putting more of his work directly into the hands of fans.

Faith has always been an integral part of Robbie's life and music. He vividly remembers a life-altering moment while hunting when he felt a divine conviction to kneel by a tree and pray. Such an experience deepened his conviction to God. On March 24, 2024, Atlanta 57 took place, where a speaker had delivered a soul-stirring message that left an impact on him. The event re-affirmed his belief that God was leading him in His way.

> Robbie dedicates his energy to writing, recording, and performing songs that touch listeners' hearts and tell stories that everyone can relate to. His passion is using Gospel and Country to express songs based on real-life experiences, not only his but also those of others. His goal is that every note or lyric inspire and encourage.

> The journey of Robbie is a great depiction of how, with faith, hard work, and love for music, one can scale the heights. His quest for excellence and his duty to inspire others continue to qualify him as an artist of distinction within Gospel and Country music.





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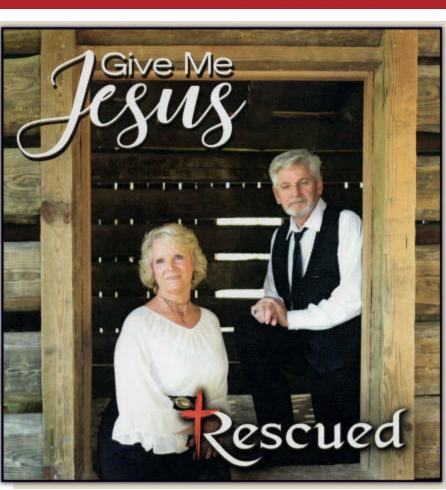
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# NOTHING MORE PARTNERS WITH K9S FOR WARRIORS



#### By Jennifer Springs

othing More is one of Rock's most electrifying bands. They blend a full-on assault with soaring melodies and unique soundscapes in songs that unflinchingly embrace raw emotion. The boundary-pushing 3x-Grammy-nominated outfit - Jonny Hawkins (vocals), Mark Vollelunga (guitar), Daniel Oliver (bass), and Ben Anderson (drums),released the deluxe edition of their acclaimed 2024 album "Carnal" across all digital outlets via Better Noise Music. CD and vinyl - due out May 16.

"Carnal" has seen the band achieve two #1 Active Rock radio singles – *Angel Song* (featuring David Draiman) and *If It Doesn't Hurt* - and has, to date, amassed 100 million streams. "Carnal" Deluxe adds on five bonus tracks, including a new version of the bracing *Freefall*, featuring 6x Platinumcertified Rock artist Chris Daughtry.

The *Freefall* video movingly tells the story about a firefighter who is struggling with his mental health and

unexpectedly finds a new life-direction after making a chance connection with a homeless dog. (Watch it on Better Noise Music's official YouTube page.) Nothing More teamed up with director Stephen Wayne Mallet (who did the same honors for the band's *Fade In, Fade Out* video, from 2017's "The Stories We Tell Ourselves" album, which has over 10M views).

"We wrote an anthem for the people who find themselves in an uncertain and chaotic phase of their life," explains singer Jonny Hawkins about *Freefall*. "Every single one of us have had, or will have, experiences where it feels like the rug is pulled from under us... an end to a relationship, a job loss, or the death of a close family member. These times can be filled with anxiety, or they can be filled with spiritual euphoria as we accept our transformation. We've always believed that our losses are invitations to ascend to a higher level of reality, and this song is our way of encapsulating that realization. Chris Daughtry elevated that feeling with his soaring and pristine vocals. We are so honored to have him on one of the best songs we've ever written."

The video - filmed in Clifton, Tennessee - features the town's fire chief and sheriff, who also served as technical advisors on the subject matter. In casting for this narrativedriven video, the band prioritized collaborating with individuals who understand the unique challenges faced by firefighters and first responders. To ensure even more authenticity, they enlisted real-life heroes as technical advisors. Additionally, director/actor Michael Lombardi was asked by the band to star in the video because of his personal experience and affiliation with firefighters. Lombardi is well-known for his role as a series regular in the acclaimed FX series "Rescue Me," which aired for 100 episodes and received multiple Golden Globe and Emmy nominations and wins and delved into the lives of firefighters grappling with real-life issues, including the aftermath of 9/11 trauma and personal struggles.

K9s For Warriors is the nation's leading provider of highly trained Service Dogs for Veterans with invisible wounds of war. As a part of its mission, K9s' Station Dog program partners with law enforcement and first responder agencies to provide reliable, high quality therapy dogs that offer emotional support to officers, firefighters, dispatchers, victims, and others exposed to trauma in the line of duty. Every day in the U.S., approximately 20 Veterans take their own lives, while more than 1,000 dogs are euthanized. Determined to end Veteran suicide, K9s For Warriors provides highly-trained Service Dogs - many of them rescues - to military Veterans suffering from PTSD or traumatic brain injury at no financial cost to the Veteran. Since 2011, K9s For Warriors has graduated more than 1,000 Warriors and rescued more than 2,000 dogs.

"Nothing More have always wanted our music and lyrics to be a shelter for those in need," says guitarist Mark Vollelunga. "With *Freefall*, we want to let people know they are not alone when it feels like everything is collapsing around you. So, we did something really special: we teamed up with K9s For Warriors to bring more awareness to those that struggle with PTSD and mental health trauma. It's their mission to train service dogs and pair them up with veterans and therapy dogs for first responders in need. We fully believe

in the power these animals have to help create peace and bring about healthy changes in their companions. I recently met my county constable, Kathryn Brown, who was given a therapy dog from K9s For Warriors and she shared with me just how much 'Biggie' makes her station and life unbelievably better. So, let's get more of these service dogs and therapy dogs trained and paired up with veterans and first responders in need! I personally know that by rescuing animals, my family and life has been



enriched tenfold. And I would say that even though we might think we're the ones doing the rescuing, they are actually rescuing us."

military Veterans suffering from PTSD or traumatic brain ry at no financial cost to the Veteran. Since 2011, K9s Warriors has graduated more than 1,000 Warriors and ued more than 2,000 dogs. "Nothing More have always wanted our music and lyrics be a shelter for those in need," says guitarist Mark lelunga. "With *Freefall*, we want to let people know they not alone when it feels like everything is collapsing around

> Nothing More, one of Rock's most electrifying acts, will appear on stages across the U.S. this spring with Disturbed and Daughtry in addition to headlining shows throughout the trek which will alternate support from Kingdom Collapse and Mike's Dead on select dates, and appearances at festivals

> > throughout Europe.

Nothing More have won audiences over across the globe with their immersive and non-stop energetic live performances on tours with Rock acts including Godsmack, Shinedown, Five Finger Death Punch, Breaking Benjamin, and Papa Roach. They'll return to Europe and the U.K. to perform at the biggest Rock and Metal festivals this summer.

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Debbie Bennett / CEO







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giving, we were able to minister to both body and soul, offering

care and compassion that we pray will have a lasting impact on their lives.

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-Dr. Pete Kunkle, Executive Director

# Passantino's Concert Cafe Where Music Meets Mouthwatering Food

#### Staff, Cashbox

The Josie Music Awards founders have launched their newest venture -Passantino's Concert Café. The small town of Medina, Tennessee, is now home to the bold new hot spot. Known for their passion for music and their celebration of independent artists through the Josie Music Awards, the cafe's Sicilian owners Tinamarie, Vito, Josie Passantino Boone and Matt Boone have turned their talents to the restaurant world, offering an extraordinary dining experience paired with live music. Passantino's is already earning a reputation as the go-to spot for the best Chicago-style food and authentic Italian cuisine.

Passantino's Concert Cafe is much more than a restaurant. It's a tribute to heritage, artistry, and the spirit of community. The owners, deeply rooted in their Sicilian traditions, have infused their family recipes into the menu, creating a delightful mix of comfort and authenticity. The accolades are pouring in, and locals are singing the praises of Passantino's Concert Cafe. One happy customer raved, "Gyro and cheese sticks are WONDERFUL!

It was my first time going, and the staff is wonderful, and the food is amazing. 10/10 recommend!" Another diner described it as "A taste of Chicago in a small town. Hidden gem in Medina." The enthusiasm doesn't stop there, with visitors calling it the "Best place in western Tennessee for authentic Chicago food."

A first-time guest shared their experience, saying, "Just enjoyed dinner for the first time, and will be returning! Finally, there is some really good food from Chicago around here! Love speaking with the owners, they even helped me take the food out to my car. Just an AMAZING place! This will be our go-to Italian restaurant."





Others are loving the classic Chicagostyle dishes, with one guest excitedly remarking, "Finally found a restaurant that serves a great, authentic Chicago style hot dog with all of the true toppings." And many agree, simply calling them "The Best Chicago Dogs!"

Passantino's is quickly becoming the talk of the town, with customers delighted to find high-quality Chicago-style and Italian cuisine right in Medina. Tinamarie mentions, "We wanted to combine the things we love most - music, food, and family - to create something special for this community. Passantino's is not just a place to connect and make memories "

to eat; it's a place to connect and make memories."

The cafe's music venue is the cherry on top. Staying true to their roots in the independent music scene, the space features live performances from talented artists, creating an ambiance that's as lively as it is inviting. Guests are finding that the combination of fantastic food and great music strikes all the right notes.

The Passantino Family is a friend to all independent artists. There are thousands of independent artists in music today who need an advocate to believe and encourage them in their endeavors of music. They have found such allies in Josie Passantino-Boone and Tinamarie Passantino. Many artists consider this mother and daughter influential for promoting their careers with the Josie Music Awards.

The Josie Music Awards is the largest, multi-genre, privately-owned, independent music award show globally, bringing in thousands from around the globe to celebrate each year. The JMAs is the greatest place for networking, collaborations, and finding lifelong musical friendships.

The Josie Music Awards began after years of working with thousands of music artists by interviewing them on their radio talk show. The Josie Show, and other shows hosted by Josie Passantino-Boone and produced by Tinamarie Passantino. They also played their music on their radio station, Country Blast Radio. Josie grew up working in the radio business, starting her own show at the age of fourteen. Tinamarie, being a manager, took on

the management role of the business forming the daughter Network of Brands includes Indies Voice Magazine.

Tinamarie and Josie are both CMA voting members, members of an advisory panel that rates commercial Country radio music. They have multiple Broadcasting Awards, Tinamarie was also the 'Center Director of the Year' for three years along with the NAEYC Accreditation (National Association for the Education of Young Children) and Achievement Awards including 'Outstanding Teambuilding' and 'Outstanding Quality.'



L-R: Vito and Tinamarie Passantino, Matt Boone and Josie Passantino-Boone

Tinamarie and Josie are gearing up for this year's and mother super team. Another outlet from the Josie festivities with a full weekend of music. Attendees can expect great performances, award presentations and special guests during the weekend. The events begin November 1st for the JMA Music Festival and Conference at the Belle Air Mansion. Then on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, they will host the 11th Annual Josie Music Awards. held at the Grand Ole Opry House.

> Josie states, "One of the biggest highlights and honors we have experienced at The Josie Music Awards is bringing our annual award show to The Grand Ole Opry House. The venue is beautiful, historic, and magical. Everyone we work with there is so kind, helpful, experienced, and professional.



A big standout moment in our minds is the first time the big red curtain opened to a roar of applause, happiness, and the love from the room was instantly felt from the stage. Something that has always stood out for us since the first Josie Music Awards event in 2015 is the amount of love and support you feel in the room being at our annual event. We have never felt anything like it anywhere else."

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#### **By Malik Riaz**

Born and raised in Edinburg, Texas, Mike McCarrell discovered his love for music at an early age. His passion for singing and songwriting led him to perform wherever he could, refining his craft with each opportunity. Starting in middle school choir, he learned to read music, which became the foundation of his musical journey. However, his path to professional success was anything but conventional.

After high school, McCarrell took a detour from music to serve in the Marine Corps. It was during his time in the military that he picked up the guitar, which reignited his passion for songwriting. Stationed on the East Coast, he joined The Super Grit Cowboy Band, where he played alongside talented musicians. One of the most influential figures in his journey was Clyde Mattocks, the bandleader, who would later play a crucial role in McCarrell's breakthrough in the Country music scene.

Returning to Texas in 1990 after serving eight years in the military, McCarrell received an unexpected call from legendary Country artist Vern Gosdin. Initially, he dismissed it as a prank and hung up, only to have Gosdin call back and explain that Clyde Mattocks had recommended him.

"The next morning, I caught a plane to Nashville, auditioned, and got the gig. That was about the time Vern's hit song *Chiseled in Stone* had won 'Song of the Year,' so we hit the road immediately, and I never looked back," McCarrell recalls.

Life on the road had its challenges, including long periods away from family and exhausting schedules, but the rewards far outweighed the difficulties. Traveling alongside national artists opened doors to new opportunities and lifelong friendships. Throughout his career, McCarrell has had the privilege of working with Beverly Gosdin Jenkins, whom he considers a dedicated advocate for real Country music. "It's an honor to be a member of her A-team," he says. "She really cares about real Country music."

# MIKE McCARRELL



One of the most memorable highlights of McCarrell's career was serving as the opening act for Collin Raye at George W. Bush's gubernatorial inauguration in Texas. Such experiences have solidified his place in the Country music industry and reinforced his belief in perseverance and dedication.

McCarrell's latest single, *Some Kinda Fire*, has made its way onto the Cashbox Independent Country Chart Top 40, further establishing his presence in the industry. His journey serves as an inspiration for aspiring artists, and he has a simple yet powerful piece of advice for them:

"Never stop just because it seems like you're at a dead end or facing a roadblock. Don't listen to others more than you listen to yourself. Go for it, you only live one life!"

A versatile musician, McCarrell writes across multiple genres, including Christian, Country, R&B, and Blues. He believes in the power of music to bring people together and always seeks the positive in every song he creates. His journey from a small-town musician to sharing stages with legends is a testament to the impact of perseverance, passion, and authenticity in music.





Kim Ryan's story is one of passion, perseverance, and profound talent. A classically trained mezzo-soprano, she initially ventured into the world of Pop before discovering her deep connection with Country music. Her journey spans multiple genres, including R&B, Rock, and Dance, but it was an original Country project, co-produced with a long-time musician friend, that truly resonated with her. After recording six originals from esteemed Nashville writers, Kim knew she had found her musical home. "I felt an immediate affinity to the genre," Kim shares, "which settled me into a genuine respect and decision to further pursue Country."

The Soulful Powerhouse Who Found Her Voice in **Country Music** 

Man

By Malik Riaz

powerhouse, draws from deep emotion, captivating audiences with every note. Whether performing on grand stages or recording in the studio, Kim has always had one mission; connecting with people through music.

#### **Growing Up in a Family of Artists**

Kim's passion for music was ignited at a young age, thanks to a rich musical lineage. Her mother, nearly signed by Warner Bros., performed alongside legends like Tony Bennett and Chubby Checker. Her grandmother, an extraordinary musician, played instruments by ear, while her performing in renowned NYC clubs. Their final show was at

er voice, often described as a soulful aunt and cousins carried on the family's legacy in Opera and contemporary music.

> Kim was only four when she began singing, following in her mother's footsteps. By nine, she had already recorded her first song. Throughout her youth, she honed her craft, taking voice, dance, and acting classes across New York City.

> At just twelve years old, Kim began performing across the tri-state area, fronting for top comedians in ballrooms packed with thousands of attendees. "My mother would marvel at my lack of nerves. I would step onto the stage with confidence and just let the music take over," Kim recalls.

Kim's talent led her to a unique musical duo at twelve,

The Grand Finale, opening for Jazz and Classical great Sarah Vaughan. Her early career also included weekly performances at an elite East Side dessert nightclub, where she shared the stage with young Broadway stars, including Sarah Jessica Parker.

#### From American Idol to Party Band Leader

Kim's musical versatility and raw talent caught the attention of many. She won an American Idol contest on a popular NYC radio station, earning a trip to LA as a guest DJ with Michelle Visage to cover Season 5. She later collaborated with Electronic music duo Glenn Friscia and Frank Lamboy, recording two original Dance tracks.

For eight years, Kim co-led a successful seven-piece party band known for its incredible musicianship and harmonies. They built a loyal following, playing across the tri-state area and bringing high-energy performances to audiences who couldn't get enough.

#### A Creative Mind Beyond the Stage

Kim's artistic endeavors extend beyond music. She is also a talented children's book writer and illustrator. Collaborating with her ten-year-old son, Landon, who is following in her musical footsteps, Kim has self-published a three-book series and is currently completing her fifth book. Her storytelling is as compelling as her singing, bringing joy and inspiration to young readers.

#### **A New Chapter Begins**

Kim's transition to Country music has been nothing short of thrilling. Her first song set for radio release, *Reckless Heart*, is promoted by Beverly Gosdin Jenkins of BGJ Promotions. Written by Randall "Keith" Brown, Chip Davis, and Willie Mack, the song showcases Kim's powerful vocals and deep emotional connection to her music. She says, "Music is my form of expression whether happy, sad, or angry."

#### The Day That Changed Everything

Beyond her musical and literary achievements, Kim is a 9/11 survivor. On that fateful day, she worked as a corporate marketing executive in the South Tower of the World Trade Center, the first tower to collapse. Witnessing the tragedy firsthand changed her outlook on life."I realized the importance of valuing and spending time with those who matter most to friends and family," Kim reflects. "I take nothing for granted."

The harrowing experience led her to reassess her priorities, ultimately pushing her to focus on her true passion: music. She carries this lesson with her every day, approaching life with kindness, patience, and understanding.

#### Faith, Family, and a Love for Tradition

Kim's upbringing in a strong Italian family has shaped her core values. She fondly recalls growing up in a tight-knit household, where her mother, grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins were deeply involved in every aspect of her life. Love was expressed through food and music family

gatherings often centered around cooking, baking, and playing instruments late into the night.

Her grandmother, or "Nana," passed down generations of cooking traditions, teaching Kim the art of making delicious meals from scratch. It was through these family moments that she learned the value of connection, culture, and celebrating life's simple joys.



#### What's Next for Kim Ryan?

With her music reaching new heights and her books inspiring young minds, Kim Ryan shows no signs of slowing down. Whether she's on stage, in the studio, or at home with her son, her passion remains firm.

A proud American, a devoted mother, and a soulful singer, Kim Ryan is a testament to the power of following one's passion, embracing life's lessons, and using talent to uplift and connect with the world. As she prepares for the release of *Reckless Heart*, there's no doubt that Kim's journey in Country music is just beginning. The best, it seems, is yet to come.





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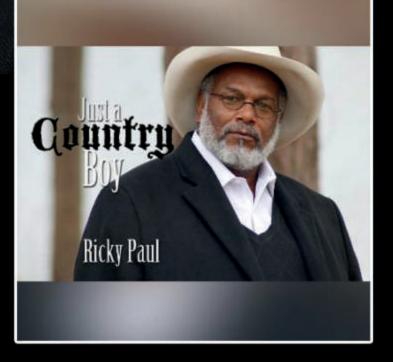




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