SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2020

CASHBOX NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE USA



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GOSPEL FEST



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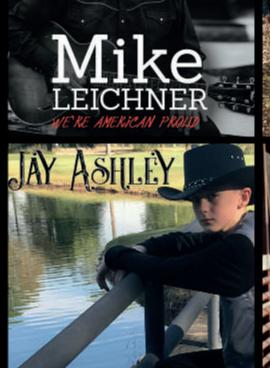
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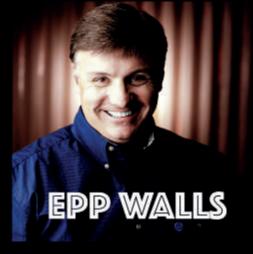


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ON THE COVER



16 Lorretta Lynn How a Honky Tonk Girl Became Country Music Royalty By Robin Tanner



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2020

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

CASHBOX MAGAZINE

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BUSINESS OPERATIONS / C.O.O. RANDALL WILDS

> MANAGING EDITOR JACKSON McKEE

> ASSOCIATE EDITOR ROBIN TANNER

CASHBOX CANADA SANDY GRAHAM

PRESIDENT / WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING DOUG STROUD

> CD REVIEWS DAVID BOWLING

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ALL- 4 - ONE

More Than Two Decades Later, Still Making Music



f you've ever been in love, then you've heard the name All-4-One and their timeless songs, I Swear, I Can Love You Like That, So Much In Love, I Turn To You, These Arms, Beautiful As You and many more. The Grammy Award Winning group is internationally known for making beautiful love songs that not only chart radio airwaves, but also garner countless awards. Their very first single, So Much In Love, scaled to RIAA Gold Sales and top five Pop status. The group comprises Jamie Jones, Delious Kennedy, Alfred Nevarez, and Tony Borowiak, all from the and a collection of timeless hit songs under their belt. Antelope Valley and Mojave, California areas.

The California based quartet soon marked their place in the industry as premier balladeers. Their second single, I Swear, claimed the billboard Hot 100 #1 spot for eleven consecutive weeks, while sales skyrocketed to hold the #1 selling single status in 1994 and third most successful single of the rock era. I Swear STILL holds a spot on Billboard's Hot 100 as one of the most successful singles of all time and has been named by ASCAP as one of the greatest love songs of the 20th Century. The song is recorded in history with an imprint in the Guinness's World Book of records (as the biggest selling single of 1994). The group's second album was highlighted by I Can Love You Like That, a mid-tempo which hit the top five on the Billboard Hot 100.

To date, they have released a total of seven albums and sold over 20 million units worldwide, won a bevy of awards including a Grammy, an American Music Award, a Blockbuster Award, countless international awards and completed multiple major world tours.

In celebration a two decade career milestone, All-4-One released their best album yet with "Twenty+" on July 24, 2015. "Twenty+" includes fourteen new songs and six of the group's biggest hits that helped propel them to international success.

In February 2016, All-4-One joined the inaugural "I Love the 90s" Tour with their peers Salt-N-Pepa, featuring Spinderalla, Vanilla Ice, Coolio, Tone Loc, Color Me Badd, Rob Base, Kid N Play and Young MC.

In addition, All-4-One's music continues to gain more popularity with placements in commercials, worldwide music compilations, TV shows and major motion pictures such as "Sisters," "Dispicable Me," "Earth To Echo," the hilarious Ryan Renolds comedy "Just Friends," "The Social Network" and "Nothing To Lose." The group's contribution to soundtracks also include, the multi-platinum soundtrack to Walt Disney Pictures animated feature film, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" with the title song Someday, and the Space Jam Soundtrack, a five time platinum album with I Turn To You. The California based quartet, All-4-One, continues to tour the world and record new music as the original members

www.all-4-one.com



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"Mary Cried" from the album, "Writing on the Ground"



O come, let us sing unto the Lord...Psalm 95:1

Thanks DJs for charting "Mary Cried" at #27 (On MMG Comp. Vol. 94) For Radio distribution, call Wilds And Associates 205-662-4826.

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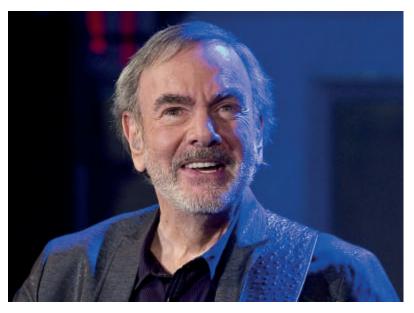
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BIOGRAPHY NEIL DIAMOND

Neil Diamond is an American singersongwriter who began writing songs while studying at New York University. Neil Diamond is best known as a successful pop music singer who scored a number of hits during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. His own hits include *Sweet Caroline, America* and *Heartlight*. He also wrote *I'm A Believer*, and *A Little Bit Me, A Little Bit You* performed by the Monkees, and his song *Red, Red Wine* was a big hit for UB40 in 1983. Diamond's later albums include "12 Songs" (2005) and "Home Before Dark" (2008).

eil was born on January 24, 1941, in Brooklyn, New York. He was the son of a shop owner and spent most of his youth in Brooklyn. He did live in Wyoming for a time while his father served in the military. Not long after receiving his first guitar at age sixteen, he began writing his own songs.

Diamond landed a fencing scholarship to New York University and became a pre-med student, though he continued to pursue his interest in music. In the early 1960s, Diamond released his first single, *What Will I Do*, which he recorded with Jack Packer. The duo released the song under the name "Neil & Jack."

Eventually dropping out of college, Diamond worked as a songwriter for several companies. He joined forces with Jeff Barry and Ellie Greenwich, two talented songwriters and producers. The trio began to market Diamond as both a singer and songwriter. Diamond had his first taste of pop success with the 1966 single *Solitary Man*. That same year, he penned the Monkees' No. 1 hit, *I'm a Believer*.

Diamond continued to score hits on his own over the next few years, including *Cherry*, *Cherry* and *Girl*, *You'll Be a Woman Soon*. His popular 1969 single, *Sweet Caroline*, was reportedly inspired by Caroline Kennedy, daughter of the late President John F. Kennedy. In 2014, during an interview with Jimmy Fallon, Diamond put that particular rumor to rest by saying the song was written about his wife. The song made it into the Billboard Top Five. That same year, Diamond's *Holly Holy* reached the No. 6 spot on the pop charts.

In 1970, Neil Diamond scored his first solo No. 1 pop single with *Cracklin' Rosie*. He hit the top of the charts again with *Song Sung Blue* two years later. Also in 1972, Diamond released the hugely popular *Hot August Night*, which was recorded at a series of concerts he performed at Los Angeles' Greek Theatre. He also composed the soundtrack for the 1973 film Jonathan Livingstone Seagull, based on the Richard Bach

book. While the movie was a flop at the box office, the soundtrack earned Diamond a Grammy Award.

Diamond scored another big hit with You Don't Bring Me Flowers, his 1978 duet with Barbra Streisand. In 1980, he tried for success on the big screen with his remake of The Jazz Singer. Critics were less than kind regarding his efforts, but the film's soundtrack featured such hits as Love on the Rocks and America. "The Jazz Singer" album sold more than 5 million copies.

Diamond released his first single, *What Will I Do*, which he recorded with Jack Packer. The duo released the song under the name "Neil & Jack." Cheventually dropping out of college, Diamond worked as a songwriter for several companies. He joined forces with Jeff soundary of *Girl, You'll Be a Woman Soon* was featured on the soundtrack for Quentin Tarantino's Pulp Fiction.

In 1996, Diamond released the album "Tennessee Moon," which marked his first foray into Country music. He later teamed up with Rick Rubin for "12 Songs" which was heralded as a comeback for Diamond. "They call it a 'comeback.' For me, I never thought that I was away," the artist told Newsweek. While Diamond had not been on the charts in a while, he remained a very popular live act. "12 Songs" put him back on the album charts, reaching as high as the No. 4 spot.

In 2008, Diamond reached the top of the album charts with *Home Before Dark*, his next effort with Rick Rubin. He even appeared on American Idol to help promote the release. Diamond's musical contributions were honored in 2011, when he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He received the Kennedy Center Honor that same year. Diamond had previously been admitted to the Songwriters Hall of Fame in the 1980s.

During the making of the 2009 documentary "Neil Diamond: Hot August Night NYC," the singer hit it off with producer Katie McNeil, who became his manager and his Diamond has four children.

Diamond continued to record and tour into his seventies. Working with producer Don Was, he released the albums "Melody Road" in 2014 and "Acoustic Christmas" in 2016. "Melody Road" reminded many of his best work from the 1970s, and Diamond took to the road in 2014 and 2015 to support the album.

On January 22, 2018, Diamond abruptly announced his retirement from touring due to a recent diagnosis of



Neil Diamond live on stage during his 1976 tour of the USA (Image: Redferns)

girlfriend. They married in Los Angeles on April 20, 2012. Parkinson's disease. In the midst of the year-long 50th Anniversary World Tour, he canceled the final leg, scheduled for Australia and New Zealand.

> "I have been so honored to bring my shows to the public for the past 50 years. My sincerest apologies to everyone who purchased tickets and were planning to come to the upcoming shows," he said in a statement. "My thanks go out to my loyal and devoted audiences around the world. You will always have my appreciation for your support and encouragement. This ride has been 'so good, so good, so good' thanks to you."

> Despite the diagnosis, Diamond said he fully expected to continue writing and recording. He also showed he was not completely through with performing, as he delivered a surprise one-man show for firefighters who were battling Utah's massive Lake Christine Fire that summer.

> During the outbreak of the coronavirus in March 2020, Diamond took to social media to serenade fans with Sweet Caroline, with altered lyrics to promote social distancing and smart hygienic practices.

> > www.neildiamond.com







Heroes Are Human Too

By Robin Tanner

For the past several years, award-winning Christian Country recording artist Melanie Walker has been busy with a couple of major projects. She and her husband, Gerald, relocated from Illinois to Nashville, Tennessee to help establish a local TV station for the TCT Network. For the past five years she has served as co-producer alongside producer, Lynn Fox, of Sunday Mornin' Country® – an event sponsored by the Music City Christian Fellowship – held each June during CMA Fest at the Grand Ole Opry House.

Focused primarily on these endeavors, it has been a good while since Melanie has released new music. But, to the delight of Christian Country music fans, she has just released a new song to radio entitled, *Heroes Are Human Too*. The song has been well-received and is already showing great promise to be a chart-topping hit. A companion concept video of the song has also been released.

Heroes Are Human Too is a bit different than much of the music Melanie has recorded throughout her career. But it's one that has a special meaning for the celebrated songstress, and it has a very timely and relevant message for the times in which we live.

During a recent visit with Melanie, she shared her heart regarding the song and how it came about...

Robin: You've been quite busy, but it's been a while since you've released new music to radio.

Melanie: It has been! I have been encouraged to release something for a while but did not have anything recorded I felt strongly about and when I looked for new material nothing felt right.

Robin: So, what prompted you to get back in the studio, and why this particular song?

Melanie: God has always put people in my path to encourage me. A few months ago, three people within a few days reached out to me about my releasing something to radio. I considered it and for the first time in a while began to have a desire to. I still did not have music I felt strongly about so I just set the idea aside.

Then something happened. I was asked to sing at an event called "The Blessing of the Hands" - a ceremony to pray for nurses. As I considered what to sing, I did not have or know of a song I thought was appropriate to the situation. In light of all the challenges our health care providers are facing these days I wanted something that would honor and encourage them.

The journey began as I reached out to my friend and writer, Tammy Vice to collaborate on a song for this occasion. It came together quickly as we considered the weight of the burden and believed the song should be written as a prayer. Deuteronomy 28:8, says, "God will send a blessing on your barns and everything you put your hand to." I thought, "that's what we need to be praying." The first line was written, "Bless the labor of their hands."

We talked about these folks having to be strong even when they are weary, working long hours, sometimes without the supplies they need and at times the inability to help those they are caring for; putting themselves at risk for others all the while attending to the challenges of their own lives and those they love. Tammy called with the thought, "Heroes are Human Too." That was it. It expressed strength and blessing and strength.

At the time we were writing the song I thought it would be for that one ceremony alone. As I rehearsed the song, I found myself increasingly moved. I shared it with friends and men and women alike wept. I began thinking if this is touching us so deeply maybe I need to record it and perhaps it will encourage and speak to others.

I reached out to friend, and acclaimed singer Mandy Barnett, who immediately agreed to produce it. Mandy's vision was to keep the track simple and truthful. She enlisted Bobby Bradley (George Jones, Conway Twitty, Merle Haggard) to engineer, Andy Reiss (The Time Jumpers) for guitar, Matt Combs (Reba McEntire, Grand Ole Opry) for violin, and provided backup vocals for the track.

Others caught the vision and stepped up to be a part of getting this message out. Producer and director Jay Edgerton with videographer and editor Ed Lamberg arranged for a video shoot at a stark, yet lovely white chapel (Three Oaks Chapel in Gallatin, Tenn.). It was perfect and reflected the simplicity of the song. Within two weeks we had the song recorded and the video completed.

God has inspired and provided. My prayer is that it will be a "word rightly spoken" (Proverbs 25:11) for those it was written for and many others who are having to be strong in the midst of whatever their struggle might be. Christ has always been there for the weary. "Come to me all who are weary and heavy burdened, and I will give you rest."(Matthew 11:28) I pray rest for all those who are weary and heavy burdened believing He is able to give them rest and strength to carry on.

I hope people will share the song and the video with everyone and anyone they think will be encouraged by the message.

I could go on and on. I am thankful for the promoters who have gotten my music to radio, to the DJs who have played it and for the industry professionals who have encouraged me. God has given me more favor than I can begin to tell and

perseverance as well as vulnerability and the need for God's more than I would have ever thought to have ask for. I will forever be grateful for the people who have given of themselves and trusted me with opportunities to express what God has placed in me.



Robin: It's always encouraging and exciting to see how God orchestrates His plan in our lives, and I appreciate you taking the time to share with our readers how God brought vou this song in His timing. I know it will do well for you and will accomplish God's will. So, what's next for Melanie Walker? What are your thoughts and plans for the future?

Melanie: As always, I will continue singing as long as God opens doors. The music brings life to me. I also plan to continue serving on the board of the Music City Christian Fellowship and co-producing. Sunday Mornin' Country®. In addition to my music, I have been involved in the mental health and personal development fields for most of my adult life. I love speaking and coaching others to walk out their dreams and hope to do more of that. I find that when God is involved, I am satisfied and fulfilled. He has always directed my path to good places. I will continue to listen for His voice and follow where He leads.

www.melaniewalker.com

(*Be sure to view the music video, *Heroes Are Human Too* on YouTube)



CASHBOX music charts

IND. ROCK / POP / PROGRESSIVE ROCK

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Matt Maeson	Hallucinogenics
2	Weezer	Hero
3	Twenty One Pilots	Level Of Concern
4	All Time Low	Monsters/Blackbear
5	Strokes	Bad Decisions
6	Head And Heart	Honeybee
7	Machine Gun Kelly	Blood Valentine
8	Killers	My Own Soul's Warning
9	AJR	Bang!
10	Blue October	Oh My My
11	Dayglow	Can I Call You Tonight
12	Tame Impala	Lost In Yesterday
13	Bastille	What You Gonna Do?
14	Wallows	Are You Bored Yet?
15	Reez & Grabbitz	Someone Else
16	Bakar	Hell In Back
17	The Magnettes	American
18	White Reaper	Real Long Time
19	Milky Chance & Jack Johnson	Don't Let Me Down
20	The 1975	Sunshine

IND. COUNTRY / OUTLAW / ROCKABILLY

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Glenn Baker	Freedom
2	Willie Nelson	First Rose Of Spring
3	Keith Urban	God Whispered Your Name
4	Tim McGraw	Good Taste In Women
5	Terry Allen	Abandanisit
6	Lucinda Williams	You Can't Rule Me
7	Randy Rogers &Wade Bowen	AM/FM
8	Allison Wood	Little Sister
9	Matt Stell	Praying For You
10	Miranda Lambert	Bluebird
11	Paul Arow	Someday We'll All Meet In Heaven
12	Don Graham	You Can Count On Me
13	The Reklaws	Old Country Soul
14	Kenny Chesney	Here And Now
15	AJ Jansen	A Country Girl Can Survive
16	Corb Lund	90 Seconds Of Your Time
17	Lance Miller	The Firemen
18	Vandolairs	Bottom Dollar Boy
19	Tim Hicks	No Truck Song
20	Linsey Ell	l Don't Love You
21	Gabby Barrett	I Hope
22	Connie Hall	Lord Use Me
23	Bob Dylan	False Prophet
24	Michael Thorpe	God And Country
25	Irleen Mandrell	It Turns Into Love
26	Joe Ely	Cry
27	Tim McGraw	Good Taste In Women
28	Wes Brown	Like A Cowboy
29	James Larson	Jesus Loves Me
30	Craig Smoky Roberts	Rockin Around

IND. AMERICANA

INL	AIVIERICANA	
POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Margo Price	Letting Down
2	Jason Isbell and The 400 Unit	Dreamside
3	Charlie Crocket	Johnny
4	Sarah Jarosz	Options Open
5	The Jayhawks	This Forgotten Town
6	Old 97's	Turn Of The TV
7	Kathleen Edwards	Open Options
8	Avett Brothers	Victory
9	Dawe's	Who Do You Think You're Talking To
10	The War & Treaty	Five More Minutes
11	Glenn Baker	Freedom
12	Courtney Andrewns	It Must Be Someone Else's Fault
13	Band Of Heathens	Black Cat
14	AJ Jansen	A Country Girl Can Survive
15	Glenn Baker	Hotter
16	John Craigie	Don't Ask
17	Darlingside	Ocean Bed
18	Mary Chapin Carpenter	Secret Keepers
19	Bob Dylan	False Prophet
20	Jana And The Rebels	Cold Black Hole
21	Chris Gardner	Miracles
22	Buzz Cason & Son's	Montanna
23	Lance Miller	The Firemen
24	Jana And The Rebels	Can You Feel It
25	Don Graham	You Can Count On Me
26	Michael Thorpe	God And Country
27	Craig Smoky Roberts	Rockin' Around
28	Zoe Nutt	Нарру
29	Keith Urban	God Whispered Your Name
30	Wes Brown	Like A Cowboy

IND. BLUEGRASS

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Donna Ulisse	When I Go All Bluegrass On You
2	Lorraine Jordan & Carolina Road	Bill Monroe's Ol Mandolin
3	Bradley & Adair	Oh Darlin'
4	Junior Sisk	Hooked On Bluegrass
5	Appalachian Road Show	Goin' To Bring Her Back
6	Special Consensus	Chicago Barn Dance
7	Larry Sparks	Down In Union County
8	Becky Buller	The Barber's Fiddle
9	Carolina Blue	Grown Cold
10	Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers	Bacon In My Beans
11	Darin & Brooke Aldridge	EmmyLou
12	Darin & Brooke Aldridge	I Found Love
13	Balsam Range	Richest Man
14	Jason Barie w/ Del McCoury & Paul	Williams I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry
15	High Fidelity	The Southbound Train
16	Larry Cordle	Breakin' On The Jimmy Ridge
17	Daryl Mosley	A Few Years Ago
18	Blue Highway	Both Ends Of The Train
19	Gena Britt	Over And Over
20	Justin Moses	Fall Like Rain

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2020

View complete charts at www.cashboxmagazine.com

IND. R & B / HIP HOP

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Dababy	Rockstar Feat. Roddy Rich
2	DJ Khaled	Popstar Feat. Drake
3	Chris Brown & Young Thug	Go Crazy
4	Lil Baby	Emotionally Scarred
5	Roddy Rich	High Fashion Feat. Mustard
6	Lil Baby	The Bigger Picture
7	Migos	Need It Feat. NBA Youngboy
8	Future & Drake	Life Is Good
9	Drake	Toosie Slide
10	Ty Dolla \$ign	Ego Death Feat. Kanye West & Skrillex
11	Lil Mosey	Blueberry Faygo
12	Warren G	And You Know That Feat Ty Dolla \$ign
13	Eric Shaun	Tanisha Jones
14	King Buckley	Too Playa Feat. EMC Scotty
15	Fkajazz	Supreme Love
16	Jack Harlow	What's Poppin
17	Jimemaclive	l Love You
18	Freddie Jackson	Why
19	Barry Love	We'll Get Thru This
20	Eddy Michaels	To Touch

POP

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Taylor Swift	Folklore
2	Harry Styles	Fine Line
3	Kelsea Ballerine	Kelsea
4	Sam Smith	Stripped
5	Trevor Daniel	Nicotine
6	Кудо	Golden Hour
7	Taylor Swift	Lover
8	Katy Perry	Smile
9	Juice WRLD	Legends Never Die
10	The Sweeplings	Losing Ground Vol. 1
11	Diplo Presents Thomas	Wesley; Chapter 1: Snake Oil Diplo
12	Surfaces	Where The Light Is
13	Blackbear	Everything Means Nothing
14	Maren Morris	Girl
15	Jedd Hughes	West
16	Human	One Republic
17	Mr.	Leslie Odom, Jr
18	Walls	Louis Tomlinson
19	Heartbreak	Sam Smith
20	Nation Of Two	Vance Joy
21	David Bowie	David Live
22	The Strumbellas	Норе
23	Drake	Dark Lane Demo Tapes
24	David Bowie	Loving The Alien 1983-1988
25	Jack Johnson	In Between Dreams
26	Rufus Wainwright	Out Of The Game
27	Maroon 5	Call And Response: The Remix Album
28	Dispatch	America, Location 12
29	Cage The Elephant	Unpeeled
30	Lizzo	Cuz I Love You

IND. EASY LISTENING

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	The Weekend	Blinding Lights
2	Lewis Capaldi	Before You Go
3	Dua Lipa	Break My Heart
4	Lady Gaga & Arianna Grande	Rain On Me
5	Harry Styles	Watermelon Sugar
6	Post Malone	Circles
7	Gabby Barrett	I Hope
8	JP Saxe Feat. Julia Michaels	If The World Was Ending
9	Dua Lipa	Don't Start Now
10	Harry Styles	Adore You
11	Maroon 5	Nobody's Love
12	Taylor Swift	Cardigan
13	Sam Fischer	This City
14	Sia	Together
15	AJR	Bang!
16	Killers	Caution
17	Kelsea Ballerini	The Other Girl
18	Dan + Shay	I Should Probably Go
19	James Bay	Chew On My Heart
20	Miley Cyrus	Midnight Sky

IND. LATIN

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Topic;A7s	Breaking Me
2	Maluma	Hawaii
3	Jason Derulo; lawsh 685	Savage Love (Laxed-Siren Beat)
4	Harry Styles	Watermelon Sugar
5	Bad Bunny; Dua Lipa; J Balvin; Tainy	One Day (One Day)
6	Conkarah; Shaggy; DJ FLE	Banana
7	Camilo; Rauw Alejandro	Tattoo
8	Morat; Reik	Beauty And The Beast
9	J Balvin	Blue
10	Farina; Leslie Shaw; Thalia	Feel The Beat

IND. BLUEGRASS GOSPEL

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Joe Mullins & Radio Ramblers	I Want To Know More About My Lord
2	Chigger Hill Boys & Terri	Tell The World That Jesus Saves
3	Primitive Quartet	Lord, We Need You
4	Eagle's Wings	That's What Mercy Does
5	Britton Family	The Beggar And The King
6	Merle Monroe	God's Still In Control
7	Appalachian Road Show	Tributlations
8	Greg Sullivan	Beginning Again
9	Tonja Rose	Little Talk With Jesus
10	Tim Davis	Come On Home



IND. CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	For King and Country Feat. Kirk Franklin & Tori	Kelly Together
2	Jeremy Camp	Keep Me In The Moment
3	Toby Mac	See The Light
4	Lauren Daigle	Still Rolling Stones
5	Zach Williams & Dolly Parton	There Was Jesus
6	Tauren Wells	Close
7	Colton Dixon	Miracles
8	Matt Maher Feat. Elle Limbear	Alive And Breathing
9	Tasha Layton	Into The Sea
10	Gawvi	Not Too Far
11	Hope Darst	Peace Be Still
12	Kari Jobe Feat. Cody Cames	The Blessing
13	Courtnie Ramierez	Who We Are
14	Danny Gokey	Love God, Love People
15	We Are Messengers	Love
16	We The Kingdom	God So Loved
17	Corey Asbury	The Father's House
18	KB	Armies
19	Ryan Stevenson	Amadeo (Still My God)
20	Elizabeth Grace	Chasing Quiet

DRT GLOBAL ROCK

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Bad Wolves	Sober
2	Five Finger Death Punch	A Little Bit Off
3	The Black Keys	Shine A Little Light
4	Korn	Can You Hear Me
5	Asking Alexandria	Antisocialist
6	Highly Suspect	These Days
7	Falling In Reverse	Popular Monster
8	The Pretty Reckless	Death By Rock And Roll
9	JJ Savage	Junkyard Dogs
10	The Killers	Caution
11	Weezer	Hero
12	Dr. Blackman	Bernie's Revolution (Let There Be Peace)
13	Volbeat	Leviathan
14	Rocky Kramer	Comfortably Numb
15	Corey Feldman	U R Free
16	Pearl Jam	Superblood Wolfmoon
17	Bad Wolves	Killing Me Slowly
18	Bush	Flowers On A Grave
19	Skillet	Save Me
20	Biffy Clyro	Instant History

DRT GLOBAL GOSPEL / INSPIRATIONAL

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	We The Kingdom	Holy Water
2	MercyMe	Almost Home
3	Cory Asbury	The Father's House
4	Big Daddy Weave	l Know
5	Mathew West	The God Who Stays
6	Micah Tyler	Amen
7	I Am They	No Impossible With You
8	Elevation Worship	See A Victory
9	Charles Jenkins	Keep The Faith
10	Michael W. Smith	Waymaker

DRT GLOBAL ADULT CONTEMPORARY

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Harry Styles	Adore You
2	The Weeknd	Blinding Lights
3	Dua Lipa	Don't Start Now
4	Post Malone	Circles
5	Maroon 5	Memories
6	Lewis Capaldi	Before You Go
7	Doja Cat	Say So
8	Maren Morris	The Bones
9	Dua Lipa	Break My Heart
10	Billie Eilish	Everything I Wanted
11	Alicia Keys	Underdog
12	Jonas Brothers	Sucker
13	Dua Lipa	Physical
14	Jonas Brothers	Only Human
15	Justin Bieber featuring Quavo	Intentions
16	Katy Perry	Daisies
17	Saint Jhn	Roses
18	Ava Max	Kings and Queens
19	Jonas Brothers	What A Man Gotta Do
20	Sam Fischer	This City

DRT GLOBAL COUNTRY

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
1	Luke Combs featuring Eric Church	Does To Me
2	Carly Pearce and Lee Brice	I Hope You're Happy Now
3	Keith Urban	God Whispered Your Name
4	Scotty McCreery	In Between
5	Miranda Lambert	Bluebird
6	Kenny Chesney	Here And Now
7	Morgan Wallen	Chasin' You
8	Sam Hunt	Hard To Forget
9	Luke Bryan	One Margarita
10	Carrie Underwood	Drinking Alone
11	Justin Moore	Why We Drink
12	Blake Shelton featuring Gwen Stefani	Nobody But You
13	Thomas Rhett featuring Jon Pardi	Beer Can't Fix
14	Locash	One Big Country Song
15	Florida Georgia Line	I Love My Country
16	Chris Janson	Done
17	Gabby Barrett	l Hope
18	Kane Brown	Cool Again
19	Tim McGraw	I Called Mama
20	Jake Owen	Homemade

POS	ARTIST	SONG TITLE
11	Pastor Todd Curry	He's Worthy
12	Standard Of Praise	Strength (Song of Solomon Chapter 9)
13	Paula and Angie	When God Says Move
14	Miz Tiffany	I'm Souled
15	TobyMac	Edge Of My Seat
16	Spiritually Anointed	Fighting For
17	Steve Markoff	If I Could Reach Your Heart
18	DVO	I'll Find My Way
19	Cochren & Co	One Day
20	Pastor Mike Jr.	Big

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Lorretta Lynn

How a Honky Tonk Girl Became Country Music Royalty

"To make it in this business, you either have to be first, great or different," says living legend Loretta Lynn. "And I was the first to ever go into Nashville, singin' it like the women lived it."

By Robin Tanner

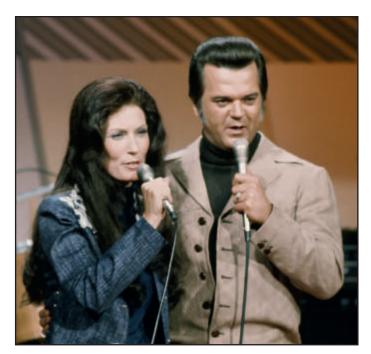
oretta first arrived in Nashville sixty years ago, signing her first recording contract on February 1, 1960, and within a matter of weeks, she was at her first recording session. A self-taught guitarist and songwriter, Lynn became one of the most distinctive performers in Nashville in the 1960s and 1970s, shaking things up by writing her own songs, many of which tackled boundarypushing topics drawn from her own life experiences as a wife and mother.

In addition to being "first," she was also "great" and "different." Loretta Lynn's instantly recognizable delivery is one of the greatest voices in music history. As for "different," no songwriter has a more distinctive body of work. In lyrics such as *Don't Come Home A- Drinkin'* and *Your Squaw Is on the War Path* she refused to be any man's doormat. She challenged female rivals in *You Ain't Woman Enough* and *Fist City*. She showed tremendous blue-collar pride in *Coal Miner's Daughter* and *You're Lookin' at Country*. She is unafraid of controversy, whether the topic is sex (*Wings Upon Your Horns*), divorce (*Rated X*), alcohol (*Wouldn't It Be Great*) or war (*Dear Uncle Sam*). *The Pill*, her celebration of sexual liberation, was banned by many radio stations. Like the lady herself, Loretta Lynn's songs shoot from the hip.

As millions who read her 1976 autobiography or saw its Oscar winning 1980 film treatment are aware, Loretta is a "Coal Miner's Daughter" who was raised in dire poverty in a remote Appalachian Kentucky hamlet. Living in a mountain cabin with seven brothers and sisters, she was surrounded by music as a child.



Lorretta Lynn pictured here in an earlier snapshot with her late husband, Oliver "Doolittle" Lynn (affectionately known as "Doo.")



For twelve consecutive years, Lorretta Lynn and Conway Twitty were nominated for 'Vocal Duo of the Year'

"I thought everybody sang, because everybody up there in Butcher Holler did," she recalls. "Everybody in my family sang. So I really didn't understand until I left Butcher Holler that there were some people who couldn't. And it was kind of a shock." She famously married Oliver "Doolittle" Lynn when she was thirteen. "Doo" was a 21-year-old war veteran with a reputation as a hell raiser. When Loretta was seven months pregnant with her first child, they moved far away from Appalachia to Custer, Washington. By age eighteen, she had four children (two more, twins, came along in 1964).

Isolated from her native culture and burdened with domestic work, she turned to music for solace.

"Before I was singing, I cleaned house; I took in laundry; I picked berries. I worked seven days a week. I was a housewife and mother for fifteen years before I was an entertainer. And it wasn't like being a housewife today. It was doing hand laundry on a board and cooking on an old coal stove. I grew a garden and canned what I grew. That's what's real. I know how to survive."

Doo heard her singing at her chores and declared that she sounded just as good as anyone he heard on the radio. He bought her a guitar and told her to learn how to play it and write songs with it. Loretta says her songs were so forthright because she didn't know any better.

"After he got me the guitar, I started writing about things that happened. I was writing about things that nobody talked about in public, and I didn't realize that they didn't. I was having babies and staying at home. I was writing about life. That's why I had songs banned."

Doo began pushing her to perform in area nightclubs. Executives from Zero Records heard her in a nightspot. She soon recorded her debut single, *I'm a Honky Tonk Girl*, for the little label. Loretta made herself a fringed his old Mercury sedan promoting the single at station after station.

charts in the summer of 1960 and brought the couple to Music City. She began singing regularly on the Grand Ole Opry after her debut on Oct. 15, 1960. The Wilburn Brothers took her under their wings. They took a tape of her singing Fool #1 to producer Owen Bradley at Decca Records. Owen liked the song, but was already working with Kitty Wells, Goldie Hill, Brenda Lee and Patsy Cline and said he didn't need another female singer. Teddy told him that he couldn't have the song if he didn't sign its singer. As a result, Brenda had a smash pop hit with *Fool* #1, and Loretta got a Decca Records contract.

cowgirl outfit, and she and Doo drove across the country in You have to be in the right place at the right time. And I think Loretta was standing right there."

"Most of my songs were from the women's point of Astonishingly, it worked. The disc hit the popularity view," Loretta wrote in her best- selling autobiography. "That's who I'm singing about and singing to during my shows. And the girls know it...Most of my fan club is women, which is how I want it."

> In 1967, she began picking up various 'Female Vocalist of the Year' trophies. She and Conway Twitty also won a long string of 'Duet of the Year' awards beginning in 1971, The industry showered her with BMI songwriting honors, Gold Record plaques, a Grammy Award and other accolades. In 1972, she became the first woman in history to win the Country Music Association's 'Entertainer of the Year' trophy.

> > One of the most remarkable things about Loretta Lynn is how she renews her creativity time and again. Two years after she was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1983, she was back on the charts with the hit, Heart Don't Do This to Me. In 1988, the year she entered the Country Music Hall of Fame, Loretta recorded with K.D. Lang. She earned a Gold Record in 1994 with "Honky Tonk Angels," a trio CD with Dolly Parton and Tammy

> > Doo died in 1996. Numb with grief, Loretta admits that she was lost in a fog for more than a year. But she came back again with a 2000 CD titled "Still Country." She also returned to the concert trail. "It's a good thing, too," she says. "Because if I hadn't, I would have been completely nuts."



Like everyone else who encountered her, Owen Bradley was smitten with Loretta's innocence, individualism, infectious wit, independent spirit, humorous candor, refreshing frankness and immense talent. In fact, he came to regard her as "the female Hank Williams."

Loretta's Decca chart debut came with 1962's Success. It became the first of her 51 top-10 hits and led to an invitation to join the Grand Ole Opry cast later that year. Her fellow Opry cast member Patsy Cline taught her how to dress, style her hair and wear make-up. The Wilburns began featuring her on their nationally syndicated TV series. She sang a series of sassy domestic ditties with her childhood hero, Ernest Tubb. As a solo, she hit her stride with Wine, Women and Song (1964) and Happy Birthday (1965), both of them feisty, don't-step-on-me numbers.

"She's the spokesman for the ladies," observed the late Owen Bradley. "Loretta had a lot of different ideas, and they were very fresh. Women's lib was also coming on at that time. "Wouldn't It Be Great" communicates in song the hard truths

Loretta published a second memoir, "Still Woman Enough," in 2002. She was honored at The Kennedy Center in 2003, yet pushed forward again the following year by winning two Grammy Awards for Van Leer Rose, a collaboration with rocker Jack White.

Wynette.

In March 2016, Legacy Recordings released "Full Circle," Loretta's first new studio album in over ten years. Produced by Patsy Lynn Russell and John Carter Cash, and recorded at the Cash Cabin Studio in Hendersonville, Tennessee, "Full Circle" took listeners on a journey through Loretta's musical story, from the Appalachian folk songs and Gospel music she learned as a child, to new interpretations of her classic hits and Country standards, to songs newlywritten for the project.

Legacy Recordings (a division of Sony Music Entertainment) released "Wouldn't It Be Great," which is one of the most deeply personal albums of Loretta Lynn's career. and spiritual insights Loretta has gathered throughout her life Wilbu and reflects the resilience that sustains her still. Comprised West. entirely of songs written (or co-written) by Loretta, the album *I Fall* premieres new compositions alongside soulful produce reinterpretations of enduring classics from her catalog. "This record meant so much to me, but I had to focus on my health and I decided to hold up the release," said Loretta. In 2018, "Wouldn't It Be Great was finally released! It was really important for me to be a part of it being released and was excited to celebrate with everybody!"

Loretta, who is 88, has been staying home during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Lynn is considered most at risk and vulnerable from the coronavirus because of stroke and a broken hip from the last three years Loretta tells Billboard. "Yeah, we've been quarantined," she says. "It's the damnedest thing I ever seen."

The timing is regrettable. Lynn had a handful of national promotional opportunities on the calendar before the pandemic got in the way, to support a new book, "Me & Patsy: Kickin' Up Dust - My Friendship With Patsy Cline." Written with daughter Patsy Lynn Russell, the book explores the coal miner's daughter's relationship with Cline, but also traces the influence of husband Oliver "Mooney" Lynn, producer Owen Bradley (Conway Twitty, Ernest Tubb), former managers The

Wilburn Brothers and fellow Grand Ole Opry member Dottie West. In addition, Legacy released a Lynn remake of Cline's *I Fall to Pieces* on April 3. Russell and John Carter Cash produced the track with an all-star cast of musicians at the Cash Cabin Studio, the same location where Johnny Cash cut *Hurt*.

During the Quarantine and all the unrest in the nation, Loretta took to social media with some encouraging words. "I was taught that you treat others the way you want to be treated," Lynn said "That simple truth has served me well my whole life. As I've watched the pain and the hurt so many are in right now, I've just prayed for our country. We need God now, more than ever."

broken hip from the last three years Loretta tells Billboard. "Yeah, we've been quarantined," she says. "It's the damnedest thing I ever seen." The timing is regrettable. Lynn had a handful of national promotional opportunities on the calendar before the broken hip from the last three years Loretta tells Billboard. Loretta shared on her Facebook page, "Well we can't let all this time at home go to waste, so I worked on a new project. I've still got a lot to give and I'd rather be working than anything! Best part was having my four kids all at home with me for the day. A momma's love never stops! Stay tuned!"

www.lorrettalynn.com



C/SHBOX

MUSIC Charts Christian Country Top 100

			_	-	
POS	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	POS	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
1	Rosie	Chuck Hancock	51	Hammer Down	Jerry Branscomb
2	Take Care Of Superman	Greg McDougal	52	Don't Give Up	John Penney
3	I Can't Leave The Cross	Heather Thomas Van Deren	53	That's Where Faith Steps In	Debbie Bennett
4	Fit For A King	Gene Watson	54	That's Heaven For Me	Bruce Haynes
5	Stand Up For The Flag, Kneel At The Cross	Terry Davis	55	He's Having The Time Of My Life	Jerry Day
6	What A Beautiful Day	Waymasters	56	Redemption Road	Stephen Rew
7	In The Shadow Of The Cross	James Payne	57	He Even Loves Me When I Fall	Greg & Brooke Day
8	Let's Put God Back In America	Steve Warren	58	Don't Weep For Me	Ava Kascich
9	Let The Blood Do The Talkin'	Mike Wellman	59	Bible On My Dash	Michael Knight
10	Love Ain't Love Till We Give It Away	Jan Harbuck	60	Going To The Promiseland	Troy Richardson
11	The Day John Williams Lost Religion	Donna Kilmurray	61	I'm Gonna Miss Me	Jenna Faith
12	Hanging On A Nail	Marvin Harrell	62	I Talk To God	Mary Burk
13	I'll Be At Home	Mike Walker	63	Chasing After You	Brittany Morse
14	He Didn't Throw The Clay Away	Gene Reasoner	64	What A Prayer Can Do	Chris Holder & Journey
15	l Found Out	Danny Thomas	65	Pray For An Angel	Andrew Marshall
16	Tears In The Darkness	David House	66	I Won't Turn Around	The Carter Family Band
17	l Turn To You	The Reed Brothers	67	Laugh Often	Kali Rose
18	You Gotta Fight This Fight	Troy Richaredson	68	Great Homecoming Day	David Smith
19	Living For Jesus	Bruce Hedrick	69	Fearfully And Wonderfully Made	The Journeys
20	Run Too Far	Sam Smith	70	Meet Me In Heaven	Just Once Band
21	Thank You Lord For This Day	Chris Golden	71	Goin' Up	Kenneth Cole
22	Strange Wind Blowin	Chuck Day	72	Back Of The Church	Jerry Salley
23	I love To Tell The Story	Mary James	73	Higher Than The Heavens	Band Reeves
24	Not Just A Cross In The Ground	Mike Leichner	74	In The Cool Of The Day	Miles Pike
25	Talk To Jesus	Bob Davidson	75	Middle Man	Kelly Coberly
26	Highest Hill	Terry & Debra Luna	76	Singing Rock Of Ages	Judy Bailey
27	Thank A Soldier	Ron Hemphill	77	Feels Like The World Is On Fire	Bonita Eileen
28	Table Of A King	Tim Livingston	78	When I Rise Again	Appointed2
29	Why Don't We Pray	Perfectly Broken	79	No Sin Greater	Ty Hodges
30	In Times Like These	Fred Spencer	80	Little Talk With Jesus	Tonja Rose
31	Are You Washed In The Blood Of The Lamb		81	Hear My Prayer	David White
32	A Day	Carol Barham	82	Me And Jesus	Bill Green
33	He Is There	Jim Sheldon	83	Jesus Loves You	Arlie Neville
34	I Just Want To Thank You	Lulu Roman	84	The Price	Bill Baker
35	I Can't Blame No One But Me	Cooke Bothers	85	My Friend	Courtney and Camille
36	Regardless	Lisa Daggs	86	A Glimpse Of The Other Side	Kelly Kenning
37	This Is Where Jesus Would Go	Sonshine Road	87	What I did Today	Jack Gafford
38	The Rock And The Rose	Paul Tuttle	88	The Lost Sheep	Eagles Wings
39	Mary Cried	New Salem	89	Jesus Proved His Love	Chronicles
40	I Know Who I Am	Allen Frizzell	90	You Can't Shack Up With The Devil	Hunter Logan
40	Preacher's Daughter	Pardoned	91	That's What I Do	Ronnie Horton
42	All My Hope	Tina Wakefield	92	Just As Blessed	Josh & Ashley Franks
42	l've Been Healed	The Cupps	92 93	Preachin' To The Choir	Julie Reese
43 44	Memories	Cori & Kelly	93 94	Johnny and June	Johnny Jones
45	Keep On Your Journey	Donna Morgan	95	New Oil (Holy Ghost Fire)	Kesha Parish
	. ,	Kristina Cornell	95 96		
46 47	Turn To The Rock How To Live	Cindy Hughlett	96 97	The People In The Line Pretty	True Heart Music Jamie Lynn Flanakin
47 48	Jack Daniels (I Want My Money Back)	Ken Holloway	97 98	The Storm	Kane & Kelly
48 49	We Know	Jimmy R Price	98 99	God's Holy Spirit	Pam Blackstock
49 50	No One Will Ever Love Me		99 100	When The Good Lord Calls	Gemma Adams
20		Tammy Renee	100	when the Good Lofd Calls	Genina Audits

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CASHBOX MUSIC Charts Southern Gosnel Ton 100

Southern Gospel Top 100

POS	SONG TITLE	ARTIST	POS	SONG TITLE	ARTIST
1	A Song To Remind You	The Steeles	51	She's Been Praying Again	Aaron Wilburn
2	Yes	Triumphant Quartet	52	Behold The Lamb	Bowling Family
3	Those Same Hands	Gold City	53	Gods Up To Something	Donnie Rabon
4	I Remember The Fish	Greater Vision	54	Trusting And Depending	Chosen
5	It Never Gets Old	Perrys	55	We All Need A Savior	McKameys
6	Hear My Voice	Scotts	56	Going To The Promiseland	Troy Richardson
7	I Want To Say Thank You	Troy Burns Family	57	Stand And Fight On Your Knees	Ordained
8	Days Like This	Martins	58	Love Like I'm Leaving	Gaither Vocal Band
9	Til The End	Freemans	59	I Rest Assured	Poet Voices
10	A Brighter Day	Primitive Quartet	60	You Don't Wanna Miss This	Cana's Voice
11	No Place Like Home	Singing Cookes	61	He Believes In Me	John Lanier
12	I See Revival	Crabb Family	62	Beginning Again	Greg Sullivan
13	Forever Settled	Inspirations	63	Get Me There	Talleys
14	If God Pulled Back The Curtain	Nelons	64	Didn't I Walk On The Water	Shane Cruse
15	I Believe The Book	Legacy Five	65	I Got The Grace, He Gets The Glory	The Old Paths
16	When We All Get To Heaven B	ackwood Brothers Quartet	66	I Can't Blame No One But Me	Cooke Brothers
17	Tears On A Pew	Oxendine Family	67	Children Go Where I Send Thee	Down East Boys
18	The Day John William Lost Religion	Donna Kilmurray	68	Another Day	Ben McGalliard
19	I'm Saved	Hoppers	69	I Know He Lives	Tammy Norris
20	How About You	Whisnants	70	In Our Greatest Time Of Need	Tisha Todd
21	I'll Never Get Over The Blood That I'm Under	Kingdom Heirs	71	He Holds Everything	Michael Wayne Smith
22	The God I Serve	Karen Peck & New River	72	A Greater Healing	Melissa Evans
23	Good Mornin' Lord	Carroll Roberson	73	Some Sweet Day	Molded Clay Quartet
24	When You're Broken	Mark Dubbeld Family	74	When I Think Of Calvary	Violet Maynard Family
25	Its Only The Beginning	Bev McCann	75	A Crown Of Thorns	Heirline
26	Lets Put God Back In America	Steve Warren	76	Follow Me To The Cross	Jim & Melissa Brady
27	Mary Cried	New Salem	77	Don't Weep for Me	Ava Kasich
28	Angels Sing My Victory Song	Sunday Drive	78	This Is Where Jesus Would Go	Sonshine Road
29	Trust God's Heart	Perfect Grace	79	Hold On My Child	New Beginning
30	Jesus Proved His Love	Chronicle	80	What A Prayer Can Do	Chris Holder & Journey Home
31	Grace Became Amazing	Gordon Mote	81	Go Down Again	Wisecarvers
32	I Still Trust You	Nortons	82	The Light Of Home	Trinity Heirs
33	Vision	MaHarreys	83	Feels Like The World Is On Fire	Bonita Eileen
34	l Know Who I Am	Allen Frizzell	84	My God Is Real	Destiny Herring
35	Oh The Lord Has Been Good To Me	Dennis Jolly	85	Just As Blessed	Josh & Ashley Franks
36	I Just Want To Thank You	Lulu Roman	86	One Day I'll Rise	Kingsway Quartet
37	Let God Be Glorified	Ricky Luster	87	Who He Says He Is	Messiah's Call
38	Without Jesus	Brian Free & Assurance	88	The Blood	New Swansilvertones
39	God Has Provided Himself A Lamb	Mark Tammell Quartet	89	Audience Of One	Rescued
40	Well Done My Child	Adam Crabb	90	I Will Glory In The Story	Austin & Etan Whisnant
41	My Lord's Gonna See Me Through	Singing Echoes	91	I Came Through Another Storm	Reborn
42	Mountain Moving God	David Clay	92	The Perfect Storm	Jordan Amburn & Adoration
43	Can I Get a Witness	The Sound	93	For Your Glory	Battle Cry
44	Learning To Dance In The Rain	Jeff & Sheri Easter	94	Heaven	Soul'd Out Quartet
45	He Is There	Jim Sheldon	95	Turn To The Rock	Kristina Cornell
46	The Healer Hasn't Lost His Touch	Tribute Quartet	96	Happy Glad Day	Heart 2 Heart
47	Master's Touch	Fowler Family	97	Water Walker	Kramers
48	He'll Get Us To The Shore	Webster Brothers	98	Standing In The Need Of Prayer	Darrell Luster
49	There is A God	Hyssongs	99	He Won't Leave You There	Phillips & Banks
50	The Mighty Hand	Keith McKinney	100	Nothing But	Three Bridges



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McKay Project



Michael Knight







percer

Fred Spencer, a native of West Portsmouth, Ohio, has a deep musical heritage of Bluegrass/Bluegrass Gospel. Rightly so, having a father who was an avid musician and singer, as well as an uncle (Roy Lee Centers) who sang with Bluegrass legend, Dr. Ralph Stanley.

By Deborah Baliles

would become Dry Run Mission in Portsmouth, pastored by his uncle, David Distel. Not a big church by number but serving a real big God. Fred cherishes fond memories of the Holy Spirit outpouring.

Amazing salvation through Jesus Christ is the greatest reward of Fred's life. "I've been so blessed to share the stage with the most amazing talents in music, yet, nothing compares to being a child of the King. A blended career life with giving my life to Jesus is the absolute perfect position to share the greatest story ever told. Nothing have I done to deserve these blessed opportunities, wholly unmerited favor of the Lord."

Being a drummer in high school found Fred, along with two other school friends, forming the Gospel band, Altar Of Prayer (1987-1989). Joined by mother, father, and cousin, Lennie Centers, the Fred Spencer Bluegrass Gospel Band was formed in 1989. With Fred playing bass and singing baritone/tenor, the band had an eleven-year success story of touring countless Gospel and Bluegrass venues across the country, playing alongside longtime friends, The Isaacs. The untimely death of Fred's father would close this music chapter.

Without hesitation, Fred's deepest struggle was losing his father, Fred, Sr. "Losing my father was one of the hardest things that life has ever dealt. Many obstacles come up against us in our lives, remembering some that I have gone through. However, nothing could have prepared me to say goodbye to to family friend, Joe Isaacs. Esteem for Joe's purity of heart

Vinding Christ at age thirteen, Fred's home church my father. My father lived a Godly life. Yes, without a doubt, dad is in the presence of our Lord. Still, most will relate to the difficulty of trying to go on without a parent(s). Praise be to God; I cling firmly to His promise of one day being reunited with my father and all those gone on before."



Early photo of Fred with Country Music legends, Jack Green (left) and Charley Pride (center)

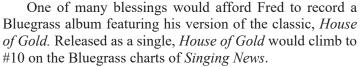
Fred's strong faith and inspiration, in part, are credited

has flourished the songwriting creativity in Fred. Joe wrote, *The Garden Tomb*, one of Fred's favorite songs recreating the visual of a very real event and our very real, risen Savior.

Ever encouraging him to pursue Gospel music, Joe #10 on the Bluegrass charts of *Singing News*. remained that Christian confidant throughout Fred's Country music career. Those moments have been Fred's motivation to step out in better serving the Lord. #10 on the Bluegrass charts of *Singing News*. Fred's latest single, *In Times Like These* was penned shortly after 9/11 while living in Nashville, Tennessee. "I believe there will be no better time than now for this song to

A dream of playing on stage at the Grand Ole Opry became a reality in 2000. Fred played bass for Grand Ole Opry member and Country music legend, Jack Green until 2003. His talent and reputation are well represented in the music world by having performed with the likes of: Stella Parton, Julie Reeves, Larry Cordell, Melvin Goins, Mike Daniel, Brad Paisley, Rascal Flatts, Billy Ray Cyrus, and Ricky Skaggs. A tour with the Dalton Gang led to performing at the White House.

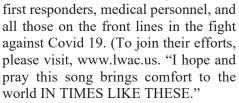
In addition to personal touring, Fred has most recently played at Dollywood's Harvest Fest alongside Candy & Jeremy, as well as played bass with Dr. Ralph Stanley's grandson, Nathan Stanley.



Fred's latest single, *In Times Like These* was penned shortly after 9/11 while living in Nashville, Tennessee. "I believe there will be no better time than now for this song to be heard. Our country and world are facing challenges as never before. This song speaks of pulling together and drawing closer to the only real hope – that hope is Jesus."

Fred recalls the exact place where the Lord spoke, "In times like these." Jotting this down, Fred called buddy, Jonathan McClanahan and roommate, Brandon Caserta to collaborate and author a song from these few words. Gathered in a small apartment, once finished, they knew something special had been created.

Fred dedicates this song to his partnering with the non-profit organization, Living With A Cause, an organization that feeds the hungry, funds medical/other needs, and honors those who have served and are serving – veterans,



Boldly proclaiming just one mission in life, Fred's desire is to share the Gospel of peace and love in reaching a lost world. He expresses these very simple expectations concerning all concerts and church services with him. "Always welcome will be the Holy Anointing and the freedom to worship our Savior. An open old-fashioned altar will be waiting for whosoever will. You never know what someone in a given audience is going through. It becomes no more about Fred Spencer, rather all about Jesus Christ."

www.fredspencer.net







By Deborah Baliles

For young Darrell, born in Durham, North Carolina, the last of fifteen children, music was a Luster family way of life. Darrell's equally talented and eldest brother Ronald would introduce him to Gospel music and become his music idol.

By the early 1980s, Darrell filled in for The Sensational Nightingales. During this time, he would come in close contact with Charles Johnson, the Nightingales' lead singer and songwriter. Charles would leave the 'Gales to form Charles Johnson and The Revivers, along with Darrell (and brother, Ricky) joining the group.

The Revivers began traveling in the Southern Gospel music circuit anticipating the challenges of being accepted and of singing to predominantly white audiences. Rather, the opposite would happen as the group ended up being well received and quite successful until the disband some ten years later. Their most memorable recorded song, *I Can't Even Walk Without You Holding My Hand*, climbed into the top five on Gospel music charts. Other charting hits for the group would include, *I Believe He Died for Me*, *I Know What Lies Ahead*, *Lord Send Me (I'll Go)*, and *Getting Ready to Go* (an original song Darrell wrote and pitched to The Dixie Echoes).

Darrell has also worked with The Soul Stirrers and The Highway QCs. Touring allowed Darrell to perform on some of the largest stages as well as travel to such places as Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Monte Carlo, Amsterdam, just to name a few. Darrell considers himself exceedingly blessed to have seen the world. But at the end of the road, what brings it home for him is the recompense of uplifted and saved souls along the way.

Even so, Darrell's love for music did not stop at singing and playing. Very early on, he was drawn to the business side of the music industry. He wanted to do it all - songwriting,

DARRELL LUSTER

"I know what lies ahead!"

Darrell Luster shines through his music, his personality, his talent, and as a businessman. By definition, "Luster" is the state of shining by reflecting light. Given this, even the name suggests that Darrell was destined to accomplish great things in life.

producing, publishing, copyrighting, etc. Darrell could not have fathomed that all of these learning paths would lead him to heading up one of the largest independent Gospel record companies in the world, Malaco Records, Jackson, Mississippi.

Broadcasting over sixty stations, worldwide, Darrell is the host of the Darrell Luster Radio Show.

Hard work, dedication, and determination have produced chart topping success for Darrell. In addition, credited to Darrell's writing and producing, he has been nominated for Grammy Awards, Stellar Awards, and a Dove Award. The Charlotte, North Carolina Group Image Awards honored Darrell with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Projects in the works for Darrell include his latest single, *It's Me, It's Me O Lord (Standin' in the Need of Prayer)*, already climbing in the charts. A soon to be released project, "God is Still in Control," serves as that reminder of a God that sits in Heaven above, and from His throne, looks low. Although at times it may not seem so, He was, He is, and He will always be in control!

Jesus told his disciples, "Let's board the ship and go to the other side." However, in the midst of the sea, a great storm arose. "Nevertheless, if Jesus says we are going to the other side, we are going to the other side. I don't care what happens on the way, or in the middle, I know what lies ahead!" exclaims Darrell.

"For all that my music touches, I have one unwavering purpose. That purpose is to introduce lost souls to Christ, all the while, encouraging the weary Christians. Know this well, God has not forgotten about us!"

www.malaco.com

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Reborn is founded on the word of God: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

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MUSIC FOR THE GOOD LIFE Top 50 Pick

SEPTEMBER 2020

SONG TITLE	ARTIST
Joy	Branded
Lost Sheep	Eagle's Wings
Calling All Angels	Brooke Lee
I Just Want To Thank You	Lulu Roman
Laugh Often	Kali Rose
Me And Jesus	Bill Green
Strange Wind Blowin	Chuck Day
l've Seen Enough	Nathan Areno
We Know	Jimmy R Price
Middle Man	Kelly Coberly
I Talk To God	Mary Burke
Singing Rock Of Ages	Judy Bailey
Times Like These	Conner Sweet
Heroes Are Human Too	Melanie Walker
Why Don't We Pray	Perfectly Broken
Feels Like This World Is On Fire	Bonita Eileen
Run Too Far	Sam Smith
Going To The Promise Land	Troy Richardson
Stand By Me	Kesha Parish
No Sin Greater	Ty Hodges
God Whispered Your Name	Keith Urban
Un Common Man	Dallas Remington
I'm Gonna Miss Me	Jenna Faith
Don't Weep For Me	Ava Kasich
God Lives	Lisa Daggs

SONG TITLE	ARTIST
How To Live	Cindy Hughlett
It's Gonna Be Different	David House
Come On Down	Bary Lee White
I Calle Mama	Tim McGraw
Born Enough	Royel Clark
I Stand With This Country	Carl Ray
Mary Cried	New Salem
A Glimpse Of The Other Side	Kelly Kenning
The Rock And The Rose	Paul Tuttle
Ease My Troubled Mind	Dwain Merser
I Serve A Mighty God	Beck Braun
Be A Light	Thomas Rhett
God Made A Farmer	Kyle Park
Best Job I Ever Had	Jake Hoot
I Need More Of You	Wyatt Nations
Let The Blood Do The Talkin'	Mike Wellman
Table Of The King	Tim Livingston
The Price	Bill Baker
My Refuge	The Murphys
I'll Be There	Randy Brooks
In The Shadow Of The Cross	James Payne
Father Forgive Me	Michael Knight
Your Son	Chris Golden
Wishing Well	Gena Roberts Hamilton
Build Me A Daddy	Luke Bryan

Wishing a speedy recovery to Mike McClain...The best producer in the business! Thanks so much to radio for 17 consecutive top ten Country Gospel songs! All glory to God!

TERRY DAVIS

Special thanks to DJs for playing my music. Thanks DJs and fans for making *"Stand Up For The Flag, Kneel For The Cross"* **#5** on the Cashbox Christian Country Top 100! (on Canyon Creek Records Comp #46) Thanks to songwriters Mike Owens and Randy Fowler for a great song!



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

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

By Robin Tanner

Justin Townes Earle

1982 - 2020

Justin Townes Earle was the son of Steve Earle. Born in Nashville, Earle was named after songwriter Townes Van Zandt.



Nashville bands: the Distributors, a rock band, and a ragtime and bluegrass combo the Swindlers. Earle spent some time as guitarist and keyboardist for his father's touring band the Dukes. He released his first EP, "Yuma," in 2007, and went on to deliver Charlie Daniels full-length LPs eight throughout his career. His most recent release was 2019's

"The Saint of Lost Causes," which mixed everything from traditional Country, Blues and Folk to Western Swing, Roots-Rock and Boogie-Woogie. "I kind of see it the same way that maybe Gram Parsons did," he said of the record. "There's this idea of moving forward and playing with newer sounds and different modes, but at the same time making sure you keep one foot firmly planted in the past as you feel out the future. I think it's really important to leave a trail, you know? Put down some breadcrumbs behind you."

Earle addressed his connection to his musician father in another interview that same year, saying, "There are a lot of sons and daughters out there who want nothing to do with their parents. Get over it. You think you'd be doing what you're doing with no influence from your mother or father? But, even though it was tough, nobody will ever say that I rode my daddy's coattails. My daddy can't write like me, he can't play guitar like me. I can't write like him, and I don't want to play guitar like him. I think we've done five shows together in thirteen years since I started making records. We separated it hard from the beginning because he wanted me to stand on my own."

In September 2009, Earle received an Americana Music Award for 'New and Emerging Artist of the Year.' In 2011 Earle received the Americana Music Award in the 'Song of the Year' category for Harlem River Blues. The album accolades, including his induction into the Country Music

"Nothing's Gonna Change the Way You Feel About Me Now" was listed number 37 on Rolling Stone's list of the top 50 albums of 2012. Earle delivered a hybrid style of music mixing Folk, Blues and Country.

At age 38, his passing was confirmed Sunday night, Earle played in two August 23, by a statement released on his official Facebook page.

> "It is with tremendous sadness that we inform you of the passing of our son, husband, father and friend Justin," the statement reads. "So many of you have relied on his music and lyrics over the years and we hope that his music will continue to guide you on your journeys. You will be missed dearly Justin."

1936 - 2020

Charles Daniels was born on October 28th, 1936 in Wilmington, North Carolina. In 1967, after the invitation from producer Bob Johnston, he moved with his wife and their two-year-old son to Nashville, Tennessee, where he began session work including playing on Bob Dylan sessions.



He formed The Charlie Daniels Band in 1972 joining the first wave of Southern Rock bands.

Million Mile Reflections, the CDB's biggest release in 1979 yielded the single The Devil Went Down to Georgia, which reached #1 and won Daniels a Grammy for Best Country Vocal.

From his Dove Award-winning Gospel albums to his genre-defining Southern Rock anthems and his CMA Awardwinning Country hits, few artists have left a more indelible mark on America's musical landscape than Charlie Daniels. An outspoken patriot, beloved mentor, and a true road warrior, Daniels parlayed his passion for music into a multi-platinum career and a platform to support the military, underprivileged children, and others in need.

Over the course of his career, Daniels received numerous

Hall of Fame, the Musicians Hall of Fame and becoming a member of the Grand Ole Opry. Daniels helped to shine the spotlight on the many causes that are close to his heart. He was a staunch supporter of the military and gave his time and talent to numerous charitable organizations, including The Journey Home Project, that he founded in 2014 with his manager, David Corlew, to help veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

Charlie Daniels, The Country Music Hall of Fame and Grand Ole Opry member, passed away on Monday, July 6th, 2020 from a hemorrhagic stroke. He was 83. Charlie Daniels was loved, respected and a major influence on his many fans and peers. He was an entertainer, author, poet and patriot.

Charlie once stated in an interview, "I based my life on four things: God, family, my country, and work."

Peter Green

1946-2020

The English singer-songwriter and guitarist from Bethnal Green in East London formed Fleetwood Mac with drummer Mick Fleetwood in 1967. They came together after Green's stint filling in for Eric Clapton in John Mayall's Bluesbreakers. Green and Fleetwood then convinced John



McVie to join the band as bass guitarist, in part by naming the band Fleetwood Mac.

He wrote the instantly recognizable instrumental track *Albatross*, which remains the band's only number one hit, plus two other early hits, *Black Magic Woman* and *Oh Well*. And it was under Green's direction that they produced their first three albums. The band's debut album was

released in 1968. Simply called "Fleetwood Mac," but also known as Peter Green's Fleetwood Mac, it gained widespread acclaim and reached number four in the charts.

Green was among the eight members of the band - along with Fleetwood, Stevie Nicks, Lindsey Buckingham, John McVie, Christine McVie, Danny Kirwan and Jeremy Spencer - who were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1998. The news of his death comes days after Fleetwood Mac announced they would release a retrospective box set documenting the band's early years between 1969 and 1974. Fleetwood posted a tribute to Green on Facebook, calling his former bandmate "my dearest friend."

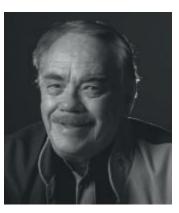
"For me, and every past and present member of Fleetwood Mac, losing Peter Green is monumental," Fleetwood wrote. "Peter was the man who started the band Fleetwood Mac along with myself, John McVie, and Jeremy Spencer. No one has ever stepped into the ranks of Fleetwood Mac without a reverence for Peter Green and his talent, and to the fact that music should shine bright and always be delivered with uncompromising passion!!! Peter, I will miss

you, but rest easy your music lives on," he added. "I thank you for asking me to be your drummer all those years ago. We did good, and trail blazed one hell of a musical road for so many to enjoy."

Fleetwood Mac co-founder and influential Blues Rock guitarist Peter Green died at the age of 73, his family's legal representatives confirmed of his passing on July 25th.

Bill Mack 1932-2020

Dubbed the "Dean of Country Music Disc Jockeys," according to CBS 19 in Dallas, Texas, Mack had his songs recorded by Ray Price and George Jones and George Strait. He wrote *Blue* in the late 1950s and originally performed it himself. It was LeAnnRimes' version, however - recorded in the early '90s, when she was 11



years old - that became a Top 10, gold-certified hit. Rimes' version of *Blue* won a Grammy for 'Best Female Country Vocal Performance.' It also took home 'Song of the Year' and 'Single of the Year' at the ACM Awards, and earned a 'Single of the Year' nomination at the CMAs.

Rimes turned to social media to share her thoughts on Mack's death, saying, "I am forever grateful for him and the music he created."

Outside of his songwriting career, Mack began his time as a DJ with Fort Worth station WBAP-FM in 1969. Over the years, he hosted a number of syndicated shows and spent time with SiriusXM. Mack hosted the syndicated radio show Country Crossroads, heard on more than 800 stations across the country, and a similar cable television show on FamilyNet. He also hosted the Overdrive Top Ten Countdown, a weekly one-hour Country music countdown geared toward truckers, in syndication.

Mack was a 1999 Texas Country Music Hall of Fame inductee and a Grand Ole Opry media award winner in 2000. The Texas Heritage Songwriters Association reports that Mack won more honors than any other Country music DJ in the world.

Mack lived in Fort Worth with his wife Cynthia. Together, they had three children - Smith, who is also a radio DJ, Misty Dawn and Sunday Renee - and several grandchildren. Mack is also the father of a daughter, Debbie, from a previous marriage.

Bill Mack passed away after contracting the novel coronavirus. Underlying conditions made the virus' effect on him fatal, Mack died on Friday morning, July 31, according to his son, Billy Mack Smith. He was 88 years old.

"He was an amazing father, grandfather, great grandfather and husband to my mom," Smith says in a tweet. "I'm blessed to have had not only a great dad but my best friend as well."

David Frizzell Celebrates 40th Anniversary Of You're The Reason God Made Oklahoma

Staff, 2911 Media



Early photo of Shelly West and David Frizzell.

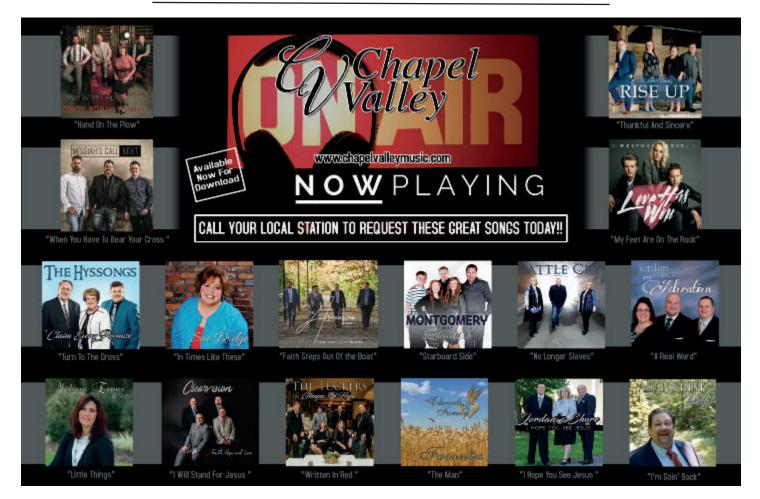
nominated hit-maker, David Frizzell celebrates the 40th anniversary of You're The Reason God voices in Country music with a Made Oklahoma, a duet with Shelly West which was released in 1980 and reached number one in 1981. Although turned down by countless labels, it was featured in Clint Eastwood's film "Any Which Way You Can," providing the boost needed to be heard. Once released, it shot to number one and secured a contract for the duo with Warner Brother Records. The duet was I'm Gonna Hire A Wino To Decorate even ranked in CMT's 100 Greatest Our Home. As producer of the popular Duets in country music, reaching Frizzell & Friends series of projects, number six.

"Thanks to my older brother Lefty for starting my musical journey and thanks to my younger brother Allen for introducing me to Shelly West and thanks to Shelly for using her amazing talents in singing You're The Reason tireless entertainer who continues to God Made Oklahoma. And a special thanks to Clint Eastwood for putting our song in his movie "Any Which throughout the world.

MA and ACM award Way You Can"... which, 40 years later winning and Grammy my musical journey continues" says David Frizzell.

> David Frizzell is one of the greatest haunting resemblance to his older brother, the ultimate stylist, Country Music Hall of Fame member Lefty Frizzell. Both share that raw, forlorn quality that is essential to the interpretation of traditional Country themes. Even during the duet years with Shelly West, David Frizzell continued his solo career as well with David brings together some of the top performers in the business for both live and recorded projects such as Crystal Gayle, T. Graham Brown, Johnny Lee, Lacy J. Dalton and more.

> David Frizzell is a timeless and share his many gifts to the delight of fans old and new across the US and



32 CASHBOX • SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2020



The Grand Ole Opry is s celebrating its 95th Birthday in October. It's "The Show That Made Country Music Famous" but It could also adopt the slogan, "The Show Must Go On." Since the Opry's 95 years, there have been over 4,940 consecutive shows. The Opry has stood the test of time and has been there every Saturday night even during the 2010 Nashville Flood and the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic. For the past six months, radio's longest-running show has aired without a live audience for the first time since 1925. At the same time, the Opry has increased the number of people who watch or listen to the show, averaging a weekly audience of more than 2 million across multiple media platforms.

What began as a simple radio broadcast in 1925 is today a live entertainment phenomenon. Dedicated to honoring Country music's rich history and dynamic present, the Grand Ole Opry showcases a mix of Country legends and the contemporary chart-toppers who have followed in their footsteps. The Opry - an American icon and Nashville, Tennessee's number-one attraction - is world-famous for creating one-of-a-kind entertainment experiences for audiences of all ages.

It's been called the "home of American music" and "Country's most famous stage." Every year, hundreds of thousands of people make their way across town or around the world to the Grand Ole Opry to see the show live. Millions more tune in to Opry broadcasts via a mobile app, SiriusXM Satellite Radio, Nashville's 650 AM WSM, Circle Network and the Opry website

From Philadelphia to Fiji, everyone knows the Grand Ole Opry is "the show that made Country music famous." How it earned that reputation is quite a tale.

It began on the night of Nov. 28, 1925, when an announcer on Nashville radio station WSM introduced fiddle player Uncle Jimmy Thompson as the first performer on a new show called "The WSM Barn Dance." Now, 95 years later, the show George D. Hayes started is still going strong. Along the way, it has launched countless Country music careers and led the way for Nashville to become Music City. Early Opry performers such as Roy Acuff, Minnie Pearl, Ernest Tubb, and Bill Monroe became musical foundations for the Opry during its years in residence at the historic Ryman Auditorium, later welcoming to the stage artists who would become entertainment icons in their own right including Loretta Lynn, Dolly Parton, and Bill Anderson.

The Opry said goodbye to the Ryman Auditorium on Friday, March 15, 1974 to take up residence at the newly built Grand Ole Opry House. The next night, President Richard Nixon joined Roy Acuff on stage at the Grand Ole Opry House. Still, they could keep in touch with the traditions of the Ryman because a six-foot circle of hardwood was taken from the Ryman and placed center stage at the Opry House.

Today the magic continues. Trace Adkins, Dierks Bentley, Vince Gill, Martina McBride, Brad Paisley, Ricky Skaggs, Marty Stuart, Alison Krauss, and Carrie Underwood are among the stars who are part of the Opry family. The Grand Ole Opry has recently welcomed, Luke Combs, Kelsea Ballerini, Mark Wills, Chris Janson, Gene Watson and Rhonda Vincent as their newest members. Thousands of people make pilgrimages every year to see and hear them, while millions tune in to enjoy the Grand Ole Opry.

www.opry.com

CASHBOX NEWS

and the Today Show

GRAMMY winning artist Chris Tomlin made his debut appearances on the Late Late Show with James Corden on August 19 and the Today Show on August 25, performing Thank You Lord with Thomas Rhett and Florida Georgia Line. Together the artists wrote the song for Chris' #1 debuting album "Chris Tomlin & Friends," released on July 31. "Thank You Lord is the perfect smash up of the Country and Christian genres and I am so grateful for the opportunity to share it," said Chris. "For me, this album is a step towards breaking down the walls of the Christian genre and allowing the music to be accessible to a wider audience. Music about faith, God, salvation, and forgiveness doesn't only have to come from the Christian genre. I have always said the album "Chris Tomlin & Friends" is more than a features record, it is a true collaboration, and these performances are a reflection of not only the shared vision but also the deep friendships with Thomas, BK, and Tyler."



The album's current radio single features Lady A. Who You Are To Me, has jumped to #9 on Billboard's Christian Airplay chart, becoming Chris' 29th top 10 single. This career feat gives Chris the most top 10 singles than any other Christian artist.

The 13 track project features Chris with multi-platinum, superstar duo Florida Georgia Line, who also executive produced the album, Lady A and Thomas Rhett as well as several of today's biggest Country music artists including Russell Dickerson, Chris Lane, RaeLynn, Cassadee Pope and Brett Young in addition to Bear Rinehart of NEEDTOBREATHE, Blessing Offor, and We The Kingdom.

Chris Tomlin Makes Debut Appearances on Late Late Show Garth Brooks Permanently Removes Himself from CMA **Entertainer of the Year Contention**

Garth Brooks is permanently removing himself from the running for CMA 'Entertainer of the Year.' The Country icon announced the news on July 29, during a press conference on his Facebook page with Media and Fans

Brooks explained that he began discussing the possibility of officially pulling himself out of the running for 'Entertainer of the Year' with the Country Music Association soon after the 2019 CMA Awards. Brooks won the award that night over, among others, Carrie Underwood and Eric Church,

"You pretty much saw

what happened after the CMAs, all the way through the new year. It got a little - it wasn't fun, let's put it that way," Brooks admitted. "But there was one tweet that really stuck in my head," he adds, explaining that the message asked Brooks to step down from contention for the honor in the future. Brooks 100



percent agreed with the idea. "The last thing I want to do is seem ungrateful," he notes, but "it's time for somebody else to hold that award... 'cause they're all out there busting their butts."

Throughout his career, Brooks has won CMA 'Entertainer of the Year' seven times: in 1991, 1992, 1997, 1998, 2016, 2017 and 2019. The singer considers seven his lucky number.

Brooks had hoped to share this decision during CMA Fest, if not earlier, but due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, he used the press conference to make the announcement ahead of the announcement of 2020 CMA Awards nominations. He clarifies, however, that he still would like to be considered for all other CMA Awards, and all ACM categories, including 'Entertainer of the Year.'

SHANE CRUSE

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Tina Turner is Back!

At 80 years old Tina Turner has come out of retirement to release a Kygo remix of her 1984 hit, What's Love Got To Do With It. "What's Love Got To Do With It is one of my all-time favorite songs, and it feels surreal to get the opportunity to work with such a legendary artist," says Kygo.

This is the third time DJ/Producer Kygo has remixed a famous eighties song. It is almost a year since the remix of Whitney Houstons's major hit Higher Love was released, following the remix of Marvin Gaye's Sexual Healing in 2013. What's Love Got To Do With It also comes with a brand new music video.

Elton John's Debut Album Gets Reissue Treatment on 50th Anniversary of Troubadour Set

It has been 50 years since the Rocket Man blasted off with a spellbinding performance at the Troubadour, His career never came down. Elton John launched his name into the stratosphere that night, on Aug. 25, 1970, his gravity-defying feats at the piano memorably captured in the 2019 Rocketman biopic. To celebrate

the occasion, a limited-edition release of the pop superstar's debut self-titled U.K. album will be issued as a Record Store Day exclusive.

The special deluxe gatefold double-LP edition of Elton John is available now, on what will mark its halfcentury anniversary. Elton's reissue will be pressed on transparent purple vinyl. Disc one features the 2016



remaster of the original LP, and disc two will carry a selection of bonus tracks off the 2008 CD Deluxe Edition, which has never been release on vinyl, until now, plus two previously unreleased demos of Border Song and Bad Side Of The Moon. For fans who crave more, the original Elton John LP will also be released Oct. 30 as a limited-edition gatefold 1LP gold 180-gram vinyl, with download code.

Luke Combs Ties the Knot

Luke Combs is a married man. The Country star tied the knot with his fiancée, Nicole Hocking, on Saturday August 1, 2020.

People reports that the pair wed at their home in southern Florida, with their family present for the big moment. "Despite the threat of a hurricane, the couple had a lovely intimate ceremony and will be celebrating with friends and family in the new year," a representative for the couple shares.



The newlyweds first started dating in 2016, when Combs was just an up-and-coming musician. In fact, at the time, he had no publishing deal, no record deal, and no booking deal.

"Everybody was like, 'Yeah, this is never gonna work,'" he adds, "and so I didn't have anything when we met."

With some ingenuity and careful strategizing, Combs employed his musical talents to win Hocking over, particularly with the song, *Beautiful Crazy*, which he wrote for her. They got engaged in November of 2018 and, earlier this year, shared that their wedding plans were still on track despite the novel coronavirus pandemic.



Where Are They Now?

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

THIS EDITION: Corey Hart • Anne Murray

By Robin Tanner

Corey Hart

Corey Hart has sold over 16 million records worldwide by amassing nine consecutive U.S. Billboard Top 40 Hits while scoring an impressive 32 top 40 singles in his native Canada (Including 12 Top 10 Hits). He's Grammy Nominated as well as an ASCAP, multiple Juno and Quebec ADISQ award winner.

Corey's video *Sunglasses at Night* became a staple on MTV during the summer of 1984 and claimed the first ever Juno awarded in the 'Video of the Year' category that same



year. An interesting fact, Sunglasses At Night has been covered over 1000 times in every genre of music. His iconic debut single was an international sensation propelling young Hart to the summit of the Pop world.

His sophomore album, "Boy In The Box" achieved Diamond status certification (1 million plus sales) faster than any other Canadian

artist in history by spawning four hit singles lead by his classic anthem *Never Surrender* which spent nine weeks at number one in Canada, winning 'Single of the Year' at the Juno Awards in 1985.

Corey has performed in arenas from Montreal to Manila - from Tokyo to Toronto. Through the 80s and 90s he continued to release successful albums and write songs that resonated with a wide and appreciative audience.

In 1999, following the birth of his third daughter, Corey stepped away from his recording and touring career to raise his four children with wife, Julie Masse.

During his years away from the spotlight, Corey wrote and produced several songs for fellow Canadian superstar Celine Dion. In 2003, spearheaded by Sire Music's CEO Seymour Stein, Hart was offered a record label partnership with Warner Music Canada which he named Siena Records.

On June 3, 2014, after a 12-year hiatus from live work -Corey triumphantly returned to stage performing at a sold out hometown Montreal Bell Centre Arena billed as 'One Night - Three Decades of Music.' He also released his autobiography entitled "Chasing The Sun" that same evening. In 2014, he performed what was billed as a farewell show at Montreal's Bell Centre. "I've learned since that marathon concert to never, say never," he says. "When and if the opportunity feels right to play live again, I shall follow the call."

In 2016, Corey was inducted onto Canada's prestigious Walk of Fame. In 2019, Hart released his first studio album in over 20 years, produced by the legendary Bob Ezrin and embarks on a major arena tour across Canada and Asia - his first since the 1980s.

On March 17, 2019, Corey was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall Of Fame at the 2019 JUNO Awards. This is the highest honor a musician can receive in Canada. After selling over 16 million records around the world, landing nine consecutive singles on the U.S. Billboard and Cashbox Top 40 and eleven Top 10s in Canada



and receiving numerous accolades including Grammy nominations and ASCAP, ADISQ, SOCAN and Juno awards, Hart is recognized as one of Canada's most successful singer-songwriters.

Hart lives in The Bahamas with his four children (India, Dante, River, Rain) and wife Julie Masse. The couple celebrated 25 years together in 2019. In May 2020, Hart announced the release of a new version of his 1985 hit *Never Surrender*, with the lyrics updated to reflect a message of resilience and hope during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Anne Murray

For over forty years, Anne Murray's unique voice and heartwarming style have made her a household name. She led the way for a generation of Canadian divas, who have also conquered the world - Celine Dion, Shania Twain, K.D. Lang, Alanis Morissette and Sarah McLachlan. They all followed in her footsteps

Over the years, Anne's recordings have seldom been off the charts. She has sold close to 50 million albums and has won countless awards. However, Anne Murray is more than just a Canadian icon. Her warm voice and well-loved songs have become woven into the fabric of our lives. Anne's songs celebrate our important milestones - childhood, a first love, the wedding day, parenthood, and loss. They comfort us and inspire us; they bring joy and uplift us. Anne's songs are forever in our hearts.



Murray was signed to Capitol Records in 1969 to record "This Way Is My Way," which was released in the fall of 1969. It featured the single that launched her career, Snowbird, which became a No. 1 hit in Canada and on the U.S. charts as well, reaching No. 8 on the Billboard Hot 100 in 1970. It was also the first of her eight No. 1 Adult Contemporary hits. Snowbird was the first Gold record ever given to a Canadian artist in the United States. As one of the most successful female artists at that time, she became in demand for several television appearances in Canada and the United States.

After the success of Snowbird, she had a number of subsequent singles that charted both Pop and Country simultaneously. During the 1970s and 1980s, her hits included Kenny Loggins's *Danny's Song* that peaked at No. 7, *A Love Song, He Thinks I Still Care,* her all-time biggest Hot 100 hit *You Needed Me* (1978), *I Just Fall in Love Again, Shadows in the Moonlight, Broken Hearted Me,* The Monkees' 1967 No. 1 hit, *Daydream Believer, Could I Have This Dance* from the Urban Cowboy motion picture soundtrack, *Blessed Are the Believers, Another Sleepless Night*, The Grammy award winning hit, *A Little Good News*, along with Anne's other hits, *Just*

Another Woman in Love, Nobody Loves Me Like You Do, and Time, Don't Run Out on Me.

During the 1990s-2000s Anne recorded many albums including a live album in 1997, and in 1999 she released "What a Wonderful World," a platinum inspirational album, which went to No. 1 Contemporary Christian, No. 4 Country and No. 38 Pop. She released "Country Croonin" in 2002, the follow-up to her successful 1993 album, "Croonin"." In 2004, she released "I'll Be Seeing You" in Canada only, which features a collection of songs from the early 20th century to the mid-1940s. The 2005 American version, titled "All of Me," features a bonus disc containing many of her hit singles.

On October 10, 2007, Murray announced that she would embark on her final major tour. Murray's final public concert was held at the Sony Centre in Toronto on May 23, 2008. After being on tour for most of her adult life, Anne knew that 2009 was the right time to "stop and reflect." In typical Anne style, she and journalist, author and writing partner Michael Posner immersed themselves in researching and writing "All of Me," the story of Anne Murray's extraordinary 40-year career.

Murray has always kept ties with her hometown, Springhill, Nova Scotia. The Anne Murray Centre, located in Springhill, opened on July 28, 1989 and houses a collection of memorabilia from both her personal life and professional career in a series of displays. A registered Canadian charity, the Centre aims to foster tourism in the area and promote awareness of the music of Nova Scotia and Canada. All the revenue generated from its operation is used to provide employment for local people and for its ongoing maintenance.

Murray was involved in the construction of the Dr. Carson and Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill, Nova Scotia. She served as the honorary chair of the fundraising campaign to replace the town arena that collapsed after a peewee hockey game in 2002. Named for her parents, the Dr. Carson and Marion Murray Community Centre sports an NHL-size ice sheet with seating for 800 people, a walking track, multi-purpose room, community room with seating for up to 300, and a gym. The Dr. Carson and Marion Murray Community Centre has become an integral part of the Springhill community since opening on September 15, 2004.

Murray has also been involved in a variety of charitable organizations. In addition to being the Honorary National



Chairperson of the Canadian Save The Children Fund, she has served as a spokeswoman for many charities throughout her career - most recently Colon Cancer Canada. On May 20, 2009, Colon Cancer Canada launched the inaugural Anne Murray Charity Golf Classic. Over \$150,000 was raised through the event.

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RAMONA DIANE Keeping it Country!

My story starts with an old 33 record player, playing Country music. Daddy played along on his old guitar while momma sang. I was just three years old, but I remember it was the sweetest sound that a little girl could ever hear. The love of Country music was born in me right then and there.

After playing all over the West Coast I moved to Nashville, TN and played all the major venues such as Tootsies Orchid Lounge, Legends Corner, The Stage On Broadway, and The Nashville Palace - just to mention a few. I started working with record producer and songwriter Terry L. Nunley for his label, Fleetwood Records, where I have had some really great songs and videos released all over the world that have done really good for us!

I have performed on several TV and Radio shows such as The Grand Ole Hatchery, The Johnny Daniels Show, The

Dewdrop Jamboree, The Uncle Dave Macon Day, The Texas Troubadour Theatre, The Merle Travis Music Center. I also got to open for my friend Grand Ole Opry star the legendary Stonewall Jackson on the world-famous Midnight Jamboree. In addition, I am a feature artist with Radio Downtown Canada with John and have been a guest with my friends at NBRN Radio in Nashville, TN. several times.

One of my favorite memories is the night that I got to hang out backstage at the Ryman Auditorium with the great George Jones! I also got to hang out one night at Tooties Orchid Lounge with Grand Ole Opry star, the great Little Jimmy Dickens. I have worked with T. Graham Brown, Ken Mellons, the great rockabilly band Roy Kyle And The Hot Rod Cruisers, and many more including the Country Gospel International star, Steve Warren.

In closing, I want to thank God, the DJs, and my fans for all the support!

- Ramona

ramonadianemusic@gmail.com www.fleetwoodrecords.com





Sometimes good things are just meant to be - even when the odds are stacked against you. The universe swings in your favor, there is no rhyme or reason - it just happens. Like the way BJ Thomas came by the biggest song of his career, the song that was never meant to be recorded by him, a song that music fans of all genres continue to sing five decades later. Fate found a way - it always does.

> **BJ Thomas Celebrates the 50th Anniversary of** Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head

The story behind the song that almost wasn't

By Roxane Atwood

n the late 1960s a new movie was in the works. It was feel than the cinema loving public had ever experienced, "Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid." Paul Newman and Robert Redford were hired as the leads, and the songwriting dream team of Burt Bacharach and Hal David were brought on board to produce a music score completely different from the tension building, giddy-up, gunslinger gamut that fueled the western genre's formulaic scores of the past.

One scene, in particular, required something special. The now iconic scene in which Paul Newman gives up his horse for a fun frolic on a bicycle in order to impress his on camera love Katherine Ross needed a piece of music to co-exist with the visual to accentuate the carefree magic that Newman and Ross brilliantly created on screen.

After watching a playback of the sequence, Bacharach envisioned a song with a ukulele intro - a lighthearted beginning for a lighthearted moment. And even though the sun is shining brightly throughout the scene, the words raindrops keep fallin' on my head echoed in his mind.

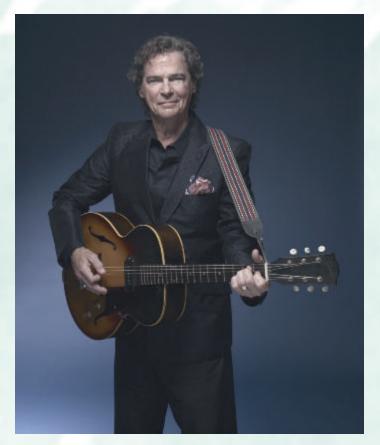
And so the song Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head slated to be a contemporary western with a different was conceived. But who would sing this whimsical ditty with the nonsensical lyrics just like the guy whose feet are too big for his bed, nothin' seems to fit? And would an audience watching a western accept this song - not underneath the bicycle sequence with dialogue to cover it, but up full with no dialogue to carry it - and almost in its entirety?

For an artist, Bacharach approached his first choice -Ray Stevens - who was fresh off the hit Guitarzan. Ray flew out to LA to meet with Burt, but it is reported that upon hearing the song, Ray hated it and turned Burt down flat opting instead to record the Kris Kristofferson penned song Sunday Morning Coming Down. Years later, in hindsight, Ray admitted that his public image probably wasn't conducive to singing about being stoned on a Sunday morning. He knew he made a bad choice when Johnny Cash took Sunday Morning Coming Down to #1 in the charts a year after his own release.

Still no singer, and the movie release was not far away.

It was rumored that Bob Dylan was also offered the chance to record Raindrops but also declined. That was when

Burt approached BJ Thomas who was flying high from his hit *Hooked On A Feeling*. BJ loved the lighthearted feel of the song and jumped at the chance to work with the award winning team of Burt Bacharach and Hal David who had written monster hits for his label mate Dionne Warwick on Sceptor Records. Bacharach and David were responsible for Dionne's *Walk On By* and *I'll Never Fall In Love Again*.



However, when BJ flew to Los Angeles to record *Raindrops*, he had an acute case of laryngitis. He could not believe his bad timing, but on the seventh attempt at a vocal, Bacharach said he heard what he wanted. He liked the raspiness of BJ's voice.

The board of 20th Century Fox hated the song and told Bacharach so. But Bacharach held firm. It is reported that actor Robert Redford, upon seeing the edited version on film, also hated the song and said it did not belong in a western

movie. But when it came to music, Redford's opinion didn't matter. When *Raindrops* was released to radio in October of 1969, two months ahead of the movie release, it got a lukewarm reception from radio. DJs did not know what to do with it. Was it Country? Was it Pop? Was the production supposed to be so simple?

But on the night of the movie premiere, when the crowd saw the scene with Paul Newman on the bicycle and heard *Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head*, the audience reaction was explosive. The people loved it.

Propelled by the momentum of the movie which became an instantaneous fan favorite, BJ's record took off, and on January 3, 1970, *Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head* became the first #1 record of the new decade where it remained in the top spot for four consecutive weeks and crossed to the top spot on Adult Contemporary charts where it lingered at #1 for seven weeks. By mid-March, BJ's *Raindrops* sold over two million copies with record sales between 200,000 and 300,000 records a day.

In one of the biggest moments of his career, BJ Thomas was asked to perform his song on the 1970s Academy Awards show. Although he was nervous at the extravagant production, he was not surprised that *Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head* took home the 1970 Oscar for 'Best Original Song.' Complete Success! 100% validation!

So Happy 50th Anniversary to *Raindrops*! The song has proven itself evergreen with 50 years of radio airplay and appearances in movies and television that have crossed the generations. From Phyllis George singing *Raindrops* in her talent competition to win Miss America to musically enhancing Forrest Gump, Gremlins, The Simpsons, Family Guy, and Spider Man 2.

Against all odds, BJ Thomas found his signature song that has traveled by his side like a best friend for the past five decades. BJ was not the first choice to sing *Raindrops*. He almost couldn't sing the song because of laryngitis. Studio executives at 20th Century hated the song, and radio program directors didn't know what to do with it. But just like the glass slipper found its way to Cinderella's foot, *Raindrops* and BJ Thomas were a perfect fit.

The people spoke, and fate found its way. It always does.

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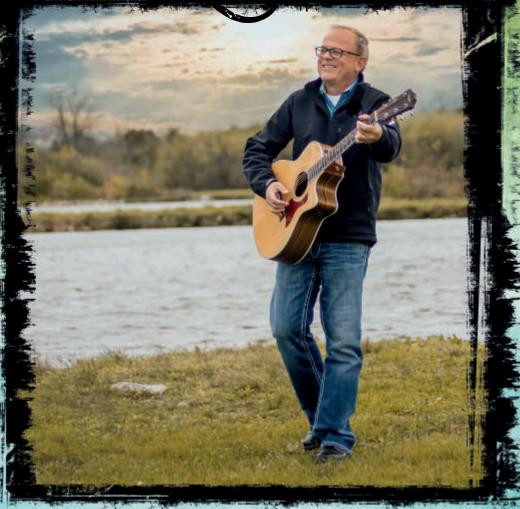




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