

# COUNTRY AIRCHECK

NOVEMBER 10, 8|7c



## 55<sup>TH</sup> CMA AWARDS

# *voter's guide*



A quick reference guide to the  
2021 CMA Nominees

FOR YOUR CMA AWARD CONSIDERATION

# ERIC CHURCH

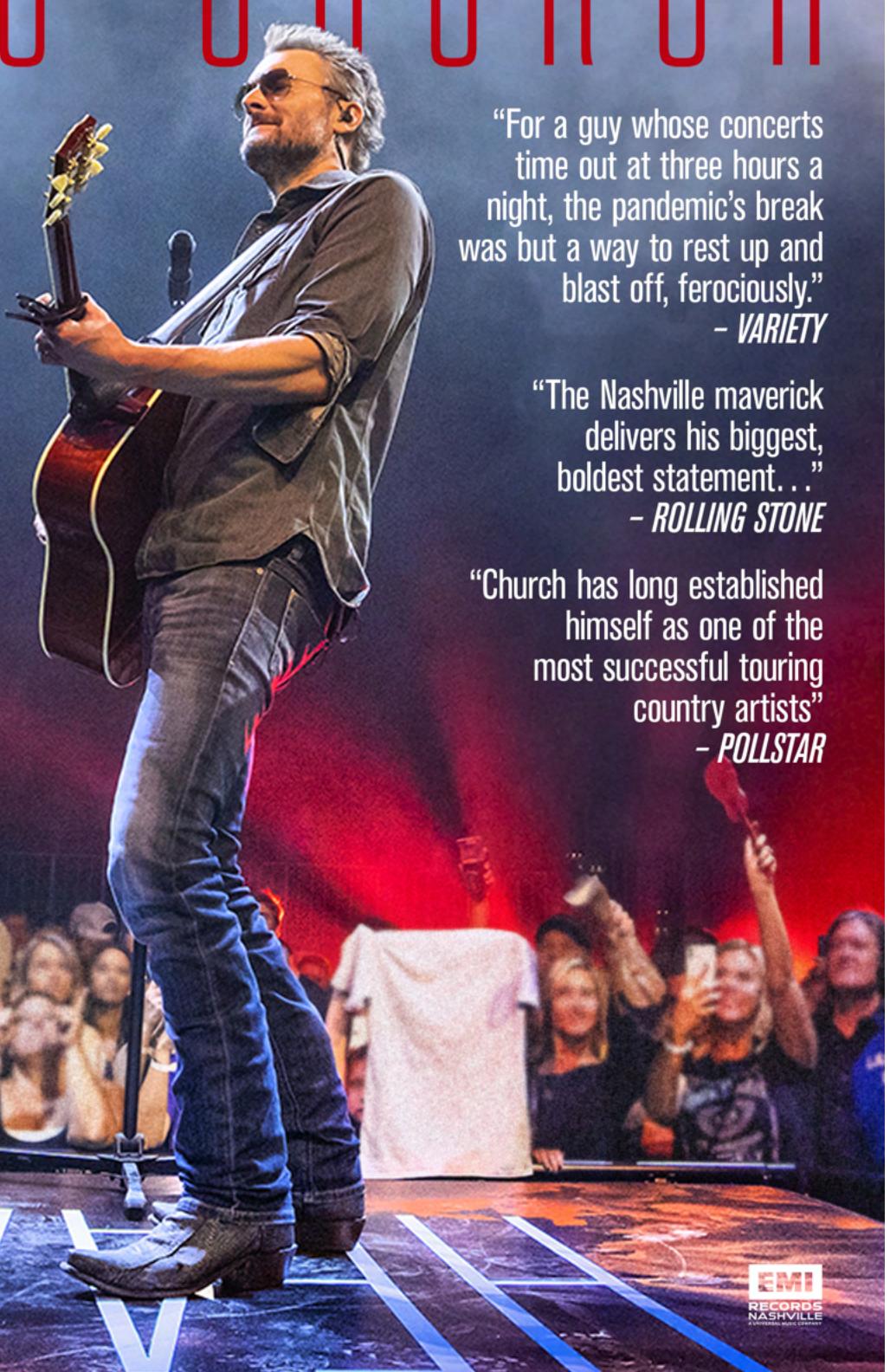
**ENTERTAINER**  
of the year

**MALE ARTIST**  
of the year

**SINGLE**  
of the year  
“Hell Of A View”

**ALBUM**  
of the year  
*Heart*

**SONG**  
of the year  
“Hell Of A View”



“For a guy whose concerts time out at three hours a night, the pandemic’s break was but a way to rest up and blast off, ferociously.”

- VARIETY

“The Nashville maverick delivers his biggest, boldest statement...”

- ROLLING STONE

“Church has long established himself as one of the most successful touring country artists”

- POLLSTAR

**EMI**  
RECORDS  
NASHVILLE  
A UNIVERSAL MUSIC COMPANY

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

11 CONSECUTIVE NUMBER ONES,  
200 SOLD-OUT ARENAS,  
& ANOTHER MONSTER BALLAD



A photograph of Luke Combs performing live on stage. He is in the center, wearing a black button-down shirt and a baseball cap, singing into a microphone. The stage is covered in confetti or small pieces of paper. In the background, a large crowd of fans is visible, many with their hands raised, some holding up phones to take pictures. The overall atmosphere is energetic and celebratory.

# LUKE COMBS

ENTERTAINER  
OF THE YEAR

"FOREVER AFTER ALL"  
SONG OF THE YEAR

MALE VOCALIST  
OF THE YEAR

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FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

# MIRANDA LAMBERT

"THE MOST RIVETING COUNTRY STAR OF HER GENERATION" - **NPR**



**ENTERTAINER  
OF THE YEAR**

**FEMALE VOCALIST  
OF THE YEAR**

**MUSICAL EVENT  
OF THE YEAR**

**DRUNK (AND I DON'T WANNA GO HOME) WITH ELLE KING**

"THIS MAY END UP BEING A TOP 10 POP SONG, COUNTRY  
SONG, AND ROCK SONG OF 2021" - **STEREOGUM**



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# CARRIE UNDERWOOD

FOR YOUR  
CMA CONSIDERATION:  
ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR



MY SAVIOR and MY GIFT (SPECIAL EDITION)  
AVAILABLE NOW

**Capitol**  
UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP NASHVILLE  
A UNIVERSAL MUSIC COMPANY

## A TRUE ENTERTAINER

66 MILLION RECORDS SOLD WORLDWIDE  
27 #1 SINGLES (14 OF WHICH SHE CO-WROTE)  
ONLY COUNTRY ARTIST TO ACHIEVE 9 CONSECUTIVE  
ALBUMS TO DEBUT #1 SINCE START OF CAREER  
BEST SELLING FEMALE COUNTRY ARTIST  
OF ALL TIME IN DIGITAL SALES  
FIVE SOLD-OUT ARENA TOURS

REFLECTION: THE LAS VEGAS RESIDENCY BEGINS DEC. 1.

*"Underwood remains one of the  
most impressive live vocalists of any  
genre, a true powerhouse."*

- NJ.com, 2021

## THIS YEAR'S VERSATILE COLLABORATIONS...



JOINED REBA McENTIRE  
ON LORETTA LYNN'S  
"STILL WOMAN ENOUGH"



"I WANNA REMEMBER"  
WITH NEEDTOBREATHE



"ONLY US" DUET WITH  
DAN + SHAY FROM DEAR  
EVAN HANSEN ORIGINAL  
MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK



BILINGUAL DUET "TEARS  
OF GOLD" WITH LATIN  
GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING,  
DAVID BISBAL



"LOUISIANA WOMAN,  
MISSISSIPPI MAN"  
WITH BRAD PAISLEY  
GRAND OLE OPRY'S  
UNBROKEN



"IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU" DUET  
WITH JASON ALDEAN  
TOP 5 SINGLE AND  
CLIMBING | HIGHEST HOT  
COUNTRY DEBUT FOR  
A SOLO MALE AND  
SOLO FEMALE  
COLLABORATION



"HALLELUJAH" VIDEO WITH  
JOHN LEGEND  
20M+ VIEWS IN 24 HOURS |  
2021 CMT MUSIC AWARDS  
VIDEO OF THE YEAR

SEE THE HIGHLIGHT REEL



FIT52 FITNESS APP AND BOOK ON  
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER LIST



# ENTERTAINER

## ERIC CHURCH

"For a guy whose concerts time out at three hours a night, the pandemic's break was but a way to rest up and blast off, ferociously." —A.D. Amorosi, *Variety*



## LUKE COMBS

"The most promising and influential new country star of the last five years." —*The New York Times*

"A bona fide country music superstar." —*Rolling Stone*

"Let's face it. Right now, it's Combs' world, and we just live in it." —*Billboard*

"The most successful superstar in the genre at the moment." —*The Washington Post*



## MIRANDA LAMBERT

"Miranda Lambert has always been country music's Entertainer of the Year." —*Vulture*  
"She has amassed more overall nominations than anyone else who has yet to take home the big one. Maybe this will be her year." —*Billboard*

"Lambert continues to blaze trails — and as she does so, she's inspiring her collaborators and listeners to spread their wings and sing their truths, as well." —*Boston Globe*



## CHRIS STAPLETON

"Simply put, there are few recording artists in country operating at Stapleton's level." —*Billboard*  
"...one of the most significant figures in contemporary country music..." —*Variety*

"...an unstoppable force..." —*Stereogum*

"...there's no denying that his superstar stature is solidly established..." —*American Songwriter*

"...he's got more soul, and more exceptional songs, than practically any Nashville peer of his generation." —*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*



## CARRIE UNDERWOOD

"Carrie Underwood is the 'Queen of Country' music, as much as any queen before her: Loretta Lynn, Dolly Parton, Reba McEntire or Shania Twain. Yet Underwood's 20-song, 91-minute concert Friday at Allentown Fair's grandstand showed she's much more. Despite her success in country, she's capable of performing any type of music — and doing it well." —*The Morning Call*

"Underwood remains one of the most impressive live vocalists of any genre, a true powerhouse." —*NJ.com*

"Carrie is an absolute must-see as we get back into the live music!" —*MusicInMinnesota.com*



FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION



CMA AWARDS 2021

# GABBY BARRETT

FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR

SONG OF THE YEAR  
“THE GOOD ONES”

SONGWRITERS: GABBY BARRETT, ZACH KALE,  
EMILY LANDIS, JIM MCCORMICK

SINGLE OF THE YEAR  
“THE GOOD ONES”

TOP TWO FEMALE ARTIST MOST STREAMED COUNTRY SONGS OF 2021

RECORD BREAKING 27 WEEKS ATOP BILLBOARD HOT COUNTRY SONGS

OVER 1.5 BILLION GLOBAL STREAMS

MOST FIRST WEEK DEBUT ALBUM  
STREAMS FOR ANY COUNTRY  
ACT IN HISTORY

OVER 4 BILLION AIRPLAY  
IMPRESSIONS



WARNER  
MUSIC  
NASHVILLE

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION



CMA AWARDS 2021

# ASHLEY McBRYDE

FEMALE VOCALIST  
OF THE YEAR

SONG OF THE YEAR  
“ONE NIGHT STANDARDS”  
SONGWRITERS: NICOLETTE HAYFORD,  
SHANE McANALLY, ASHLEY McBRYDE

SINGLE OF THE YEAR  
“ONE NIGHT STANDARDS”

2019 WINNER - NEW  
ARTIST OF THE YEAR

ONLY ARTIST NOMINATED FOR  
COUNTRY ALBUM OF THE YEAR  
AT CMA, ACM, GRAMMY®  
DURING LAST AWARD SEASON

485 MILLION + GLOBAL STREAMS



# MAREN MORRIS

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION



## FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

### 2020 CMA AWARDS FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

"MORRIS REPRESENTS A NEW GENERATION OF WOMEN IN COUNTRY WHO ARE WORKING TO TRANSCEND THE BOUNDARIES OF THEIR NASHVILLE ROOTS." - TIME

## "CHASING AFTER YOU" WITH RYAN HURD

### MUSICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

### MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR

OVER 150 MILLION  
ON-DEMAND AUDIO + VIDEO  
STREAMS TO DATE

### TOP 10 COUNTRY RADIO SINGLE AND CLIMBING

"SMOLDERING NEW DUET...  
BOLSTERED BY LUSH PRODUCTION  
THAT BLENDS ATMOSPHERIC POP  
AND ROCK DRUMMING."  
- ROLLING STONE



*"a modern country  
music masterpiece"*

**- Holler.**

*"powerfully written songs"*

**- The Washington Post**

*"one of the finest releases from  
Music Row this year"*

**- Tennessean.**

*"one of the most emotionally resonant  
country albums so far this year"*

**- billboard**



# carly speaks truth

*for your CMA consideration*

**album of the year + female vocalist of the year**



*For Your CMA Consideration*

**1.3 MILLION** album adjusted units  
**1.6 BILLION** total global streams

**"Drinkin' Problem"** - 3x Platinum  
**"Burn Out"** - Platinum

**Debut Album**  
**ON THE ROCKS**  
**Gold Certified #1 Debut**

**THE LAST RESORT**  
**#1 US + International iTunes Country Debut**

**2x Grammy Nominees**  
**5x CMA Nominees**

*"21st Century Honky Tonk All-Night Band."*  
**- POLLSTAR**

*"The retro-leaning band that's brought  
classic country sounds back to the  
contemporary charts..."*

**- VARIETY**

*"Midland's high harmonies and the studied  
unction of its sound have prompted frequent  
omparisons to the Laurel Canyon  
country-rock of the Eagles..."*

**- The Washington Post**

## Vocal Group Of The Year

# midland



# 55<sup>TH</sup> ACMA AWARDS

# FEMALE

## GABBY BARRETT

"It's not all too surprising that Barrett has jumped to another level of stardom." —Time  
CMA Awards most-nominated female artist  
Billboard Music Awards reigning top country female artist and a three-time winner  
CMT Music Awards Female Video of the Year winner  
Top Two most-streamed female country songs of 2021  
More than four billion airplay impressions  
Nearly 1.5 million global streams



## MIRANDA LAMBERT

"Twenty years since the release of her first album, Miranda Lambert still happily confounds country's hardcore traditionalists as to who she is, precisely, while maintaining Texas and Nashville's interest and fandom. Precise just isn't her thing. Ruckus-raising revenge fantasias; housewife tomes portraying the chinks in a relationship's armor; meditations on being a woman loved, scorned, horny, humble and haughty — country music's doyenne of distress, ire and desire has done it all, dynamically." —Variety



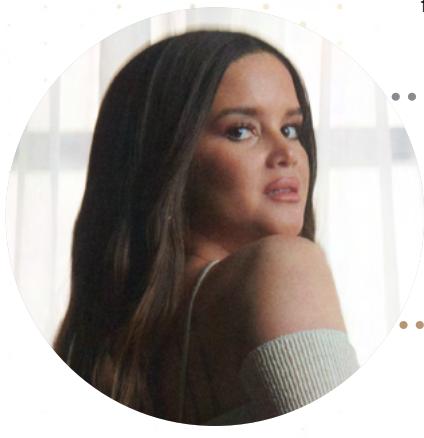
## ASHLEY MCBRYDE

"Her full-throated willingness to go for the lyrical jugular...makes her the rising star the genre most needs." —Variety  
"If radio execs and DJs have any sense at all, they'll play her until we're beggin' them to stop. Few are as deserving of mainstream genre stardom as her..." —Paste  
"McBryde found [her] audience by relentlessly touring, being so relatable to country fans of all kinds. ... She sings these songs...and they touch the heart of the heartland." —NPR



## MAREN MORRIS

"She's got an R&B singer's gift for each melisma and country singer's instinct not to show that off unnecessarily..." —Variety



## CARLY PEARCE

"...Carly Pearce hasn't made one false step." —E!  
"...one of country music's most buzzed about artists." —Forbes  
"Pearce has certainly carved a place for herself in today's country music landscape..." —MusicRow  
"She's not the 'Next Girl,' she's the now girl." —ABC News Radio



# 55<sup>TH</sup> ACMA AWARDS

# MALE

## DIERKS BENTLEY

"...one of country music's most adventurous artists..." —Billboard  
"Combines commercial and critical success..." —Nashville Scene  
"...dedicated to giving fans the best performance possible." —The Tennessean  
"...notorious road warrior..." —Rolling Stone



## ERIC CHURCH

"Eric Church might look like a tough-guy outlaw who plays by his own rules, but his real gift has been for bending the rules to his will. No recent country artist has maneuvered the Nashville system as successfully, remaining dedicated to the power of down-the-center hitmaking even as he's helped expand the parameters of the genre." —Jonathan Bernstein, Rolling Stone



## LUKE COMBS

"One of the most emotionally tactile voices in contemporary country music." —The New York Times  
"A voice that commands attention." —Billboard  
"One of the genre's most dependably powerful vocalists." —The Tennessean



## THOMAS RHETT

"Rhett is the most reliable maker of No. 1 songs in country music right now." —Variety  
"Country Again: Side A ... brims with the sort of self-revealing songs that have turned him into a superstar." —People  
"He's cool, calm and awe-shucks charming, yet there's something immensely magnetic about his presence." —American Songwriter  
"Few singers have played a larger role in defining the sound of country music over the past half-dozen years than Thomas Rhett." —Rolling Stone



## CHRIS STAPLETON

"Chris Stapleton's roar isn't designed to scare you off. It's regal; an announcement of an alpha figure asserting his primacy..." —The New York Times

"To say Chris Stapleton is one of country music's best singers is to sell him short. He's one of the world's finest singers of any genre, period." —Associated Press  
"...one of the most popular voices in music..." —GQ

"Stapleton has a voice that can't miss..." —Vulture  
"Chris Stapleton is the soul of the show, the deliverer of raw, powerful, beautiful lyrics by way of one of the most uniquely arresting voices in country music today." —Charlotte Observer



FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

# OLD DOMINION

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

*"THIS FIVE-PIECE HAVE BEEN SHAPING THE SOUND OF  
COUNTRY RADIO, BOTH WITH HITS OF THEIR OWN AND  
THOSE THEY PEN FOR STARS... "*  
— THE NEW YORK TIMES



NEW ALBUM  
**TIME, TEQUILA & THERAPY**  
OUT 10/8

ARISTA  
NASHVILLE

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

CMA AWARDS 2021



# ZAC BROWN BAND

14 #1 COUNTRY AIRPLAY SINGLES

10+ BILLION GLOBAL STREAMS

SIX CONSECUTIVE TOP 10  
BILLBOARD ALBUMS

OVER 30 MILLIONS SINGLES SOLD

HEADLINED 7 NORTH  
AMERICAN TOURS

CURRENTLY HOLDS THE RECORD  
FOR MOST CONSECUTIVE  
SOLD-OUT SHOWS AT THE  
ICONIC FENWAY PARTY

CURRENT RADIO SINGLE  
“SAME BOAT” TOP 15 & CLIMBING!

VOCAL  
GROUP  
OF THE  
YEAR



WARNER  
MUSIC  
NASHVILLE



# GROUP

## LADY A

"Lustrous harmonies are still part and parcel of their long formulaic sound." –Variety  
"They continue to put forth the authentic artistry they have promised their listeners since 2008." –American Songwriter



## LITTLE BIG TOWN

"Little Big Town continues to be brave enough to make their lyrics matter." –The Tennessean  
"Little Big Town fine-tuned their approach to modern country music, producing songs that honor Nashville tradition while taking note of 21st-century realities." –Entertainment Weekly  
"Little Big Town's mesmerizing harmonies soar..." –Billboard



## MIDLAND

"21st Century Honky Tonk All-Night Band." –Pollstar  
"The retro-leaning band that's brought classic country sounds back to the contemporary charts..." –Variety  
"Midland's high harmonies and the studied unction of its sound have prompted frequent comparisons to the Laurel Canyon country-rock of the Eagles..." –The Washington Post Magazine



## OLD DOMINION



"This five-piece have been shaping the sound of Country radio, both with hits of their own and those they pen for stars ... Their fourth full-length is packed with chipper, harmony-rich country-pop." –New York Times

## ZAC BROWN BAND

"Zac Brown Band has had six consecutive Billboard 200 top 10 albums and five consecutive No. 1 album debuts on Billboard's Country Albums chart. The group has won three Grammy Awards, sold more than 30 million singles, nine million albums, amassed more than 10 billion catalog streams, achieved 15 No. 1 radio singles, and is the second act to ever top both the Country and Active Rock format charts." –Warner Music Nashville



FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION



CMA AWARDS 2021

REIGNING (3X)  
GRAMMY® DUO/GROUP  
PERFORMANCE  
WINNERS, (2X) CMA,  
(3X) ACM, AND 2021  
IHEART DUO OF THE  
YEAR WINNERS

SOLD-OUT DATES ON  
*THE (ARENA) TOUR*  
INCLUDING  
MADISON SQUARE  
GARDEN

*GOOD THINGS* IS THE  
FIRST COUNTRY ALBUM  
IN STREAMING HISTORY  
CERTIFIED RIAA GOLD  
STATUS AT RELEASE

# DAN + SHAY

VOCAL  
DUO  
OF THE  
YEAR

40 TOTAL RIAA US PLATINUM AND GOLD  
CERTIFICATIONS TO DATE

3 TRACKS WITH OVER 1 BILLION GLOBAL STREAMS:  
“10,000 HOURS”, “TEQUILA”, AND “SPEECHLESS”

8.4 BILLION+ CAREER GLOBAL STREAMS AND  
2.5 BILLION+ IMPRESSIONS IN 2021 TO DATE

9 NO. 1 SINGLES AT COUNTRY RADIO

“10,000 HOURS” HAS THE HIGHEST FIRST WEEK  
STREAMS IN COUNTRY MUSIC HISTORY



WARNER  
MUSIC  
NASHVILLE

# 55<sup>TH</sup> ACMA AWARDS

# DUO

## BROOKS & DUNN

"Their ability to musically swing from heartfelt and insightful to boot-stomping ushers of the party crowd bridged their way to decades of relevance and made them a leading influence on today's generation of country singer." —USA Today

## BROTHERS OSBORNE

"Of all the roots-rock-inspired acts to arise in prominence in the wake of Chris Stapleton, Brothers Osborne is not only the most talented, but will likely be the most enduring."

— American Songwriter

"The new wave of honest, rule-breaking artists poised to take over country music. With a sound that owes as much to rock'n'roll's guitar-driven crunch as country's blue-collar twang, Brothers Osborne are proud to be at the crest of that wave, ready to sweep across an audience that's grown thirsty for something new." — Rolling Stone

## DAN + SHAY

"Three-time Grammy winners Dan + Shay have accumulated 40 RIAA certifications, achieved nine No. 1 singles at country radio and garnered more than eight billion global career streams to date. Recent release *Good Things* became the first country album in the streaming era to achieve RIAA Gold certification at release, nearing one million album equivalents. The duo is now selling out shows on their *The (Arena) Tour*, including a sold-out stop at NYC's Madison Square Garden." —Warner Music Nashville

## FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE

"...who make every day feel like a party..." —Michael Strahan, ABC's *Good Morning America* co-anchor

"...one of the most successful country groups ever..." —Forbes

"...Since breaking through in 2012 with their smash hit 'Cruise,' Florida Georgia Line have been a model of consistency in country music..." —Billboard

"The in-demand collaborators continue to expand boundaries and innovate..." —MusicRow

"...FGL has proven they have a knack for writing music that strongly resonates with listeners."

—American Songwriter

"It's no secret that the boys of FGL can write a hit country song." —Wide Open Country

## MADDIE & TAE

"...stellar vocal pairings and some of the tightest harmonies on music row..." —Rolling Stone

"...identifiable while still representing a distinct move forward..." —Billboard

"...they excel at constructing tuneful, lyrically direct music that feels authentic..." —American Songwriter

"...their vocal blend is among the most ear-catching in country today..." —People

"...breathtaking harmonies and vivid storytelling..." —Billboard

"...shiver-inducing display of tight harmonies and turn-on-a-dime precision..." —Entertainment Weekly

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

# CHRIS YOUNG FAMOUS FRIENDS

WITH KANE BROWN

SINGLE | MUSICAL EVENT | MUSIC VIDEO  
OF THE YEAR

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MULTI-WEEK NO.1  
12<sup>TH</sup> NO. 1 SINGLE



**“CATCHY, UPBEAT DUET.”**  
– FORBES



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# 55<sup>TH</sup> ACMA AWARDS

# SINGLE

## "FAMOUS FRIENDS," CHRIS YOUNG WITH KANE BROWN; PRODUCERS: COREY CROWDER, CHRIS YOUNG; MIX ENGINEER: SEAN MOFFITT

"The infectious duet is all about celebrating life's everyday heroes, like teachers, preachers and police officers, who are famous in their small towns. In a year like [this], the song couldn't be more timely." —Country Now



## "THE GOOD ONES," GABBY BARRETT; PRODUCERS: ROSS COPPERMAN, ZACH KALE; MIX ENGINEERS: CHRIS GALLAND, MANNY MARROQUIN

"Seeing this strong, confident, incredibly talented woman absolutely crush everything she's touched is so exciting to watch. Requests pour in nightly, and I don't see that stopping any time soon. Proud to have Gabby represent country music all around the world." —Elaina Smith, Host of Nights with Elaina



## "HELL OF A VIEW," ERIC CHURCH; PRODUCER: JAY JOYCE; MIX ENGINEERS: JASON HALL, JAY JOYCE

"'Politicians are about division; music is about unity. It'll take everyone in this room to unite,' he said [while accepting the Entertainer of the Year trophy at the 2020 CMA Awards]. His performance of 'Hell Of A View' did just that, with Church and longtime backing vocalist Joanna Cotten joining together on the slow-burning number."

—Joseph Hudak, Rolling Stone



## "ONE NIGHT STANDARDS," ASHLEY MCBRYDE; PRODUCER: JAY JOYCE; MIX ENGINEERS: JASON HALL, JAY JOYCE

"Ashley McBryde didn't compromise her credibility for commercial success. She earned her credibility, and now the commercial success has no choice but to come chasing her. And it can't run fast enough." —Bobby Bones



## "STARTING OVER," CHRIS STAPLETON; PRODUCERS: DAVE COBB, CHRIS STAPLETON; MIX ENGINEER: VANCE POWELL

"This year's bless-the-broken-road classic..." —NPR Music  
"...sounds designed for this moment, an exhalation in the middle of an anxiety-stricken year, with

Stapleton's gruff voice providing hope for a better future." —Billboard  
"'Starting Over' is for a new day and, like its title implies, a fresh start." —Rolling Stone

"...built on pure wanderlust..." —The Tennessean  
"...a hopeful anthem of new beginnings..." —Sounds Like Nashville



FOR YOUR CMA AWARD CONSIDERATION  
DUO OF THE YEAR  
ALBUM OF THE YEAR – *Skeletons*  
MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR – “Younger Me”

# Brothers Osborne



“*Skeletons* will blow the roof off your house party” –ESQUIRE

“A remarkably engaging record that shows off what the duo does best” –ROLLING STONE

“With ferocious guitars, stomping drum lines, and plenty of blue-collar fire,  
**Brothers Osborne** positively sizzles” –ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

EMI  
RECORDS  
NASHVILLE  
A Universal Music Company

**29, CARLY PEARCE; PRODUCERS: SHANE MCANALLY, JOSH OSBORNE, JIMMY ROBBINS; MIX ENGINEER: RYAN GORE**

"...one of the finest releases from Music Row this year..." —Tennessean  
 "Her most powerful music yet." —E!

"...Pearce continues the purist approach to songwriting that has made her one of country's fastest rising stars." —SPIN  
 "29 showcases an artist not afraid to be vulnerable in a way that ultimately comes through as strength." —Billboard



**DANGEROUS: THE DOUBLE ALBUM, MORGAN WALLEN; PRODUCERS: DAVE COHEN, MATT DRAGSTREM, JACOB DURRETT, CHARLIE HANDSOME, JOEY MOI; MIX ENGINEER: JOEY MOI**

More than seven billion artist on-demand streams (US) • No. 1 Billboard 200 Albums for 10 Weeks • No. 1 Billboard Top Country Albums for 32 Weeks

"The country set to beat in 2021." —Billboard

"Dangerous proves its mettle: Wallen stomps through the tracks with not just perfect vocal control but a sneering effortlessness." —Vulture



**HEART, ERIC CHURCH; PRODUCER: JAY JOYCE; MIX ENGINEERS: JASON HALL, JAY JOYCE**

"The Heart portion of the project spotlights Church at his rowdy best, hewing more to the heartland rock and roll of John Mellencamp and Bob Seger than to most country artists." —Matt Hendrickson, *Garden & Gun*



**SKELETONS, BROTHERS OSBORNE; PRODUCER: JAY JOYCE; MIX ENGINEERS: JASON HALL, JAY JOYCE**

"Skeletons, a 12-song, sweltering blend of Allman Brothers band rock and Merle Haggard-esque country, will blow the roof off your house party." —Esquire

"The duo's new album is a rumbling, swampy country rocker." —Billboard

"One of the most exciting duos in country...big dose of gritty outlaw-era authenticity and the return of honest-to-goodness guitar solos." —Nashville Scene

"Now Brothers Osborne find themselves being at the forefront of a shift in country music."

—The Washington Post



**STARTING OVER, CHRIS STAPLETON; PRODUCERS: DAVE COBB, CHRIS STAPLETON; MIX ENGINEER: VANCE POWELL**

"Chris is at the top of his game with this record. It sounds like a record from a great." —NPR Music  
 "...lands precisely where country meets southern soul: with grit, details, clarity and ache." —The New York Times

"...you'll be hard-pressed to find a better country album this year than *Starting Over*." —Billboard

"...a sure-footed masterpiece...one of the year's finest albums..." —Associated Press

"*Starting Over* is a reminder of why Stapleton has made such a splash over the past few years: that skyscraping rasp and his sharply observed yet plainspoken lyrics." —Entertainment Weekly

"...a masterclass in blistering soul, rock n' roll swagger, and big time singing. Turn this one all the way up." —Esquire

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

CMA AWARDS 2021



# DREW PARKER

## SONG OF THE YEAR “FOREVER AFTER ALL”

SONGWRITERS: LUKE COMBS, DREW PARKER,  
ROBERT WILLIFORD

6 WEEKS AT #1 ON  
BILLBOARD

3 WEEKS AT #1 ON  
COUNTRY AIRCHECK

OVER 600 MILLION  
GLOBAL STREAMS

RIAA CERTIFIED PLATINUM



WARNER  
MUSIC  
NASHVILLE

## "FOREVER AFTER ALL," LUKE COMBS, DREW PARKER, ROBERT WILLIFORD

"It's the genuine, vulnerable emotion Combs put into 'Forever After All,' a ballad accented by gentle piano, that makes it so special. While many country hits pair a singer with someone else's words, this is a glimpse straight into a love-struck dude's heart." —*Rolling Stone*

"It really can't get much better ... 'Forever After All' is Luke Combs at his finest." —*Wide Open Country*  
 "He screams authenticity ... this slab of romantic joy is yet another reason to love him." —*MusicRow*



## "THE GOOD ONES," GABBY BARRETT, ZACH KALE, EMILY LANDIS, JIM MCCORMICK

"'The Good Ones' will blow you away." —*Carly Pearce*  
 "...heartfelt..." —*Forbes*  
 "...softly romantic..." —*MusicRow*  
 "...a love song for the ones worth holding onto." —*The Boot*



## "HELL OF A VIEW," CASEY BEATHARD, ERIC CHURCH, MONTY CRISWELL

"Church evokes Tom Petty's kaleidoscopic jangle," notes *Rolling Stone*'s Jon Freeman of 'Hell Of A View,' with Hilary Hughes of *Entertainment Weekly* categorizing the song as part of 'the most liberating and freewheeling work of the country star's career.'"



## "ONE NIGHT STANDARDS," NICOLETTE HAYFORD, SHANE MCANALLY, ASHLEY MCBRYDE

"One of the most empathetic songwriters of her generation, Arkansas-born country star Ashley McBryde specializes in songs that feel utterly lived-in — they're keenly understanding about what goes on in dive bars, or what it feels like to defiantly pursue dreams long deferred." —*NPR*

"Whether she's embracing traditional country or southern rock or something in between, McBryde infuses her songs with authenticity..." —*Billboard*  
 "Ashley McBryde knows how to squeeze copious human drama into a pithy tune." —*Washington Post*



## "STARTING OVER," MIKE HENDERSON, CHRIS STAPLETON

"This year's bless-the-broken-road classic..." —*NPR Music*  
 "...sounds designed for this moment, an exhalation in the middle of an anxiety-stricken year, with Stapleton's gruff voice providing hope for a better future." —*Billboard*

"Starting Over" is for a new day and, like its title implies, a fresh start." —*Rolling Stone*  
 "...built on pure wanderlust..." —*The Tennessean*  
 "...a hopeful anthem of new beginnings..." —*Sounds Like Nashville*

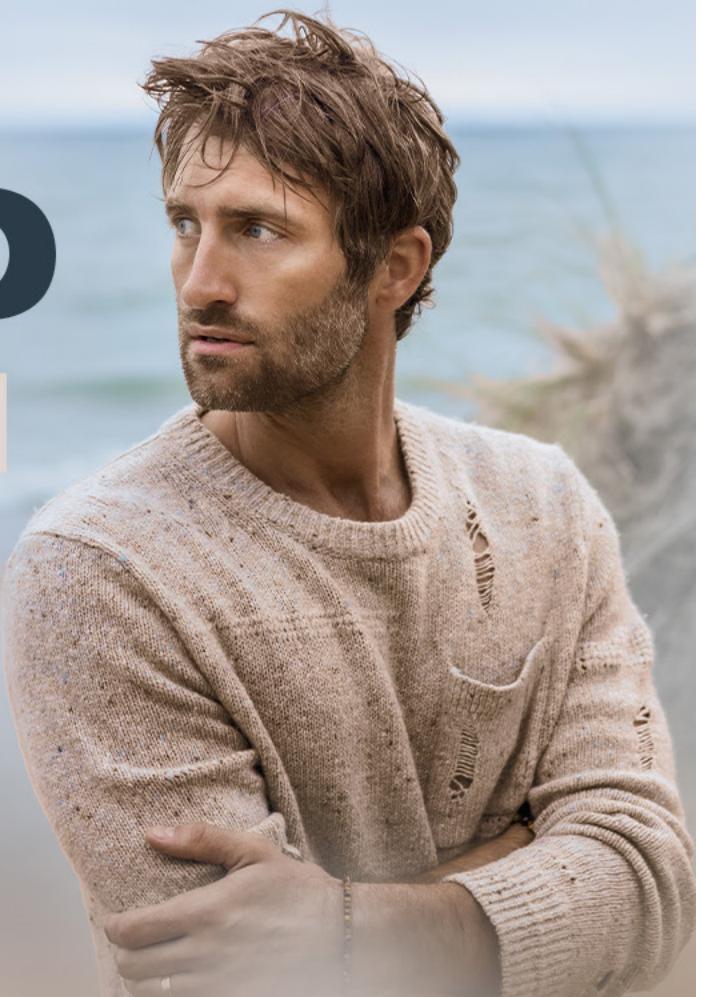


# RYAN HURD

“CHASING AFTER YOU”

WITH MAREN MORRIS

**MUSIC VIDEO  
OF THE YEAR**  
**MUSICAL EVENT  
OF THE YEAR**



“SMOLDERING NEW DUET...BOLSTERED BY LUSH PRODUCTION THAT BLENDS ATMOSPHERIC POP AND ROCK DRUMMING.” – **ROLLING STONE**



**OVER 150 MILLION  
ON-DEMAND AUDIO + VIDEO STREAMS**

**TOP 10 COUNTRY  
RADIO SINGLE  
AND CLIMBING**

“A COLLABORATION THAT WAS JUST MEANT TO BE.” – **BEYOND THE STAGE**

ARISTA  
NASHVILLE

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

# ELLE KING

# DRUNK

(AND I DON'T WANNA GO HOME)

WITH MIRANDA LAMBERT

MUSICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

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OVER 130  
MILLION  
GLOBAL STREAMS

---

DEBUTED AT NO. 1  
ON BILLBOARDS' COUNTRY  
DIGITAL SONG SALES CHART

---



"THIS MAY END  
UP BEING A TOP 10 POP  
SONG, COUNTRY SONG, AND  
ROCK SONG OF 2021"  
- STEREOGUM



for your cma  
awards consideration  
kelsea ballerini

**half of my hometown**  
**music video of the year**

**half of my hometown**  
**(feat. kenny chesney)**  
**musical event of the year**

current single featuring  
kenny chesney on  
“half of my  
hometown”  
surpassing  
82m+  
streams

2021 cmt artist  
of the year

23 certifications  
gold, platinum &  
multi-platinum

currently on  
the jonas brothers  
remember this tour



“she’s the only  
singer in nashville  
versatile enough to  
deliver a moody  
ballad with halsey on  
one song and a  
heartwarming  
acoustic anthem  
with kenny chesney  
on the next”

*Rolling Stone*

BLACK RIVER  
RECORDS

# 55<sup>TH</sup> ACMA AWARDS

# EVENT

## "BUY DIRT," JORDAN DAVIS, LUKE BRYAN; PRODUCER: PAUL DIGIOVANNI

"Davis' most authentic vision of his artistry, and he credits much of that to the late songwriter legend [John Prine]." —American Songwriter

"'Buy Dirt' reflects a level of comfort within his personal identity that allows honesty to flow from his lyrical content." —American Songwriter

"'Buy Dirt' is country music at its best." —Country Now

"The Influences of John Prine, Luke Bryan shine." —CMT

"John Prine and Luke Bryan may be separated by a few decades as artists. Still, their influence shows as timeless upon the career of Louisiana-born country singer-songwriter Jordan Davis via *Buy Dirt*, his just-released eight-track EP." —CMT

"Words of wisdom from a fictional octogenarian set to a shimmering, sterling-silver audio track. Terrific truthful lyric. The two voices blend beautifully." —MusicRow

"Multi-platinum selling artist, Jordan Davis, is one of country music's brightest stars." —NBC's 3rd Hour Today



## "CHASING AFTER YOU," RYAN HURD, MAREN MORRIS; PRODUCERS: AARON ESHUIS, TEDDY REIMER

"Hurd and country femmepowerment superstar Maren Morris, who also happens to be his wife, untangle the complications of a stop/start relationship with a hunger that transcends the merely carnal ... 'Chasing After You' is more than the thrill of the hunt; it's how we ultimately get the things that we want." —Hits



## "DRUNK (AND I DON'T WANNA GO HOME)," ELLE KING, MIRANDA LAMBERT; PRODUCER: MARTIN JOHNSON

"Brilliant stuff here at the intersection [of] King's sassy roots-rock shtick, Lambert's sassy country shtick, and the Nashville mainstream ... drift toward arena rock ... This may end up

being a Top 10 pop song, country song and rock song of 2021." —Stereogum

"...hit one out of the bar with this ... rambunctious last call singalong..." —Billboard

"...exhilarating new duet ... when the chorus hits, it's neon-spattered, banjo-flecked

euphoria..." —Rolling Stone

"Feisty, rocking and oh-so-adorable ... ridiculously catchy." —MusicRow



## "FAMOUS FRIENDS," CHRIS YOUNG, KANE BROWN; PRODUCERS: COREY CROWDER, CHRIS YOUNG

"...anthemic collaboration ... honors both superstars' hometowns and long-standing friendships." —American Songwriter



## "HALF OF MY HOMETOWN," KELSEA BALLERINI, KENNY CHESNEY; PRODUCERS: KELSEA BALLERINI, ROSS COPPERMAN, JIMMY ROBBINS

"She's the only singer in Nashville versatile enough to deliver a moody ballad with Halsey on one song and a heartwarming acoustic anthem with Kenny Chesney on the next." —Rolling Stone

"...her voice is the main instrument and storytelling takes the lead role..." —USA Today

"Kelsea Ballerini is definitely one of the most influential women in country right now... she's defining the sound of the genre." —NPR All Songs Considered



# 55<sup>TH</sup> ACMA AWARDS

# VIDEO

## "CHASING AFTER YOU," RYAN HURD, MAREN MORRIS; DIRECTOR: TK MCKAMY

"...smoldering new duet ... bolstered by lush production that blends atmospheric pop and rock drumming." —*Rolling Stone*



## "FAMOUS FRIENDS," CHRIS YOUNG, KANE BROWN; DIRECTOR: PETER ZAVADIL

"With a solid friendship and history of great teamwork, it's no surprise the country crooners joined forces once again..." —*People*



## "GONE," DIERKS BENTLEY; DIRECTORS: WES EDWARDS, TRAVIS NICHOLSON, ED PRYOR, RUNNING BEAR, SAM SISKE

"...making music designed to challenge..." —*New York Times*

"...format superstar..." —*Entertainment Weekly*

"Stronger and stronger with every release and is one of the few artists that can go from bluegrass to country." —*Billboard*



## "HALF OF MY HOMETOWN," KELSEA BALLERINI, KENNY CHESNEY; DIRECTOR: PATRICK TRACY

"She's the only singer in Nashville versatile enough to deliver a moody ballad with Halsey on one song and a heartwarming acoustic anthem with Kenny Chesney on the next." —*Rolling Stone*

"...her voice is the main instrument and storytelling takes the lead role..." —*USA Today*

"Kelsea Ballerini is definitely one of the most influential women in country right now... she's defining the sound of the genre." —*NPR All Songs Considered*



## "YOUNGER ME," BROTHERS OSBORNE; DIRECTOR: REID LONG

"With ferocious guitars, stomping drum lines, and plenty of blue-collar fire, Brothers Osborne positively sizzles." —*Entertainment Weekly*

"John's a hotshot guitarist who developed his smooth, inventive style emulating hard rockers and bluegrass pickers. While TJ has the resonant baritone of a classic country crooner with a little Eddie Vedder thrown in." —*NPR*

"Put John Osborne on a pedestal with Nashville's finest players. His musicianship demands the spotlight alongside brother TJ Osborne's distinct voice and songs that leave no doubt about what is most important to the men from Deale, Maryland" —*The Tennessean*



# JIMMIE ALLEN

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION  
**NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

## NATIONAL PRESS APPEARANCES



CURRENT CONTESTANT ON SEASON 30 OF **dancing with the stars**

**979M+**  
TOTAL ON-DEMAND STREAMS

**BACK-TO-BACK #1 SINGLES  
& PLATINUM CERTIFICATIONS**

CURRENT SINGLE  
**"FREEDOM WAS A HIGHWAY"**  
WITH BRAD PAISLEY  
TOP 15 & CLIMBING

"COUNTRY SINGER JIMMIE ALLEN  
CONTINUES TO RISE" -AP

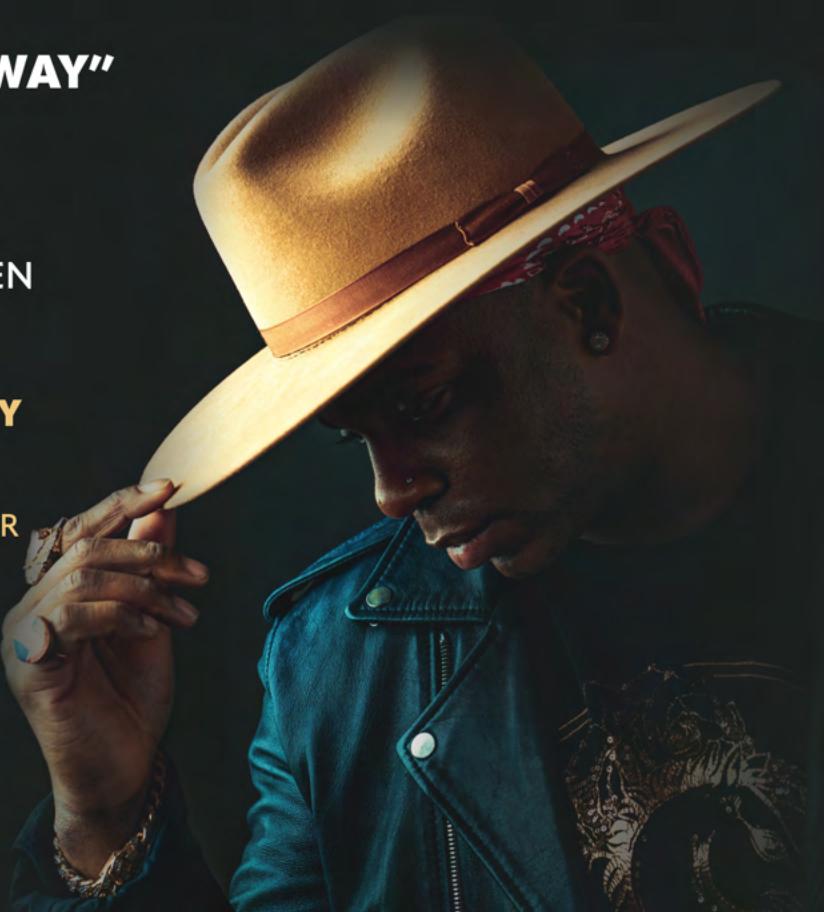
"SUPERSTAR!" -KATY PERRY

CMA FOUNDATION ARTIST AMBASSADOR

AUTHOR OF "MY VOICE IS A TRUMPET"

EXECUTIVE MUSIC PRODUCER  
TITLETOWN HIGH  
(ORIGINAL NETFLIX SERIES)

BBR STONEY CREEK BMG



WORK YOUR CONSIDERATION



CMA AWARDS 2021

# INGRID ANDRESS

NEW ARTIST  
OF THE YEAR

3X GRAMMY® NOMINATED ARTIST INCLUDING BEST NEW ARTIST

RIAA MULTI-PLATINUM CERTIFIED DEBUT SINGLE  
"MORE HEARTS THAN MINE" #1 AT  
COUNTRY RADIO

"LADY LIKE" CERTIFIED GOLD

NEARLY 700 MILLION  
GLOBAL STREAMS





# NEW ARTIST

## JIMMIE ALLEN

Reigning ACM New Male Artist Of The Year and current *Dancing With The Stars* contestant, Jimmie Allen is an incredible ambassador for the format. Earning 979 million-plus on-demand streams, two consecutive platinum-selling No. 1 singles and critical praise (especially for his "historic" (*Billboard*) collaborations across all genres, Allen is a "superstar-in-the-making" (*Tennessean*). The children's author, festival creator and *Titletown High* executive music producer has appeared everywhere from hosting NBC's *Today* to performing on the Kennedy Center Honors. —Stoney Creek Records



## INGRID ANDRESS

"A singer-songwriter at the vanguard of the genre's latest metamorphosis." —W Magazine



## GABBY BARRETT

"Congratulations to country music's new superstar Gabby Barrett whose powerful voice is reminiscent of Mariah Carey, breaking glass and taking names! She's opening a wide door for fans to discover and love this genre." —Leslie Fram, CMT SVP/Music & Talent



## MICKEY GUYTON

"...a huge, inspirational anthem anchored by Guyton's commanding voice..." ("Remember Her Name") —Vulture

"Guyton raises the rafters and distills emotion with impeccable clarity. Her high notes thrill, her nuance in storytelling captivates. A star for our times claims her place." —NPR

"...nudges America's conscience with personal truth and gospel fervor..." ("Black Like Me") —Hits

"Take LeAnn Rimes' Top 40 sensibilities, Patsy Cline's gift for heart-tugging balladry and Whitney Houston's massive pipes, and you might just capture the magic of this Texan powerhouse." —Entertainment Weekly

"Guyton is quite possibly the best female voice to come along since Carrie Underwood. She's an impact artist, no doubt!" —Billboard



## HARDY

Nearly one billion on-demand streams  
"...a breakout in the making..." —Hits

"Hardy paves his own path in country music..." —Forbes

"And that's Hardy's gift: synthesizing biography with imagination to create real storytelling." —Rolling Stone

