

MusicRow Magazine Releases 2022 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue



MusicRow Magazine has released its 2022 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue, featuring Warner Music Nashville recording artist **Brett Eldredge** on the cover. Eldredge recently released his second holiday record, *Mr. Christmas*, which features two never-before-heard originals in addition to beloved Christmas classics.

MusicRow's eighth annual Next Big Thing class of artists are also celebrated in this issue (listed below), as well as the N.B.T. Industry Directory Class of 2022, which spotlights rising Nashville music business professionals who are having a major impact on the industry.

The Touring & Next Big Thing Issue celebrates the return to the road as **Dan + Shay** execute their relaunched "The (Arena) Tour;" and also dives into the transition from TikTok to touring for the artists that were discovered during the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2022 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue also catches up with Executive Vice President of Entertainment and Venues for Bridgestone Arena, **David Kells**, who pulls back the curtain on some of the hardships the Nashville arena faced over the last 18 months.

MusicRow also remembers **Randy "Baja" Fletcher**, a titan of the touring industry who tragically passed away in August, with a special tribute to his journey through the live entertainment space and his vast contributions to the industry. This issue also features a Q&A with WME's **Nate Towne** about his evolution from working in the mailroom to becoming a Partner, and includes a spotlight on the Nashville Number System and how it's used in modern day recording. Additionally, the 2022 Touring Directory is included in this issue, featuring contact information for touring transportation, production and insurance companies.

Single copies of MusicRow's 2022 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue are available for purchase at musicrow.com for \$45, and are included with yearly [MusicRow memberships](#). **MR**

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

MusicRow Magazine Releases 2022 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue

MusicRow Unveils Next Big Thing Artists Class Of 2022

MusicRow Highlights Music Industry Leaders On The Rise With 2022 N.B.T. Industry Directory

Jeff Krones Promoted To Co-Head Of CAA's Nashville Music Office

Keith Urban To Embark On World Tour In Summer 2022

Sony Music Nashville Elevates Alli Champagne

Jimmie Allen, John Marks & Aaron Benward Launch JAB Entertainment

Emily Peacock Rises At Tree Vibe Music

DISCLAIMER Singles Reviews

And much more...



Carrie Underwood
My Gift

*Available
Now*

My Gift: A Christmas Special From Carrie Underwood
Streaming on **HBOMAX** now

the album *My Gift (Special Edition)* available now
produced by greg wells and mixed by serban ghenea

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Special Edition

MusicRow Unveils Next Big Thing Artists Class Of 2022

MusicRow is proud to reveal its list of artists, who in 2022, are predicted to become the Next Big Thing (NBT). The annual NBT list features 11 artists, who are each profiled in MusicRow's latest 2022 Touring & Next Big Thing print issue.

MusicRow's Next Big Thing Class of 2022 boasts a stand-out group of artists on the rise. They are diverse in sound, style, and level of success, but what they have in common is extraordinary talent and a passion for today's ever-evolving country music format. These future stars will expand the boundaries of country music, carrying the torch of the format both to its fans and into the mainstream.



Warner Music Nashville | ARTIST MGMT | CAA | Reservoir (Chris Ryan) / UMPG Nashville (Logan Turner) | BMI

Rising country band **Bexar** is bringing a sound all their own to country music, drawing musical inspiration from Mumford & Sons, The Avett Brothers and Avicii. Bexar broke onto the scene with their single “Again,” with bandmates **Chris Ryan & Logan Turner** fusing country with bluegrass and pop. Named after Ryan’s home of Bexar County, Texas, the band has racked up over 40 million streams since their 2018 debut.

Cooped Up Records (co-owned with Victoria Shaw) | Fabulicious Music Publishing | SESAC

If there is one country artist who has mastered the TikTok launchpad to stardom, it’s undoubtedly **Cooper Alan**. With 6 million followers on social media, the deep-voiced country crooner has parlayed his online audience into millions of streams on songs such as “New Normal,” “Tough Ones,” and “Too Soon.” Alan launched his own Cooped Up Records earlier this year.



Big Machine Label Group (Big Machine Records) | SB Projects | WME | Big Machine Music | BMI

At only 18 years old, **Callista Clark** has already created a buzz with her breakout single, “It’s Cause I Am.” Clark was discovered by Big Machine Label Group’s **Scott Borchetta** and **Scotter Braun** (SB Projects) via her inspiring videos online, which have amassed over 130 million views across all socials and YouTube. With one of country radio’s most successful new artist debuts of 2021, the singer-songwriter has earned a fanbase with her bold lyrics and soulful voice.

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Never Say Never/Cole Swindell & Lainey Wilson/Warner Music Nashville — 43

Hand Me Downs/Janelle Arthur feat. Dolly Parton/Black Sheep Records — 70

Better Life/Jason Byrd feat. George Jones/MayCourt Records — 74

Hangin'/Donny Lee/Donny Lee Music — 79

Vibin'/Dave McElroy/Free Flow Productions — 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Never Say Never/Cole Swindell & Lainey Wilson/Warner Music Nashville — 250

Slow Down Summer/Thomas Rhett/Valory — 198

I Bet You Think About Me/Taylor Swift feat. Chris Stapleton/MCA — 162

Come Back As A Country Boy/Blake Shelton/Warner Music Nashville — 149

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Never Say Never/Cole Swindell & Lainey Wilson/Warner Music Nashville — 20

I Bet You Think About Me/Taylor Swift feat. Chris Stapleton/MCA — 9

No Hard Feelings/Old Dominion/RCA Nashville — 9

Soul/Lee Brice/Curb — 7

You Didn't/Brett Young/BMLG — 7

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Doin' This/Luke Combs/River House Artists/Columbia Nashville — 147

Born For A Friday Night/Christian Yeager/Lamon — 145

Raining Hallelujah/Shannon LaBrie/Moraine Music Group — 145

Gave Him A Girl/Brei Carter/Brei Carter — 145

NO. 1 SONG



Kane Brown earns his second *MusicRow* CountryBreakout No. 1 of the year for “One Mississippi.” This follows his duet with Chris Young, “Famous Friends” which hit No. 1 in May. The single was written by Brown, **Jesse Frasure**, **Levon Gray**, and **Ernest K. Smith**.

Brown has earned several honors this year including ACM Video of the Year for “Worldwide Beautiful,” surpassing 2 billion streams on Pandora, and an NMPA “Platinum Anthem” for being the most listened to song in the past year for “Be Like That,” which features Swae Lee & Khalid.

Brown is currently on the [Blessed & Free Tour](#) with Jordan Davis and Restless Road which will resume on Dec. 2 in Miami, FL.



Each songwriter and artist earning No. 1 credit on the *MusicRow* Chart receives a *MusicRow* Challenge Coin. [Click here](#) to view a full list of recipients.

MusicRow CountryBreakout Chart Reporting Stations

WHMA Anniston, AL
 WXFL Florence, AL
 KHBZ Harrison, AR
 KQUS Hot Springs, AR
 KDXY Jonesboro, AR
 KWCK Searcy, AR
 KRAZ Santa Barbara, CA
 WPAP Panama City, FL
 WUBB Savannah, GA
 KXIA Marshalltown, IA
 KIAI Mason City, IA
 KBOE Oskaloosa, IA
 KTHK Idaho Falls, ID
 WOOZ Cartersville, IL

WAAG Galesburg, IL
 WMCI Mattoon, IL
 WYOT Rochelle, IL
 WRTB Rockford, IL
 WCCI Savanna, IL
 WIFE Connersville, IN
 KAIR Atchison, KS
 WKDZ Cadiz, KY
 WBKR Owensboro, KY
 WDHR Pikeville, KY
 KRRV Alexandria, LA
 WUUU Covington, LA
 WKPE Hyannis, MA
 WVMD Cumberland, MD

WTCM Traverse City, MI
 KYSM Mankato, MN
 KZPK St. Cloud, MN
 KWWR Mexico, MO
 KFAV Warrenton, MO
 WFAY Fayetteville, NC
 KZZY Devils Lake, ND
 KRVN Lexington, NE
 KBRX O'Neill, NE
 Jersey Shore Country
 KQBA Santa Fe, NM
 WDNB Monticello, NY
 WOLF Syracuse, NY
 WCJW Warsaw, NY

WFRY Watertown, NY
 KITX Hugo, OK
 KWEY Weatherford, OK
 KWOX Woodward, OK
 KRKT Albany, OR
 WVNW Lewistown, PA
 WNBT Mansfield, PA
 WCFT Selinsgrove, PA
 WFGF State College, PA
 KMOM Aberdeen, SD
 KZZI Spearfish, SD
 WUCZ Carthage, TN
 WDKN Dickson, TN
 WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN

KFTX Corpus Christi, TX
 KYKX Longview, TX
 KYYK Palestine, TX
 KXOX Sweetwater, TX
 WAKG Danville, VA
 WAXX Altoona, WI
 WJVL Janesville, WI
 WGLR Platteville, WI
 WQPC Prairie du Chien, WI
 WCOW Sparta, WI
 WTNJ Beckley, WV
 WDGG Huntington, WV

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
15	2	1	One Mississippi / Kane Brown / RCA Nashville	1706/57	1	18
45	3	2	To Be Loved By You / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	1645/61	4	61
33	4	3	Half Of My Hometown / Kelsea Ballerini / Black River Entertainment	1592/54	1	17
9	9	4	Come Back As A Country Boy / Blake Shelton / Warner Music Nashville	1535/63	11	149
12	8	5	23 / Sam Hunt / MCA Nashville	1492/58	7	102
17	5	6	Best Thing Since Backroads / Jake Owen / Big Loud Records	1477/65	5	74
11	11	7	Never Wanted To Be That Girl / Carly Pearce and Ashley McBryde / Big Machine/WMN	1455/66	11	142
50	7	8	Whiskey And Rain / Michael Ray / Warner Music Nashville	1453/45	4	59
32	6	9	It's Cause I Am / Callista Clark / Big Machine	1422/55	2	22
15	10	10	Wild Hearts / Keith Urban / Capitol	1416/63	6	76
30	1	11	Thinking 'Bout You / Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter / Broken Bow	1390/43	-18	-307
18	13	12	Beers On Me / Dierks Bentley feat. BRELAND & HARDY / Capitol	1266/60	9	105
47	12	13	Give Heaven Some Hell / HARDY / Big Loud Records	1243/52	-2	-21
9	14	14	Up / Luke Bryan / Capitol	1101/54	9	93
7	16	15	If I Was A Cowboy / Miranda Lambert / Vanner Records/RCA Records	1055/56	12	113
23	15	16	Old School / Toby Keith / Show Dog Nashville	1041/52	3	33
19	18	17	7500 OBO / Tim McGraw / Big Machine	1002/52	11	101
4	22	18	Slow Down Summer / Thomas Rhett / Valory	972/53	26	198
41	17	19	Getting Over Him / Lauren Alaina feat. Jon Pardi / Mercury Nashville	943/44	5	41
19	20	20	Get To Work Whiskey / Ward Davis / Ward Davis/Thirty Tigers Records	838/46	8	60
10	24	21	'Til You Can't / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville	837/46	11	82
28	19	22	Back Then, Right Now / Tenille Arts / 19th & Grand Records	836/49	2	17
14	27	23	New Truck / Dylan Scott / Curb	800/49	9	65
26	21	24	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) / Elle King & Miranda Lambert / RCA Nashville	799/39	3	22
31	25	25	Fill Them Boots / Chris Lane / Big Loud Records	787/41	4	32
40	23	26	Home Sweet / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers Records	761/35	-1	-6
32	28	27	I'm Not For Everyone / Brothers Osborne / EMI Records Nashville	727/38	-1	-6
11	30	28	All It Cost Me Was Everything / Cody Jinks / Late August Records	683/44	9	57
27	31	29	Local Honey / Mo Pitney / Curb	674/30	11	68
15	32	30	Steal My Love / Dan + Shay / Warner Music Nashville	654/38	8	49
12	33	31	Stealing Home / James Robert Webb / Bison Creek Records	653/42	10	59
14	35	32	Broke It Down / Brian Callihan / Reviver Records	633/41	14	76
14	34	33	Sunrise Tells The Story / Midland / Big Machine	605/40	3	20
6	37	34	Damn Strait / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	589/36	15	77
20	36	35	Grow Up / Ian Flanigan feat. Blake Shelton / Reviver Records	531/33	0	2
14	40	36	They Don't Make 'Em Like That No More / Travis Tritt / Big Noise	512/29	16	69
7	41	37	With A Woman You Love / Justin Moore / Valory	492/32	14	60
16	38	38	Record High / Randall King / Warner Music Nashville	489/31	6	27
13	39	39	I Know A Girl / MaRynn Taylor / Black River Entertainment	475/34	7	30
12	42	40	Music Man / Shane Owens / AmeriMonte Records	446/32	14	56

2022

**TOURING &
NEXT BIG THING**

ISSUE



Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
3	55	41	I Bet You Think About Me / Taylor Swift feat. Chris Stapleton / MCA	431/28	60	162
8	43	42	Bye Mom / Chris Janson / Warner Music Nashville	410/27	8	31
1	87	43	Never Say Never / Cole Swindell & Lainey Wilson / Warner Music Nashville	382/34	127	250
16	47	44	These Boots Were Made To Dance / Timothy Baker & Clayton Smalley / YN Records	362/24	6	20
10	49	45	Shuffle / Laci Kaye Booth / BMLG	361/30	10	34
19	44	46	Am I The Only One / Aaron Lewis / Valory	360/19	-5	-19
11	48	47	Honky - Tonk / Josiah Siska / Black River Entertainment	348/27	2	7
11	52	48	At the End Of A Bar / Chris Young feat. Mitchell Tenpenny / RCA Nashville	338/24	10	31
6	53	49	Let Me Know / Smith & Wesley / Dream Walkin/Audium Nashville	318/24	6	17
14	50	50	Wilder Days / Morgan Wade / Ladylike Records	315/21	-1	-4
2	69	51	Soul / Lee Brice / Curb	305/22	51	103
12	54	52	Blue Collar / Kevin McCoy Band / Honky Tonk Hippie	288/15	4	12
5	61	53	New Wings / Alyssa Bonagura / ABON MUSIC	274/19	18	41
9	59	54	It's Gettin' There / Dave Wilbert / Wilbilly Records	271/21	7	18
13	56	55	Who Cares / Filmore / Curb	263/14	0	0
14	58	56	Version Of Me / Emily Rose / Growing Rose Recording Co.	260/15	2	5
18	57	57	Please Don't Let Me / Dylan Gerard / SSM Nashville	260/21	0	-1
2	79	58	You Didn't / Brett Young / BMLG	249/21	58	91
3	64	59	Quicksand / American Blonde /	245/22	14	31
8	62	60	Heart First / Jennifer Belle / JGSII Records	235/16	1	2
5	66	61	I Don't Live There Anymore / Andrew Marshall / Serenity Records	234/15	11	23
6	68	62	Think About Me / Maggie Baugh /	230/16	10	21
15	60	63	The American Face / The Isaacs / House of Isaacs	230/15	-5	-13
4	65	64	Ain't Doing Something Right / After Midtown / The Core/10th St.	227/18	7	14
4	63	65	If I Were Rock & Roll / Chase Rice / Dack Janiels/Broken Bow	227/21	3	7
7	67	66	Hard Time / Cash Creek and Larry Stewart / CCB Nashville	218/14	4	8
4	70	67	Baby Don't / Paige King Johnson / PCG Records	213/21	6	12
6	72	68	The Best Night / Tom Sexton / Lots To Do Music	200/17	6	12
4	71	69	Hypocrite / Ruthie Collins / MCC/Curb	199/17	6	11
1	82	70	Hand Me Downs / Janelle Arthur feat. Dolly Parton / Black Sheep Records	198/15	40	57
5	73	71	Midnight Goodbye / Lucie Tiger / 2120 Music	192/14	12	20
3	75	72	Barely Breathing / Jeremy Studdard / Owen Entertainment Group	184/15	11	18
2	76	73	Son Of A / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House	171/14	4	7
1	83	74	Better Life / Jason Byrd feat. George Jones / MayCourt Records	169/13	22	31
4	77	75	Chaser / Frankie Justin / SMG Records	169/12	4	6
2	80	76	Somebody Else's / Chloe Collins / Collins House Music	168/16	12	18
3	78	77	Learn From It / Conner Smith / Valory	163/14	2	3
17	46	78	Hometown In My Headlights / JD Shelburne / JD Shelburne Music LLC	155/9	-57	-208
1	81	79	Hangin' / Donny Lee / Donny Lee Music	154/14	7	10
1	92	80	Vibin' / Dave McElroy / Free Flow Productions	151/9	26	31

No. 1 Song
 Greatest Spin Increase
 Highest Debut

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Hannah Dasher
WME | Sony Music Publishing Nashville | ASCAP

Hannah Dasher's big personality, and even bigger hair, paired with her classic-country style and undeniable talent sets the *H to the Damn to the D* apart from the rest. Whether it's her viral "Stand By Your Pan" TikTok cooking series or funny tunes like "You're Gonna Love Me" or "Left Right," Dasher is forging her own path.



BBR Music Group / BMG | Maximum Artist Group | Reservoir | BMI

Brooke Eden first came onto the scene in 2014, but has found her stride this year. Throughout 2021, Eden reintroduced herself, offering a fresh new sound after finding love and acceptance that inspired her music both sonically and lyrically. In a three-part reintroduction, Eden said goodbye to her painful past on "No Shade," fell in love on "Sunroof," and professed her love to her new partner on "Got No Choice."

Sony Music Nashville | The Penthouse | CAA | Warner Chappell Music Nashville | BMI

At the forefront of the transfusion of country and hip-hop is **Willie Jones**. Early in 2021, Jones released his debut album *Right Now*, containing ear-worms "Back Porch," "Down For It," and "Right Now," as well as the culturally important "American Dream." The project has garnered millions of streams, exemplifying the demand for his signature sound.



Warner Music Nashville | Not A Public Figure Management / Erv Woolsey Company | UTA | UMPG Nashville | BMI

With a fresh Rocky Mountain country sound, **Ian Munsick** made his major label debut in spring of 2021 with the release of *Coyote Cry*. Serving as a thesis to the project is "Long Haul," a gorgeously lush track about Munsick's love-affair for his home. With a deep appreciation for modern western culture in country music, Munsick is helping lead the charge to its revitalization.

Big Loud Records / Back Blocks Music and Republic Records | Back Blocks Music / Fusion Music | WME | UMPG Nashville / Back Blocks Music | BMI

Since her breakout single "Villain," **Lily Rose** has hit the ground running. In October, the Georgia native released her album, *Stronger Than I Am*, which has already amassed over 87 million global streams. Her songs, with country-inspired confessional language and smooth R&B influence, highlights the singer-songwriter's ability to balance shimmery uniqueness with intimate relatability.



Cohencidence Projects | UTA | BMI

Brittney Spencer exploded onto the country music scene after her cover of The Highwomen's "Crowded Table" went viral. Since then, Spencer has left audiences enthralled at every performance, building her fan base with her gorgeously powerful voice and thought-provoking lyrics on songs like "Sober & Skinny" and "Sorries Don't Work No More."

Big Machine Label Group (The Valory Music Co.) | Olivia Hanceri, OH Creative Mgmt | WME | Songs & Daughters / Big Loud / Warner Chappell | BMI

Tiera is bringing soulful R&B into the country sphere. Her talent was quickly noted by the industry, and Tiera became the flagship writer for Nicolle Galyon's Songs & Daughters publishing company. With her own *The Tiera Show* on Apple Music, the honey-voiced singer-songwriter is pioneering her own unique brand of country music.



UMG Nashville (Mercury Nashville) | Missi Gallimore, T.R.U.T.H. Management | UTA | Truth or Dare / Warner Chappell Music | BMI

Sam Williams grew up in a country music dynasty, as the grandson of country pioneer Hank Williams and the son of outlaw legend Hank Williams Jr. But the talented singer-songwriter has forged his own path with his stunning debut album, *Glasshouse Children*. The project offers songs about healing, growth, loss and redemption that show off Williams' connection to country music's roots and forward thinking approach to artistry.

MusicRow Highlights Music Industry Leaders On The Rise With 2022 N.B.T. Industry Directory



Rising Nashville music industry leaders have been selected for *MusicRow* Magazine's 2022 N.B.T. Industry Directory.

Now in its third year, *MusicRow's* N.B.T. Industry Directory is the first and only list of its kind, showcasing Nashville music business professionals who occupy important roles at their respective companies. This class of professionals are on a trajectory of excellence to successfully lead the Nashville music industry into the future.

All members of the N.B.T. Industry Directory are featured in *MusicRow's* current 2022 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue. [Click here to read the full list of MusicRow's 2022 N.B.T. Industry Directory members.](#) **MR**

Jeff Krones Promoted To Co-Head Of CAA's Nashville Music Office

Creative Artists Agency (CAA) has announced that veteran agent **Jeff Krones** has been promoted to Co-Head of CAA Nashville Music.

Krones works with some of CAA's high-profile clients such as **Dan + Shay**, **Twenty One Pilots**, **Brett Young**, **Needtobreathe**, and **NF**, among many others. He has helped build out the agency's broader country music roster, in addition to other areas. He joins Nashville Music Co-Heads **Marc Dennis**, **Brian Manning**, and **Darin Murphy** in his new role.

Krones began his career as an intern at CAA in 2004 and was promoted to Agent in 2007. He was elected to the Board of the Academy of Country Music in 2017, and has been featured in many distinguished lists from *Pollstar* and *Billboard*. Krones lended his expertise in a story about his client Dan + Shay's return to the road for *MusicRow's* recently released Touring & Next Big Thing Issue.



"I'm honored to join my fellow Co-Heads in helping to build on our success in Nashville. As a team, we're passionate about discovering, developing, and serving a wide range of artists that touch many different genres and cultures," says Krones. "I'm fortunate to have spent my entire career at CAA, surrounded by the best agents, and I'm excited by the opportunity to help shape our future."

Additionally, CAA announced that **Bruno Del Granado** has been promoted to Head of the agency's global Latin Music touring group. Based in Miami, Del Granado joined the agency in 2013 from RM Entertainment Group, which he formed in partnership with Ricky Martin. Previously, he founded Entertainment Media Factory, Inc. a music, television, and film production and programming company specializing in content for Latin America, Europe, and Asia.

"Today's appointments of two superbly talented new leaders attest to the tremendous momentum CAA is experiencing across our touring business," shares CAA's Head of Music, **Rob Light**. "Jeff and Bruno's individual instincts, taste, and experience have made them world-class agents, and we look forward to them expanding their impact for clients and CAA in their new leadership roles." **MR**

Keith Urban To Embark On ‘The Speed Of Now World Tour’ In Summer 2022



Four-time Grammy award winner Keith Urban will make his return to the road as he sets course on “The Speed Of Now World Tour” North American leg with special guest, three-time Grammy nominee, Ingrid Andress.

Kicking off on June 17 at Tampa’s MIDFLORIDA Credit Union Amphitheatre, Urban will also make a handful of stops in Canada before trekking across the U.S., including his first performances at Los Angeles’ The Forum and the Jacksonville Daily’s Place. Tickets will go on sale in all markets on Friday, Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. local time.

“Every night is the first time we’ve played these songs for that audience, in that moment,” says Urban. “After two years, we’re finally gonna get the chance to play some of the new songs we haven’t done live before. We’ll throw in a bunch of the songs that everyone comes to hear, a couple of which we’ll rework a bit, and it’s really gonna be tough to get us off the stage.”

With the announcement of the North American debut of “The Speed Of Now World Tour,” Urban will embark on his first world tour in four years. The North American leg will add fifty shows to the tour’s previously announced dates in Australia, Germany, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. For more information, [click here](#). **MR**

Sony Music Nashville Elevates Alli Champagne To Sr. Dir., Legal & Business Affairs



Sony Music Nashville has announced the promotion of **Alli Champagne** to Sr. Dir., Legal & Business Affairs. Reporting directly to **Angie Magill**, Sr. VP, Legal & Business Affairs, Champagne will continue to handle contract negotiations for the label’s artist roster, serve as counsel to all label departments, and as Sony Music Nashville’s Radio Compliance Officer.

Champagne joined Sony Music Nashville in 2014 as Manager, Legal & Business Affairs and was promoted to Director for the department in 2018. Prior to joining the Sony team, Champagne was a member of Viacom/CMT’s Legal & Business Affairs department. She also spent time practicing entertainment law and litigating copyright infringement cases for law firms in Nashville.

Champagne is a graduate of Belmont University where she obtained a BBA degree in Music Business. She graduated from Pepperdine University School of Law where she received Certification in Entertainment, Intellectual Property, & Technology Law, and served as Editor for the Journal of Business, Entrepreneurship and the Law.

Magill says, “Because of her knowledge, positive attitude and terrific work ethic, Alli is an invaluable member of the Sony Music Nashville Team. I’m proud and happy to announce this well-deserved promotion.”

“I am honored by Angie’s confidence in me, and I look forward to her continued mentorship,” adds Champagne. “I am proud to take on this new role and grow further alongside the incredible Sony Music Nashville team, its groundbreaking artists, and unmatched executive leadership.” **MR**

Jimmie Allen, John Marks & Aaron Benward Launch JAB Entertainment



Pictured (L-R): Leo Brooks (of Neon Union), Aaron Benward, Jimmie Allen, Andrew Millsaps (of Neon Union)

Multi-Platinum artist **Jimmie Allen** along with music executives **Aaron Benward** and **John Marks** have launched JAB Entertainment, a full-service management and production company. The trio serve as partners for the Nashville-based company.

Marks joins JAB Entertainment from his most recent position as Global Director of Country Music at Spotify, in which he left in March of 2021. Benward is a Platinum-selling recording artist, multi-hit songwriter, film and television producer, music supervisor and a founder of the Park City Song Summit.

“I’ve been friends with Aaron for years – he’s a brother to me,” Allen says. “We’ve always wanted to work together and decided to launch JAB Entertainment.”

JAB Entertainment’s inaugural artist sign is **Neon Union**, a duo comprised of **Leo Brooks** and **Andrew Millsaps**. The two are featured on Allen’s “Livin’ Man” off his latest album *Bettie James Gold Edition*. Neon Union’s first single, “Beer Up” is slated to drop on Dec. 30 through a distribution deal with EMPIRE.

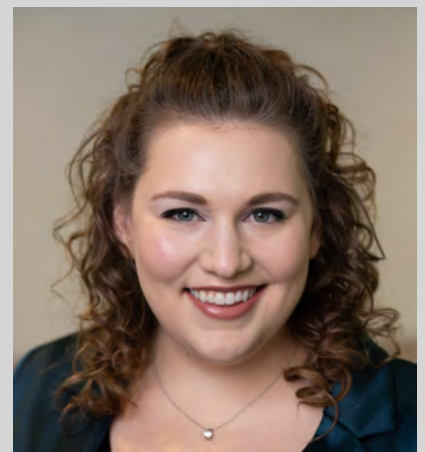
“It wasn’t long ago that Jimmie and Aaron invited me to see their new duo Neon Union in Nashville,” Marks says. “I watched their set, saw their on stage chemistry and knew I needed to be a part of this history making duo. It’s an honor to be joining JAB Entertainment with Jimmie and Aaron and to bring Neon Union’s message of great music, BIG fun and unity to the world.” **MR**

Emily Peacock Rises To Senior Creative Director At Tree Vibe Music

Music publishing company Tree Vibe Music, which was founded by FGL’s **Tyler Hubbard** and **Brian Kelley**, have elevated main staff member **Emily Peacock** to Senior Creative Director.

First joining TVM in 2018, Peacock plays a pivotal role in leading the company’s songwriters, including Kelley, Hubbard, **Jordan Schmidt**, **Corey Crowder**, **RaeLynn**, **Canaan Smith**, **Blake Redferrin**, and **Chris Loocke**. For the third consecutive year, Peacock is featured in *MusicRow’s* N.B.T. Industry Directory among rising Nashville music business professionals who are having a major impact on the industry.

The Belmont University graduate first launched her professional career alongside **Bob DiPiero** at Love Monkey Music. For over a decade, she’s worked hand-in-hand with veteran publisher **Leslie T. DiPiero** at Tom-Leis Music and Advanced Alternative Media (AAM).



“Emily’s dedication to our roster and attention to detail is unsurpassed,” shares TVM General Manager Leslie T. DiPiero. “We are grateful for her enviable work ethic and air traffic control skills. Our entire Tree Vibe Music family extends our heartfelt congratulations to Emily Peacock!” **MR**

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Chris Stapleton Sings With Adele & Taylor Swift



As the year winds down, country steps into the national spotlight.

The genre's stars seem to be everywhere on TV specials and at media events these days. Which is the perfect time to be releasing headline-making new music.

Stepping up the the plate today are Alan Jackson, Old Dominion, Walker Hayes, Kameron Marlowe and Taylor Swift, all with superb fresh sounds. The Disc of the Day goes to Adele with our own Chris Stapleton, adding more than a little to the pop superstar's performance.

I don't know much about her, but the DIScovery Award winner is Madeline Edwards.

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Cole Swindell & Lainey Wilson Join Forces On Fiery Duet, 'Never Say Never' [Interview]

Grammy-nominated entertainer **Cole Swindell** and fast-rising, country songstress **Lainey Wilson** recently released their fiery new duet, "Never Say Never" via Warner Music Nashville.

For Swindell, the track is his 12th career single following his back-to-back No. 1 hits "Love You Too Late" and "Single Saturday Night." Meanwhile, Wilson, who won the 2021 *MusicRow* Discovery Artist of the Year award, is coming off her Gold-certified, No. 1 debut single "Things A Man Oughta Know."

Swindell co-wrote "Never Say Never" with **Jessi Alexander** and **Chase McGill** in 2018. The **Zach Crowell**-produced track blends Swindell and Wilson's signature sounds, offering a perfect mixture of country twang and relatability with rocking guitar licks and powerful concert-ready production. The hard-hitting back and forth dialog finds the duo admitting that sometimes you just can't walk away, even when you know you should.



"I don't know anyone who hasn't been in this situation at some point in time," Wilson says. "I was telling Cole the other day, it's like that piece of chocolate cake that you know you shouldn't have but you take it anyway. We've all been there, so we can all relate even if you've never been in a relationship in your life." She continues, "It's hard sometimes to have a rocking song that's also passionate, and I think this song does that. It makes you feel all the things. It makes you wanna say 'Hell yeah!' and it makes you want to kiss somebody."

Though the two artists have been long-time fans of each other, "Never Say Never" is their first collaboration. It is also Swindell's first true duet from his seven year career.

"I wrote [the song] with two of our really good friends, Chase McGill and Jessi Alexander. I was in [Lainey's] hometown in Louisiana playing the last show of the year a couple of years ago, and we wrote this song that weekend. We knew it was special and we could tell it was going to be a rocking song with a lot of energy, but the way we wrote it we knew it had to be a duet," Swindell says. "We were trying to find the right person that could sing it and make it feel like it needed to. I've been a big fan of [Lainey's] music, so when she popped into my head [we knew that she was it]."

"I take a whole lot of pride in my own songwriting and my own art. People pitch me things and I am a stickler, I'm not going to lie. It's got to hit me right [in the heart]. It's gotta make me feel something and it's gotta make me feel like I wrote it," Wilson explains. "I listened to the first verse and the chorus and I was like 'Holy moly! This song is special and it made me feel something.' I've been a fan of his for the longest time and look up to him as a songwriter, entertainer, and artist so I couldn't say yes quick enough."

Throughout his career, Swindell has racked up 10 No. 1 singles, multiple Gold and Platinum singles and albums, and nearly 4.5 billion career streams. However, upon its release to country radio, "Never Say Never" earned 91 first-day adds at *Billboard* and *Country Aircheck*/Mediabase, making it Swindell's biggest add day so far in his career.

With "Never Say Never" now out into the world and gaining traction, Swindell and Wilson have many plans in the works and dreams for the project, including a cinematic, attention-grabbing music video and hopes of a 2022 award show performance.

"Never Say Never" is available everywhere now. **MR**

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	67	Taylor Swift	All Too Well I Bet You Think About Me Red Nothing New Better Man Traacherous We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together I Almost Do The Very First Night Stay Stay Stay Babe Holy Ground Begin Again Forever Winter The Moment I Knew The Lucky One Sad Beautiful Tragic Come Back... Be Here Starlight Girl at Home Ronan	Taylor Swift Taylor Swift ft. Chris Stapleton Taylor Swift Taylor Swift feat. Phoebe Bridgers Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift Taylor Swift
2	1	Ashley Gorley	Steal My Love Take My Name New Truck You Should Probably Leave Sand In My Boots Beers On Me Give Heaven Some Hell Slow Down Summer	Dan + Shay Parmalee Dylan Scott Chris Stapleton Morgan Wallen Dierks Bentley, Hardy & Breland HARDY Thomas Rhett
3	2	Jesse Frasure	If I Was A Cowboy One Mississippi Whiskey And Rain Slow Down Summer	Miranda Lambert Kane Brown Michael Ray Thomas Rhett
4	7	Jonathan Singleton	Cold as You Same Boat	Luke Combs Zac Brown Band
5	4	Michael Hardy	New Truck Sand In My Boots Beers On Me Come Back As A Country Boy Give Heaven Some Hell	Dylan Scott Morgan Wallen Dierks Bentley, Hardy & Breland Blake Shelton HARDY
6	3	Rhett Akins	Tequila Little Time To Be Loved By You Slow Down Summer	Jon Pardi Parker McCollum Thomas Rhett
7	5	Eric Church	Heart On Fire	Eric Church
8	6	Josh Thompson	Whiskey And Rain Come Back As A Country Boy	Michael Ray Blake Shelton
9	10	J. Flowers	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
10	11	Brinley Addington	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
11	14	Hunter Phelps	Best Thing Since Backroads New Truck Thinking 'Bout You Give Heaven Some Hell	Jake Owen Dylan Scott Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter HARDY
12	9	Matt Rogers	Freedom Was A Highway 'Til You Can't	Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley Cody Johnson
13	23	Luke Combs	Cold as You Doin' This	Luke Combs Luke Combs
14	12	Josh Osborne	My Masterpiece Sand In My Boots 23	Darius Rucker Morgan Wallen Sam Hunt

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
15	13	Josh Jenkins	Fancy Like Buy Dirt	Walker Hayes Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan
16	8	Shane McAnally	Half Of My Hometown Never Wanted To Be That Girl 23	Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Carly Pearce & Ashley McBryde Sam Hunt
17	21	Ben Simonetti	Same Boat	Zac Brown Band
18	22	Zac Brown	Same Boat	Zac Brown Band
19	66	Lori McKenna	I Bet You Think About Me	Taylor Swift ft. Chris Stapleton
20	—	Dan Wilson	Treacherous Come Back... Be Here	Taylor Swift Taylor Swift
21	17	Andy Albert	Steal My Love Thinking 'Bout You	Dan + Shay Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter
22	19	Chris Stapleton	You Should Probably Leave	Chris Stapleton
23	29	Chris DuBois	You Should Probably Leave	Chris Stapleton
24	—	Liz Rose	All Too Well	Taylor Swift
25	15	Martin Johnson	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)	Elle King and Miranda Lambert
26	16	Elle King	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)	Elle King and Miranda Lambert
27	26	Kat Higgins	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney
28	27	Adam James	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney
29	28	Brett James	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney
30	33	Kurt Allison	If I Didn't Love You	Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood
31	34	Tully Kennedy	If I Didn't Love You	Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood
32	35	Lydia Vaughan	If I Didn't Love You	Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood
33	36	John Morgan	If I Didn't Love You	Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood
34	42	Randy Montana	Cold as You	Luke Combs
35	43	S. Minor	Cold as You	Luke Combs
36	44	Will Weatherly	Thinking 'Bout You	Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter
37	45	Dustin Lynch	Thinking 'Bout You	Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter
38	24	Ernest Keith Smith	Fill Them Boots One Mississippi Memory	Chris Lane Kane Brown Kane Brown & Blackbear
39	46	Jordan Davis	Buy Dirt	Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan
40	47	Jacob Davis	Buy Dirt	Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan
41	48	Matt Jenkins	Buy Dirt	Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan
42	30	Jon Pardi	Tequila Little Time	Jon Pardi
43	31	Luke Laird	Tequila Little Time	Jon Pardi
44	18	Parker McCollum	To Be Loved By You	Parker McCollum
45	25	Kane Brown	One Mississippi Memory	Kane Brown Kane Brown & Blackbear
46	37	Jimmie Allen	Freedom Was A Highway	Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley
47	38	Ash Bowers	Freedom Was A Highway	Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley
48	32	Ben Stennis	'Til You Can't	Cody Johnson
49	54	Levon Gray	One Mississippi	Kane Brown
50	41	Ross Copperman	My Masterpiece Half Of My Hometown Beers On Me	Darius Rucker Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Dierks Bentley, Hardy & Breland
51	—	Patrick Monahan	Babe	Taylor Swift
52	75	Drew Parker	While You're Gone Doin' This	Drew Parker Luke Combs
53	50	Emily Kroll	Just About Over You	Priscilla Block
54	51	Sarah Jones	Just About Over You	Priscilla Block
55	52	Priscilla Block	Just About Over You	Priscilla Block

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
56	49	Ben Johnson	Best Thing Since Backroads Take My Name New Truck Give Heaven Some Hell	Jake Owen Parmalee Dylan Scott HARDY
57	—	Adele Adkins	Easy on Me	Adele with Chris Stapleton
58	—	Greg Kurstin	Easy on Me	Adele with Chris Stapleton
59	—	Mark Foster	Forever Winter	Taylor Swift
60	90	Robert Williford	Doin' This	Luke Combs

CALENDAR

Single/Track Releases

December 3

Sarah Darling/*Song Still Gets Me/Be Darling* Records

December 6

Brooke Moriber/*This Town Made Us/Reviver* Records

Walker Hayes/*AA/Monument*

Richard Lynch/*I Saw Santa Balin' Hay/MTS*

Album/EP Releases

December 3

Blake Shelton/*Body Language Deluxe/Warner Music Nashville*

December 10

Hardy & Various Artists/*Hixtape: Vol. 2/Big Loud*

Industry Events

January 14 – 17, 2022

30A Songwriters Festival

January 31, 2022

The 64th Annual Grammy Awards