

JOHN BERRY BIO

Following a year where the world was rocked by a pandemic that still challenges us and took musicians off the road, John Berry has a new outlook and a fresh, new outlook. The singer-songwriter rose to stardom on the country charts of the 1990s with such mega hits as **Your Love Amazes Me**, **Standing on the Edge of Goodbye** and **She's Taken a Shine**. His annual Christmas tours brighten the holidays for thousands, as does his electrifying rendition of **O' Holy Night**.

During his star-making decade, John placed 20 singles on the county charts, 6 of which went Top 5, with **Your Love Amazes Me**, scoring a #1 on the Billboard and Radio & Records Country Chart as well as **Standing on the Edge of Goodbye** and **She's Taken a Shine** earning the #1 slot in Radio & Records . He has earned multiple Gold and Platinum records over the years. John was nominated for the ACM Top New Male Vocalist in 1994, won a Grammy Award in 1996 for his participation in *Amazing Grace: A Country Salute to Gospel Vol. 1*, was nominated for another Grammy in 1995 for his smash hit **Your Love Amazes Me** and was nominated for the CMA Horizon Award and Top Male Vocalist Award in 1995. In 1997 he was nominated for Vocal Event of the Year (for **Long Haired Country Boy** with Charlie Daniels and Hal Ketchum) and in 2013 John was nominated for the Mainstream Country Male Artist by the ICM Awards. And thanks to the miracles of modern technology, he even sang a duet with the late, great Patsy Cline.

“I love what I do, with a passion not seen in quite some time. I'm hopeful and excited about the future. I love singing and always will. I have a bus, an incredible stage presentation, a great band, hands-on management team and I'm always all dressed up and ready to go.”

He and his family moved back to Music City after several years in Georgia, and in 2019 John is pursuing a touring and personal appearance schedule that is more active than ever. Given his wide range of music and number of releases, John is fortunate in that he can book a solo show with just himself and guitar, a small-band acoustic show or a full-band engagement and has more than enough hit material to captivate a crowd and deliver an evening full of musical memories.

John's enduringly powerful performances draw on a lifetime of making music and living life. Born in South Carolina and raised in Georgia, he began playing guitar at 13, performing shows at age 14 and making records at age 19. “By the time I was 17, I knew that music was what I wanted to do with my life”; and he has done it well ever since.

Between 1979 and 1990 he recorded and marketed six albums on his own labels. **The Graduation Song**, which he wrote during his senior year in high school, became a perennial favorite at graduation ceremonies. It appeared on two of his early collections.

Those early discs and John's strong regional popularity attracted attention on Music Row. Capitol Records signed him to his first major label contract in 1992. Berry's co-written hits **A Mind of Her Own** and **Kiss Me in the Car** introduced him to radio audiences in 1993. Then **Your Love Amazes Me**, **What's in it for Me** and **You and Only You** thrust him to stardom in 1994. **Standing on the Edge of Goodbye**, **I Think About it all the Time**, and **If I Had Any Pride Left at All** were all major hits the following year, with **Standing on the Edge of Goodbye** earning John the coveted 1995 Grammy nomination.

But it was his stunning performance of the title track of the 1995 CD **O' Holy Night** that led to his most enduring legacy to date. John began doing special Christmas tours that year and 2016 marks his 20th anniversary holiday concert tour. He has big plans to celebrate and involve the fans like never before for this anniversary celebration. He has also issued three more Christmas-music collections. If **O' Holy Night** is all that anyone remembers of me, that's fine with me,” he comments about his perennial Christmas popularity. “It is a truly inspired piece of music.”

Happily, there were more successes to come. The hit **Change My Mind** earned John a Top-5 spot on the Country music charts in 1996. **She's Taken a Shine** became an even bigger hit in 1997. Both fans and the media took note again when **There He Goes** was released as a 1999 *duet* with Patsy Cline.

In 2002, Berry returned to making records for his own company, Clear Sky Records. *Songs and Stories*, a double CD was issued that year.

In 2003, John Berry released his *I Give My Heart* collection and its critically applauded wedding anthem **Will You Marry Me**. The disc also contained his versions of such classic love songs as **Time in a Bottle, If, Love Look What You've Done to Me, Faithfully, Lady** and **Let's Stay Together**. *I Give My Heart* inspired still another popular concert series, **The Love Tour**.

In 2008, *Those Were the Days*, was released, marking John's return to mainstream country music. He created his first Christian-music CD in 2011. In 2012, John published the combination book and CD, again titled *Songs and Stories*. Over the years he has continued to tour steadily. "We just have a great group of fans who welcome us every year. They are always there."

In late 2015 John launched a crowd funded Kickstarter project that proved very successful. Overwhelmed by the fan response, John assembled an all-star studio team and cut both a Country album entitled *What I Love the Most* and a new album simply titled *Christmas* and released both in late 2016. Blessed with the ability to make the music he wanted to make (and not what a label dictated) allowed John the time to write and create what many music critics who have heard bits & pieces are saying could be his best, most complete project yet. "I'm excited to have been able to release this new music and bring it to the fans through a new distribution agreement with Sony RED. It's a new time in the music business and technology allows me to be closer to my fans and interact in new ways. You know, God just keeps blessing me. There are new opportunities coming at every turn."

"With time, I've learned that the road to fulfillment is doing what I was called to do, love to do, and then doing it the best I can, regardless of the circumstances. And for me, that is making music and singing for people."

2017 found John touring in several configurations (acoustic solo, acoustic trio and full band) culminating in the year-ending legendary Christmas Tour, marking its 21st year this year.

Also, in August of 2017 John launched a new, weekly internationally syndicated television show entitled **Songs and Stories with John Berry** that explored the songs and stories that changed the lives of his weekly guest. Superstar guests in Season 1 of the show include Billy Ray Cyrus, Billy Dean, Mo Pitney, Neal McCoy, Suzy Bogguss, Collin Raye, Craig Morgan, Mark Wills, Delbert McClinton, Clay Walker and Lee Roy Parnell. He followed up a successful Season 1 with Season 2 that showcased artists like Steve Dorff, Mac McAnally, Bryan White, John Schneider, Radney Foster, Terri Clark, Tracy Lawrence, Darryl Worley, Pam Tillis, Rhonda Vincent, newcomers Sean Berry, Preston James and Blane Howard and closing out the season with the legendary group, Exile.

Songs and Stories with John Berry aired for two years, multiple times weekly to over 105 million homes across the United States as well as the UK and New Zealand on great networks like Heartland Television, The Family Channel, The Country Channel, Phil Mack's Keep it Country (UK), Country TV (New Zealand) and Ride TV.

Along with Season 2 of *Songs and Stories with John Berry*, 2018 saw John celebrating his 25th anniversary since signing his major label deal, touring the country, being recognized by the State of Georgia with a proclamation naming a day in his honor, receiving the key to the city in his old hometown of Athens, Georgia after a sold out return show there (celebration his first show in an Athens club in 25 years), being featured in the critically acclaimed major motion picture "Beautifully Broken" by singing the title cut, which saw him notch his first Top 30 Country in hit in 22 years, releasing a new recording project which contains several songs John co-wrote that celebrates his life, entitles "Thomas Road" and ended with his celebrated Christmas tour, the 22nd annual tour.

2019 proved to be another surprising year, with health challenges kicking it off. In January, John was diagnosed with cancer of his tonsils and had them removed. That was followed by 7 rounds of chemo and 35 rounds of radiation. He took the first 4 months of the year off to recuperate and his treatments successfully removed the cancer before resuming and singing as if it never happened.

John took advantage of being off the road for the bigger part of 2020 and created new opportunities to continue his reach to his fan base and reach new ones. Highlights include partnering with Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt for his weekly series, "Songs and Stories For Kids," which charted multiple times on the Pollstar Live Stream Chart.

He released a new video and re-recorded a new single for "The Graduation Song," and with his wife Robin, launched a new podcast, *Faith Family & Friends with John & Robin Berry*, which to date has featured an array of interesting and famous guests from across the spectrum of interests including Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee Richie Furay, Country

& Gospel Music Hall of Fame member (and former Statler Brother) Jimmy Fortune, Country Music Hall of Fame member (and Oak Ridge Boy) Duane Allen, Olympic Gold Medalist Scott Hamilton, former University of Georgia College Football coaching legend Vince Dooley, Country Music greats Billy Dean, Darryl Worley, Charlie Daniels (in his last public interview). Also featured are best selling authors Kim Campbell (widow of music great Glen Campbell) and Megan Alexander (Inside Edition National correspondent & co-host of Circle TV's Coffee Country & Cody show) and many others.

2021 sees John emerge with a host of new projects in development and with his sights firmly set on his 25th Anniversary of his legendary Christmas Tour, with a grand presentation planned that will leave audiences amazed and full of joy & hope for the future. John also celebrates the 25th Anniversary of his highly acclaimed album, Faces in 2021.

For more information, follow John on his website at <https://www.johnberry.com/>

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