

Sony Music Publishing Rebrands, Revitalizes Mission



**SONY MUSIC
PUBLISHING**

The Sony Music Publishing name has returned after 25 years, introducing a new brand identity with a redesigned logo and revitalized mission.

Driven by the leadership of Chairman & CEO **Jon Platt**, the renewal of the Sony Music Publishing name signifies the company's desire to identify as "A Creative Entertainment Company with a Solid Foundation of Technology."

The refreshed logo is designed as an abstraction of sound waves—with resonance and vibrations that express infinitely expanding opportunities for songwriters. Complementing the symbol, the Sony Music Publishing ethos is 'every voice matters,' elevating the vision and goals of songwriters.

Sony/ATV was established in 1995 through a joint venture with Michael Jackson that brought together the original Sony Music Publishing with Jackson's ATV Music. Jackson had acquired ATV Music, which owned the Northern Songs catalogue, in 1985. Northern Songs owned the rights to all the songs that John Lennon and Paul McCartney wrote during their time with the Beatles. In 2016, Sony acquired the Michael Jackson Estate's 50% share of Sony/ATV making it a wholly owned Sony company.

Sony Music Publishing Chairman and CEO Platt commented, "Sony Music Publishing has always embraced the power of songwriting to connect cultures and bring people together. Since its inception, Sony Music Publishing has supported the careers of songwriters and continues to defend their rights. Returning to the Sony Music Publishing name

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

Sony Music Publishing Rebrands

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John Cantu Appointed GM of RED Creative Records

Kane Brown, Sony Music Nashville Launch 1021 Entertainment

ACM Announces Radio Awards Nominees

Reservoir Signs Brooke Eden to Worldwide Publishing Deal

Brett Saliba Joins UTA

Brandon Ratcliff Signs with Warner Chappell Music Nashville and King Pen Music

DISCLAIMER Singles Reviews

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Toni Bruno

This concert was awesome ❤️

Matti Manninen

Amazing concert, and of course the album GOLDMINE! 🔥🔥🔥❤️🙏🙏🙏👍👍

Lauren Fisher

Wow this album is amazing...seriously miss live music and concerts :(

Wade King

i got the goosebumps from this...

LISTEN TO "THE GOOD ONES"
FROM THE GOLD CERTIFIED ALBUM
GOLDMINE RECORDED LIVE HERE

GABBY BARRETT

LIVE from the
GOLDMINE

reconnects us to our legacy and further unifies our mission and culture with the Sony Corporation. Our new brand embodies a modern vision to be an authentic reflection of the music and songwriters we represent.”

Sony Music Publishing Nashville CEO **Rusty Gaston** spoke to *MusicRow* about the rebrand and its implications for the company’s Nashville presence.

“Jon Platt came in as a new Chairman and CEO 18 months ago, and he has done such an incredibly terrific job at transforming the entire company’s culture,” Gaston tells *MusicRow*. “Part of this rebrand is breathing a fresh and new life into what he has done to this company in general; making the focus on relationships and service. When he came in, he was very vocal about wanting this company to be the destination for the world’s greatest songwriters. This rebranding is a natural evolution of the way he is transforming this company and it’s all incredibly positive.”

Gaston, who is also newly at the helm of Sony Music Publishing’s Nashville office, is excited about the company refresh.

“It’s really exciting because I’m brand new here as well. I’ve only been here a year and I walked in with the same passion and enthusiasm that Jon Platt did for the company overall. It was about making the focus of this Nashville office to be on one-on-one relationships with songwriters and about us providing hands-down, the very best service the songwriter could possibly get in Nashville.”

He says that the Sony Music Publishing Nashville office is getting a refresh as well, with the space being renovated.

“I am incredibly excited about when we come out of this pandemic, not only are we going back into a new Sony Music Publishing campus on



Rusty Gaston

Music Row, but it’s going to be completely renovated and it’s going to be the actual destination that songwriters want to come to.”

Gaston sums, “It’s a new culture and in Nashville, we’re going to have a brand new space.” **MR**

Natalie Hemby Signs To Fantasy Records, Will Release Solo Album in 2021



Natalie Hemby. Photo: Alysse Gaffken

Renowned songwriter and member of The Highwomen, **Natalie Hemby**, has signed a worldwide recording contract with Fantasy Records and will release a new solo album later this year.

The upcoming solo album, produced and mixed by her husband **Mike Wrucke**, will be Hemby’s first for Fantasy. She joins a roster at Fantasy Records that includes Tanya Tucker, James Taylor, Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats, Paul Simon, Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real, and more.

“Both Mick Management and Fantasy Records have an exceptional and eclectic roster of artists they work with,” said Hemby. “Their teams are some of the most respected in the music business. I’m so proud to be a part of their musical families...it is truly a dream come true for me.”

MR

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Glad You Exist/Dan + Shay/Warner Music Nashville/WAR — 63

Okfuskee Whiskey/James Robert Webb/Bison Creek

Records — 68

See You Here/Courtney Dickinson/117 Music — 69

What The Whiskey's For/Tom Sexton/Lots To Do Music — 72

Together/for KING & COUNTRY feat. Hannah Ellis, Jackson

Michelson/CurbWord Entertainment — 77

Things A Man Oughta Know/Lainey Wilson/Broken Bow — 79

Joan of Arkansas/Lena Paige feat. Tanya Tucker/LP

Records — 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Glad You Exist/Dan + Shay/Warner Music Nashville/WAR — 227

Minimum Wage/Blake Shelton/Warner Music Nashville — 196

Undivided/Tim McGraw and Tyler Hubbard/Big Machine

Records — 168

Good Time/Niko Moon/RCA Nashville — 127

What The Whiskey's For/Tom Sexton/Lots To Do Music — 110

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Glad You Exist/Dan + Shay/Warner Music Nashville/WAR — 17

What The Whiskey's For/Tom Sexton/Lots To Do Music — 13

Freedom Was A Highway/Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley/Stoney

Creek Records — 8

Okfuskee Whiskey/James Robert Webb/Bison Creek

Records — 7

Minimum Wage/Blake Shelton/Warner Music Nashville — 6

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Truck Huntin'/Jared MacLane — 141

Good To Go/Rebel Hearts/Rebel Hearts Records — 140

Hands On The Bible/Chelsey James — 138

NO. 1 SONG



“Hell Of A View” by **Eric Church** rises to No. 1 this week on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart. Written by Church, **Casey Beathard**, and **Monty Criswell**, the single will appear on *Soul* which is part 3 of a collection of albums coming out in April. [Click here](#) to read more about Church’s three-album project.

Church teases a 2021 tour in a video message to fans: “We are working on a North American tour. We’re waiting for the right timing to officially announce all the details, but I want you to know that a tour is coming, and we are very excited to play new music for our old friends... I cannot wait to see you on the road.”



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 Carterville, 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

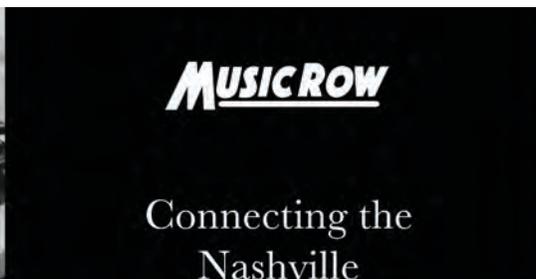
WTCM Traverse City, MI
 KYSM Mankato, MN
 KZPK St. Cloud, MN
 KWWR Mexico, MO
 KFAV Warrenton, MO
 KZZY Devils Lake, ND
 KRVN Lexington, NE
 Jersey Shore Country
 KQBA Santa Fe, NM
 WDNB Monticello, NY
 WOLF Syracuse, NY
 WCJW Warsaw, NY
 WFRY Watertown, NY
 KWHW Altus, OK

KITX Hugo, OK
 KWEY Weatherford, OK
 KWOX Woodward, OK
 KRKT Albany, OR
 WNBT Mansfield, PA
 WCFT Selinsgrove, PA
 WFGE State College, PA
 WMIR Myrtle Beach, SC
 KIQK Rapid City, SD
 WUCZ Carthage, TN
 WDKN Dickson, TN
 WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN
 KAYD Beaumont, TX
 KFTX Corpus Christi, TX

KYKX Longview, TX
 KMRK Odessa, 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
 WDDG Huntington, WV

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
13	3	1	Hell Of A View / Eric Church / EMI	1882/68	3	58
14	2	2	Gone / Dierks Bentley / Capitol	1850/68	1	13
21	4	3	Settling Down / Miranda Lambert / Vanner Records/RCA Records	1598/59	1	10
40	6	4	Made For You / Jake Owen / Big Loud Records	1595/59	2	36
18	8	5	One Too Many / Keith Urban & P!nk / Capitol	1547/58	2	25
50	7	6	Nobody / Dylan Scott / Curb	1518/54	-1	-14
23	10	7	Good Time / Niko Moon / RCA Nashville	1505/44	9	127
39	1	8	Lady / Brett Young / BMLG	1467/50	-25	-479
18	9	9	Next Girl / Carly Pearce / Big Machine	1452/64	0	4
31	11	10	The Good Ones / Gabby Barrett / Warner Music Nashville	1403/54	4	54
5	16	11	Undivided / Tim McGraw and Tyler Hubbard / Big Machine Records	1225/60	16	168
15	13	12	We Didn't Have Much / Justin Moore / Valory	1169/59	3	38
16	12	13	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's / Sam Hunt / MCA Nashville	1161/50	1	16
4	23	14	Minimum Wage / Blake Shelton / Warner Music Nashville	1100/54	22	196
12	15	15	Blame It On You / Jason Aldean / Broken Bow	1091/54	3	33
56	14	16	Somebody Like That / Tenille Arts / 19th & Grand	1080/44	1	11
15	20	17	Just The Way / Parmalee x Blanco Brown / Stoney Creek Records	1071/40	11	105
52	18	18	Momma's House / Dustin Lynch / Broken Bow	999/39	1	7
34	17	19	Hard Days / Brantley Gilbert / Valory	996/44	-1	-11
33	21	20	Wine, Beer, Whiskey / Little Big Town / Capitol	973/43	2	17
13	22	21	Memory I Don't Mess With / Lee Brice / Curb	946/52	1	7
6	24	22	Famous Friends / Chris Young & Kane Brown / RCA Nashville	923/52	6	52
14	25	23	Heaven On Dirt / Teddy Robb / Monument	811/50	0	0
16	26	24	If It Wasn't For Trucks / Riley Green / BMLG	809/42	2	16
16	27	25	Where I Find God / Larry Fleet / Big Loud Records	739/40	1	5
19	28	26	Sometimes Late At Night / Eric Burgett / Bow To Stern Records	721/41	12	76
10	30	27	Ain't Gonna Be Today / Ward Davis / Ward Davis Music/Thirty Tigers	687/46	8	51
5	29	28	Tequila Little Time / Jon Pardi / Capitol	686/47	7	43
18	31	29	Waste Of A Whiskey Drink / Gary Allan / EMI	639/35	2	14
14	34	30	Just About Over You / Priscilla Block / Mercury Nashville	608/38	8	44
8	33	31	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen. / Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line / Broken Bow/Dack Janiels	598/38	5	29
5	38	32	Give Heaven Some Hell / HARDY / Big Loud Records	586/45	21	101
18	35	33	Sometimes Always Never / Brandon Ratcliff / Monument	549/36	2	13
16	36	34	Comin' Home / The Desert City Ramblers / Crane Kick Records	519/29	1	3
11	39	35	Anybody Else / Mira Goto / ArtistMax/Copperline	493/28	9	39
9	40	36	Cold Beer Calling My Name / Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs / River House Artists/ Columbia Nashville	466/30	5	21
22	42	37	Waitin' On 5 / Chris Janson / Warner Music Nashville	446/25	5	22
26	37	38	We Were Rich / Runaway June / Wheelhouse Records	438/25	-12	-59
24	43	39	Single Saturday Night / Cole Swindell / Warner Music Nashville	428/28	9	37



Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
13	41	40	You Time / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	420/31	-1	-5
5	51	41	My Boy / Elvie Shane / Wheelhouse Records	404/30	24	77
10	46	42	Heartland / Hailey Whitters / Big Loud Records/S&D	399/27	7	26
11	45	43	Meghan / Brecken Miles / Rhyme Partners	395/26	4	16
8	48	44	Extra / Kylie Trout / Kylie Trout Music	391/27	13	45
11	47	45	God Save The World / Jeff Carson / MC1 Nashville	382/20	7	25
9	49	46	Just Like You / Paige King Johnson / PCG Artist Development	379/32	11	39
17	50	47	I Can Tell By The Way You Dance / Josh Turner / MCA Nashville	349/22	4	12
9	52	48	River Bent / Caleb Kelley / River Bend Entertainment	331/22	8	24
3	60	49	To Be Loved By You / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	330/29	27	71
11	53	50	Worship You / Kane Brown / RCA Nashville	311/17	3	9
2	68	51	Freedom Was A Highway / Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley / Stoney Creek Records	302/25	48	98
6	55	52	Just Friends / Caylee Hammack / Capitol	300/21	4	11
6	57	53	Chain Breaker / Zach Williams / Provident Label Group	298/25	4	12
6	59	54	What Would Dolly Do? / Tori Martin / LuckySky Music	293/21	12	31
12	54	55	Ghost Town Nation / Travis Tritt / Big Noise	288/16	-4	-12
6	61	56	Love Like Crazy / TJ Ashley / Music Train Records	276/16	7	18
4	63	57	Right Place Now / Hudson Valley / Hudson Valley	257/20	10	24
6	62	58	You're Gonna Love Me / Tim Dugger / Curb	256/18	0	-1
8	56	59	Whiskey And Rain / Michael Ray / Warner Music Nashville	251/17	-13	-36
4	69	60	No Body, No Crime / Taylor Swift feat. Haim / MCA Nashville	239/17	20	40
6	65	61	Freedom And Wings / Heather Smith /	235/13	7	15
20	66	62	Dear Rodeo / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Bros.	229/14	5	10
1	0	63	Glad You Exist / Dan + Shay / Warner Music Nashville/WAR	227/17	0	227
7	64	64	Time Changes / Stephanie Nash /	223/15	0	0
5	67	65	Kickstart / Owen Howell / Kojax Entertainment	217/15	1	2
13	58	66	Same Ole / Chris Kroeze /	206/13	-25	-68
4	70	67	I Do Thing / Kylie Frey / Deep Frey'd Music Group	198/15	2	3
1	97	68	Okfuskee Whiskey / James Robert Webb / Bison Creek Records	196/20	75	84
1	81	69	See You Here / Courtney Dickinson / 117 Music	194/17	28	42
2	72	70	Shallow / Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood / Pearl Records	193/13	10	18
3	74	71	Can't Stop / Chloe Collins / Collins House Music	181/15	8	14
1	115	72	What The Whiskey's For / Tom Sexton / Lots To Do Music	176/18	127	110
4	73	73	More With Less / Frank Vieira / Frank Vieira Music	176/10	3	5
2	77	74	Pushing Up Daisies / Lana Gail / Gail Force Entertainment	172/12	9	14
2	78	75	New To Neon / Andrew Hopson / Tower Road Records	168/14	7	11
2	79	76	Head Over Wheels / Joe Hanson /	164/12	5	8
1	82	77	Together / for KING & COUNTRY feat. Hannah Ellis, Jackson Michelson / Curb Word Entertainment	158/16	5	7
2	80	78	He Looks Good On Her / Michael McCall / MDM Entertainment	156/11	2	3
1	85	79	Things A Man Oughta Know / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow	144/9	1	2
1	87	80	Joan of Arkansas / Lena Paige feat. Tanya Tucker / LP Records	142/12	1	1

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BMLG Promotes Nicole Flammia to VP, Creative Photo & Video Production



Big Machine Label Group has promoted **Nicole Flammia** to Vice President, Creative Photo & Video Production. In her new role, Flammia will continue to work closely with Big Machine Label Group's full roster of artists and their management teams to produce music videos, photoshoots and additional content.

"Nicole has been a true leader and creative force at Big Machine Label Group," said BMLG Creative Team Sr. Vice President **Sandi Spika Borchetta**. "Her dedication, hard work ethic and production mindset has greatly contributed to the success of our creative content. Congratulations, Nicole! We are proud you are a part of the Machine!"

A graduate of Belmont University, Flammia joined BMLG in 2015 with a seasoned background in video production. Her innovative work has resulted in multiple CMA and ACM award wins and nominations for videos such as Thomas Rhett's "Remember You Young," Lady A's "What If I Never Get Over You," Carly Pearce's "I Hope You're Happy Now" and Sugarland's "Babe." Flammia was also included in *MusicRow's* 2021 Next Big Thing Music Industry Directory.

"I'm so grateful to be a part of a company that pushes boundaries, embraces creativity and continues to evolve in our industry," said Flammia. "The creative team at Big Machine is almost a second family to me. I've learned and grown so much over these last six years and I look forward to be able to contribute to our future. Thank you to Sandi and **Scott Borchetta** for this opportunity and their continued support." **MR**

John Cantu Appointed GM of RED Creative Records



John Cantu has been named General Manager of RED Creative Records. In this new position, Cantu will oversee day-to-day operations, marketing, distribution, branding, and creative direction for RED's artist and development roster, including LJ, Noah Hicks, and Baker Grissom.

Cantu comes to RED Creative from Anthem Entertainment, where he worked in a global label and corporate marketing role. He also previously served as Marketing Director for Riser House Entertainment, where he helped launch the careers of artists like Mitchell Tenpenny.

"I am very excited to welcome John to RED Creative Records," says RED Creative Group's founder, **Jeremy Stover**. "His thoughtful vision, business, and creative prowess are great assets that are going to benefit us immensely at RED. He loves artists and working with them to make their vision a success."

"I couldn't be more grateful for the opportunity to build upon what Jeremy has created," said Cantu. "I'm a big fan of the thoughtfulness, creativity, and quality behind everything at RED. Jeremy has an amazing track record and has grown an impressive roster and business. I'm looking forward to helping RED and our artists make some noise." **MR**

Kane Brown, Sony Music Nashville Launch 1021 Entertainment



Pictured (L-R): Zach Beeken, Garrett Nichols, Colton Pack, and Kane Brown. Photo: Matthew Berinato

Kane Brown and Sony Music Nashville have launched a new record label, 1021 Entertainment, with **Restless Road** as the first signing. The trio comprised of **Zach Beeken, Colton Pack** and **Garrett Nichols** have released their first single via the joint venture, "Took One Look At Her Momma."

Brown has been mentoring the group for some time,

including take them on the road as openers on his Worldwide Beautiful Tour.

Said Brown, "I want to give people chances to succeed. With 1021 Entertainment, I feel like we have a platform and team that can mentor and build up talent in country music. With my own label, I want to use it as an opportunity to shape and promote artists that may not have gotten a chance otherwise, for Restless Road and others in the future."

"We are excited to welcome Restless Road to the Sony Music Nashville roster. Colton, Zach, and Garrett each bring undeniable talent, dedication, and innovation to this trio. It has also been rewarding to collaborate on this project with Kane and watch him mentor and advise as a label partner in ways only a superstar artist can," said **Margaret Tomlin**, Sony Music Nashville Director, A&R.

Restless Road's self-titled debut EP (released in February 2020 by Sony) was produced by **Dann Huff** and co-producer **Lindsay Rimes**. The trio, which is signed to Sony Music Publishing, co-wrote three of the four songs with a roster of hit-making collaborators.

MR

ACM Announces Radio Awards Nominees for 56th Awards

The Academy of Country Music announced on Feb. 9 its Radio Awards nominees for the 56th ACM Awards, including double nominations for KATI-FM in Jefferson City, MO; KKNU-FM in Eugene, OR; KNIX-FM in Phoenix, AZ; KSOP-FM in Salt Lake City, UT; KUZZ-AM/FM in Bakersfield, CA; KXKT-FM in Omaha, NE; WQDR-FM in Raleigh, NC; and WXBQ-FM in Bristol, VA.

The Radio Awards winners will be announced ahead of the 56th ACM Awards in April. The 56th *Academy Of Country Music Awards* will broadcast live on Sunday, April 18 (8:00-11:00 PM ET/delayed PT) on the CBS Television Network and will stream live and on demand on CBS All Access.

Two *MusicRow* reporting panel stations are among the nominees, WPAP's 'Dr.' **Shane Collins** and **Tess Connell** for Small Market On-Air Personality of the Year, and WCOW in Sparta, WI for Small Market Station of the Year.



The full list of 56th ACM Awards nominations will be announced in the coming weeks. [Read the full list of the 56th ACM Radio Awards nominees here.](#)

Reservoir Signs Brooke Eden to Worldwide Publishing Deal [Exclusive]



Pictured (L-R): Chandler Cunningham (Reservoir Creative Coordinator), Brian O'Neil (Brooke Eden's manager, Constellation Management), Brooke Eden, John Ozier (Reservoir EVP Creative), Greg Gallo (Reservoir VP Creative). Photo: Haley Crow

"I had one Zoom meeting with the Reservoir team and just knew they had to be my new publishing family!" says Eden. "Working with [Reservoir VP, Creative] Greg Gallo in the past through co-writes, I knew his passion for songs and songwriters, and I knew I needed that fire from my publishing team. Then I met [Reservoir EVP, Creative] John Ozier and he put the icing on the cake. This team is fierce, and we all love what we do so much that it makes the whole creative process a lot of fun. I can't wait to see what we will accomplish together!"

Ozier adds, "Brooke is a powerful storyteller, and it is an honor to support her creatively as she shares new music with the world. We are so happy to add her remarkable talent to the Reservoir roster."

Eden also recently announced her partnership with Brian O'Neil's newly formed Constellation Management & Consulting company. **MR**

Reservoir announces the signing of country singer-songwriter **Brooke Eden** to a worldwide publishing deal. The deal includes Eden's future works and most notably a trio of new singles including "No Shade," which was released on Friday (Feb. 5).

MORE TOP STORIES

[Blake Duncan Joins Combustion Music as Director of Creative & A&R](#)

[Hazel Street Records Launches as JV Between The Orchard, Manager Bruce Kalmick](#)

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[Emmylou Harris Inks With Sheltered Music Publishing](#)

[Luke Bryan To Offer Deluxe Edition Of 'Born Here Live Here Die Here' In April](#)

[The Marshall Tucker Band Inks With United Talent Agency](#)

Brett Saliba Joins UTA As Music Agent



Leading global talent and entertainment company UTA announced that agent **Brett Saliba** has joined the Music department. He will be based in UTA's Nashville office.

Saliba joins UTA from CAA. He got his start in the music industry at Buddy Lee Attractions. He has worked with artists such as Midland, Billy Currington, Kid Rock, Uncle Kracker and Drake White, among many others.

"I'm thrilled to be joining the team at UTA and I look forward to helping my new colleagues grow the Nashville office," said Saliba. "There is great momentum already in place and I can't wait to help build upon all the great work the team has already accomplished."

"Brett is an industry veteran with an outstanding track record of finding new opportunities for artists at all stages of their careers," said UTA's CO-Head of Global Music **David Zedeck**. "He is well-respected within the Nashville community and we are excited to welcome him to UTA."

UTA represents hitmaking country artists including Trace Adkins, Toby Keith, Jimmie Allen, Blanco Brown, Matt Stell, and many more, as well as artists across all genres, including Post Malone, deadmau5, Bad Bunny, The Jonas Brothers, Bebe Rexha, Halsey, Machine Gun Kelly, and 21 Savage. **MR**

Brandon Ratcliff Signs with Warner Chappell Music Nashville and King Pen Music



Pictured (L-R): Ben Vaughn (WCM), Kelly King (King Pen), Ratcliff, Harrison Sokoloff (King Pen)

Monument Records artist **Brandon Ratcliff** has signed a worldwide publishing deal with Warner Chappell Music Nashville and **Kelly King's** King Pen Music.

As an artist, Ratcliff has accumulated 50M streams across platforms thanks to his debut EP, *Sometime Always Never*, produced by **Shane McAnally** and **Pete Good**. Ratcliff co-wrote Teddy Robb's current chart climber "Heaven on Dirt," and has cuts by Rascal Flatts ("Quick, Fast, In A Hurry") and Trea Landon ("Get The Girl").

Ratcliff first moved to Nashville in 2016 to pursue music full time before landing a deal with Monument Records. Born in Webster Parish, Louisiana, Ratcliff is the son of multi-Grammy Award winner Suzanne Cox (of The Cox Family). The burgeoning singer-songwriter's unique sound blends his family's bluegrass and country blood with his love of R&B, funk, and pop.

"Brandon impressed me years ago with his beautiful voice and great instincts as a songwriter," said King, CEO/Owner, King Pen Music. "He has the unique ability to write for the outside market as well as his own artistry, and he never ceases to make me proud as his publisher. I'm very excited about the amazing opportunities we can create and what the future holds working as a team – Brandon, King Pen, and Warner Chappell – to take Brandon's career to the next level."

MR

On The Row: Kameron Marlowe Is On The Fast Track to Stardom



Photo: Matthew Berinato

Colombia Nashville's **Kameron Marlowe** moved to Nashville less than four years ago. In what is often called a 'ten year town,' the North Carolina native managed to launch himself from struggling singer-songwriter and into the spotlight in seven months.

Marlowe independently released the self-penned "Giving You Up," which has since seen 15 million streams. Shortly after, while Marlowe was working at General Motors in his hometown, a recruiter from *The Voice* called offering to take him to the live auditions for Season 15.

While on set at *The Voice*, Marlowe met some songwriters from Nashville, which helped push him to move. Shortly after landing in Music City, Marlowe met manager **Kaitlin Madewell**. Now, with a management deal at The AMG, a label deal with Columbia Nashville, and a publishing deal with Sony Music Publishing, Marlowe has hit the ground running.

"When I came off *The Voice* I didn't know what I was doing. I was just wanting to write songs because that's what everybody on the show was doing. I wanted to learn from that. So I would take a write with anybody in this town," Marlowe told *MusicRow* in a recent visit. "I just wanted to immerse myself in there. After a couple of years of writing in town is when I started finding my sound and started finding who I was as an artist."

Marlowe's charismatic personality, paired with his unique vocal talent, aided him in his first radio tour—done via Zoom. His debut single, "Sober as a Drunk," impacted

country radio on Feb. 8 and was among the week's most added tracks, just behind Dan + Shay on Mediabase.

Marlowe's self-titled debut EP was released in November, and included another viral hit, "Burn 'Em All." The singer-songwriter co-wrote four of the six tracks. Songwriting heavyweights including **Jeff Hyde, J.T. Harding, Justin Wilson, Aaron Eshuis**, and more join Marlowe on the EP.

Marlowe sums, "I'm just very blessed and very excited that this is what I get to wake up and do every day. Waking up and going to a job that I absolutely hated everyday just wasn't worth it to me. Being able to wake up every morning and be like, 'man, I truly love, but I get to do,' there's no price tag that could ever be put on that." **MR**

Rhonda Vincent Inducted Into Grand Ole Opry

Rhonda Vincent became an official member of the Grand Ole Opry Saturday night (Feb. 6) with Opry member **Dierks Bentley** doing the honors. Vincent's invitation was first delivered in February of 2020 by Opry member **Jeannie Seely**, and she was originally supposed to be inducted on March 24, 2020, prior to the pandemic.

"It's been 343 days, seven hours, three minutes and five seconds," Rhonda said laughing, sharing how many days it had been since the Opry invitation came last year. "This is a night I will never forget and will cherish the rest of my life. I am proof that dreams really do come true."

"I'll never forget the night that our mutual friend Marty Stuart made me an official member of the Opry and I'm so pleased to get to do the same for you tonight," said Bentley during the induction. "Rhonda, you are now an official member of the Grand Ole Opry! I know you will carry the Opry banner proudly wherever you go."

"It's great to have the supremely talented and very patient Rhonda Vincent as an official Opry member," added **Dan Rogers**, Vice President and Executive Producer, Grand Ole Opry. "She brings with her countless fans, industry respect, and heartfelt passion for keeping the Opry vibrant and entertaining for generations to come. We look forward to Rhonda spending the rest of her career with us as part of the Opry family."

Additional performers during the special evening included Opry

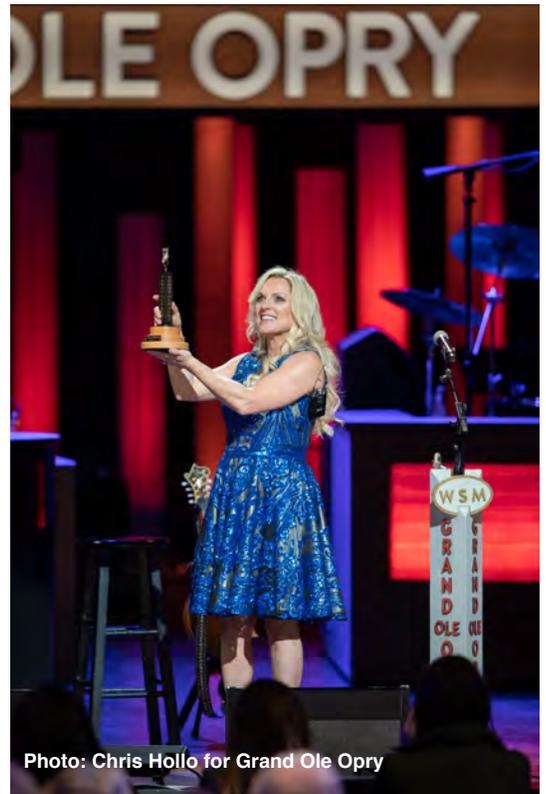


Photo: Chris Hollo for Grand Ole Opry

members Riders In The Sky, Jeannie Seely, and Mark Wills as well as special guests Don Schlitz and Parker McCollum, who made his Grand Ole Opry debut. **MR**

Eric Church Teases 2021 Tour



Photo: Reid Long

Eric Church hopes to return to the road before the end of the year. In a video message shared with fans, Church said, "We are working on a North American tour. We're waiting for the right timing to officially announce all the details, but I want you to know that a tour is coming, and we are very excited to play new music for our old friends... I cannot wait to see you on the road."

Friday (Feb. 5) Church also dropped a new song, "Lynyrd Skynyrd Jones," from his forthcoming three-part project, *Heart & Soul*. The track is featured on the third album in the collection, *Soul*, set for release Friday, April 23. Meanwhile, *Heart* will be released Friday, April 16 and the Church Choir exclusive vinyl-only middle album, *&*, will be released Tuesday, April 20. **MR**

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Matt Stell, Russell Dickerson, Dan + Shay, LANCO



Today's listening session was dominated by country's male up-and-comers.

Troy Cartwright, Canaan Smith, Russell Dickerson, Matt Stell and Cooper Alan are all spinning new tunes. The Disc of the Day competition features Stell and Dickerson duking it out with Chapel Hart. Matt Stell wins in a close decision.

Chapel Hart is one of four groups in the spotlight. The others are Lanco, The Shootouts and our DisCOVERY Award winners, Restless Road.

[Read Robert K. Oermann's reviews of Matt Stell, Russell Dickerson, Dan + Shay, LANCO, and more, here.](#)

MORE TOP STORIES

[Jameson Rodgers Re-Signs With Combustion Music](#)

[Lineup Revealed for CRS Team UMG at The Ryman](#)

[Byron Kennedy Inks with Marathon Talent Agency and Spielberg Entertainment](#)

[Superstars Sir Barry Gibb and Brad Paisley Added to CRS 2021](#)

[BBR Music Group Promotes Matthew Holmberg](#)

[Morgan Wallen Tells Fans To Stop Defending Him: 'It's On Me To Take Ownership For This'](#)

[Sideman, Songwriter, Producer Richie Albright Passes](#)

[Spotify Launches Website Notable For Songwriters, Artists](#)

[CMHoF Exhibit Highlights 2020 In Country Music](#)

[CurblWord Music Publishing Adds Five New Writers To Country Roster](#)

[Gabby Barrett Celebrates 1 Billion Streams, Plans 'Live From The Goldmine' EP](#)

[Weekly Register: Morgan Wallen's Sales Surge](#)

[MTSU Program Helps Students of Color Explore Careers in Country Music](#)

[Breakfasts and Workshops Announced for CRS 2021: The Virtual Experience](#)

[TikTok, UMG Expand Global Alliance](#)

[Jay DeMarcus' Red Street Records To Sponsor NASCAR Driver Natalie Decker](#)

[Centricity Partners With ADA; Plans New Music From Lauren Daigle and More](#)

[Pre-Pandemic Music Industry Generated \\$170 Billion GDP](#)

On The Row: Dreams Come True for Quartz Hill Records Flagship Artist Nate Barnes



Photo: Jason Myers

Singer-songwriter **Nate Barnes** was working at a nuclear power plant in Michigan when his musical dreams came to fruition. He spent years playing bars, coffee shops, small venues and festivals in and around his hometown until one fateful day when he met chart-topping songwriter **Jason Sellers** while passing through Nashville.

Now he's the flagship artist on Quartz Hill Records, helmed by industry veteran **Benny Brown** alongside Sellers and **Paul Brown**.

"A year and a half ago, I was living up in Michigan working in a nuclear power plant and blueberry farms on the side, playing and gigging anywhere I could. I took a vacation to Gatlinburg around that time. On my way to Gatlinburg, I stopped at Nashville to meet a buddy for the first time," Barnes recalled to *MusicRow* in a recent artist visit. The songwriter he met was **Rob Hatch**, he had been referred to him by a buddy at the power plant.

"It was an amazing thing to be able to sit there and meet him. Jason Sellers comes walking in the door, randomly. He didn't know I was going to be there, and I didn't know he was going to be there. Me and Jason just hit it off. I played him a few songs and he said, 'Nate, I've got a guy you need to meet.' And that guy was Benny Brown."

Barnes went to meet Benny and Paul, they signed him

on the spot.

"I had a week and a half to make a decision and get all my affairs in order to leave everything, with the power plant. I had to move away from my 12-year-old boy, which was really hard. I had to sell everything I could and pack everything else up with me, my dog and my truck. I moved down here and lived in a hotel room for over a year."

A year and a half later, Barnes is working in the studio with producers **Mickey Jack Cones** (Jason Aldean, Thomas Rhett) and **Derek George** (Dustin Lynch, Randy Houser) on his Quartz Hill Records album debut. He released his debut single, "You Ain't Pretty," which earned him a DisCOVERY Award from *MusicRow's* Robert K. Oermann for its "warmth and sincerity." The single impacts country radio on Feb. 16.

The brand new artist on the new Quartz Hill label has made a significant entry. The lyric video for "You Ain't Pretty" has surpassed 400,000 views, and Barnes' TikTok streams have surpassed 13.7 million at press time. **MR**

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	2	Josh Osborne	7 Summers Beers And Sunshine Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's How They Remember You Never Be Sorry Next Girl Sand In My Boots	Morgan Wallen Darius Rucker Sam Hunt Rascal Flatts Old Dominion Carly Pearce Morgan Wallen
2	1	Morgan Wallen	7 Summers Dangerous Livin' The Dream More Than My Hometown Neon Eyes Only Thing That's Gone Somebody's Problem Still Goin Down Wasted On You Wonderin' Bout The Wind	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen feat. Chris Stapleton Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
3	4	Ashley Gorley	Hole In The Bottle Sand In My Boots Single Saturday Night Warning We Were Rich What's Your Country Song	Kelsea Ballerini Morgan Wallen Cole Swindell Morgan Wallen Runaway June Thomas Rhett
4	3	Ernest Keith Smith	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's Dangerous More Than My Hometown Somebody's Problem Warning Wasted On You Wonderin' Bout The Wind	Sam Hunt Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
5	5	Jesse Frasure	Almost Maybes Hole In The Bottle Minimum Wage What's Your Country Song	Jordan Davis Kelsea Ballerini Blake Shelton Thomas Rhett
6	7	Ryan Vojtesak	More Than My Hometown Still Goin Down Warning Wasted On You Worship You	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Kane Brown
7	6	Ross Copperman	Beers And Sunshine Lady We Were Rich	Darius Rucker Brett Young Runaway June
8	8	Michael Hardy	Livin' The Dream More Than My Hometown Sand In My Boots Single Saturday Night Still Goin Down What Do I Know	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Cole Swindell Morgan Wallen Robert Counts
9	9	Luke Combs	Better Together Forever After All	Luke Combs Luke Combs
10	10	Mike Henderson	Starting Over	Chris Stapleton
11	11	Chris Stapleton	Starting Over	Chris Stapleton
12	12	Tyler Hubbard	Lil Bit Long Live Undivided	Nelly & Florida Georgia Line Florida Georgia Line Tim McGraw & Tyler Hubbard
13	13	Randy Montana	Better Together We Didn't Have Much	Luke Combs Justin Moore
14	14	Jon Nite	I Hope Lady	Gabby Barrett Brett Young

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
15	16	Niko Moon	Gone Good Time More Surprised Than Me	Dierks Bentley Niko Moon Morgan Wallen
16	15	Shane McAnally	7 Summers Never Be Sorry Next Girl	Morgan Wallen Old Dominion Carly Pearce
17	17	Hillary Lindsey	Almost Maybes Hole In The Bottle	Jordan Davis Kelsea Ballerini
18	22	Gabby Barrett	I Hope The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett Gabby Barrett
19	23	Zachary Kale	I Hope The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett Gabby Barrett
20	19	Dan Isbell	Better Together	Luke Combs
21	20	Corey Crowder	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen Famous Friends Long Live Minimum Wage	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line Chris Young + Kane Brown Florida Georgia Line Blake Shelton
22	18	Jason Isbell	Cover Me Up	Morgan Wallen
23	24	Dallas Davidson	Down To One Silverado For Sale	Luke Bryan Morgan Wallen
24	21	Parker Welling	Love You Like I Used To What's Your Country Song	Russell Dickerson Thomas Rhett
25	28	Kyle Fishman	Down To One	Luke Bryan
26	29	Justin Ebach	Down To One	Luke Bryan
27	31	Kevin Bard	Just The Way	Parmalee x Blanco Brown
28	32	N.W. Sipe	Just The Way	Parmalee x Blanco Brown
29	33	Matt Thomas	Just The Way	Parmalee x Blanco Brown
30	27	Brock Berryhill	Happy Does Hard Days	Kenny Chesney Brantley Gilbert
31	25	Rodney Clawson	Momma's House Somebody's Problem	Dustin Lynch Morgan Wallen
32	30	Nicolle Galyon	Gone Minimum Wage We Were Rich	Dierks Bentley Blake Shelton Runaway June
33	26	Chris Loocke	Undivided	Tim McGraw & Tyler Hubbard
34	35	Greylan James	Happy Does	Kenny Chesney
35	36	Brad Clawson	Happy Does	Kenny Chesney
36	37	Jamie Paulin	Happy Does	Kenny Chesney
37	45	Brett Young	Lady	Brett Young
38	43	John Thomas Harding	Beers And Sunshine	Darius Rucker
39	44	Darius Rucker	Beers And Sunshine	Darius Rucker
40	34	Thomas Rhett	What's Your Country Song Whiskey'd My Way Your Bartender	Thomas Rhett Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
41	48	Allison Margaret Cruz	Somebody Like That	Tenille Arts
42	49	Tenille Arts	Somebody Like That	Tenille Arts
43	50	Alex Kline	Somebody Like That	Tenille Arts
44	46	Rhett Akins	Tequila Little Time What's Your Country Song Your Bartender	Jon Pardi Thomas Rhett Morgan Wallen
45	58	Eric Church	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
46	59	Monty Criswell	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
47	60	C. Beathard	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
48	66	Jordan Davis	Almost Maybes	Jordan Davis
49	38	Josh Thompson	Only Thing That's Gone Wasted On You Whiskey'd My Way Your Bartender	Morgan Wallen feat. Chris Stapleton Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
50	47	Ben Burgess	Livin' The Dream More Surprised Than Me Neon Eyes Outlaw	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen feat. Ben Burgess
51	72	Allen Shamblin	How They Remember You	Rascal Flatts
52	73	M. Beeson	How They Remember You	Rascal Flatts
53	51	Steph Jones	Hole In The Bottle	Kelsea Ballerini
54	52	Kelsea Ballerini	Hole In The Bottle	Kelsea Ballerini
55	53	Josh Murty	Good Time	Niko Moon
56	54	Anna Moon	Good Time	Niko Moon
57	55	Jordan Minton	Good Time	Niko Moon
58	56	Mark Trussell	Good Time	Niko Moon
59	68	Emily Landis	The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett
60	69	J. McCormick	The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett

CALENDAR

Singles

February 12

Alexandra Kay/We Wouldn't Be Us

Sam Grow/This Town/Average Joes Entertainment

February 15

for **KING & COUNTRY** feat. **Hannah Ellis, Jackson Michelson**/TOGETHER/Curb|Word Entertainment

Garrett Shultz/Last Call/SMG-Nashville

February 16

Filmore/Nothing's Better/Curb

Robyn Ottolini/F-150/Warner Music Nashville

Aaron Goodvin/Lonely Drum/Reviver Records

Nate Barnes/You Ain't Pretty/Quartz Hill

The Ashley Sisters/I'll Get You Back Again/GKM Records

Albums

February 12

Florida Georgia Line/*Life Rolls On*/BMLG Records

Kip Moore/*Wild World Deluxe*/UMG

Loretta Lynn/*Coal Miner's Daughter* (Re-issue celebrating 50th anniversary)/MCA Nashville/UMe

Pentatonix/*The Lucky Ones*/RCA Records

Johnny Lee/*Everything's Gonna' Be Alright*/BFD/Audium Nashville

February 19

Carly Pearce/*29*/Big Machine Records

Lainey Wilson/*Sayin' What I'm Thinkin'*/BBR Music Group/Broken Bow Records

John Driskell Hopkins/*Lonesome High*

Industry Events

February 17-19

Country Radio Seminar (Virtual)

February 17

MusicRow's CountryBreakout Awards (Virtual)