

Andy Griggs

Andy Griggs...Alive & Gunnin'. Andy Griggs maximizes his life to the fullest. He embraces everything he does with passion that all can bear witness too. Whether he's performing, hunting, fishing, cooking or playing poker; you are his prey and he's coming after you with fervor, commitment, and compassion. He is talented, witty and knocks 'em dead. His upcoming tour is a triple threat. You may find him doing cooking demonstrations from his new cookbook "Cooking Up Dead Stuff" * or playing poker with the pros after showing in the top 12% of the 2008 World Series of Poker, but you will always find him entertaining while performing his greatest hits as a number one recording artist including "forever gold" and number one hit from his debut album "You Won't Ever Be Lonely."

Since that first album, Griggs has seen many changes in the music industry and in himself. "There's a big variety of music inside of me," Andy says. "I think people have heard it when I sing and play live. But I felt like it was missing on my records and my fans were missing a part of me. It's nothing for me to listen to KISS and then put on a Bill Monroe record. While, there's a lot of room in between those two, there's an even greater range of interest in how I live my life. I've had the opportunity to walk with the giants at Sony/BMG while recording on RCA and I've had the privilege of being part of a start up independent label, both offering different advantages and opportunities. I've also had the privilege to parlay my success in other areas I love, like hunting with the big guns and playing poker with legends."

He's about to have it all, and why not? While the music business and its infinite changes continue to swirl around him, one thing never changed: his belief in the power of a phenomenal song and his belief in himself. There is no greater recipe than those you create yourself and Griggs is creating his own...for life.

"I believe in gut feelings...I don't believe in over-thinking things," explains Andy, about his unwavering approach to life. "If it hits your heart and soul, then it's a winner. And I've always approached it the same way. You pick a direction and a style, and whether you're writing a song or someone down the street is, for your latest album, it's always about the song. If it's a recipe, it's about the heart and soul you put into the preparation, including thinking about the hunt if it's your own kill that your preparing. And poker, well there are times, especially in Texas Hold'em when you just have to depend on your gut."

Andy Griggs has had a successful music career. Arriving in Nashville with guitar in hand in 1994, Andy quickly made a name for himself on the country scene. After his debut single "You Won't Ever Be Lonely" on RCA was certified Gold in 2000, he racked up ten top 10 hits including his title cut on his debut album and on following albums, **Freedom** and **This I Gotta See**. "She's More," his second number 1 was followed by top 10 hits including: "I'll Go Crazy," "Tonight I Wanna Be Your Man," "Practice Life" with Martina McBride, "She Thinks She Needs Me," and "If Heaven" which leaves everyone in tears and even though he didn't write it, could be a testimony of his life. "Ain't Livin' Long Like This" gave fans a sampling of his scorching soulful side.

His albums have featured other greats such as the duet, "Shine on Me," with one of his heroes, Waylon Jennings, who quickly became one of his best friends and mentors, on his first album; and on his second, David Lee Murphy, Union Station's Ron Block, and Cinderella's Tom Keifer. For his third album, *This I Gotta See*, Andy Griggs enlisted the aid of Grammy Award-winning guitarist/songwriter/producer Randy Scruggs to bring new textures to his sound. Randy had produced a wide variety of music, from punk rock to bluegrass. Also appearing on this album were good friends Delbert McClinton and Bekka Bramlett.

After a decade recording for RCA Nashville, in 2005, Griggs decided to start from scratch with a new independent label, Montage, which proved to be both liberating and a little bit scary for Griggs. "Making the change to Montage gave me the freedom to have more control over my music and a desire to spread my wings in other areas," says Griggs. "Though I'm trying new things and it's a bit risky, I keep in mind what Waylon used to tell me, 'Andy you're not curing cancer. Just listen to your heart and soul, and go with your gut feeling.' Entertaining is a gift to be taken lightly and enjoyed while providing joy to others."

Though he's not curing cancer, Andy is very dedicated to supporting a number of charities. He has aligned himself with cancer survivors, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, MusiCares, Alzheimer's, Nashville READ, Crisis Center of Nashville, and The Tennessee Historic Commission. Inspired by the dramatic lyrics of "Waitin' on Sundown," he was the national spokesman of the Family Violence Prevention Fund in 1999-2000. "The biggest reason I support these things is because I feel like it's my job. I feel like if you're looked at by someone, if they see you give, it makes them want to give."

You've heard Andy Griggs smoldering on romantic ballads like "Tonight I Wanna Be Your Man," storming through firecracker country rockers like "I'll Go Crazy," feeling soulful and bluesy in "One Mississippi" and his rendition of "New Orleans Ladies", his gut-bucket twang-rocking "Hillbilly Band," and a sizzling, sexy stud on "Careful Where You Kiss Me." He's haunted and aching on "Why Do I Still Want You" and don't forget his bluegrass and gospel styles. What unites all of these performances is the sheer, honest, fiery conviction in his red-hot voice. But you haven't yet heard the full range of this Gold Record winning artist's music, nor have you seen all of his amazing talents, those mentioned and some not yet mentioned like acting, voiceovers, and his natural comedic personality. That's something he's about to correct.

While he loves recording, Griggs says, "What I love most about music/entertaining, is being out in front of the crowds singing for them. If that's not your biggest reward as a performer, I think you're in the wrong business! Now I get a chance to triple that with cooking and poker exhibitions as well as singing...it's all entertainment. What more can one ask for!"

Check out www.andygriggs.com for more information or contact Cathy Nakos at cnakos@aol.com.

*"**Cooking Up Dead Stuff**" with the help of best selling author Edie Hand will be available in 2010. Please watch for it on Andy's site and at www.ediehand.com