

# LEE Greenwood

## *Biography*

Grammy Award winner and multi-platinum entertainer Lee Greenwood returned to the road in 2001 after five years at his own theater in Sevierville, TN. Greenwood toured extensively to packed houses around the country, and found himself back at the top of the sales charts, and back at radio.

In January of 2002, Lee signed a long-term recording contract with Curb Records. He began recording the new project in summer 2002. The first single, "Rocks That You Can't Move," added at radio winter 2002, while the CD release is slated for spring 2003. To commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of it's inception, the release will include a newly recorded version of Greenwood's unofficial anthem, "God Bless The USA," complete with Music City's revered Fisk Jubilee Singers choir contributing to backing vocals, taking it to new heights.

Greenwood's career stands as a shining example of the American success story. From his humble beginnings on a farm near Sacramento, California, Lee has taken his natural talent and achieved worldwide recognition in the entertainment business with a career so far spanning three decades.

Lee began honing his musical abilities in Jr. High School, learning to play most of the instruments in the orchestra by age 14. Both of his parents were musicians, and Lee followed in their footsteps from an early age. He was quick to acquire the musical and business skills that would prove necessary for his life as an entertainer.

He formed his first band, the Moonbeams, while still in Jr. High School. By the time he had graduated high school, Lee was already a seasoned performer. His career became the focal point in his life, so much so, that he turned down a music scholarship to the College of the Pacific, abandoned a promising professional baseball career, and even skipped his own high school graduation because he was booked to perform a standing engagement at the Golden Hotel & Casino (now Harrahs) in Reno, Nevada.

For the next several years, Lee was faced with a series of near misses. At one point, Felix Cavaliere, a musician from New York City, approached him about forming a new group called the "Young Rascals" but Lee passed on the opportunity to stay in Las Vegas. The Young Rascals went on to record "Good Lovin" which became a major # 1 hit and a string of other hits.

Reaching out for his own recording opportunity, Lee moved to Los Angeles to record his first solo album on Paramount. This attempt was a successful project but was never released. After a two and half year struggle, Lee returned to Vegas to recover lost economy.

Instead of allowing his trials to bring him down, Greenwood found inspiration in coming so close to success. In 1978 he found the courage to leave the security of the Vegas lounges and welcomed the opportunity to fly to Nashville to write and record a demo session with the help of the Mel Tillis Band.

The results of this long-shot opportunity led to his contract with MCA and his producer Jerry Crutchfield, then head of MCA Publishing. Their first session together yielded hit songs like "It Turns Me Inside Out," "Ring On Her Finger, Time On Her Hand." "Ain't No Trick," and introduced this dynamic new recording artist to country music.

Greenwood found immediate acceptance with country music audiences who appreciated his powerful vocals and energetic show. His feel for country music, coupled with his electrifying performances, quickly established him as a major artist. Only two years after the release of his debut album, he won the coveted Country Music Association's Male Vocalist of the Year award. He won the same award again, as well as a Grammy for Best Male Country Vocal Performance the following year. Continuing his streak,

Greenwood won the 1984 ACM Male Vocalist of the Year award. His first three albums achieved gold status, and his Greatest Hits quickly went platinum. In 1985, a less publicized facet of his talent was recognized when the CMA awarded him Song of the Year honors for penning both the words and music to "God Bless The USA."

After the Gulf War in 1991, Lee was one of the most in-demand performers. Because of his support for the military and veterans during that time, Lee would often play two and sometimes three shows per day, traveling to and from in private jets.

The staying power of this dynamic performer throughout fifteen successful touring years remains evident in every Lee Greenwood show. Thirty albums, numerous TV appearances, and hundreds of radio interviews are all vehicles through which this tireless performer maintains his visibility with the public. His celebrity tours with the United Services Organization (USO) are one of the many high-profile charity organizations to which this humanitarian donates his time.

In 1995, Lee Greenwood decided to take a break from his rigorous tour schedule to start a family with his wife Kim. Their son Dalton was born in April 1995. In order to spend more time at home, Lee elected to build and perform in his own theater in the Smoky Mountains.

The April 1996 opening of the Lee Greenwood Theater provided the chance to continue performing, but without the rigors of being on the road constantly. The theater was heralded for its state-of-the-art sound and lighting, as well as one of the most entertaining shows around. With the help of dancers, musicians, intricate staging and numerous costume changes, Greenwood captivated audiences with a variety of musical styles, from movie themes to "God Bless The USA."

Lee and Kim's second son Parker Reid came along three years later in July 1998. Although he was not touring with the exception of a few major appearances, Lee focused on his songwriting and being a father and husband.

Since the tragedies of September 11, Lee has seen his signature hit "God Bless The U.S.A." take on yet another life. Since the attack on America, airplay has increased ten fold, skyrocketing "God Bless The U.S.A." back into the top 20 of the Billboard country airplay chart, and sending Lee's 1992 album "American Patriot" to the top of the sales charts. The album was certified gold in October 2001 & platinum in December 2001.

The above is indicative of the true impact the unofficial anthem has on the American public. As 2003 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the patriot hymn, its emotional impact was proven yet again, as American's nationwide embraced it's message in March 2003 when the United States engaged in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lee's performances have been as in-demand as his CDs. He has been called upon to perform at numerous events and on national television programs. Recent appearances include The Prayer service at Yankee Stadium, a moving a cappella performance for the rescue workers at Ground Zero, the nationally televised Thanksgiving Day parade in Detroit, Michigan, Game 4 of the 2001 World Series, Regis and Kelly, Entertainment Tonight, Good Morning America, Larry King Live, Fox & Friends, Hannity & Colmes, The Other Half, Movie Guide Awards, Access Hollywood, and many more. He continues to maintain a rigorous touring schedule, including visits to military bases and performances at government functions, including the Veteran's Day ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Lee is now poised to embark on the next phase of his journey as an entertainer. Fueled by his passion for great country music, Lee's deal with Curb Records promises many exciting new things. Lee is currently touring the United States and abroad to support the album.



## *Fact Sheet*

GIVEN NAME: LEE GREENWOOD

BORN: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

BIRTHDAY: OCTOBER 27

INSTRUMENTS: LEE PLAYS 10 INSTRUMENTS INCLUDING WOODWINDS, PIANO, GUITAR, SAXOPHONE, AND KEYBOARDS

HOBBIES: RACQUETBALL, BASKETBALL, BOATING, AND SCUBA DIVING

AFFILIATIONS: CMA, ACM, BMI, AF OF M, AFTRA, SAG

TELEVISION: PBS/ARMED FORCES TV 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY SPECIAL  
"US MILITARY SALUTES COUNTRY MUSIC"  
FOX NEWS CHANNEL - "SALUTE TO U.S. TROOPS"  
CO-HOST 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MOVIE GUIDE AWARDS  
MUHAMMAD ALI'S CELEBRITY FIGHT NIGHT  
EXTRA  
ACCESS HOLLYWOOD  
THE OTHER HALF  
FOX & FRIENDS  
HANNITY & COLMES  
CLOSING BELL - NYSE AND TREE LIGHTING  
WORLD SERIES, OCTOBER 2001, GAME 4- YANKEE STADIUM  
BUENA VISTA/ TOUCHSTONE PICTURES PREMIER  
OF "PEARL HARBOR", GUEST SINGER  
GOOD MORNING AMERICA  
CBS MORNING SHOW  
TONIGHT SHOW  
TODAY SHOW  
ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT  
REGIS & KELLY  
LARRY KING LIVE  
AS THE WORLD TURNS  
TNN/SEA WORLD NEW YEAR'S EVE SPECIAL  
HOST/PERFORMER (1992-1993-1994-1995)  
DR. ROBERT SCHULLER'S CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL  
BOB HOPE USO CHRISTMAS TOUR/ TV SPECIAL 1987  
LEE GREENWOOD'S USO SPECIAL (TNN)  
"WE THE PEOPLE" CONSTITUTION CELEBRATION/ GALA  
MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE  
ROSE PARADE  
SONGWRITER'S HALL OF FAME SPECIAL  
WALKER, TEXAS RANGER- SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE  
2001 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL BALL FESTIVITIES

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NASHVILLE, TN 37203  
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## ALBUMS RELEASED

TITLE	RELEASED	LABEL ISSUE NUMBER
Inside Out (Gold)	April, 1982	MCA 5305
Somebody's Gonna Love You (Gold)	March, 1983	MCA 5403
You've Got A Good Love Comin' (Gold)	May, 1984	MCA 5488
Meant For Each Other (w/ Barbara Mandrell)	August, 1984	MCA 5477
Greatest Hits (Platinum)	April, 1985	MCA 5582
Streamline	August, 1985	MCA 5622
Christmas to Christmas	September, 1985	MCA 5625
Love Will Find Its Way To You	August, 1986	MCA 5770
If There's Any Justice	July, 1987	MCA 5999
This Is My Country	May, 1988	MCA 42167
Greatest Hits Volume II	April, 1988	MCA 42219
If Only For One Night	May, 1989	MCA 42300
Holdin' A Good Hand	June, 1990	Capitol Nashville 94153
Lee Greenwood A Perfect 10	April, 1991	Capitol Nashville 95541
When You're In Love	August, 1991	Capitol Nashville 95527
American Patriot (Platinum)	April, 1992	Liberty C4-98568
Love's On The Way	August, 1992	Liberty C4-98832
Best of Lee Greenwood	August, 1993	Liberty C4-89650
Totally Devoted To You	July, 1995	Arrival 6190-2
Wounded Heart	September, 1998	Kardina K010YA
Same River... Different Bridge	August, 2000	FFE 7011-2
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas	September, 2001	FFE 7020-2
Inspirational Songs	May, 2002	Curb D2-78729
Stronger Than Time	June, 2003	Curb

## MAJOR AWARDS

June, 1991	"God Bless The U.S.A." Video reaches platinum status
January, 1986	Country Music Magazine - Male Concert Artist of the Year (1985)
October, 1985	Country Music Association - Song of the Year for "God Bless The U.S.A."
June, 1985	Music City News Award - Male Vocalist of the Year
June, 1985	Music City News Award - Single of the Year for "God Bless The U.S.A."
October, 1984	Country Music Association - Male Vocalist of the Year
July, 1984	Cash Box Magazine - Male Vocalist of the Year, albums
June, 1984	Music City News Award - Male Vocalist of the Year
May, 1984	Academy of Country Music - Male Vocalist of the Year
March, 1984	Cash Box Programmer's Choice Awards - Male Vocalist of the Year
February, 1984	The Grammy (NARAS) - Best Country Vocal Performance - Male
October, 1983	Country Music Association - Male Vocalist of the Year
February, 1984	Radio & Records Reader's Poll - Best New Artist

## CIVIC AND HUMANITARIAN INVOLVEMENT

Honorary Doctorate of Humanities Degree (Cumberland University)  
 Honorary Doctorate of Public Relations (Lincoln Memorial University)  
 Freedom Award (Washington Times)  
 Congressional Medal of Honor Society (Patriot's Award)  
 Points of Light Foundation (celebrity involvement)  
 National Salute Chairman for Hospitalized Veterans  
 AMVET Silver Helmet Award  
 American Legion National Commanders' Public Relations Award  
 VFW Americanism Gold Medal  
 Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars American Spirit Award  
 American Spirit Award Air Force  
 Boy Scouts of America- Silver Buffalo Award