

MIRANDA LAMBERT
Nashville Star—Season One
by Tamela Meredith Partridge
"The Herald & Review" newspaper
Decatur, IL.
© 2005

Nashville newcomer, Miranda Lambert, fanned the flames of her music into a red-hot career with debut country album, "Kerosene," and its title track single and video.

"The video for my current single, Kerosene, tells the story of a girl who finds out a guy has been cheating on her," Lambert says. "In order to completely burn his memory from her mind, my character gets to light things on fire with kerosene. Which was really fun for me -- and it made for a great video."



Lambert will perform for the first time at Nashville North USA in Taylorville on Saturday.

"We're really excited about coming to Nashville North USA," Lambert says. "We love what we do, we're out there to have fun and entertain. People come to hear music to momentarily get away from their problems or everyday lives, and we're more than happy to provide that escape."

Lambert, a Lindale, Texas native, was first introduced to music through her father, Rick, a private detective who plays guitar and writes country songs during his spare time.

"I grew up on the songs of Guy Clark, Jerry Jeff Walker, Merle Haggard and my dad," Lambert says. "We had music parties at our house on the front porch all the time. I was 10 years old and in the third grade when my parents took me to Dallas to see Garth Brooks. It was awesome. There I was in my braces screaming, 'Gaaaarrth!' I was freakin' out."

Lambert, 21, first gained national attention when she won third-place on the '03 debut season of the country music talent show, "Nashville Star."

"I always say that 'Nashville Star' saved me from five more years in the honky tonks," Lambert says. "I was really worried in the beginning that I would get a record deal that would try and mold me into something other than who I am. But my record label is a big believer in what I do musically. They allowed me to be me, which made all the difference."

As a result, Lambert became the top-selling '05 country debut artist with "Kerosene," which debuted as the No. 1 country album in the nation. The accomplished and prolific songwriter wrote or co-wrote eleven out of twelve cuts for the album, including its three singles, "Me and Charlie Talking," "Bring Me Down," and "Kerosene."

"I aspire to be known as a singer and songwriter that makes people think and feel," says Lambert, a '05 CMA Horizon Award nominee. "If I can do that, as well as create records that people enjoy, then I would consider myself to be successful."

Lambert, who finished in mid-October as the opening act on Keith Urban's "Alive in '05" tour, has been invited to join George Strait for his '06 tour of 25 cities in the U.S. and Canada beginning mid-January and running through June.

"I'm so honored that George would take a chance on a new artist like me," Lambert says. "I feel kind of like the little girl who's daddy just said 'I'm proud of you, you're gonna make it kid!' I've admired him my whole life, and as a singer/songwriter from Texas - it's like winning the lottery."