

## LORRIE MORGAN

by Tamela Meredith Partridge  
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Every time Lorrie Morgan steps on stage, her passion and dedication to country music brings audience members to their feet.

"As much as my music touches the spirit in my fans, what they give back to me is the inspiration that enables me to do what I love," says Morgan, who will perform at the Little Nashville Opry on Saturday, June 11 at 7 pm.

The glamorous vocalist conveys an understanding of human emotions and life circumstances whether she is singing of tears, dreams, heart-breaks or undefeated hope.



"Every song I sing reflects a part of my life," Morgan says. "The joy, the sorrow, the will to survive -- it's all there in the lyrics and music."

Morgan comes by her musical talent naturally. As a child, she accompanied her father (the late country legend, George Morgan), when he performed every weekend at the Grand Ole Opry. At 13, Morgan debuted at the Grand Ole Opry, knock-kneed and shaking, as her father watched her charm the audience with her distinctive alto vocals.

Because of her dedication, Morgan was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry in '84, long before she had a hit record.

"I think I was (inducted into the Grand Ole Opry) the same day my dad was made a member years before that - and I really don't think it was planned," Morgan says.

Morgan began her career as a chorus performer in stage shows at the Opryland amusement park and sang demos for Nashville songwriters.

Morgan's big break came with the release of her '89 platinum-selling debut album, "Leave The Light On," and its chart-topping singles, "Trainwreck of Emotion," "Dear Me," "Out Of Your Shoes," and "He Talks To Me."

Morgan's "tough-but-with-a-teardrop" voice has charted over a dozen Top Ten hits including the No.1 singles, "Five Minutes," "What Part Of No," and "I Didn't Know My Own Strength."

Besides her solo career, the sultry songstress has recorded with Frank Sinatra, Johnny Mathis, and Andy Williams, in addition to award-winning duets with Keith Whitley, Jon Randall, and Sammy Kershaw.

Morgan's current album, "Show Me How," is an 11-song collection of lessons learned and wisdom earned.

"I wanted it to be parallel to my life," Morgan says about the album. "I didn't want to record anything that I couldn't relate to, that I haven't lived or haven't experienced. And everything we found, I think, was very mature-sounding, livable, and very seasoned songs."

The heartfelt, soulful, and undeniably country album contains songs from some of Nashville's most respected songwriters and musicians. Angela Kaset, who wrote Morgan's '91 hit, "Something In Red", co-wrote four songs for the album, "I Can Count On You," "Us Girls," "The Wedding," and "One Less Monkey."

Morgan, a gifted songwriter, penned the song, "Charlie and Betty," for the project, which features background vocals from country/bluegrass artists, Rhonda Vincent and Alison Krauss.

"Charlie was my best friend when I moved into this house up on a hill with just my two kids, and he used to come and check on us every day," says Morgan of the elderly neighbor. "The more I got to know him, and after I met his girlfriend, Betty, the more I realized how much he was in love with her. The two had been a couple for a number of years, and though Betty begged him, Charlie was too scared to get married. So Betty said goodbye. The song is a reflection on the power of love and heartbreak, no matter what time in life it strikes. I'm happy to say that the day we recorded this song, Charlie and Betty finally got married."

With a reverence for history and an eye on the future, Morgan's career continues to grow.

"I'm in a great place right now," Morgan says. "And I look forward to bringing my music to many more people for the rest of my life."