

ANNIE SIMS BIO

Annie Sims began singing in public at the age of three, at family reunions in her small hometown in upper East Tennessee. She began taking piano lessons at age six and acting in musicals at age eight. She continued performing in concerts, musicals, recitals and plays through her high school years, and went on to receive her Bachelor's degree in vocal music education from the University of Tennessee.

After graduation, Annie began earning her living as a piano bar entertainer, first in Knoxville, then onboard cruise ships. She was promoted to hostess of the S.S. Emerald Seas, where part of her duties included singing and dancing in the shows. Annie's beautiful voice soon caught the attention of international bookers and she traveled on to Europe, performing extensively in Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Ireland. She toured for four years before marrying her husband and producer, Greg Sims. Together they settled in Orlando, Florida, where Annie regularly performed at Walt Disney World. She recorded her first CD, a collection of solo piano and vocal music, for Disney guests to take home as souvenirs.

The favorable response to Annie's first CD landed her a personal manager in England and led her to record a fully produced country CD in Nashville for the U.K. market. It was promoted on BBC radio and in a month-long tour, opening for Country Music Hall of Famer Don Williams. A follow-up U.K. and Ireland tour with Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member, Gene Pitney, led to the creation of the Annie Sims International Fan Club and continued airplay on various BBC stations. The British audience fell in love with Annie's beautiful voice and compelling personality and by the time the tour ended at the legendary London Palladium, she had sold and autographed over 7000 copies.

Meanwhile, Annie had begun to write her own material. Her Country/ Americana CD, *Half The Moon*, released on Nashville-based Aspirion Records, contains six of her own songs. One in particular, "Go Within," led to a five-week European tour with New York Times best-selling author, Neale Donald Walsch. Her first single release from the CD, "Eighty Acres of Stars," was made into a music video which received airplay on CMT's "Pure Country". The single garnered her the much-coveted DisCOVERY award from Music Row magazine critic Robert K. Oermann, and the song remained in Music Choice Americana's Top-10 for three months.

That success prompted Annie to relocate to Nashville and to release a follow-up CD, also on Aspirion, titled *Annie*. She shot two more music videos and her country/rock single, "Everything I Know About Leavin'," was on the Music Row chart for nine weeks, reaching the Top Ten and Top Twenty on several internet charts.

It was after extensive radio touring to promote this single that Annie decided to change genres and start writing and recording Positive Music. She and her husband Greg continued working with author Walsch, who commissioned them to write a song to accompany his book, *When Everything Changes, Change Everything*. The recording was included on CD in a limited edition signed and numbered series of the book.

Her first full-length Positive CD, *Go Within*, which includes the last song from her *Half the Moon* album as the title track, was awarded a Seal of Excellence from the Positive Music Association. The first song from her upcoming follow-up CD, *Center of the Heart*, won a 2012 Posi Award from emPower Music & Arts.

Annie's work with Neale Donald Walsch has brought her full-circle, back to her acting roots. She is playing the role of Truvy in Walsch's summer 2013 production of *Steel Magnolias* in Medford, Oregon, just outside Ashland, home of the internationally-acclaimed annual Shakespeare Festival. Annie is thrilled to be re-kindling her latent talent of acting, having taking several Meisner method acting classes from the Actor's Bridge ensemble in Nashville.

For more information and to hear Annie's music please visit anniesims.com.