



DARRYL WORLEY

The Star Of Voghera Country Festival 2018

One of the highlights of **Voghera Country Festival's** 11th edition will be **Darryl Worley's Saturday night concert!**

Acting as a backdrop to this momentous occasion (Saturday June 23rd 2018) will be the Cowboys Guest Ranch Palatexas, a resort known the world over for its unique atmosphere and the ideal place to experience high quality music, entertainment, life in the open air and family time.

Shortly after his birth in Memphis, Darryl's family moved to Nashville and it was only in later life that he decided to make singing his career, songwriting being his initial focus and only then after having performed in numerous honky tonks between Tennessee and Alabama and taking diverse odd jobs which had little or nothing to do with music.

His first record deal with DreamWorks Records came around in 1999, adding his name to an already rich roster of artists such as Toby Keith, Randy Travis, Emerson Drive, Jessica Andrews and Jimmy Wayne. This first deal brings forth Darryl's debut album **Hard Rain Don't Last**, released in 2000 and produced by Frank Rogers (Brad Paisley, Darius Rucker, Josh Turner, Phil Vassar, Trace Adkins) and James Stroud (Clay Walker, Tracy Lawrence, Clint Black, Toby Keith, Lorrie Morgan). Reactions to this album are very positive, seeing as 3 of its 4 singles find their way into the Top 20 Us Country chart. Almost every song on the album is penned by Darryl himself and in his numerous interviews he cites Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, George Jones and Hank Williams as his idols and sources of inspiration.

The follow-up to this album sees the light exactly two years later and to this day is considered his masterpiece: **I Miss My Friend** (DreamWorks Nashville, 2002). In a brief space of time it hits the top of the Country Albums chart while the title track shares the same fate in the Singles Chart. Critics rave so much so that music journalist Maria Konicki has this to say: "Worley is a standout in a sea of country-pop wannabes"

At the end of 2002, Darryl undertakes a trip which will bring him to Afghanistan and Kuwait, where he will perform numerous times for the American troops there stationed ; the experience offers inspiration for songs that will make up his 3rd album, **Have You Forgotten?** (DreamWorks Nashville, 2003). With only 4 new unreleased tracks (the rest of the album is a best of his two previous outings), this album burns up the charts once again, taking number one spot in the Billboard Country Albums chart and number 4 in the Billboard top 200 behind such lofty names as Fleetwood Mac, 50 Cent and neo American Idol winner and soon to be superstar, Kelly Clarkson. Following its unveiling at the Grand Ole Opry, the title track soars to number one in the charts and stays there for seven consecutive weeks 2004 sees the release of Darryl's fourth self-titled album, heralded by another single which rockets to number

one in the Billboard Top 20 Country Chart (**Awful, Beautiful Life**). The album itself fairs less well cementing itself at number 12 in the Billboard Country Albums Chart.

Following this meteoric ascendancy, DreamWorks Records is forced to close its doors, forcing Darryl to find a new musical home with smaller labels, thus causing his later works to not receive the attention they deserve. He releases **Here and Now in 2006**, while 2009 while witnesses the release of his latest and most recent album **Sounds Like Life**. Both outings receive press praise though it is a far cry from the mainstream accolades he previously enjoyed, however his fans, still large in number stay loyal and supportive.

And so we come to today where Darryl's work is split between his two passions : his own charitable organization(**The Darryl Worley Foundation Inc.**), which collects funds to fuel humanitarian projects and medical research, among these St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. On the other hand, his love for music remains. He has recently released a new single, **Lonely Alone**, which is a prelude to a new album now in the works. Music journalists have always been extremely appraising of Darryl's work, underlining his stylistic rigor and the humble yet strong and outspoken public figure he is.

You will discover all this and more during the course of an event like no other. Now on to its 11th edition, Voghera Country Festival offers aficionados three fun filled days in the company of the best DJs in country music, Italian and international line dance and catalan teachers, all this and more within the picturesque setting of Voghera. Together with dance contests, lessons held by expert teachers, DJ sets, live music featuring both Italian and internationally renowned acts, stalls and shops and excellent food and fun for both young and old!!!

Further information regarding times, tickets and the festival can be found by visiting its website: www.vogheracountryfestival.com or through Facebook "Voghera Country Festival"

