



Country



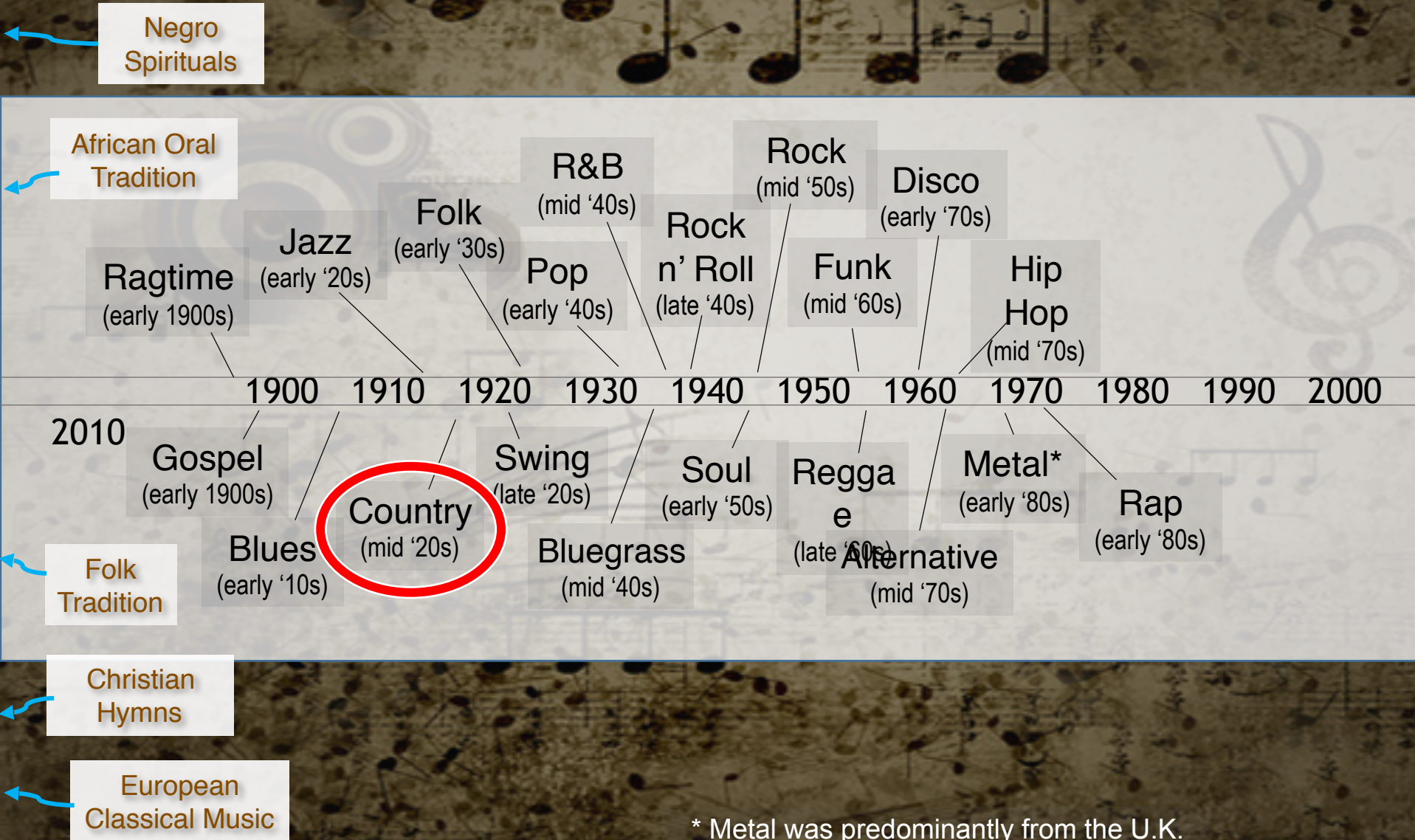
# Country

Who do you recognize from this country music legends collage?





# --- History of AMERICAN MUSIC ---



\* Metal was predominantly from the U.K.



--- History of American Music ---

# Country

What do you already know about this genre?



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# --- History of American Music ---

## Quotations to ponder:

*“Country Music is the poetry of the American spirit.” – Steve Maraboli*

*“I have high standards because country music taught me how a man should treat a lady.” – Anonymous*

*“Of emotions, love, breakup, love & hate, death and dying, mama, apple pie, & the whole thing. It covers a lot of territory, country music does.” – Johnny Cash*

*“Country music is the people’s music. It just speaks about real life and about truth and it tells thing show they really are.” – Faith Hill*

*“I don’t like country music, but I don’t mean to denigrate those who do. And for the people who like country music, denigrate means ‘put down’.” – Bob Newhart*

*“Country music is some of the best-written music in the world, so yeah, one day, I would keep my mind open to doing a country record.” – Ed Sheeran*

*“True country music is honesty, sincerity, & real life to the hilt.” - Garth Brooks*

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--- History of American Music ---

Primary Source Image



Description: Famous 1968 Johnny Cash performance at Folsom Prison

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## Primary Source Image

**Description:** Taylor Swift's first album (release in 2006). Many forget, but Taylor was actually a country sensation before crossing over to mainstream pop music.



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**Definition:** *Originating in the 1920s South (Atlanta), Country Music was once called “hillbilly music” and comes from a blend of folk, western, and blues that often uses simple harmonies and string instruments.*

**Peak popularity:** 1920s–1950s (subgenres remain popular to the present)

**Characteristics:** ballads, harmonies, banjos, guitars (steel, electric, acoustic), fiddles, harmonicas,

**Influenced by:** folk, cowboy, jazz, gospel, blues, western

**Influenced:** southern rock, rockabilly, bluegrass, honky Tonk

**Notable Artists:** Jimmy Rodgers, Gene Autry, Roy Rogers, Hank Williams, Johnny Cash (rockabilly), Patsy Kline (pop country), Garth Brooks, George Strait

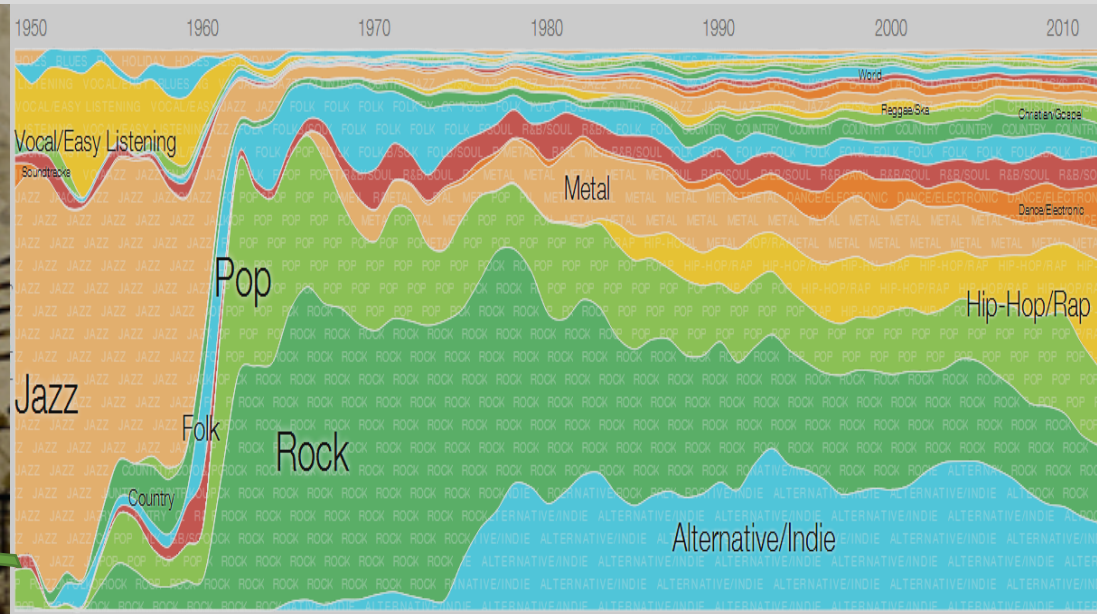
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# --- History of American Music ---

1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990  
2000 2010



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**Jimmy Rodgers**

**“Blue Yodel No. 9”**

[https://  
www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=9BFbY9Vw8DM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BFbY9Vw8DM)



**Gene Autry**

**“Back in the Saddle  
Again”**

[https://  
www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=rSqcxFGFVas](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSqcxFGFVas)

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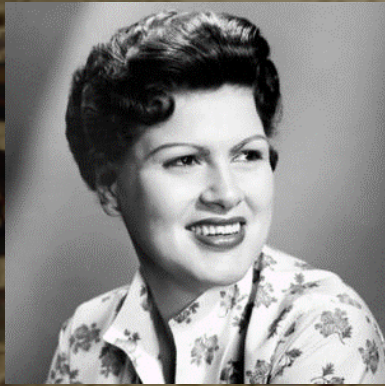
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**Patsy Kline**

**"Crazy"**

[https://  
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watch?v=MbnrdCS57d0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbnrdCS57d0)



**Roy Rogers**

**"Don't Fence Me In"**

[https://www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=WLoYFvbR0XY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLoYFvbR0XY)

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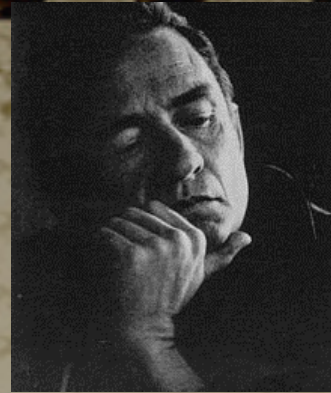
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Hank Williams

“Lovesick Blues”

[https://  
www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=-Xu71i89xvs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xu71i89xvs)



Johnny Cash

“Hurt”

[https://  
www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=8AHCfZTRGil](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8AHCfZTRGil)

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Willie Nelson

“Blue Eyes Crying  
In The Rain”

[https://  
www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=JA644rSZX1A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JA644rSZX1A)



Willie Nelson

“Georgia On My Mind”

[https://www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=FNlw0IDFKDA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNlw0IDFKDA)

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Clip from the 1952 film *Horse Sense*, featuring Gene Autry: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nfdyyQkze3Q>



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Clip from the 2000 film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZtgZ5fHOuU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZtgZ5fHOuU)



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“Dueling Banjos” scene from the 1972 film *Deliverance*, a scene that stereotypes what people far removed from country music often think of country music:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gsC4kf6x\\_Q0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gsC4kf6x_Q0)

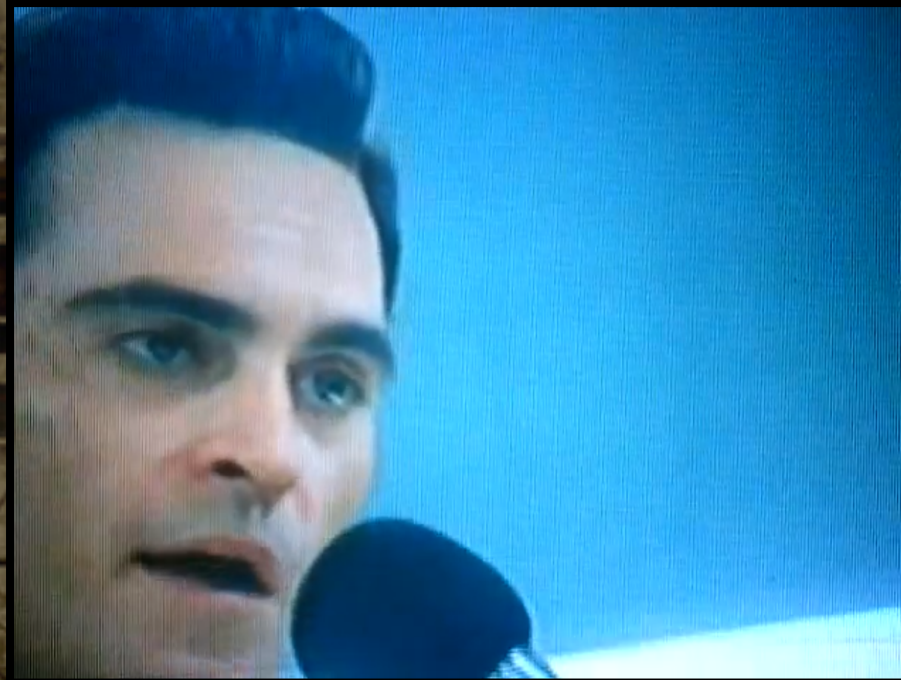


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--- History of American Music ---



Clip from the 2005 film *Walk the Line*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0Lnzfy57qs>



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# --- History of American Music ---

Country Music thrived as a unique genre from the 1020s to the 1950s after which time many artists began to incorporate certain aspects and sounds from other popular genres. However, the 'sound' of country music has become normalized and remained mainstream ever since. Some key country musicians since the 1950s include:

**Johnny Cash**

"I Walk the Line" (1956)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEV58ztuihs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEV58ztuihs)

**Dolly Parton**

"I Will Always Love You" (1974)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDqqm\\_gTPjc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDqqm_gTPjc)

**Garth Brooks**

"The Thunder Rolls" (1990)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIV0oovj7vc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIV0oovj7vc)

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**Patsy Kline**

"You're Stronger Than Me" (1962)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=eldWSVKo7y8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eldWSVKo7y8)

**Reba McEntire**

"Fancy" (1990)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=zplc4lenkws](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zplc4lenkws)

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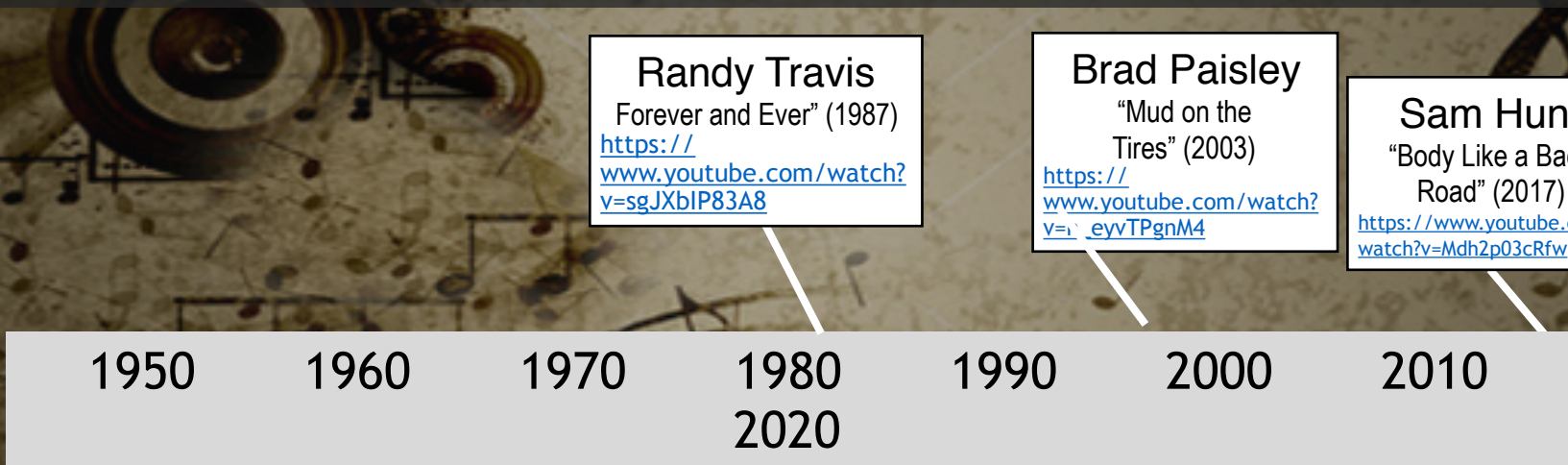


# --- History of American Music ---

Country Music thrived as a unique genre from the 1020s to the 1950s after which time many artists began to incorporate certain aspects and sounds from other popular genres. However, the 'sound' of country music has become normalized and remained mainstream ever since. Some key country musicians since the 1950s include:

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**Randy Travis**  
"Forever and Ever" (1987)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgJXbIP83A8>

**Brad Paisley**  
"Mud on the Tires" (2003)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyvTPgnM4>

**Sam Hunt**  
"Body Like a Back Road" (2017)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mdh2p03cRfw>

**Keith Urban**  
"Somebody Like You" (2002)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiBinM-f-Pk>

**Tim McGraw**  
"Humble and Kind" (2015)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awzNHuGqoMc>

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# --- History of American Music ---

Country Music thrived as a unique genre from the 1020s to the 1950s after which time many artists began to incorporate certain aspects and sounds from other popular genres. However, the 'sound' of country music has become normalized and remained mainstream ever since. Some key country musicians since the 1950s include:

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Miranda Lambert  
"The Houst the Built Me" (2010)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HB3dtEkBtXA>

Carrie Underwood  
"Something In the Water" (2014)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mH9kYn4L8TI>

Christ Stapleton  
"Nobody to Blame" (2015)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0mwo-dAABA>

Brothers Osborne  
"21 Summer" (2016)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PKk62XccU0>

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# --- History of American Music ---

## Artist Spotlight: Jimmy Rodgers

Famous for his rhythmic 'yodeling', Jimmy Rodgers was one of the first commercially successful country singers. In addition to the hit song, "Blue Yodel No. 9", he recorded several albums throughout the 1920s and into the 1930s. Rodgers was nicknamed "The Blue Yodeler", "The Singing Brakeman" and "The Father of Country Music".



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# --- History of American Music ---

## Artist Spotlight: Gene Autry

The “Singing Cowboy” Gene Autry was a famous name in radio, movies and television for more than three decades (1930s – 1950s). He appeared in 93 films and on 91 episodes of the Gene Autry Show. Autry is often considered the second-most influential figure in the history of country music (after Jimmie Rodgers). His singing cowboy characters brought country music to the national audience over and over again.



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# --- History of American Music ---

## Artist Spotlight: Hank Williams

Known as the “Hillbilly Shakespeare, Hank Williams (1923-1953) is arguably one of the most influential artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He had 35 top ten country hits and 11 number one hits before his drug/alcohol-related heart attack at 29. The likes of Elvis, Bob Dylan, and the Stones have covered his songs and Williams is one of the most celebrated of all country singers. In fact, many modern country songs still reference his name.



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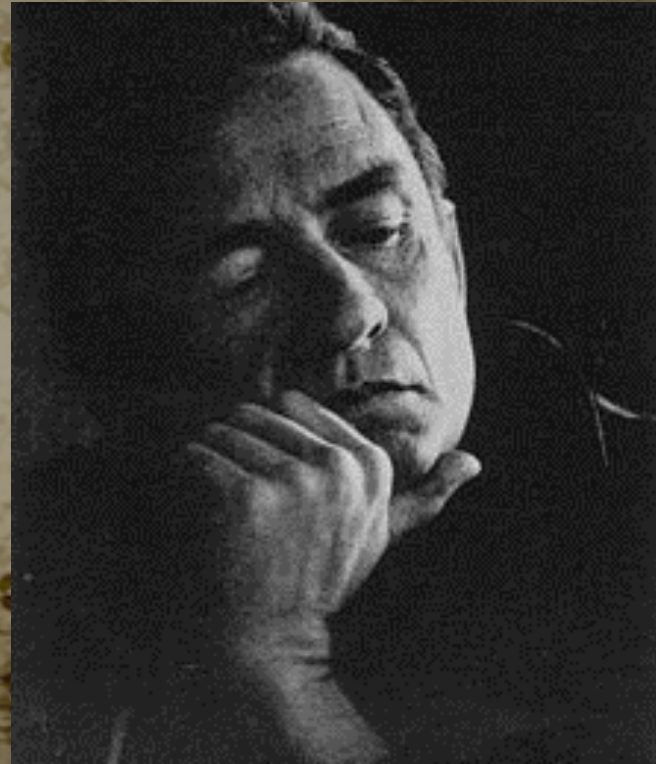


# --- History of American Music ---

## Artist Spotlight: Johnny Cash

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Known for his deep voice and rebelliousness, Johnny Cash is considered one of the most influential musicians in American history. Beginning primarily as a country music icon, he ultimately created songs across genres such as: rock n' roll, blues, folk and gospel. He is the only artist that is in the Country Music, Rock n' Roll and Gospel Music Hall of Fame.



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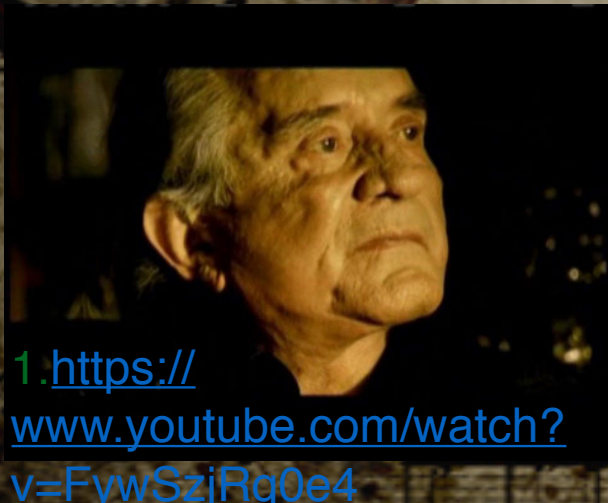
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--- **History** of **American Music** ---

**Artist Spotlight: Johnny Cash**

Johnny Cash cover of the Nine Inch Nails song "Hurt". His last hit before passing away.



1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FywSziRq0e4>



Johnny Cash Hits: Ghost Riders in the Sky, Man in Black, Hurt, Folsom Prison Blues, Ring of Fire, Walk the Line, Sunday Morning Coming,

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# --- History of American Music ---

Top-selling country albums of all time...

Which artists do you think will make the list???



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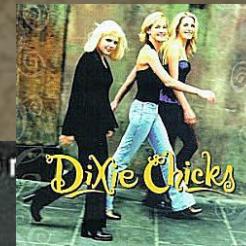


# --- History of American Music ---

Top-selling country albums of all time...

Which artists do you think will make the list???

- 10 – Garth Brooks: The Chase
- 9 – Garth Brooks: Garth Brooks
- 8 – Garth Brooks: Sevens
- 7 – Dixie Chicks: Fly
- 6 – Garth Brooks: Double Live
- 5 – Dixie Chicks: Wide Open Spaces
- 4 – Shania Twain: The Woman In Me
- 3 – Garth Brooks: Ropin' the Wind
- 2 – Garth Brooks: No Fences
- 1 – Shania Twain: Come On Over



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--- **H**istory of **A**merican **M**usic ---

Did you know...?

There are stereotypes about what types of people listen to country music, such as blue-collar professions (construction, factory, farmers, maintenance, truck drivers, miners, fishermen, etc.). There are also stereotypes about which states have the most country music listeners. Here are several of the top states for country music...

Idaho, Virginia, Arkansas, Kentucky,  
West Virginia, Mississippi, Texas,  
Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, Utah,  
Tennessee, Alabama

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## **Rolling Stone Magazine's list of top 100 artists of all time (2008)**

- 1. The Beatles –
- 2. Bob Dylan –
- 3. Elvis Presley –
- 4. Rolling Stones –
- 5. Chuck Berry –
- 6. Jimi Hendrix –
- 7. James Brown –
- 8. Little Richard –
- 9. Aretha Franklin –
- 10. Ray Charles –
- 11. Bob Marley –
- 12. The Beach Boys –
- 13. Buddy Holly –
- 14. Led Zeppelin –
- 15. Stevie Wonder –
- 16. Sam Cooke –
- 17. Muddy Waters –
- 18. Marvin Gaye –
- 19. Velvet Underground –
- 20. Bo Diddley –
- 21. Otis Redding –
- 22. U2 –
- 23. Bruce Springsteen –
- 24. Jerry Lee Lewis –
- 25. Fats Domino –
- 26. The Ramones –
- 27. Nirvana –
- 28. Prince –
- 29. The Who –
- 30. The Clash –
- 31. Johnny Cash –
- 32. Smokey Robinson –
- 33. The Everly Brothers –
- 34. Neil Young –
- 35. Michael Jackson –
- 36. Madonna –
- 37. Roy Orbison –
- 38. John Lennon –
- 39. David Bowie –
- 40. Simon and Garfunkel –
- 41. The Doors –
- 42. Van Morrison –
- 43. Sly and the Family Stone –
- 44. Public Enemy –
- 45. The Byrds –
- 46. Janis Joplin –
- 47. Patti Smith –
- 48. Run-DMC –
- 49. Elton John –
- 50. The Band –
- 51. Howlin' Wolf –
- 52. Allman Brothers Band –
- 53. Eric Clapton –
- 54. Dr. Dre –
- 55. Grateful Dead –
- 56. Parliament/Funkadelic –
- 57. Aerosmith –
- 58. Sex Pistols –
- 59. Louis Jordan –
- 60. Joni Mitchell –
- 61. Tina Turner –
- 62. Etta James –
- 63. Phil Spector –
- 64. The Kinks –
- 65. Al Green –
- 66. Cream –
- 67. The Temptations –
- 68. Jackie Wilson –
- 69. Carl Perkins –
- 70. The Police –
- 71. Frank Zappa –
- 72. AC/DC –
- 73. Radiohead –
- 74. Hank Williams –
- 75. The Eagles –
- 76. The Shirelles –
- 77. Beastie Boys –
- 78. The Stooges –
- 79. The Four Tops –
- 80. Elvis Costello –
- 81. The Drifters –
- 82. Eminem –
- 83. N.W.A. –
- 84. James Taylor –
- 85. Black Sabbath –
- 86. Tupac Shakur –
- 87. Gram Parsons –
- 88. Miles Davis –
- 89. The Yardbirds –
- 90. Carlos Santana –
- 91. Ricky Nelson –
- 92. Guns n Roses –
- 93. Booker T. and the MG's –
- 94. Nine Inch Nails –
- 95. Lynyrd Skynyrd –
- 96. Martha and the Vandellas –
- 97. Diana Ross and the Supremes –
- 98. Roxy Music –
- 99. Curtis Mayfield –
- 100. Lee 'Scratch' Perry –