

# DAVE ADKINS - BIO



There is no mistaking the raw and powerful vocals by singer, songwriter and guitarist Dave Adkins. His significant chart success, coupled with his stellar live performances, have made him one of most talked about artist in acoustic music.

Adkins was born in Pikeville, Kentucky and makes his home in Elkhorn City. He began playing and singing when he was just eight years old and joined a band with fellow classmates performing at schools and other venues. At 17, he began playing bluegrass music at Dollywood where he stayed two years. A year later, Adkins was named a Kentucky Colonel - the highest title of honor bestowed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Commissions for Kentucky colonels are given by the governor and the secretary of state to individuals in recognition of noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to a community, state or the nation. He is also a proud Mason and Shriner.

After Dollywood, Adkins took a turn doing solo Country shows and later performed with a Rock band especially in the Chicago area. He also served as a Country Radio DJ as *Brave Dave Adkins, the Original Midnight Cowboy* at WBHR in Pikeville, Ky.

In 2010, he returned to the genre that was his first love, Bluegrass and formed the group, Dave Adkins & Republik Steele. Adkins' soulful vocals earned him a 2013 SPBGMA nomination as Male Vocalist of the Year in the Contemporary category.

Adkins is also an accomplished songwriter, contributing three original songs to the band's *That's Just The Way I Roll* on the Rural Rhythm Records in 2013. The album made its debut #7 on Billboard's Top 10 Bluegrass Album Chart and was mentioned in a CMT feature article, titled "New Independent Music" along with the Steeldrivers and Wood and Wires. Adkins was asked to join the all-star artist line-up for the February 12, 2013 album, *God Didn't Choose Sides, Volume 1 – Civil War True Stories About Real People* also featuring Marty Raybon, Lonesome River Band, Carrie Hassler, Russell Moore, Ronnie Bowman, Dale Ann Bradley, and more.

By February 2014, he moved to the Mountain Fever Records label who released Adkins first solo album, *Nothing To Lose*. He again contributed his songwriting talents penning three originals and co-writing another track on his most chart successful album to date. His original song, "Pike County Jail" was an instant chart hit and was the 7<sup>th</sup> most played song on the Bluegrass Today Top 30 Song of 2014. It also appeared on the Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine's National Bluegrass Survey Top 30 Song Chart for 10 months reaching as high as #2, and was named in the publication's Best of 2014. The title track, "Nothing to Lose" garnered the #1 spot on Sirius XM Bluegrass Junction's Most Played Tracks. Six of the twelve tracks received chart action with numerous #1s on Bluegrass Today's Top 20 Weekly and Monthly Song Chart and the Roots Music Report Top 50 Bluegrass Songs Chart. Two tracks, "I Can't Even Walk" and "Don't Pray That Way," appeared in the Top 5 on the gospel music charts. *Nothing To Lose* appeared on the Roots Music Report's Top 50 Albums of 2014 and 2015.

Mountain Fever Records released a collaborative album with Dave Adkins and Edgar Loudermilk in March 2015 titled *Adkins & Loudermilk* that help garner the duo a Nomination by the International

DaveAdkinsMusic.com

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Bluegrass Music Association for the 2015 Emerging Artist of the Year Award. The first single release, titled "*Back Side of Losing*," was written by Dave Adkins and Mark "Brink" Brinkman and appeared on Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine's Top 50 Songs of 2015. The album also appeared at #17 on the Roots Music Report's Top 150 Albums of 2015.

In February 2016, Mountain Fever Records released the self-titled album by Dave Adkins that made its debut at #1 on Billboard's Top 10 Bluegrass Album Chart and reached #1 on Sirius XM Bluegrass Junction's Most Played Albums in December 2016. The first two single releases from this album received tremendous success. His original tune, "*Change Her Mind*" hit #1 three times on the Bluegrass Today Top 20 Chart and was also #1 on the Sirius XM Bluegrass Junction's Most Played Tracks in 2016. The song is still appearing on Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine's Top 30 Song Chart where it has remained for the past 10 months. Other chart success includes Power Source Magazine's Top 35 Song Chart and the Roots Music Report's Top 50 Singles chart.

Adkins' second single release from the album was his impressive cover of John Michael Montgomery's country hit "*Sold*" that reached #1 on the Bluegrass Today Top 20, reached as high as #2 on the Sirius XM Bluegrass Junction's Most Played Tracks, Power Source Magazine's Top 35 Song Chart and the Roots Music Report and more. The third single release was the lightning fast "*Turn and Burn*;" a song he co-wrote with David Morris and Dawn Kenney that **won 2nd place in the prestigious Hazel Dickens Songwriting Contest in 2016.**

On the heels of another ICM Top 10 Nomination for the 2018 Inspirational Bluegrass Artist of the Year, Mountain Fever Records will release Dave Adkins' album *Right Or Wrong* in the spring of 2018.

Adkins refers to his loyal legion of fans as his *friends*. With a heart made of gold, he is truly sincere with his appreciation of their support for so many years.

## **DISCOGRAPHY**

March 9, 2018 – Dave Adkins – *Right Or Wrong* – Mountain Fever Records

Feb 26, 2016 - Dave Adkins - *Dave Adkins* - Mountain Fever Records

March 17, 2015 - Dave Adkins & Edgar Loudermilk - *Adkins & Loudermilk* - Mountain Fever Records

March 11, 2014 - Dave Adkins - *Nothin' To Lose* - Mountain Fever Records

February 26, 2013 - Dave Adkins & Republik Steele - *That's Just The Way I Roll* - Rural Rhythm Records

February 12, 2013 - Various Artists – *God Didn't Choose Sides, Volume 1 – Civil War True Stories About Real People* – Rural Rhythm Records

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