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arts and entertainment

Re1911 on the way



Photos courtesy of Angela Reign

This is serious business — this life of a country music singer. And right now, nobody lives that life harder than Angela Reign.

On a recent weekend, Reign tore it up as a finalist at Hard Rock International's Battle of the Bands, and then spent the weekend with her agent/husband, Mike Waller, driving from gig to gig before jetting off to Los Angeles. The touring, music and more touring is what Reign dreamed of when she left her high-powered management consultant job and hit the road to chase her country music dream.

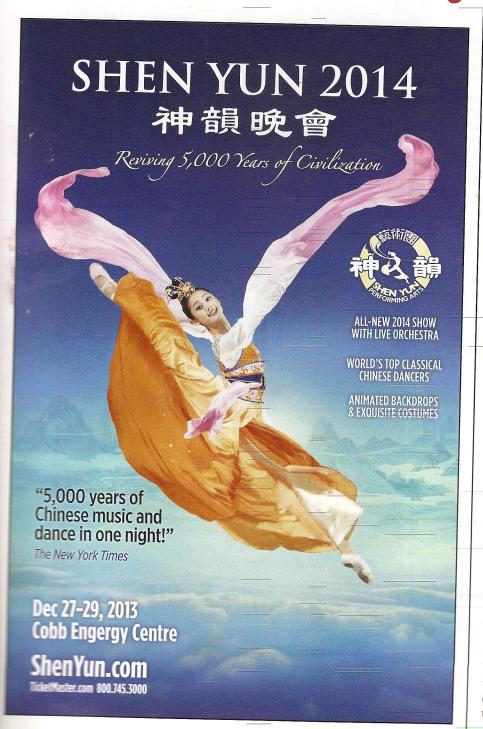
It's your typical budding country music star story: One minute you're consulting with some major corporation on how to add millions to its bottom line, and the next you're performing before a throng of screaming fans during a pregame concert at the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship in the Georgia Dome. "I was making a significant financial impact with my day job, but all I kept thinking about were those 20 people I had entertained the weekend before," Reign says. "Entertaining fed my soul."

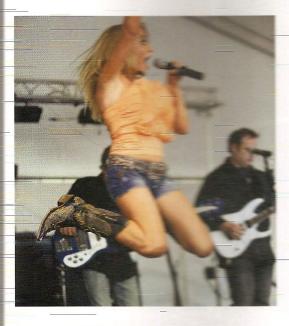
As the consultant-by-day-singer-by-night mantra hit full stride, it was Reign's boss who finally encouraged her to pursue music full time. The consulting job would be there if she needed it, her boss promised. Well, you can officially transfer Angela Reign's name from your LinkedIn contacts

to your iPod playlist.

Eight of Reign's songs have aired on mainstream radio. Over the past year or so, she has performed 50-plus events at major venues from Atlanta to Nashville, Tenn., including gigs at the country music capitol's vaunted Bluebird Café. Her single, "I Wanna Ride the Bull," which was released on a five-song CD with country music star Kip Moore's No. 1 hit, "Beer Money," continues to garner mass appeal. Along with being the inspiration for a line dancing class taught weekly at Electric Cowboy and Wild Bill's, it has been put into rotation in 250 dance clubs across the country. The Georgia Music Awards also nominated the song's video for "Best Music Video of the Year."

"I'm not your traditional female country artist," says Reign, who recently was nominated as "Best Female Country Artist of the Year" by the Georgia Music Awards. "I'm a wild woman on stage. I'm a chameleon. I'll sing a love ballad with utter passion, and then follow it up with a hard-hitting, in-your-face rock anthem. I'm unique, and a number of people I respect have convinced me to embrace that uniqueness."





Getting to know Angela

Favorite Singer: Stevile Micks

Favorite (All-Time) Song:
"Conviction of the Heart"
(Kenny Loggins)

Best On Stage Moment.
Singing Zac Brown's Free with her bass player, Rick Sincian.

Your Duet Wish List: Kenny Loggins.

Favorite Celebrity Moment:
Hanging backstage with
actor/comedian Steve Marin
after his performance with the
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

Singer You'd Most Like to Meet: Madonna.

One Thing Everybody Should Know

About You: I'm a science nerd.

The One Song You'd Love to Record: "Don't Stop Believin" (Journey)

Like many truly gifted singers,
Reign started singing in the church
choir at an early age. She continued
her passion on and off through the
years with cameos in local bands and
performing in community theatres. It
wasn't until 2009, after singing with
an ex-Nashville guitarist at a private
event, that she began performing
again regularly. "After hearing me
sing, he made it clear I was wasting
my true talent," Reign recalls. "It has
been such a blessed time with so
many fun memories."

But Reign is not just about taking everything that's given her. She believes in giving back, too. Over the past year, her band has conducted benefit concerts for the American Cancer Society, The Strand Theatre, MS Society and the Wounded Warrior

organization.

"Giving back through my music is hugely important to me. It has always been a part of who I am as a person. I want to use my music to inspire people and encourage them for whatever they might be going through. You can be having the absolute worst day of your life and music can bring you back to a better time and place."

This is the legacy that Angela Reign inspires to leave — one that has taken her from corporate raider to compassionate songstress. "Today my_band is my family; my music is my full-time job and the stage is my home. I can't imagine doing anything else. Will our uniqueness bring us continued success? Only time will tell, but we're absolutely enjoying the journey."

