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Alumni Spotlight



Accenture alumni Angie and Mike Waller "reign" over the music industry

Accenture alumni Angie and Mike Waller continue to embrace change as they move from change management careers and dive into the music industry.

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Accenture alumni have teamed up to launch the music career of Angela Reign, a former Accenture change management consultant personally known as Angie (Caudill) Waller.

With her smooth country vocal-stylings and pop/rock musical influences, music critics at SonicSouth recently published that "Angela Reign is poised to put her music where her name is and indeed 'reign' over the local crossover scene."

"You may describe my music best as 'Americana,' but to see one of my live shows is to know that I'm as much a performer as I am a singer. I pour my heart and soul into every song, whether it's a passionate love ballad, a high-energy cover, or one of my own releases. I leave every live performance completely and utterly exhausted," Angie describes.

The same work ethic Angela Reign demonstrates in her performances was clear during her three years as a change management consultant at Accenture. Having joined the Cincinnati office in 2004, Angie focused primarily on SAP engagements for a number of clients—but recalls her time on the PepsiCo project as her best Accenture experience.

"Given the size and scale of this 400 person team, I was able to experience change management work on an entirely new level and learn from an exceptionally talented Accenture team." Angie reflects.



Personally, it's also where she first met her husband Mike Waller, the Accenture senior executive leading this change management effort. While they had very little interaction on the PepsiCo project, their friendship grew when Angie was again staffed on an Accenture project with The Home Depot, where Mike had joined in 2006 to establish their internal change management practice.

"After a 14-year consulting career with Accenture, I was looking for a job with less travel and more flexibility to support my children's extra-curricular activities. The opportunity with The Home Depot enabled this flexibility, while giving me a new professional challenge to start and lead a new internal Change Management practice. And amazingly, it also led me to reconnecting with Angie," Mike says.

Two years after reconnecting on the project, Mike and Angie married in Jamaica, a place they now travel to regularly and serves as an inspiration for Angie who performs with a Reggae band in the Caribbean Islands a couple of times per year.



Becoming Angela Reign

While working for a new consultancy in September 2009, Angie attended a private party where the talented ex-Nashville guitarist/vocalist Stan Roberts was serving as the evening's entertainment. Knowing Angie grew up singing and acting, the party host invited her to sing with Stan—a request that would ultimately change the course of both their futures.

Moved by her music, Stan offered to come out of retirement if she would pursue her music with his support. Excited by the prospect, Angie discussed this drastic career change with her husband, who not only encouraged her to go for it but offered to serve as her manager.

Leaving the world of consultancy, Angie began performing live across the southeast and working on her debut album Introducing Angela Reign, produced by yet another Accenture former senior executive John Henderson, a close friend and mentor of Mike.

"Having spent hundreds of hours arranging, composing and playing the back-up instruments for my first CD, John helped bring to life my musical dream and connect with my fans," Angie says. "John's personal efforts were instrumental to the success I'm experiencing today".

Angela Reign's first original single, Chevy (written with Stan Roberts), was immediately picked up by an Atlanta radio station (94.9 The Bull) and was played for 6 weeks as a result of getting thousands of listener votes to keep the song on the air. The air time also created significant exposure and resulted in multiple song-writers, promoters and musicians asking to join the Angela Reign team.

While Angle focuses on writing, recording and performing music, she feels blessed to have her husband serve as manager to navigate the business side of the equation.

"For all the creative talent and hours Angle and John invested into the CD, it still takes a lot of business savvy and effort to get even the most amazing product into a listener's hands. As business manager, I work closely on marketing and public relations, performance booking and ensure we're planning for the future," Mike says.

Mike balances his managerial responsibilities with his full-time career leading Emerson Human Capital Consulting's east coast practice, where over half his team is comprised of ex-Accenture professionals.

Looking forward

Angle is heads down, working on the production of her next CD "I Color You Angel" for release this summer. It's a joint effort with talented song-writer and producer, Wil Hodge. She also continues to perform across the southeast United States and the Caribbean and receive notoriety from radio stations, music critics and various publications.

Angle is very excited about the release of her upcoming album. For the past month, she's been performing songs from the album live and on internet TV to rave reviews from both fans and music critics alike. "I'm really proud of the work my team has put into this upcoming CD," she shares. "I believe it will be worthy of the dedication and support of my exceptionally talented team, my fans and of music industry as a whole".

Listen to Angela Reign

As a special treat for her fellow Accenture alumni, Angie is pleased to release the title track of her upcoming 'I Color You Angel' CD exclusively via *Pathways*. To hear more music, find performance dates and share your feedback, please visit www.angelareign.com.