

COUNTRY SINGER ANGELA REIGN | GARDEN TOUR PREVIEW | ETIQUETTE SCHOOL

# COBB LIFE

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# ORGANIC

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By Michael Pallerino

Photos courtesy of Angela Reign

# Reign on the way

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 and music and more touring is what Reign dreamed of when she left her high-powered management consultant job and hit the road, literally, 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 pre-game 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."





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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 hosted 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."

## Getting to know Angela

**Favorite Singer:** Stevie Nicks

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

**Best On Stage Moment:** Singing Zac Brown's "Free" with her bass player, Rick Sinclair.

**Your Duet Wish List:** Kenny Loggins.

**Favorite Celebrity Moment:** Hanging backstage with actor/comedian Steve Martin 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)





## On the road again...

Want to check Angela out on stage? Mark these dates on your country music calendar.

May 3 – The Branch House Tavern (Flowery Branch)  
 May 24 – The Pourhouse (Ellijay)  
 June 7 – A Rock Star Circus at East Andrews (Atlanta)  
 June 8 – Georgia Music Awards at the Buckhead Theatre (Atlanta)  
 June 22 – 120 Tavern and Music Hall (Marietta)  
 June 29 – Jimmy Mac's (Marietta)  
 July 26 – The Pourhouse (Ellijay)  
 July 27 – Cowboys Hotspot (Rutledge)  
 August 3 – Hero Run (Kennesaw)  
 August 10 – Rocco's Pub (Jasper)

### Your vote counts

The Georgia Music Awards recently nominated Angela for "Best Female Country Artist of the Year" award. Your vote can help. Voting is open until May 31. Visit [www.georgiamusicawards.com/gma/](http://www.georgiamusicawards.com/gma/)



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