

Katy's Country Star Roger Creager Tours the World, but Calls Katy Home

Written by Anike Arni Photography by Traci Goudie

ike many young boys, Roger Creager only ever wanted to play baseball. His dreams as a kid did not involve a guitar or any music at all. In fact, he dreaded his piano lessons. His friends would wait impatiently in the living room, rolling their eyes, while Creager was forced to sit on his stool and practice regularly.

Luckily for Texas country music fans, his hate for the piano lessons did not push him too far away from the music business. Today, one of Creager's best known songs, "Love," puts any crowd to its feet to sing the words "Love ain't what this song is about," enthusiastically.

Songs That Are a Part of Life

Though he was dedicated to playing baseball with friends as a boy, Creager has early memories of when he used to sing in the back seat of the car while his parents were driving him around. Somehow, music was always a part of his life. "I hate to say this, but it really doesn't feel like a dream come true," admits Creager. "It's just part of who I am, what I do."

The same goes for his original songs. When asked what his favorite one was so far, Creager hesitantly chooses "Late Night Case of the Blues," but says that it is in fact a really hard choice. "They're all kind of like children to me," he adds. "Plus, the new album is sinking in, so I might have a new favorite."

More Quantity and Quality

When one listens to a Roger Creager CD or attends one of his concerts, boredom is definitely not an option. Despite the fact that he has many songs that can put anyone in a good mood, he also plays very diverse songs that can please virtually every kind of crowd. His soundtrack varies anywhere from upbeat beer-themed songs, to slow romantic ones.

"I like to have a wider spectrum, create records that people can listen to and not get tired of," he explains. "People can rewind the CD and play again." Plus, it also keeps him and the band interested. With so many performances, different songs help the musicians stay active on stage and don't make them sick of their own songs so early in the game.



Reaching a Wider Audience

In the summer of 2007, he made his first European tour. Though country music is largely associated with Texas, Creager has managed to attract large audiences even in southern France, where he was received by an audience of about ten thousand listeners.

Every year, he also plays in Mexico, which he claims is one of the coolest things he does. This year, the 8th annual "Party South of the Border" will be held June 14-17. This is an event that Creager really hopes his supporters will join in at least once. Not only does the audience get to enjoy the Playa del Carmen, which is about 40



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miles from Cancun, but they also get to commemorate with a local favorite. He urges his audience to take that plane straight from Houston to Cancun and to share this experience with him at the beach.

Of course he also plays locally. His first gig was in College Station and he often plays in Katy and Houston for us locals.

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Best of Both Worlds

A Corpus Christi native, Creager has lived in Katy on and off for about nine years, moving between Houston and Katy. He believes Katy is the perfect balance between the city and the suburbs, with Houston to provide for the urban necessities, and the small town to provide quiet and comfort. "I like Houston, but I also like not being in Houston," he says. "Katy is the best of both worlds."

His commitment to Katy demonstrates just how much he appreciates it. "I don't have an office, so I could live anywhere," adds Creager. "But I choose this area."

ANIKE ARNI is an intern at Katy Magazine and her personal favorite song of Roger Creager's is "Love."





Fast Facts

★ BORN

July 25, 1971 in Corpus Christi, TX

***** BIGGEST HITS

Having Fun All Wrong, Love, Everclear, Long Way To Mexico, Love is Crazy

★ MUSICAL INFLUENCES

Jerry Jeff Walker, Lyle Lovett, Robert Earl Keen, Jimmy Buffet, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, Frank Sinatra

★ FAVORITE FOOD

Tuna Steak

★ FAVORITE COLOR

Green

★ FAVORITE SPORT

Raseball

***** FAVORITE HOBBY

Fish

★ FAVORITE VENUE

The Tap, College Station

For more information and tour dates, visit rogercreager.com.