

cmt.com artists: Shawn Jones biography



Early in his music career, Shawn Jones found a supporter in Waylon Jennings, who happened to catch one of Jones' shows in a Los Angeles club. (Jennings' music had been a major part of Jones' youth, because Jones' father was a big fan, as well as a musician.) "The first time I saw him," Jennings once said, "it was just Shawn and a guitar in a small room and he was drawing that music out of every fiber of himself. It was obvious to me that he is a world-class singer, writer and musician all wrapped into one."

Jennings invited Jones to play on his 1996 album *Right For the Time*, as well as live gigs at Willie Nelson's Fourth of July Picnic and the Lollapalooza Tour (with headliners like Metallica, Soundgarden and the Ramones). In 1997, Jones headed to Frankfurt, Germany to play guitar, arrange, and co-produce the debut album for the artist Emma on MCA Records/Germany.

Upon his return to the U.S., Jones spent time in both Nashville and Los Angeles writing new material. While in Nashville, he met Steve Wariner and they immediately became friends. Together, they wrote and recorded a song together in Wariner's studio. The mysterious ballad, "So Here I Am," won third place (out of 3,000) in the John Lennon International Songwriting Competition in 1999.

Jones' song "Invincible Me" was featured in the 100th episode of the Fox series *Dawson's Creek*. He and his band made a cameo appearance in the Fine Line Pictures release *Tumbleweeds*, starring Janet McTeer. Two of his songs, "Long Way Down" and "Lightning Strike Me Down," are heard in the movie. Other artists on the soundtrack include Johnny Cash, Lyle Lovett, Buck Owens, Emmylou Harris and Lucinda Williams. "Lightning Strike Me Down" was also selected for the Hollywood Pictures film, *Mystery, Alaska*. Jones released the album *All in Good Time* in 2005.