

Pat Garrett Bio

COUNTRYVERSIAL TUNES

Finding the absolute essence of Pat Garrett is a pretty simple task. Just listen to him speak and you'll discover that he's one of the most passionate people you will ever meet. Getting to the heart of his strongest talents is a bit of a tougher assignment. When asked about his beloved and rustic roots in the Blue Mountains of Pennsylvania, he'll refer casually but keenly about his successful ventures outside of music. There's the amphitheatre that he built, a sheepskin business, his roadhouse, even a radio station that he owns. However, while some of the other interests may come and go, the unvarying core of this man's soul is his music.

The latest album from Pat Garrett is aptly titled, *CountryVersial Tunes*, which gives you a clue that this Harley riding artist is not afraid to shy away from debate. Leading the charge is "Moose Shootin' Mama," his tribute to former candidate for Vice President and Governor of Alaska, Sarah Palin. "I came into my studio one morning right after the Republican Convention," remembers Pat. "I had already been really impressed with Sarah Palin after that rousing speech she gave. Anyway, I look at the front page of the newspaper and there's this photo of her holding a rifle." Pat credits a friend with coming up with the line, *she's a moose shootin' mama*. "As soon as I heard that the light bulb went off and in no time I turned it into a song. The lyrics just poured out of me to be honest."

As Pat Garrett recalls, he phoned Lofton Creek Records' President, Mike Borchetta, and sang a few lines on the record executive's voice mail. "The next day I get a phone call and it's Mike asking me to come to Nashville to record it." There happened to be just a little hitch. Having written the song on a whim and not writing the lyrics down, Pat needed Borchetta to play him the message back so he could remember the tune to the song!

Not too long afterwards, Pat did end up in Music City recording, with the single being released on Lofton Creek Records. The end result was one of the most talked about songs of the political season. It was also infectious, upbeat and fun. The popularity of "Moose Shootin' Mama," made its way to the Governor's mansion in Alaska. The McCain/Palin campaign requested the use of the song, which Pat enthusiastically obliged, leading to coverage on major news outlets like Fox and ABC. "Fox News actually came by my sheepskin shop, (he has a prospering sheepskin business in Pennsylvania, www.sheepcoat.com), and they asked me to play the song for them."

In addition to the success of "Moose Shootin' Mama," Pat Garrett has received plenty of national coverage for several other songs on "CountryVersial Tunes," such as "The Monica Lewinsky Polka," "Stick Your Oil," and "Bailout," a song that Pat remembers penning after being aggravated by the entire political climate. "I was watching Fox News about bailing out these fat cats on Wall Street. I started to wonder where all our money is going!"

The current single from, *CountryVersial Tunes*, is a full-out, rocking, stomping romp called, "Wild Hog." The single already has become one of the Top 20 downloaded songs nationally, garnering momentum and airplay at Country radio stations. The recent filming of the "Wild Hog" video even became a local attraction in Eastern Pennsylvania.

"We were striving to capture the spirit and fun of the *Wild Hogs* movie that inspired the song," explains Pat. "We put out a press release to a couple of local newspapers looking for bikers and we

were literally swamped with candidates.” Over 200 riders showed up in leather, ready to mount their Harleys for the video, hopefully getting the chance to pop a wheel-stand or burn-out on camera. The shooting got rolling and so did the bikers. Pat led the brigade from the Reading Motorcycle Club, where the convoy rolled on to the Shanesville Hotel, near Pleasantville, PA. That was where Pat and his band, The Pat Garrett Band, rocked the house all-night long. “The production of the video actually took about 3 days but it was a blast,” remembers Pat.

Pat Garrett is a well regarded and prolific songwriter, as shown on some of his more straight-forward new material like “Heartless Man,” and “Over the Hill”. Over the years, Garrett’s music has been recorded by artists ranging from storyteller Hoyt Axton, to the critically acclaimed British rockers, The Arctic Monkeys. “They covered a song of mine called, ‘Bad Woman’. I found out when a friend called me and said he read about it in “Rolling Stone” magazine,” admitted Pat. “So I checked them out and discovered that they’re one of the most popular bands in England.”

Pat initially felt that music was stirring his soul at a very young age. “I did an Elvis song back in high school at a talent contest, the crowd went wild and that was it! I can remember seeing Elvis on TV when I was a kid and began thinking I want some of that.

After forming a band in college (he originally wanted to be an art teacher), Garrett juggled playing music and running his other businesses. The radio station that Pat owns, WWSM-1510 Am, is still on the air. And the roadhouse he ran, the Pat Garret Roadhouse, was frequented by many in the region, including a fledging young Country singer who wanted to hit the big time, named Taylor Swift. “I could tell that she had it back when she was eleven-years-old,” remembers Pat. “Her dad picked my brain for a couple of years; I finally told him to move to Nashville, and the rest is history!” he laughs.

Pat has had success with just about everything he’s tried. He recorded for Polygram Records in the early 1980’s, achieving Top 40 success with songs like, “Sexy Ole Lady,” and “Jumpin’ John,” which was a tribute to one of the phenomenon of the times, the Chippendale dancers.

In 2001, Garrett’s patriotic, “If You Love America,” was a response to 9/11. He donated thousands of dollars to the Red Cross from the CD sales. That was followed by 2003’s irreverent, “Saddam Stomp,” which hit the Billboard Top 100 and was covered by ABC News, Rolling Stone and Country Weekly magazine.

The new album, *CountryVersial Tunes*, is the culmination of Pat Garrett’s many years of honing his skills as a songwriter. “I’ve gotten to play some fantastic venues, in front of thousands of people, and I’ve met some very cool people because of my songs, and I’m very happy with that. But I still want that one song that everyone just has to hear over and over again,” admits Garrett. “And until then, I’ll keep trying.”

For more information on Pat Garret visit <http://www.patgarrett.com/html/song-links.html>.