

FEATURE ALBUM

TOUGH ALL OVER

GARY ALLAN MCA Nashville

Over the course of five albums, including his 1999 breakthrough *Smoke Rings In The Dark*, GARY ALLAN has given us some memorable music, and his new album *Tough All Over* combines aspects of Allan's past work with the added bonus of his incursion back into songwriting. The writing was particularly spurred by the suicide of his wife last year (which shows in the titles). Allen has four of his own songs on this release - *I Just Got Back From Hell*, *Puttin' My Memories Away*, *No Damn Good*, and *Putting My Misery On Display*. But the whole album certainly doesn't stay in his personal mode - other strong songs include the reflective first single *Best I Ever*



Had, Nickajack Cave (Johnny Cash's *Redemption*), which portrays a dramatic turning point in the late country legend's life, and *Ring Ring* shows a real traditional side to Allan's work. Allan renews his friendship with Australian fans during his third tour Downunder in October. This new album is an added bonus.

Universal/MCA Nashville 9864582
RICK JENNER



GONE WISHIN'

CONNIE KIS ANDERSEN

CONNIE KIS ANDERSEN is no spring chicken, but her music has recently attracted the attention of some of Nashville's elite. While recording of her debut CD *Gone Wishin'*, she got to work with the *Nashville A List* of musicians and even to record two duets with up and coming US country star KEITH COCHRAN; the classic *Ring Of Fire* and *It Sure Gets Late Early*. Her version of CHRIS ISAAK's *Wicked Game* is very smooth. Connie Kis wrote the other 12 of the tracks and it is easy to see what grabbed all the attention. *It's Called Love* and *You Stole My Heart* are simply outstanding. Connie Kis previously released two radio singles *It's Too Late* (Dec 2004) and *I'll Get Back About That* (May 2005). They, and the other three on her EP *Keeping It Simple*, have been re-mixed here. The new single is the title track *Gone Wishin'*. It's never too late for wishin'.

LBS/Kismama Music CKA03

DEBORAH MINTER



KICK IT

CRAIG GILES

Kick It is the eleventh album from Mr Versatile, CRAIG GILES, and is one of his best. There have been plenty of songs about guys and utes, but *Who Said Girls Don't Drive* (the first single) has a affirmative female slant. With a kicky beat, this one is bound to be noticed by the 'Hell Yeah' gals. They will also like the rollicking *Back'A'Bourke Girl*. Craig and his manager/wife/ partner ROZ, have written two of the 14 tracks. They both achieved success at the Tasmania & New Zealand Songwriting Awards, winning a first for *A Million Beer Drops* and a second for *Riding That White Line*. Craig duets with COL FINLEY on *Two Old Cats Like Us* and boy, they have a lot of fun! He also duets with SHARON BENJAMIN (who wrote *Who Said Girls Don't Drive*) on *West Texas Waltz*. Like Craig's live shows, this album is a generous mix of ballads and rockabilly.

One Stop/Big River BRE 121 CD

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