



INTERVIEW BELLAMY BROTHERS, SCHUPFART 24.09.2011

I noticed at several of your concerts in Interlaken, Schupfart or at the Riverfront in Nashville that more people are attending your shows than in the past and that the visitors are also younger on average. And that at a time where the industry predominantly counts on younger performers. Do you have an explanation for this?

We found the fountain of youth, we are getting younger instead of older, so our fans are getting younger. We like all the fans, old and young, the Grandma bringing the Baby and the Daughter and so on.

You were already nominated for all major music awards, but to date, no jury has dared to give you one. Could the reasons be, that you have never quite followed the Nashville Sound, or that you are looked at as musical rebels of some sort?

Probably a little bit of both, but you know, juries are not always right. We just do what we do, and I think when we were getting nominated a lot for awards, it was also very political with the record label, we had a crazy label. I think there were a lot of reasons and it was also partly because we don't live in Nashville and don't do a lot of things that the Nashville acts do.

You translated four Gölä songs into English as closely as possible and sung them: "Swan," "Up and Away", "No More Tears" and "Wilder Days". Was it very difficult to translate the meaning of these songs into English?

It wasn't really difficult, it was a lot of fun though. I liked the songs, the way they translated into English. Some of them were harder than others, but it wasn't too bad and I think, they came out pretty good.

After more than 30 years on tour, are there any of your songs, that you no longer like to hear and do not like to play live anymore?

We pretty much do what crowds likes to hear, that's why they come. We've been lucky. If we didn't like a song, we didn't record it to start with. But we're pretty happy and we get along with our songs pretty good.

What do you think is the reason that you, as one of the few country music acts have such a huge success in Europe?

I think it was "Let your Love flow", our original Hit. At that time, Pop, Rock and Country was not mixed as it is now, but it was the beginning. People heard it and thought, oh it's Country Rock, or it's Pop & Country, everything kind of mixed up. So it was the beginning of that and "Let your Love flow" was one of the songs, that kind of helped do that. It became really a big hit. Then we also followed up and toured many times after that. Most acts would come over and do the big Festivals, we'd come over and do tours. We were in Germany once for three months. We worked the circuit a lot, so I think the combination helped to grow a big fan base.

With 20 number one hits and a record number of nominations for various renowned country awards, is there still something that you would like to achieve, both on a personal and professional level?

I think, we now are looking for interesting things, you know, like the project we did with Göla. We didn't really dream of doing that. We didn't even know Göla's Music that well, but when it was presented to us and we started listening, we really got into it. We met Göla and he is so passionate about his music, so it makes for a project, that you really enjoy doing. We kind of look for things like that, things we haven't done yet, but are still fun to do.

You played several times here in Schupfart, what do you like most about this festival and Switzerland?

Lots of people, we like to play where there are lots of people. In the old days we used to work a lot of shows with Truck Stop and they became really good friends. We'll go up and do a song with them that we recorded together in a few minutes.

You always appear together with Tanya Tucker at the Riverfront in Nashville, do you have a special relationship with her?

Yes, she is an old friend, we know Tanya since she was seventeen, so we've known her a long time.

Interview: Heidi Duss