

Susan McCann

This year Ireland's first lady of Country music will be celebrating 30 years in the business. During her career, Susan has had the pleasure of singing for world statesmen, singing in French, performing in South Africa, Russia, Switzerland, the United States, England and in her own beloved Emerald Isle.

The current US President, George W Bush and his father, George Bush Senior, are only two of the thousands of fans who have met and been entertained by Susan during her continuing successful international career. She continues to amass new fans as well as retaining a loyal, long-standing fan base in the four corners of the globe.

Her first single, Santa And The Kids, on Spin Records, was a huge success but it was her second release, Big Tom Is Still The King, which took her to number one in the Irish pop charts in May 1977 and the song remained in the top 20 for 11 weeks. Up until then Susan did not want to travel any further than a 60 mile radius of her Co Down, Northern Ireland home. It was the success of that song, a tribute to Tom McBride, one of Ireland's most successful Country music performers, that changed all that forever! This hit was the turning point in her career, which launched Susan to stardom.

By 1979 Susan was an artist with international appeal and on the 8th October of that year she made her first appearance at Nashville's Grand Ole Opry. It was to be the first of many appearances there in Music City, USA. Then in 1980 Susan made her first appearance at the Wembley International Country Music Festival, rubbing shoulders with some of her idols, Tammy Wynette, Crystal Gayle and Emmylou Harris. Susan's subsequent appearances at the Wembley Festival were in 1981, 1985, 1989 and 1991.

Susan's acceptance as an international star was well proven when, in 1982, she won two major awards in Europe and the USA - the European Gold Star Award, beating off competition from a dozen or so other European countries and, later that year, she won the top international female

accolade presented by the International Country & Western Music Association at its awards presentation in Fort Worth, Texas. Susan repeated this success the following year.

In 1990 she signed a recording contract with top British label, Prism Leisure with whom she has had a string of best selling albums, videos and singles.

In 1995 Susan teamed up



Susan McCann with Tammy Wynette.

with popular Irish singer, Sean Wilson and they have had many highly successful UK tours. Their album, King And Queen Of Irish Country Music attracted a gold disc for sales in excess of 250,000. Now entering her thirtieth year as a professional entertainer, she is still a highly respected personality with both the public and media in her homeland and overseas. She is certainly one of the most travelled and consistent performers to emanate from the Emerald Isle.

In recent times, Susan has been very busy, not only touring but also enjoying the arrival of her two grandchildren. Sinead Heaney born 29th July, 2005 and Joshua Turley born 9th June, 2006.

To celebrate her 30th anniversary, Susan has recently re-released her first four albums, plus her first dvd, My Story.

You can catch up with Susan this summer at the Welshpool Country Music Festival.

