

Home Sweet Home Prodn's.
2020 Sunnyside Drive
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COVER BIOGRAPHY

CHRIS CHRISTIAN

PRODUCED:
Pat Boone
Boone Girls
B.J. Thomas
Billy Joe Royal
Dogwood
Betty Jean Robinson
and many others

Chris grew up in Abilene, Texas and was active in both secular and religious music from an early age. While attending college at Abilene Christian, he formed a folk group called Chris, Chris and Lee which represented the school throughout the South. He began to think seriously about a career in music when Pat Boone wrote him a letter in response to a tape that the Vice President of Abilene Christian had sent him. Pat suggested that he might like to record a song Chris had written called "Thank You." (Four years later he did in fact record it.)

With this encouragement, Chris went on to work at Opryland in Nashville when it first opened, as a singer and banjo player in a Dixieland band. There he met his wife Shannon, who now engineers some of his sessions. He also played back-up for Wayne Newton on a T.V. special and went on to join Wayne as lead guitar, banjo and harmonica player in Las Vegas.

In 1974, Chris moved to Nashville and began writing songs and playing guitar for Jerry Reed. By 1975, he was head of the Nashville division of 20th Century Music Publishing. Meanwhile, he set up his own companies: Home Sweet Home Prodn's. and the Gold Mine Recording Studio.

Chris began getting covers on his material like "Love Song of the Year" by Elvis Presley, "Compassionate Man" by Olivia Newton-John, "Sunshine Lady" by Donnie and Marie Osmond and many others. He also played guitar on "Don't Stop Believin,'" "Sam" and "Every Face Tells A Story" for Olivia Newton-John and "Don't Worry Baby" for B.J. Thomas and appeared on such T.V. shows as the Midnight Special, American Bandstand, ABC Wide World of Entertainment to name a few.

As his production and recording career progressed, it took a definite direction. Chris strongly believes that contemporary spiritual music should be just that.....contemporary. In his own words, "I feel like there is a big market for people that like really good Top 40 music, that are Christians too, and they want to hear the Word in that vien."

This approach is evident in his own recordings on Myrrh Records as well as his production work for B.J. Thomas (for whom he has recently written the hit record "Still the Lovin' Is Fun"), Pat Boone, Debbie Boone and her sisters, Billy Joe Royal and many other well known artists.

Chris may very well be in the forefront of another "new wave" of Pop music diametrically opposed to the "punk rock" scene receiving so much publicity recently. He is trying to change people's stereotyped image of Gospel music and to produce records that are both spiritual and commercially viable to a mass market. With this in mind, it is worth keeping an eye and an ear open to the musical work of Chris Christian.

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