

Jeannie Seely

Condensed Bio

Jeannie Seely's soul-inspired vocals were praised by music industry professionals early in her career, resulting in the title of "Miss Country Soul" which is still used today. Ken Burns of PBS called Jeannie's voice "emotion packed" in a biography of her music. In 2019 Jeannie added the title of "Doctor" to her name when she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Arts from Lincoln Memorial University.

After moving from her home state of PA to CA, Jeannie received the "Most Promising Female Artist" award in 1964 from the Country and Western Academy (which soon became the Academy of Country Music). A year later Jeannie moved to Nashville where she signed with Monument Records. Her chart-topping hit "Don't Touch Me" resulted in the 1966 Grammy Award for "Best Country Vocal Performance by a Female."

Jeannie received Most Promising New Artist awards from Cashbox, Record World, and Billboard, and went on to score records on Billboard's country singles chart for 13 consecutive years. Last year, Jeannie's single "If You Could Call It That," a song started by mentor and close friend Dottie West, returned Jeannie to the national music chart at age 80 – a feat unheard of in today's music environment.

In September Jeannie will celebrate her 55th anniversary as a member of the world-famous Grand Ole Opry. Jeannie became the first PA native to become an Opry member, and she later became the first female to regularly host Opry segments – and she also made history when she became the first person to wear a mini skirt on the Opry stage.

A BMI-awarded songwriter, Jeannie's compositions have been recorded by numerous Country Music Hall of Fame members ranging from Merle Haggard to Connie Smith to Hank Williams Jr., as well as by other artists ranging from Irma Thomas, the "Soul Queen of New Orleans," to Rhonda Vincent, the "Queen of Bluegrass," and from Boys II Men to Seal.

Jeannie has served as a radio disc jockey on her own Armed Forces Network, traveled on military tours throughout Europe and Asia, published her own book, starred in major stage productions, and received her own star in the Music City Walk of Fame.

Jeannie's recordings have spanned seven decades from her Top 10 Billboard album *The Seely Style* to her most recent Curb Records album *An American Classic* which includes a duet with Willie Nelson. Jeannie appeared in Willie's movie *Honeysuckle Rose* and sang on the platinum soundtrack album. She's entering the fifth year of hosting her show "Sunday with Seely" on the Willie's Roadhouse channel of SiriusXM.

At the inaugural Influencing Women Awards Gala in 2019, Jeannie Seely was presented the first Standing Ovation Award – which was then named in her honor. Appropriately, Jeannie was bestowed the honor in the Opry House that she calls her second home – where she continues to entertain and receive standing ovations.