



Interview : Heidi Duss

## **Interview with Sharmian at the CMA Festival 2007, Nashville**

**Q: How did you get started in country music?**

A: Oh my goodness, it's a long story. I was raised with all kinds of music, country music, R&B music and motown music. My Dad was the country music boy and my Mother was the motown - blues Lady. I moved to Nashville 15 years ago, found my husband, his name was Estill Sowards. He was a big manager in country music. He found John Michael Montgomery and Montgomery Gentry, they became huge successes. I was working on my album when he passed away. I kind of went off the deep end a little bit as most people do when they loose someone they love. Now I love to do independent work with my own record company, "Sharmians records". I'm finally making somthing happen independently.

**Q: You also sing a lot of Gospel?**

A: Yes, Gospel music is my first love. I was on Television with a show called "Nashville Gospel Hour" and it became a huge success. I always thought the name was kind of funny, it is called "Gospel Hour", but the show only runs half an hour. I'm and Entertainer when it comes to country music, but with Gospel music, you won't see me like this, I'm behind the cross. I love all kinds of music, but you have to play the part in whatever you do. Gospel is my first love and I will always do that.

**Q: Do you write your own songs?**

A: I write most of my songs. I did share some of the limelight with my songwriter friends that are very talented and successful. But there are four songs on the album which I did not have anything to do with, just shared the spotlight. Even though I did everything independently, it is Sharmian's records Sharmian Productions, I kind of shared that a little bit, so I ended up involving them.

**Q: When will your new CD be released?**

A: We think in a few months. Right now I have a single out, "First one to Hurt, Last one to Know", it can be requested to be played on the radio right now.

**Q : Can I buy this single already ?**

A : We're going to be on I Tunes in about three weeks, and you will be able to buy "First one to Hurt". Shortly after that the whole album should be out.

**Q: Did you write the song "First one to Hurt, Last one to Know"?**

A: I did not write this song, it was part of sharing the limelight. My friend who is record promoter wrote this song and I released his song.

**Q: You did sing in Russia, did you sing Country or Gospel?**

A: That was Gospel. We sang in the Kremlin and the surrounding Cathedrals, we were there just after the fall of communism and it was just unbelievable.

**Q: Have you thought about someday touring Europe / Switzerland?**

A: Definitely, we did go to France and we made a lot of contacts. Already Rumania is playing me, the UK is playing me. We just have to make some connections, since I am independent , I'm just learning and have to figure out how to do that. But we definitely would love to come over there.

**Q: What are your expectations, your dreams?**

A: I have a lot of dreams. I want to open coliseums in major cities all over the United States for the homeless people and have doctors there. And the way I'm going to accomplish this is thru my music, so I'll have to get my music recorded, it takes funds to do that. So basically, I want some coliseums with big columns and I'm going to call them "Home". Nobody wants to go to a Shelter, but everybody wants to go home, so that's why I'm naming them, "Home". So far, as you can see, I've got it already planned out. My partners in Hollywood, I'm planning to go to Oprah Winfrey to help me, we'll be walking the red carpet at the American Music Awards, the Billboards, Country Music Awards, we're just making our way to try to get some motions done.

**Q: What would you ask yourself, or what would you like to be asked?**

A: The first thing that comes to my mind, a lot of people judge me, because I am a Gospel singer and I am an Entertainer most of the time. People should not be the judge to the personal way I look or the way I act, I'm very flamboyant, very out there, if you'd hang around and have a drink with me, you'd know that. But, I'm just a happy, loving type that likes to have fun. I love God, love to raise hell, I love to do it all in a good way. I'm just who I am. I'd be the first person to cry with somebody if they were hurting, pray with somebody if they needed prayer or have a drink if they needed a drink. I don't know what I would ask myself, I'm just who I am.

**Q: What would you really like to talk about?**

A: Well, I could talk about my late husband, Estill Sowards, he found John Michael Montgomery, Montgomery Gentry, and he co managed Ricochet. He was my mentor in songwriting, it was already inside of me, but he brought it out. He was my husband, my lover, my friend and business partner. He belived in my music and he belived in my talent. He was just the most incredible thing that ever happened to me and he is gone now. His last words to me were, “remember me on your first hit record”. I know, he’s out there with me.

We also have been traveling, I have been getting my Hollywood photo shoots. I have been blessed to meet somebody to help me get my image to a tee, to perfection, to star quality. I’m very professional involving my looks and all that, who I am, the way I dress, my make up, my nails, my jewelery, everything is the image I have to perfect to do what I’m doing. I met Wanda, she is my pesonal assistant and she is a very big lady. You know it’s hard to find somebody to work for you who understands, that you’re not vain, its just a part of what you do. I am independent and my theme is, if you want something done, you have to do it yourself. So, that is what I’m doing, I want to get Sharmians voice out there.

**Q : Do you also run in Marathons ?**

A : Yes, I did a Marathon and I will be doing more. We also did a Celebrity Bowling Tournament in Hollywood. You know, I’m going to be Celebrity also in Hollywood, I will be in a reality show, we’re getting prepared for that. Its about the making of a Star and I will be one of the caracters in there. So that will help the image. I want to be a Celebrity and a country singer. I want to help people, do Gospel, I just want to do everything.