



Interview: Heidi Duss

Interview with the Grascals, Nashville, 13. 06. 2010.

Q: Can you tell me about your new CD 'The Famous Lefty Flynn's'?

A: Jamie: Yea, we're excited about it, same approach as all the other albums, we try to write a few songs, also got some great songs around Nashville that nobody else recorded before. There's a song on there, 'Satan and Grandma', very strange title, but basically it's Grandma beating up the Devil her whole life with the Bible. It's a great song, Alan Jackson had that on hold for his last album and decided not to put it on there. Montgomery Gentry actually recorded it and didn't put it out. We're glad we got a hold of that one. It's a classic song. We did some traditional stuff on there, we love traditional Bluegrass, traditional Country, some Haggard and Jones, anything like that. We put that on there, then threw the curve ball in there with 'Last Train to Clarksville' by the Monkees. We're getting ready to do a video on that song for Television, so we're looking forward to that. People really seem to respond and love that song.

Q: Is Last 'Train to Clarksville' also your single, and what's the story behind it?

A: Jamie: Yes it is our single. There is not necessarily a story behind it. We're trying to do something we never recorded. We always try to do something a little bit different, so People will recognize it and be familiar with the words. And we like to do it our style. We put a three part harmony on the whole song. I'd really love to see what the Monkees think of it. We're trying to get in touch with them to get on the video.

Q: When will the video be released?

A: Jamie: It will be in the fall, as quick as it can be done, they will get it to all the country music stations.

Q: You're Nr. 3 on the Billboard Bluegrass album chart, how do you feel about that?

A: Jamie: We're always excited to be on the Billboard Chart, it is another of their measuring tool to see how your album is selling. We had some really good sales this week, so hopefully this will push us up to Nr. 1. But, we're in the bands and that's what matters. We're very proud of our album. I think, the video will also help to sell more. Every album so far has been number one, and hopefully, four times a charm, we'll do it again.

Q: You opened for Hank Williams Jr.s Rowdy Friends Tour?

A: Terry Eldredge: Yes, we did about 10 days with Hank in several southern and eastern States. It went great, we'd go out and do a song with him, do a finale with him. He recorded a song on our new album, which his father, Hank Sr. and Bill Monroe wrote backstage at the Opry, then Hank Sr. died. It was actually unrecorded. We thought it would be great to get Hank Jr. to do it with us. We'll do another 10 days or so with him in the fall. He only does about 20 dates a year and then he goes hunting and fishing.

Q: You also where nominated for two Grammy Awards?

A: Terry Eldredge: Yes, that is actually the biggest honor you can get in the music business. Because your peers vote on you, not just your fans, but also your peers. We didn't win, but maybe the next time we'll get it.

Q: You have quite a busy schedule, are you going on tour anytime soon?

A: Terry Eldredge: Yes, we have about 120 dates a year and we play the Opry, they have been really good to us. We play there quite a bit, about 25 dates a year.

Q: You where in Switzerland this spring, what was your impression?

A: Terry Eldredge: Oh, we loved it! It's a beautiful country, beautiful people, we just had a really good time.

Q: How long did you stay in Switzerland?

A: We just got to stay two days in Switzerland and then we went on to Belgium. It was great, we'd love to go back.

Q: What are your hopes and plans for the future?

A: Terry Smith: Just to keep doing what we're doing now and hope it's more successful. What we're doing is working for us pretty well and we would like to continue, become more successful at it. Keep trying to take Bluegrass Music to places it has never been before and of course, just continue having fun, not just with ourselves, but also with our fans