

DARIUS RUCKER - LEARN TO LIVE

Having your first country album debut at #1 on the Billboard charts – following a multi-week #1 debut country single – is a huge achievement by anyone’s measure. When you add to that the *New York Times*’ claim that your debut album is “one of the year’s most vibrant country albums,” and *Variety*’s declaration that “Country music has a new major star, and the genre may never be the same” – well, it can be pretty heady stuff.

So it comes as no surprise that Capitol Records Nashville artist Darius Rucker is delighted by the critical and commercial success of his first country album, *Learn to Live*, and very proud of the #1 single, “Don’t Think I Don’t Think About It” – on which Rucker was a co-writer.

However, what Darius Rucker mostly feels these days is grateful . . . Grateful that the millions of fans that knew Rucker as the voice of Hootie & The Blowfish, the Grammy-winning group whose album *Cracked Rear View* sold more than 16 million copies, happily followed the singer/songwriter in his natural evolution to country music. Grateful that hundreds of country radio programmers embraced him as a welcome addition to the genre – as did the nation’s countless country music fans. . . Grateful that Nashville songwriters and established country artists have recognized him as one of their own . . . Grateful that he has been embraced by media and invited to perform on The Late Show, The Tonight Show, The Ellen DeGeneres Show, and more . . . And finally, grateful that, as a seasoned performer who has already experienced the fickle highs and lows of fame, he’s grounded and secure enough these days to truly appreciate this new phase in his music career.