

There's something to be said about the learning process. For Erica Nicole, the past couple of years have been a whirlwind of performances, interviews, and recording sessions. She has toured all over the United States making fans and friends at radio, and that – combined with her powerful vocal range and tireless work ethic – have made her one of the top newcomers in town. 2015 should see her continue to climb that ladder, and take the Country Music world by storm!

Erica landed her first two consecutive top-20 records on the Music Row Country Breakout Chart with 'I Listen To My Bad Girl' and 'It's Comin' Down.' Then, in August, she would win her first NIMA Award– the Nashville Independent Music Awards – for Best Female Country Artist of the Year. "I was so humbled to receive such an honor from the industry."

That recognition, along with her success on the charts, led to a packed house at her showcase during CRS – which served as an opportunity for Erica to thank country radio for all they had done for her in her career.

"I was so blown away by the number of stations and markets that were represented. It was a great opportunity for me to say thank you and give them a full show with a full band, and perform the songs that turned my career around. But I was also able to share a couple of new songs that I feel only continue to raise the bar and define me as an artist."

The past few years have seen immeasurable growth for Erica. The young girl who grew up a fan of such legends as Patsy

Cline, Willie Nelson, and Reba McEntire, while cheering on her neighborhood Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets has come a long way. She has nothing but fond memories of the learning process of her first radio tours, and also meeting the PD's and MD's that have become just like family to her ever since.

Another key element in the growing Erica Nicole success story is meeting Kent Wells, her producer. Known for his work with Country Music Hall of Fame member Dolly Parton, Wells elicits nothing but praise from his artist.

“Teaming up with Kent Wells as my producer has been an absolute game-changer for me. There are a lot of great producers in this industry, but there is only one great producer for Erica Nicole, and that is Kent Wells. I couldn't do it without him.”

The work...and the success has only started for Erica. She will release her new full-length album in Summer 2015, and to say she's excited is definitely an understatement. Titled *I'm Makin' Mine*, the set features songs handpicked by Erica and her producer Kent. Delivering not only powerful vocals, Erica also shines with writing credits, which excites her.

“I feel like for the first time in my career, I got to choose what I really wanted to go for musically, and this album is symbolic of that. I feel the title is so perfect, because I'm making my career and making my choices. The freedom to go in with my producer and walk out with the most amazing records is very exciting. I can't wait to share it with everyone.”

One song that many in the industry heard for the first time during Erica's CRS Showcase, is the stunning "Like I Do," which teams her with fellow power house vocalist Jamie O'Neal. The tour de force of a vocal performance came to be after the two performed the song at her CRS showcase and were encouraged to put it on Erica's record. "To perform with Jamie was a truly defining moment, yet incredible highlight in my career and definitely made me bring my A-game."

As an artist, Erica is challenging herself and pushing to deliver her very best, "I'm getting to see what I'm really capable of and to be on a stage with Jamie O'Neal was a great feeling. If I'm going to be the best I can be, I've got to compete with the power house voices of country music, and her voice is certainly one of them."

As she gears up for another exciting single, album and tour, Erica Nicole can't wait to take her fans and country radio with her – Erica will kick off her 2015 Tour in Indiana, then headed to New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Tennessee, Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin...and that's just over the next couple of months.

"I feel so blessed to have the amazing support of those around me, not just my fans and country radio, but my team, my family." And a duo that has supported her along the way are her parents. "My parents are the two greatest people in the world. They were always supportive of every crazy dream that I could come up with, and they still are."

That dream (so far) has included performances at some of America's most exciting venues, such as Fenway Park, Citi Field and various basketball arenas- where she performed the National Anthem. Erica also opened up for artists such as Eric Paslay at The Stump Dodger Bash in Wisconsin. But even beyond performing, Erica has also has partnered with ECAD (Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities) to help raise funds and awareness for those facing such obstacles in their lives, a cause that is near and dear to her heart. "Being able to give back and contribute everything I can to a great cause, not only changes the lives of others that ECAD helps, but of mine."

Erica is certainly a force to be reckoned with and her future is nothing but bright.