



Singer Eddie Bush Croons Carols for Cans

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Many of you have probably heard Eddie Bush's Christmas song, "I C Christmas," without knowing that he has lived in Summerville since he was 6 years old.

Bush's new Christmas song has already received substantial airplay on the radio and been featured on the Great American Country TV channel. In fact, it has received so much play that many who have heard it think it has been around for years. And that's exactly what Bush wanted, he said.

"I've been a fan of Christmas music for a long time, and to finally write something that's taking hold, that's an exciting thing," he said. Bush said he has always loved vintage Christmas music, such as the holiday staples by Nat King Cole and Bing Crosby, and that "I C Christmas" is relevant to that kind of music.

On Wednesday, Dec. 22, Bush performed a "Carols for Cans" concert at the Wild Wings Cafe in Mount Pleasant to benefit the homeless around Charleston, a cause which he says is as close to his heart as traditional Christmas music. Bush, who also runs Music Unlimited in Mount Pleasant with two friends, said he eats every single day at the Mount Pleasant Wild Wings and has gotten to know the manager and servers there. Bush was already booked for a gig there for Dec. 22, so he talked with one of the managers about doing something for the homeless, aware that Wild Wings already frequently gives extra wings to shelters for battered women.

"I'll play music and hopefully people will come out and do something that should be done every day of the week," Bush said before the concert. "A news channel just ran something about homelessness being on the rise in Charleston, so to me it's very well timed."

Bush was part of a group called One Flew South and had a record deal with Decca records for four years, during which the group had a Top 40 single on country radio called "My Kind of Beautiful." After losing that record deal last year, Bush decided it was time to get back to playing his own stuff again.

"That's where all this came from, really," he said.

He wrote "I C Christmas" with his friend Mark Evans, who also had an affinity for Christmas music. Bush said the success of the song has changed his outlook on being involved in the holiday spectrum - he did a Toys for Tots event last week with country singer Julianne Hough, and he participated in all the local parades this year.

"That was really cool, taking a song directly to the public. You can't get better than that--people staring at you, saying 'What you gonna do?'," he said.

Bush plans to release a new album, *Calloused Hands*, in 2011, but says he will miss all the excitement of his favorite season. "I'm gonna be a little bummed when it's all over," he said. "It's been fun."

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