

# Mp3 Angela Easterling - Earning Her Wings

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Music drawn from the deep wells of American tradition, straight from the heart of a modern young woman. 11 MP3 Songs COUNTRY: Traditional Country, COUNTRY: Bluegrass Details: Angela Easterling was raised in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, the daughter of a Baptist minister. Much of her childhood was spent on the farm that has been in her family for seven generations. Country roots run deep for Angela, a native of Taylors, South Carolina; where, You had to be in church every Sunday! she laughs. There was just no questioning that! Ironically, it wasn't until she moved to Los Angeles, that the country calling in her soul became a sirens song. A performer all her life, Angela had begun playing guitar and writing songs while studying at Emerson College in Boston. More and more her music returned to the place her heart called home. As a kid, the only music I ever heard was the music in church, old-time gospel. It had such an impact on me. As Angela began honing her writing and playing live, other artists began to spark her imagination, artists like Emmylou Harris, Loretta Lynn, the Carter Family and Johnny Cash. All those honky-tonk Saturdays and gospel-drenched Sundays have paid off for Angela, who has embraced her heritage in a big way on her forthcoming album, Earning Her Wings. With a voice that Music Connection magazine called haunting and ethereal, Angela is a dynamic spitfire of a performer, with a knack for tapping you on the head while tugging at your heart. Working bit by bit over a period of two years at various SoCal studios, Angela had amassed a lot of material. Early this year, she took all the pieces to James OConnell, drummer and producer of L.A. roots-rock band West Coast Grand and owner of Silverlakes Monkey Den Studios. Together, they waded through her tracks, recording new songs and remixing old ones. This record represents such a slice of my life for the last few years! she says. The songs and the recordings are a visceral piece of me. All my friends (who just happen to be stellar musicians) helped me make this album. It was a real family affair and I think you can hear that in the final product. Tracks include River Jordan; about the music that's in my blood; and Dear Johnny, which Always gets a big response. Everybody seems to miss Johnny Cash. Angela wrote The Accordion with Shawn Davis, but the story is true: My dad really did trade a truck for an old accordion! That's so country I had to sing about it. Feel Like Drinking features an outstanding pedal steel performance by Chris Laurence, who

plays the same guitar featured on many classic Nashville recordings, including those of Loretta Lynn. The 1940s-era When I Wake Up, is the only non-original on the album. Angela had cherished the song for years but only recently discovered that it was written by distant relative (and prolific gospel song writer) Marion Easterling. He had songs recorded by the Kingsmen, the Gaithers, Johnny Cash and Ralph Stanley. Im so proud to share his name and sing his song. Angelas unique sound and soulful writing caught the attention of DJ Doc Holiday who soon began airing her songs on his Watusi Rodeo alt-country show on radio station Indie 103.1. Even with no label backing her, songs such as River Jordan still resonated with Watusi listeners. She was booked for live appearances at Indie 103.1-sponsored concerts, and has performed on the same bill as Lucinda Williams, Deana Carter, Grey Delisle, Dave Alvin, John Doe and Michelle Shocked, among others. Angela has had radio play and appeared live on both coasts. Recently, several of her songs were picked up by the Animal Planet reality series Horse Power. With an emerging profile and a recognizable name in the vibrant Los Angeles country music scene, Angela says she hopes to bring her music to an even wider audience. I want to be a part of the musical traditions of the artists that came before me, but filter them through my voice and my experiences as a young woman in 2006. I want to uplift people. Music has the ability to do that and that is my ultimate goal. If youre looking for authentic, look no further.

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