

# Cheyenne

Cheyenne was formed in 2004 to create a dynamic combination that has fashioned a fresh, modern duo drawing on a wealth of popular, contemporary Country music by top male and female artists of the last two decades or so.

Angie Donovan met Ky Rivers and two worlds collided. The sparks have been flying ever since! Their lively and varied repertoire is proving to be loved by each and every audience they perform to whether they are Country & western, line dance and or even mainstream.

Angie, born in the north east, was weaned from a small child on a diet of Irish and traditional Country music. She grew up with the love of music which shines through when she sings on stage. Moving back to Ireland with her family while still young and then later back to the UK, settling in London proved to give her a wanderlust that prevails even to this day.

After winning a number of singing talent competitions she soon became sought after by local bands and as a session singer in some of the top studios in London.

Ky, born and bred in South East London, had more of an appetite for rock and blues music in his younger days and began his music career as a vocalist and rhythm guitarist, later switching to bass guitar and joining legendary rock 'n' blues cult band, Dumpy's Rusty Nuts. The band toured extensively on the live music circuit around the UK and enjoyed a number of major band support tours and a spot at the Reading Festival. The pair's paths finally crossed back in 1989 when Ky was looking for a female singer for a new band he was forming and answered an ad that read 'no bands need apply'. Not to be dismissed so easily he called anyway. They auditioned each other and got more than they bargained for. Yes, they discovered they were soulmates.

One wedding and three children later it was time to get the music project back on track. Angie had introduced Ky to the world of new Country music. He was hooked, as they say and their shared passion to get out and



perform it couldn't wait any longer. By this time they had lived back in Ireland, the south east coast of England and Spain (remember the wanderlust?). 'We were a little apprehensive about how this style of music would be received by international holidaymakers', Angie recalls. 'Every artist was doing the same middle-of-the-road set.' 'We're proud to say that we stuck to our guns and were delighted to find that our Country set was an instant crowd pleaser', added Ky. 'We had a great time playing in the music bars and hotels around the Canary Islands. We think that Country music has always had a bad deal in the UK. Most people like it without even realising and our mission is to help break down the barriers and spread the word.'

Homesick once again and back in England, they are now making a good impression at every venue they play and are rapidly building a great reputation as an exciting new act on the Country music scene. A set filled with modern Country classics, from emotional heart-felt ballads to the most energetic kickin' Country, some tongue-in-cheek and everything in between ensures that there is something for everyone. All the favourites that guarantee a full dance floor all night along with a number of well loved songs not usually heard from other acts make Cheyenne stand out from the crowd. Giving a genuinely warm and down-to-earth performance, Angie's vocals are a pure

Country delight and her bubbly personality is infectious.

There is an incredible on-stage chemistry between her and vocalist hubby, Ky, who switches between electric and acoustic guitars. It's kind of raw and polished at the same time, refreshing and intense, strong on great harmonies with some inventive duet versions of familiar songs. Always fun, always entertaining and equally appealing to all types of dancers and those who just like to sit and appreciate the music.

'We always gauge the audience and tailor the set to suit, whether it's all-out line dance, westerners, hardcore listeners or a total mixture', says Angie. Sometimes, if the mood is right they go into an impromptu 'unplugged' spot which becomes one of the highlights of the set.

'Everybody we have met in the British Country music scene has been lovely and the wonderful receptive audiences ensure we enjoy every show', says Angie. 'It's very flattering to get such a good response and it's exciting to experience playing at some of the legendary venues like Fort San Antone and The Viking in Selsey who have booked us for four shows within a year!'

Looking at their upcoming gig list you can see they are beginning to become more in demand for the festivals too, which will increase their exposure.

Look out for this new Country duo. Cheyenne are the ones to watch.