



Drenched in sun-kissed natural beauty both inside and out, Deana Carter didn't take a seemingly easy route to stardom, but instead chose to defy the conventional expectations of the typical Nashville artist blueprint and make her own mark. And she did, undeniably taking the industry and fans by storm with her wildly successful multi-platinum international debut *Did I Shave My Legs For This?* more than a decade ago. Anchored by the dreamy super hit "Strawberry Wine," Carter showcased her own blend of country and retro-rock sprinkled with the folksy singer/songwriter qualities that have garnered Deana Carter well-deserved respect and wild acclaim.

Today, as she readies her latest bundle of uniquely crafted tunes for upcoming release on *Southern Way of Life*, Carter explores many subjects commonly shared over a quaint dinner, afternoon coffee or a sunny day hike with a good friend. The songs weave through the sometimes rocky terrain of adulthood, including loss of love, relationships on many different levels, trials, tribulations and simply put - life. Instinctively autobiographical, the subject matter mimics the interesting ride of Carter's own life – so far.

The daughter of famed studio guitarist and producer Fred Carter, Jr., Deana grew up exposed to the wide variety of musicians her father worked with, including Willie Nelson, Bob Dylan, Waylon Jennings, and Simon & Garfunkel. Their strong influence would eventually seep into Deana's own country-pop style, which reflects qualities that can also be heard in similar artists such as Mary Chapin Carpenter and Sheryl Crow.

Developing her songwriting skills by trial and error at writer's nights throughout Nashville, Carter eventually signed a writing deal with Polygram and soon after a record deal with Capitol Records. One of her demo tapes happened to fall into the hands of none other than Willie Nelson, who remembered Deana as a child. Impressed with how she'd grown as a songwriter, Nelson asked Deana to perform along with John Mellencamp, Kris Kristofferson and Neil Young as the only female solo artist to appear at Farm Aid VII in 1994.

Her debut album, *Did I Shave My Legs For This?* boasts six songs co-written and co-produced by Carter and was released to strong reviews in late summer 1996. By the end of the year, the record had climbed to the top of both the country and pop charts, quickly achieving multi-platinum status. A "first" for the genre, Deana's celebrated debut held this distinction for more than 5 years. *Everything's Gonna Be Alright* followed in late 1998 and in 2001 Carter realized her dream of performing with her dad on a holiday album aptly titled *Father Christmas*. Making a strong move towards adult pop Carter released *I'm Just a Girl* on Arista Records in 2003, the same year Capitol Records released a *Greatest Hits* compilation. Follow-ups *The Story of My Life* in 2005 and *The Chain* in 2007 were both released on Vanguard Records.

In an effort to pay homage to her musical roots and preserve her legendary father's label Nugget Records, that famously presented some of the best in country music some 40 years ago, Carter recently opened her own label, Little Nugget Records, on which her latest album *Southern Way of Life* will be released.

Carter now divides her time between Los Angeles and Nashville, writing and producing for both the pop/rock and country markets when not on the road touring. Her superstar success continues to be evident as last year's chart topper "You & Tequila," co-written with Matraca Berg and recorded by Kenny Chesney, was nominated as CMA's "Song of the Year," as well as two Grammy nods, notable the coveted "Song of the Year." Carter also recently co-wrote and produced a new album for recording artist Audra Mae while putting the finishing touches on her own *Southern Way of Life*.

Singer, songwriter, producer - Deana Carter continues to defy conventional expectations, making waves as she makes great music.

See more at [deana.com](http://deana.com)

## DISCOGRAPHY

|      |                                      |                   |
|------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1996 | <i>Did I Shave My Legs For This?</i> | Capitol Nashville |
| 1998 | <i>Everything's Gonna Be Alright</i> | Capitol Nashville |
| 2001 | <i>Father Christmas</i>              | Rounder           |
| 2003 | <i>I'm Just A Girl</i>               | Arista Nashville  |
| 2005 | <i>The Story of My Life</i>          | Vanguard Records  |
| 2007 | <i>The Chain*</i>                    | Vanguard Records  |

\*featuring guest appearances by Dolly Parton, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, Shooter Jennings, Jessi Colter, George Jones, John Anderson, and Harper Simon.

## AWARDS/HONORS

### Awards:

CMA Award – *Single of the Year*, "Strawberry Wine" – Capitol Nashville - 1997

CMT *Female Video Artist of the Year* - 1997

R&R *Magazine Female MVP of the Year* - 1997

### Nominations:

CMA *Nomination – Horizon Award, Album of the Year – Did I Shave My Legs For This?*,

*Female Vocalist of the Year, Music Video of the Year – "Did I Shave My Legs For This?"*

ACM – *Top New Female Vocalist and Single of the Year for "Strawberry Wine"*

*Billboard Music Awards – Best New Artist Clip – "Strawberry Wine"*

*Blockbuster Entertainment Award – Favorite Female Artist*

*Gibson Guitar Award – Best Female Country Guitarist*

*Grammy Nominations – Best Country Song and Best Female Country Vocal Performance for "Strawberry Wine"*

*Golden Globe Nomination – Best Original Song-Motion Picture – “Once Upon A December”*  
*Nashville Music Awards – Best Country Album and Song of the Year – “Strawberry Wine”*  
*TNN Music City News Awards – Female Star of Tomorrow*

### **Magazine Honors:**

*People Magazine - “50 Most Beautiful People In The World”*  
*Newsweek – “100 Americans for the Next Century”*  
*Golf Magazine: Journal of the LPGA- Front Cover and feature*

### **SOUNDTRACKS**

*Anastasia (Atlantic Records) – theme song - “Once Upon A December”*  
*Hope Floats (Capitol Records) – “What Makes You Stay”*

### **FILMS/COVERS/TELEVISION**

Hosted *CMT’s Dedicated* (12 week video request series)  
Hosted *CMT’s 40 Greatest Love Songs* special  
Hosted *CMT’s Hottest Country Hookups* special  
Voice of Anastasia in animated FOX film by same name  
Christmas song featured in *The Badge*, starring Billy Bob Thornton  
*The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*  
*The Late Show with David Letterman*  
*Good Morning America*  
*Live With Regis and Kathie Lee*  
*Weekend Today*  
*Entertainment Tonight*  
*Fox On Entertainment*  
*Access Hollywood*  
*CNN Showbiz Today*  
*CMA Awards*  
*Academy of Country Music Awards including host for 40th anniversary special (December 2005)*  
*Circle of Friends*, the Christopher Reeve Special  
*Christmas In Washington* (NBC Special)  
A Capitol Fourth (PBS – July 4th Special)  
*The Platinum Series* (TNN – biographical profile)  
*CMT “In the Moment” documentary special*  
*GAC – Concert special*  
*CMT “Inside Fame” documentary and “Inside Fame Live” concert special*  
*GAC – Songs of the Year concert special (with Heart)*  
*GAC – Christmas in Tennessee special (with Blue County, Steve Azar, Bucky Covington & Julie Roberts)*

### **TOURING HISTORY**

Toured with Dwight Yoakum, Alan Jackson (twice), Willie Nelson, Vince Gill, Kenny Chesney, Keith Urban, Farm Aid.  
2007 touring includes dates with Bob Dylan.

## **INSTRUMENTS**

Deana plays acoustic and electric guitar. On the record, she also plays bass, drums, and keyboards.

## **CHARITY WORK**

Spokesperson for The National Kidney Foundation

Contributing Member, Southern California Kidney Foundation

Board Member, University Kidney Foundation

## **SPONSORSHIP and ATHLETICS**

Taylor Made Golf Clubs

Marathon runner