

Like most people, Petrella has had tragedy in her life, from broken relationships to premature deaths, to unfair treatment; she has endured. Rather than dwell on these, Petrella chooses to focus on the positive and uplifting aspects of her life. Both the heartbreak and the positive are reflected in her new album "Songs of Many Colors" scheduled for release July 2021. One segment of her life is her career journey in music, that segment is recalled here.

It was 1988 and I got a phone call from a man who asked "Who was the singer on the Demo you sent me", I replied, "That was me"; he said "good because I want to make you an offer for a record deal". That was the start of a 25 year relationship with Jack Gale and Playback records and over a 30 year relationship with Country Music. For a black country girl from Hot Springs AR in 1988 this was a really big deal and has provided me with a lifetime of dreams and memories. Some of these memories include working with Hall of Fame Musicians such as Buddy Emmons, and Rob Hijacho, getting songs from great writers such as Ed Bruce, Ray Griff and Glen Frye, opening for awesome artists such as Tracy Lawrence, Gladys Knight and The Spinners, performing at legendary venues such as the Midnight Jamboree at the Ernest Tubbs Record store and spending a day talking about music and race with the famous and legendary George Albert (owner of Cashbox Magazine) which ended up with George putting me on Cover of Cashbox in 1993.

I also have very fond memories of all the fans who would support me by attending my shows throughout the country whether at theaters, schools, coffee shops or bars. I remember the girl scouts and the boys and girls clubs that sold refreshments and merchandise at the venues during my first tour. I often think about those children who are now adults with children of their own. I also have memories of all the disc jockeys who welcomed me at all the radio stations in the secondary markets. In those days we would take donuts with us to the radio station and they would interview me and play my music. And finally, I remember all the records stores who raked my music, especially to Hasting Music and Video where I would do an in-store performance and they would rack and sell my CD. These were the good old days where I was able to get up-close and personal with all these people. No virtual shows, no virtual interviews, no podcasts.

This album "Songs of Many Colors" is to all the people who work in the country music industry and to all the businesses that support country music and to all the fans that love country music.

If you saw me performing in person in those early days and you remember me, I would love to hear from you. You can reach out to me on Facebook, twitter or instagram. These songs are for you.

I am very happy and excited for the young black women in Country Music like Rissi Palmer and Mickey Guyton and I wish them all the best. If in any way I have made their journey a little easier than I would say, "Petrella, job well done", because that was my intent when I started out in 1988.