



PRESS KIT • 2026

ANITA COCHRAN

Singer • Songwriter • Producer • Guitarist • Musician • Emmy Award Winner

The first woman in country music history to write, sing, produce and play multiple instruments — including lead guitar — on a debut album. Writer of the Billboard #1 “What If I Said.” Grand Ole Opry performer. Featured in a 2025 Emmy Award-winning documentary special.

**COMING FALL 2026 — “FULL CIRCLE” ON BMG RECORDS
CD • VIDEOS • DOCUMENTARY • BOOK • NEW TOUR DATES**

BIOGRAPHY

Strings, Stages & Firsts

Born Anita Renee Cockerham in Michigan and named after Anita Carter of the Carter Family, Anita grew up in a family band where “you learn to sleep, eat, walk, play guitar and sing.” She learned chords from her father at four and went on to master banjo, mandolin, bass, piano, drums, steel guitar and dobro.

Signed to Warner Bros. Records in 1997 — the first female country artist signed out of Michigan — she released *Back To You*, making history as the first woman in country music to write, sing, play multiple instruments and produce on a debut album. Her self-penned duet with Steve Wariner, “What If I Said,” hit #1 across the US and Canada and earned CMA and ACM nominations.

In 2004 she made history again with “(I Wanna Hear) A Cheatin' Song,” the first brand-new recording featuring a deceased artist — the voice of Conway Twitty. She has produced for Tammy Cochran, served as Musical Director for *It's Only Make Believe*, and acted in *The Dukes of Hazzard: Hazzard in Hollywood*.

After a 2018 breast cancer diagnosis, Anita turned her fight into the anthem “Fight Like A Girl,” winner of Best Music Video at the Creation International Film Festival. She performed it on *Good Morning America* with Robin Roberts. First ever artist to close her performance in Times Square. She founded The Love Anchors Fund breast cancer charity in 2018.

Featured performer in the 2025 Emmy Award-winning documentary *Still Playin' Possum: Music & Memories of George Jones*. Today, Anita continues to tour the US and internationally, and mentors through her story and songs. New video and new music coming fall 2026.



With Terri Clark at the Grand Ole Opry

“Maybe my journey can help people. I feel like a new purpose has been added to my life.”

— ANITA COCHRAN

COMING FALL 2026 · BMG RECORDS

Anita's next chapter arrives in fall 2026 with *Full Circle*, a new project released on BMG Records. The release brings together a new CD and video collection, and is accompanied by a documentary film and autobiography. US tour dates to be announced shortly.

CAREER MILESTONES

Awards & Firsts

2026	Continues to tour. New video and new music coming fall 2026.
2025	Emmy winner — featured performer, Still Playin' Possum: Music & Memories of George Jones (documentary)
2018	Performed “Fight Like A Girl” on ABC's Good Morning America with Robin Roberts. First ever artist to close her performance in Times Square.
2018	NFL Thursday Night Football halftime performance
2018	Best Music Video, Creation International Film Festival — “Fight Like A Girl”; founded The Love Anchors Fund
2009	Released Serenity on Leon Road Records
2007	Produced Tammy Cochran's Where I Am
2004	First artist to record a brand-new song with a deceased artist (Conway Twitty)
2000	Released 2nd album, “Anita.” Acting debut in The Dukes of Hazzard: Hazzard in Hollywood.
2000	Extensive NASCAR tour with Dale Earnhardt, General Motors, and Peter Max, promoting her new album.
1998	Number 1, US and Canada, across all charts including Billboard and R&R, for 2 consecutive weeks — ‘What If I Said,’ written by Anita Cochran, duet with Steve Wariner. TNN fan voted awards — Vocal Collaboration of the Year winner. CMA and ACM nominations for vocal collaboration. CMA New Artist nomination. Gibson Best Female Guitar Player.
1997	Released debut album, “Back to You.”

PRESS & MEDIA

As Seen On



Featured in USA Today, Entertainment Weekly, CNN, Esquire, Guitar Player, Chicago Tribune, Country Weekly, The Tennessean and Taste of Country.

"Cancer diagnosis leads singer to 'fight like a girl.'"

THE TENNESSEAN, 2018

"Anita Cochran Returns To The Stage And Continues To Be Inspiration For All."

UNRATED MAGAZINE, 2019

"Cochran celebrates cancer treatment's end in style."

VANDERBILT HEALTH NEWS, 2018

WATCH

Fight Like A Girl — Official Video
youtu.be/_LC9S0L_K4

Live on Good Morning America
youtu.be/4cbvnwxfG6o

NFL Thursday Night Halftime
youtu.be/RgCSbnp4cBc

Digital Press Kit / Bio
youtu.be/OJsF1ZVgp90



BOOKING & MANAGEMENT

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Charity: The Love Anchors Fund — cfmt.org/funds/anitacochran