



Johnny Bush

Johnny Bush is an award-winning country music singer and composer who has recorded more than fifteen albums during his illustrious singing career of more than five decades. His latest album *HonkyTonic* (BGM Records) has been widely acclaimed among country music critics and includes duets with many other country sensations such as Willie Nelson, Bobby Flores, Tommy Alverson and Cooder Graw.

In 1967, Bush recorded several hit songs and his music career was taking off. Dubbed “The Country Caruso,” he was signed by RCA records under which he created his most renowned song “Whiskey River.”

Then in 1972, he was stricken with a disorder affecting the muscles surrounding his vocal cords. Bush traveled from doctor to doctor, including psychiatrists and chiropractors, in an attempt to find out what was causing his voice disorder. During this journey to cure his condition, his voice was faltering and his blossoming career began to slow. RCA soon dropped him from their label.

For seven years Bush searched for answers. Finally, in 1979 he met a speech pathologist who diagnosed his condition as spasmodic dysphonia, a form of dystonia. This type of dystonia causes the muscles surrounding the vocal cords to spasm and reduced his voice to a whisper. But it was not until 1985, after thirteen years of perseverance to find an effective treatment for his spasmodic dysphonia, that he received rehabilitation techniques with a voice coach which greatly helped to improve his voice. For the past three years, Johnny Bush has been receiving botulinum toxin injection therapy, which, along with rehabilitation, has restored his voice to near normal.

Now, thanks to being able to effectively manage his spasmodic dysphonia, Bush is back on the road and reviving his career. His autobiography will be published later this year.

Bush has received numerous accolades, both for his music and his efforts to raise awareness about spasmodic dysphonia with the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association. These awards include: 2003 Inductee into the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame, Annie Glenn Award at the 20th Annual Communication Awards in 2002, Favorite Son Award by the City of Houston and honored by the Texas State Legislature.