



Miley Cyrus

When the Disney Channel Original Series *Hannah Montana* burst onto the scene in early 2006, tweens around the world fell in love with Miley Stewart, the typical teenage girl with a secret life as international pop star Hannah Montana. What series star Miley Cyrus never imagined was that, in one whirlwind year, her real life would imitate art as she shot to superstardom as both an actress and a multi-platinum-selling pop star.

Born November 23, 1992, in Nashville, Tennessee, Miley grew up watching her father – country music superstar and actor Billy Ray Cyrus – perform and soon caught the acting bug herself. After gaining experience as an extra in her father's television projects, Miley first acted opposite him in a recurring role on his television series *Doc*. With that role under her belt, the young actress went on to appear in the Tim Burton film *Big Fish*.

When Miley first auditioned for the role of Hannah Montana, she was considered too young for the part, but her thousand-watt smile and bigger-than-life singing voice had caught Disney Channel's attention.

"At first they thought I was too small, and I *was* just a little string bean at the time," shares Miley, "but I'd always wanted to be able to sing and act, so I knew I couldn't give up." A couple of years later Miley won the part she had worked so hard for, and her ascent to superstardom started with a bang as *Hannah Montana*'s first season raked in some of the highest ratings ever for a Disney Channel Original Series.

In November 2006, the first *Hannah Montana* soundtrack was released on Walt Disney Records, featuring eight songs performed by Miley Cyrus as Hannah Montana and Miley's first duet with her father. The album rocketed to the top of the charts and became the first-ever TV soundtrack to debut at #1 on the Billboard Top 200. The *Hannah Montana* soundtrack finished the year as the #8 best-selling album of 2006 across all genres (Nielsen SoundScan) and certified double-platinum less than two months after its release.

The "Hannah Montana 2 / Meet Miley Cyrus" album was released on June 26, 2007 and quickly became the #1 selling album. The double disc set features songs from the fictional Hannah Montana series and introduces fans to Miley Cyrus as a singer/songwriter. Cyrus co-wrote eight of the ten tracks on "Meet Miley Cyrus" and firmly establishes herself as a musician.

"With the first *Hannah Montana* soundtrack, we were still introducing the sound of the show and Hannah's musical style. This time, the songs are more about what it's like being a tween because in the show my character's just started high school," explains Miley.

"I'm really excited to have fans get to know the person underneath the wig," says Miley. "I love writing music, playing guitar, singing and dancing as much as I love acting, so after they hear the album I hope they know a little more about me as an artist and a person."

The difference between Hannah Montana's sound and Miley Cyrus' is crystal clear only a few notes into the album's first track. "See You Again" strips the introduction of Miley Cyrus down to basics – just the sound of her voice coupled with a simple, intense guitar riff – for a surprisingly mature feel. It isn't until the chorus that the singer's youthful exuberance breaks free and sets the tone for the rest of the disc. "Start All Over" and "G.N.O. (Girl's Night Out)" showcase Cyrus' feisty side with anthemic choruses guaranteed to have fans singing along. The song "Clear" slows down the tempo with an unmistakable touch of the calypso sound and the heartfelt tribute "I Miss You" rounds out the remarkable debut solo effort.

In October 2007 Cyrus launched her “Best of Both Worlds” national concert tour which featured Miley as a solo artist and as her hit TV character Hannah Montana. The tour quickly became the hottest selling ticket and was so popular that additional performance dates were added.

"There's nothing more fun than being out on stage and feeling the vibe from the crowd," says Miley with one of her trademark grins. "I loved getting to see all of the awesome Hannah Montana fans face-to-face when I was on tour. Their energy made me want to get on stage and give it my all every night" says Miley.

On February 1, 2008 the “[Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert](#),” 3D film was released in theaters nationwide and quickly became the #1 movie in the country. [The film captures the fun and excitement of the popular sold-out 54-city concert tour.](#)

Between the albums, the tour and her movie Miley shows the world that her breakout year was anything but a fluke – and that both the fictional Hannah Montana and the very real Miley Cyrus have bright futures waiting ahead.

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