



# **The Grascals**

## **BAND MEMBERS**

*Terry Eldredge - guitar*

*Jamie Johnson - guitar*

*Terry Smith - bass*

*Danny Roberts - mandolin*

*Kristin Scott Benson - banjo*

*Jeremy Abshire - fiddle*

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Already among the most beloved and acclaimed of contemporary bluegrass groups, The Grascals are the 2007 International Bluegrass Music Association's Entertainers of the Year, first earning the top honor in 2006, only one year after being named Emerging Artist of the Year and winning Song of the Year for "Me and John and Paul." Their trademark blend of traditional bluegrass and classic country with more modern elements, delivered with vocal and instrumental intensity and virtuosity, earned them Grammy nominations for their first two critically-acclaimed releases—*The Grascals* and *Long List of Heartaches*. Timely and timeless, The Grascals' music is entirely relevant to the here and now, yet based on a deeply-seeded knowledge of and admiration for the music's founding fathers.

The Grascals began their career in 2004, when they recorded their debut album and were invited by Dolly Parton to open her fall tour. They opened additional dates for her in 2005, including her sold-out concert at Radio City Music Hall, and they have also shared the stage with Brooks & Dunn, Dierks Bentley, Patty Loveless, Mac Wiseman, J. D. Crowe, Charlie Daniels, Kenny Rogers, Steve Wariner, Vince Gill, the Jordanaires and many others. They are proud to make regular guest appearances on the Grand Ole Opry and have also appeared on *Opry Live*, *The Late, Late Show with Craig Ferguson* and the TV Guide Channel.

In addition to the IBMA awards, The Grascals won the 2008 SPBGMA Bluegrass Awards for Instrumental Group of the Year (for the third consecutive year), Bluegrass Band of the Year (for the second consecutive year) and Mandolin Player of the Year (Danny Roberts' second win in three years). In 2006 the group also took home Album of the Year for their self-titled debut and Song of the Year for "Me and John and Paul." The group earned a Dove Award nomination in 2007 for Bluegrass Recorded Song of the Year for "Did You Forget God Today," featuring the Jordanaires, which is included on *Long List of Heartaches*.

The Grascals recently entered into a sponsorship agreement with Mobil Delvac. The Grascals wrote and recorded the Mobil Delvac jingle and have recorded radio and internet commercials for the company.

The Grascals reach new levels of power and confidence with their third Rounder release, *Keep On Walkin'* released July 2009. Their distinctive sound and is showcased on an impeccable selection of songs highlighting both their freewheeling, infectious side and a deeper, more thoughtful perspective. The album includes the duet "Sad Wind Sighs," featuring special guest Vince Gill.

# AWARDS

2009

IBMA Banjo Player of the Year (Kristin Scott Benson)  
SPBGMA Album of the Year for *Keep On Walkin'*  
SPBGMA Banjo Player of the Year (Kristin Scott Benson)  
SPBGMA Instrumental Group of the Year

2008

IBMA Banjo Player of the Year (Kristin Scott Benson)  
SPBGMA Instrumental Group of the Year  
SPBGMA Bluegrass Band of the Year (Overall)  
SPBGMA Mandolin Player of the Year (Danny Roberts)

2007

IBMA Entertainer of the Year  
Grammy Nominee for Best Bluegrass Album  
Dove Award Nominee  
SPBGMA Instrumental Group of the Year  
SPBGMA Bluegrass Band of the Year (Overall)

2006

IBMA Entertainer of the Year  
IBMA Album of the Year for *Celebration of Life: Musicians Against Childhood Cancer*  
SPBGMA Album of the Year for *The Grascals*  
SPBGMA Instrumental Group of the Year  
SPBGMA Song of the Year for "Me and John and Paul"  
SPBGMA Mandolin Player of the Year (Danny Roberts)

2005

IBMA Emerging Artist of the Year  
IBMA Song of the Year for "Me and John and Paul"  
Grammy Nominee for Best Bluegrass Album

## **DISCOGRAPHY**

*Keep On Walkin'* (Rounder Records) (2008)  
*Long List of Heartaches* (Rounder Records) (2006)  
*The Grascals* (Rounder Records) (2005)

## **ADDITIONAL RECORDINGS**

Bill Gaither's *Country-Bluegrass Homecoming* Volumes 1 & 2 (Gaither Studios) (2008)  
"Prodigal Son's Prayer" with Dierks Bentley from *Long Trip Alone* (Capitol Records) (2006)  
*Celebration of Life: Musicians Against Childhood Cancer* (Skaggs Family Records) (2006)  
Dolly Parton *Those Were The Days* (Sugar Hill Records) (2005)

## **PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS**

The Grand Ole Opry, Kennedy Center, Radio City Music Hall, Ryman Auditorium, MerleFest, Wintergrass, Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival, Country Gold (in Japan), Stagecoach Festival (partial listing)

Opening performances for Dolly Parton, Dierks Bentley, Brooks & Dunn, Vince Gill, Patty Loveless, Sarah Evans, Big & Rich, Kenny Rogers, Charlie Daniels, and more

## **TELEVISION APPEARANCES**

*The Late, Late Show with Craig Ferguson*, *CBS Early Show*, ABC Television's *CMA Music Festival*:  
*Country Music's Biggest Party*, *Fox and Friends*, *WGN News at Noon*, *Opry Live*, *CMT*, *GAC*

## **PRINT MEDIA**

*Bluegrass Now*, *Bluegrass Unlimited*, *Associated Press*, *No Depression*, *Country Weekly*, *Bluegrass Music Profiles*, *Sing Out!*, and *Country Standard Time*