

MUSIC

Jason Aldean Knows What Works

Singer Sticks With What He Does Well

by **alison bonaguro** 6/16/2015



After I sat through Jason Aldean's rehearsal for his CMT Music Awards performance last week, what struck me hard was that his voice sounds exactly like it did when he was the new guy in Nashville – 10 years ago.

In fact, his first No. 1 song "Why" was a ballad a lot like his new single, "Tonight Looks Good on You."

And Aldean told me that if he still sounds the same, it's because he has always known what he's good at and what he's not.

"For a long time, I have always felt like my strong suit is that I know what my vocal limits are," he explained to me. "I know what I do well, and I know what I don't do well. So the things I don't do well, I just try to stay away from those and focus on the things that I am good at."

"Tonight Looks Good on You," written by Rhett Akins, Ashley Gorley and Dallas Davidson, is obviously a good example of everything Aldean's good at. But he doesn't think he has always sounded exactly this way.

“If anything, when I listen to my early records, I think that I just sound young. I sound like a baby,” Aldean laughed. “I feel like in these past 10 years, though, I’ve become a better singer. That comes with experience. When you know something works for you, you sort of ride that horse for a while.”