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Jason Aldean: “I Trust My Instincts a Lot More”

CMT Concert of the Summer **Airs Saturday at 8 p.m. ET/PT**

by **lauren tingle** 9/2/2016

Jason Aldean was talking about the pressures of releasing a new album as the ACM’s reigning entertainer of the year when Ashley Monroe’s “Like a Rose” randomly started playing on a greenroom media center, cutting short his answer.

But he didn’t mind because he’s a fan of the music she makes. Monroe and Brett James co-wrote Aldean’s fourth No. 1 single, the stirring ballad “The Truth,” and it’s a song he still loves.

But a few months ago, he had to make the tough call to pull it from his set on his Six String Circus tour.

Removing a hit from a set list is a tough decision every successful performer has to make at some point on the road as the number of singles and albums continues to grow. Right now Aldean is sitting on 17 No. 1s, including his latest chart-topper, “Lights Come On,” which will be featured on *CMT Concert of the Summer: Jason Aldean & Friends Live at LakeShake*, airing Saturday (Sept. 3) at 8 p.m. ET/PT.

“I try not to add anymore of that pressure than I need to,” he said picking up our CMT.com interview where he left off. “I mean, there’s already enough pressure in the business, and I put a lot of that on myself early on in my career, just trying to make sure each record was better than the last and kept the momentum going.

“I trust my instincts a lot more,” he adds, “and I feel like I have a good idea of who I am as an artist and we’ve got a fan base out there that loves it. As long as I consistently keep doing my part, we’re going to be all right.”

Written by Florida Georgia Line, the Warren Brothers, Jordan Schmidt and Jimmy Robbins, "Lights Come On" is the first chart-topper from his seventh studio album *They Don't Know*, which lands Sept. 9. The collection includes his latest single, "A Little More Summertime."

Fans can celebrate the unofficial end of summer over Labor Day weekend with Aldean, Thomas Rhett and A Thousand Horses when the inaugural CMT Concert of the Summer airs Saturday at 8 p.m. ET/PT.

The two-hour event will take fans inside the Six String Circus tour at Chicago's Windy City LakeShake music festival with exclusive behind-the-scenes interviews and footage documenting one of the summer's hottest events.