

Rolling Stone

CMT Music Awards 2016: 10 Best and Worst Moments



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BEST: Thomas Rhett Throws a Street Party

With every awards show this year, Thomas Rhett seems to be winning the hearts and minds of country fans. First with his super-romantic hit "Die a Happy Man" (written for his stunning wife, Lauren), and also with performances like the one he put on at the CMTs. That stage – smack in the middle of Music City's neon-lit tourist district and lined with holler-and-swaller honky-tonks – is where they ought to film the whole show. It looks like a massive party with thousands of free-range country fans, and T-Rhett took advantage with a fun-loving, breathless rendition of "T Shirt," his sixth consecutive Number One single. For most of the song he

was down in the crowd shouting the words, stealing sunglasses (and then giving them back) and busting out goofy robot dance moves, which only look cool and get a laugh when you seem like a good guy. Then, later on, "Die a Happy Man" won Male Video of the Year, adding trophies to a collection that already includes ACMs and ACCAs for Single and Song of the Year. When he thanked Lauren from the podium, she beamed and blushed for the camera, inspiring another 1,000 #relationshipgoals Instagram posts.