



Wednesday's Summerfest country pick: Thomas Rhett



A daily pick of the best country music at Summerfest

From the biggest names, like Keith Urban and Carrie Underwood to rising stars like Angaleena Presley and Drake White, Summerfest has a great lineup on tap with something to remember or discover every night. I'll have my pick for the best can't miss country act at the Big Gig here every morning of the festival.

Thomas Rhett, opening for Florida Georgia Line - 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 24 at the Marcus Amphitheater

Florida Georgia Line are undeniably the kings of bro country, and after watching a packed Marcus Amphitheater sing their hit song, "Cruise," as Luke Bryan's opener in 2013 and showing up as a surprise guest at his show at Summerfest last year, the big room is all their's as established country mega stars on opening night of 2015. But, it is their opener Thomas Rhett that brings that "next big thing" excitement to Summerfest this year. A talented songwriter who is the son of another venerated songsmith, Rhett Akins, Rhett successfully merged traditional country emotions and nostalgia with modern pop sounds on his 2013 debut album, "It Goes Like This." Three of that album's singles topped the country radio charts, including the title track and last year's "Make Me Wanna." As his star continues to burn and his stage presence continues to gain confidence and a whole lot of swagger, Rhett released his newest single, the doo-wop-tinged "Crash and Burn," earlier this year from his yet-titled and still unscheduled sophomore release. He released the new video for the song just two weeks ago.