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BROOKS & DUNN VISIT THEIR NEW COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME EXHIBIT: 'IT'S REALLY MIND BOGGLING'



Brooks & Dunn were on hand Thursday evening (Aug. 8), for the unveiling of their new exhibit *Brooks & Dunn: Kings of Neon* at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville.

Ahead of the official exhibit opening on Aug. 9, the country duo addressed a room full of industry peers, friends and family. Full of gratitude and disbelief at the success they've had together, both Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn thanked those for attending the exhibit grand opening.

"For a couple of guys that didn't know each other from Adam, didn't really want to do this, it just didn't make any sense," Brooks explained about the decision to team up as a duo when he and Dunn were both in their mid-30s. "We'd both been around the block for a long time. But, we were also pretty broke. When somebody throws any kind of opportunity in front of you in the music business, you generally take it and try to make the best of it. That same week we met, we wrote our first two No. 1 records, and when 'Brand New Man' was a No. 1 hit, we knew, 'Now we're in business.'"

The exhibit itself includes a brief history of both Brooks and Dunn's rise to superstardom individually and together. Dunn's childhood red cowboy boots are on display, while sheet music and early album covers from Brooks are included. The duo's stage outfits, music video wardrobe, and handwritten lyrics of "Red Dirt Road" are also on display, as well as countless specialty designed and built guitars, a motorcycle, race car and other notable pieces of Brooks & Dunn memorabilia.

“We just got to go take a peek at what the Hall of Fame has put together for us, and it's really mind boggling to see that in one place,” Brooks continued. “We've shared this amazing ride together. It's been so fun. It's what this exhibit's about ... I'm a country music fan, that's why we dedicated our lives to this.”

Dunn then jumped in, adding that the music industry is “such a big machine of support ... It's hard to stand up here and take a whole lot of credit for all of it. Thank you for coming.”

Brooks & Dunn: Kings of Neon opens to the public today (Aug. 9), and runs through July 19, 2020. In addition to a new exhibit and album release this year, Brooks & Dunn will be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in October.