

**Austin City Limits 2015 Hall of Fame Special**

**All-Star Season 41 Opener Premieres October 3rd on PBS**

***Hosted by Dwight Yoakam with Performances Featuring Lyle Lovett, Vince Gill, Patty Loveless, Jason Isbell, Gillian Welch, Laura Marling, Asleep at the Wheel and more***

**Austin, TX—September 29, 2015—**[Austin City Limits](http://acltv.com/) (ACL) kicks off Season 41 on October 3rd with an opener featuring musical highlights and tributes from the 2015 Austin City Limits Hall of Fame. This unique special showcases one-of-a-kind performances and collaborations from the ACL Hall of Fame celebration, held June 18, 2015, hosted by **Dwight Yoakam** and honoring the artists who’ve helped make the award-winning tv series an American music institution. An all-star line-up including **Lyle Lovett**, **Jason Isbell**, **Vince Gill**, **Patty Loveless**, **Dwight Yoakam**, **Gillian Welch** and more come together for one night to perform in honor of the newest class of inductees: **Asleep at the Wheel**, **Guy Clark**, **Flaco Jiménez**, **Loretta Lynn** and **Townes Van Zandt**. The hourlong season premiere debuts **Saturday, October 3rd at 8pm CT/9pm ET on PBS**. ACL airs weekly on PBS stations nationwide (check local listings for times) and full episodes are made available online for a limited time at <http://video.pbs.org/program/austin-city-limits/> immediately following the initial broadcast. The show's official hashtag is [#acltv](https://twitter.com/acltv).

ACL reaches back to its roots with a show-opening tribute to country trailblazer Loretta Lynn, who first appeared on the series in 1983. Country singer Patty Loveless, also a coal miner’s daughter, pays tribute to the living legend, and is joined by Vince Gill for a spirited duet of the Conway Twitty/Loretta Lynn classic “After the Fire Is Gone”. Lynn accepts her honor saying “Texas has always been so good to me. They fed me when my kids was hungry. They fed me when I was hungry.” Lyle Lovett takes the stage to honor Texas songwriting legend Guy Clark, saying “He is my friend. He is my hero,” with a stunning reading of the first song Clark ever wrote, “Step Inside This House”. Acclaimed singer-songwriter Jason Isbell performs a moving solo rendition of a Clark classic, “Desperados Waiting For A Train”.

Superstar Tex-Mex accordionist Flaco Jiménez makes a joyous show-stopping cameo during his own tribute, joining Dwight Yoakam, Los Lobos’ David Hidalgo and conjunto masters Los Texmaniacs to show off his nimble accordion style. The late, great Texas troubadour Townes Van Zandt, who first appeared in ACL’s debut season in 1975, is honored beautifully in acoustic performances by roots outfit Gillian Welch and British singer-songwriter Laura Marling. Austin’s own Asleep at the Wheel, who performed on the very first episode of ACL in 1975, are inducted by longtime fan Vince Gill, who joins the Western swing institution for a lively take on their early recording “Take Me Back to Tulsa”.

The special comes to a perfect close with the night’s entire cast returning to the ACL stage for a grand finale, trading verses on a Townes Van Zandt classic, “White Freightliner Blues”.

"We created our own Hall of Fame as part of our 40th anniversary last year to recognize and celebrate those artists who were there in the beginning and helped make *Austin City Limits* what it is today,” says ACL executive producer Terry Lickona. “The annual event is a unique showcase for some amazing performances and emotional moments, and we're thrilled to be able to capture it all to bring to our fans at home."

**Austin City Limits 2015 Hall of Fame Setlist:**

**Patty Loveless** | “Don’t Come Home A-Drinkin’”

**Patty Loveless & Vince Gill** | “After the Fire is Gone”

**Lyle Lovett** | “Step Inside This House”

**Jason Isbell** | “ Desperados Waiting For A Train”

**Flaco Jiménez, David Hidalgo, Los Texmaniacs** | “Ay Te Dejo San Antonio”

**Dwight Yoakam, Flaco Jiménez, David Hidalgo, Los Texmaniacs** | “Streets of Bakersfield”

**Gillian Welch** | “Dollar Bill Blues”

**Laura Marling** | “Colorado Girl”

**Asleep at the Wheel & Vince Gill** | “Take Me Back To Tulsa”

**All-Star Finale** | “White Freightliner Blues”

ACL’s upcoming Season 41 is filled with more musical highlights, as a number of acts make their long-awaited ACL debuts. Grammy-winning jazz vocalist **Cassandra Wilson** appears for the first time in a dazzling hour featuring the songs of Billie Holiday. Music legend **Don Henley** makes his ACL debut, armed with his first solo release in 15 years. Iconic singer-songwriter **James Taylor** is also set to make his Austin City Limits debut in a career-spanning, hour long showcase that will feature songs from his latest release, his first collection of original music in 13 years.

**Season 41 Fall Broadcast Schedule (additional episodes to be announced)**

**October 3 2015 Hall of Fame Special**

**October 10 Cassandra Wilson**

**October 17 Sturgill Simpson / Asleep at the Wheel**

**October 24 Don Henley**

**October 31 Gary Clark Jr. / Courtney Barnett**

**November 7 TV On The Radio / The War on Drugs**

**November 14 James Taylor**

**November 21 ACL Presents: Americana Music Festival 2015**

The complete line-up for the full 14-week season, including seven new episodes to air beginning January 2016, will be announced at a later date. Viewers can visit [acltv.com](http://acltv.com/) for news regarding future tapings, episode schedules and live stream updates.

**About Austin City Limits**

ACL offers viewers unparalleled access to featured acts in an intimate setting that provides a platform for artists to deliver inspired, memorable, full-length performances. The program is taped live before a concert audience from The Moody Theater in downtown Austin. ACL is the longest-running music series in American television history and remains the only TV series to ever be awarded the National Medal of Arts. Since its inception in 1974, the groundbreaking music series has become an institution that's helped secure Austin's reputation as the Live Music Capital of the World. The historic KLRU Studio 6A, home to 36 years of ACL concerts, has been designated an official Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Landmark. In 2011, ACL moved to the new venue ACL Live at The Moody Theater in downtown Austin. ACL received a rare institutional Peabody Award for excellence and outstanding achievement in 2012.

ACL is produced by KLRU-TV and funding is provided in part by Budweiser, the Austin Convention Center Department, Dell and HomeAway. Additional funding is provided by the Friends of Austin City Limits. Learn more about Austin City Limits, programming and history at [acltv.com](http://acltv.com/).

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