

# KATIE CUDWORTH

It seems like every week there is some new singer doing artist development – learning to sing and perform – right before our eyes. Does experience count anymore? It does for Katie Cudworth, a young seasoned vocalist whose performance experiences rate with or surpass most singers in country music. A bold statement about experience you say, let's discuss it.

Katie grew up in a small fishing village on the Outer Banks of North Carolina where she was sheltered from most forms of music. She absorbed only traditional country music. Katie's first musical influence was her dad who played and sang in a country band, but stopped entertaining before Katie was born. She was 8 years old when she first heard her father sing and play his guitar at the kitchen table while drinking coffee. He taught her a song to sing, and he started playing in public again. The next couple of years Katie would sing in her dad's band at fairs, restaurants and parties. During high school Katie was one of the proud few that listened to traditional country. She was "country, when country wasn't cool." But the singing bug really didn't bite her until she watched Barbara Mandrell's television show. "I started doing my dreaming when I saw her show. I would envision being her and doing all the routines she would do on her show," says Katie. She was hooked on musical entertainment. The closest country radio station and major concert venues were two hours away, so television was Katie's musical education, watching the old syndicated country shows from Nashville – before TNN. This television education and her dad's music gave her roots in traditional country.

Katie's smooth alto voice is not twangy, but it has an old time quality with clarity.

Katie knows how to captivate and motivate an audience. She has developed these skills by being a major headliner at the larger business conventions. Her largest audience to date has been 50,000 people at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis. She knows her way around the stage whether it's at a small venue or large. Katie is comfortable, relaxed and very personable with her audience; she always tries to make children feel special. She dresses with style with outfits that are hip – but country. "I usually can handle any situation thrown at me while performing," says Katie, "whether it be sound system trouble, band situations or something embarrassing."

You must witness Katie on stage and experience her voice on your audio system. Then you will realize the bold statement about her experience is true.