

# [***Why Beyoncé s New Country Album Could Be A Response To Her 2016 CMA Performance***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BKN-T641-JBCM-F00G-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 472 words

**Byline:** Ana Faguy, Forbes Staff

**Highlight:** In a social media post, Beyoncé said she did not feel welcomed in a past country music experience.

**Body**

**Topline**

Beyoncé shared the cover art for her upcoming album Cowboy Carter on social media Tuesday, with a note giving fans some insight as to why she s making a country album and referenced a past experience she d had where she did not feel welcomed a potential reference to a high-profile appearance at the 2016 Country Music Awards that drew controversy at the time.

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In a social media post, Beyoncé said she did not feel welcomed in a past country music experience.

LA/Disney General Entertainment Content via Getty

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**Key Facts**

Beyoncéshareda lengthy note with her Instagram followers Tuesday thanking them for the support they ve given her for the two singles she s already released Texas Hold Em and 16 Carriages ahead of her full album release later this month.

While pointing out that she s thefirst Black womanwith a number one single on the Hot Country Songs chart, the singer noted that she hopes in the future the mention of an artist s race, as it relates to releasing genres of music, will be irrelevant.

Beyoncésaidher new album was born out of an experience years ago where she felt unwelcome, potentially referring to her time performing at the 2016 Country Music Awards.

**Crucial Qoute**

This album has been over five years in the making, Beyoncéwroteon Instagram. It was born out of an experience that I had years ago where I did not feel welcomed and it was very clear that I wasn t.

**Key Background**

In 2016, Beyoncé performed her song Daddy Lessons at the Country Music Awards with The Chicks, a country music band formerly known as the Dixie Chicks. The performance was applauded by many and allegedly contributed to some of themost-watched minutesof a CMA awards in the show s history. But the performance also sawfierce backlashfrom some country music fans who claimed to not understand why she was invited to perform at the awards show. Some of the criticism wastiedto Beyoncé s ***politics*** and her performance at the 2016 Super Bowl months earlier. Years after the performance, Natalie Maines, the lead singer of The Chicks,saidthe CMA s caved and took a video of the performance down after receiving racist backlash for Beyoncé s performance. Mainessaidthe CMA s received so much backlash for the decision to remove the performance from its sites they put it back up 24 hours later. The CMA sdeniedremoving the performance and CMA s CEO Sarah Traherntoldthe New York Times they denied that any nefarious deleting had taken place and said they were waiting for Beyoncé s team's approval to post content from the performance.

**What We Don t Know**

In her Tuesday post, Beyoncésaidshe collaborated with some artists for songs included on the album but it s unclear exactly who they may be.

**What To Watch For**

Cowboy Carter will be released March 29.

**Further Reading**

**Load-Date:** March 20, 2024

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