

= Diamond Rio =

Diamond Rio is an American country and Christian country music band . The band was founded in 1982 as an attraction for the Opryland USA theme park in Nashville , Tennessee , and was originally known as the Grizzly River Boys , then the Tennessee River Boys . It was founded by Matt Davenport , Danny Gregg , and Ty Herndon , the last of whom became a solo artist in the mid @-@ 1990s . After undergoing several membership changes in its initial years , the band has consisted of the same six members since 1989 : Marty Roe (lead vocals , rhythm guitar) , Gene Johnson (mandolin , guitar , fiddle , tenor vocals) , Jimmy Olander (lead guitar , Dobro , banjo) , Brian Prout (drums) , Dan Truman (keyboards , organ , synthesizer) , and Dana Williams (bass guitar , baritone vocals) .

After assuming the name Diamond Rio , the band was signed to Arista Nashville and debuted in 1991 with the single " Meet in the Middle " , which made them the first band ever to send a debut single to No. 1 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts . The band charted 32 more singles between then and 2006 , including four more that reached No. 1 : " How Your Love Makes Me Feel " (1997) , " One More Day " (2001) , " Beautiful Mess " (2002) , and " I Believe " (2003) .

Diamond Rio has recorded nine studio albums , four Greatest Hits compilations , and an album of Christmas music . Three of the band 's albums have achieved RIAA platinum certification in the United States . In addition , Diamond Rio has received four Group of the Year awards from the Country Music Association , two Top Vocal Group awards from the Academy of Country Music , and one Grammy Award out of thirteen nominations . The band is known for its vocal harmonies , varied instrumentation , and near @-@ exclusive use of only its own membership on recordings instead of session musicians . Their sound was originally defined by mainstream country , bluegrass , and rock influences , but later albums drew more influence from Christian country music and country pop .

= = Beginnings = =

In 1982 , Matt Davenport and Danny Gregg founded a band at Opryland USA , a former country music @-@ based amusement park in Nashville , Tennessee . The band was first named the Grizzly River Boys , after a new river rafting ride at the park , but quickly changed names to the Tennessee River Boys due to its members disliking the original name . Originally intended to promote the park through a one @-@ time television special , the band proved popular enough that it became one of many regular performers there . Davenport , Gregg , and Ty Herndon alternated as lead vocalists , with Davenport also playing bass guitar and Gregg on rhythm guitar ; completing the lineup were Larry Beard (lead guitar , fiddle , banjo) , Mel Deal (steel guitar) , Al DeLeonibus (piano) , and Ed Mummert (drums) . The group " swapped lead voices , told jokes , and balanced old @-@ school country concert shtick with a contemporary sound . " Herndon left the group in 1983 to compete on the talent show Star Search , and became a solo artist for Epic Records between 1995 and the early 2000s . Herndon was temporarily replaced by Anthony Crawford and then Virgil True before his role was taken over by Marty Roe , who had originally toured nationally with the Christian band Windsong , and worked in the park by doing impersonations of Larry Gatlin . Following Herndon 's departure , DeLeonibus and Mummert quit as well , with Dan Truman (who had previously played in Brigham Young University 's Young Ambassadors) and Jimmy " J. J. " Whiteside taking their places . Beard quit shortly afterward and ultimately became a session musician , and former Mel McDaniel sideman Jimmy Olander took his place . The band , through the assistance of Bill Anderson 's drummer Len " Snuffy " Miller , submitted demos to various Nashville record labels with no success .

By 1985 , the Tennessee River Boys had quit working at Opryland . According to Roe , while the band enjoyed playing at the park , they also felt that their status as a theme park attraction discredited them as " real musicians " to those in the Nashville community . For the next few years , they played at small venues such as high school auditoriums , and usually worked no more than four concerts a month . They also competed on Star Search , but were eliminated in the first round . Frustrated by the sporadic touring schedules , Whiteside quit the group and was replaced by Brian

Prout , who previously performed in Hot Walker Band and Heartbreak Mountain . Around 1986 , Deal and Gregg both left the group , the latter due to health complications from a serious illness he had developed as a teenager . They initially chose to operate as a quintet , with Davenport as the sole lead vocalist and Roe and Prout singing harmony ; when this arrangement proved unsuccessful , they found mandolist Gene Johnson , a former member of the bluegrass group Eddie Adcock 's IInd Generation , which Olander was a fan of as a child . Johnson debuted at a concert in Clewiston , Florida in May 1987 . Also at this point , the band members supplemented their incomes with outside jobs : Johnson continued to work in carpentry , as he had done before joining the band , while Olander and Roe mowed lawns , and Prout drove tour buses .

In 1988 , the band caught the attention of Keith Stegall , a singer @-@ songwriter who would later become known primarily for his work as Alan Jackson 's record producer . Stegall produced demos for the Tennessee River Boys , but noted that Davenport could not record the lead vocal and bass parts at the same time , as they would be difficult to separate in the control room . As a result , Stegall had Roe sing a " scratch " vocal track live with the other musicians , which would then be replaced by Davenport 's voice in post @-@ production . Upon hearing Roe sing the " scratch " track , Stegall successfully convinced the other members that Roe should be the lead vocalist instead . Due to his discomfort outside the lead role and his wife 's dissatisfaction with his career , Davenport quit in late 1988 , becoming the last founding member to leave . The group quickly had to find a replacement , as they were scheduled to appear on the talk show Nashville Now on January 23 , 1989 . Alan LeBeouf , who had just left Baillie & the Boys , expressed interest in replacing Davenport , but ultimately declined due to other commitments . They finally chose Dana Williams , a nephew of the bluegrass group Osborne Brothers and former sideman for Jimmy C. Newman , who had been a fan of the Tennessee River Boys since Herndon was a member .

= = = 1990 : Signing with Arista Nashville = = =

Williams officially joined before the Nashville Now appearance , but the band still did not have a record deal at this point . They continued to record demos in Prout 's garage with assistance from Monty Powell , who had previously hired Roe and Olander for recording jingles , but wanted to produce commercial music . Powell was a friend of audio engineer Mike Clute , who would later become one of the band 's producers , and songwriters Tim DuBois and Van Stephenson . DuBois was talking with record executive Clive Davis about creating a country music branch of Arista Records called Arista Nashville ; Stephenson would later sign to the label in 1993 as a member of Blackhawk . Initially , DuBois was hesitant about signing the Tennessee River Boys , as he felt that there were too many popular bands in country music , and he was about to sign both Asleep at the Wheel and Exile . He expressed interest in signing Roe as a solo artist , but at Powell 's insistence , he agreed to see the band open for George Jones at a May 1989 concert , and officially signed them to Arista Nashville in 1990 . The band members also decided to choose a new name , as they thought that Tennessee River Boys sounded more suitable for a bluegrass or gospel group than a country one . Among the names they had chosen were Kilroy and T @-@ Town Mavericks , the latter of which was rejected by Arista executives . Prout suggested Diamond Rio , after the truck manufacturing company Diamond Reo Trucks . The name had been previously rejected by another country band , Shenandoah , whose lead singer Marty Raybon (also a former member of Heartbreak Mountain) gave Prout permission to use the name even though Shenandoah " conducted business " under that name .

Shortly after the band received its record deal , the band underwent a series of misfortunes when Olander , Johnson , and Williams came down with health problems . On August 9 , 1990 , Johnson was injured in a carpentry accident in Arkansas a day before his 41st birthday , severely cutting his left thumb . Robert Bolin substituted for Johnson during the band 's tour in Brazil with Kevin Welch and Jann Browne . On September 6 , four weeks after Johnson 's accident , Williams was water skiing with his family in Cookeville , Tennessee as his boat came forward at high speed when his wife was picking him up . The propellor slashed Williams ' legs and he was rushed to a hospital for his injuries . Brian Helgos and Paul Gregg (Danny Gregg 's brother , and a member of Restless

Heart) substituted for Williams . Meanwhile , Olander discovered that he had a lemon @-@ sized tumor that was pressing against his esophagus . The tumor was never successfully diagnosed , although it ultimately vanished .

= = Musical career = =

= = = 1991 ? 1992 : Diamond Rio = = =

After Olander , Williams , and Johnson had recovered , the six musicians set to work on their debut album . In doing so , Johnson soon discovered that the injuries to his hands had altered his dexterity on the mandolin , and threatened to walk away after Powell offhandedly remarked that he would have Roe dub in his own tenor harmonies instead of having Johnson sing them . The band also had commitments to finish as the Tennessee River Boys , to the point that they occasionally had to promote themselves under both names in the same day .

Arista Nashville released Diamond Rio 's debut single , " Meet in the Middle " , on February 6 , 1991 . As the lead single to their self @-@ titled debut album , " Meet in the Middle " went on to spend two weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts , making Diamond Rio the first country music group ever to send its debut single to the top of that chart . Following its release , the band performed its first official concert as Diamond Rio on May 4 , 1991 . They shared the bill with Wild Rose , whose membership included Prout 's then @-@ wife , Nancy Given Prout . Released three weeks later with DuBois and Powell as producers , Diamond Rio was met with positive critical reception from critics such as Allmusic , Chicago Tribune , and Entertainment Weekly , which praised the band 's vocal harmonies , instrumentation , and song choices .

Four more singles were released from Diamond Rio , all reaching top 10 on the Billboard country singles charts : " Mirror , Mirror " , " Mama Don 't Forget to Pray for Me " , " Norma Jean Riley " (which was previously the B @-@ side of " Mama Don 't Forget to Pray for Me ") , and " Nowhere Bound " , the latter two of which were co @-@ written by Powell . Roe and Prout had found both " Mama Don 't Forget to Pray for Me " and " Mirror , Mirror " by attending shows at the Bluebird Cafe in Nashville , a popular spot for performances by aspiring songwriters . Truman and an employee of Arista had found " Norma Jean Riley " , which was originally titled " Pretty Little Lady " until DuBois remarked that the lady in the song should have a name : " It could be ' Norma Jean Riley ' , anything ! " Johnson spoke positively about " Mama Don 't Forget to Pray for Me " , which was written and originally recorded by Larry Cordle , and the impact that it had on fans . He recalled a letter sent to him by a female fan who had run away from home and chose to return after hearing that song , and said that " We already didn 't wanna do the drinkin ' songs and stuff ... if you 're gonna touch someone , touch them with something that 's positive . "

Diamond Rio was later certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) for shipping one million copies in the United States . In addition , the band won the Academy of Country Music 's Top Vocal Group for 1992 , an award they would receive again in 1993 , 1994 , and 1997 . They were also nominated for Top New Vocal Duet or Group by the same association in 1992 . A cut from the album , the instrumental " Poultry Promenade " , gave the band its first Grammy Award nomination .

= = = 1992 ? 1995 : Close to the Edge and Love a Little Stronger = = =

Close to the Edge , the group 's second album , was released in 1992 . Certified gold by the RIAA for U.S. shipments of 500 @,@ 000 copies , the album produced the Top 5 country hits " In a Week or Two " and " Oh Me , Oh My , Sweet Baby " , the latter of which was originally recorded by George Strait on his 1989 album Beyond the Blue Neon . The next singles , " This Romeo Ain 't Got Julie Yet " and " Sawmill Road " , both failed to reach top 10 . Roe considered Close to the Edge a weaker album than their debut because the band only had one month to pick the songs for it ; in a 1994 interview with New Country magazine , he stated : " There aren 't ten great songs out there for

everybody , certainly not that you could find in a 30 @-@ day period of time . " Olander was also critical of the novelty factor of " This Romeo Ain 't Got Julie Yet " , which he co @-@ wrote , saying that it was " by far not my favorite Diamond Rio recording ? but that 's at the time when I 'm thinkin ' , ' Oh , this is easy , let 's write this . It 's kinda cute . " Brian Mansfield of Allmusic was also critical of the song , but described the rest of the album with favor , saying that its " strongest material emphasizes the virtues of God , family and honest living ? traditional stuff , no doubt influenced by the members ' bluegrass background " , while Jack Hurst of the Chicago Tribune thought that " In a Week or Two " and " Sawmill Road " , " which is about the diverse trails some rural schoolmates follow in adulthood " , were the strongest tracks .

In 1994 , the band released its third album , Love a Little Stronger . The album was recorded on a more relaxed schedule than the previous album ; as a result , they did not have a single on the charts for three months after " Sawmill Road " fell off the charts . For this album , Clute joined DuBois and Powell as co @-@ producer , a role that he has held on all of the band 's subsequent releases . The title track (co @-@ written by Billy Crittenden , later a member of the vocal group 4 Runner) , reached a peak of No. 2 on the Billboard country singles charts , and No. 1 on the country singles chart published by Radio & Records . It was followed by the No. 9 hit " Night Is Fallin ' in My Heart " and the Top 20 hits " Bubba Hyde " and " Finish What We Started " . Because the band had taken a longer period of time to choose songs for Love a Little Stronger , they considered it a superior album to its predecessor ; Mansfield shared a similar opinion in his review of the album , stating that " Spurred by the relatively lackluster performance of Close to the Edge ... Diamond Rio explored the musical possibilities of its talents rather than digging for easy commercial success . " This album also earned the band its second platinum certification .

= = = 1996 ? 1999 : IV , Greatest Hits , and Unbelievable = = =

IV , Diamond Rio 's fourth album , was released in 1996 . It was the " first country release recorded entirely on a digital console " ; specifically , a Fairlight console which recorded the album directly to a hard drive . Produced by DuBois , Clute , and the band itself , it was also their first album not to have Powell as a co @-@ producer . According to DuBois , Powell left this role on good terms , as he " saw a need to go in a certain direction , and the guys saw a need to go in a different direction . " Roe thought that the album benefited from a new label policy that allowed label personnel to respond more quickly to pitches from songwriters , specifically recalling to Billboard that the label 's head of artists and repertoire (A & R) recommended the lead single " Walkin ' Away " while co @-@ writer Craig Wiseman (who co @-@ wrote " Bubba Hyde ") was still recording its demo , and the band was able to record the song in the same day that the demo was completed . " Walkin ' Away " peaked at No. 2 on the country charts in early 1996 . Three more singles were released from the album : the top 10 hits " That 's What I Get for Lovin ' You " and " Holdin ' " (also written by Wiseman) , with the top 20 " It 's All in Your Head " , co @-@ written by Van Stephenson , in between . The music video for " It 's All in Your Head " featured Martin Sheen and Ramon Estevez , the former playing the part of a snake handling preacher .

A year after IV , Diamond Rio released its first Greatest Hits package , which included eleven of the singles from their first four albums , plus the album cut " She Misses Him on Sunday the Most " from IV and two new songs : " How Your Love Makes Me Feel " and " Imagine That " . " How Your Love Makes Me Feel " became the band 's second No 1 on Hot Country Songs , as well as their longest @-@ lasting at three weeks , making it the biggest chart hit for any country group that year . " Imagine That " , co @-@ written by Bryan White , reached Top 5 by early 1998 . Greatest Hits became the band 's third platinum album .

Diamond Rio was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry in April 1998 , becoming the first band in fourteen years to be inducted . Later in the year , the band released its fifth studio album , Unbelievable . Contributing songwriters to the album included Paul Williams , former NRBQ member Al Anderson , Robert John " Mutt " Lange , and Huey Lewis . The lead single was the ballad " You 're Gone " , which reached top 5 on the country charts . After it was the title track , which peaked at No. 2 on the country charts and became the band 's first entry on the Billboard Hot 100 , where it

reached No. 36 . The third and final single was " I Know How the River Feels " , originally recorded on Herndon 's 1996 album Living in a Moment and later released as a single by McAlyster in 2000 . Diamond Rio 's rendition peaked at 33 on the country charts , their lowest chart peak at the time .

In 1998 , Prout began dating Mary Bono , the widow of singer and politician Sonny Bono . The two became engaged but later ended their relationship in 2001 . On December 28 of the same year , Prout married singer @-@ songwriter Stephanie Bentley , best known for co @-@ writing Faith Hill 's 1999 single " Breathe " .

= = = 2000 ? 2002 : One More Day = = =

Diamond Rio released its twenty @-@ third official chart single , " Stuff " , in May 2000 . The song was originally intended to be the title track to their sixth studio album , which would have been released on August 22 of the same year , but according to Truman , " Certain radio stations , for some reason , didn 't want to play ' Stuff ' . " As a result , " Stuff " was withdrawn after peaking at number 36 on the country charts , and the album was delayed until February 2001 . Following this song 's failure , the band released " One More Day " later in 2000 . The song was written by Steven Dale Jones and Bobby Tomberlin , the same two writers who wrote " She Misses Him on Sunday the Most " . " One More Day " went on to spend two non @-@ consecutive weeks at No. 1 on the country charts , with the album , by this point re @-@ titled One More Day , having its release date moved up to February 6 , 2001 . The song also peaked at No. 29 on the Billboard Hot 100 , in addition to reaching top 10 on the Adult Contemporary charts (the band 's first appearance on that chart) . Regarding the song 's popularity among fans who have used the song to cope with personal losses , Prout said , " Actually , ' One More Day ' was recorded as a love song . Then one of Oklahoma State 's basketball team 's plane went down , then in early 2001 we lost Dale [Earnhardt] in Daytona , and then of course , 9 / 11 came after that . And every event of that year , the song took on a different meaning to different people ... We hear quite often in e @-@ mails and people talking to us in shows . If you 're asking how it makes us feel ? Pretty darn special ... to know that you had that impact on someone 's life and helped in a tough time of healing and hope . "

The third and fourth singles from One More Day were less successful : " Sweet Summer " made Top 20 , while " That 's Just That " failed to make Top 40 . The album featured a guest vocal from Chely Wright on " I 'm Trying " , making for the band 's first ever duet with another artist on one of their own albums . It also included a cover of " Hearts Against the Wind " , originally recorded by J. D. Souther and Linda Ronstadt for the Urban Cowboy soundtrack . Chris Neal of Country Weekly (now Nash Country Weekly) thought that the album showed a greater musical variety than its predecessors , specifically noting the " spoken @-@ word verses " of " Here I Go Fallin ' " , the " Hearts Against the Wind " cover , and the Wright duet as standout tracks .

Starting in 2001 , the other members had noticed that Roe was having difficulty maintaining proper pitch in concert , but they did not want to confront him about it for fear of " bruising [ing] his ego " , although they eventually convinced Roe of his problems by recording each concert and listening to it together . He also consulted unsuccessfully with vocal coaches and throat doctors at Vanderbilt University Medical Center . The band attempted to cover up Roe 's problems by removing certain songs from concert set lists , lowering the key on others , having Truman sometimes take the lead vocal , and using pitch correction software , but even these did not fully correct the issues . Finally , they consulted vocal coach Diane Sheets , a friend of Johnson 's son @-@ in @-@ law . She determined that Roe was over @-@ compensating for a small degree of hearing loss typical of musicians who have performed live for long periods of time , thus tightening muscles in his throat and diaphragm and causing him to lose pitch . Although Roe was initially " cynical " toward Sheets 's coaching , she was ultimately successful in restoring his voice .

= = = 2002 ? 2007 : Completely , Can 't You Tell , and Greatest Hits , Volume 2 = = =

In 2002 , Diamond Rio released its seventh studio album , Completely . The band originally conceived it as a double album , featuring traditional country on one disc and more pop @-@

oriented country on the other , but according to Prout , this concept did not fully materialize because " country music has blinders on as far as what 's acceptable ? and what isn 't " , although Olander and Williams noted that the idea allowed them " more leeway in choosing songs " . In addition to earning a gold certification , it produced two consecutive No. 1 singles in " Beautiful Mess " and " I Believe " , the latter being the band 's last single to top Hot Country Songs . Third single " Wrinkles " made Top 20 , while the last single , " We All Fall Down " (also written by Steven Dale Jones) , failed to reach top 40 . Two of the album 's tracks were previously recorded by other artists : " Make Sure You 've Got It All " , written by Bill Anderson and Steve Wariner , was originally recorded on Collin Raye 's 1998 album The Walls Came Down , and " If You 'd Like Some Lovin ' " by its co @-@ writer , David Ball , on his 1996 album Starlite Lounge .

Rick Cohoon of Allmusic praised the album for its musical variety , saying , " With artists as well anchored in the business as Diamond Rio , the musical quality is a given . The real challenge is outdoing yourself and coming up with fresh concepts . The selections on this album seem to be the fruition of that search for musical renewal " . He cited " Beautiful Mess " and " I Believe " as standout tracks . Ray Waddell of Billboard also thought that the singles were among the best tracks on the album , while highlighting the instrumental track " Rural Philharmonic " (which Olander had originally intended to record for a solo album) as an example of the band 's strong musicianship . Chrissie Dickinson of The Chicago Tribune was less favorable , commending the " masterful musicianship " and Roe 's " light vocal timbre " , while criticizing the song selections as " mostly a paint @-@ by @-@ numbers trip around the musical block , from the predictable power balladry of ' I Believe ' to the saccharine sentiments of ' We All Fall Down . ' " .

A seventh album , tentatively titled Can 't You Tell , was recorded in 2003 , but it was cancelled after its first two singles ? the title track and " One Believer " ? both failed to make Top 40 upon their releases in late 2004 and early 2005 respectively . Diamond Rio 's second Greatest Hits package , Greatest Hits , Volume 2 , was released in 2006 . Like their first Greatest Hits album , this compilation included several new songs as well as the band 's greatest hits ; one of these new songs , " God Only Cries " , was released as a single , peaking at No. 30 . Shortly after the album 's release , Diamond Rio parted ways with Arista Nashville .

= = = 2007 ? present : New record label , The Reason , and I Made It = = =

On August 31 , 2007 , Diamond Rio signed with Word Records , a Christian music label based in Nashville . Their first album for Word was a Christmas album entitled A Diamond Rio Christmas : The Star Still Shines , which they recorded in Olander 's basement studio . Roe said in an interview with CMT that " we just didn 't try to copy anybody else . We tried to make up our own arrangements . " The group released its first contemporary Christian album , The Reason , on September 22 , 2009 . It earned the band three Dove Award nominations : Song of the Year for " God Is There " , Country Song of the Year for the title track , and Country Album of the Year .

In 2014 , Olander told The Arizona Republic that the group was no longer signed to Word Records and planned to release new material independently . " I will say that I was proud of the material , but maybe it 's not the best version of Diamond Rio , " Olander told the publication . " We were kind of in a no @-@ man 's land . We didn 't fit in with country radio and we didn 't fit with Christian radio . It was something that wasn 't fully realized . " The band began releasing records independently , starting with a live album in 2014 and following in 2015 with the studio album I Made It .

= = = Outside contributions = = =

Diamond Rio has been featured on several projects featuring multiple country artists , including three tribute albums released between 1993 and 1994 . The first was a cover of the Eagles ' 1975 hit " Lyin ' Eyes " for Common Thread : The Songs of the Eagles , an album released in late 1993 via Giant Records which featured various country musicians covering that band 's songs . Diamond Rio had originally wanted to record the song for Love a Little Stronger , but DuBois rejected the idea because he felt that they were not yet well @-@ established enough to record a cover song on one

of their own albums . The second was Keith Whitley : A Tribute Album , to which they contributed a cover of Keith Whitley 's 1986 hit " Ten Feet Away " , and the third was a cover of Merle Haggard 's " Workin ' Man Blues " for a tribute album entitled Mama 's Hungry Eyes : A Tribute to Merle Haggard . This rendition , which featured guest appearances from Lee Roy Parnell and Steve Wariner (both of whom were also signed to Arista Nashville at the time) , was credited to " Jed Zeppelin " . This rendition peaked at No. 48 on the Billboard country charts from unsolicited airplay , and was made into a music video . In 1996 , the band covered " Beauty and the Beast " for the multi @-@ artist compilation The Best of Country Sing the Best of Disney and contributed the original song " Christmas Spirit " (which Powell and Roe co @-@ wrote) to Star of Wonder : Country Christmas Collection , a Christmas album featuring various artists on Arista Nashville 's roster . A year later , Diamond Rio contributed a recording of the gospel standard " Walkin ' in Jerusalem " to a compilation entitled Peace in the Valley : A Country Music Journey Through Gospel Music . Diamond Rio and Collin Raye also sang backing vocals on Kenny Rogers ' 2000 single " He Will , She Knows " . Finally , in 2002 , they were featured on country parodist Cledus T. Judd 's " Man of Constant Borrow " , a parody of " Man of Constant Sorrow " on his album Cledus Envy .

Some of the individual members have also contributed to songs by other artists . Roe sang duet vocals with then @-@ labelmate Pam Tillis on " Love Is Only Human " , a cut from her 1992 album Homeward Looking Angel . Olander was featured along with bluegrass musicians Carl Jackson and Mark O 'Connor on the track " Hap Towne Breakdowne " from Steve Wariner 's 1996 instrumental album No More Mr. Nice Guy . He also co @-@ wrote Kenny Chesney 's 2001 single " I Lost It " , Marshall Dyllon 's 2001 single " You " , and the track " The Night Before (Life Goes On) " from Carrie Underwood 's 2005 debut album Some Hearts . Truman co @-@ wrote Shane Minor 's 1999 single " Ordinary Love " ; Minor would later co @-@ write the band 's hit " Beautiful Mess " . In 2003 , Truman and songwriter Jason Deere co @-@ founded the Nashville Tribute Band , which has recorded three albums for missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter @-@ day Saints , of which Truman is a member . Roe , Johnson , and Williams sang backing vocals on Josh Turner 's 2006 single " Me and God " (from the album Your Man) , which also featured a guest vocal from bluegrass musician Ralph Stanley .

= = Musical stylings = =

In the country music industry particularly , record producers hire mostly session musicians to record tracks for an album for both solo artists and bands , as opposed to rock bands who record their own instrumental and vocal tracks on their albums . Diamond Rio has been one of few self @-@ contained country bands to have followed the practice of each member playing their own instruments and singing their own vocals on all their albums themselves , without any additional input from outside musicians . The sole exception has been the inclusion of string sections on some of their later work , starting with " I Know How the River Feels " and continuing through certain tracks on One More Day and Completely .

Their early music blended neotraditionalist country with occasional traces of country rock , primarily in the song 's prominent rhythm sections . A bluegrass influence has also been shown , primarily in the three @-@ part harmonies among Roe (lead) , Williams (baritone) , and Johnson (tenor) . Bluegrass influences are also shown in the band 's prominent use of the mandolin , as well as in the instrumentals featured on many of their earlier albums . The band 's later material has tended towards pop @-@ oriented ballads , such as " I Believe " and " One More Day " ? songs which received critical acclaim for their often religious @-@ themed messages , but were considered departures from the more traditional material of their first four albums .

Another trademark of Diamond Rio 's sound is the custom @-@ built B @-@ Bender guitar played by Olander . He refers to this instrument as the " Taxicaster " because of its yellow body and black @-@ and @-@ white checkered pickguard , which give it the coloration of a taxicab .

= = Awards = =

Diamond Rio received the Academy of Country Music 's award for Top Vocal Group in 1991 and 1992 . In 1992 , 1993 , 1994 , and 1997 , they also received the Country Music Association 's award for Vocal Group of the Year (an award for which they received fifteen total nominations , more than any other country music group) . In addition , Diamond Rio has received thirteen Grammy Award nominations . In 2010 they received three nominations for the GMA Dove Awards , and on April 22 won the award for Country Album of the Year . In 2011 , they received their first Grammy Award in the Grammy Award for Best Southern , Country or Bluegrass Gospel Album category for The Reason .

= = Personnel = =

= = = Members = = =

= = Discography = =

Diamond Rio (1991)
Close to the Edge (1992)
Love a Little Stronger (1994)
IV (1996)
Unbelievable (1998)
One More Day (2001)
Completely (2002)
The Reason (2009)
I Made It (2015)