

Lee Ann Womack Releases **THE WAY I'M LIVIN'** Sept. 23 *Produced by Award-Winning Frank Liddell, First New Music in Over* 6 *Years*

Title Track Bows at WSJ.com 5/22, Arrives at Radio Next Week

Nashville, Tenn. (May 19, 2014) - Lee Ann Womack never intended to go almost seven years between records, but she knew when she released new music, she wanted it to be very special. For the Grammy-winner who's one of the rare women to win the prestigious Country Music Association's Album of the Year, she wanted an album made purely for the sake of the songs and the spark of the musical performances.

That album – the eagerly anticipated **The Way I'm Livin'** – arrives Sept. 23 on noted roots label Sugar Hill. Produced by Frank Liddell (Miranda Lambert, David Nail), it features the songs of Chris Knight, Mindy Smith, Buddy Miller, Mando Saenz, Hayes Carll, Neil Young, Bruce Robison and one cagey cover lifted from Roger Miller.

"I wanted songs that talked about how life *really* is, the raw spots, the tough places, the meltdowns and messy parts," laughs the always sunny Texan. "Hard, sad, rough... all the stuff people pretend doesn't exist! Because once you embrace *that*, you can figure out what to do; or not do!"

"The Way I'm Livin'," written by Grammy Country Song of the Year nominee Adam Wright ("So You Don't Have To Love Me Any More"), is a scalding psychic meltdown of a lost soul, banging on the rocks and not sure they want any better. With a sweltering guitar and foreboding beat that turns dervish, Womack delivers her most blistering vocal since Buddy Miller's "Does My Ring Burn Your Finger."

The high impact title track debuts May 22 at WSJ.com, the *Wall Street Journal*'s online presence. Hailed by *TIME* for "the clarity of a soul that realizes loss is a form of purification, a scraping away of false ideals and excess emotional baggage," this debut track takes Womack's viscerality to a whole other level.

"It feels so good to be getting new music out to the fans," says the woman who's collaborated with Miller, Rodney Crowell, George Strait, Willie Nelson and Alan Jackson over the past several years. "I *live* to sing great songs that tear holes in life – just show living for what it is. I was fired up going into the studio, and Matt (Chamberlin), Duke (Levine), Glen (Worf, Jr), Mac (McAnally), Paul (Franklin) and all the amazing players who came by took me to an even higher place inside these songs.

"And knowing these songs were written to be performed, not pitched, sets a bar! Every songwriter wrote intending to sing'em, to tell these stories, show these postcards, and you can feel the way they built the characters! Bringing that to music was just so incredible for everyone on the sessions."

The Way I'm Livin' – or rather the first taste – arrives May 22 at WSJ.com, and on fine radio stations nationwide shortly thereafter. In-stores on September 23, 2014.

About Sugar Hill Records

Founded in 1978 by Barry Poss, Sugar Hill was recognized as "one of twenty-one labels that changed the world ... reinventing country music" by *Pulse*. Now, part of the Welk Music Group and with its headquarters in Franklin, Tennessee, Sugar Hill has deep roots in bluegrass and Americana genres. The label's 2014 releases include Lee Ann Womack's label debut, Don Williams' *Reflections*, Black Prairie's *Fortune*, Bryan Sutton's *Into My Own* and more.

From festivals to record stores and all points in between, music fans will recognize the artists on Sugar Hill for their musicianship, energy and integrity.

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