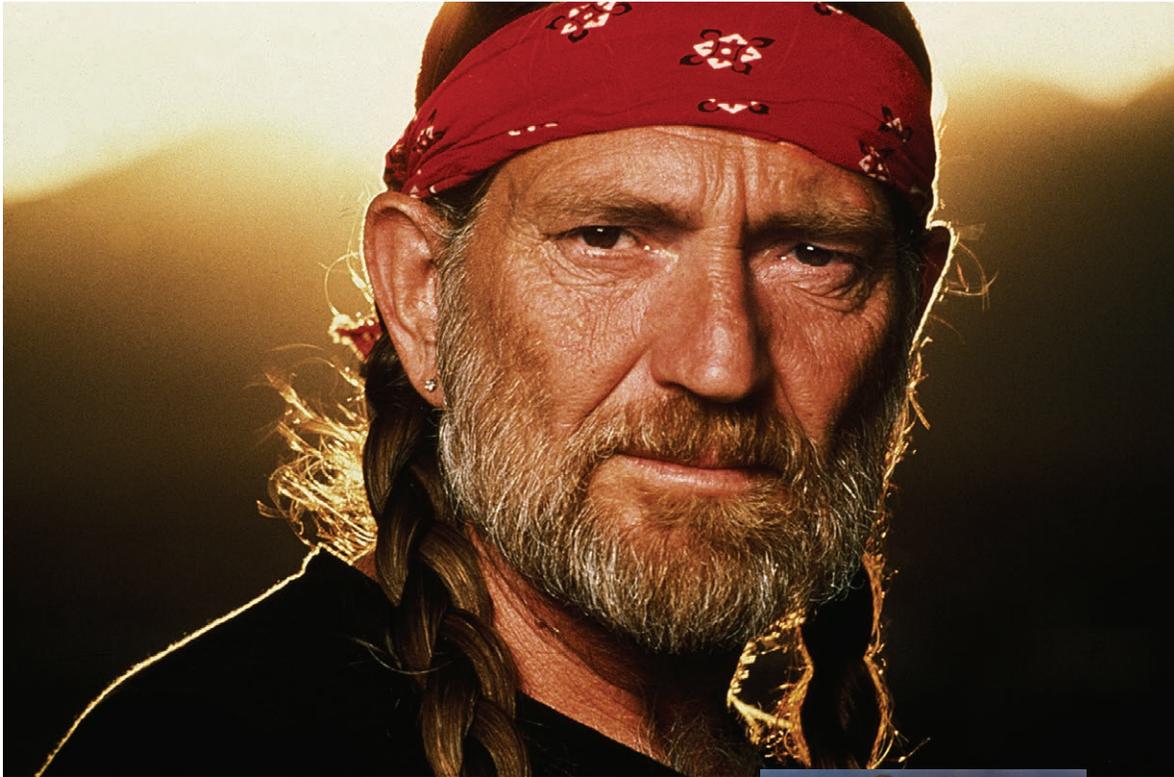


ENCORE



PHOTOGRAPHER NORMAN SEEFF SHOT THIS SESSION for Willie Nelson's 1981 album *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* on a Las Vegas hotel roof. "There was a great sky so we hung out on the rooftop," recalls Seeff. "I had him running across the roof and jumping, wearing a black T-shirt and jeans." Seeff was intrigued by Nelson's rugged character. "Something about his face haunted me," he says. "Those lines were so incredibly etched. It reminded me of Mount Rushmore or something early Native American. There was an archetypal, iconic quality about him." Meanwhile Nelson couldn't have been more down to earth. "Some artists exude an attitude like 'I'm the artist and you're supposed to respect that.' But there wasn't one iota of that in Willie. I felt like we could have been hanging out in a bar together." Yet the legend's individuality was clearly evident. "He wasn't trying to make a statement or be unconventional—that's just who he was," says Seeff. "But in the end he was revolutionary."

