



Growing up in Greenwood, Nova Scotia, Geoff Marshall was surrounded by music early on. “My parents had a band called the Keynotes, so my older brothers and sisters were already singing together when I started.” It was just what his family did, he adds: “I had no choice, really.”

After moving back to Toronto in 2014, Geoff founded The Mail Order Cowboys with Gary Robertson (electric guitar), Sean Dignan (drums) and Tim Bradford (bass) and performed in classic local venues including the Dakota Tavern, Cameron House, Castro’s Lounge and really anywhere that would have them; from festivals to marinas, to movie halls and barber shops.

“I like to think of these songs as standards, not covers,” he continues. “Country music, like jazz, is about sharing material, but also about finding your own voice. If you go out there and you’re just imitating other people you’re not doing your job.”

When it comes to his own songs it’s all about the story. “They have to be sincere and cover topics people relate to like heartache and disappointment; the things people need help with.”

It’s the immediate reaction from the crowd and the dialogue with audiences that Marshall and the band crave and, at the core, what fuels both the Mail Order Cowboys’ efforts on their current album, *Contract Man* and their signature brand of homemade honky-tonk.

GEOFF MARSHALL
lead singer and rhythm guitar

GARY ROBERTSON
electric guitar

TIM BRADFORD
bass

SEAN DIGNAN
drums

Music Video: “Contract Man”
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