



For Immediate Release—

**Michael Shaw Reaches Deep Into His Own Storybook For Debut Album,
*He Rode On***

He Rode On, is out now; For fans of unabashedly honest country and western music

Nashville, TN - June 3, 2022 - In these days of forced—or at least, questionable—authenticity in the resurgence of “outlaw” country music, it doesn’t take too keen an eye to spot the real deal; **Michael Shaw** is it. Without knowing it at the time, working as a horseman and **wilderness ranger in Western Montana** for more than a decade, patrolling the wildest reaches of Glacier National Park with his two horses, Pancho and Snuff, shaped Shaw’s debut album *He Rode On* in a way which only that unpredictable landscape, and the isolation that along with it, can. From seven winters as the lone caretaker of a remote horse ranch on the Blackfoot River to a wild weekend at Elko, Nevada’s “**National Cowboy Poet Gathering**,” every stitch of Shaw’s *He Rode On* rings true to his life—from living off the land to falling for a bronc riding cowgirl to cheating death. Today, Shaw released *He Rode On*, finally sharing his truths and tales with eager listeners worldwide.

Fans can [stream](#) or [purchase](#) *He Rode On* today. Shaw will be celebrating the release **tomorrow** (June 4th) with a performance at **Bobby’s Idle Hour Tavern at 8PM** in Nashville, Tennessee.

***He Rode On* In The News**

Nashville NPR affiliate WMOT premiered the video for the title track—read the full

Wide Open Country premiered “Cowboy Boots and a Little Country Dress,” calling it a “rockabilly barn-burner.”

Cowboy Lifestyle Network sat down with Shaw to talk about his backstory and how it influenced all of *He Rode On*.

The Boot featured “Cowboy Boots and a Little Country Dress” in their weekly Song Spotlight.

Daily Inter Lake dove deep on Shaw’s time in Montana, his band days in Whiskey Rebellion, and buying his National Park horse team at auction to ensure a peaceful retirement for the pair.

For *Americana Highways*, John Apice wrote, “This set finds Michael Shaw in fine voice throughout. I find Shaw’s balance & pacing to be exceptional...honest country & western that never sounds retro but highly polished. A tidy package.”

Earlier this week, Shaw performed “Like They Used To” on WSMV’s *Today in Nashville*.

More About *He Rode On*: For *He Rode On*, Shaw reconnected with producer/guitarist Grant Siemens (Corb Lund.) About the recording process, Shaw says, “I drove to Grant’s hometown of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and all the musicians gathered together in the same room and recorded live to tape, trying to capture the feel and warmth of my favorite albums from the ‘60s and ‘70s.” Guests include drummer John McTigue III (Rodney Crowell) and steel guitarist Robbie Turner (Waylon Jennings.) Shaw wrote all 10 songs for the project.

He Rode On leads with “Bad Honky Tonker,” a sly anthem described by Shaw as “the bastard love child of Keith Richards and Dwight Yoakam.” That’s followed by “Outlaw’s Refuge,” written when Shaw was living along tribal wilderness on the Flathead Indian Reservation, making homemade wine, hunting, and fishing—harvesting the fat of the land. Carrying on that independent streak, the song “Billy” is inspired by his long-time friendship with a wilderness muleskinner who leads his life in an inimitable fashion. Through his time living in rural places all across Western Montana, including an off-the-grid cabin without running water or electricity, to his stint as a National Parks Service Backcountry Ranger, to seven winters as the lone caretaker of an isolated horse ranch on the Blackfoot River—and all of the rambunctious extracurriculars in between—Shaw’s captivating songwriting can be directly traced to his own experiences in the West. Yet his stories are universal, whether he’s delivering a rowdy barroom anthem or a meditative song about the loss of a loved one. With a swagger in his vocal and a sharp eye for detail, Shaw brings authenticity to *He Rode On*, as everything he references on the album is rooted in truth.

For more information, please visit michaelshawmusic.com.

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