



Jason Miller Robert—Bio

The music by Jason Robert Miller is as American as he is. A melting pot of influences cultivated by diversity, his sound is an eclectic mix of collective unity and individual freedom. It is influenced by everything, defined by nothing.

“I think genres are bullshit. It’s just a way for people to feel more comfortable about putting you in a category,” expressed the artist.

JRM’s distaste for labels seems honestly accurate. It is almost impossible to slap a label over JRM or his music. Both are products of a multi-layered foundation formed from JRM’s roots, which stretch over most of the Northeast.

He grew up in a conservative home in Western Pennsylvania with a tight-knit family who valued hard-work and simplicity. The family shared many long weekends and summers together at a hunting cabin high in the elevations of the Alleghany Mountains, miles away from life’s hustle and bustle. Those small town experiences instilled Jason with an intuitive eye on Midwestern lifestyles, old-fashion morals and honest, minimalist beauty.

But Jason is not all small town and simplicity. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in English from Alleghany University, a small liberal arts school in Meadville, PA, Jason moved to Manhattan where he attended Columbia University. He spent the next ten years, earning two masters degrees (in Special Education and Reading) while immersing himself in urban culture and attitudes and reconnecting with an exploding passion for music.

“I got a guitar when I was 8, but lost interest. I was more into sports, then girls. Then I got back into it in college when I broke up with my girlfriend and bought a guitar.”

The therapeutic element of music that brought JRM into songwriting is now one of its most driving forces. Many of his lyrics are inspired from his own experiences of heartbreak, family tragedies and personal conflicts.

“First I started writing when it was cathartic for painful experiences,” said the artist. “But then I had a friend tell me that you have to write all of the time---when you are happy, when you are between emotions---all of the time.”

JRM took that advice and started writing constantly. Stealing inspiration from cigarette butts, characters in his life and even road kill, JRM writes without any reservations. Everything he encounters daily is fair game for being the main theme of one of his songs.

All of that writing has left JRM with an extensive amount of recorded material. So in January, JRM selected his favorite fifteen songs that he has compiled on his ninth album, “BEST OF.”

Jason isn’t interested in defining the sound of his BEST OF record. He simply states, “You tell me. Art is the interplay between the artist and the audience, so I’m much more interested in what the listeners think.”

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