



Joe Costello

singer-songwriter

For over twenty years, Joe has been a compelling storyteller and songwriter in the Cape Breton DIY music scene. Whether armed with an acoustic guitar or onstage with various rock and punk bands, he carries the same defiant values in his music as he does in life: workers rights, economic reform, care for marginalized communities, and relentless kindness.

Rooted in the songwriting tradition of his heroes Joe Strummer, Billy Bragg, and Greg MacPherson, Joe tells stories of the people he knows best. The young father struggling to make ends meet. The woman moving West to find a better life. The life long resident struggling to let go as mental illness strips away his love for his hometown. In many ways, these songs are as much about him as they are the people he's known along his life's journey.

Touring

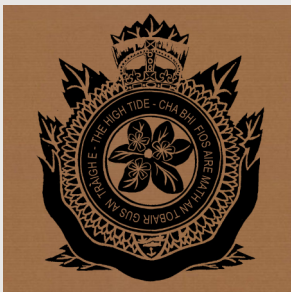
Joe has a strong regional presence in Cape Breton with regular appearances both solo and with bands in many different types of venues and alongside artists such as Bry Webb, DOA, Crown Lands, Jofo, Rock Ranger, and many others. He has also toured throughout Nova Scotia and New Brunswick with his band The High Tide, with numerous performances in Moncton, Fredericton, Saint John, and Halifax alongside artists such as Human Missile Crisis, Other Siblings, Hammond River Collective, and Elk Lodge.

The Show

Joe is comfortable in many different settings, but is best when performing a mix of songs from his catalog as a solo artist and with The High Tide. He likes to tell stories of how these songs came to be, as well as anecdotes of people and places that have made him who he is today.

Joe also offers a shorter, 30 min performance that blends stories of Cape Breton's history of resilience with the songs that explore these tales. Exploring the ties between music and history is important to revealing who we are as a people, while giving important insights on how we got to this time and place.

Music



The High Tide
The Value of the Well... (2014)
Off the Road in Shubenacadie (2018)

Frigged
Greasy Horror Show (2014)
The Big Bad Bongston Bongaton (2015)
So This is How Today's Gonna Be (2018)