FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 26, 2022

**MATT MAESON UNVEILS SOPHOMORE ALBUM *NEVER HAD TO LEAVE***

**ACCLAIMED SINGER-SONGWRITER’S EAGERLY AWAITED SOPHOMORE ALBUM**

**FEATURES NEW SINGLE “CUT DEEP”**

**PREVIOUSLY RELEASED SINGLE “BLOOD RUNS RED” ENTERS TOP 20 AT ALTERNATIVE RADIO**

**NORTH AMERICAN HEADLINE TOUR KICKS OFF SEPTEMBER 21 IN ATLANTA, GA**

**HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE SOLD OUT SHOWS IN NEW YORK, CHICAGO, SEATTLE, TORONTO AND MORE**

***NEVER HAD TO LEAVE* AVAILABLE NOW VIA NEON GOLD/ATLANTIC**

**[DOWNLOAD/STREAM HERE](https://mattmaeson.lnk.to/NeverHadtoLeave)**

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[DOWNLOAD HIGH-RES PHOTO](https://press.atlanticrecords.com/matt-maeson)

Chart-topping, RIAA platinum certified singer-songwriter **Matt Maeson** has released his highly anticipated sophomore studio album, ***Never Had To Leave***, available everywhere now via Neon Gold/Atlantic Records.

*Never Had To Leave* includes the anthemic new single “**Cut Deep**,” produced by Kenny Beats and ClickNPress and the mesmerizing Top 20 Alternative radio hit, **“**[**Blood Runs Red**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmattmaeson.lnk.to%2FBRRID&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205595764%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6qlm0daRssA%2F9NW8%2Bz6HMPX8l2XZ4ZQwd3z4XnjFL6w%3D&reserved=0),” as well as the intensely emotional tracks as **“**[**Problems**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmattmaeson.lnk.to%2Fproblems&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205595764%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ydwh03maQXVelnJGCUk0U9ep6VGMPMfc5gIulIipZ6Q%3D&reserved=0)**,”** **“**[**A Memory Away**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmattmaeson.lnk.to%2FAMemoryAway&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205595764%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Zxvtv3b%2FkqFKaJs%2F8jVjmdEvRmoVNc1S5IPftRTc2Jk%3D&reserved=0)**.”**

“*Cut Deep is about how ugly and manipulative this business can be and how I can still succeed without sacrificing my integrity. Maybe that means I’ll never be a megastar, or headline the Super Bowl, or have a McDonald’s meal named after me but I can rest easy being proud of what I create and those creations are part of me, not just a product.”*

**-MATT MAESON**

Hailed by *Ones To Watch* for “*(retaining) all the hallmarks that make the affecting crooner such a force to behold,*” **“Blood Runs Red”** has quickly proven another landmark track for Maeson, now boasting over 2M worldwide streams while ascending at Alternative Radio airplay charts nationwide. An official music video is streaming now via YouTube [HERE](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Dl7nXDS24AqU&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205595764%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=djSSWVWrV0KXSPKpKVT6hiln3EQpXc%2BvfyBbdEf3Q9U%3D&reserved=0).

Currently boasting over 1B worldwide streams and close to 130M video views, the Nashville-based musician now returns with his long awaited sophomore album, *Never Had To Leave*, a revelatory body of work that embodies a newfound hopefulness while reinforcing the raw intensity and unapologetic truth-telling that have defined Maeson’s music from the very start.

Mainly produced by his longtime collaborator James Flannigan (MARINA, Broods), *Never Had To Leave* came to life in a series of free-flowing, highly experimental sessions in Nashville, Los Angeles, and Maeson’s former homebase of Austin. The album’s chameleonic and combustible sound is enhanced by such musician-friends as drummer Rob Humphreys (Karen O, Jacob Banks) and guitarist Brennan Smiley (The Technicolors), resulting in an eclectic, frenetic collision of rock ‘n’ roll, folk, and irresistibly gritty pop. Marked by the restless creativity that has long fueled his musical output, *Never Had To Leave* serves as a thunderous meditation on beginning anew after a long period of struggle and self-destruction, once again providing an essential outlet for artist and audience alike. Notable collaborations on ***Never Had To Leave*** include Kenny Beats and ClickNPresson **“Cut Deep,”** Foy Vance on “**Never Had To Leave”** and Ethan Gruska on “**A Memory Away.”**

Hailed by *American Songwriter* for “*(creating) a sound unlike much else out there*,” 2019 saw Matt Maeson  arrive at the forefront of American Alternative music with his critically acclaimed breakthrough debut album, [*Bank On The Funeral*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fatlantic.lnk.to%2FBankOnTheFuneralID&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205595764%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RCT9loHQWfOvlC%2FJ9zgxuRSvvMLJunBTzJY8HPn83mk%3D&reserved=0), highlighted by the RIAA platinum certified single, “[Cringe](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DeoJtlPQzqkQ&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205595764%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BWVYzgeaUTT6H%2FXZG3kOSJbChBYcQ2TEaoPc%2BYzWD6U%3D&reserved=0),” which spent four consecutive weeks atop *Billboard*’s “Alternative Songs” chart after a steady 25-week climb. Maeson then made history with the platinum certified “[Hallucinogenics (Feat. Lana Del Rey)](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DdoRUhDIB29s&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205751998%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=LdmnHpthvr2uuPFY2L4ss%2FeQEtVCzEsEFnLlAGbcwFc%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank),” which spent three weeks at #1 on the Alternative chart while also proving his first multi-format hit by topping Triple A airplay charts nationwide. The triumphant success of “Hallucinogenics” affirmed Maeson as the first ever male solo artist to earn two #1 Alternative hits from a full-length debut album and only the fifth male artist to accomplish that achievement following iconic superstars Beck, Elvis Costello, Peter Gabriel, and Morrissey. Moreover, Maeson joined Cage the Elephant and Bush as one of only three artists in history have had two number #1 Alternative hits on their debut album.

“*The reason I make music is I want my songs to help people feel justified in whatever they’re feeling, especially if they’re going through hard times,*” says **Maeson.** “*When I was 17 I started performing in prisons as part of my parents’ prison ministry, and I realized what music could do as far as helping people feel dignified and less alone. It was a way of bringing light into one of the darkest possible places, and right away I knew I wanted to do that for everyone. Keeping that in mind has always motivated me to write as honestly as possible, without filtering anything out.*”

Maeson – who recently wrapped a sold out series of intimate solo acoustic dates - will celebrate *Never Had To Leave* with a full-scale North American headline tour getting underway September 21 at The Masquerade in Atlanta, GA. Highlights include a much anticipated performance at Dover, DE’s Firefly Music Festival (Saturday, September 24). A number of dates – including shows in New York City, Seattle, and Toronto – have already sold out. For complete details and remaining ticket availability, please visit [www.mattmaeson.com](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mattmaeson.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7CTaylor.Apel%40atlanticrecords.com%7C017275296fa24eb2edf108da84832f1e%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637967996205595764%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=NLTXBlWSufhowkqhfNDIz5nTXUlG3DqPAXWg6sH8pOk%3D&reserved=0).

# # #

**MATT MAESON**

***NEVER HAD TO LEAVE***

**(Neon Gold/Atlantic Records)**



[DOWNLOAD HIGH-RES ARTWORK](https://press.atlanticrecords.com/matt-maeson)

**TRACKLIST**

Blood Runs Red

Never Had To Leave

Cut Deep

Lonely As You

Cry Baby

Nelsonwood Lane

Twisted Tongue

Problems

Waltz Right In

Sanctified

A Memory Away

My Hand/Lawless Dream

# # #

**MATT MAESON**

***NEVER HAD TO LEAVE* NORTH AMERICAN TOUR 2022**

**SEPTEMBER**

21 – Atlanta, GA – The Masquerade
22 – Charlotte, NC –The Underground (SOLD OUT)

24 – Dover, DE – Firefly Music Festival †

26 – New York, NY – Irving Plaza (SOLD OUT)

27 – New York, NY – Irving Plaza

29 – Albany, NY –Empire Live

**OCTOBER**

1 – Buffalo, NY –Town Ballroom (SOLD OUT)

2 – Toronto, ON – Phoenix Concert Theatre (SOLD OUT)

4 – Cincinnati, OH – Bogarts

6 – Chicago, IL – House of Blues Chicago (SOLD OUT)

9 – Indianapolis, IN – Deluxe at Old National Centre

10 – Louisville, KY – Mercury Ballroom

12 – Milwaukee, WI – The Pabst Theater

13 – Minneapolis, MN – First Avenue

15 – Kansas City, MO – The Truman

16 – St. Louis, MO – Delmar Hall (SOLD OUT)

18 – Omaha, NE – Slowdown

19 – Denver, CO – Mission Ballroom

**NOVEMBER**

04 – Portland, OR – Roseland Theater

05 – Seattle, WA – Showbox at the Market (SOLD OUT)

07 – Oakland, CA – Fox Theater

08 – Los Angeles, CA – The Wiltern
11 – San Diego, CA – Observatory North Park

12 – Phoenix, AZ – The Van Buren

14 – Dallas, TX – House of Blues Dallas

15 – Austin, TX – Stubb’s Waller Creek Amphitheater

17 – Houston, TX – White Oak Music Hall Downstairs

19 – Nashville, TN – Marathon Music Works

† FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE

# # #

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