

EVAN ROTELLA

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Niagara Falls, Ontario

Evan has been playing music live for nearly a decade already and has been writing songs for almost that long. In 2020 he released a vinyl 45 of his song "(If I Was A) Rockstar" which featured well-known Pittsburgh musicians, guitarist Danny Gochnour and keyboardist, Joe Munroe. In 2021 Rotella released a CD of acoustic songs written when he was 12 to 14 years-old, entitled "The Demo Tapes".

For the last 4 years he's honed his musical chops playing festivals, theatres, patios, bars, and parties across the Niagara Region. He's also had the privilege of playing at the iconic Stone Pony in Asbury Park, New Jersey where Bruce Springsteen started his career.

Evan has opened shows for Stephen Page, The Wilderness, Miss Emily, Honeymoon Suite, Wheatus, Road Waves, Stephen Stanley, Willie Nile, Joe Grushecky, Bobby Mahoney & The Seventh Son, Joe D'Urso, Southside Johnny, and the great Steve Earle. He has played with Teenage Head's Dave Rave, Rick Rose, Bobby Mahoney, Astrid Young (Neil's sister), the Lowest of the Low's Stephen Stanley, and more!

On September 28, 2023 Evan released his debut album with an all-star line-up entitled "Happy To Be Here" which is a collection of 10 original songs produced by Mark Rogers (LMT Connection) and Myles Rogers (Jin The Band).

In 2024, Evan completed 2 successful residencies at both Hamilton's legendary Casbah Lounge, and 2 residencies at The Cameron House in Toronto. He also, opened for Steven Page (Barenaked Ladies) and the 2024 Canada Rowing Celebration and for The Wilderness and Miss Emily in Kingston for a fundraising festival for the Kingston Humane Society.

In 2024 he was mentioned twice in Billboard Canada online as "one to watch" and "rapidly attracting attention".

On December 1, 2024 Evan released his sophomore album, "Last Train Home", an acoustic record, recorded live-off-the-floor to give it a raw sound that mirrored the starkness of the lyrics and songs. As one reviewer wrote "Pithy, thought-provoking urban folk doesn't get much better than this".

In 2025 Evan won the Niagara Music Awards Folk Album of the Year for "Last Train Home", and is honoured to be receiving the Canada Folk "The Colleen Peterson Songwriting Award" for his song "Maryanne" from the album "Last Train Home"

Evan had a busy 2025 playing various festivals including Mariposa Music Festival, Light of Day Asbury Park, Supercrawl, and NXNE in Toronto. As well he has travelled to Ottawa, Kingston, Oshawa and Belleville to play various events.

Evan just recently won the Colleen Peterson Songwriters Award at the Ontario Folk Music Awards in Ottawa for his song "Maryanne" from his album "Last Train Home".

Recently Evan has been co-writing a batch of new songs with Colin and John-Angus Macdonald, from one of Canada's elite bands, The Trews and is currently in the studio working on the new album with producer, John-Angus Macdonald. Look for a new single to be released late in 2025.

Stay tuned.