



Clayton Anderson performs at Farm Aid 2023



Pictured L-R: Lukas Nelson, Clayton Anderson, Nathaniel Rateliff



Clayton Anderson, Circle Network's Natalie Stovall



Clayton Anderson participating in a panel with local farmers, addressing everyting from climate change to soil

PHOTOS: Clayton Anderson Performs At Farm Aid 2023 Alongside John Mellencamp, Dave Matthews, Margo Price, Bob Dylan, Willie Nelson, Neil Young & More

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (Sept. 25, 2023) — Indiana's own <u>Clayton Anderson</u> joined the star-studded <u>Farm Aid 2023</u> lineup on Saturday, following an invitation from his musical hero and fellow Indianan (and Farm Aid board member), John Mellencamp.

"Farm Aid was so much more awesome than I ever dreamed," says Anderson, who grew up in a family farming community in Southern Indiana and spent his summers working on farms. "Kicking the whole thing off, then watching so many of my musical heroes take the stage after, was the coolest thing. I kept repeating, 'Holy cow, we played Farm Aid!' It was hard to not get choked up seeing friends and family who've been supporting us for so long and it was really nice getting to share the

moment with them. Everyone was so cool and inclusive — it made it easy to relax and take it all in. I'll never forget getting to sit and talk with John Mellencamp backstage, and getting to hang with Nathaniel Rateliff and Lukas Nelson. And I still can't believe I shook Dave Matthews' hand and thanked him for making me wanna be a strummer of the guitar."

Anderson, whose latest album <u>Made In The USA</u> (Visionary Media Group), includes the tribute single to his home state, "<u>Indiana</u>," adds, "The biggest takeaway is how I really relate to the family farmer — how the family farmer has all odds stacked against them but they get up and do the hard work every day because they love it. They're just trying to make it. And that's exactly what I've been doing for the last 12 years, so I'm thankful we've been able to do it as an independent artist — big thanks to folks showing up to our shows.

"I've worked so hard to get on this big of a stage and was starting to doubt I'd ever get there," he continues. "Farm Aid has given me confidence and once again filled my hopes and dreams of being able to break a song nationally so we can be invited back year and year again. No matter what happens, we played Farm Aid, and no one can take that away from us! Thank you, Hud and John Mellencamp, for making it happen."

Held at Ruoff Music Center in Noblesville, IN on Saturday, Sept. 23, Farm Aid 2023 reunited family farmers and musician activists, with performances by Anderson, and Farm Aid board members Mellencamp, Willie Nelson & Family, Neil Young, Dave Matthews & Tim Reynolds, and Margo Price, as well as Bob Dylan, Bobby Weir & Wolf Bros featuring The Wolfpack, Lukas Nelson, Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats, Allison Russell, The String Cheese Incident, and Particle Kid.

About Clayton Anderson:

A country singer-songwriter with a midwestern rock flair, Clayton Anderson grew up on the lakes of Southern Indiana — fishing, boating, and playing his guitar. As a student at Indiana University, he kicked off his music career, building a grassroots fan following playing local bars and parties. In 2008, he stepped onstage at Kenny Chesney's Next Big Star Battle in Cincinnati and walked off as the winner. He released his debut album, *Torn Jeans & Tailgates*, in 2011, followed by *Right Where I Belong* (2014) and *Only to Borrow* (2016). Pre-COVID, he toured nonstop, opening for Eric Church, Blake Shelton, Jason Aldean, Jimmy Buffett, Thomas Rhett, Lee Brice, and Carly Pearce. During the pandemic, Anderson got creative by partnering with the Bud Light Dive Bar Tour: Home Edition and launching socially-distanced "Lake Tour" concerts. 2021 saw the release of "Only Us," one of his most-streamed songs to date.

Anderson kicked off 2022 by dropping two new tunes: "Nothin' But Net," co-written with Christian Stalnecker (Kane Brown) and co-written/produced by Grammy-winning Dave Audé and as heard on ESPN for College Basketball Season, and "Get After It." Co-written by Shane Stevens ("Fancy Like") and produced by Nash Overstreet, the latter song celebrates hard work and getting the job done and can also be heard in a national Ford ad campaign. Now he's gone back to his roots on the water, releasing fishing anthem "Show Me Your Fish," also co-written by Christian Stalnecker and co-written/produced by Dave Audé. On August 12 (812 happens to be Southern Indiana's area code) Anderson released "Indiana" in tribute to his home state. On September 16, he released his national debut album *Made In The USA* with a simultaneous release of a new music video to "Let Me Go" via a CMT World Premiere.

Clayton was an invited presenter during the 2023 Concordia Annual Summit (Sept. 18) and played Farm Aid on Sept. 23.

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