

## Early collaboration producing another hit

*Medulla, Floyd and Nolen recorded Suits Me in 2016*

by Jan Sikes

**W**HEN JERROD MEDULLA HIT #1 ON the Texas charts with “Unbroken Horses,” written by Dean Dillon, it was like that darkhorse that surges ahead just in time to cross the finish line first.

But, Medulla is the first to say he didn’t do it alone. Longtime friends, Chuck Allen Floyd and Matt Nolen collaborated with him on the album, *Suits Me*, which hit the shelves in 2016. Now, two years later, Medulla has a #1 hit off the album.

So, what is it about these three friends that creates a unique partnership?

Chuck Allen Floyd, who produced *Suits Me*, is an attorney with the Gordon Law Group on Music Row in the heart of Nashville.

And while he is a respected attorney specializing in entertainment law, he is also an accomplished songwriter and musician.

Matt Nolen, who toured with the John Fogerty Band for many years, has the rare ability to translate someone else’s music into something tangible and real.

Combine that with Jerrod Medulla’s songwriting and vocal style, and you have a winning ticket.

Medulla recalled when he first met Chuck Allen Floyd. “I hadn’t been in Dallas very long, and one of the first people in the music scene to befriend me was Big Gus Samuelson. He called me up one day and said he had someone he wanted me to meet. So, that turned out to be Chuck Allen Floyd. We hit it off from the start.”

Then Floyd introduced Medulla to Nolen, and that completed the triangle.

“Unbroken Horses,” hit #1 in Texas and surrounding states in August, but there is a story behind the song.

“I was coming off thirty-six to forty-eight hours with no sleep because we had just brought our baby daughter home from the hospital,” said Medulla. “I passed out in my recliner with my phone on my chest. All of a sudden it rings, and it’s Mark Powell. Mark told me he was sitting there with Dean Dillon and they were swapping songs back and forth, and when Dean played this one, Mark said he knew the perfect guy to cut it, and that was me. Then Mark introduced me to Dean over the phone, and I swear I thought I was having a dream. Then I thought maybe Mark was messing with me and had someone there pretending to be Dean Dillon.”

It was real, alright. And when an email followed, Medulla knew it wasn’t a dream. But, there was another problem. The guys had finished recording “*Suits Me*.”

“We had spent a full year recording “*Suits Me*.” It was mastered and ready to be released. I called Chuck and told him about Dean and that we needed to get back in the studio and cut this song.”

Despite the expense and the time required, Medulla was determined.

“Sometimes I get these vibes or feelings,” he said. “And when I do, I hammer down on it and don’t let go. I told Chuck I wasn’t letting this one go.”

Chuck Allen Floyd told his side of the story. “When Jerrod called me and said we had to go back in the studio and cut this Dean Dillon song, I was thinking, “How am I gonna tell Matt we’re not done and that we need

to schedule another session? And “How much is this going to cost?”

But, in the end, they agreed to cut “Unbroken Horses” and “Human,” to make a total of twelve tracks.

Medulla always does a cover tune on each album, and when it came time to choose one for *Suits Me*, Floyd had a cool story to share.

“Jerrod, Matt and I had combed through 80s songs looking for the right one. Nothing was right. So, we made it all the way to the studio and had it narrowed down to two choices, but still no final decision. I’m standing beside Jerrod, and I hear him mutter, “I wish I could do “Drive” by The Cars.” My eyes got all big, and I told him that was it! That was the one. But, Jerrod hesitated because he’d heard Walt Wilkins play the song at a show recently and didn’t want to cut it, in case Walt wanted it for his next album.

“I told him that anyone could cut a cover song, but Jerrod wouldn’t budge. It wasn’t the first time I’d seen that ‘I’m not changing my mind look’ in Jerrod’s eyes. So, we got in touch with Walt and got the clearance Jerrod needed, and it turned out to be one of my favorite cuts on the album.”

It’s safe to say that Jerrod Medulla’s music is not country. It’s not exactly rock and not exactly pop. So how do you define it?

“I tell the DJ’s that it’s Texas Roots music,” Medulla said. “We are in such an awesome time in music because we’re in the biggest melting pot of genres.”

This could not be made more evident than with the songs represented on *Suits Me*.

For more about Jerrod Medulla and his live shows, visit [jerrodmedulla.com](http://jerrodmedulla.com).



Longtime friends, collaborated with him on the album, *Suits Me*, which hit the shelves in 2016. Now, two years later, has a #1 hit: Chuck Allen Floyd, Jerrod Medulla and Matt Nolen



**“Cheetah Case serving DFW  
for both new cases and repairs too,  
the Fastest name in cases!”**

**NEW LOCATION**

**Cheetah Case Co. LLC  
1204 Tappan • Carrollton, TX 75006  
[CheetahCaseco.com](http://CheetahCaseco.com)**

*Kerrie Lepai Jones Presents:  
Collective Souls Group Art Exhibit*

*Dec 15th 3pm to 6pm*

@

*Platinum Music Complex*

*2964 LBJ Freeway*

*Dallas, Texas 75234*

*There will be paintings, jewelry, leather work, photography  
& several other mediums. Come out & support DFW's local artist.*

*Come find a unique holiday gift*

**SUPPORT LOCAL ART**