

## Cowboy Johnson – Bio

Kent Johnson was born in Lancashire, England during 1953. At the time, his father was serving in the U.S. Air Force. When his parents returned to the States, it was to California. Growing up on the West Coast, with a penchant for singing, Kent was a member of the church choir and it was there that he learned to sing gospel music. At the age of 15, Kent's parents relocated to Minnesota. Leaving home the following year, Johnson ended up living in the Black Hills of South Dakota where he worked as a miner and occasionally played music. In the ensuing decades Johnson has been a painter, steelworker and carpenter, as well as a spare time musician. These days, he's also a certified instructor in the "New Warrior" training programme for men.

Kent adopted the pseudonym "Cowboy" some thirty years ago, and has the six letters boldly tattooed on his chest. Having been a casual musician for most of his life, in the process Johnson has learned hundreds and hundreds of songs. In 1996 Johnson relocated to Music City U.S.A. - Austin, Texas. Currently, Johnson lives in nearby Wimberley, and in late 2003, having renewed his friendship with Chris Gage, whom he first met in South Dakota, Johnson set about recording an album. Although Johnson has been known to pen a song or two, for over thirty years "Cowboy" had been a faithful Mickey Newbury fan. Newbury passed in late 2002 and it was to the Texan's music that "Cowboy" turned for his debut recording, in the main, to acknowledge the musical debt he felt he owed Newbury.

Produced by Chris Gage and recorded at MoonHouse Studio in Austin, with support from local players including Glenn Fukunaga [bass], Eddie Cantu [drums] as well as Gage and his vocalist/songwriter wife, Christine Albert, Johnson cut twelve Newbury songs for his solo debut, "**A Grain Of Sand.**" The recording was released in early 2004 by Gage and Albert's MoonHouse Record label. Currently Johnson mainly gigs in the Central Texas area, and has already appeared on The Austin Music Network's "Songwriters in the Round."

Johnson isn't the first carpenter to settle in Texas and *hang up* his tools and become a singer/songwriter. In that regard he's following in the footsteps of David Halley and Hal Ketchum.

Discography :

Solo : "**A Grain of Sand**" [2004] :

Arthur Wood

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