

A large crowd of people is gathered at a night concert. The scene is illuminated with vibrant purple and blue stage lights, creating a festive atmosphere. The crowd is dense, and the stage area is visible in the background with some structural elements of the venue. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

THE MOST FAMOUS MUSIC BANDS FROM THE UK

A photograph of the five members of the band Radiohead standing in a row against a dark, horizontally-slatted wooden wall. From left to right: Thom Yorke, who is looking off to the side, wearing a light blue shirt under a dark pinstriped jacket; Phil Selway, wearing a red t-shirt with a 'HIGH LOW' graphic and jeans, with his hands in his pockets; Jonny Greenwood, wearing a black V-neck sweater over a white shirt and jeans; Ed O'Brien, wearing a black t-shirt, glasses, and a watch, with his hands in his pockets; and Mike Wood, who is bald and wearing a black button-down shirt and jeans. The band's name 'RADIOHEAD' is superimposed in large, white, serif capital letters across the center of the image.

RADIOHEAD

It's British rock group that was arguably the most accomplished art-rock band of the early 21st century. This revered quintet made some of the most majestic - if most angst-saturated - music of the postmodern era.

Formed in the mid-1980s at Abingdon School in Oxfordshire, Radiohead comprised:

- singer-guitarist Thom Yorke (October 7, 1968, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, England)
- bassist Colin Greenwood (June 26, 1969, Oxford, Oxfordshire)
- guitarist Ed O'Brien (April 15, 1968, Oxford)
- drummer Phil Selway (May 23, 1967, Hemingford Grey, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire)
- guitarist-keyboardist Jonny Greenwood (November 5, 1971, Oxford).





STORY OF SUCCESS

- Debut album, “Pablo Honey” (1993), barely hinted at the grandeur to come, the startling single “Creep” - a grungy snarl of self-loathing -made major waves in the United States.
- The Bends (1995) took even the band’s most ardent fans by surprise. the album’s powerful sense of alienation completely transcended the parochial issues of mid-1990s Britpop.
- The band having concluded its six-album contract with the EMI Group in 2003, broke away from major label distribution and initially released its seventh album, In Rainbows (2007), via Internet download. An estimated 1.2 million fans downloaded the album within its first week of availability, paying any price they wished to do so. In Rainbows was released to retailers as a standard CD in 2008, and it immediately hit **number one** in both the United States and Great Britain
- After winning its third Grammy Award for the album, the group released the 2009 single “Harry Patch (In Memory Of),” a tribute to one of Britain’s last surviving World War I veterans.

CREEP

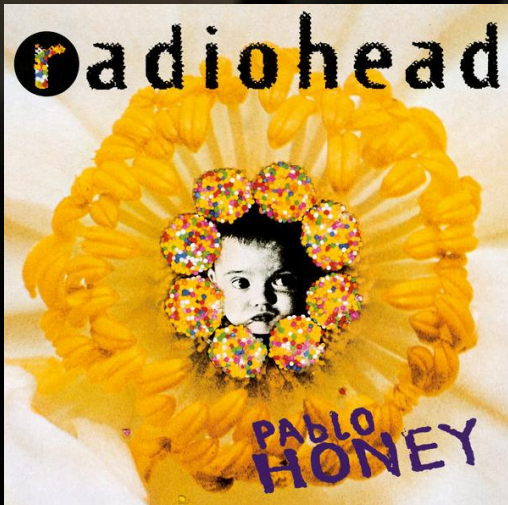
(THE MOST FAMOUS SONG)

The debut single "Creep" released on 21 September 1992. It was included as the second track of Radiohead's debut album "Pablo Honey" (1993). By mid-1993, it had become a hit in America. Radiohead were surprised by the success.

In the UK, album was released on 6 September 1993 and reached number seven, promoted with an appearance on the music programme Top of the Pops.

In June 2008, "Creep" re-entered the UK singles chart at number 37. As of April 2019, in the UK, it was the most streamed song released in 1992, with 10.1 million streams.

On 23 April 2024, "Creep" surpassed 1 billion views on YouTube. It remains Radiohead's most successful single.

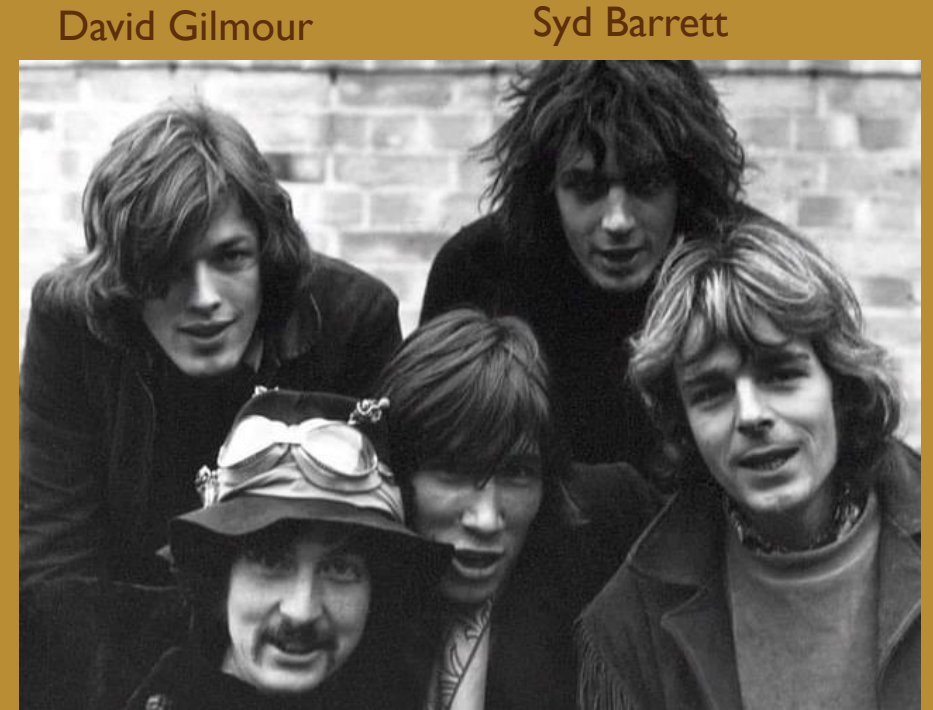


PINK FLOYD

It's British rock band at the forefront of 1960s psychedelia who later popularized the concept album for mass rock audiences in the 1970s.

The principal members of Pink Floyd were:

- lead guitarist Syd Barrett (original name Roger Keith Barrett; b. January 6, 1946, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, England - d. July 7, 2006, Cambridge)
- bassist Roger Waters (b. September 6, 1943, Great Bookham, Surrey)
- drummer Nick Mason (b. January 27, 1945, Birmingham, West Midlands)
- keyboard player Rick Wright (in full Richard Wright; b. July 28, 1945, London - d. September 15, 2008, London)
- guitarist David Gilmour (b. March 6, 1944, Cambridge).



David Gilmour

Syd Barrett

Nick Mason

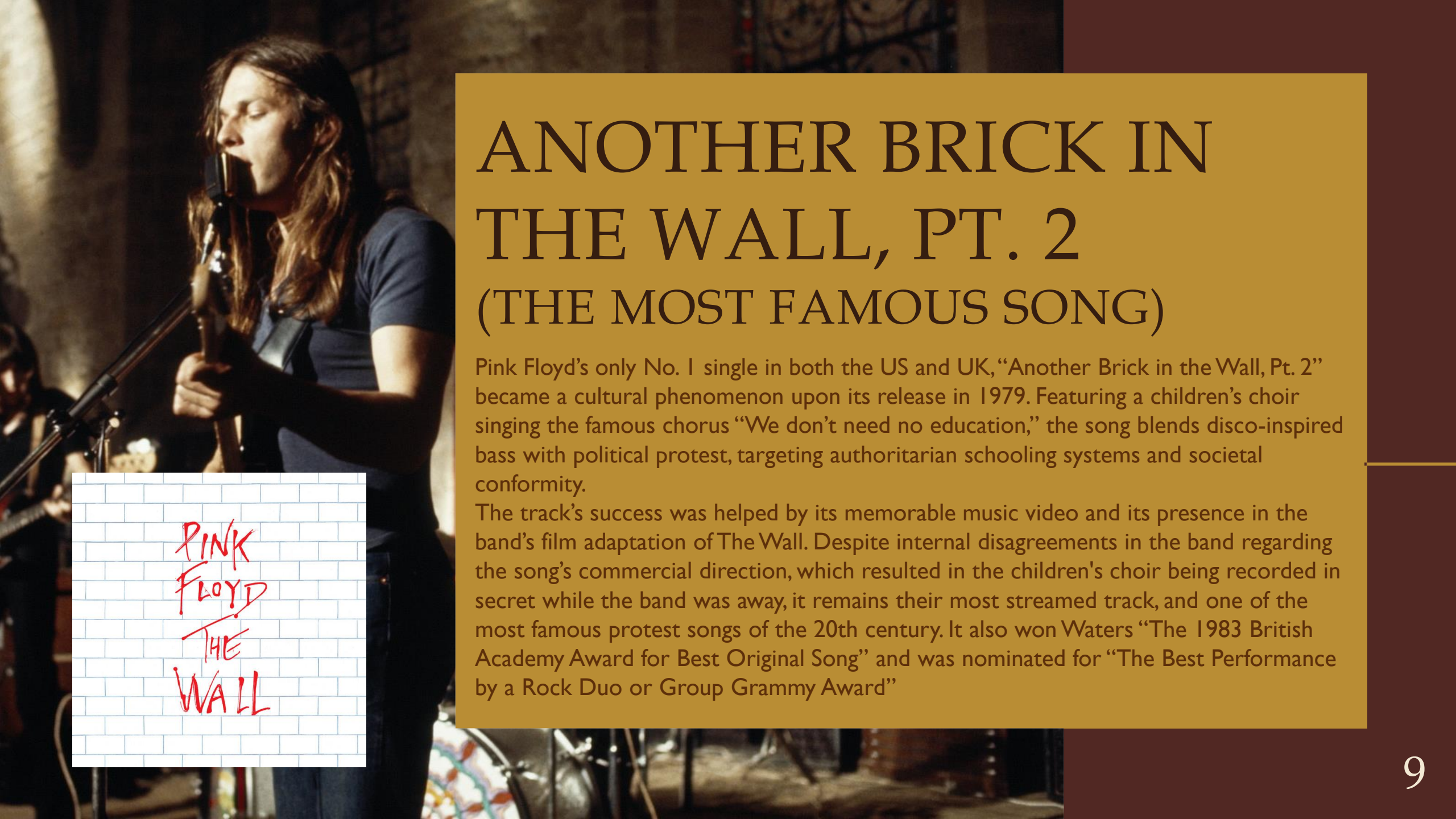
Roger Waters

Rick Wright



STORY OF SUCCESS

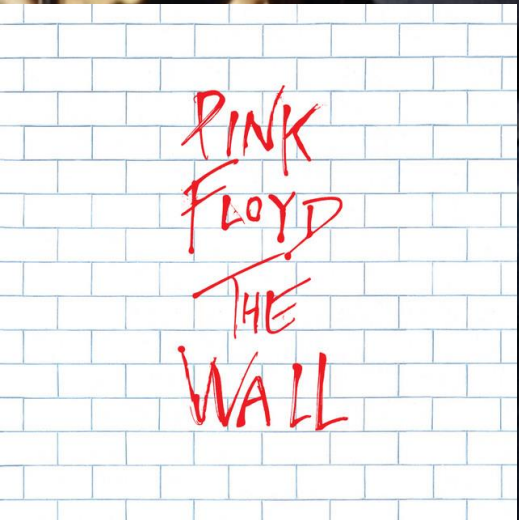
- Formed in 1965, the band went through several name changes before combining the first names of a pair of Carolina bluesmen, Pink Anderson and Floyd Council.
- They signed with EMI and early in 1967 had their first British hit with the controversial "Arnold Layne," a song about a transvestite. This was followed by their debut album, "The Piper at the Gates of Dawn" a lush, experimental record that has since become a rock classic.
- By 1968 Barrett, who had overused LSD and was struggling with schizophrenia, was replaced by guitarist Gilmour.
- After recording a series of motion-picture soundtrack albums, they entered the American charts with "Atom Heart Mother" (1970) and Meddle (1971).
- They hit the commercial jackpot with "The Dark Side of the Moon" (1973). A bleak treatise on death and emotional breakdown underlined by Waters's dark songwriting, it sent Pink Floyd soaring into the megastar bracket and remained in the American pop charts for more than a decade. The follow-up, "Wish You Were Here" (1975) includes "Shine On You Crazy Diamond," a song for Barrett, and, though it went to number one in both the United States and Britain, it was considered anticlimactic and pompous by many critics.
- By the release of "Animals" (1977), it was clear that Waters had become the band's dominant influence, and there was increasing internal conflict within Pink Floyd. Their sense of alienation was profoundly illustrated by the tour for 1979's best-selling album "The Wall", for which a real brick wall was built between the group and the audience during performance. After the appropriately named The Final Cut (1983), Pink Floyd became inactive, and legal wrangles ensued over ownership of the band's name. Waters, who dismissed Wright after The Wall and took over most of the songwriting, was even more firmly in control. As a result the band split, but, much to Waters's chagrin, Gilmour, Mason, and Wright reunited, continuing as Pink Floyd.
- In the late 1980s Wright, Gilmour, and Mason released two albums, including the ponderous "A Momentary Lapse of Reason" (1987) and "The Division Bell" (1994), while Waters pursued a solo career.
- Waters reunited with his former bandmates for a single performance at the Live 8 benefit concert in 2005. Gilmour and Mason later used recordings made with Wright (who died in 2008) to create what they said was the final Pink Floyd album "The Endless River" (2014). Pink Floyd was inducted into the "Rock and Roll Hall of Fame" in 1996.

A background image of a Pink Floyd band member performing on stage, singing into a microphone. The scene is dimly lit with stage lights.

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL, PT. 2 (THE MOST FAMOUS SONG)

Pink Floyd's only No. 1 single in both the US and UK, "Another Brick in the Wall, Pt. 2" became a cultural phenomenon upon its release in 1979. Featuring a children's choir singing the famous chorus "We don't need no education," the song blends disco-inspired bass with political protest, targeting authoritarian schooling systems and societal conformity.

The track's success was helped by its memorable music video and its presence in the band's film adaptation of *The Wall*. Despite internal disagreements in the band regarding the song's commercial direction, which resulted in the children's choir being recorded in secret while the band was away, it remains their most streamed track, and one of the most famous protest songs of the 20th century. It also won Waters "The 1983 British Academy Award for Best Original Song" and was nominated for "The Best Performance by a Rock Duo or Group Grammy Award"

A graphic of a white brick wall with the text "PINK FLOYD THE WALL" written in red, stylized, hand-painted letters.

PINK
FLOYD
THE
WALL



THE ROLLING STONES

No rock band has sustained consistent activity and global popularity for as long as the Rolling Stones, who, more than 60 years after their formation, are still capable of filling the largest stadiums in the world.

Formed in England in 1962, the group comprised:

- Mick Jagger (b. July 26, 1943, Dartford, Kent, England)
- Keith Richards (b. December 18, 1943, Dartford)
- Brian Jones (born February 28, 1942, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire – d. July 3, 1969, Hartfield, Sussex)
- Bill Wyman (b. October 24, 1936, London)
- Charlie Watts (b. June 2, 1941, London - d. August 24, 2021, London)

Later members

- Mick Taylor (b. January 17, 1948, Hereford, East Hereford and Worcester)
- Ron Wood (b. June 1, 1947, London)
- Darryl Jones (b. December 11, 1961, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.)

Charlie Watts

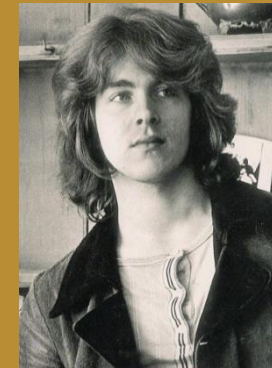
Keith Richards



Mick Jagger

Brian Jones

Bill Wyman



Mick Taylor



Ron Wood



Darryl Jones



STORY OF SUCCESS

- Formed in London as an alliance between Jagger, Richards, and multi-instrumentalist Brian Jones along with Watts and bassist Bill Wyman, the Stones began as a grubby conclave of students and bohemians playing a then-esoteric music based on Chicago blues in pubs and clubs in and around West London. Their potential for mass-market success seemed negligible at first, but by 1965 they were second to the Beatles in the collective affection of teenage Britain.
- The Stones' early repertoire consisted primarily of recycled gems from the catalogs of the blues and rock-and-roll titans of the 1950s: their first five singles and the bulk of their first two albums were composed by others. The turning point was reached when, spurred on by the example of the Beatles' John Lennon and Paul McCartney, Jagger and Richards began composing their own songs, which not only ensured the long-term viability of the band but also served to place the Jagger-Richards team firmly in creative control of the group.
- The Jagger-Richards songwriting team created its first bona fide classic, "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction," in 1965 and enjoyed a string of innovative hit singles well into 1966, including "Paint It Black," "19th Nervous Breakdown," "Get Off of My Cloud," "Have You Seen Your Mother, Baby," and "Lady Jane," but the era of art-pop and psychedelia, which coincided with the Beatles' creative peak, represented a corresponding trough for the Stones.
- However, as the mood of the time darkened, the Stones hit a new stride in 1968 with the epochal single "Jumpin' Jack Flash," which reconnected them to their blues-rock roots, and the album "Beggars Banquet". Replacing Jones with the virtuosic but self-effacing guitarist Mick Taylor, they returned to the road in 1969, almost instantly becoming rock's premier touring attraction.
- The period between "Jumpin' Jack Flash" and the double album "Exile on Main St." (1972) remains the Stones' creative and iconic peak. The studio albums "Let It Bleed" (1969) and "Sticky Fingers" (1971) plus the in-concert "Get Yer Ya-Ya's Out!" (1970) gave them the repertoire and image that still defines them and on which they have continued to trade ever since.
- The quality of their music began to decline after Exile on Main St. They even briefly disbanded in the late 1980s after a public spat between Jagger and Richards. Both leaders recorded solo albums that performed relatively poorly in the marketplace, though Richards's work was significantly more favorably reviewed than Jagger's.
- Disputes settled, the Stones reconvened in 1989 for their "Steel Wheels" album and tour. Wyman retired in 1992 and was replaced on tour by Darryl Jones.
- In 2012 the band celebrated its 50th anniversary with concerts in England and the United States. That year also saw the release of the retrospective documentary Crossfire Hurricane.

PAINT IT BLACK

(THE MOST FAMOUS SONG)

A product of the songwriting partnership of Mick Jagger and Keith Richards. London Records released the song as a single on 7 May 1966 in the United States, and Decca Records released it on 13 May in the United Kingdom.

A pivotal moment for The Rolling Stones was 'Paint It Black', a song about the fallout from a sudden and unexpected death that segued into a new, edgier era for the band and their output, moving away from the blues covers which ignited their career.

The dark, Eastern-inspired psychedelic sound - complete with sitar - is now widely considered one of their greatest ever compositions.

It was a huge success at the time of release in 1966, topping the charts in the US and the UK, and to this day is their most streamed song.





THE BEATLES

The Beatles were four young musicians from the working-class seaport city of Liverpool, England, who accomplished nothing less than changing the course of rock and roll and transforming youth culture.

British rock group that came to personify the counterculture of the 1960s. Its principal members, all born in Liverpool, England:

- John Lennon (b. October 9, 1940 Liverpool, England – d. December 8, 1980, New York, US)
- Paul McCartney (b. June 18, 1942, Liverpool, England)
- George Harrison (b. February 25, 1943, Liverpool, England – d. November 29, 2001, Los Angeles, California, US)
- Ringo Starr (b. July 7, 1940, Liverpool, England)

Paul McCartney

Ringo Starr



George Harrison

John Lennon



STORY OF SUCCESS

- Stuart Sutcliffe, an art college friend of John and band member, suggested that the band name should be Beatals, as a tribute to Buddy Holly and the Crickets. They used this name until May of 1959, where they went to the Silver Beetles, the Silver Beatles and then in August, shortened to simply The Beatles.
- On 11th February 1963, The Beatles recorded ten songs during a single studio session for their debut album "Please Please Me". After the positive reaction to their first single "Love Me Do", the single "Please Please Me" was met with a bigger reaction, and reached number one on every UK chart except Record Retailer, where it reached number two.
- August 1960, their unofficial manager Allan Williams had booked a residency for the band in Hamburg, but without a full-time drummer, they had to audition for a new band member. They auditioned and hired Pete Best in the same month.
- After a 5-day tour in Sweden, the band was met by hundreds of screaming fans and around 100 journalists and photographers. Due to the fans, police had to resort to using high-pressure water hoses at a concert in Plymouth.
- "Please Please Me" maintained at the top of the charts for 30 weeks, to be displaced with its follow up, "With the Beatles".
- In 1964, The Beatles made their US debut on "The Ed Sullivan Show" on 9th February 1964 – where around 74 million viewers (around half of the US population) watched the performance.
- The Beatles' songs filled the top 5 places on the American Top 40 chart, a feat which has, to this day, never been matched.
- The band stopped touring in 1966 as they were getting tired of the audience screaming so loudly that the music couldn't be heard. It marked the end of four years of non-stop touring, and a total of 1,400 appearances internationally.
- After tensions between the band members grew after disagreements over who would manage their finances, on 20th September 1969, Lennon announced that he would leave the band. It was agreed that he would withhold an announcement to the public, avoiding the potential drop in sales of their upcoming album. This important event is documented in our 1969 timeline, joined with other iconic moments that happened in that year.



SHE LOVES YOU

(THE MOST FAMOUS SONG)

While Beatles reissues come out every year or so now, littered with demos and outtakes, 'She Loves You' will remain a perfect pop moment with almost no explanation.

It was recorded on July 1, 1963 and mixed on July 4, a week after it was written. Not only aren't there any tapes of the sessions, or the original two-track stereo recording which was unbelievably binned after it was mixed down, there aren't even any proper records of the sessions. The unbridled joy and power of 'She Loves You' just *is*.

Released as a standalone single at the end of summer of 1963, it topped the charts in the UK and US and maybe marked the moment Beatlemania became a phenomenon.



QUEEN

It's a British rock band whose fusion of heavy metal, glam rock, and camp theatrics made it one of the most popular groups of the 1970s.

The members were:

- Freddie Mercury (original name Farrokh Bulsara; b. September 5, 1946, Stone Town, Zanzibar [now in Tanzania]—d. November 24, 1991, Kensington, London, England)
- Brian May (b. July 19, 1947, Twickenham, Middlesex, England)
- John Deacon (b. August 19, 1951, Leicester, Leicestershire, England)
- Roger Taylor (original name Roger Meddows-Taylor; b. July 26, 1949, King's Lynn, Norfolk, England).

Brian May

John Deacon



Freddie Mercury

Roger Taylor



STORY OF SUCCESS

- Members of two bands composed of university and art-school students combined to form Queen in London in 1971. Aided by producer Roy Thomas Baker.
- Queen first charted in the UK with their second album "Queen II" in 1974. "Sheer Heart Attack" later that year and "A Night at the Opera" in 1975 brought them international success.
- The band's 1977 album "News of the World" contained "We Will Rock You" and "We Are the Champions", which have become anthems at sporting events.
- By the early 1980s, Queen were one of the biggest stadium rock bands in the world.
- "Another One Bites the Dust" from The Game (1980) became their best-selling single, and their 1981 compilation album "Greatest Hits" is the best-selling album in the UK and is certified 9x Platinum in the US by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA).
- Their performance at the 1985 Live Aid concert is ranked among the greatest in rock history by various publications.
- In August 1986, Mercury gave his last performance with Queen at Knebworth, England.

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

(THE MOST FAMOUS SONG)

Gold listeners have consistently voted 'Bohemian Rhapsody' the greatest song of all time, with the track topping our Top 300 year after year, and who are we to argue?

Written by Freddie, it's a six-minute epic suite without a chorus, mashing up hard rock, opera and swooning balladry, it absolutely shouldn't work, but completely does.

Released in October 1975, it topped the UK singles chart for nine weeks and was the standout not just of that year's "A Night At The Opera" album, but maybe Queen's whole career.

It went top 10 in the US, and reached the UK summit again in 1991 after Freddie's death, and has shifted the equivalent 10 MILLION units, and is certified diamond.

Given a second life in 1992 with that headbanging car scene in *Wayne's World* (not that it needed it), it's an absolute masterpiece.



THANK YOU!



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