

## Foreigner



On September 13th, 2017 *Foreigner's* catalog sales were celebrated in **Business Insider** magazine as hitting the Top 40 among the Best Selling Music Artists of All Time. The Beatles were justifiably #1, but *Foreigner* came in ahead of Britney Spears, Bob Dylan, Phil Collins, Prince, Queen, Bon Jovi and Def Leppard.

With ten multi-platinum albums and sixteen Top 30 hits, *Foreigner* is universally hailed as one of the most popular rock acts in the world with a formidable musical arsenal that continues to propel sold-out tours and album sales, now exceeding 75 million.

Responsible for some of rock and roll's most enduring anthems including Juke Box Hero, Cold As Ice, Hot Blooded, Waiting For A Girl Like You, Feels Like The First Time, Urgent, Head Games, Say You Will, Dirty White Boy, Long, Long Way From Home and the worldwide #1 hit, I Want To Know What Love Is, *Foreigner* continues to rock the charts more than 40 years into the game with massive airplay and continued Billboard Top 200 album success. *Foreigner* also features strongly in every category in Billboard's Greatest of All Time listing. Catalog sales often eclipse those of Led Zeppelin, AC/DC, the Rolling Stones, the Who, Def Leppard, Van Halen, Aerosmith and most of their Classic Rock peers. (Source: Nielsen SoundScan week ending 8/3/17).

Founded in 1976, *Foreigner's* debut album produced the hits "Feels Like The First Time," "Cold As Ice" and "Long, Long Way From Home." The album *Double Vision* followed, as did a string of hits like "Urgent," "Juke Box Hero" and "Waiting For A Girl Like You." Those songs helped give *Foreigner's* next album, *4*, its impressive run at #1 on the Billboard chart. At the zenith of 80's sound, *Foreigner's* fifth album, *Agent Provocateur*, gave the world the incredible #1 global hit, "I Want To Know What Love Is." This musical milestone followed the record-breaking song "Waiting For A Girl Like You."

At *Foreigner's* core is the founder and Songwriters Hall of Fame member **Mick Jones**, the visionary maestro whose stylistic songwriting, indelible guitar hooks and multi-layered talents continue to escalate *Foreigner's* influence and guide the band to new horizons. He reformed the band after a 2002 hiatus and selected lead singer **Kelly Hansen** to help write an inspired new chapter in the history of Foreigner. One of rock's greatest showmen, **Hansen** is known for his innate ability to connect with the crowds. As a front man and lead vocalist, **Hansen** is among the most respected, consummate professionals in rock and roll. With a 35-year career that spans almost every area of music, from the role of lead vocalist to producing and engineering, **Kelly** has the unique ability to advance and excel when faced with new challenges.

**Mick** also brought in bassist **Jeff Pilson**, multi-instrumentalist **Tom Gimbel**, guitarist **Bruce Watson**, **Michael Bluestein** on keyboards, and **Chris Frazier** on drums. An unprecedented new level of energy led the group to a re-emergence of astounding music that speaks to long time *Foreigner* fans and younger generations. With renewed vitality and direction, *Foreigner* hit the Billboard charts again with the 2005 release of their live greatest hits album, *Extended Versions*. *Can't Slow Down* followed in 2009 and entered the Billboard chart in the Top 30, driven by two Top 20 radio singles, "In Pieces" and "When It Comes To Love." To follow was the release of the band's 3-disc set, *Feels Like The First Time*, which included an acoustic CD with an intimate and unique re-interpretation of many *Foreigner* classics, studio re-records by the new lineup and a live performance DVD showcasing the group's exceptional live energy.

*Foreigner* experienced another surge in popularity when several of their hits were featured on the *Rock of Ages* soundtrack, including "I Want To Know What Love Is," "Juke Box Hero" and "Waiting For A Girl Like You" – more songs than any other one band on the soundtrack. Hollywood quickly took note, and several more tracks were featured in hit films "Anchorman 2," "Magic Mike" and "Pitch Perfect," sending *Foreigner* downloads up 400%. The video game industry was soon to follow with the blockbuster release, "Grand Theft Auto V".

Downloads continued to soar after their worldwide #1 hit "I Want To Know What Love Is" was featured as the 2015 season finale end title of "Orange Is The New Black." *Foreigner* hits have also recently been included in such primetime TV shows as "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" and "The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon," among others. Hot Blooded is on the trailer for the *Angry Birds* movie and has been streamed more than 6 million times. The high visibility of *Foreigner's* songs continues to introduce the band's music to a whole future generation of fans, exemplified by Jack Black's version of "Juke Box Hero" in *Kung Fu Panda 3*. "I Want To Know What Love Is" featured in the summer 2017 box-office #1 "The Hitman's Bodyguard" and "Waiting For A Girl Like You" is featured in Netflix's "Stranger Things".

In June 2013, **Mick Jones** was inducted to the Songwriters Hall Of Fame. A multi-talented and multi-dimensional "musician's musician," Jones has also written songs such as "Bad Love" with **Eric Clapton** and "Dreamer" with **Ozzy Osbourne**, and produced records for others including **Billy Joel's** *Storm Front* and **Van Halen's** *5150*. A Grammy and Golden Globe-nominated songwriter, **Jones** is the winner of the prestigious British Ivor Novello Songwriter Award for "The Flame Still Burns", the soundtrack music for the film *Still Crazy*.

In May 2014, Atlantic Records Chairman Craig Kallman presented **Mick Jones** with RIAA gold and platinum digital awards for six *Foreigner* songs. These awards signify 500,000 and 1,000,000 downloads of *Foreigner* hits. That is more individual awards than any other heritage rock band, and an illustration of *Foreigner's* resonance in the digital era.

The year continued with *Foreigner's* headline run in The Soundtrack of Summer US amphitheater tour. The hits compilation album of the same name was released to

coincide with the tour and immediately hit the Billboard Top 200 chart, peaking at #64. For most weeks during the tour, *Juke Box Heroes* joined *The Soundtrack Of Summer* in the Billboard Top 200 making *Foreigner* the only Classic Rock band to have such a remarkable presence in today's chart.

*Foreigner* made headlines again in the summer of 2015 while gaining legions of new fans by joining mega act **Kid Rock** on his "Cheap Date: First Kiss Tour," rocking amphitheatres and stadiums across the United States.

*Foreigner* kicked off 2016 with a much hailed unplugged appearance on **The Today Show** on February 11th followed by a short run of New York area sold out acoustic shows culminating with an epic concert at **The Lincoln Center** as part of the acclaimed *American Songbook Series*. These appearances coincided with the release of *Foreigner's* first ever live acoustic album *In Concert: Unplugged*. The band's royalties are donated to JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) and the album is available exclusively via Amazon. *Foreigner* recorded this unique acoustic album at a once-in-a-lifetime private concert hosted by Edsel B. Ford II on August 24, 2015 at the Ford Motor Company Conference & Event Center in Detroit, MI. In October 2016, *Foreigner* performed for the very first time at New York's iconic **Carnegie Hall** with a sold out acoustic show. The show highlighted the band's ongoing relationship with the GRAMMY Museum's initiative to promote music education in our nation's schools. It included an a cappella contest among New York high schools who competed for a \$5,000 prize donated by the band.

2017 marked the celebration of *Foreigner's* 40th anniversary. It commenced with a European tour that included *Foreigner* performing orchestral versions of the hits with the 21st Century Symphony Orchestra in Lucerne, Switzerland. The Warner Music Group released a double CD set '40', which includes 40 songs recorded between 1977 and 2017. The album features two tracks recorded especially for this release, 'Give My Life For Love' and a new version of 'I Don't Want To Live Without You.' The album spent nine weeks in the Billboard Top 200 chart. The US anniversary headline tour played 40 shows across the United States where the band was supported by Cheap Trick and Jason Bonham's Led Zeppelin Experience.

*Foreigner* is one of the most viewed YouTube artists with anywhere between 700,000 and 900,000 weekly viewings of their songs (Source: Next Big Sound).