HOWARD JONES - 'DIALOGUE' RELEASED ON DTOX RECORDS SEPTEMBER 9th 2022.



On September 9th 2022 Howard Jones releases a brand new electronic album, entitled 'Dialogue'

Dialogue follows the critically acclaimed 2019 release 'Transform'. 10 years ago Howard embarked on a project where he challenged himself to record and self release four new electronic albums. At the very beginning the album titles were decided as 'Engage', 'Transform', 'Dialogue' and 2023 will see the final album 'Global Citizen'.

'Dialogue was musically conceived during the pandemic and lockdown but I really didn't want to commit to any lyrics during that time out of fear that they maybe a bit down beat (not my style!)' states Howard on the new album. 'I started lyrics as things were returning to normal and I wanted them to reflect the themes of how important it is for us to communicate and talk, address our lack of confidence emerging from the isolation, and reminding ourselves of how amazing it is to be alive now even though our world is going through unprecedented existential threats.'

Released on Howard's own record label Dtox Records the first single was 'I Believe In You'. This has been followed by 'My One True Love' and 'Who You Really Want To Be'. 'Formed By The Stars' will be released in July. The album will be launched with the lead single 'Celebrate' in September, a song which Howard wrote with the idea of being 'the most optimistic song I have ever written'

Howard's label Dtox has always been innovative in how to fund and release new music in the modern streaming era. A special signed and numbered boxed set will be available on the forthcoming Dialogue US tour and via Howard's website howardjones.com. There will also be a vinyl release along with special collectors lathe cut singles, a special fan event and hand written lyrics.



Howard will be touring Dialogue along with his greatest hits in the US with his good friend Midge Ure this summer. The 42 date tour commences June 17th. Howard will also tour Dialogue in Europe in November. In the UK Howard wil be touring with the Acoustic Trio in some intimate venues in October, with a yet to be announced 40th Anniversary tour in 2023 in the UK.



'We need to work hard to find common ground with so much polarisation in 2022. We need to talk, discuss and find common ground. The way we find this is by being courageous and having Dialogue and not shutting the door on each other.' Howard Jones on the lyrics of his album 'Dialogue'

All enquires for Dtox Records: Joseph Stopps - josephstopps@mac.com // +44(0)7947 754839

For Germany: michael.golla@india-media.de

For North America: 917-301-6664 or cyatter@gmail.com
To access publicity images of Howard Jones, please visit: www.howardjones.com/press/index.html

For more information on *Howard Jones*, please visit: <u>www.howardjones.com</u>

HOWARD JONES FULL BIOGRAPHY BELOW

Howard Jones Biography.

Howard Jones' career has always been about the big picture. The singer, songwriter and keyboardist's songs explore universal themes including enlightenment, transcendence, and seeing past one's struggles in order to embrace the wider horizon beyond it. He's sold over 8 million albums and had 15 top-40 global singles. And while his music often overflows with addictive pop hooks, soaring vocals and creative arrangements, when you dig deeper, you'll find those larger perspectives embedded within.

Jones remains a household name for anyone who grew up in the '80s and '90s. Global hits including "Things Can Only Get Better," "No One is to Blame," "What is Love?" and "New Song" are permanent parts of the pop culture tapestry of the era. Major movies and television shows including *Breaking Bad, Stranger Things, Bumblebee, GLOW, Eddie the Eagle, Halt and Catch Fire,* and *Everybody Hates Chris* have featured them in recent times. His 1984 debut album *Human's Lib* and the 1985 follow-up *Dream into Action* continue to transcend generations, with super-deluxe reissues on Cherry Red Records selling out based on pre-orders alone.

"I think the '80s work continues to resonate because it offers little chunks of philosophy to listeners," said Jones. "People have taken the lyrics to heart and they've become part of who they are. It's why I've always got a connection to my fans. There are people who say art can't change the world, but that's not my view. I think music and lyrics can have a profound effect on people. Otherwise, what's the point in doing it?"

Jones is a keyboard and electronica pioneer. From the dawn of his career in the early '80s, he integrated cutting edge analog synths and samplers of the era, including now-classic Roland, Moog, Simmons, and Emulator keyboards. People were so fascinated by Jones' approach that he was asked to take part in the 1985 Grammy Awards, where he performed alongside Stevie Wonder, Herbie Hancock, and Thomas Dolby, affirming his enormous influence on the global music scene.

Perhaps the biggest signifier of Jones' cultural impact at the time was his appearance at the UK Live Aid show at Wembley Stadium in July 1985, during which he played a solo piano version of "Hide and Seek" that was broadcast to 1.9 billion viewers—40 percent of the Earth's population.

Since those halcyon days, Jones' musical approach has dramatically expanded and evolved. In addition to electronic pop output, he's explored the realms of solo piano, string quartets, minimalism, and choral music. Much of that work has been released on his own label Dtox, which he established in 1993 to maximize creative freedom and ensure close contact with his worldwide fan base. Dtox featured many innovations countless artists have since gone on to embrace. Jones was the first musician to make recordings of shows available to fans immediately after the gig. He created personalized piano solos for fans. The packaging of Dtox recordings have also included lavish books and bespoke artwork.

"I'm very grateful for having the launch pad of a major label at the start of my career," said Jones. "I had a name in many territories around the world, which gave me a great head start. But with Dtox I could make any record I wanted to make. I was in charge of every creative element. When you're your own boss, you're responsible for getting into the studio, producing the work, getting on tour, and doing all the things you need to do. It really developed me as a person."

In 2001, Jones received an unexpected call from Ringo Starr who asked him to tour as part of his All-Starr Band that year, together with Sheila E, Roger Hodgson, Ian Hunter, and Greg Lake.

"Playing with Ringo was one of the most amazing experiences of my life," said Jones. "In addition to playing Beatles classics, I was asked to play keyboards on some Emerson, Lake and Palmer material like 'Karn Evil 9' and 'Lucky Man.' Playing those songs was like paying back a debt of gratitude to Keith Emerson for being such a great inspiration for my keyboard playing."

In the mid-to-late 2000s, Jones released two career highlights: 2005's *Revolution of the Heart* and 2009's *Ordinary Heroes*. The former saw Jones revisiting the buoyant electronic direction of his early work. The latter showcased Jones' songwriting at its most personally revealing, with string and choir arrangements.

He unveiled *Engage* in 2015. It was an expansive, interactive experience that crisscrossed myriad disciplines. It's part boundary-breaking album, film, mobile app, book, and live performance. Musically, it brought together the worlds of pop, electronica, contemporary classical, and ambient. *Engage* marked the beginning of a planned four-part series. The second

chapter, *Transform*, released in 2019, includes three collaborations with the celebrated American electronica musician and producer BT. The third release 'Dialogue' is due for release September 9th 2022 with 'Global Citizen' planned for release on his 40th anniversary year since the release of New Song.

"Engage explored the idea that virtual life is okay and a digital link between us will do fine sometimes, but our development as human beings comes from actually being around one another. It's what defines us and pushes us forward. We can't exist on our own in a vacuum. There's no chance for development if we do. Transform discusses the idea that if we want to change the world for the benefit of everyone, first we have to start with ourselves. The third one is Dialogue, which will be about the fact that we have to talk and thrash things out in order to communicate at the most profound level."

His influence on newer generations of musicians is substantial. In 2013, French house music artist Cedric Gervais released a new version of "Things Can Only Get Better" featuring Jones on vocals, which spent 14 weeks in the top 40 of the *Billboard* dance charts. Dutch DJ and producer Ferry Corsten released the electronic dance track "Into the Dark" featuring Jones in 2008 to worldwide acclaim. Eric Prydz, the Swiss DJ and producer, remixed "Things Can Only Get Better" and retitled it "And Do You Feel Scared," which appeared on the 2006 *FIFA World Cup* video game. Dance mixes of 'The One To Love You' by lifelike charted well in the dance charts in 2019.

Jones regularly performs over 80 shows a year worldwide in varied formats. His full electric band features keyboardist and programmer Robbie Bronnimann, keyboardist and drummer Dan Burton, Nick Beggs on chapman stick and bass and guitarist Robin Boult. It delivers hard-hitting, four-to-the-floor versions of material from across his career. A recent highlight show was a sell out performance at London Palladium in 2019. He also plays in an acoustic trio with Boult and Nick Beggs. A live version recording of the trio performing at Union Chapel in 2021 was released on Howard's label Dtox. A UK tour is scheduled for 2022. A special series of shows is being planned for 2023 to celebrate 40 years since his debut release, 'New Song'.

"The performance formats are different, but they're all related," said Jones. "Music created using software, computers and keyboards is entirely connected to music played solo on piano. Some people criticize electronic music as people pushing buttons and claim there's no emotion. But a piano is also a series of switches and playing it well is about learning how to press the switches in a very precise way. What all the formats have in common is that there's a lot of freedom and flexibility. There are also elements of risk and improvisation. Regardless of the format, I'm always extending pieces, mixing up elements and incorporating audience interaction. The shows are about the creativity that's brought to the instruments being played, not the instruments themselves. My goal is simply to move the audience, no matter what the format is."

Jones' music is significantly influenced by spirituality. He has a wide-open perspective inclusive of a multitude of worldviews. He believes different faiths and paths are complementary, including his focus as a practicing Buddhist for more than 20 years.

"Buddhism is a central part of my life that influences everything, including how I behave towards other people," said Jones. "Buddhism promotes the idea of absolutely respecting every single person, as well as respecting oneself. When you start from that point of view, it helps create harmonious situations around you, including with my band, managers, and other people involved in what I do, as well as with my audiences."

One constant has remained across Jones' four-decade career: using music as a force for good.

"I want to make a real contribution to people's lives," said Jones. "I believe music is almost unfairly powerful in the sense that you can really get into someone's head with it. It provides an entry into people's consciousness. If you're going to have that power, I feel you should put it to good use. Life is just a crazy thing to be involved in. I feel it's my job to make great music that supports people in some way and helps them get through it."