

## JOHN OATES... Q&A (2022)

- Are there any plans for a new studio album before the autumn tour? The last album 'Arkansas' was released in 2018

BUT WE ARE PLANNING TO RELEASE A "LIVE" ALBUM FROM OUR U.S. TOUR

- Will there be a duet whilst on tour with Beth Hart?

NO PLANS RIGHT NOW BUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS COULD HAPPEN NATURALLY ONCE WE BEGIN TO TOUR TOGETHER

- How did the constellation Beth Hart / John Oates come to be?

I AM A BIG FAN OF BETH AND HER MUSIC...WE HAVE A LOT OF MUTUAL FRIENDS AND PEOPLE WHO WORK WITH US.

- On the record 'Arkansas' you had The Good Road Band in the studio. A lovely Americana album, that reminds a little of John Mellencamp or JOHN HIATT. Will some of these songs be featured in your live set? And how will your set be compiled?

YES WE WILL DO SOME SONGS FROM THE "ARKANSAS" ALBUM FOR SURE AND SOME OTHER ORIGINAL SOLO SONGS AS WELL AS SOME HALL & OATES HITS.

- You will be performing as a duo with Guthrie Trapp front Nashville. Might there be a "Trapp & Oates" album in the future? You harmonize brilliantly in the acoustic setting.

GUTHRIE AND I LOVE PLAYING TOGETHER AND HAVE FOR OVER 15 YEARS...WE ARE TALKING ABOUT RECORDING SOME NEW SONGS VERY SOON.

- You don't tour Germany often. Between the 2 shows in 2019 and the previous were almost 2 decades. Why is that?

DUE TO SOME MANAGEMENT AND RECORD COMPANY ISSUES THE EMPHASIS WAS ALWAYS TO TOUR IN THE U.S. THIS IS SOMETHING I REGRET AND MAKES THIS NEW TOUR SO EXCITING FOR ME. I HAVE SOME GREAT GERMAN FRIENDS AND LOOK FORWARD TO PLAYING AGAIN !

- Almost exactly 50 years ago you and Daryl Hall signed your first record deal. Since then you and Daryl were regulars in the US Billboard charts. Will you be presenting some of these songs of the past 5 decades on the upcoming autumn tour?

YES I WILL DO SOME H&O HITS FOR SURE BUT I WANT TO SHOWCASE SOME OF THE MORE ROOTS AND BLUES STYLES THAT WERE IMPORTANT TO ME GROWING UP WAY BEFORE I MET DARYL HALL.

- On 'Arkansas' there are many Country / Americana influences. Have you always had this style of music in your blood?

YOU MUST REALIZE THAT I WAS SINGING AND PLAYING GUITAR FOR OVER 10 YEARS BEFORE I STARTED WORKING AS HALL & OATES. MY INFLUENCES ARE DEEP INTO THE AMERICANA ROOTS AND BLUES ... THIS WAS THE MUSIC I GREW UP WITH AND IS VERY IMPORTANT AS PART OF MY MUSICAL D.N.A.

- Your name will always stand in connection with Daryl. "I can't go for that", "Maneater" and "Out Of Touch" are absolute classics. Especially the 80s were your golden times. Your first solo album 'Phunk Shui' was released in 2002. Also an anniversary. At the beginning more funk/soul orientated - today more of a country sound. An interesting musical mix. How do you see your musical development yourself?

I AM NOT VERY CONCERNED WITH MUSICAL STYLES AND TRENDS... I HAVE A VERY WIDE APPRECIATION FOR ALL TYPES OF SOUNDS. MUCH OF THE MUSIC I MAKE IS INFLUENCED BY THE PEOPLE I WORK WITH AND THE PLACES I LIVE AND WORK. NASHVILLE HAS BEEN A MAJOR INSPIRATION FOR ME... TO BE ABLE TO CREATE WITH A CITY FULL OF AMAZING TALENTED ARTISTS. THE AMERICANA MUSIC COMMUNITY HAS GIVEN ME THE INSPIRATION TO DIG BACK DEEP INTO MY EARLIEST MUSICAL INFLUENCES AND TO RE DISCOVER MY ORIGINAL STYLE AND PERSONALITY.