**DAVID BOWIE "STARMAN (TOP OF THE POPS VERSION 2022 MIX)"**

 **PREVIOUSLY UNRELEASED STREAMING SINGLE TO CELEBRATE THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF *THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS***

***THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS* 50th ANNIVERSARY HALF SPEED MASTERED LP** & **50th ANNIVERSARY PICTURE DISC LP RELEASED 17th JUNE, 2022**

**50 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT ZIGGY STARDUST**

16th June, 2022— Today marks the 50th anniversary of the release of David Bowie’s ***THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS***. To celebrate, Parlophone Records is proud to announce a special streaming single to mark the album’s Golden Jubilee, ***STARMAN (TOP OF THE POPS VERSION 2022 MIX)***.

David Bowie’s performance of **STARMAN** on Top Of The Pops is undoubtedly one of the most essential pieces of music television ever broadcast. It has influenced generations of musicians, artists and writers who saw it at the time and countless others who have since seen it over the decades, from bootleg VHS copies to YouTube clips.

The Top Of The Pops broadcast recording, taken from the BBC's master, was released on the **STARMAN**7" pic disc in 2012 and now changes hands for hundreds of pounds. Back in 1972, the Musicians Union rules stated that to appear on Top Of The Pops, the artist must re-record their track and, in this case, sing live over the top. This new version of **STARMAN** takes the backing track (recorded at Trident Studios on 29th June) and backing vocals, featuring a one-off Bowie ad-lib ‘Hey Brown Cow’, recorded for the show and adds the lead vocals from the album version (recorded at Trident Studios on 4th February). This new mix was created by ***ZIGGY STARDUST*** co-producer Ken Scott from the multi-tracks earlier this year.

Also on 17th June, 2022, 50 years and one day after the original U.K. release date, ***THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS*** will be issued as a limited edition 50th anniversary half speed mastered LP and a picture disc, featuring the same master and a replica promotional poster for the album.

This new pressing of ***THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS*** was cut on a customised late Neumann VMS80 lathe with fully recapped electronics from 192kHz restored masters of the original Trident Studios master tapes, with no additional processing on transfer. The half speed was cut by John Webber at AIR Studios.

Today also sees a special Tim Burgess listening party for the album on Twitter at 10.30 pm more details are here [https://timstwitterlisteningparty.com](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftimstwitterlisteningparty.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7CPaul.Bromby%40warnermusic.com%7Cb2789475f0874d40928208da4d4d6fc9%7C8367939002ec4ba1ad3d69da3fdd637e%7C0%7C0%7C637907292251177233%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JERDJltadrMd95fRqGGGvi5H0Mbr%2FdgQ%2FiLAlHYe%2BMw%3D&reserved=0). Tim Burgess "I’m really excited to be hosting a Ziggy Stardust Listening Party on the 50th anniversary of the album’s release. Fans from all around the world can take part and we’ve enlisted a few friends to help us out too.”

***THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS*** is the breakthrough album that catapulted David Bowie into the international spotlight. Over the past 50 years it has remained a touchstone record, growing in stature with each passing year. It is now ingrained in popular culture, its undeniable influence spanning musicians from Arcade Fire to Lady Gaga, to Harry Styles’s androgynous fashion sense to Noel Fielding’s shirts on The Great British Bake-Off to Ziggy make-up challenges on Tik-Tok.

David Bowie laid to rest the Ziggy Stardust persona on 3rd July, 1973 at his infamous last show with the Spiders From Mars at London’s Hammersmith Odeon, but Ziggy’s impact reverberates to this day. Previously unseen footage from this legendary show features in the upcoming **MOONAGE DAYDREAM** film by Brett Morgen, which will be released in cinemas this September.

**DAVID BOWIE - THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS TRACKLISTING**

**SIDE ONE**
Five Years – 4:42
Soul Love – 3:34
Moonage Daydream – 4:40
Starman – 4:10
It Ain’t Easy – 2:58

**SIDE TWO**
Lady Stardust – 3:22
Star – 2:47
Hang On To Yourself – 2:40
Ziggy Stardust – 3:13
Suffragette City – 3:25

Rock ’n’ Roll Suicide - 2.58

**STARMAN (TOP OF THE POPS VERSION 2022 MIX) STREAMING SINGLE**

**AVAILABLE NOW ON PARLOPHONE**

**THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS 50th ANNIVERSARY HALF SPEED MASTERED LP**

**THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS 50th ANNIVERSARY PICTURE DISC LP**

**AVAILABLE 17th JUNE, 2022 ON PARLOPHONE**

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***ZIGGY AT 50 - 50 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT THE RISE AND FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS***

1 The Rise And Fall Of Ziggy Stardust And The Spiders From Mars has in the past been mooted as both a stage play and a film.

2 The album was co-produced by Ken Scott, who had previously co-produced Hunky Dory, engineered Space Oddity and mixed The Man Who Sold The World.

3 The famous cover photos were taken outside 21 Heddon Street just off Regent St in London in January 1972, where a pop-up shop was created this year to celebrate David's 75th birthday. The location was chosen as the photographer Brian Ward had his studio at29 Heddon St.

4 Only 17 shots were taken in Heddon St itself. All of these were taken in black and white and then colourised by Terry Pastor, who also colourised the photo on the cover of Hunky Dory.

5 The fashion icon Kate Moss has worn four original outfits from the Ziggy Stardust period; the Kansai Yamamoto one legged jumpsuit, the red platform boots and two kimonos for Vogue magazine in 2003 and the Yamamoto ‘woodland creatures’ suit to accept a Brit Award on Bowie’s behalf in 2014.

6 The signature Ziggy red hair colour was applied by Suzi Fussey, who was guitarist Mick Ronson’s girlfriend. The colour was Schwarzkopf Red Hot Red, and the haircut cost Bowie £2. The hair was inspired by a model dressed by Kansai Yamamoto in a 1971 issue of Honey Magazine.

7 Even though they were not yet billed as such, the first Ziggy Stardust And The Spiders From Mars show took place on Saturday 29th January, 1972 at the Friars Club, Borough Assembly Hall in Aylesbury Market Square. It is thought they unveiled six songs from the forthcoming album and Freddie Mercury and Roger Taylor of Queen attended the show. Tickets cost 60p in advance and 65p on the door.

8 Bowie's famous performance of Starman on Top Of The Pops was recorded on 5th July and was broadcast on 6th July, and, as per Musicians Union rules, David's lead vocals were performed live. The backing track with backing vocals for Top Of The Pops was recorded on the 29th June at Trident Studios with Ken Scott and featured David’s one off ad lib “hey brown cow”.

9 Top Of The Pops was not the first performance of Starman on TV, the first took place on the Granada children’s music show Lift Off With Ayshea presented by Ayshea Brough. It was recorded on June 15th and broadcast on the 21st. Sadly no viewable copy of this performance has been found to exist.

10 Cover versions performed during the Ziggy Stardust tour included The Velvet Underground’s Waiting For The Man and White Light, White Heat along with Jacques Brel’s My Death and Amsterdam, Chuck Berry’s Round ‘n’ Round, Let’s Spend The Night Together by The Rolling Stones, I Can’t Explain by The Who, I Feel Free by Cream and Gotta Get A Job by James Brown.

11 The Spiders From Mars were Mick Ronson on guitar, Mick ‘Woody’ Woodmansey on drums and Trevor Bolder on bass. Over the next year, they would be joined on stage at various stages by Geoff MacCormack (aka Warren Peace) on vocals, Mike Garson, Nicky Graham and Robin Lumley on piano, John ‘Hutch’ Hutchinson on rhythm guitar, Ken Fordham on saxophone and Brian Wilshaw on saxophone and flute.

12 Instead of releasing another single from the album as the follow up to Starman, Bowie opted for the non-album track ‘John, I’m Only Dancing’ in September 1972. He also released one more single in 1972, The Jean Genie, which was taken from the forthcoming Aladdin Sane album.

13 In 2017, the Ziggy Stardust album was chosen for preservation in the US National Recording Registry, being deemed “culturally, historically, or artistically significant” by the Library of Congress.

14 Before the album and post its release, the band played over 170 shows across three continents. Even though the follow-up album Aladdin Sane was released during that time, the tour was always known as the Ziggy Stardust tour.

15 The song Five Years was unveiled to a TV audience on Tuesday 8th February, 1972 when he and the band performed three songs on the influential The OId Grey Whistle Test show on BBC2. The performance had been taped the day prior.

16 The album was released on 16th June, 1972 and charted on 1st July at #15. It was that week's highest entry and was in the UK top fifty album chart for the next two years.

17 Beneath the album credits on the back cover were the words: “TO BE PLAYED AT MAXIMUM VOLUME.” This instruction was omitted from later reissues but restored on the 2015 reissue, which was a faithful replication of the original as was possible.

18 The red platform Kansai Yamamoto boots on the album cover cost Bowie £28 (£420 today) and the white and red vinyl wrestling boots Bowie wears in other photos for the album were made bespoke by Russell & Bromley.

19 According to Ken Scott the album’s co-producer 95% of the vocals on the album were done in one take.

20 The album took less than two weeks to record over three months (November ’71 – February ’72)

21 The most streamed track from the album is Starman, closely followed by Moonage Daydream.

22 The phone box that appears on the back of the album sleeve is no longer there. A blue onr replaced it but a red ‘K Series’ box was reinstated there in 1997.

23 The phone box’s phone number is +44 207 734 8719

24 K.West, as seen on the sleeve was a furrier company and wrote to Bowie’s label to complain about the use of their sign on the sleeve.

25 The original K.West sign is now owned by a fan.

26 Where the K.West sign used to be, there is now a black plaque celebrating the album which was unveiled for the 40th anniversary of the album.

27 Many influences for the album were mentioned by Bowie, including British rocker Vince Taylor, The Velvet Underground, the American cult artist The Legendary Stardust Cowboy and the writers William Burroughs and JG Ballard.

28 In 1990, Bowie said that the name Ziggy came from a tailor's shop that he once passed when on a train.

29 Guest artists on the album include Rick Wakeman and Dana Gillespie.

30 The album was recorded at Trident Studios in St Anne’s Court, Soho, London. The facility is still there but is now used for voiceover work.

31 The huge success of Ziggy Stardust led to David’s previous album Hunky Dory and the single Life On Mars? becoming hits months after they were initially released.

32 Even though all of the songs on the album have become rock classics, only three singles were released; Starman, Rock ’n’ Roll Suicide and Suffragette City, the latter two not appearing until two years and four years after the album was released.

33 The jumpsuit Bowie is wearing on the cover was designed by his friend Freddie Burretti.

34 The guitar David is holding on the cover is a Gibson Les Paul and belonged to his Arnold Corns bandmate Mark Carr Pritchett

35 Starman was the last song to be written for the album. It was recorded on 4th February, 1972, along with Suffragette City and Rock ’n’ Roll Suicide.

36 All of the songs on the album were played live many times during Bowie’s career. However, ‘It Ain’t Easy’ the Ron Davies cover version was only performed once on BBC Radio 1 in Concert broadcast in June 1971.

37 Lady Stardust was initially titled ‘He Was Alright (A Song For Marc)’ in tribute to Bowie’s friend Marc Bolan. It is the most popular Ziggy song in Japan and was released as a limited edition 7” picture disc there in 2017 to commemorate the Tokyo ‘David Bowie Is’ exhibition.

38 The Chuck Berry cover version Round And Round was replaced on the album at the last minute by Starman.

39 With its line ‘Hey man, Droogie don't crash here’ Suffragette City references Clockwork Orange. The film adaptation was released in the UK on 13th January, 1972, just three weeks before the song was recorded.

40 Starman, Ziggy Stardust, Moonage Daydream, Five Years, Rock ’N’ Roll Suicide, Suffragette City and Lady Stardust all got their world debuts during recordings made for Bob Harris and John Peel BBC Sessions in January and May 1972. These were released on Bowie At The Beeb in 2000.

41 Some of the artists that have cited the 6th July, 1972 Top Of The Pops performance of Starman as life-changing have included Robert Smith (The Cure), Bono (U2), Boy George, Mick Jones (The Clash), Johnny Marr (The Smiths), Siouxsie Sioux (Siouxsie & The Banshees), Marc Riley (The Fall), Noel Gallagher, Dave Gahan (Depeche Mode), Adam Ant, Gary Numan, Gary Kemp (Spandau Ballet), Elton John and Nick Rhodes (Duran Duran)

42 The opening song on the album, Five Years, was rehearsed by Bowie and his band for Live Aid in 1985 but was dropped so that Canadian TV footage of the drought in Somalia could be broadcast instead.

43 Early versions of two songs from the album, Moonage Daydream and Hang On To Yourself, were recorded by Arnold Corns, David’s vehicle for his friend and designer Freddie Burretti.

44 Suffragette City was originally offered to Mott The Hoople. However, the band declined so Bowie kept it for himself and later wrote All The Young Dudes for them.

45 Songs from the album have appeared in TV shows and movies such as Guardians Of The Galaxy, The Crown, The Walking Dead, The Martian, Life On Mars and many more.

46 The final Ziggy show in July 1973 was immortalised on film as Ziggy Stardust And The Spiders From Mars by the documentarian D.A. Pennebaker. A cut-down version  was shown on US TV in 1974 but wasn't released theatrically worldwide until 1983.

47 In 2017, a newly discovered extinct species of wasp was named Archaeoteleia astropulvis (astropulvis is Latin for 'star dust’) in honour of the record.

48 Time, NME, Rolling Stone and more have all cited it as one of the greatest albums of all time.

49 Tracks from the album have been covered by artists such as Bauhaus, Duran Duran, Placebo, Arcade Fire, The Polyphonic Spree, Culture Club, Def Leppard, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Seu Jorge, Portugal The Man and more.

50 Bowie killed off the Ziggy Stardust persona on July 3rd 1973, at Hammersmith Odeon, London, with the words, “Of all the shows on this tour, this particular show will remain with us the longest, because not only is it the last show of the tour, but it's the last show that we'll ever do. Thank you.”