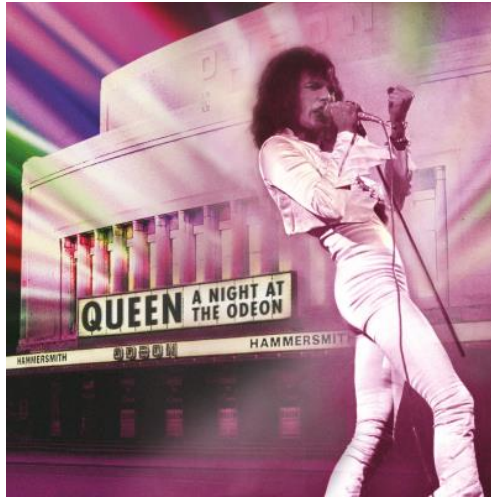


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 12, 2015

QUEEN - A NIGHT AT THE ODEON – HAMMERSMITH 1975 MULTI FORMAT RELEASE DUE NOVEMBER 20



"Britain's most regal band awaits your presence..."
Melody Maker, December 1975

(LONDON – October 12, 2015) December 24, 1975. London's Hammersmith Odeon. Onstage at this legendary venue the four members of Queen are bringing to a close a ground-breaking show, transmitted live on BBC TV, and bringing to a climax the most eventful and exciting year in their careers so far – one that has taken them from the UK to America to Japan, sealing their transition from ambitious upstarts into one of the biggest and most important bands of the era - and beyond.

Forty years later, this groundbreaking show officially takes to the world stage. On November 20, [Queen - A Night At The Odeon - Hammersmith 1975](#) will be released on CD, 2 LP vinyl, Super Deluxe Box Set and digitally through Hollywood Records and DVD, SD Blu-Ray through Eagle Rock Entertainment. As well as a live recording of this legendary gig, the Super Deluxe Box Set also includes extra-special bonus features for the Queen fans. The Super Deluxe Box Set is available for pre-order now <http://smarturl.it/qla1>.

"This concert was very special because it was the first time we ever played a whole show completely live on TV ... the Christmas Show," says Brian May. "The quality, after great rescue work and transfer into the digital domain, is amazing. And the energy we had comes across very forcefully."

Featuring 15 tracks from their first four visionary albums, plus covers of four classic rock'n'roll staples delivered with characteristic panache, [A Night At The Odeon - Hammersmith 1975](#) captures a band in full flight and radiating megawatts of self-confidence.

Their single "Bohemian Rhapsody" – universally hailed as one of the most ground-breaking 'pop' songs ever released – was in the middle of its record-breaking nine week run at #1 in the UK charts. Their fourth album, [A Night At The Opera](#) (the most expensive record ever made to that point) found Queen's grandiose vision coalescing into a breathtaking set of songs and ushered the band into a seat at rock's top table (just three days after the concert, [A Night At The Opera](#) reached the top of the UK album charts).

The Christmas Eve show was the climax of the 26-date *Queen Invite You To A Night At The Opera Tour*, which had begun mid-November and had already seen the band play four nights at the same venue a month earlier. *Melody Maker* magazine had trumpeted the tour with the words, "Britain's most regal band await your presence," and the reviews of the previous shows had been ecstatic. "Queen and their music, presentation, production – everything about them says that they are more important than any other band you've heard," wrote British rock magazine *Sounds*. "Instead of simply treading the well-worn paths to pop glory, they have made their own paths," added *The Sun*.

By the time the band returned to Hammersmith on Christmas Eve, they were truly firing on all cylinders. No expense had been spared, from the stellar light show which lent a spectacular visual element to the night's proceedings to the suitably lavish white Bechstein grand piano which had been hired especially for this show. Nor had the band themselves overlooked the finer sartorial details. Freddie Mercury sported two different satin cat suits – one black, one white – during the show, designed by Wendy deSmet with the singer's input. Similarly, Freddie had painted the nails of his left hand black for the occasion, while Brian May had his (at the time) trademark white nails.

But for all the stage dressing, every Queen concert was purely and simply about the performance – and this was no exception. Cherry-picked from Queen, Queen II, Sheer Heart Attack and the triumphant A Night At The Opera, the set list showed every facet of the band, from the ornate hard rock of "Keep Yourself Alive" and "Seven Seas Of Rhye" to the baroque grandeur of "The March Of The Black Queen," from the heavy metal strut of "Ogre Battle" and "Son And Daughter" to the playful genre-bending of "Bring Back That Leroy Brown" and Queen's breakthrough hit "Killer Queen." It was also the tour when they first unleashed the soon-to-be-legendary "Bohemian Rhapsody" on an unsuspecting public – to a rapturous reception.

Freddie Mercury and Brian May were the yin and yang leading from the front, while Roger Taylor and John Deacon proved themselves to be one of the greatest rhythm sections of the era. By the time they'd completed a rock'n'roll medley featuring hits by Elvis, Connie Francis, Gene Vincent and Shirley Bassey, they had the 5000-strong audience eating out of their hands.

Decades before the phrase 'multi-media' became a buzzword, the Christmas Eve show stood as more than just a concert. It was simultaneously broadcast in stereo on BBC Radio 1 and on the BBC 2 television institution The Old Grey Whistle Test (the show's host Bob Harris introduced the band onstage). Luckily, although the TV cameras were turned off before the band returned for their second encore, and consequently video footage of "Seven Seas Of Rhye" and "See What A Fool I've Been" doesn't exist – the audio team *did* continue recording and so the CD and LP formats do feature the entire show.

As a result of the coverage, the show was heavily bootlegged in subsequent years, appearing under such unlikely titles as *Command Performance*, *Rhapsody In Red*, *Christmas At The Beeb*, *Cardiac Arrest* and *Halfpence*.

With the issue of A Night At The Odeon this legendary show has finally been given the pedestal it deserves, delivered in fitting style, featuring an incredible new audio mix in stereo and 5.1 surround-sound plus an absolute state-of-the-art restoration of the video.

As well as audio and visual footage of the gig, the DVD and SD Blu-Ray versions feature two special bonus features – *Looking Back At The Odeon*, a brand new 22-minute documentary featuring a previously unseen interview with Brian May and Roger Taylor by BBC2 Old Grey Whistle Test presenter Bob Harris about the 1975 Hammersmith Odeon show, plus the rarely seen *Live At The Budokan* – Japan 1975 footage, featuring three songs ("Now I'm Here," "Killer Queen" and "In The Lap Of The Gods... Revisited") recorded during their legendary tour of the Far East.

Says Bob Harris of that night: "Christmas eve 1975 marked an important moment in the history of the 'Old Grey Whistle Test' and Queen. The band were in party mood at the Hammersmith Odeon that night and no wonder. They had already spent the best part of a month at the top of the UK singles chart with the sensational 'Bohemian Rhapsody,' the video for which had instantly redefined the presentation of music on TV. They were at the peak of their powers - confident and stage sharp at the end of a barnstorming UK tour. I donned top hat and tails to salute and introduce them before they played one of the best sets I had ever seen. It was an incredible night but it was more even than that. It was the moment Queen became superstars."

The Super Deluxe Box Set also includes a never-before-heard recording from the pre-show soundcheck – something that no one outside of the band themselves knew existed until now.

Queen - A Night At The Odeon - Hammersmith 1975 will be released on November 20. The CD, 2 LP vinyl, and Super Deluxe Box Set will be released on Hollywood Records and DVD, SD Blu-Ray through Eagle Rock Entertainment.

Full Tracklisting (CD/Vinyl/Digital)

1. Now I'm Here
2. Ogre Battle
3. White Queen (As It Began)
4. Bohemian Rhapsody
5. Killer Queen
6. The March Of The Black Queen
7. Bohemian Rhapsody (Reprise)
8. Bring Back That Leroy Brown
9. Brighton Rock
10. Guitar Solo
11. Son And Daughter
12. Keep Yourself Alive
13. Liar
14. In The Lap Of The Gods... Revisited
15. Big Spender
16. Jailhouse Rock Medley
17. Seven Seas Of Rhye
18. See What A Fool I've Been
19. God Save The Queen

LIMITED EDITION SUPER DELUXE BOXED SET (available for pre-order now: <http://smarturl.it/qla1>)

QUEEN - A NIGHT AT THE ODEON

Recorded live at the Hammersmith Odeon, 24th December 1975

Package Contains:

- 1 CD, 1 SD BLU-RAY, 1 DVD, 12" Single, 60 page hardback book and concert memorabilia in lift-off lid box
- 60 page hardback book containing previously unseen photographs
- Reproduction of ticket from the concert
- Concert programme
- Conference badge
- Reproduction of the tour itinerary
- Six button badges
- Reproduction of the 1975 tour poster

- Reproduction of the sticker stage pass
- Reproduction of 2 balloons dropped into the crowd at the end of the 24th December 1975 Hammersmith show

CD

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Recorded live at the Hammersmith Odeon, 24th December 1975

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4. Bohemian Rhapsody
5. Killer Queen
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8. Bring Back That Leroy Brown
9. Brighton Rock
10. Guitar Solo
11. Son And Daughter
12. Keep Yourself Alive
13. Liar
14. In The Lap Of The Gods... Revisited
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SD BLU-RAY+DVD

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16. Jailhouse Rock (Medley)
17. God Save The Queen

Bonus Items

LIVE IN JAPAN '75

Recorded live at the Budokan, Tokyo, 1st May 1975

1. Now I'm Here
2. Killer Queen
3. In The Lap Of The Gods... Revisited

LOOKING BACK AT THE ODEON

Previously unreleased 22 minute documentary

40TH ANNIVERSARY 12" VINYL SINGLE

Side A

"Bohemian Rhapsody"

Side B

"Now I'm Here" (Odeon Soundcheck 1975) **

**Previously unreleased recording from the afternoon of 24th December 1975

*DVD and SD Blu-ray formats do not include "Seven Seas Of Rhye" or "See What A Fool I've Been."

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