

## WATCHMOJO – The life and career of David Bowie (1947-2016)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lan\\_wotkon0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lan_wotkon0)

### [Fashion]

Welcome to watchmojo.com and today we're taking a look at the life and career of **David Bowie**.

### [Queen Bitch]

David Robert Jones was born on January 8 1947 in Brixton London England.

Though he showed musical interest at a young age it was only in the early 60s that he really pursued the art. He started by joining several blues bands but branched off on his own when they had little success. Renaming himself David Bowie he released his self-titled debut in 1967.

### [Who's that hiding in the apple tree clinging to a branch]

Its lack of success led Bowie to participate in a promotional film called **Love you till Tuesday** which showcased several of his songs. A particular interest was **Space Oddity** : that track became a hit after it was released at the same time as the first moon landing.

### [Ground control to Major Tom]

His sophomore effort of the same name however was another commercial disappointment.

### [The man who sold the world]

To promote his third album **The man who sold the world**, Bowie was put in a dress to capitalize on his androgynous look.

### [Life on mars]

### [Ziggy Stardust]

In 1971 a pop influenced record called **Hunky-Dory** came out and was followed by the creation of his flamboyant **Ziggy Stardust** persona and stage show with backing band **The Spiders from Mars**. Then came his breakthrough record **The rise and fall of Ziggy Stardust** and the Spiders from Mars which climbed the charts thanks to his performance of the single **Star Man** on Top of the Pops. **[Star Man]**

1973's **Aladdin Sane** was his first number-one album mixing a hard rock sound with styles such as avant-garde jazz. The spiders from Mars were disbanded shortly thereafter. **[The Jean Genie]**

After the covers album **Pinups** turned Bowie into the UK's best-selling artist, the funky concept record **Diamond Dogs** featuring the hit **Rebel rebel** was released.

### [Rebel rebel]

The elaborate stage shows for the tour that followed as well as the worsening state of Bowie's health due to his cocaine addiction would later be seen in the documentary **Cracked actor**.

1975 saw the release of **Young Americans**, an album that was less glam rock and more soul.

This album spawned his first U.S. hit, a track that was written with John Lennon, **[Fame]**.

### [Golden Years]

His next album **Station-to-Station** featured the song **Golden Years** and introduced another alter ego : **the Thin White Duke** .This persona resembled his character in the 1976 movie **The Man Who Fell to Earth**.

Up next was a trio of albums recorded with Brian Eno known as **the Berlin trilogy** beginning with

1977's **Low**.

**[Sound and Vision]**

This ambient and abstract album produced the UK hit **Sound and Vision**. This was followed by a more pop rock but still minimalist album called **Heroes** whose title track later became a Bowie signature tune. **[Heroes]**

**[Boys keep swinging]**

And in 1979 with his drug addiction now behind him, Bowie released **Lodger** which contained new wave and world music elements.

**[Ashes to ashes]**

1980's **Scary monsters and super creeps** featured the hit **Ashes to ashes** which was accompanied by an iconic music video.

Bowie's career leapt to new heights in 1983 with the success of the album **Let's dance** and the music videos for the singles **[Modern Love]** and **[China Girl]**. High sales continued with the dance inspired **Tonight**, an album that featured the top 10 hit **[Blue Jean]**.

In 1985 the music video for Bowie's duet with Mick Jagger **Dancing in the street** was debuted at Live Aid. Two years later Bowie released the more techno based album **Never let me down** that featured the single **[Day in, Day out]**

Bowie took on a number of acting roles during the 80s. Examples include a Broadway production of **the Elephant Man** and the films **Absolute beginners**, **Labyrinth** and **The Last Temptation of Christ**.

**[You belong in Rock and Roll]**

At the end of the 80s Bowie fronted a band called **Tin Machine** which recorded two studio albums but they dissolved in 1992.

Bowie then returned to a solo career with the jazzier album **Black Tie White Noise** in 1993. This was closely followed by the soundtrack for a television series called **the Buddha of Suburbia**.

In 1995 Bowie brought industrial elements to the mix with the album **Outside**.

**[Hallo Spaceboy]**

He gained more critical and commercial success with the techno infused sounds of 1997's **Earthling**. **[I'm afraid of Americans]**

**[Thursday's Child]**

1999 saw the release of an album with more rock tracks entitled **Hours**. This was followed by the critically and commercially acclaimed **Heathen** in 2002 and another successful record in 2003 called **Reality**.

Emergency heart surgery in 2004 forced Bowie to slow down, so in the latter half of the decade he recorded only a few songs and played a couple of gigs. **[Falling Down]** Bowie continued to act while he released albums. Some of his most notable film appearances include **Twin Peaks**, **Fire walk with me**, **Mr Rice's secret**, **Zoolander** and **The Prestige**.

**[Five years]**

A true chameleon of the music world, David Bowie has incorporated many different styles to make his own. With his distinctive voice and extravagant stage shows, he is surely an artist who will continue to be influential throughout the ages.

## Find these elements in the transcript

One 'real' name (not a stage name) =

One city =

One song =

One hit =

One album =

One band =

One persona =

One addiction of his =

One singer = David Bowie /

One musician = David Bowie /

One trilogy =

One iconic music video =

One famous charity rock concert =

One play =

One movie =

One television series =

One documentary =

One legendary English music show =

One cameo (brief appearance in a film) =

One synonym for concert =

**Find these elements in the transcript**

One 'real' name (not a stage name) = JONES

One city = London / Berlin

One song = [ xxxx ]

One hit = Space Oddity / Rebel Rebel / Ashes to ashes / Fame / Sound and Vision / Blue Jean

One album = xxxxx

One band = the Spiders from Mars / Tin Machine /

One persona = Ziggy Stardust / The Thin White Duke /

One addiction of his = cocaine

One singer = David Bowie / Mick Jagger / John Lennon

One musician = Brian Eno

One trilogy = the Berlin Trilogy (Low + Heroes + Sound and Vision)

One iconic music video = Ashes to ashes

One famous charity rock concert = Live Aid

One play = the Elephant Man

One movie = The man who fell to Earth / Absolute beginners / Labyrinth / The Last Temptation of Christ / Love you to Tuesday

One television series = the Buddah of Suburbia

One documentary = Cracked actor

One legendary English music show = Top of the Pops

One cameo (brief appearance in a film) = Twin Peaks / Fire walk with me / Mr Rice's secret / Zoolander / The Prestige

One synonym for concert = a gig

**Vocabulary**

une chanson = a song	track
un chanteur = a singer	une BO = a soundtrack
un compositeur = a composer	un clip = a music video
une carrière = a career	sur scène = on stage
un groupe = a band	un spectacle = a show
dissoudre un groupe = disband / dissolve	devant un public = in front of an audience
un album = an album	chanter en playback = lip-sync(h)
une chanson tirée ou pas d'un album = a single	les paroles = the lyrics
sortir (un artiste sort un disque) = release	le refrain = the chorus
sortir (le disque sort) = be released / come out	un air, une mélodie, un morceau = a tune
la sortie = the release	out of tune = faux
un morceau = a track	in tune = juste
faire de la pub pour = promote	to tune = accorder
le classement des meilleurs titres = the charts	un couplet = a verse
une tournée = a tour	une rime = a rhyme
faire une tournée = tour	le rythme = the rhythm
un succès commercial = a hit	une reprise = a cover
enregistrer = record	version acoustique = unplugged
un disque = a record	un accord = a chord
un CD = a CD	le temps / la mesure = the beat
un MP3 = an MP3	les chœurs = the backing vocalists
un vinyle = a vinyl ['vairil]	la basse = the bass ['beɪs]
un 33 tours = an LP (long-playing vinyl record)	la batterie = the drums
un morceau qui donne son nom à l'album = a title	

## Do you know the vocabulary used in the music industry ?

une chanson =	un morceau qui donne son nom à l'album =
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un compositeur =	un clip =
une carrière =	sur scène =
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dissoudre un groupe =	devant un public =
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une chanson tirée ou pas d'un album =	les paroles =
sortir (un artiste sort un disque)	le refrain =
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la sortie =	out of tune =
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le classement des meilleurs titres =	un couplet =
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