

# The Jimi Hendrix Experience

SONG TITLE: HEY JOE  
ALBUM: N/A  
RELEASED: 1966  
LABEL: TRACK/POLYDOR  
GENRE: ROCK

PERSONNEL: JIMI HENDRIX (GTR+VOX)  
NOEL REDDING (BASS)  
MITCH MITCHELL (DRUMS)

UK CHART PEAK: 6  
US CHART PEAK: N/A



## BACKGROUND INFO

The Jimi Hendrix Experience's version of 'Hey Joe' was their first single and helped launch them in the UK. The Hendrix sound was born complete from the start in this power trio that featured the energetic drumming of the late Mitch Mitchell.

## THE BIGGER PICTURE

Hendrix's signature riffing and chord play rest on the firm foundations of Mitchell's confident, tight and fast groove work. This perfectly complements the guitar hero's passion and trickery as well as driving what is a fairly repetitive song along at breakneck pace. This interplay between them set the pattern for much of what followed in the band's first album and tracks such as 'Red House' and 'Fire' stand out as much for the stickmanship as the guitar playing. Mitchell, like many British drummers of the time, was heavily jazz-influenced.

Hendrix had huge respect for Mitch's abilities and liked to record guide tracks in the studio with Mitch and no-one else which explains the tightness of the interplay on the recordings.

## NOTES

It could all have been so different. Mitch got the Hendrix gig on the toss of a coin (Aynsley Dunbar was the loser on this occasion). Mitch had previously been a ubiquitous sessioneer and also featured in the Rolling Stones' doomed 1968 *Rock 'n' Roll Circus* film where he played in the 'Dirty Mac' supergroup that also featured John Lennon on guitar and vocals and Keith Richards on bass. After the death of Hendrix, Mitch kept the flame alive with tribute gigs and producing some of the immediate posthumous releases. He was the last member of the Experience to die, in November 2008 aged 61.

## RECOMMENDED LISTENING

1967's *Are You Experienced* contains more classic tracks than most artists' entire greatest hits collections, among them: 'Foxy Lady', 'Manic Depression', 'Red House' and 'Fire'. The 1968 follow up, *Axis: Bold As Love* is equally stacked, boasting 'Little Wing', 'If 6 was 9' and 'Spanish Castle Magic'. *Electric Ladyland* was the last release with the original lineup and contains 'Voodoo Child (Slight Return)', 'Crosstown Traffic' and their sublime cover of Bob Dylan's 'All Along The Watchtower'.

# Hey Joe

The Jimi Hendrix Experience

Words & Music by Billy Roberts

♩ = 82 *Slow Rock*

1 *mf*

3 *Swung 16<sup>ths</sup>*

6 *(Swung 16<sup>ths</sup>)*

9 *Swung 16<sup>ths</sup>*

12 *Swung 16<sup>ths</sup>*

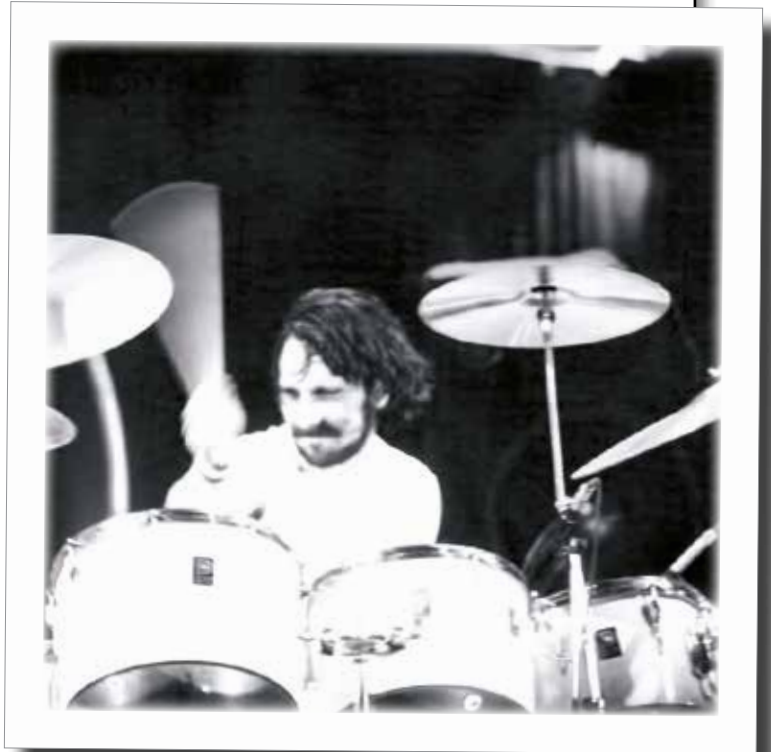
15 *Swung 16<sup>ths</sup>*

18 *f*

SONG TITLE: MY GENERATION  
 ALBUM: MY GENERATION  
 RELEASED: 1965  
 LABEL: BRUNSWICK  
 GENRE: 60S R&B

PERSONNEL: ROGER DALTRY (VOX)  
 PETE TOWNSHEND (GTR+VOX)  
 JOHN ENTWISTLE (BASS)  
 KEITH MOON (DRUMS)

UK CHART PEAK: 2  
 US CHART PEAK: 74



## BACKGROUND INFO

'My Generation' is one of the standout tracks from The Who's debut album of the same name. Few songs written in the 60s encapsulate the youthful rage of the period quite like this one as Townshend spits out his disgust and loathing of the older generation ('hope I die before I get old'). The energy of this band was fuelled by the antics of their irrepressible drummer. Keith Moon is a perennial favourite in polls and lists of the greatest rock drummers of all time, and was inducted into The Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame in 1990 as a member of The Who.

## THE BIGGER PICTURE

The Who emerged out of the Mod scene in the early to mid 1960s having grown up together around Ealing in west London. Their brand of 'Maximum R&B', along with their trademark smashing up of their instruments at the end of 'My Generation', marked them out early on as a group of particularly angry young men in a way that differentiated them from their peers. The pairing of the ebullient, fearless Moon with the quieter, classically trained, virtuoso bass player John Entwistle created one of the great rhythm sections in British pop - one that has rarely been equalled.

## NOTES

When they made Keith Moon they broke the mould. He was a one-off, both as a person and as a player. The archetypal rock hell-raiser (by the end of the 60s he was banned from just about every hotel chain in America), Moon set the standard for hard-living and fast playing. He played fast and furious on a kit with no hi-hat or ride cymbal, opting instead for many crash cymbals. The keys to Moon's playing were his speed, accuracy and timing; and what, to some ears at least, sounded random and undisciplined, was in fact highly focused.

## RECOMMENDED LISTENING

The power of the early Who singles was their trademark and Keith Moon's signature sound can be heard to great effect on 'Substitute' (1966), 'I Can See for Miles' and 'Pictures of Lilly' (both 1967). Later material, such as 'Won't Get Fooled Again', 'Baba O'Riley' (both 1971) and 'Who Are You?' (1978), show Moon in complete command. Keith Moon played the role of drummer J D Clover in the film *That'll be the Day* (1973) that features a close-up burst of the master in action.

# My Generation

The Who

Words & Music by Pete Townshend

♩=192 *Rock*

*mp*

5

9 *mf*

13

17 *f*

21 *cont. sim.*