

Queens Of The Stone Age

SONG TITLE: THE LOST ART OF
KEEPING A SECRET

ALBUM: RATED R

RELEASED: 2000

GENRE: ROCK ('STONER ROCK')

PERSONNEL: JOSH HOMME (GTR+VOX)
NICK OLIVERI (BASS)
DAVE CATCHING (GTR)
GENE TRAUTMANN (DRUMS)
NICK LUCERO (DRUMS)
VARIOUS OTHER MEMBERS

LABEL: INTERSCOPE

UK CHART PEAK: N/A

US CHART PEAK: 21

BACKGROUND INFO

'The Lost Art of Keeping a Secret' is a single from the album *Rated R*. Co-written by Josh Homme and bassplayer Nick Oliveri, the song is a brooding groove that delves into the dark world of loyalty and betrayal ('whatever you do, don't tell anyone...'). The album cemented the band's reputation and won several awards, including album of the year from *Metal Hammer* and *NME* in 2000.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Queens Of The Stone Age (QOTSA) is a band with a highly fluid membership. Essentially the creative vehicle for songwriter/guitarist/bassist Josh Homme since 1996, the band specialises in powerful riff based rock with more than a nod towards the blues (they reject the term 'stoner rock'). The band became Queens of The Stone Age after a quip from their studio engineer when they had to give up their original name Gamma Ray.



NOTES

QOTSA have had a succession of drummers since the band's foundation, including former Nirvana sticksman and Foo Fighters frontman Dave Grohl. More recently the band has fixed on the groove talents of Californian Joey Castillo. Before joining QOTSA he played with Danzig and The Eagles Of Death Metal. On this particular album, drumming duties were split between Gene Trautmann (pictured above) and Nick Lucero.

RECOMMENDED LISTENING

QOTSA's reputation as one of the coolest bands on the planet is founded on five studio albums, starting with their self-titled first record in 1998 (released on Loose Records). This was followed by *Rated R* (2000), *Songs for the Deaf* (2002), and *En Vulgaris* (2007).

The Lost Art Of Keeping A Secret

Queens Of The Stone Age

Words & Music by Josh Homme
& Nick Oliveri

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The Clash

SONG TITLE: SHOULD I STAY
OR SHOULD I GO?

ALBUM: COMBAT ROCK

RELEASED: SEPTEMBER 1982
& MARCH 1991

GENRE: PUNK ROCK

PERSONNEL: JOE STRUMMER (GTR+VOX)
MICK JONES (GTR+VOX)
PAUL SIMONON (BASS+VOX)
NICKY HEADON (DRUMS)

LABEL: CBS/COLUMBIA

UK CHART PEAK: 17 (1982)/1 (1991)

US CHART PEAK: N/A

BACKGROUND INFO

'Should I Stay or Should I Go?' was one of the last singles released by The Clash before the band collapsed in 1984. The song shot back into the consciousness of the nation some nine years later when it was the soundtrack for a Levi's jeans advertisement. This propelled it to the number 1 spot in the UK charts.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

The Clash is one of the seminal bands of the punk era in the UK and one of the few from that time to achieve lasting success in America. Formed by west Londoners Strummer (John Mellor), Jones and Simonon in 1976, they locked onto the punk vibe of fast, aggressive rock, fused with the then fashionable reggae sound.

NOTES

The first drummer to grace a Clash record was Terry Chimes in 1976-77, but he was quickly replaced by Nicky 'Topper' Headon. Headon's versatility – he could play reggae, rock, funk and jazz drums with equal skill and conviction as well



as piano and bass – was central to The Clash's subsequent success and he was well liked in an outfit where tension between band members was never far below the surface. His dismissal from the band for continued substance abuse in 1982 marked the beginning of the end, both of The Clash and, regrettably, of Topper's drumming career.

RECOMMENDED LISTENING

Topper Headon's work is at the heart of most of the Clash's best songs. The four Clash albums on which he plays are: *Give 'Em Enough Rope* (1978); *London Calling* (1979), *Sandinista!* (1980) and *Combat Rock* (1982).

Should I Stay Or Should I Go?

The Clash

Words & Music by Mick Jones
& Joe Strummer

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