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  - The Smiths
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  - The Verve
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**Radiohead Tickets & Information**

Somewhere between the classic stylings of rock and the experimental future lies Radiohead. Radiohead's intense and accomplished lyrics, shrewd textures and hooks, and genre-defying masterpieces impress even the harshest critics.

Buy Tickets

While these Brits aren't mainstream media darlings, they are proof of the power of word-of-mouth and the World Wide Web. In a world of bubblegum pop queens, hair extensions, and airbrush tans, Radiohead are artists with a cerebral, complex cause.

Two Grammy awards and songs like "Creep," "Black Star," "Anyone Can Play Guitar," "Pop Is Dead," "Stop Whispering," "The Bends," "My Iron Lung," "Planet Telex," "High & Dry," "Fake Plastic Trees," "Just," "Talk Show Host," "Street Spirit (Fade Out)," "Paranoid Android," "Karma Police," "No Surprises," "Pyramid Song," "Knives Out," "I Might Be Wrong," "There There," "National Anthem," and "Go To Sleep," are just the beginning of Radiohead's story-in-progress.

What some call a religious experience can be yours -- with tickets to Radiohead live in concert from StubHub now!

**Buy Radiohead Tickets**

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**Radiohead History**

Radiohead forms in 1988 and consists of a five Oxford University students: Thom Yorke (vocals, guitar, and keys), Ed O'Brien (guitar and vocals), Phil Selway (drums and percussion), Jonny Greenwood (guitar and electronics) and his brother Colin Greenwood (bass). In 1992, they release their debut, *Drill*, and sign with EMI/Capitol.

First, they put out moderately successful singles that garner fans in Europe, next comes their first full album, *Pablo Honey*, and then a tour. While on the road in Europe, "Creep" makes waves in the U.S., so the guys head to the States, where they warm up stages for acts like Belly and **Tears For Fears**. Eventually, *Pablo Honey* goes gold.

A fan base in place and inspired from touring the world, in 1995 Radiohead gives the world *The Bends*. It receives rave reviews, but it's the band's live performances (like the opening slot on **R.E.M.**'s Monster tour) and videos for "Just" and "Fake Plastic Tress" that launch them onto the charts and boost sales. Another gold record silences any one-hit wonder title-tattle.

Radiohead secludes themselves to record in 1996. By June 1997, *OK Computer* emerges as an electronic soundscape that retains Radiohead's moody sonic signature. Praise, the Against Demons World Tour (filmed by director, Grant Gee, and the subject of his documentary, *Meeting People is Easy*), a Grammy, and stardom follow.

**Kid A**

A more ambient, electronic, and minimalist *Kid A* finds its way to the Internet months before its planned release, yet still debuts at number one on U.S. charts in 2000 and receives a Grammy award.

Radiohead next releases material from the *Kid A* sessions in the form of *Amnesiac*. It debuts at number one in the U.K. and number two in the U.S.

Their next studio endeavor is again leaked before its official release. 2003's *Hail to the Thief* generates controversy when the public translates the title as a reference to the 2000 U.S. Presidential election between George W. Bush and Al Gore. Although the band publicly denies this, protesters in Washington did holler, "Hail to the thief, our commander in chief!" on Bush's inauguration day.

Radiohead embarks on a yearlong international tour to support the success the album generates.

In 2004, Jonny and Thom gather for a star-studded remake of the Bob Geldof -led Band Aid track, "Do They Know It's Christmas." Band Aid 20 (to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the original), includes: Sir Paul McCartney, Chris Martin (**Coldplay**), Fran Healy (Travis), **The Darkness**, **Keane**, Robbie Williams, **Dido**, **U2**'s Bono (also a member of the 1984 edition), Dizzee Rascal, Damon Albarn (Blur and **Gorillaz**), **Joss Stone**, The Thrills, and Sugababes. The single is released in November 2004 and climbs to the top of music charts.

In December 2004, Radiohead release the DVD, *The Most Gigantic Lying Mouth of All Time*, a collection of short films and unreleased music.

Think you know Radiohead? What name did the band initially go by (and, for bonus points, why)? The answer is in StubHub's Fun Facts.

**Radiohead Discography**

**Full Length Albums**

- Hail to the Thief*, 2003
- Amnesiac*, 2001
- Kid A*, 2000
- Interview Picture Disc*, 1998
- Star Profile*, 1998
- OK Computer*, 1997
- The Bends*, 1995
- Pablo Honey*, 1993 EPs *COM LAG (2plus2isfive)*, 2004
- I Might Be Wrong: Live Recordings*, 2001
- Amnesiac College EP*, 2001
- Airbag/How Am I Driving?*, 1998
- No Surprises/Running From Demons*, 1997
- The Bends Pinkpop*, 1996
- Live Au Forum*, 1995
- My Iron Lung*, 1994
- Stop Whispering*, 1994
- Itch*, 1993
- Drill*, 1992

**Fun Facts**

Nigel Godrich, Radiohead's producer, is a major contributor in the band and has been since *The Bends*. He's sometimes dubbed the band's "sixth member."

Stanley Donwood creates the band's album artwork (since *The Bends*) in collaboration with "Dr. Techock" (A.K.A. Thom Yorke). Donwood is another of the Oxford circle of friends. Together, he and Yorke also produce the band's official website Radiohead.com.

There are scores of fan sites devoted to deconstructing, tracking, and loving Radiohead.

There are quite a few books out there that chronicle Radiohead. One of the latest is from Ashgate Publishing. *The Music and Art of Radiohead* by author Joseph Tate is scheduled for publication April 2005.

Oxford's own have inspired many an artist; here are a few who've given their more classical take on Radiohead:

- Jazz pianist, Brad Mehldau, covers "Exit Music (For a Film)" on his album *The Art Of The Trio, Vol. 3*, "Paranoid Android" on his *Largo*, and "Everything in its Right Place" on the *Anything Goes* album.
- String quartet, The Section, release two albums with their versions of Radiohead: *Strung Out On OK Computer* and *Enigmatic*.
- Pianist, Christopher O'Riley, puts out *True Love Waits*, a collection of Radiohead arrangements on solo piano.

**Heady Collaborations**

Radiohead members have united with a few notables:

**Björk**  
For a real aural treat, listen to "I've Seen It All," a Thom Yorke/Björk collaboration featured on her album, *Selmasongs*, and in the film, *Dancer in the Dark*. Björk also stars the fantastical musical/movie.

**Drugstore**  
Yorke and Isabel from Drugstore handle vocals on "El President," off the band's album *White Magic For Lovers*.

**Sparklehorse**  
For the 1997 modern rock collection, *Come Again*, Sparklehorse and Thom Yorke cover Pink Floyd's "Wish You Were Here." (Note: Thom sings his part over the telephone; his hotel room television can be heard in the background.)

**U.N.K.L.E.**  
In 1996, Yorke and DJ Shadow meet up in San Francisco during Radiohead's tour and record the song, "Rabbit in Your Headlights," for the James Lavelle/Shadow project, U.N.K.L.E. The 1998 album, *Psyence Fiction*, also features contributions from Kool G Rap, **Beastie Boy** Mike D, and ex-Verve front man, Richard Ashcroft.

**Venus in Furs**  
Thom and Jonny, along with Andy Mackay (**Roxy Music**), Bernard Butler (Suede), and Paul Kimble (Grant Lee Buffalo), form the band, Venus in Furs, and record five songs for producer Michael Stipe's film, *Velvet Goldmine*.

**Pavement** Jonny Greenwood lends his harmonica talents to the Pavement album, *Terror Twilight*, which is produced by Radiohead's Nigel Godrich.

**PJ Harvey**  
Yorke duets with PJ Harvey on the track, "This Mess We're In," as well as sings back-up on a couple other tracks for her album, *Stories from the City, Stories from the Sea*.

**And the answer is . . .**

In the beginning, Radiohead uses the name **On A Friday** -- referring to the only day all the band members could get together to practice. They lift the name Radiohead from the Talking Heads' song of the same name.

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