

Chris Norman – Biog 2021

Chris Norman first found fame fronting huge 70's hit band **Smokie**. In 1986, Chris left the band and started his successful solo career. His first single 'Midnight Lady' became a massive hit throughout Europe. So far he had had 21 hit singles and released around 22 albums, selling over 20 million records worldwide

Chris got his first guitar at the age of 7 and his early musical influences were Elvis Presley, Little Richard, Buddy Holly & Lonnie Donegan. Later the 60's beat groups, in particular The Beatles, and the folk singer Bob Dylan, were a huge influence on Chris.

He formed a band at school and played all over the UK in the late 60s and early seventies.

By 1974 the group had developed their own sound reflecting their close harmonies and they changed their name to '**Smokie**'. Their first album 'Pass it Around' was released in 1975

including their first hit '*If you think you know how to love me*' followed by a string of 15 hit singles like '*Living next door to Alice*', '*I'll meet you at Midnight*', '*Lay back in the arms of Someone*', etc. Plus a duet with Suzi Quatro, "*Stumblin' In*" which gave Chris his first taste of success outside the group. Their album sales grew accordingly and they had many hit albums such as, 'Changing All The Time', 'Midnight Cafe', 'Bright Lights and Back Alleys' and 'the Montreux Album' among others.

Chris's solo career took off in 1986 with the song, 'Midnight Lady. In 1994 Chris was awarded 'International video Star of the Year' by CMT Europe for the videos 'Jealous Heart', 'The Growing Years' and 'Red Hot Screaming Love'. That same year Chris formed a new band and went on tour for the first time in six years. Since then Chris and his band have continued to tour extensively all over the world, and produce many solo albums.

This December he will released his brand new album called "Just A Man" which he has written and recorded with his old mentor and friend Mike Chapman as producer. Mike has written and produced scores of worldwide hits with the likes of, 'Blondie', 'Tina Turner', 'The Knack', 'Sweet', Suzie Quatro, 'Smokie', and many others. Chris says, "this album has got a great selection of songs and I feel it is one of the best albums I've ever done".