

Quotes Database

This section of the site is a collection of quotes (or a link to the relevant page) about, or by, The Stone Roses. For example, what was Morrissey's opinion on The Stone Roses ? How did The Stone Roses feel about the 'Madchester' movement in which they were categorised ? What does Ian Brown think of Tony Blair ?

A

Ali, Muhammad

B

Beach Boys, The

Blair, Tony

Are you impressed by Tony Blair ?

"No, he's ineffectual. Like, now there's a chance to get rid of fox hunting. For the first time in history we've got 'em and he's stalling. There's other things I disagree with - curfews on 14-year-old kids, forcing kids to work for their dole. Blair's got a massive landslide, the Tories smashed themselves and it was beautiful, but there's nothing to replace it. All the people who suffered through the Eighties... Blair wants to be everything to everybody, and he'll end up being none of them. He's still kissing the arse of business, and they're still attacking single mothers on welfare. I voted Labour, but if we'd had Arthur Scargill's Socialist Labour in my constituency I'd have voted for him."

(Ian Brown speaking to Uncut magazine, February 1998)

Bono

Through those years, he says, he was always sure the Roses would make it. Why ?
"Because I knew we loved music and I knew what time of day it was, and I knew Bono was faking. He's such a fake, isn't he ? When he did Live Aid which made them a worldwide group and he looked out and seen that black girl in the middle of all them people, and she's from Hackney or something, and he was like, 'Here's a great shot for me around the world to show I'm Mr Africa'. It's like colonialist times with a big white hat."

(Ian Brown speaking to The Guardian, Friday 23rd September 2005)

C

Charles, Prince

"I'd like to see him dead. I'd like to shoot him. He owns acres and acres of land, with big houses, that he's never seen. And there are people living in squalor in some of those places. No sympathy at all."

(Ian Brown speaking to Melody Maker, 3rd June 1989)

Churchill, Winston

"Winston Churchill. He's the guy who sent the Army to shoot miners in 1924 (*actually 1926, Paul*), cos they went on strike. And he's seen as one of the greatest men in British history, and I think that's sick."

(Ian Brown speaking to Melody Maker, 3rd June 1989)

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

Jackson, Michael

Why did you record Billie Jean ?

Vanessa Greendon, Cheltenham

"Because I had a better version of 'Billie Jean' than 'Thriller'. Because I was doing 'Thriller' and I wanted to record that but 'Billie Jean' sounds better. I love Michael Jackson from the Jackson 5 right through to (adopts unconvincing Jackson voice), 'I'm bad, you know it !'. *(Laughs)* He's great, Jacko. I love the showbiz in America. It's like Public Enemy have the S1Ws. The Americans understand showbiz and Jacko's the king of it."

(Ian Brown quoted in Jockey Slut magazine, March 2000)

[Jesus and Mary Chain, The](#)

K

[King, Martin Luther](#)

L

Lee, Bruce

M

[Madchester](#)

[Manson, Shirley](#)

McCartney, Paul

"I'm keeping my fingers crossed. I don't mind waiting for him. I'd put it back for him. I just think in the last 40 years, no-one's touched McCartney on the bass. It's a bit of a pipe dream, but if you don't ask, you don't get, so I'm going for it."

(Ian Brown speaking about his wish for the former Beatles bassist to appear on his 5th LP, 'The World Is Yours.' Irish Examiner, 5th January 2007)

Morrissey

What about The Stone Roses ? They've cited The Smiths as a key influence and yet you've damned the band as a "press creation".

"The Stone Roses are just so press created. The jingly jangly Roger McGuinn-ness of The Smiths was only one aspect of a lifestyle which was multi-faceted. And The

Smiths made it on their own terms in their own way. Nobody helped us, nobody promoted us, and we didn't even use video until our ninth single, which was a complete disaster. Up until then it was a private club that, in spite of everything and everybody, became successful."

(Morrissey speaking to Select magazine, July 1991)

N

Nirvana

Mani: "It was a huge waste of talent and a powerful voice. To have it all and throw it away like that is sad."

John: "I thought In Utero was their best LP."

(Mani and John speaking to The Big Issue, December 1994)

NME: How did you feel about Kurt Cobain ?

Ian: "I was gutted. I loved his voice. To me, he was the best white singer since John Lennon."

(Ian speaking to the NME, 4th March 1995)

O

Oasis

O'Connor, Sinéad

"I want to write an album for someone like Sinéad O'Connor, a great singer who's a rebel as well. There's something dangerous in putting words into someone else's mouth, I've already made some steps towards that, but I don't want to release any names yet."

(Ian Brown quoted on www.contactmusic.com, 6th September 2005)

P

Prince

Prince and Bowie lost it. Does age wither the muse ?

Craig Gunner via e-mail

"I really like that new Prince song, 'Greatest Romance In The World'. It's really good that, yeah. He might come back better than ever. Bowie never had it. He's just a poser."

(Ian Brown quoted in Jockey Slut magazine, March 2000)

[Psychocandy](#)

Q

R

Rowland, Kevin

"Kevin Rowland sent me a nice letter when I was in prison. I've never met him but he sent me this letter saying that he didn't know me but he'd been a pop star, he'd been in jail and he felt lonely and confused. At the time I had about 500 kids trying to get into my cell. I thought 'I wish I had the time to feel lonely !'. Good luck to the guy. But when I saw him at Reading licking that whore's bum on stage I thought that was a bit sad."

(Ian Brown quoted in Jockey Slut magazine, March 2000)

S

Springsteen, Bruce

Springsteen, dictates John, is no better: "He does nothing for me, all that power and glory chest-beating stuff."

"He always sounds like he's having a shit," adds Ian.

(John and Ian speaking to NME, 14th July 1990).

Suede

"Suede seemed like a step backwards to me," Brown ruminates. "Like when us and the Mondays were written about a lot of things seemed to be getting more and more real. Then house music broke. But Suede doing their '70s Bowie imitations took it back again. It was like London wanted something of its own. It was at that time that hip-hop and black music should have come through. To me, bands like Suede and Blur were in the way. Oasis are good but the others just got in the way."

(Ian Brown speaking to Q Magazine, March 1995)

T

U

U2

V

W

Winehouse, Amy

"Am I a fan ? Not really. I think there's loads of black girls who sing like that but better...but that's the way the world is."

(Ian Brown speaking to NME, 2007)

X

Y

Z