

THE STONE ROSES: MADE OF STONE Synopsis

In 2012, a resurrection no one thought possible took place when legendary band, The Stone Roses reformed after 16 years.

With unprecedented access to previously unseen archive footage, MADE OF STONE is a revealing journey through the life of one of the most revered and influential bands in British music history.

Acclaimed film-maker Shane Meadows brings his unique directorial style, humour and emotional depth to the film, capturing the band at work and in their everyday lives as they rehearsed for their much-anticipated reunion, which culminated in three triumphant homecoming gigs at Manchester's Heaton Park in front of 220,000 adoring fans.

Incorporating never-seen-before material spanning the band's musical history, the personal experiences of many of those touched by the band and their music, and unparalleled access to the record-breaking sell-out concerts which took place in Summer 2012, this is the definitive record of the definitive band of the past 25 years.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT Shane Meadows

In 1990 I was 17, and had a ticket for Spike Island. For someone from a town like Uttoxeter, this was a big deal. But the night before the gig, I took acid, and had the most horrendous trip ever. For some reason, I gave my ticket away to some bloke I met in the street. I woke up the next morning and realised what I'd done but the bus had left, and I wasn't going to Spike Island.

Roll on 22 years, and Ian Brown rings to tell me my favourite band of all time are getting back together again. I had met Ian at a Banksy exhibition in Bristol a few years ago and we kept in touch. Then last October, I'm in a taxi on the way to a film festival, and I get a phone call – it's Ian and the band was getting back together. It was every Roses fan's wildest dream to hear this. Then he said they wanted me to come along the next week and film the press conference. I said, "Well, I hope you're going to ask about making a film – just don't give anyone else the job, I'll do it."

At that time I was just about to go on and make probably the biggest film of my career about Tommy Simpson (legendary Tour De France cyclist), but I knew if I didn't do the Roses film I would regret it for the rest of my life.

I filmed the press conference, then we met up in a hotel room to discuss the film. Obviously I know Ian, but then John Squire walks in, and Reni, and Mani. I admitted that I hadn't done this before, I'm not a documentary film maker, but I told them my story and what had happened with Spike Island. Immediately, John said, "Make it how you want to make it, tell your own story."

I knew I would never get used to being around The Stone Roses. I don't ever want to get blasé. There are people out there who would die for this job. Throughout filming, my love for the music has just grown and grown and to be party to watching something grow is a real privilege. What I saw in those first rehearsals blew my mind, and yet when I returned a month later it was even better. Then to be lucky enough to be at Warrington... in a way that was my Spike Island experience. I got to be a part of something special.

In the rehearsals, the band were set up with Reni and Ian opposite each other, and Mani and John opposite, where they can all look at each other while working all the songs out again. It was amazing. I thought, "noone in the world would ever see this." They played eight or ten songs that they were working on for the setlist at Warrington. That is a piece of history in itself. You want to see moments like that.

So it's Friday night, the first day of Heaton Park and I'm following the band backstage as they're walking towards the stage. I watch them walk on stage, hear the crowd erupt, then I run round to the front and just fucking watch it, as a fan.

People tell you that you can't recapture your youth, it won't be the same. I don't believe that. Hopefully the end result will be something the true fan will appreciate.

SHANE MEADOWS INTERVIEW WITH JON SNOW CHANNEL 4 NEWS/ 18th APRIL 2013

Q: Shane you are an unashamed, political film maker, but the band, I would say is not necessarily known for its politics, it's known for its music. So this must have either been love or fanaticism.

SM: Oh, it was completely love. I mean I think obviously with films I've made like *This is England*, the political message of those things. When it came to making the Stone Roses, I had quite a personal, sad story attached to my history with the band because I had ticket to the most famous concert in the 90s, the Spike Island gig that I gave away at a bonfire in Uttoxeter because I wasn't feeling very well

Q: And it was quite some bonfire was it?

SM: Yeah it was a gothic bonfire and it was in the days when people were experimenting with various things and one of the things I experimented with didn't agree with me very well. I ended up handing over my ticket in a sort of blurry transmission that was going on, and regretted it for the rest of my life. So I never got to see them in their heyday.

Q: What is it about the band that drives you?

SM: I think, as a kid I had made a film about *This is England*, but I was 11 years old when I got into becoming a skin head, so I attached myself to somebody else's fashion; I was a plastic skin head really, it wasn't really my...

Q: It wasn't your soul?

SM: Yeh, it wasn't my soul and the first band that ever became the soundtrack to my life were the Stone Roses. I remember the first posh girl I ever went out with from college, a fine artist girl. I brought her back and played Waterfall to her, she thought I was sensitive and kissed me. I was having all this positive affirmation to their music.

Q: But they disappeared almost as fast as they arrived; they had this fantastic opening in their late teens and they were gone.

SM: Yeh, they'd been around - which is what a lot of people don't realise and I think the film will explain — since 1983 with different members of the band. The band that we all know now that really broke out began in 1987 when Mani joined. And like you say there was this massive explosion, and a lot of other bands from Manchester at the same time, this whole thing unfolded; the Summer of Love. Whereas all the other bands carried on making records, the Roses had signed a deal which was paramount to slave labour and once they realised they were in a contract that was completely untenable, they started trying to get out of it, and it ended up becoming a four or five year wait to get out of the contract and record another record.

Q: The great thing that's clear from the film is that they were so young when they first made it, that they aren't old craggies even now; they're still quite young guys.

SM: Yeah, at the end of the Warrington gig- the first show they played together in 20 years as a four piece, lan at the end of it comes to the mic and says 'and we're still good looking', which I thought was beautiful.

Q: Now, in the past you've tended to work with one or two cameras? I gather on this one there's been a transition?

SM: Yeah, like you said, I worked with two cameras on *This is England* which was quite a luxury for a filmmaker. I thought two was quite a lot and then when I started looking at the 100m wide stage at Heaton Park, 75,000 people per night and the fact that I wanted the fans to be an intrinsic part of this. I went from two to five to seven to nine and ended up with 35 cameras. So, I went from working class kitchen sink realism to a titanic in six months.

Q: There is a sort of well known fact that it's an extremely combustible group and creativity often requires combustion, but at one point you had to stop filming because the combustion was getting hold of the film.

SM: Yeh well they had a very public fallout in Amsterdam that was all over the internet and what I think a lot of filmmakers who make documentaries all the time would have done is to try to ram the cameras in the dressing rooms and find out what was going on. But, because of my love for the band, I've not held back from what everyone saw but I didn't go backstage sticking mics in the way. I made all my crew turn their cameras and sound devices off and all sat in a room, being respectful. If someone's had a bit of a bit of a fall out, I'm not making the Jeremy Kyle show and that became a big turning point with the band because they realised that they could trust me. I wasn't there trying to make Martin Bashir's Michael Jackson exposé; I was making it with genuine love and affection. Its warts and all, don't get me wrong, but at the same time I also understood that certain things are private.

Q: How do they compare with the beginning?

SM: Musically? I think they're better. Obviously I never had the experience of watching them live the first time because I missed Spike Island. The first time around, the whole thing was done on a shoe string I think, and Spike Island was famously let down by not the best PA so I think finally the band, not only are they musically probably that bit better but they've also finally got what they should have around them to make them sound the best they can be.

BIOGRAPHIES

Shane Meadows – Director

Frequently cited as one of the best British filmmakers working today, BAFTA – winning director & screen writer Shane Meadows has been responsible for a slew of intense, gritty and modern classics including, A Room For Romeo Brass, Dead Man's Shoes, This is England, This is England '86 and This is England '88.

His first feature with Warp Films, the Genre-defying *Dead Man's Shoes*, was hailed by some as a landmark in British Cinema. The film won the Hitchcock D'Or at Dinard Film Festival, was nominated for a BAFTA and won the prestigious Southbank Show Award for Best Film. It quickly gained rave reviews, attaining cult classic status. It has since been rated as one of the best British films in the last 25 years by the Guardian.

His next film, *This is England*, won numerous international festival awards, Best Film at the British Independent Film Awards and Best British Film at BAFTA. Many critics called it the "best film of the year" and it has since gone on to sell 875,000 DVDs in the UK. In September 2010 a follow-up to the film, *This is England '86* debuted on Channel 4 to 3.7 million people, setting record viewing figures for a Channel 4 drama debut. The series has been widely critically acclaimed. "Possibly the greatest UK television programme of a generation" – NME, "Astonishingly good" – The Daily Telegraph. In December 2011 *This is England '88*, the second series aired on Channel 4 as their highest audience figures for a drama and won a 2012 Television BAFTA for Best Mini Series.

Mark Herbert - Producer

Mark Herbert is CEO of Sheffield-based Warp Films. Warp, now in its 10th year, has made multi award-winning films and is one of the UK's most critically acclaimed independent film production companies. In 2002, Mark produced Chris Morris' BAFTA-winning short film *My Wrongs #8245-8249 & 117* for Warp Films. He followed this in 2004 with his, and Warp Films', debut feature *Dead Man's Shoes*, directed by Shane Meadows. It was nominated for a record eight British Independent Film Awards and won the Hitchcock D'or at the Dinard Festival.

In 2006, he received the Dunhill award at the BFI London Film Festival and was mentioned by The Observer as one of the Courvoisier Future 500. Mark was also nominated by Variety magazine as one of "10 Producers to Watch".

The same year, he produced Shane Meadows' *This Is England*. Since its release in early 2007, it has gained many awards including 'Best Film' at the British Independent Films Awards, the Special Jury Prize at the Rome Film Festival and Best British Film at the BAFTAs in 2008.

Herbert has also gone onto produce the successful spin-off TV series *This is England 86* which averaged 2.5 million viewers and set a new record for a debut drama series. It has received major awards at the BAFTAs, Royal Television Awards, Sydney Film Festival and Stockholm Film Festival. The latest installment, *This is England '88* won a BAFTA for Best Production. Mark's latest film is The Stone Roses: Made of Stone, directed by Shane Meadows, due to be released in Spring 2013.

Herbert also produced the critically acclaimed box office hit *Four Lions*, directed by Chris Morris. The film went on to win awards at the Sundance Film Festival and at the BAFTAs. Next he also produced Richard Ayoade's directorial debut *Submarine* which was distributed by the Weinstein Company in the USA.

Alongside Robin Gutch, Mark is Managing Director of the low budget digital studio Warp X. Mark has produced such Warp X titles as A Complete History of my Sexual Failures, Donkey Punch, Hush & Bunny and the Bull. He has executive produced All Tomorrow's Parties, She, a Chinese, Kill List & Tyrannosaur

Currently Mark is preparing to next film Tommy Simpson, based on the Great British cyclist who infamously died climbing Mount Ventoux on the Tour De France in 1967.

Laurie Rose – Director of Photography

Laurie spent his formative years in television and documentary, covering a wide range of projects from current affairs for the BBC and Channel 4, to observational reality and entertainment shows, via a handful of music videos and commercials. In 2009, he took on his first cinematography role on *Down Terrace*, which was followed up by two even more successful Ben Wheatley films; *Kill List* (2011) and *Sightseers*(2012).

Laurie shot THE STONE ROSES: MADE OF STONE with Shane Meadows and a segment of recent Magnet release *The ABCs of Death* before teaming up with Wheatley again for *A Field in England*, due for release in July this year.

CREDITS

Film4, Warp Films and Big Arty Productions Present

A Shane Meadows Film

The Stone Roses: Made of Stone

The Stone Roses Ian Brown

Gary Mounfield John Squire Alan Wren

Director Shane Meadows

Producer Mark Herbert

Line Producer Libby Durdy

DOP Laurie Rose

Sound Recordist David Mitchell

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Chris King Tobias Zaldua

Additional Editor Jonathan Stenton

Executive Producers Katherine Butler

Robin Gutch Alex Marshall Simon Moran David Root

Associate Producer Niall Shamma

Band Management Conrad Murray

Archive Researcher

Management Simon Moran

Production Manager
Production Accountant
Production Secretary
Production Assistant
Production Assistant
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Gordon King

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Nick Everett

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Camera Operator Mike Sherbert
Barcelona Production Assistant Nick Hall

Amsterdam Production Assistant Madelein Stiekema

Additional Camera Europe Richard Carlton

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Matthieu Wadoux-Girard

Ian Stanyer

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ASIA

Japan Unit DOP Marc Swadel Japan Unit Camera Operator Mary Wing

HEATON PARK

Production Manager Karl Liegis

Assistant Production Coordinator Lynsey Palmer

Production Assistant Ryan Flynn

Accountant Gareth Jones

3rd AD Hannah Green

Floor Runners Russell Evans

Danny Scott Smith

David Gales Jac Ashton

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Timelapse Camera Sean McGrail

Arial Photography Uppercut Productions

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Ewan Rowden Grant Lightbody

Music Supervisors Tin Drum Music

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For Halo

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Live Music Dubbing Mixer
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Robbie McGrath
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The Stone Roses Solicitors, Bray & Krais Richard Bray and David Manlow

International Sales Altitude Film Sales

Stone Roses Crew

Tour Manager Steve Chapman **Production Manager Tony Gittins FOH Engineer** Robbie McGrath **Show Designer** Paul Normandale Head of Security Steve Head Venue Security Dave White Ian Brown Assistant John Ward **Tour Assistant** Frankie Brown **Tour Assistant** Marli Wren Stage Manager **Toby Plant Lighting Operator** Glen Johnson Video Director Phil Woodhead Monitor Engineer Mark Ellis-Cope **Guitar Tech** Martin Herbert Bass Tech **Andrew Davitt** Drum Tech **Simon Crompton** Sound Tech **Pete Hughes** Sound Tech **Chris Courtney** Moving Light Tech Alex Johnson **Dimmer Tech** Ray Whelan Video Engineer Matt Vassallo Video Tech Alastair Wright Merchandise Jake Pepper Lead Truck Driver Paul Lawn Truck Driver **Terry Sparrow**

Archive

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'I Wanna Be Adored'
'So Young'
'Tell Me'
'Shoot You Down'
'Shoot You Down (Soul Hooligan Mix)'
'Waterfall'
'I Am The Resurrection'
'Made Of Stone'

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'All Across The Sands'
Performed by Stone Roses
Written by John Squire/Ian Brown
1986 Revolver Music Ltd.
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'You Don't Know Like I Know' Geno Washington
Words and Music By Isaac Hayes and David Porter
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'Double Barrel'

Written by Dave Barker, Winston Riley & Ansel Collins
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'Love Spreads'
Performed by The Stone Roses
Words & Music by John Squire
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'Little Run'

Composed by Claude Pelouse, Emmanuel d'Orlando, Frédéric Auger Courtesy of: Universal Publishing Production Music

'Hidden Movement'
Composed by Yoann Le Dantec
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'French Kiss' (Original Mix)
Composed by Marvin Burns. Performed by Lil Louis
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"Stoned Love"
Performed by The Supremes
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Written by Bob Marley
Performed by Bob Marley & The Wailers
Published by Fifty Six Hope Road Ltd./Blackwell Fuller Music Publishing LLC
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'Anderlecht Champion aka Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole' Written by: Roland Verlooven (aka Armath) & Jeanine Deja Published by: Hans Kusters Music nv © 1985

'Breaking Into Heaven'
Performed by The Stone Roses
Words & Music by John Squire
Published by Sony/ATV Music Publishing
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'Song From Under The Arches'
Performed by Gravenhurst
Written by Nicholas Talbot
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