

# TEN YEARS AFTER

## Back On The Road Again And Heading Towards Houston

For the majority of the Woodstock generation, there were several rock bands that were embraced as "their" bands. Among them was the British band, Ten Years After. From the moment they appeared at Woodstock, they helped define the Woodstock generation. Their appearance there and in the film by the same name, *Woodstock*, pretty much stole the show. Who could forget the powerhouse rhythm section of "I'm Going Home."

From 1968 to 1975 Ten Years After continuously toured non-stop, garnering friends and fans all over the globe. If there was an important festival going on, Ten Years After had to be there - by public outcry. Their performances at The Isle Of Wight Festival, Newport Jazz Festival, Miami Pop Festival, The Toronto Peace Festival and more are legendary. They performed at nearly every major venue on the planet, including Madison Square Garden, The Royal Albert Hall, Hofheinz Pavilion, and even The Budokan in Tokyo.

Who could forget the many great albums that Ten Years After put out. Among those were *Ten Years After* (1967), *Undead* (1968), *Stonedhenge* (1969), *Sssh* (1969), *Cricklewood Green*

(1970), *Watt* (1970), *A Space In Time* (1971), *Rock 'N' Roll Music To The World* (1972), *Recorded Live* (1973), *Positive Vibrations* (1974). And how about the great hit songs that permeated the radio, such as "I'm Going Home," "I'd Love To Change The World," "Baby Won't You Let Me Rock 'n' Roll You," and "Choo Choo Mama." These were the songs of the Woodstock Generation. Their performances became huge events. There were sold out shows everywhere.

Unfortunately in 1975, Alvin Lee decided to go solo, creating a void in the band. Since then there have been a few *short* reunions. They even performed in Houston at Fitzgerald's for one of those shows. The club was packed to the rafters and yes, we were there too.

In 2001 EMI and Decca Records, along with drummer Ric Lee, digitally remastered all the tracks to their classic albums, along with some amazing rarities that were found in the vaults. Demand for the material was great and so



was resurgence in seeing this great band perform again. Ric and Chick both contacted Alvin Lee to see if he would be interested in reforming the band, and he declined. He merely stated that he was now in *retirement*. Public outcry for the band continued and even though Alvin was not going to rejoin them, the rest of the band decided to reunite without him. And as all rock and roll stories go, it was time to find a new guitarist. So what do great rock and roll bands do? Three British musicians head off to Italy to meet with an astounding American guitarist that they had been turned on to. It wasn't

long after jamming together that Joe Gooch and the rest of Ten Years After found themselves joining forces. Within no time, the newly reformed Ten Years After found themselves back on the road and thrilling audiences all over Europe again.

The core elements of the band remain, Leo Lyons (bass), Chick Churchill (keyboards) and Ric Lee (drums) have reunited to thrill a new generation of fans with their classic favorites as well as some new material. Joining the band is twenty-seven year old guitarist/vocalist Joe Gooch. Together they are generating a new revitalized interest in the band that helped define the Woodstock generation.

And now there are new hits from the band, such as "When It All Falls Down," "Time To Kill," "King Of The Blues," and "Changes".

After nearly 20 years, Ten Years After is back again and they also have some great new material. Their first studio release in years is entitled *Ten Years After - Now*, and was released in April of 2004. Since then the band has also released a new double CD live album called *Roadworks*. *Roadworks* was just released this year and features some of

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