

# Jesus Jones – press release May 2016

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Jesus Jones are back – but to be strictly accurate, they never actually went away. “We just dropped off the radar, for a while” says singer and principal songwriter Mike Edwards. “We never split, or gave up altogether; we just needed to rediscover how to be a fully-functioning band again”. So – what changed? Well, around a decade ago, the band were merely existing, playing the occasional show when the urge took them. “But then” says Edwards, ‘we just realised: look, this is still fun, so why don’t we do more, and we’ll have more fun?”

Since then, they’ve overhauled their management (they’re now managed by the band’s keyboard player, Iain Baker) have revamped their web presence and social media, toured the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, and have taken charge of their back catalogue. In 2011 they released “the Collection”, a double CD featuring never-before heard demos and rarities, and in 2014 reissued expanded versions of all four of their EMI albums. Each album featured a huge treasure trove of demos, rarities, alternate versions, live tracks and rare videos. With original drummer Gen back on the drum stool, the line-up is now exactly the same as it was, over twenty-five years ago, when the band was first formed.

Jesus Jones first came together back in 1988, and their distinctive brand of sample-heavy pop found an instant, and receptive audience. Throughout the early 90’s the band enjoyed phenomenal success, particularly in America, where their single “Right Here Right Now” rose to number one, and their second album “Doubt” sold over a million copies. They played the Pyramid stage at Glastonbury, supported INXS at Wembley Stadium, and performed to a quarter of a million people in Brazil. Whilst they don’t seem in any great rush to revisit some of the excesses of their past, they *are* hungry to get back in the studio again – they’re soon to release their first new single for almost fifteen years, “How’s This Even Going Down?” and are busy writing tracks for a new album, to be released in November.

“How’s This Even Going Down?” finds the band reflecting on their place in the world, and the throes of the mid-life crisis everyone expects them to inhabit. Talking about the single, Edwards explains: “It’s basically about not quite believing your good fortune at getting to be this age, which as we’ve seen in 2016, when the Grim Reaper has gone niche with musicians and entertainers, shouldn’t be taken for granted.”

2016 also sees the band on the road again, for a select number of shows surrounding the release of the single, before a full UK tour in November. Looking forward to those gigs, Edwards muses: “This is a great time for us. We’re doing the best shows we’ve ever done, it’s the original line up getting really inspired by so much great new music and as a result we’re making new material which stands up really well next to the older songs. To be honest I wish we’d been this good when we were more in the public eye - the praise and success would have sat more comfortably!”

## Jesus Jones – tour dates, 2016

### May

27<sup>th</sup> – The Horn, St.Albans

28<sup>th</sup> – Gigantic Indie All-Dayer, Manchester

### June

3<sup>rd</sup> - Chinnery's, Southend

4<sup>th</sup> - Twyfest, Twyford

### November

12<sup>th</sup> – The Front, Herne Bay

13<sup>th</sup> - Shiine Festival, Minehead

14<sup>th</sup> – The Fleece, Bristol

15<sup>th</sup> - Rescue Rooms, Nottingham

17<sup>th</sup> - Hoxton Bar & Grill, London

18<sup>th</sup> – Esquires, Bedford

19<sup>th</sup> – The Trades Club, Hebden Bridge

20<sup>th</sup> - John Peel Centre, Stowmarket.

Jesus Jones are:

Mike Edwards – Guitar, vocals

Jerry DeBorg – Guitar

Alan Doughty – Bass

Iain Baker – Keyboards, samples

Gen – Drums, sequences

Jesus Jones are managed by Iain Baker at Two and Ten Management

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