

BACKSTAGE



WITH JON BON JOVI

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SEEN & HEARD

Jon Bon Jovi Launches Rosé in New York City

By Charlene Badasie

From tearing through the final leg of Bon Jovi's This House Is Not for Sale tour, to finally getting inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with his band, it's been a busy few months for Jon Bon Jovi.

During some much needed downtime, the rocker along with his son Jesse, attended the NYC launch party for his rosé, Diving Into Hampton Water. The event was held at the Dream Downtown hotel's PH-D Rooftop Lounge.

Since the father-son duo teamed up with winemaker Gerard Bertrand for Hampton Water, Jon commented, "We've been named one of the top five rosés in the world in our first year. We're off and running, that's for sure!"



Jon Bon Jovi with his son Jesse and Gerard Bertrand at the NYC Hampton Water Launch Party.

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Bon Jovi's Rock Hall Induction – Fans React

By Charlene Badasie

It's about time.

That was pretty much the sentiment from many music corners when New Jersey rockers, Bon Jovi were finally inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Bon Jovi reunited with former members Richie Sambora and Alec John Such for the induction ceremony at the Public Auditorium in Cleveland, where the Rock Hall is based. Jon Bon Jovi, Sambora and Such were joined by current band-mates David Bryan, Tico Torres, Hugh McDonald and Phil X for powerful performances of crowd favorites and the band's newest hit, *When We Were Us*.



Photo (c) 2018 David Bergman / www.DavidBergman.net – April 12-14, 2018 – Bon Jovi weekend at their Hall of Fame induction in Cleveland, OH.

Fans in attendance shared their thoughts on Bon Jovi's induction...

"It was an honor to be able to witness my favorite band being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. We watched the proceedings with great joy, mixed with a few tears. The acceptance speeches were funny, moving and emotional. I'd never had the opportunity to see the original band perform together, so it was special to see them on stage along with the current members. Congratulations, Bon Jovi! This was well deserved and long overdue."

- Tiz Arcuri (Newton, Massachusetts)

"To see my heroes be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame was a once in a lifetime experience. The ceremony was emotional - listening to the original band give their acceptance speeches. It was particularly moving when Jon and Richie sang parts of When We Were Us into one microphone. That song, in that moment said everything. It was an honor to attend and it's a night I'll never forget. Congratulations Bon Jovi. It's a well deserved and long overdue induction."

Victoria Bright (Bergenfield, New Jersey)

"The Rock Hall event was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I'll never forget. It was nothing short of magic being inside the venue and getting to hear Alec, Richie, Hugh, Tico, David and Jon give their speeches and perform together. Being there as a Bon Jovi fan was surreal, and something I would've once thought impossible. I can't wait to continue on this path doing the impossible with my favorite band by my side."

- Caitlin Bloomer (Pequannock, New Jersey)



Photo by David Bergman / TourPhotographer.com

Photo (c) 2018 David Bergman / www.DavidBergman.net – April 14, 2018 – Current and former members of Bon Jovi take a bow at the end of the band's performance at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Cleveland, OH. (l-r) Everett Bradley, Hugh McDonald, Richie Sambora, Alec John Such, Jon Bon Jovi, Tico Torres, David Bryan, Phil X, and John Shanks. The original five members (Such, Sambora, Torres, Bryan, and Bon Jovi) were inducted along with long-time bassist McDonald.

"It was one of the most emotional nights ever. I can't even begin to explain the feelings I felt during everyone's speeches. One of my favorite parts was when Jon thanked his kids and Dorothea. And then the music – my favorite song from the set was When We Were Us. I lost my mind when, during the second chorus, Jon and Richie sang together at the same microphone. That was something no one expected."

– Emily Albert (Erie, Pennsylvania)

"I feel so grateful that I was able to attend the spectacular Rock Hall event. My all time favorite band, the one who brought me countless moments of pure joy over the years, finally receiving rock and roll's highest honor. To see all the original members of the band together on stage was fantastic and I felt very emotional throughout their performance. To be there on that night is something that I will cherish forever."

– Isabelle Legault (Montreal, Canada)

Check out the band's induction speeches here – [Bon Jovi's Career-Defining Rock and Roll Hall Fame Induction Speeches](#).

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New Jersey Governor Declares 'Bon Jovi Day' for Rock Hall Inductees

By Charlene Badasie

April 14th is Bon Jovi Day in New Jersey.

Gov. Phil Murphy made the announcement during a private event at Cleveland's historic 925Building, hours before the platinum-selling New Jersey band was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

"Five musicians from New Jersey communities believed in their dream and used their talents to form Bon Jovi, one of the most famous, enduring rock bands of all time", Murphy wrote in a formal declaration of the holiday.

"In recognition of one of our most iconic artists, we're proud to make April 14th Bon Jovi Day in New Jersey", he said.

The move was a surprise to band members Jon Bon Jovi, David Bryan, Tico Torres, Hugh McDonald, Richie Sambora, and Alec John Such in attendance.

Led by Sayreville native Jon Bon Jovi, the band released its first album in 1984, but were regulars on the New Jersey bar circuit for years before that. They went on to record classic rock anthems including Livin' on a Prayer, Wanted Dead or Alive and It's My Life.



Photography by David bergman

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