



May mulls, Beck beams: "Playing to the people" has been the highlight, says Brian.

THE MOJO LES PAUL AWARD
Brian May
VOTED BY MOJO READERS.
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Gibson

PRESENTING HIM with the Les Paul Award, last year's inaugural winner **Jeff Beck** has just referred to Queen guitarist **Brian May** as "a genius and a gentleman". The man who famously made the most unique guitar sound in rock out of a fireplace, looks suitably self-effacing and sheepish. "It's an honour to receive this award from Jeff, who was my hero and always will be," declares May, as Beck makes puking gestures behind the winner's back.

Later, when asked what he considers to be the highlights of his career, May is clear: "Playing to the people, really. Queen really developed as a band on the road even more so than in the studio. The albums were seen as

the major milestones, but I think the big concerts we played, Brazil and Argentina, were the real highlights because of the fans, that incredible response. And, of course, Live Aid. On the day itself I wasn't conscious that we were particularly fabulous, but Freddie was so able to rise to that occasion, and that performance has become almost legendary." Still playing as Queen, with original drummer Roger

Taylor and Free's Paul Rodgers on vocals, May is "having some time off. I'm old enough and wise enough to enjoy some free time. But I think we'll respond to the call of the wild around February next year. We like a nice balance in our lives, and that's what we've got." *Paul Elliott*

"It's an honour to receive this from Jeff Beck."

THE MOJO LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

David Gilmour

VOTED BY MOJO STAFF & WRITERS.
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"AFTER ALL these years of practising I think I'm getting it now," quips rock's best-bred guitar hero upon receiving MOJO's Lifetime Achievement Award acknowledging four-decades worth of sonic genius. Even beyond his key role in such masterpieces as Pink Floyd's *Dark Side Of The Moon* and their 2005 triumph at Live 8, Gilmour continues to surprise and delight, two of his most recent career highlights being this year's *On An Island* solo album, and a gig at the Royal Albert Hall which saw him joined by David Bowie on *Arnold Layne* and *Comfortably Numb*, the Dame's first live outing in two years. Presenting the gong, Gilmour's pal and current bandmate Phil Manzanera is reduced to the level of schoolboy hero-worship all over again, nervously telling of how he met Gilmour as a teenage devotee and how, even playing live with the man, he still finds himself "struggling with the intro to *Wish You Were Here*". Gilmour, benevolent teacher figure, smiles on. *James McNair*



A guitar hero speaks...

So, David, pleased with your MOJO Award?

I'm thrilled. But it's a strange, lonely thing being up there on my own. I was more terrified accepting this award than I was playing the Albert Hall.

What are your major career achievements?

You'd have to single out *Dark Side Of The Moon* and *Wish You Were Here*, but for me it's the here and now. My current album has done much better than one could ever have expected, it's been the happiest, most fulfilling project I can remember. With the live shows, we've been worrying less about people's expectations. So to delve into the back catalogue and play the whole of *Echoes*, say, has been a blast.

How did David Bowie join you at the recent show?

Our tour manager, Nick Belshaw, has worked with David for years. He had lunch with him in New York, and next thing I got a call from David saying, "If you'd like me to do it, I'll be there." Fantastic! I didn't know until the day of the gig that it was his first live show in ages. But he instantly made both those songs his own.

Who would you most like to give a MOJO Award to?

I could name 30 or 40 people. Bob Dylan, Neil Young and Joni Mitchell come to mind. And awards for Leadbelly and Pete Seeger, perhaps. I learned guitar from Seeger's guitar tutor record when I was about 12.

So what's next for David Gilmour?

I've enjoyed this last album so much that I can't wait to start fiddling around in my studio again.



PITTING BOB Dylan's No Direction Home against Dig!, The Mayor Of Sunset Strip, The Story Of

The Ramones and Kraftwerk's Minimum-Maximum, the MOJO Vision Award (aka the Best DVD category) is one of the evening's most hotly contested gongs. **The Flaming Lips' The Fearless Frenzy** two-disc set, however, wins the votes of the HMV/MOJO quorum and

THE MOJO VISION AWARD
Flaming Lips Fearless Frenzy
VOTED BY HMV & MOJO STAFF.
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is described as a unique chronicle of a band's trip from garage to Grammys.

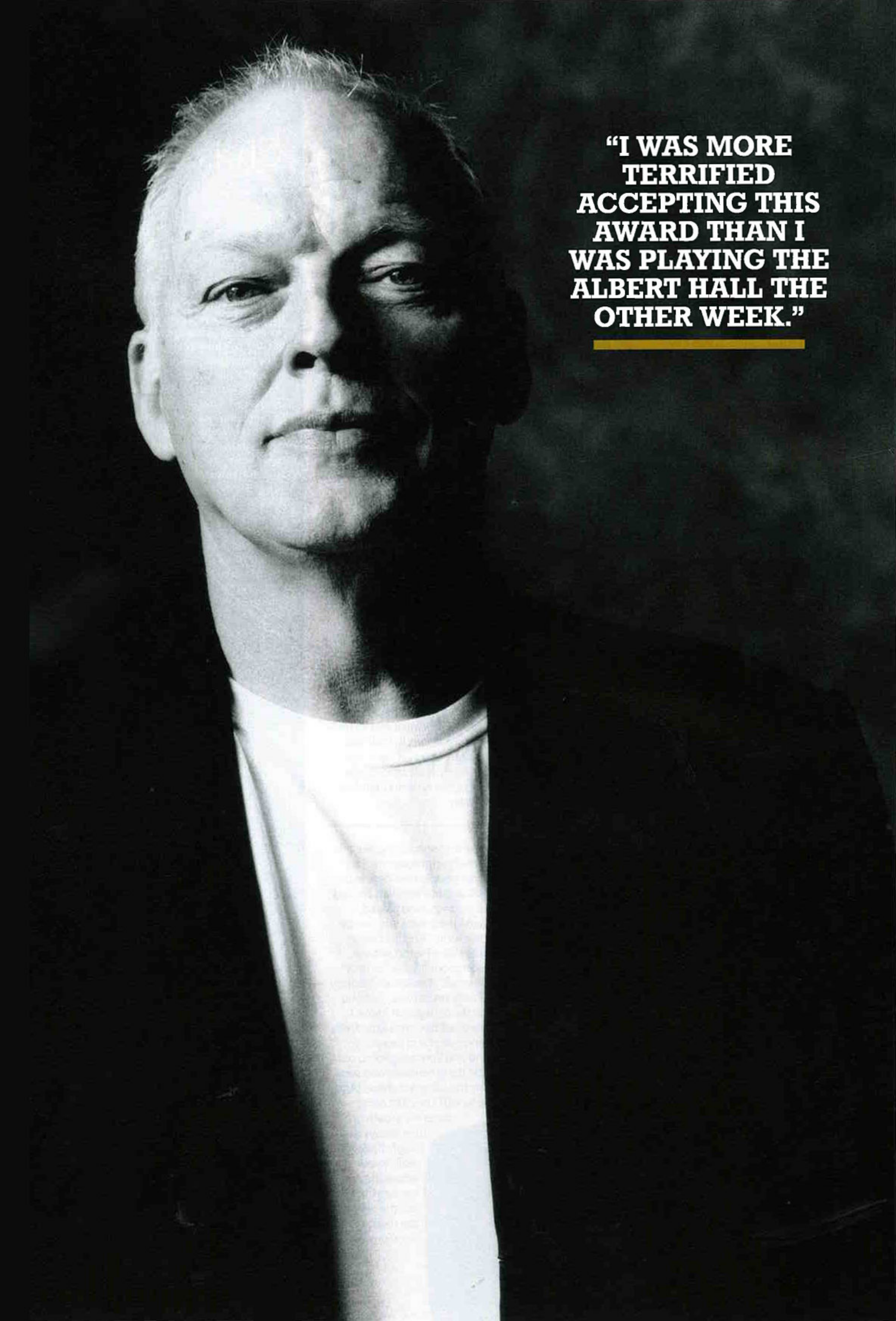
Shot over 15 years by **Bradley Beesley**, *The Flaming Lips Fearless Frenzy* was edited down from over 400 hours' footage into a searing 90 minutes, providing a rollercoaster ride through an 11-album career littered with excess, self-destruction and joyous creativity.

Sadly, the Lips are absent this evening, playing Holland's Pink Pop festival, but send along two furry associates and a wigged-out, homemade acceptance film courtesy of the head Flaming Lip, Wayne Coyne. *Clive Prior*



Wayne Coyne with fearless freaks Fishy and Bunny.



A black and white portrait of a man with short, light-colored hair, looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a white t-shirt. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on his face and shirt, and deep shadows on the right side of his face and the background. The background is a dark, textured grey.

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