



BJÖRK



Timeline

1965	1976	1986	1988	1993	2000	2011	2017
Born on November 21 st in Reykjavik	Releases an album of traditional Icelandic folk songs	Gives birth to a son called Sindri	Releases an album singing in a band called The Sugarcubes	Björk moves to London and releases her first solo album 'Debut'	Wins Best Actress Award for her performance in a film	Releases an App album called Biophilia	Releases her 9 th studio album called Utopia

Key Songs

I Love to Love	(1976) A cover of Tina Charles' original song by Björk recorded when she was just 11 years old.
Hit	(1992) One of the Sugarcubes most famous songs. Björk sang in the band for 6 years before going solo.
Human Behaviour	(1993) This was inspired by Björk's childhood, her admiration for David Attenborough and her feelings of not fitting in.
It's Oh So Quiet	(1995) Originally recorded by Betty Hutton in 1981, this became a huge success, especially the music video.
Hyperballad	(1995) A song about a dream where Björk wakes up early to throw things off a cliff and let out her frustrations.
Jóga	(1997) This was inspired by both classical and baroque music styles as well as Icelandic music and topped the charts in Iceland.
Triumph of a Heart	(2005) From the album called Medulla where nearly all the songs were made with voices only (acapella). This song features three beatboxers!
Earth Intruders	(2007) A song about how humans are one giant tribe on Earth all marching to the same beat who could make the world better. .
Biophilia	(2011) A series of 10 apps (each one being a song) where users get an introduction by David Attenborough and then options to see the composition, hear music, see lyrics or play around with it.
Stonemilker	(2015) Composed entirely on strings, this song is about trying to get emotion out of someone who is not very emotional.

DID YOU KNOW?

Björk's name means 'birch-tree' in Icelandic and is properly pronounced 'Beyerk'. Most people will stick with the common mispronunciation 'Bee-york', though.

Important Information

Experimentation

Björk has become famous for trying out and experimenting with pop music, orchestras, technology, instruments, fashion and spectacular videos. She has challenged what people think a musician should do and has become an 'artist' in her own right.

Musical Instruments

On her album app Biophilia, Björk commissioned the making of a range of unusual new musical instruments: a gravity pendulum harp, a sharpsicord, musical tesla coils and a gameleste.

Icelandic Influence

Björk's work is linked to her Icelandic upbringing. Her album *Homogenic* was packed full of songs inspired by the country. She stated that she looked at the rough nature of Iceland and its love of technology, and that she wanted to combine strings with electronic music to show this.

Important People

David Attenborough

Björk has said that David Attenborough is one of her biggest musical influences. She believes that influences are not always from other musicians but from everything from the weather, the environment and people. She identified with his love of new and wild places.

Joni Mitchell

Björk has said that Mitchell was the musician that inspired her to start writing her own lyrics, and that she *"created her own musical universe with female emotion, energy, wisdom courage and imaginations"*

Michel Gondry

Björk has worked with many famous film directors to make her music videos but the French director is one she has chosen to work with most often.