

1459. I Want To Break Free

Backgrounds Of S. Radic

I Want to Break Free is a 1984 Queen song written by the band's bassist, John Deacon, and featured on the album *The Works*.

The song was released in April 1984 as the second single of the album and reached number 1 in Belgium, Finland, the Netherlands and Austria, number 3 in the UK and number 4 in the German charts. The song was best known for its music video in which all band members appeared in women's dresses, a concept by Roger Taylor that parodied the long-standing ITV Soap *Coronation Street*. The second part of the video includes a performance rehearsed and performed with the Royal Ballet and choreographed by Wayne Eagling.

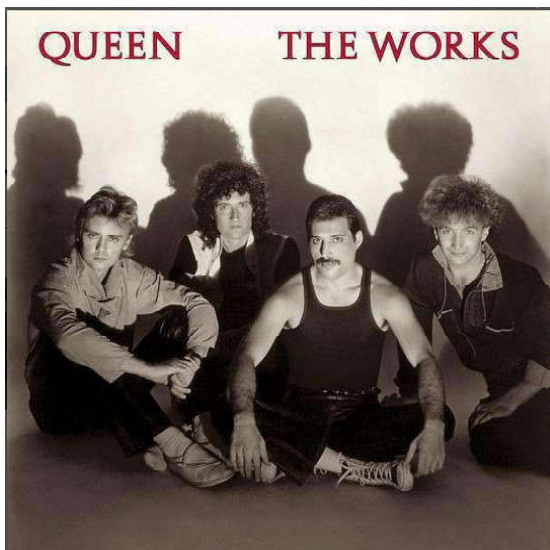
Composed in E major, *I Want to Break Free* was produced by Queen and Mack. Guest musician Fred Mandel played synthesizer. As with numerous other compositions by Deacon, Freddie Mercury can be heard as the singer. Queen released three different studio versions of the song in 1984. The version on *The Works* (length approx. 3:20) is about one minute shorter than the single remix (approx. 4:20), which is also included on Queen's compilations *Greatest Hits II* (1991) and *Absolute Greatest* (2009). The "Extended Mix" (approx. 7:15) released on the 12" maxi single of *I Want to Break Free* contains short excerpts from all eight other songs from *The Works* in the final section. This version was also released as a bonus track on the CD edition of the album released by Hollywood Records in North America in 1991.

Music video. As with Queen's previous single *Radio Ga Ga*, David Mallet directed the video for *I Want to Break Free*. The video clip parodies the British television series *Coronation Street*. In some scenes are the band



members in women's dresses. The video also shows ballet scenes performed by Freddie Mercury, who shaved off his moustache for these scenes, together with the Royal Ballet. The American television station MTV originally boycotted the video, its sister channel VH1 first broadcast it in 1991, and the Princes re-enacted parts of the music video in their video for *Alles Nur Geklaut*.

Brett Wales was born in Nottingham on 23 August 1978 and was raised by his grandparents. He still lives and works in the same house. His grandfather owned an organ of the type Elka 707 and the house was always full of music, so it is not surprising that Brett showed a great interest in music from a very young age. A very steep career as an organist between England and Germany followed - and at the age of 12 he was already a *Wersi* organist! Of course, he was predestined to play such a title by Queen. Today he is in constant demand and plays in many places throughout Europe. With bookings well into the year 2021...



Medium-Beat, T=110

The musical score is presented in a multi-staff format. The top staff is for E-Piano, showing a sequence of chords in a 4/4 time signature. The second staff is for Strings, with sustained chords. The third staff is for Dist.-Guitar, which is silent in the Main 1 section and has a solo in the Main 2 section. The fourth staff is for Bass, featuring a continuous eighth-note line. The fifth staff is for Drums, showing a pattern of snare (DSD) and bass drum (BD) hits. The score is divided into two main sections: Main 1 and Main 2. The tempo is marked as Medium-Beat, T=110.

Programming instruction

This style programming starts after the "quasi-rubato introduction", which was played from several consecutive string pad chords with string bass. The intro consists only of the above piano phrase plus snare drum. Then Main 1 enters, whereby the String Pad is programmed through here and can be switched off by the volume reduction. After the guitar solo, the Main2 programming starts, where the dist-guitar-sound can be added - if you like, because it is declared as "ADV"-sound (additional sound) - because not everybody wants to play through with a dist-guitar. The very moving bass part only sticks to the basic tones.