

Read Ringo Starr's full Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction speech for T-Rex's Marc Bolan

"We lost him way too young, but in his short life, he made over 12 albums that are as far out and ahead of their time as he was"

By **Will Richards** 8th November 2020



Ringo Starr and T-Rex's Marc Bolan filming 1972 film 'Born To Boogie'. Credit: Estate Of Keith Morris/Redferns

At last night's (November 7) Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ceremony, late **T-Rex** frontman Marc Bolan was among the new inductees, and he was welcomed into the Hall by **Beatles** drummer **Ringo Starr**.

Alongside Bolan, **Nine Inch Nails** were also inducted, with **Iggy Pop** giving a speech to welcome Trent Reznor and co, while **Depeche Mode** also joined the revered list.

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“People knew him as a great musician, a songwriter, a guitarist, but he was also a poet,” Starr said of his friend, who died in a car crash in 1977. “And he was really proud of that.”

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“He was always telling me that he was the Number One selling poet in Britain. In fact, his poetry was as important to him as his music. He had great style and was really unlike anyone else I have ever met.”

Ringo Starr

Ringo added: “He was a great performer, just incredible. And that’s why I called the film we did together *Born to Boogie*, because he really was. I told Marc, I’ll bring the camera

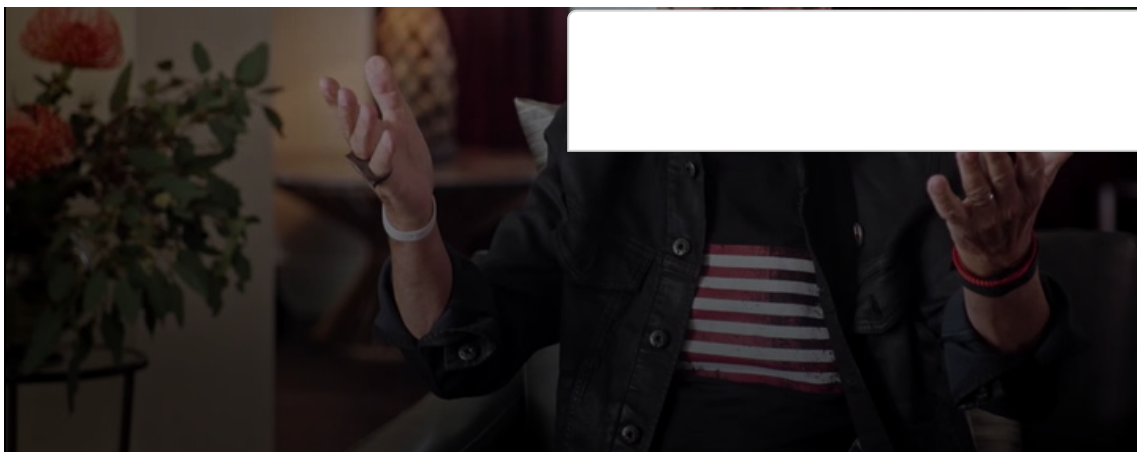
and everything else, you just bring yourself.
of laughter.

“We lost him way too young, but in his short life, he made over 12 albums that are as far out and ahead of their time as he was. With the help of [producer] Tony Visconti and his band T. Rex, Marc’s style started a lot of trends. They called it glam rock with singles such as ‘Get It On’, ‘Children of the Revolution’, and, of course, ‘Born to Boogie’.”

Starr’s speech concluded: “But it was always just great music to me. And that’s why people are still listening to T. Rex today. There’s no doubt they believe in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame — finally. And I’m very proud to welcome them in right now. Peace and love to [T. Rex members] Marc, Mickey, Steve, and Bill, and peace and love to all the fans from me and T. Rex. Peace and Love.”

ringo on drumming
ringo on drumming





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When Bolan's induction into the Hall of Fame was announced back in January, **his former girlfriend and bandmate Gloria Jones discussed what she feels it would have meant to him.**

"He would have said, 'It's about time!'" Jones joked in an interview with *Billboard*, before adding: "He was a very humble spirit, but he understood who he was. He understood his worth."

Earlier this year, a **Marc Bolan tribute album 'AngelHeaded Hipster'** was released. Included on the album are **Nick Cave's stripped-back cover of 'Cosmic Dancer'**, **Peaches' version of 'Solid Gold, Easy Action'**, and **Kesha's take on classic 'Children Of The Revolution'**.

The album also includes contributions from **U2, Elton John, Joan Jett** and more. It **was produced by the late Hal Willner, who died in April.**

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