

## 4b- Queen at Live Aid: the real story of how one band made rock history

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Queen's Live Aid performance truly stole the show. The performance helped transform them into a wonderfully camp, sleek and ubiquitous rock band, and the biggest British live act of the 80s. That their Live Aid performance provides the start and end point of [recent biopic \*Bohemian Rhapsody\*](#) further illustrates the pivotal moment the band's remaining members feel it played in defining their career.

Admittedly, a renaissance of sorts had begun with the videos for *The Works* singles *Radio Ga-Ga* and *I Want To Break Free*. But it was their performance at Live Aid, where they were the only band smart enough to work out how to play all of their hits in miniature, that bought them back big-time

Before the Live Aid event, Freddie was clearer on his motivation for the show: “I’m not doing it out of guilt. Even if I didn’t do it, the poverty would still be there. It’s something that will always be there, to be honest, when you think about it. All we can do to help is wonderful things. I’m doing it out of pride, pride that I’ve been asked as well as that I can actually do something like that. And so basically I’m doing it out of feeling that one way all the hard work that I’ve actually done over the years has paid off, because they’re actually asking me to do something to be proud of. I’m actually in with all the biggies and I can do something worthwhile. To actually sing something that’s an integral part of what’s going on, you know, and the song [*We Are The Champions*] seems to convey that anyway, without us thinking about it. That’s what’s magical, and I think that’s going to probably bring tears to my eyes, I tell you, when I do it.”