

## NILE RODGERS

Among music legends, Nile Rodgers is truly exceptional. He amplifies his legacy as a Grammy-winning composer, producer, arranger, and guitarist by constantly traversing new musical terrain and successfully expanding the boundaries of popular music. As the co-founder of CHIC, Rodgers pioneered a musical language that generated chart-topping pop hits like "Le Freak," sparked the advent of hip-hop with "Good Times," and won CHIC nine Rock and Roll Hall of Fame nominations. His work in the CHIC Organization and his productions for artists like David Bowie and Madonna have sold over 200 million albums and 50 million singles worldwide while his innovative, trendsetting collaborations with Daft Punk, Avicii, Disclosure, and Sam Smith reflect the vanguard of contemporary music. Fueling four decades of pop anthems with more than 200 production credits to his name, the scope of Rodgers' peerless influence is undeniable.

If 2015 is any indication, Nile Rodgers is about to set more precedents in his own illustrious career. While "Le Freak" was inducted into the 2015 Grammy Hall of Fame, Rodgers received the President's Merit Award during the Recording Academy's 8th Annual Grammy Week Celebration for the Producers & Engineers Wing of NARAS. He also received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Goldene Kamera Awards in Hamburg and revisited his career in a 60-minute interview with Valerie Simpson on the new PBS series *Speakeasy*. Signed to Warner Bros., Rodgers will release *It's About Time* in June 2015. It's the first new CHIC album in nearly 25 years, an historic undertaking that bridges two generations of CHIC. The album's first single "I'll Be There" will drop on March 20, 2015. One of the world's most dazzling headliners, Rodgers will take CHIC on the road throughout the year and offer the keynote address at LEAF (London Electronic Arts Festival) in March 2015.

A native New Yorker raised in the city's thriving bohemian subculture, Nile Rodgers established CHIC Organization Ltd. after partnering with bassist Bernard Edwards in the Big Apple Band. Between 1977-1983, CHIC's blend of jazz, funk, and disco dominated the airwaves and has since influenced a range of hip hop and EDM acts, ultimately distinguishing CHIC as the "most sampled band in history" (*The Guardian*, 2011). Their streamlined yet sumptuous grooves powered "Everybody Dance," "Dance, Dance, Dance (Yowsah, Yowsah, Yowsah)," "I Want Your Love," "Good Times," and "Le Freak" — the biggest-selling single in Atlantic Records' history. Amassing a mountain of gold and platinum awards, Rodgers and Edwards revamped Sister Sledge with the chart-topping *We Are Family* (1979) album, which included "Lost In Music," "He's the Greatest Dancer," and the Grammy-nominated title track. They produced the best-selling album of Diana Ross' career *diana* (1980), spawning signature hits like "I'm Coming Out" and the number one "Upside Down."

Beyond the CHIC Organization, Rodgers has achieved commercial and critical triumphs for artists like David Bowie (*Let's Dance*), Duran Duran ("The Reflex"), and Madonna (*Like A Virgin*). He's remained on the cutting edge of pop music working with countless icons like Michael Jackson, Bob Dylan, Steve Winwood, Grace Jones, Bryan Ferry, Peter Gabriel, and Eric Clapton. His boundless talents include scoring music for films like the Eddie Murphy blockbuster *Coming to America* (1988) and distributing soundtracks for popular AAA video games via his national distribution company and record label, Sumthing Distribution and Sumthing Else Music Works. He's regularly invited to give keynote speeches at events for noted media companies like FremantleMedia as well as music conferences like the International Music Summit (IMS) in Ibiza. Complementing his many creative endeavors, Rodgers is also Chairman and Founder of the We Are Family Foundation (WAFF), a non-profit organization he launched in 2002 that's dedicated to the vision of a global family by creating and supporting programs that promote cultural diversity while nurturing the vision, talents, and ideas of young people who are changing the world.

As a cultural icon and music innovator, Nile Rodgers transcends all styles of music across every generation, whether headlining Glastonbury 2013 or producing star-studded concerts for Montreux Jazz Festival. After surviving an aggressive form of cancer, he published his critically acclaimed self-penned autobiography *Le Freak: An Upside Down Story of Family, Disco and Destiny* (2011) and was subsequently the subject of two documentaries, BBC Radio 4's *Nile Rodgers: The Hitmaker* (2013) and TV One's *Unsung: Nile Rodgers & CHIC* (2014). His collaboration with Daft Punk on "Get Lucky" and *Random Access Memories* (2013) earned three Grammy Awards, including "Record of the Year" and "Album of the Year." "The full scope of Nile Rodgers' career is still hard to fathom, and it's not just ongoing, it's in overdrive," remarked *Rolling Stone*, who named Rodgers one of "the 50 Most Important People in EDM" (2014). Indeed, there's no shortage of superlatives or accolades to convey the impact Nile Rodgers has made in popular music. From "Good Times" to "Get Lucky," Rodgers' unrivaled track record is a mere glimpse of what's yet to come.