

**Bernie Taupin**

As a kid from the county of Lincolnshire, England, Bernie Taupin’s childhood was idyllic, but lacked contemporary comforts. Born in 1950 to a French military father and a literature-loving English mother, the Taupin family endured all four seasons without electricity until Taupin turned five. He was the middle child of three sons, and as he matured, he radiated a fascination with the mythic American West.

As a teen teetering on the precipice of a bleak existence as a factory worker, he auspiciously answered an ad placed by Liberty Records in London that quickly changed his life and firmly set him on an artistic road. In 1967, a predestined partnership was serendipitously orches- trated by Ray Williams when he handed a young piano player named Reg Dwight (later changed to Elton John) an envelope filled with Taupin’s lyrics. Taupin had the words and John had the music. At their first meeting, they became fast friends and quickly discovered a shared love of music, film and literature. Even as time progresses, the creative bond they forged fifty-seven years ago is still as strong and prolific as ever.

John and Taupin’s enduring creative partnership has resulted in

\*over 35 gold and 25 platinum albums

\*31 consecutive US Top 40 hits

\*more than 260 million records sold worldwide

\*the record for the biggest selling single of all time, ‘Candle in the Wind ’97’, which sold over 33,000,000 copies.

\*Academy Award for Best Original Song, 2020

Lauded throughout his music career, Taupin has received numerous awards and nominations including an Academy Award (2020) two Golden Globe Awards for Best Original Song (nominated 2004, 2012; won 2005 and 2020) eight Ivor Novello Awards, and several others in- cluding awards from Billboard, ASCAP, the Film Critics, Britian’s Music Industry Trust, etc. And in 2013, “Your Song” was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. Most recently, as a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame (inducted in 1992,) he and Elton received the esteemed Johnny Mercer Award in 2013. In 2018, he was awarded the Recording Academy’s President’s Merit Award.

Honored as a Commander of the British Empire in 2022 for his contri- bution to music and most recently inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Class of 2023, Taupin continues to work closely with artists from all genres.

A New York Times and Sunday Times bestseller released in 2023, Taupin’s *Scattershot* is an unconventional memoir which candidly and intimately reflects on his lifetime, in and out of the music business.

As important as music is to shaping Taupin’s life, his inescapable pas- sion to create visual art is acclaimed by collectors and prominent gal- leries. He has been forging abstract and contemporary mixed-media pieces in his studio since the early 1990s and a large retrospective of his work was most recently exhibited at the Museum of Biblical History in Dallas. His work has been featured at numerous domestic and in- ternational galleries including Iconic Images, KM Fine Art, Mark Borghi Fine Art and Waterhouse + Dodd, and Galerie Michel, as well at na- tionally renowned fairs including Art Miami, Art Aspen, Art Southamp- ton and 2024’s Art Palm Beach.