

Throwback: The Jimi Hendrix Experience-Hey Joe

The Jimi Hendrix Experience recorded “Hey Joe” for their 1967 debut album *Are You Experienced?* Arthur Lee of Love claims that it was his band’s version that introduced Hendrix to the composition. Chas Chandler who discovered Hendrix and managed his group wanted them to record “Hey Joe” because of their previous live performances of it. The JHE cover was the first single released in the U.K. in December of 1966. Hendrix owned “Hey Joe” with his intense vocals and a guitar solo that merged the worlds of blues and rock. He brought genius to the song in the studio and even more flamboyantly when he performed it at The Monterey Pop Festival in 1967. The playing done on “Hey Joe” contributed to *Are You Experienced?* being one of the most important rock debuts ever. Hendrix’s virtuosic mastery over the guitar and embrace of sound effects created new possibilities for music. The music and set the blueprint for guitarists and artists, in general, to follow in the future. The album topped US and U.K. charts for more than 100 weeks and dazzled critics. In 2005, AYE was added to the National Recording Registry.

Jimi Hendrix’s discography has grown posthumously since his passing in 1970. Experience Hendrix helmed by family members has controlled Hendrix’s catalog since 1997. In 2020, *The Jimi Hendrix Experience Live In Maui* documentary was released with the accompanying album.

