

Throwback: Michael McDonald-Sweet Freedom

Michael McDonald's "Sweet Freedom" first appeared on the 1986 *Running Scared* soundtrack. Rod Temperton, who became famous for writing songs for Michael Jackson, among others, wrote "Sweet Freedom." Gregory Hines and Billy Crystal played Chicago cops determined to stop a rising drug lord with unconventional methods. Temperton was given complete control of the movie's music and his hands gave the cop buddy more movement with sounds that were benchmarks of the '80s. "Sweet Freedom's" synthesizers, horn announcements and McDonald's soulful lead were definitive of the decade. McDonald's 1985 sophomore album *No Lookin' Back* was re-released in 1986 with "Sweet Freedom" which had become one of the biggest songs of the year.

Michael McDonald's ninth solo album *Wide Open* was relased in 2017. He appeared on Thundercat's "Show You The Way" with Kenny Loggins also in 2017. In 2022, McDonald is scheduled to perform at Zappos Theater in Las Vegas with his old band the Doobie Brothers.

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Thundercat: Show You The Way

Feat. Michael McDonald & Kenny Loggins Official Video

[youtube id="Z-zdIGx0J4M"] Thundercat's video for "Show You The Way" picks up where the video for "Them Changes" left off with the samurai who lost his arms. The samurai reconnects with his family and goes to a rehabilitation center where Michael McDonald and Kenny Loggins appear on a television.

Throwback: Michael McDonald-I Keep Forgettin' (Everytime You're Near)



[youtube id="CnjEzx7Glr8"] Michael McDonald recorded "I Keep Forgettin' (Everytime You're Near)" for his first solo album *If That's What It Takes* in 1982. McDonald had spent almost a decade with The Doobie Brothers and led them into stardom with "What A Fool Believes" that he co-wrote with Kenny Loggins. His sisters Maureen and Kathy sang backup on the song that McDonald wrote with Ed Sanford and credit was also given to Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller because it sounded so similar to their composition of the same name. "I Keep Forgettin' (Everytime You're Near)" opened-up McDonald's popularity with R&B fans and subsequent duets with James Ingram, Patti Labelle, Aretha Franklin, The Winans and Chaka Khan. The song about a man going through a painful breakup would later become valuable to hip-hop as a sample for Warren G, Jadakiss, Young MC and Madlib. McDonald's distinct baritone

can be heard on Thundercat's *Drunk* album with longtime collaborator Kenny Loggins on "Show You The Way."

Thundercat: Show You The Way Feat. Kenny Loggins & Michael McDonald On The Tonight Show

[youtube id="x8AgdI4eyFc"] Thundercat performs "Show You The Way" on *The Tonight Show* with Michael McDonald and Kenny Loggins. The artist led their love anthem with a P-Funk-inspired wig and shorts. He's been on the road [touring](#) *Drunk* and has plans to continue throughout the year.