

Throwback: Seal-The Beginning



Seal's introduction as an alternative pop star in 1991 came with a brilliant album of clever synth-pop-influenced R&B courtesy of producer Trevor Horn. "The Beginning" was the third single but the first song on the album. Seal's voice was tender and had conviction in the midst of Horn's winding production of strings, synthesizers and hasty percussion. In the video, he was a leather-clad torch-carrying mystic hero with dreadlocks. It was an unusual look and sound for a Black artist from anywhere at the time.

Horn's epic sound had become a staple of '80s pop and together with Seal they were able to create a new classic. "Crazy" and "Future Love Paradise" were the previous singles and both charted internationally and satisfied the critics. He became a

mainstream name almost immediately with regular video and radio play in America and his native UK as well as several European countries. Seal's first full-length won Best British Album at the 1992 Brit Awards and started his career with a successful punch to stereotypes about the look and sound of Black singers. [Seal: Deluxe Edition](#) was released in 2022 as a remastered boxset with CDs, vinyl and 4K/HD versions of the videos.

Throwback: Seal-Crazy



[youtube id="1A-hqZf7xQs"]Seal's first single as a solo artist was "Crazy", a two-month process with co-writer Guy Sigsworth. Seal was compared to Terrence Trent D'Arby and Lenny Kravitz because of his tone and the blending of pop and soul with an unconventional image for a Black artist at the time. Seal has commented in the past and said that he was inspired by fall of the Berlin Wall and the Tiananmen Square massacre when he wrote "Crazy" with Sigsworth. Trevor Horn's production encapsulated pop, funk and rock into waves of controlled thunder. Horn's tumultuous style complemented Seal's lyrics about a changing world. "Crazy" was an international hit and Seal's first album also titled *Crazy* made him a star in his native England when it won Best British Album at the 1992 Brit Music Awards. "Crazy" the single, was an international hit and made the Top Ten in the United States. "Crazy" lived beyond 1991 and keeps reinserting itself into pop culture including a cover version by Alanis Morissette for a Gap commercial and

Spike Lee using it in his film *Clockers*. Seal's career took off and he became a celebrated international pop star with 10 albums in 2019 and multiple awards including Grammys, and an MTV Video Music Award. Seal released his third album of cover songs, *Standards*, in 2017.Â

Music Of The Civil Rights Era Performance At The Whitehouse (trailer)

Seal-I've Been Loving You Too Long