

Throwback: Simply Red - Something Got Me Started



Mick Hucknall, Simply Red's frontman and leader, wrote "Something Got Me Started" with the band's keyboardist Fritz McIntyre while traveling in 1990. The song appeared as the first single from the band's fourth album *Stars*. Hucknall's feverish soul and the jazzy arrangement were a clear hit on the dancefloor and charts. Simply Red's previous album, *A New Flame*, achieved worldwide success for the British natives thanks to their inimitable soul and Hucknall's collaboration with Motown songwriter Lamont Dozier. He wanted *Stars* to pull from dance music because this style was charting courtesy of groups like Soul II Soul. Hucknall ensured "Something's Got Me Started" reached dance and club audiences by having Chicago producer Steve "Silk" Hurley and English producer Paul Oakenfold remix it. Their remixes got the single on the UK and European dance charts. *Stars* went multi-platinum in the UK and was the best-selling album in 1991 and 1992. "Something's Get Me Started" was re-recorded for Simply Red's 2005 ninth studio album *Simplified*. The band released their 13th album, *Time* in 2023.

Throwback: Simply Red-Thrill Me (MAW Remix)



[youtube]hevnSJQyGbQ[/youtube]

Simply Red is a Manchester, England based R&B band that emerged in 1985 as an outgrowth of the punk group The Frantic Elevators. Mick Hucknall was a member of the Elevators and after their dissolution he partnered with manager Elliot Rashman to put together a new band. *Picture Book* was Simply Red's crisp debut album commercially elevated by the Valentine Brothers' ["Money's Too Tight \(Too Mention\)"](#) and a re-recording of The Frantic Elevators' ["Holding Back The Years"](#) that carried them to the mainstream. Hucknall became one of the most distinct blue-eyed soul singers from the UK alongside George Michael and Jay Kay of Jamiroquai. During this peak period they released four more albums; *Men and Women*, *A New Flame*, *Stars* and *Life*. They amassed a discography of singles that turned Simply Red into an enduring bastion of soul including ["Ev'ry Time We Say Goodbye,"](#) ["It's Only Love,"](#) ["If You Don't Know Me By Now,"](#) ["Something Got Me Started"](#) and ["Stars"](#) being the most popular US releases. "Thrill Me" is from the 1995 album *Stars* which was the best-selling album in the UK in 1991 and 1992. Masters At Work's remix of "Thrill Me" is considered one of their best additions to dance music's golden era. ["Fairground"](#) in 1995 was their first number one British hit and it helped the *Life* album achieve another platinum certification for the band. A greatest hits project came out in 1996 with a cover of Aretha Franklin's ["Angel"](#) co-produced by The Fugees. *Blue* and the *Love and the Russian Winter* albums were not as big as previous successes garnering modest attention for ["The Air That I Breathe"](#) and ["Say You Love Me."](#) *Home* was their first album on Hucknall's Simplyred.com label and it did well because of ["Sunrise,"](#) ["You](#)

[Make Me Feel Brand New,](#) ["Fake"](#) and ["Home."](#) *Simplified* and *Stay* was their last studio albums before Hucknall decided to do a farewell tour in 2009-2010. He released his first solo album, *Tribute To Bobby* in 2008. Hucknall received an honorary doctorate from the University of Manchester this year and his second solo album [American Soul](#) will be released on October 29th.