# MICHAEL JACKSON

Tribute to a legend

SPECIAL COLLECTORS COLLECTION

1958-2009 50 YEARS OF GENIUS





# MICHAEL JACKSON

29 AUGUST 1958 – 25 JUNE 2009







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Fifty years of genius

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## Fifty years of genius

From his humble working-class beginnings, Michael captured the hearts of the world. His life was one of twists and turns – and awe-inspiring music

### 29 AUGUST 1958

Michael Joseph Jackson is born to Joseph and Katherine in Gary, Indiana, US

### 1963

Michael joins Tito, Jackie, Jermaine and Marlon in the Jackson Five

### **JUL 1968**

The Jackson Five audition for Motown Records, changing their name to The Jackson 5 once signed

### **JAN 1970**

Releases debut Jackson 5 single, I Want You Back

### **JAN 1972**

Releases debut solo album, Got To Be There

### **AUG 1979**

Releases Off The Wall, selling 20m copies worldwide

### **NOV 1982**

Releases *Thriller*. Becomes the biggestselling album of all time with up to 100 million copies sold

### **MAR 1983**

Performs his signature move, the Moonwalk, for the first time

### **FEB 1984**

Thriller wins eight Grammy Awards

### **JAN 1984**

Suffers serious burns to his scalp while filming an advert for Pepsi

### **NOV 1984**

Receives a star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame

### **MAR 1985**

Releases We Are The World, a charity single co-written with Lionel Richie

### **AUG 1987**

Releases *Bad*, selling 30m copies worldwide

### **MAY 1988**

Moves into the Neverland ranch

### **NOV 1991**

Releases *Dangerous* album, selling 32m copies worldwide

### **FEB 1993**

Appears on Oprah, telling her he suffers from skin condition vitiligo and that his father beat him as a child

### **MAY 1994**

Marries Lisa Marie Presley

### **JUN 1995**

Releases *HIStory*, selling 20m copies worldwide

### **JAN 1996**

Divorces Lisa Marie

### **SEPT 1996**

Launches his final tour, HIStory World
Tour in Prague

### **NOV 1996**

Marries Debbie Rowe

### **FEB 1997**

Debbie gives birth to son Prince Michael Jackson Jnr

### **MAY 1997**

Releases Blood On The Dance Floor, selling 5m copies

### **APR 1998**

Debbie gives birth to daughter Paris Michael

### **OCT 1999**

Divorces Debbie. Michael gets full custody of their children

### **MAR 2001**

Inducted into the Rock And Roll Hall
Of Fame as a solo artist, four years after
the Jackson 5 were inducted

### **SEPT 2001**

Performs two 30th anniversary shows in New York, with a third show *United We Stand: What More Can I Give?*a benefit in the wake of 9/11

### **OCT 2001**

Releases final studio album *Invincible*, selling 8 million copies worldwide

### 2002

Michael's second son, Prince Michael II (aka Blanket), is born to an unnamed woman

### **NOV 2002**

Causes outcry when he dangles Blanket out of a third-floor hotel window

### **FEB 2003**

The Martin Bashir documentary Living With Michael is broadcast on TV

### **NOV 2003**

Releases *Number Ones*, selling 7m copies worldwide

### **SEPT 2006**

Settles a lawsuit filed by Debbie Rowe and retains full custody of kids while she receives a cash sum

### **MAR 2009**

Announces he will be performing a series of *This Is It* gigs at the O2 arena later in the summer, saying they will be the last of his career. Some are postponed two months later

### 25 JUNE 2009

It is confirmed that Michael has died after suffering cardiac arrest at his home in Los Angeles



## The early years

Michael Jackson began life in a working-class suburb of Gary, Indiana. Naturally musical, he joined his brothers in a band that would take the locals – and later the world – by storm

n 29 August 1958, Michael Joseph Jackson was born into a large, working-class family in the small, suburban town of Gary, Indiana, in the US.

Baby Michael was the seventh child of Joseph and Katherine Jackson. Joe, a former boxer, worked as a crane operator in a steel company, while stay-at-home mum Katherine looked after her brood.

Michael grew up with siblings Jackie, Tito, Jermaine, La Toya, Marlon, Rebbie, Randy and Janet in the industrial suburb.

It was a tough upbringing for the young boy, as his strict father ruled the Jackson clan with an iron rod.

A mischievous boy, Michael used to put spiders in his sister La Toya's bed, and he often suffered the wrath of his angry father.

Later in life, Michael would open up about his early experiences in a revealing interview with chat show host Oprah Winfrey.

He said: 'There's a lot of sadness about

reduced his teacher to tears when he sang Climb Every Mountain.

It was his first public appearance, and his skill didn't go unnoticed by Joe.

So, at just five, Michael and brother Marlon, six, joined their siblings in the group. Originally playing the tambourine, Michael quickly progressed to backing vocals. By 1966, he took on lead vocals with Jermaine, after mum Katherine heard him singing while he made his bed one morning.

With Michael at the helm, the prototype Jackson Five was born.

Realising their potential, Joe was determined to see them succeed, presumably in a bid to lift his family out of their hand-to-mouth existence.

But he demanded perfection. Michael once said: 'We were really nervous rehearsing, because if you didn't do it the right way, Dad would tear you up. He was tough.'

Performing warm-up gigs for grown-up

## 'We were really nervous rehearsing, because if you didn't do it the right way, Dad would tear you up. He was tough'

my past life, adolescence and my father that make me very sad.'

But Joe, who sang in a rhythm and blues band, The Falcons, was quick to see the musical potential of his eldest sons, Jackie, Tito and Jermaine.

Michael's older brothers performed with other kids from the neighbourhood, under Joe's direction, calling themselves The Jackson Brothers.

It wasn't long before Michael was also showcasing that famous Jackson talent for singing. At a school recital, a young Michael reportedly received a standing ovation and acts in African-American clubs, the boys toured the Midwest of America, going down a storm with their energetic mix of singing and dancing.

In 1966, the group won a local talent show. Their success at the show led the five boys to record songs for a local record label, Steeltown Records, in 1967.

Soon they were travelling far and wide, competing in bigger and bigger talent competitions.

The following year, their first single *Big Boy* was released. Just a few months later, The Jackson Five would hit the big time.

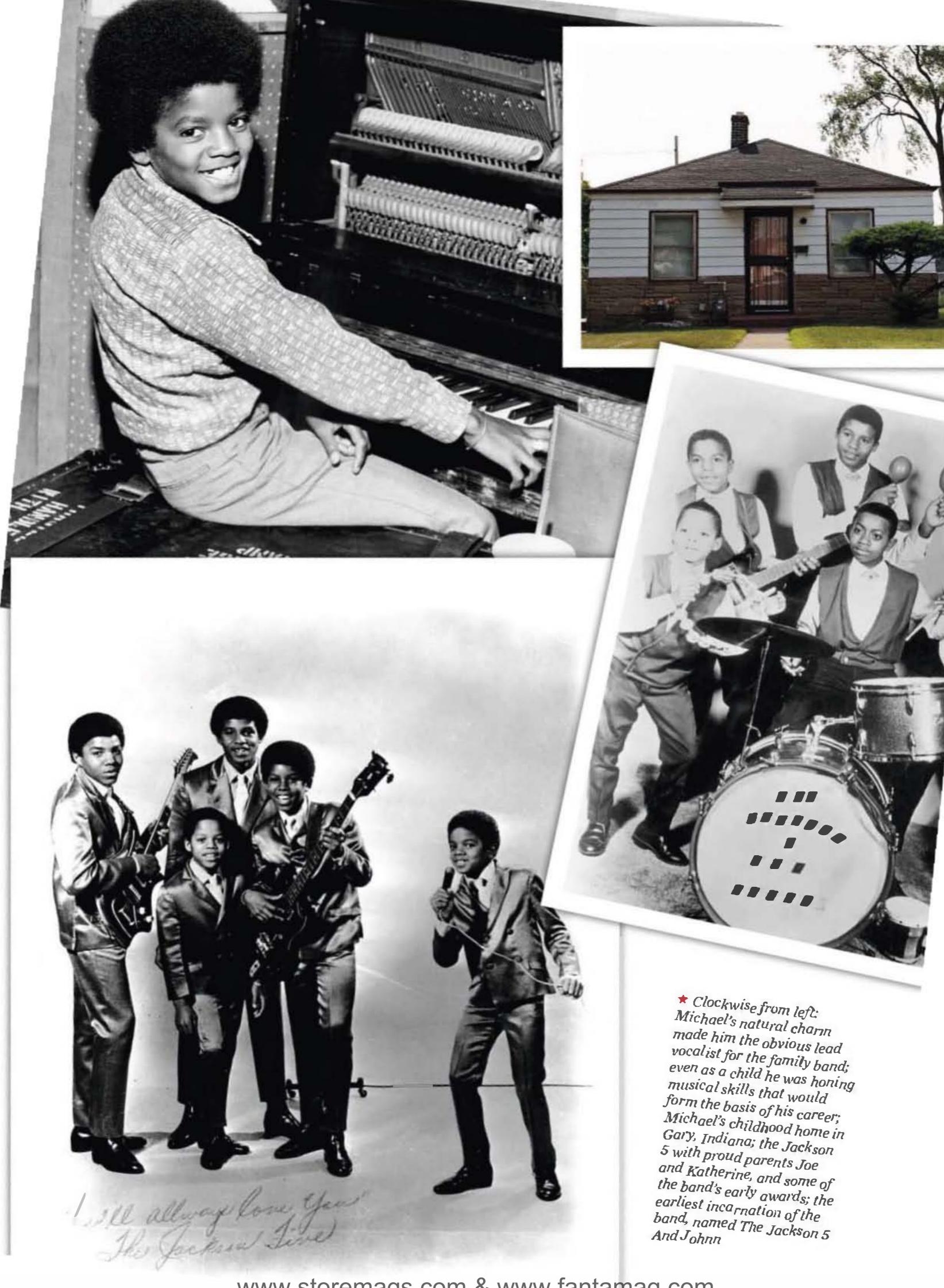




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### Motown magic 1969 - 1976

The Jackson Five started off in the back rooms of clubs in motor town – Detroit, USA. When I Want You Back blasted to the top of the charts in 1969, Michael, as the 11-year-old frontman, was on his way to stardom

ichael was aged nine when, together with his brothers, The Jackson Five, auditioned for Motown Records.

After being impressed by the band's performances in local clubs, soul singer Bobby Taylor recommended them to bosses at the legendary label.

All the major artists of the time, including Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Diana Ross and The Supremes and The Four Tops were signed to Motown.

The company was named after the 'motor town' of Detroit, where the label had been set up by car assembly line worker Berry Gordy.

It had played an important role in the racial integration of pop music. Berrywas the first

and Joe moved in with Berry, while Michael and his brother Marlon moved in with The Supremes singer Diana Ross.

Michael went on to forge a close friendship with Diana and once said he shared his 'deepest, darkest secrets' with her. Some even believe that Michael's 1988 song, Dirty Diana, was named after her.

It was she who was credited as having discovered the group after formally introducing the band to the public in August 1968 at a club called The Daisy in Beverly Hills.

The label renamed the band the Jackson 5 and it was under their guidance that Michael and his brothers became one of the biggest pop-music phenomena of the 70s. Their debut single, *I Want You Back*, became the fastest-selling

music biographer, David Ritz, who wrote: 'The singing and the songs make us happy. They are moments of incandescent beauty – young and wildly optimistic.'

The band's youthful, soulful sound was even dubbed 'bubblegum soul'.

Eleven-year-old Michael may have been the smallest member of the band, but he was the biggest star, fronting the group with his sweet, soulful voice and his James Brown-style showmanship.

Jacksonmania swept the country and, even more importantly to Michael, the rest of the family were finally able to join them in California.

So, in 1970, 12-year-old Michael was reunited with his mum, Katherine, and his other siblings, and the family moved into a house together in Los Angeles.

To celebrate their success, Motown focused on their youth appeal and launched a range of Jackson 5 merchandise, including stickers, posters, colouring books and sewable patches.

A Saturday morning children's cartoon, *The Jackson Sive*, debuted in the US in 1971 and the band continued to star in two of their own TV specials, *Goin' Back To Indiana* and *The Jackson 5 Show*.

The brothers went on to record 14 albums worldwide with Motown Records before finally quitting the label amid acrimony in 1976.

The reason, according to Michael, was that: 'We didn't like the way we were being recorded.'

### The singing and the songs make us happy. They are moments of beauty, youth and wild optimism

African-American to own a record label and feature African-American artists paving their way to mainstream success.

He had a vision of taking blackinspired music out of the slums and giving it broad appeal. And in an era of racial tensions, Motown Records' music transcended colour.

The deal to sign The Jackson Five was done in 1969 and Berry moved the band, along with dad Joe, to California, while the rest of their family stayed at home in Indiana. Jermaine, Tito, Jackie

record in Motown's history, selling six million copies across the world.

Their next four singles, Who's Lovin' You, ABC, The Love You Save and I'll Be There continued the band's success and all reached No 1 in the US chart.

Just two years after their first audition for the label, the Jackson 5 had become one of the biggest names in music, knocking The Supremes off Motown's top spot.

The reason for their soaring success was summed up by soul-

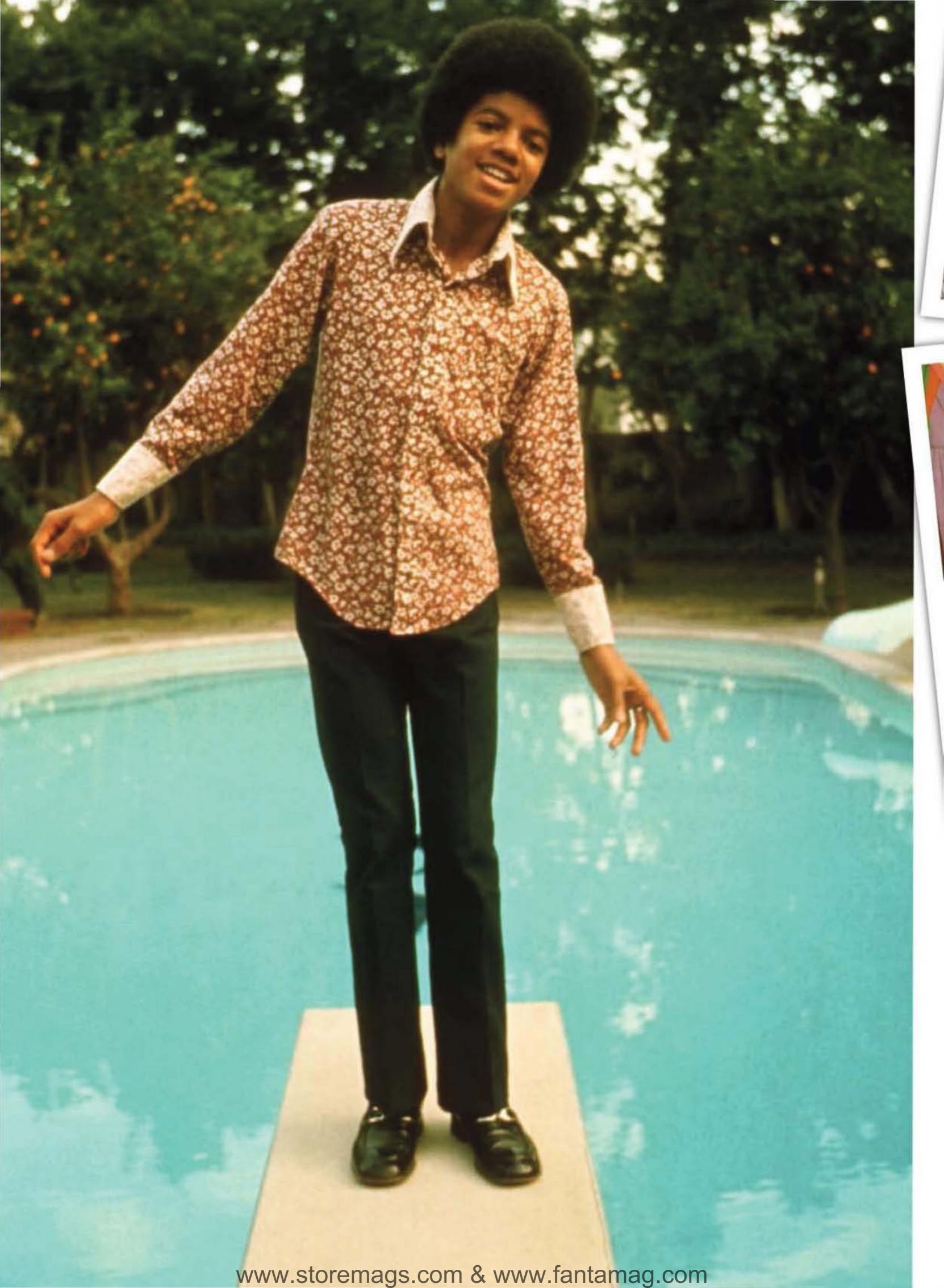






★ Michael and his brothers take a break from their hectic schedule and stage an impromptu dance on a beach







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### Going solo 1971 - 1978



After several years fronting the Jackson 5, Michael was eager to go it alone in the competitive world of mainstream pop

A fter four years of stardom with the Jackson 5, Michael released his first solo single Got To Be There in the autumn of 1971. He was just 13 years old.

It has since been suggested that Michael was groomed for a solo career after his father and industry experts realised his potential but, at such a tender age, it was still extremely daunting for him.

The song, however, was an

star Donny Osmond but, as hewas on tour at the time, it was offered to Michael.

And in the end, he proved to be the perfect choice.

The ballad was actually about a pet rat, yet the words were still resonant and thousands of people across the world were moved.

Later that year, Michael sang Ben in front of a live studio audience at the Academy Awards. It was ofbeing in a band had been broken and, always ambitious, he was determined to continue pursuing a solo path.

In 1977, movies beckoned as he was cast in the film *The Wiz*, alongside his friend, Diana Ross.

The film was an African-American adaptation of *The Wizard Of Oz*, and Michael played the Scarecrow, while Diana played the role of Dorothy. This

## 'The spell of being in a band had been broken and, always ambitious, Michael was determined to continue pursuing a solo path'

immediate success. It shot straight to No 1 in the Cashbox singles chart and No 4 in the US Billboard chart.

Given the taste of a solo career, Michael recorded his debut album, also called Got To Be There, released in January 1972.

Teenage girls across the world were smitten with the young star and music bosses were impressed with his talent. He became the biggest teen pin-up in the world.

A month after his solo album went on sale, Michael released the single Ben, written for a film of the same name. It had actually been written for fellow rival teen incredibly daunting for Michael as he was used to the support of his older brothers, but he bravely took to the stage alone and pulled off a flawless performance.

The experience confirmed the belief that Michael had the ability to be an incredible solo star and he was even labelled a child prodigy.

But despite his sudden success, loyal Michael didn't abandon his brothers.

He briefly returned to the Jackson 5, who signed up to Epic Records, and went on to have more hits, including Rockin' Robin. Yet for Michael, the spell

proved to his fans that Michael was a great all-rounder and was a forerunner to his sensational video appearances the following decade.

Suddenly he was a true star and was seen partying in New York's celebrity hotspot Studio 54 with the likes of film director Woody Allen, actress Liza Minnelli and rocker Steve Tyler.

Michael also signed to Epic Records as a solo artist and the followingyear he began dating fellow child star Tatum O'Neal.

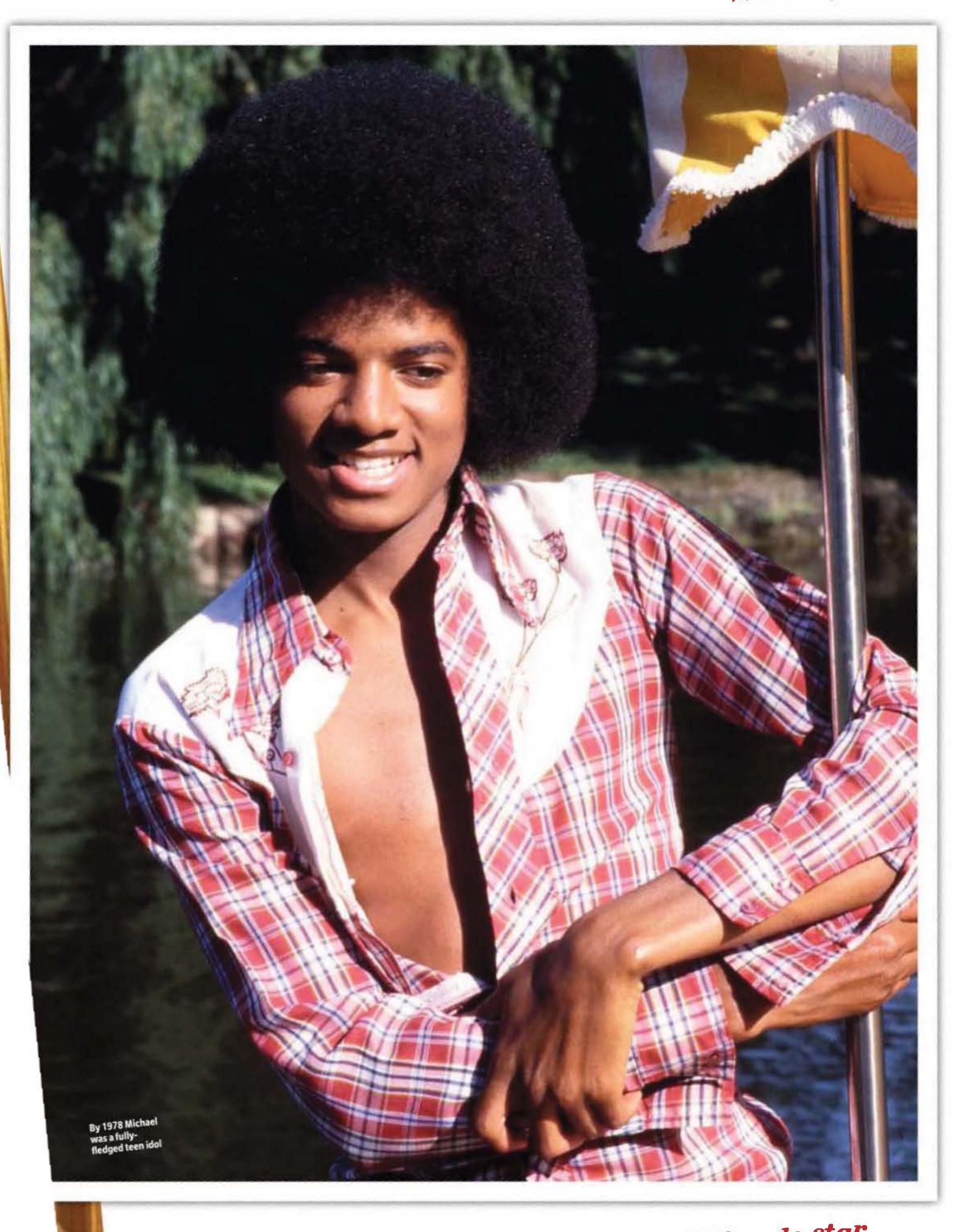
And although no one knew it, Michael was about to take the world by storm.



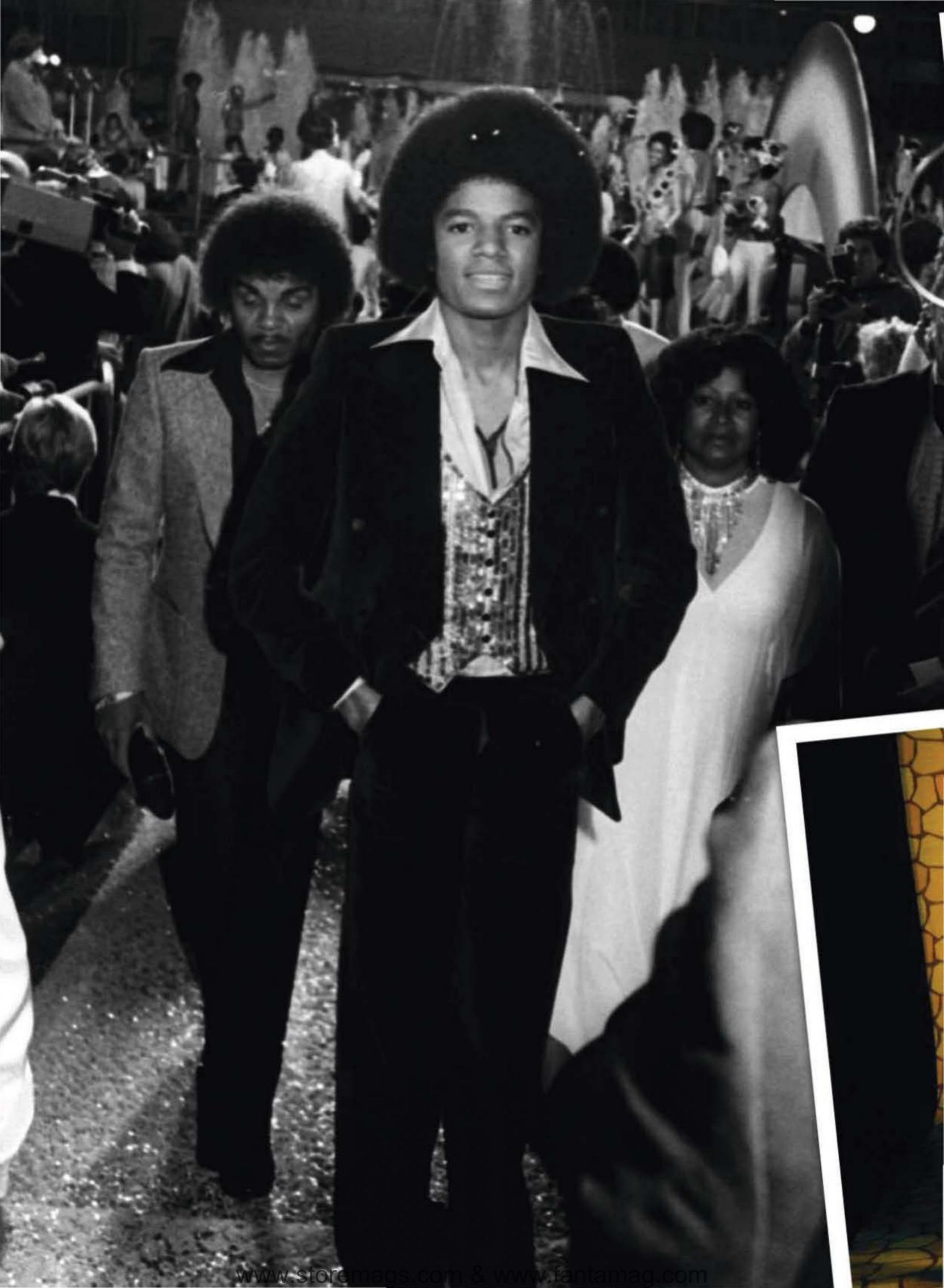






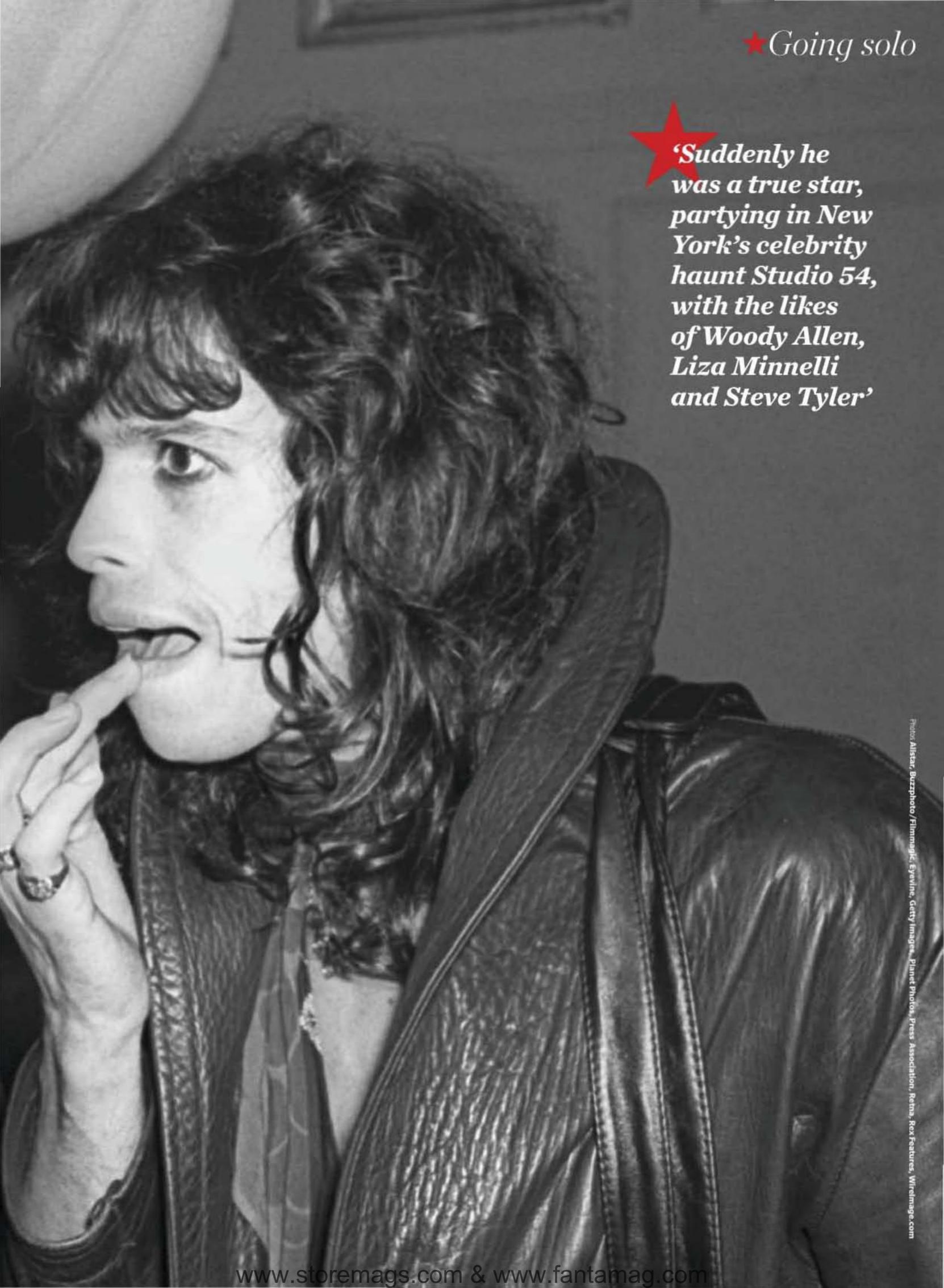


'Michael had the ability to be an incredible solo star 'Michael had the ability to be an incredible solo star and was even labelled a child prodigy' and was even labelled a child prodigy'

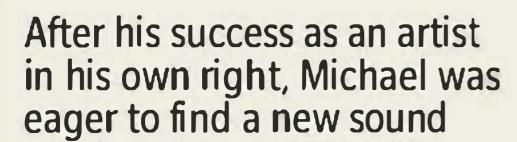








### Disco days 1978 - 1984



A versatile singer, songwriter and performer, Michael proved himself in every genre.

And as he rejoined his brothers in the late 70s, he dazzled the world with his abilities as a disco star.

The Jackson 5 left Motown in 1976 and joined Epic Records, where they had to change their name to The Jacksons for contractual reasons.

Now having more creative input, they wrote and released three albums Destiny, Triumph and Victory and Michael began to carve a name for himself as a serious disco songwriter.

In 1978, The Jacksons released their first album on their new label, *Destiny*, where Michael led the vocals on the classic single, *Blame It On The Boogie*.

They also released the single Shake Your Body (Down To The Ground) – The Jacksons' biggest post-Motown song.

#### 'Michael dazzled the world with his abilities'

The Jacksons' second disco album, Triumph, came out in 1980, with Michael writing its biggest hit Can You Feel It. When it was released, the album became The Jacksons' first album to reach No I since 1971.

Victory, released in 1984, was the only album to include all six Jackson brothers.

Other hits also included a cover of Bobby Day's *Rockin' Robin*, which they released on a special Christmas album.

Meanwhile, Michael was busy developing his own sound and keen to break away yet again from The Jacksons.

His 1979 solo album, Off The Wall, was a result of collaboration with legendary



record producer Quincy Jones and was a mix of disco, pop and funk.

Selling 20 million, it featured four top 10 hits, proved a culmination of all Michael's solo talents and introduced him to a significant new audience.





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# Off The Wall 1979 1981

#### Michael's celebrated first solo adult album marked a new era in his life, with the singer gaining commercial success and critical acclaim

ichael's breakthrough album, Off The Wall, propelled him to super-stardom in his own right, and is widely regarded as one of his most important records.

The album, his first released on Epic Records, went global and included songs written by music legends such as Stevie Wonder and Paul McCartney. The first single *Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough* was released on 28 July 1979.

With this album, Michael became the first artist in history to generate four No 1 singles for an album, including Don't Stop Til You Get Enough and Rock With You. The album reached No 3 on the Billboard 200 and eventually sold a staggering 20 million copies worldwide.

The famous album cover shows

during this time when he split from his first girlfriend, Tatum O'Neal, in 1979. The relationship never became physical as Michael said sexual intimacy 'scared and frightened' him.

He recalled: 'I really loved her but I don't think I was ready for some of the things she talked about.'

Later, Michael dedicated the song She's Out Of My Life to Tatum.

Professionally, Michael went back into the studio with his brothers to record the album *Triumph*, which was released in 1980 and reached No I in the US R&B chart.

That year, Michael and some of his family were interviewed by Sylvia Chase for American TV channel 20/20. In the interview, Michael revealed his

quiet. I think the stage might have done that to him. Wherever he goes, everyone is coming out to see Michael Jackson. They want to see what he looks like. He said he feels like an animal in a cage.'

Michael, then 22, said: 'I get embarrassed easily. I'm most comfortable on stage than any other place, on stage is the greatest place in the world. I just light up, it's magic.

'The thing I like most about living on stage is making people happy. I'm here on earth for a reason and that's my job to do that. I've been doing it for so long, as long as people enjoy it, I'll be happy.'

But he went on to say: 'Being around everyday people, I feel strange. It's hard to [live in the real world] in my position. I try to sometimes but people won't deal with me in that way because they see me differently. They won't talk to me like they will the next-door neighbour.'

Asked whether he ever wanted to stop performing, Michael smiled: 'No. Don't stop until you get enough. No way.'

On 9 July 1981, The Jacksons began a 39-city tour of the US, starting in Memphis Tennessee, called *The Triumph Tour*. It broke stadium records around the country and The Jacksons played to approximately 600,000 fans.

Off The Wall won Billboard Music Awards for Top Black Artist and Top Black Album and a Grammy Award for Best Male R&B Vocal Performance for Don't Stop Til You Get Enough.

However, Michael felt the album should have made a bigger impact, and was determined to exceed expectations with his next release... Which he did.

# 'On stage is the greatest place in the world. I just light up, it's magic... As long as people enjoy it, I'll be happy'

Michael smiling, wearing a tuxedo and his trademark white socks.

His manager said: 'The tuxedo was the overall plan for the *Off'The Wall* project and package. The tuxedo was our idea – the socks were Michael's.'

Later that year, Michael broke his nose during a complex dance routine.

The subsequent surgery on his nose was not a success and he complained of breathing difficulties that would affect his career. He was referred to Dr. Steven Hoefflin, who performed Michael's second rhinoplasty and other subsequent operations.

The star also suffered a broken heart

feelings about his career, saying: 'My father started rehearsals every day after school. Other kids would be outside playing, and they would tease us.'

Talking of the single *Rock With You*, interviewer Sylvia said that it seemed to be playing everywhere in Southern California at that time.

Brother Jackie said: 'Michael has always been the star of the Jacksons. He has so much energy.'

But while his energy was applauded onstage, mum Katherine told viewers that offstage he was changing.

She admitted: 'Michael is quiet now. When he was younger, he wasn't that









#### \*Off The We



\* Clockwise from far left: Michael with Quincy Jones who produced Off The Wall and Thriller; the star found his home on stage and never felt more comfortable than when he instantly recognisable icon; Michael wrote a disco hit, Muscles, for Diana Ross









#### Thriller 1982 - 1986

Thriller became the best-selling album of all time and saw Michael make history by being the first black star to make it big on MTV

n 1982, Michael released his most famous album – Thriller. Remaining at the top of the US charts for 80 consecutive weeks, Thriller went on to sell up to 100 million albums worldwide – becoming the best-selling album of all time.

With massive hits including Billie Jean, Beat It and, of course, Thriller, this period is often described as the most lucrative period of Michael's career – earning the singer more than £700 million.

The video for *Thriller*; released in December 1983, changed pop music forever and turned Michael into the biggest star in the world.

It was made by top Hollywood

Michael became the first black person to get primetime coverage on MTV, with his *Billie Jean* video.

Talking about the hard work
he put into *Thriller*, Michael said:
'We spent a lot of hours in the
room working, 18 hours a day
sometimes. We were sleeping on
the couch – [we would] wake up,
mix it, go back to sleep.'

Michael's career thrived on the singer creating iconic moments – none more defining than his famous 1983 performance of Billie Jean on Motown 25: Yesterday, Today, Forever. It was here he first performed the Moonwalk, which quickly became his signature move.

His performance on Motown 25

and in 1984 he was given a star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame.

Michael also showed a good eye for business when he bought The Beatles' song catalogue and publishing rights for £28.8 million in 1985, earning him around £7million a year.

And music wasn't the only thing Michael worked hard at.

In 1984, he was invited to the White House to receive an award for his support of charities that helped people overcome alcohol and drug abuse.

And two years later, he won another Grammy for charity single We Are The World, which raised millions for famine relief in Africa.

In 1985, Michael adopted a chimpanzee called Bubbles. He rescued the three-year-old from a cancer research clinic in Texas, and the pair were often snapped together in matching outfits.

Michael would take Bubbles to parties and press conferences and he even taught him how to do the Moonwalk.

But even before Bubbles, Michael had always had a love for animals.

In an interview in 1983 he said: 'I love animals. I've got a llama, two deer, a sheep called Mr Ted and I've got all kinds of birds and swans. And a snake called Muscles.'

He also said: 'I think nature and animals are very inspirational to my work. The majority of my success comes from that. I just play off life.'

# The video for Thriller changed pop music forever and turned Michael into the biggest star in the world

director John Landis, who had written and directed the cult movie An American Werewolf In London two years earlier.

The Thriller video featured Michael dancing with zombies in a horror film parody and lasted 14 minutes. It was the most extensive pop promo of its time, with a budget of £400,000 – an unprecedented figure at the time.

This was also the era that

also earned him an Emmy award.

In February 1984, at the age of 25, Michael swept the boards at the Grammy Awards and took his place as the King of Pop – a title later coined for him by close friend, Elizabeth Taylor.

Michael's total of eight Grammy wins in one night broke all records at the time.

His achievements were recognised in other ways, too,







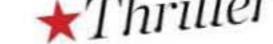




















★ Clockwise from far left:
Michael swept the board at
the Grammys in 1984, winning
eight awards; finding comfort
eight awards; finding comfort
with nature, Michael shows
with nature, Michael shows
off his pet boa constrictor; the
star was first linked to actress

# Twant to turn into a monster. Can I do that?' Landis Thriller director John Landis Michael's landmark Thriller video is a 14-minute extravaganza that established the marriage between music and film. It was later released as a best-selling home video and won two Grammys www.storemags.com & www.fantamag.com

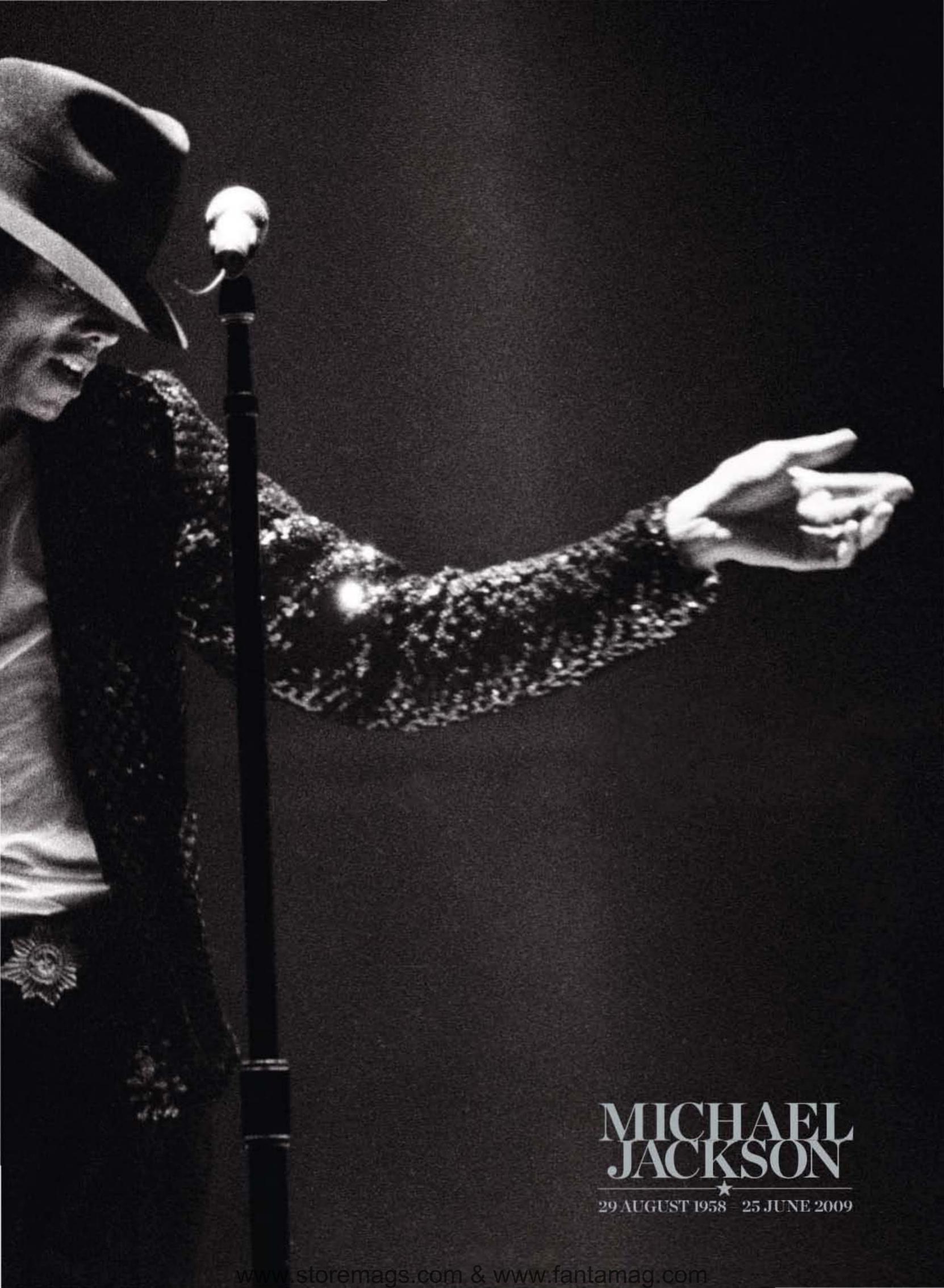




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### Bad 1987 - 199



Five years after Thriller, Bad scored a record five US No 1 singles. Cosmetic surgery, a public kiss and a meeting with Princess Diana were to come

ive years after the fantastic success of *Thriller*, fans braced themselves for the much-hyped release of Michael's seventh studio album.

Following its release on 31 August 1987, Bad spawned an all-time record breaking five No I singles on the Billboard's Hot 100 chart with the hits, I Just Can't Stop Loving You, Bad, The Way You Make Me Feel, Man In The Mirror and Dirty Diana.

Despite lower sales, Rolling Stone magazine rated it more highly than

than 4.4 million people. Seven sell-out shows to 500,000 fans at Wembley Stadium earned him a Guinness world record, as did the £75 million the tour raked in.

Ever devoted to children's causes, Michael invited underprivileged youngsters to watch for free and gave millions in donations to hospitals, orphanages and other charities.

From 1985 to 1990, he donated £300,000 to the United Negro College Fund, and all of the profits from his single *Man In The Mirror* 



regularly linked to a string of beauties. Michael was reportedly dating Tatiana Thumbtzen, star of the 1987 video for *The Way You Make Me Feel*.

Beating off stiff competition from the likes of Prince and Robert de Niro, Michael shared a first public kiss with Tatiana and said: 'I love her because she's warm, caring and exciting.'

Michael took his first steps into a Peter Pan world with the building of his Neverland Ranch in Santa Ynez, California in March 1988,

At a cost of £10 million, the 2,700acre property came complete with its own Ferris wheels, zoo, movie theatre and 40 security staff. It was a child's dream – and Michael often invited kids to his home.

In an emotional interview with chat show host Oprah Winfrey, he said: 'I didn't have friends when I was little. My brothers were my friends. People wonder why I always have children around, because I find the thing that I never had through them, you know, Disneyland, amusement parks, arcade games.

'I adore all that stuff because when I was little it was always work, work, work – from one concert to the next.'

Michael hit his peak at the end of the decade when, in 1989, President George Bush Senior and legendary screen star Elizabeth Taylor presented him with the White House's Artist of the Decade award in recognition of his tremendous influence on popular music.

# It was only because of Thriller that Bad's sales were less impressive. It still sold a whopping 30 million

Thriller, labelling it 'richer, sexier and better'.

Though he was still undoubtedly making music history, the *Bad* album – which has sold more than 30 million copies worldwide – could not hope to match the phenomenal sales of its predecessor.

It did, however, play an important role in 30-year-old Michael's transformation from squeaky-clean teen idol to the crotch-grabbing star whose apparent discovery of sex had pop commentators abuzz.

Still the accolades and record breakers kept rolling in.

The double-Grammy awardwinning *Bad* sparked a 16-month sell-out tour – 123 concerts to more went to charity, too. On tour in 1988, the singer's first autobiography, *Moon Walk*, went on sale.

Exposing tales of his troubled childhood and life as one fifth of the Jackson 5, it hit the top spot in *The New York Times* bestseller list.

Other revelations in the book included a confession to two rhinoplastic surgeries and the surgical creation of a cleft chin.

Jacko fever continued with the release of the film Moonwalker. With live footage, videos and a film with actor Joe Pesci, it topped Billboard's music video cassette chart for 22 weeks – only knocked offby Michael Jackson: The Legend Continues.

And the star was still being













Hundreds of thousands of fans saw the star sing live in the 80s – raking in millions for the boy originally from Gary, Indiana





#### Dangerous 1991 – 1994

As Michael's fastest-selling album broke records, he cemented his living-legend status with a string of high-profile collaborations

ichael's Dangerous album was so hotly anticipated that a group of armed robbers stole 30,000 copies at a Los Angeles airport before its official release.

It was eventually released on 26 November 1991, with record-breaking sales – his fastest-selling album ever in the US.

Havingsigned a 15-year, sixalbum deal to Sony Music in March, Michael was set to earn an estimated £100m from album sales alone.

Dangerous received a huge boost in sales when Michael performed at halftime during the XXVII Super Bowl, Pasadena, California in 1993.

In the February of that year,

I was little. My brothers were my friends.'

When asked by Oprah if he ever escaped into his imagination, he admitted: 'No, that is why I think I compensate.

'I loved showbusiness and I still love showbusiness, but then there are times you just want to play and have some fun and that part did make me sad.'

Remembering his adolescence, he said: 'It was very, very, very difficult, yes.

'I think every child star suffers through this period because you're not the cute and charming child that you were.

'You start to grow, and the public want to keep you

the fact he was still dating model and actress Brooke Shields.

Michael attended the 35th Grammy Awards with Brooke and received the Grammy Living Legend Award in February 1993.

He also became close to Home Alone child star Macaulay Culkin, and the pair had a lasting friendship. Macaulay also made an appearance in the Black Or White music video in 1991.

Supermodel Naomi Campbell also guest-starred in the video for *In The Closet* in June 1992.

However, Michael's friendship with 13-year-old Jordy Chandler was soon to hit the headlines when a lawsuit was filed against him, accusing him of sexually assaulting the boy. Michael was devastated at the accusation and appeared on TV denying the claim.

In January 1994, Michael paid an undisclosed sum, thought to be somewhere between £6m and £12m, to settle the case.

However, the year improved for the star when he met and fell in love with Lisa Marie Presley, the daughter of music icon Elvis.

On 26 May 1994, they married in the Dominican Republic, but unfortunately their union lasted less than two years.

#### 'I was comfortable on stage but once I got off I was very sad. Lonely. I used to cry from loneliness'

Michael gave Oprah Winfrey a rare and frank interview.

After being shown footage of himself as a child singer, he revealed to the host: 'I was most comfortable on stage but once I got off stage, I was like, very sad. Lonely, sad, having to face popularity and all that.

'I had great times with my brothers, pillow fights and things, but I used to always cry from loneliness.

'I didn't have friends when

little forever. I had pimples so badly it used to make me so shy.'

Michael also hit back at stories that he bleached his skin: 'I have a skin disorder that destroys the pigmentation, it's something I can't help, OK? But when people make up stories that I don't want to be what I am, it hurts me.'

On a positive note, the reclusive star admitted he was 'very happy' and that may have had something to do with







Every child star suffers because you're not the cute and charming child that you were. You start to grow, and the public want to keep you little forever?

Michael performed at the Feijenoord Stadium, Rotterdam, 30 June 1992 on the Dangerous Tour









\* Clockwise from left: supermodel
Naomi Campbell featured in the 1992
video for In The Closet; Michael still kept
in touch with actress Brooke Shields,
pictured here in November 1991; Michael
with first wife Lisa Marie Presley; with
actor friend Macaulay Culkin and an
orang-utan. Michael and Macaulay
remained firm friends; the star on
US chat show Oprah in 1993







# HIStory 1995 - 2000

As he headed towards the Millennium, Michael released his greatest hits album HIStory, married twice and became a dad

n 1995 Michael released his first official greatest hits album HIStory: Past, Present And Future.

The first disc, HIStory Begins, was made up of a selection of his biggest hits, while the second, HIStory Continues, featured new songs, plus a cover of The Beatles' Come Together, originally recorded at the time of Bad.

HIStory continued his streak of huge-selling albums, with total sales estimated at 20 million.

The first single he released was Scream – a duet with younger sister Janet, then also one of the biggest music stars in the world.

At the time, Janet agreed to do

worldwide, this was the first ever song to debut at No 1 on the US Billboard charts. Sadly, shortly after this song was released, the couple split – but remained good friends.

Michael then released Earth Song, which sold more than a million copies and became his best-selling UK single.

A self-confessed workaholic, when asked what made him angry, Michael replied: 'I believe in perfection. I try to create that in everything we do but I believe in perfect execution and when we don't get at least 99.9 per cent, I get really upset.'

In 1996, Michael began the



## 'I believe in perfection. I try to create that in everything we do but I believe in perfect execution and when we don't get at least 99.9 per cent, I get really upset'

the song because she had already established herself as a solo artist, so no one could say she was 'riding on Michael's coat-tails'.

The video became the most expensive ever made – costing £5million – and won a Grammy for Best Music Video, along with three MTV awards.

Directed at the tabloid press, *Scream* was Michael's way of expressing his frustration over the false rumours circulated by the media.

The second single was You Are Not Alone, which starred his wife Lisa Marie Presley in an uncharacteristically sexy video. Selling three million copies

HIStory World Tour, where he performed 82 concerts in 58 cities to more than 4.5million fans.

To promote both his tour and the album, he made a teaser video showing him marching with thousands of military personnel, while giant gold statues were floated down rivers in Europe.

During the Australian leg of his world tour, Michael married nurse Debbie Rowe. The pair had a son, Prince Michael Jnr, and a daughter, Paris Michael.

But in 1999, they also divorced, with Debbie giving Michael full custody rights to their children.

In 1997, he released Blood On The Dance Floor: HIStory In The Mix, which contained remixes of hits from HIStory, along with five new songs. The title track was his seventh – and final – UK No 1.

Throughout the *HIStory* period, Michael continuously raised money for charities. In 1999, he organised a set of *Michael Jackson And Friends* benefit concerts in Germany and Korea with a variety of international stars, including his old friend Slash from Guns N' Roses. He donated all proceeds to the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, the Red Cross and UNESCO.

In 2000, Michael was listed in the Guinness World Records for his support of 39 charities – more than any other celebrity in the world.





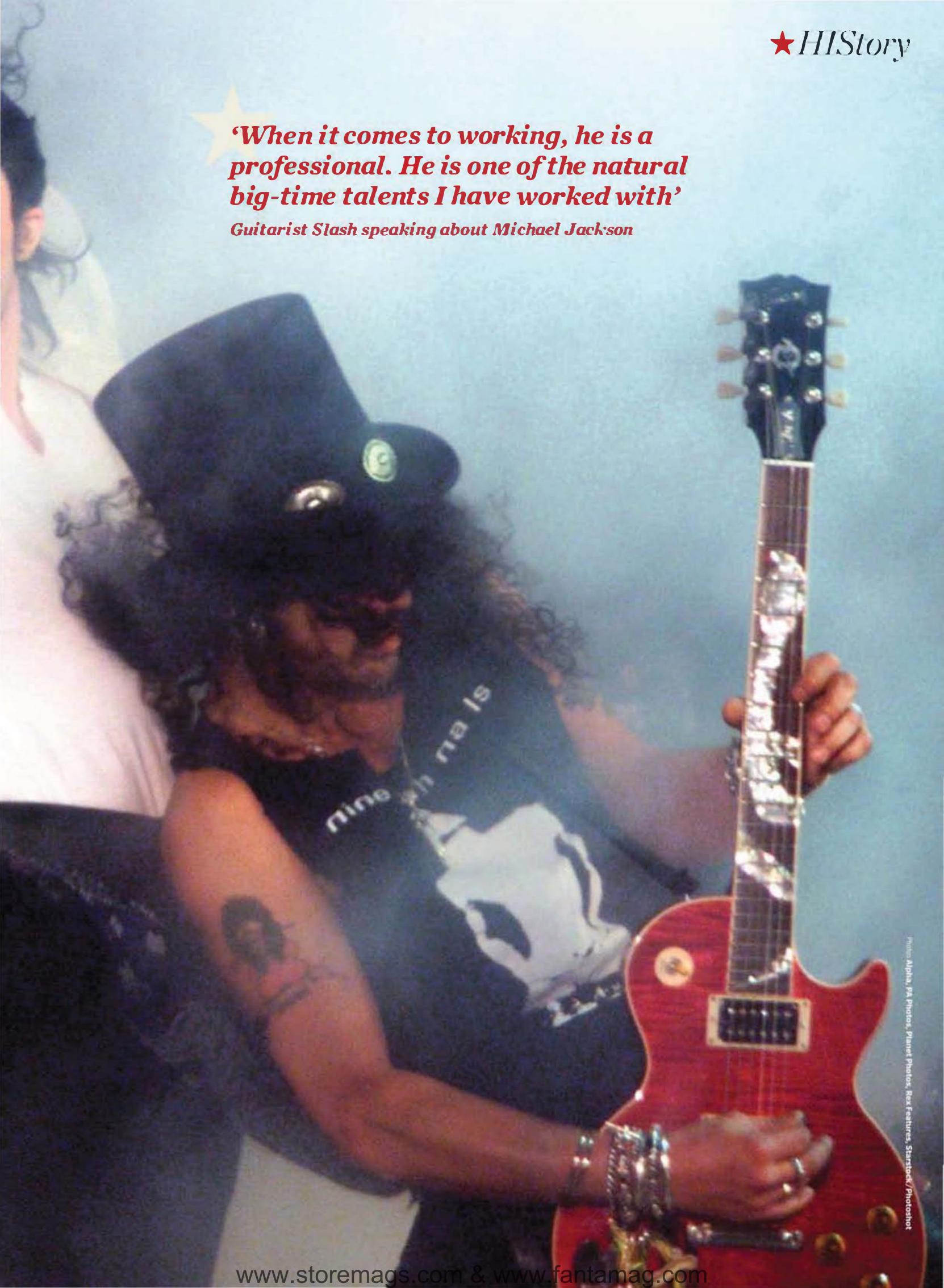


\* Clockwise from bottom: The mid-90s was a time of change for Michael. He married a time of change for Michael. He married Lisa Marie Presley in 1994 and together they Lisa Marie Presley in 1994 and together they stared in the 1995 video for You Are Not stared in the 1995 video for You Are Not stared in the 1995 video for You Are Not stared in the 1995 video for You Are Not stared in the 1995 video for European cities, star down rivers in major Europe



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# *Invincible* 2001 - 2009

#### Marking 30 years as a solo artist, *Invincible* was to be Michael's last album

ichael Jackson returned in 2001, to much excitement, with *Invincible* – his first studio album in six years.

But, despite spending much of the late 90s out of the public eye, Michael still had his finger firmly on the musical pulse and collaborated with Biggie Smalls on the track *Unbreakable* and Jay-Z for the remix of the first single, *You Rock My World*.

Invincible sold around 8 million copies worldwide and went double-platinum in the US. But sales for the album were disappointing compared to Michael's previous releases – due in part to a label dispute with Sony.

To promote the album, Michael organised a 30th Anniversary Special concert at New York's Madison Square Gardens, marking Michael's three decades as a solo artist. Tickets to the two tribute



their greatest hits, including ABC, I Want You Back, Can You Feel It and The Love You Save.

It was the first time Michael had appeared onstage with them since 1984.

The second concert, on 10 September 2001, finished just hours before the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre. Michael then helped organise the United We Stand: What More Can I Give? benefit concert in memory of 9/11 victims in Washington DC on 21 October.

2002 saw the birth of Michael's third child, Prince Michael II, known

### Invincible sold around 8 million copies worldwide and went double-platinum in the US

shows sold out within five hours and when it was later aired on US TV channel CBS it became the channel's highest-rated music special of all time, attracting 25.7 million viewers.

Michael was joined on stage by a host of major musical stars, including Whitney Houston, Destiny's Child, Liza Minnelli, Dionne Warwick and Luther Vandross.

He also performed a duet of *The Way* You Make Me Feel with Britney Spears.

But the most exciting reunion of the night came when Michael and his brothers took to the stage for a medley of as Blanket. Blanket was born to a woman who's identity has not been revealed.

Invincible was to be Michael's final studio album, although he did include a new track on his 2003 Number Ones compilation, One More Chance, written for him by R Kelly.

2006 saw a series of reissued singles, called *Visionary: The Video Singles*, while his *Thriller* album was revamped as *Thriller 25* in 2008. His final release, *King Of Pop*, was released in 2008 to celebrate his 50th birthday.









#### Husband and father



At the height of his fame, Michael married twice and proved himself to be a doting father to his three children, Prince Michael Jnr, Paris Michael and Prince Michael II

ichael married Lisa Marie Presley, daughter of music icon Elvis, on 26 May 1994.

The ceremony was held in secret in La Vega, Dominican Republic, and the world only learned of it two months later.

Michael, then 35, had reportedly been dating mum-of-two Lisa Marie, then 26, since February, but they had managed to keep their relationship under wraps.

Only a handful of bodyguards, witnesses and lawyers were present at the wedding, with Lisa later admitting: 'We are both very private people.'

She added: I am very much in love with Michael. I dedicate my life to being his wife. I understand and support him. We both look forward to raising a family.'

But in January 1996, Lisa Marie filed for divorce, citing 'irreconcilable differences'.

However, the world was in for another shock. Just 11 months later, Michael issued a

'I cried when he was born and cut the umbilical cord,' Michael admitted.

Michael loved being a father and spent most of his time caring for Prince Michael at Neverland, while Debbie lived 100 miles away in a Los Angeles flat.

But despite their long distance relationship, Debbie gave birth to Michael's only daughter, Paris Michael Katherine, on 3 April 1998.

Michael threw himself into fatherhood and when he and Debbie divorced 18 months later, he was given full custody of the children.

The star then appeared to remain single but in 2002, it was revealed he'd had a second son, Prince Michael II – aka Blanket – with an unnamed woman.

Michael later admitted he'd been secretly dating Blanket's mum but claimed she did not want to be in the spotlight.

We have a contractual agreement where

#### 'I love my children very much and I love being a father. They are the most precious things in my life'

statement saying his 'close friend of 15 years' Debbie Rowe was pregnant with their first child.

Debbie, a medical assistant, worked for Michael's dermatologist.

Michael described the news of his first child as a 'dream come true' and, despite wanting to keep it a secret until the birth, had been too excited to keep quiet.

The expectant dad reportedly didn't believe in children being born out of wedlock so, within 10 days of the announcement, he and Debbie married in Sydney, Australia.

Debbie gave birth to Michael's first son Prince Michael Jnr on 13 February 1997. we can't talk about who she is - she'll get bombarded,' he said.

After growing up in the public eye, Michael said he wanted to use veils to protect his children's identity: 'From birth, we covered them.'

Michael added: 'I love my children very much and I love being a father. They are the most precious things in my life.'

When asked if he was a good dad, Michael replied: 'I try my hardest. I try to bring them a lot of fun. Once a year I dress up like a clown, with the whole gear – the nose, the paint. And I give them candy and cookies.'



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#### The showman



Ever the showman, Michael adored performing. Able to hold the audience's attention with just a spotlight and a dance move, his on-stage character helped make the star a legend

he minute Michael took to the stage, he transformed into the iconic showman his fans knew and loved. His incredible routines, peppered with jaw-dropping dance moves and infamous crotch-grabbing, quickly transformed Michael from a performer into an icon.

With outrageous outfits, from silver spacesuits to animal masks, it was clear that Michael lived to perform. As soon as the music started, he was transformed into the ultimate showman.

Even as a child, Michael felt comfortable in front of an audience, shining in his very first public performance at a school recital whenhe was just five, and reducing his mum to tears in the process.

Looking back, the singer said: 'On stage for me was home. I was most comfortable on stage.'

And as Michael's fame propelled him

showman who put on incredible circus performances during the 1800s, perfectionist Michael worked tirelessly on each and every one of his shows, demanding more and more from himself every time.

He wanted to capture people's attention, and leave them in awe of what he was doing.

With music videos *Thriller* and *Smooth Criminal*, Michael didn't just perform his songs. He created storylines and enthralling dance routines that have been copied in theatres, shows and school plays across the world ever since.

Michael was the ultimate performer. A dancer, a singer and an all-round entertainer. It was obvious to all that Michael was born to be on the stage.

In comparison with his on-stage persona, Michael often felt lonely in his personal life. Being the most famous pop star in the world tended to leave Michael feeling like an outsider in everyday life. But on

### 'I'm never satisfied. Even when I see something I've done and people say it was phenomenal...'

into superstardom, the singer retained that joy of performing throughout his career. He later said: 'I still love showbusiness. I'm married to my music.'

No one can forget the breathtaking moment when the singer first started gliding backwards, showing the world his Moonwalk for the very first time.

Performing Billie Jean at the Motown 25th anniversary in 1983, Michael owned the crowd with nothing more than a solo spotlight and a sequinned glove.

Inspired by the first-ever showhusiness millionaire P T Barnum, a self-confessed

stage, he shone, basking in the glory of adulation.

Talking about the rush of walking out in front of thousands of adoring fans, Michael said: 'You just feel lots of love, and I feel blessed and honoured.'

After his death, the founder of the MOBO Awards, Kanya King, called him 'the greatest showman of all time'. Starting more than four decades ago, Michael led the pack, wowing audiences with his impressive performances and amazing stage presence.

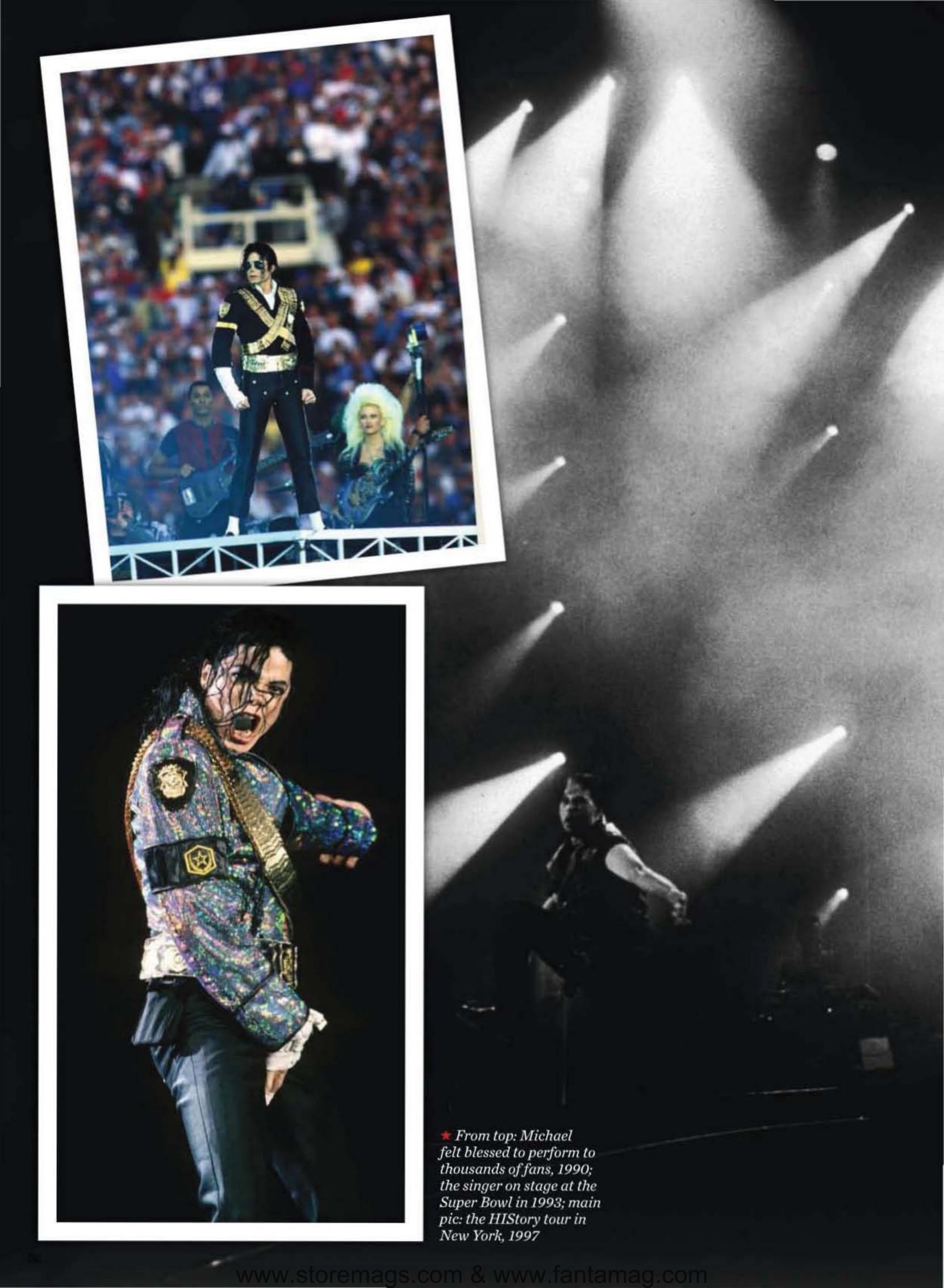
Michael Jackson, the performer, will never he forgotten.













Thore showbusiness.
I'm married to my music'









# Difficult times



He called himself Peter Pan and turned his 2,500-acre home into a children's fantasy playground. But as 'the boy who never grew up' opened his home to children from all over the world, Michael left himself vulnerable to dark allegations that eventually forced him out of his beloved Neverland

t was every child's dream. A giant garden full of exotic animals, circus tents and every funfair ride imaginable.

And Michael, who spent a staggering £2 million a year on its upkeep, made dreams come true for hundreds of children every year, when he invited them to his Neverland ranch.

'Everything that I love is behind those gates,' he said in 2003. 'We have elephants and giraffes and crocodiles and every kind of tigers and lions. And we have bus loads of kids who don't get to see those kind of things, they come up – sick children – and enjoy it.'

But, after a TV documentary in 2003 that

memories, having been ransacked by police.

Tainted by ugly claims of abuse, Michael felt unable to live there and moved out.

His sister La Toya said: 'Michael hasn't been back to Neverland since the trial. He never wants to see it again. He doesn't want to be there – the memories are so awful.'

The star moved to Bahrain, where, as a guest of Sheikh Abdullah, he was able to live an anonymous life without prejudice.

Staying out of the limelight, he focused on spending time with his children.

He wasn't seen in public until 2006, when he visited the London office of Guinness World Records to receive eight gongs to mark his phenomenal pop career. And he

# He doesn't want to go back to Neverland again – the memories are too painful

led to allegations of sexual abuse and a lengthy court trial, he reluctantly packed up and moved out for good.

In the 25 years Michael lived at Neverland, it became more than just his home.

He said at the time: 'I wanted to have a place that I could create everything that I never had as a child. So you see rides, you see animals, there's a movie theatre.

'I was always on tour travelling and I never got a chance to do those things – so I compensated for the loss.

'I can't go into a park, I can't go to Disneyland as myself. I can't go out and walk down the street. There are crowds and bumper-to-bumpercars. So I create my own world behind my gates.'

But in 2005, after a gruelling trial – at the end of which the singer was acquitted of all charges – it became a place full of painful

only returned to the US briefly that year, where he joined 8,000 people to pay his respects to late soul star James Brown.

A place full of painful memories, abandoned Neverland fell into a state of disrepair, until it was sold in 2008.

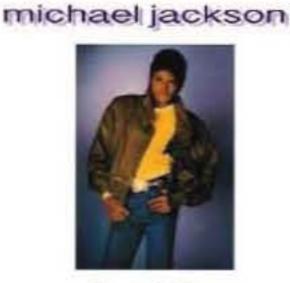














beat it

# Chart history



Billie Jean, Black Or White, Earth Song... Michael will always be remembered for his classic music

ichael dominated global music charts for three decades. His albums alone have racked up sales of more than 400 million, plus an estimated 100 million singles.

But despite his global success, Michael remained modest about his talents and painfully shy of his achievements, saying: 'I'm never pleased with anything, I'm a perfectionist, it's part of who I am.'

As he notched up dozens of chart-

love of writing and reaching new fans, saying: Tam always writing a potpourri of music. I want to give the world escapism through the wonder of great music and to reach the masses.'

Michael had been working on new material since the release of *Invincible* in 2001, and there are said to be many songs in the vaults, some of which have yet to see the light of day. He was even thought to have been working on a new song

# 'Music is a mantra that soothes the soul. It's therapeutic. It's something our body has to have, like food'

toppers, including seven in the UK, and continued to break records, the star never stopped striving to give his fans something new.

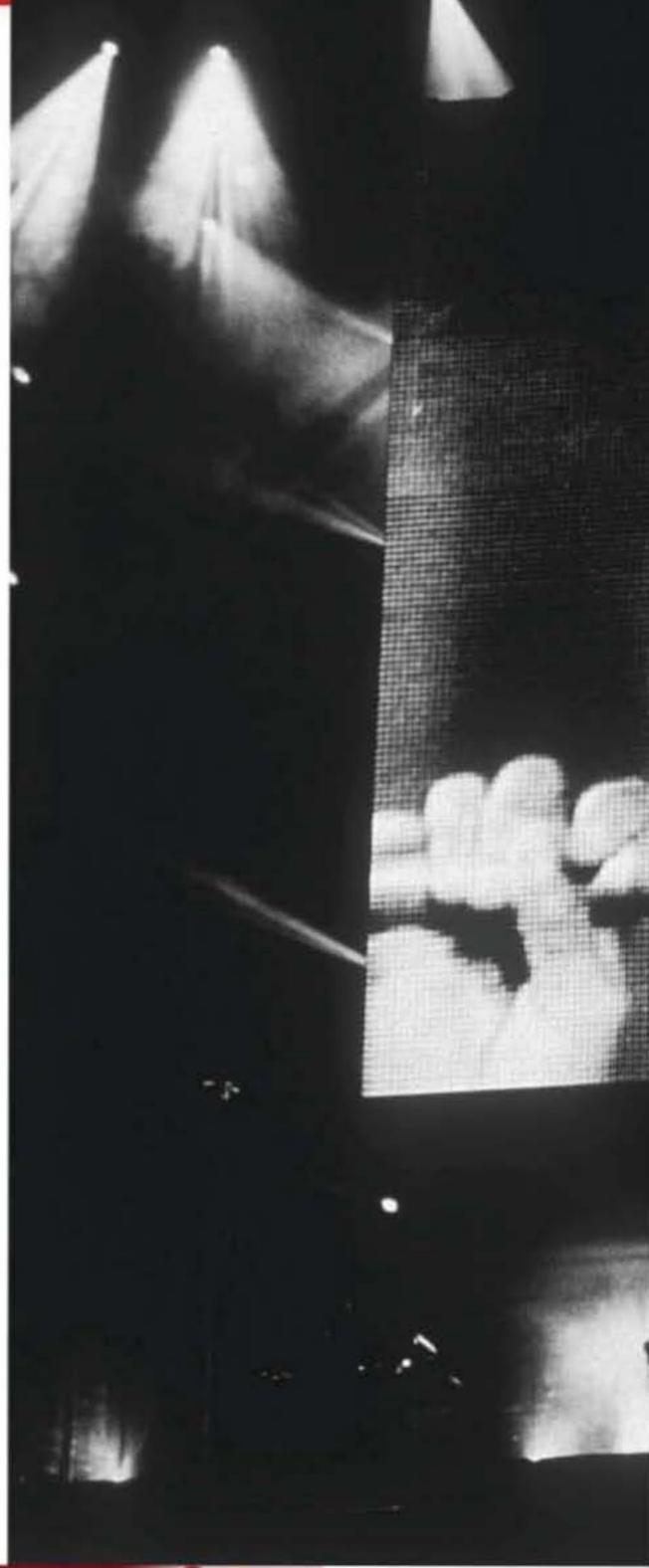
Michael's *Thriller 25* album, released in 2008, included remixes co-written and produced by Michael with the likes of Akon, Kanye West and will.i.am.

Michael often talked about his

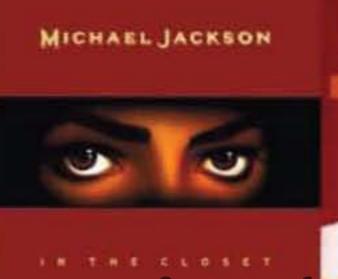
about the environment just before he died, and was said to be 'excited' about the message it contained.

Michael's music had the ability to transcend his personal struggles.

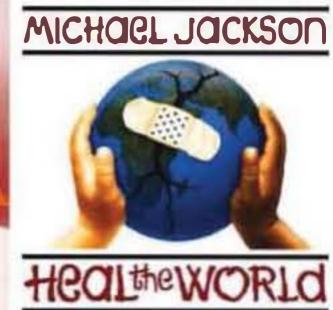
'It's a mantra that soothes the soul,' he once said of the restorative power of music. 'It's therapeutic. It's something our body has to have, like food.'















# Early Motown albums:

Got to Be There (1972) Ben (1972) Music And Me (1973)

Forever, Michael (1975)

Motown released One Day In Your Life (1981) and Farewell My Summer Love (1984) after Michael signed for Sony. Michael had four Top 10 singles with Motown in 1972.



# Off The Wall

Released: 10 August 1979

UK/US charts: 5/3

Worldwide sales to date: 20 million

Notable for: The first artist to have four singles make the top 10 of the Billboard Hot 10. Inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2008.

Awards: Grammy for Best Male R&B Vocal Performance (for Dan't Stop 'Til You Get Enough).

### Singles:

Don't Stop Til You Get Enough (No 3, 1979) Off the Wall (No 7, 1979) Rock With You (No 7, 1980) She's Out Of My Life (No 3, 1980) Girlfriend (No41,1980)

Also: Aduet with Diana Ross, Ease On Down The Road, reached No 45 in 1978. Two more hits from old material in 1981 including One Day In Your Life, a No 1.



# Bad

Released: 31 August 1987

UK/US charts: 1/1

Worldwide sales to date: 30 million

Notable for: Only album ever to feature five Billboard Hot 100 No 1 singles in the US. Nine hit singles charted around the world.

Awards: Won a Grammy (Best Music Video - Short Form for Leave Me Alone).

# Singles:

IJust Can't Stop Laving You (feat Siedah Garrett) (No 1, 1987) Bad (No 3, 1987) The Way You Make Me Feel (No 2, 1987) Man In The Mirror (No 21, 1988) Dirty Diana (No 4, 1988) Another Part Of Me (No 15, 1988) Smooth Criminal (No 8, 1988) Leave Me Alone (No 2, 1989) Liberian Girl (No 13, 1989)

Also: GetIt, a duet with Stevie Wonder, reached No 37 in 1988.

A Singles Souvenir Pack was released in 1988 to coincide with his Bad World Tour, pressed as special square-shaped picture discs.

The singles from Badwere promoted in the UK via a variety of special limited editions, including a star-mobile pack for Liberian Girland a pop-up cover for Leave Me Alone.

# HIStory: Past, Present and Future, Book I

Released: 20 June 1995 UK/US charts: 1/1

Worldwide sales to date: 20 million

Notable for: Blood (In The Dance floor, a remix albumof HIStory, charted at No 1. It also produced two hit singles, the title track (his final No 1) and History/Ghosts (No 5) in 1997.

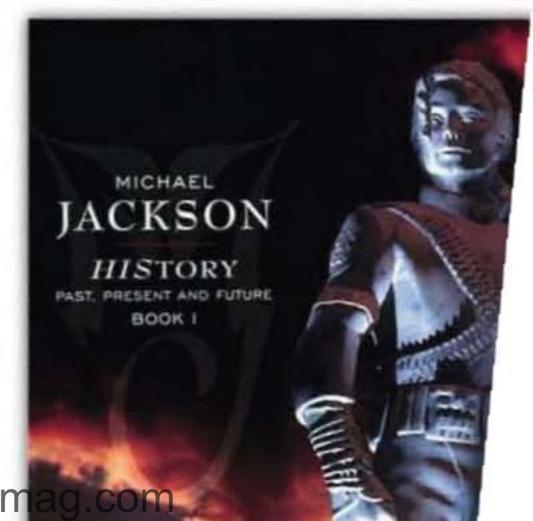
Awards: Grammy for Best Music Video - Short Form for Scream, which he made with younger sister Janet.

# Singles:

Scream (with Janet) (No 3, 1995)
You Are Not Alone (No 1, 1995)
Earth Song (No 1, 1995)
They Don't Care About Us (No 4, 1996)
Stranger In Mascow (No 4, 1996)

Also: A collaboration with boyband 3T, Why, made No 2 in 1996.

A stand-alone version of the first disc of HLStory was released in 2001 and charted at No 15.



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# Thriller

Released: 30 November 1982

UK/US charts: 1/1

Worldwide sales to date: Estimates vary from 50 up to 109 million – either way, it's the world's biggest selling album ever. It spent 37 weeks at No 1 in the US.

Notable for: Billie Jean was the first video by a black artist to get MIV prime-time coverage.

Awards: A record-breaking eight Grammys.

# Singles:

The Girl Is Mine (Feat Paul McCartney) (No 8, 1982)

Billie Jean (No 1, 1983)

Beat It (No 3, 1983)

Warna Be Startin' Somethin' (No 8, 1983)

71 willer (No 10, 1983)

PYT. (Pretty Young Thing) (No 11, 1984)

Also: Aspecial limited pack of nine 7m singles were released on red vinyl in 1983.

Aduet with Paul McCartney, Say Say Say.
made No 2, while Motown released two old
tracks, Farewell My Summer Loveand Girl
You're So Together, as singles in 1984.

He masterminded the We Are The World chatity single in 1985, another global No 1.

In 2008, the *Thriller* album found a new audience as *Thriller 25* sold more than three million copies. New versions of *The Girl Is Mine* and *Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'* both charted as singles.



# Dangerous

Released: 26 November 1991

UK/US charts: 1/1

Worldwide sales to date: 32 million

Notable for: His fastest-selling ever in the US, with four million copies shipped in less than two months.

Awards: Won three American Music Awards, plus two World Music Awards.

# Singles:

Black Or White (No 1, 1991)
Remember The Time (No 3, 1992)
In The Closet (No 8,1992)
Jam (No 12, 1992)
Who Is It? (No 10, 1992)
Heal The World (No 2, 1992)
Give In To Me (Feat Slash) (No 2, 1993)

Will You Be There (No 9, 1993)
Gone Too Soon (No 33, 1993)

# Also:

Black Or White was so successful that even additional formats, featuring remixes, charted at No 14 in 1991.

The album was initially released as a limited edition boxed CD with a special 3D pop-up cover.

An impressive roster of Hollywood A-listers started in the music videos, including Macaulay Culkin, Tyra Banks, Eddie Murphy, Iman, Naomi Campbell and Michael Jordan.

# Invincible

Released: 30 October 2001

UK/US charts: 1/1

Worldwide sales to date: 8 million

Notable for: The album was released with five different coloured covers.

# Singles:

You Rock My World (No 2, 2001)

Ciy(No 25. 2001)

Also: Michael released several compilation albums following Invincible. These include NumberOnes (No 1, 2003), The Essential (No 2, 2005) and King Of Pop (No 3, 2008). A single from NumberOnes, One MoreChance, reached No 5.



Photos Getty, Planet Photos C. releases only

★Chart hist

# TV and film

With his far-reaching talent, Michael shone on both stage and screen

A swell as his music career, Michael also starred in a number of movies and TV shows.

In the 70s, Michael and his brothers were transformed into cartoon characters for the show *Jackson 5ive*, which was a big hit with younger fans.

Michael later branched out and landed a starring role in *The Wiz*, an adaptation of the famous Oscar-winning fantasy film *The Wizard Of Oz* featuring an entirely African-American cast.

He also acted and danced in his own extended music videos, most notably *Thriller* in 1983 and *Bad* in 1987.

In 1988, Michael starred in his fulllength movie *Moonwalker*, which included the extended video to *Smooth Criminal*.

Always a fan of cartoons, the star later had a guest role in an episode of *The Simpsons* in 1991. His character was

# 'ET reminds me of me... Who don't wanna fly?'

a deluded man who thought he was Michael Jackson himself.

Six years later, Michael played five different characters in the supernatural short film *Ghosts*.

He also landed a cameo role in the Hollywood movie *Men In Black II* in 2002.

But his talents didn't stop there.

Among a long list of other roles, Michael also recorded the audiotape for the blockbuster movie *ET* – his favourite film – and wrote and starred in the computer game *Moonwalker*.





# In print



The King of Pop wrote several books – and there were dozens more written about him

o accompany the 1988 film Moonwalker, Michael published a children's book, Moonwalker: The Story Book, and his muchanticipated autobiography, Moonwalk.

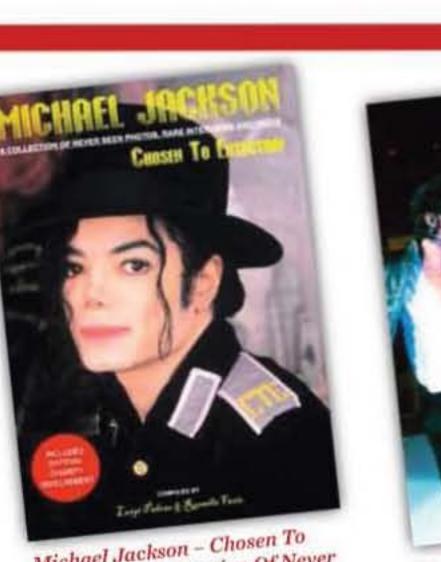
Interest was so great that it was printed in secret and originally given the code name 'Neil Armstrong'. In the book, Michael talked frankly about his rise to fame, his love life and cosmetic surgery operations.

Taking a change of direction in 1992, Michael

# Such a charismatic star generated huge interest in his life and work

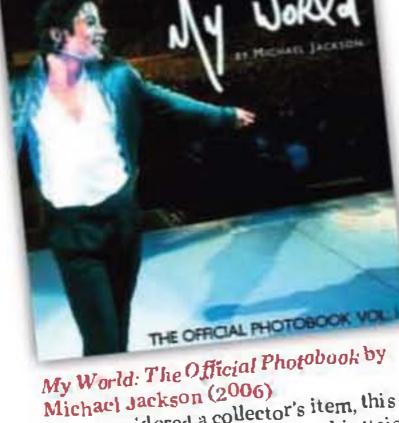
wrote *Dancing The Dream*, a collection of poems, reflections and essays. The articles focused on world peace, hunger and homeless children.

As well as his own creative works, Michael had dozens of unauthorised books written about him, and some of the most memorable are featured here.

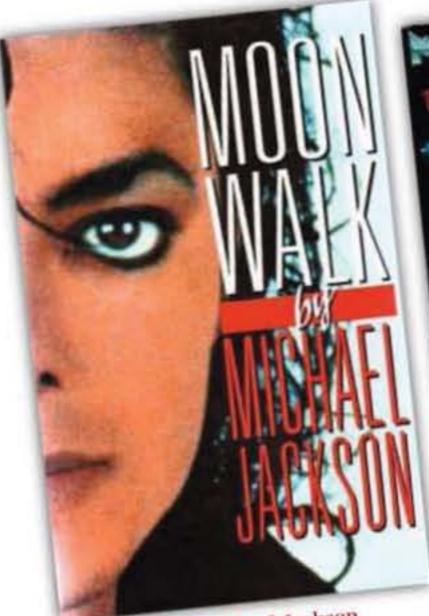


Michael Jackson - Chosen To
Entertain: A Collection Of Never
Seen Photos, Rare Interviews
And Facts by Luigi Pedone and
Rossella Fazio (2006)
A collection of more than 50
never-before-seen photos of

the King of Pop.

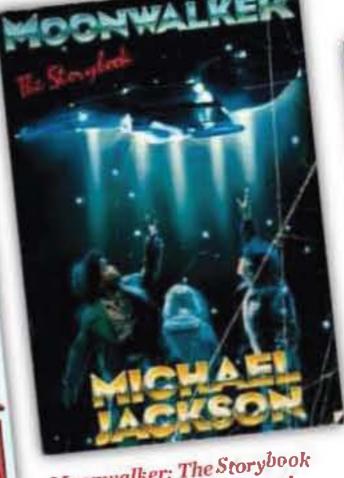


My World: The Official Photobook by
Michael Jackson (2006)
Now considered a collector's item, this
Inhotobook by Michael reviews his unique
career from Gary to greatness.



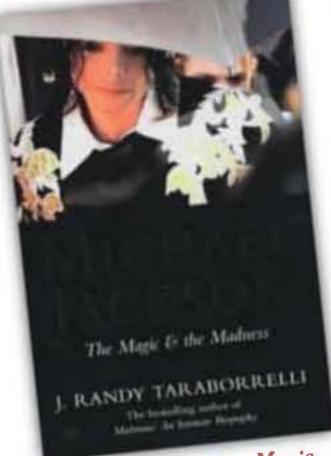
Moonwalk by Michael Jackson
(1988)

(1988)
Michael breaks the barrier of silence surrounding his private life.



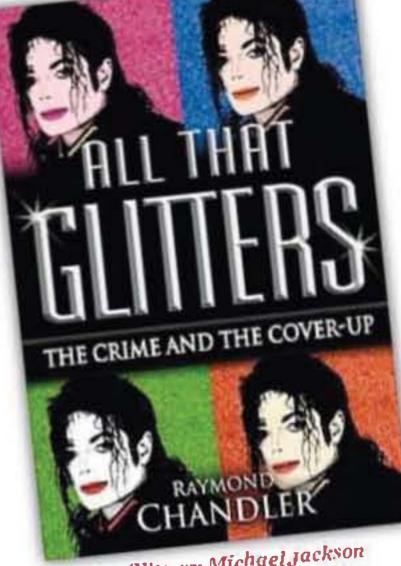
Moonwalker: The Storybook Original Story by Michael Jackson (1988)

This story of the movie features superstar Michael and some young friends as they battle the evil Mr Big in his plan to enslave all the children in the world with drugs.



Michael Jackson: The Magic And The Madness by J. Randy Taraborrelli (2004)

Taraborrem (2004)
The fruit of more than 30 years
of research and hundreds
of exclusive interviews with
the closest circles of the
Jackson family' - including
the star himself.

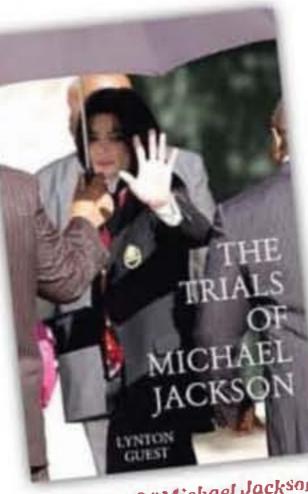


All That Glitters: Michael Jackson

- The Crime And The Cover Up by

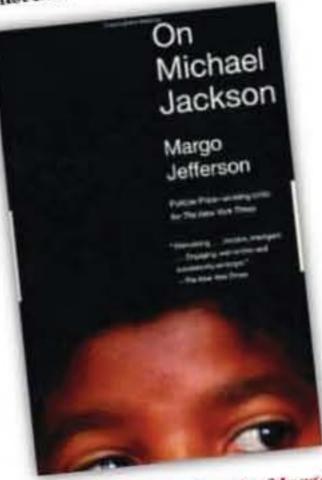
Raymond Chandler (2005)

Raymond Changer (2003)
An extraordinary case study giving the sensational but highly detailed factual evidence about sexual allegations against Michael.



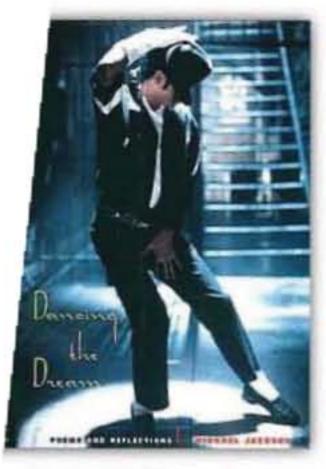
The Trials Of Michael Jackson by Lynton Guest (2006)

Lynton Guest (2006)
A favourite with fans, this protests
the innocence of the singer during
his many trials and tribulations.



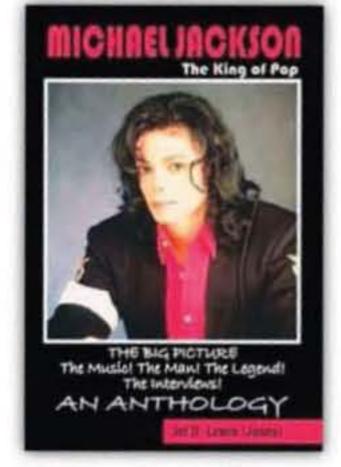
On Michael Jackson by Margo Jefferson (2007)

Pulitzer-winning New York Times critic Jefferson collects her meditations on Michael.



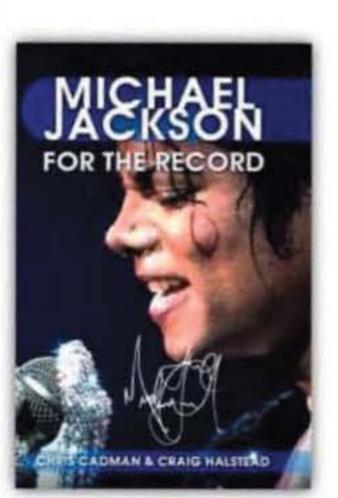
Dancing the Dream: Poems And Reflections by Michael Jackson (1992)

The pop superstar presents a collection of 20 inspirational poems and 20 essays.



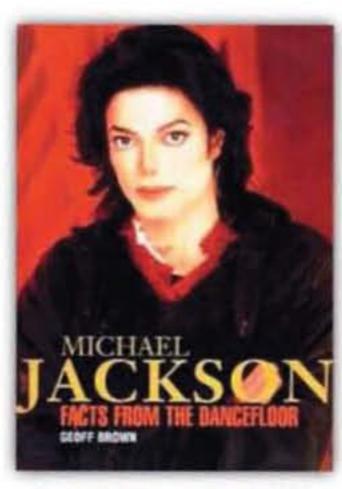
Michael Jackson, The King Of Pop: The Big Picture – The Music! The Man! The Legend! The Interviews! An Anthology by Jel D. Lewis Jones (2005)

A poignant and insightful look into the private life of the misunderstood singer.



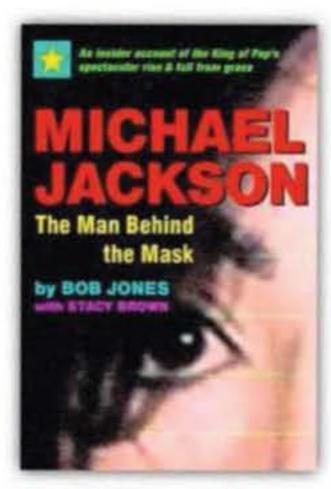
Michael Jackson: For The Record by Chris Cadman and Craig Halstead (2007)

The story of the man and his music by the team who also wrote two other books on the superstar.



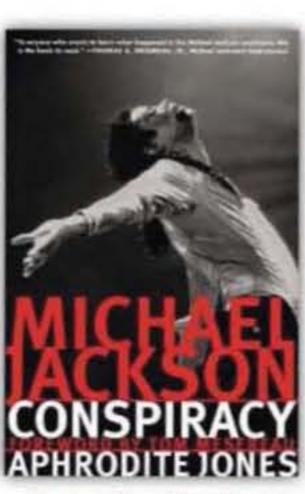
Michael Jackson: Facts From The Dancefloor by Geoff Brown (1997)

Aguide to the music of Michael and the Jackson family. examining every song released by the Jackson 5, both as a group and as individuals.



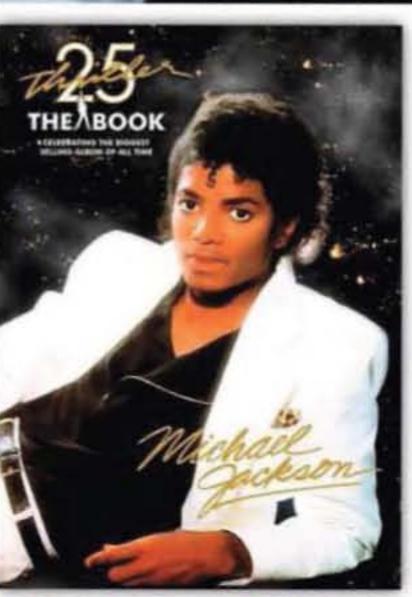
Michael Jackson: The Man Behind The Mask by Bob Jones with Stacy Brown (2005)

Co-written by Bob Jones, Michael's public relations chief for 34 years, this was described as 'Michael Jackson's second-worst nightmare' by Fox News.



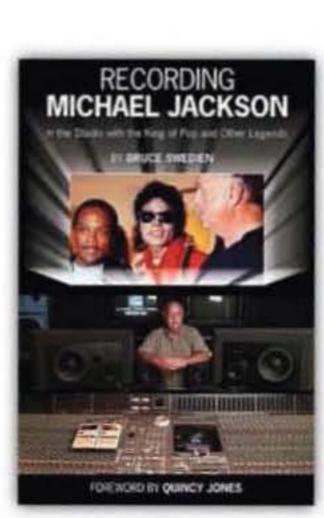
# Michael Ja kson Conspiracy by Aphrodite Jones (2007)

Crime reporter Aphrodite condemns the hateful rumours and gossip that followed Michael everywhere.



Thriller 25th Anniversary: The Book, Celebrating The Biggest Selling Album Of All Time by Michael Jackson (2008)

With more than 180 exclusive, high quality, digitally re-mastered and glossy photographs.



Recording Michael Jackson by Bruce Swedien (2009)

The inside secrets of Michael Jackson's greatest records, by the Grammy-winning engineer who worked with him.







# Michael's final curtain call

On 25 June 2009, Michael Jackson died after suffering a cardiac arrest, just weeks before his hotly-anticipated London shows were set to kick off

Then Michael Jackson announced he would be returning to the stage for a comeback tour, excitement to see the Kingof Pop reached fever pitch.

Announcing the gigs on 5 March in front of a crowd of 7,000 fans and 350 reporters, Michael said: 'I just want to say these will be my final performances in London. This will be it. When I say this is it, I really mean this is it. This is the final curtain call, OK, and I'll see you in July.'

Set to start on 9 July at London's O2 arena, fans couldn't wait to see Michael

in the UK during his tour. He was photographed out and about with his three children, looking happy and content.

However, concerns were raised when the first few sell-out gigs were cancelled. Ever the perfectionist, Michael wanted the tour to be incredible, and with his director, decided to postpone the start. The opening night pushed back to 13 July, and the later dates moved to 2010.

But Michael's final chance to shine on stage was cruelly snatched from him. On Thursday 25 June, an

# Ever the perfectionist, Michael wanted the tour to be incredible, and decided to postpone the start'

recreate some of his most famous moves during his first live show in 12 years. Demand for tickets, priced between £50 and £75, was so high that 11 were sold every second, and Michael's team decided to up the number of dates to 50.

Following the announcement in March, Michael threw himself into preparing for the tour.

In training to improve his stamina for the demanding routines, Michael also began looking for a home to rent emergency call was made from his rented Los Angeles home – Michael was unconscious.

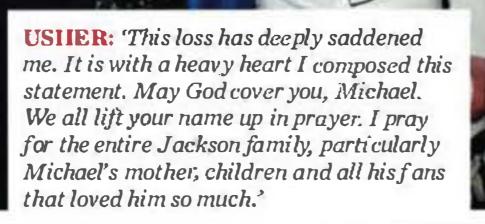
Paramedics rushed to the star's home, and he was taken to a local hospital, where doctors fought to save him.

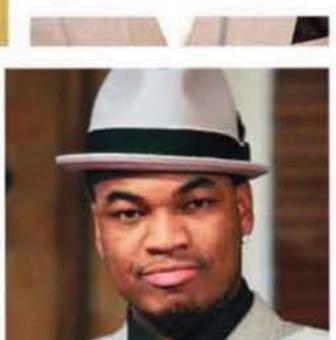
But tragically he couldn't be resuscitated, and Michael passed away just two and a half weeks before he was going to Moonwalk onto stage for one final time.









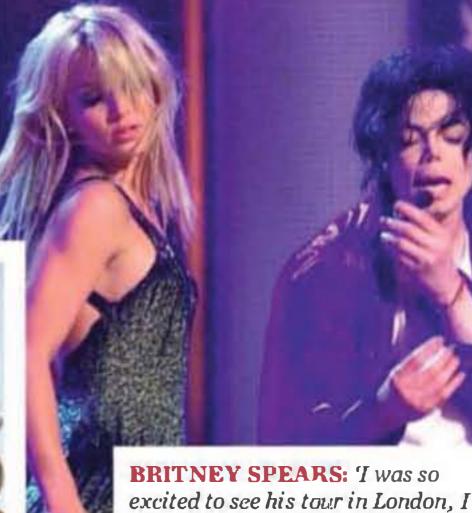


NE-YO: 'Michael Jackson will live forever through the thing that he put all of his life energy into - his music. Long live Michael Jackson.'



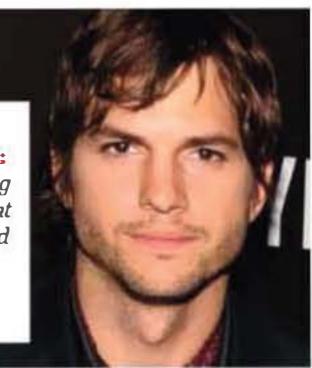
overwhelmed. Michael Jackson has been an idol for me all my life. He was not only a talented person, but he was unique - a genius. It's such a loss. It feels like when Kennedy died, when Elvis died. My sympathy goes to the family."





**ASHTON KUTCHER:** 'RIP. Sending love and light to family and friends but especially

his kids.'



was going to fly in to see him. He's

been an inspiration throughout

that he's gone.'

my entire life and I'm devostated

**BROOKE SHIELDS:** My heart is overcome with sadness for the

ESTELLE: 'He's one

of the reasons for me

with everything I do.

Prayersforthe

entire family!

pushing for excellence

devastating loss of my true friend Michael. He was an extraordinary friend, artist and contributor to the world. I join his family and his fans in celebrating his incredible life and mourning his untimely passing."



mourning my friend, brother, mertor and inspiration. He gave me and my family hope. I would never have been me without him.'





**ARNOLD** SCHWARZENEGGER: He was one of the most influential and iconic figures in the music industry. Our hearts go out to the Jackson family, Michael's children and fans worldwide.'

# MADONNA: 'I can't stop crying over the sad news. I've always admired Michael Jackson – the world has lost one of its greats, but his music will live on forever. My heart goes out to his three children and other members of his family. God bless.'

# Celebs pay tribute

They were his friends, his peers and, for many, their inspiration. Here, some of the world's stars pay tribute



DONNA SUMMER: I will miss his light, I will miss his star, I will miss who he has caused other people to become because of his greatness. He upped the standard.'

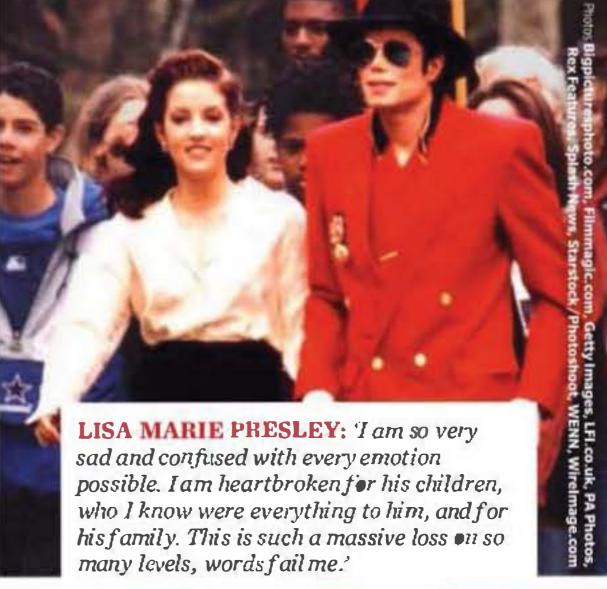


JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE: We hove lost a genius and a true ambassador of all music. He has been an inspiration to generations, and I'll always cherish the moments I shared with him onstage and all of the things I learned about music from him.'



STEVEN SPIELBERG:

'Just as there will never
be another Fred Astaire
or Chuck Berry or Elvis
Presley, there will never
be anyone comparable
to Michael Jackson.'





WYCLEF JEAN:

'Michael Jackson was my
musical god. He made me
believe that all things are
possible, through real and
positive music. Hecan
live forever: I love Michael
Jackson. God bless him.'



LL COOL J: 'He was one of mychildhood idols. I salute you, Kingo f Pop. You made the whole world Moonwalk together.'



JAN'E FONDA: 'I am

Michael Jackson, isdead.'

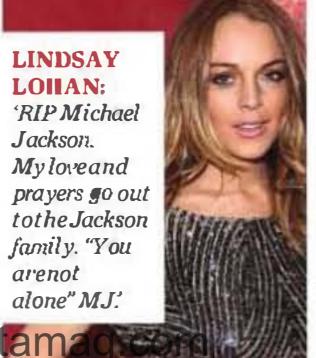
stunned. My friend,

DIONNE WARWICK:

We've lost an icon in our industry and my heartfelt condolences go out to his family and children. He will live on in my memory, and most definitely through the music he shared with so many.'



QUINCY JONES: 'I'm absolutely devastated. Divinity brought our souls together and allowed us to do what we could do through the 80s. That music is played in every corner of the world, and the reason is because he had it all – talent, grace and professionalism. I've lost my little brother today, and part of my soul has gonewith him.'





Michael Jackson dying is absolutely devastating. I am totally shocked. MJ, you're the best.'



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