



## POLAR MUSIC PRIZE

### **STING - bio**

Composer, singer-songwriter, actor, author, and activist Sting was born in Newcastle, England before moving to London in 1977 to form The Police with Stewart Copeland and Andy Summers. The band released five studio albums, earned six Grammy Awards and two Brits, and was inducted into The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2003.

As one of the world's most distinctive solo artists, Sting has earned an additional 10 Grammy Awards, two Brits, a Golden Globe, an Emmy, three Oscar nominations, a TONY nomination, *Billboard Magazine's* Century Award, and MusiCares 2004 Person of the Year. Also a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame, in December 2014 he received the Kennedy Center Honors and most recently, he was honored with The American Music Award of Merit. Throughout his enduring career, he has sold close to 100 million albums from his combined work with The Police and as a solo artist.

Sting's twelfth solo studio album, *57<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>*, his first pop/rock project in over a decade, was recently released on A&M/Interscope Records. The ten-song collection represents a wide range of Sting's musical and songwriting styles from the ferocious, *Road Warrior*-style imagery of "Petrol Head," to the anthemic, "50,000" and the raucous, guitar-driven first single, "I Can't Stop Thinking About You." The album, produced by Martin Kierszenbaum, was recorded with Sting's long-time collaborators Dominic Miller (guitar) and Vinnie Colaiuta (drums), plus drummer Josh Freese (Nine Inch Nails, Guns n' Roses), and guitarist Lyle Workman with backing vocals by the San Antonio-based Tex-Mex band The Last Bandoleros.

In February (2017), Sting will embark on the 57<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> World Tour performing in clubs, theatres and arenas joined by Dominic Miller (guitar), Josh Freese (drums) and Rufus Miller (guitar). Special guests include singer-songwriter, Joe Sumner as well as The Last Bandoleros.

He has appeared in more than 15 films, executive produced the critically acclaimed *A Guide to Recognizing Your Saints*, and in 1989 starred in *The Threepenny Opera* on Broadway. His most recent project was the TONY-nominated musical *The Last Ship*, inspired by his memories of the shipbuilding community of Wallsend in the North East of England where he was born and raised. The show, with music and lyrics by Sting and book by John Logan and Brian Yorkey, ran on Broadway in 2014 and 2015.

An accomplished author, Sting published a memoir entitled *Broken Music* in 2003, which spent 13 weeks on *The New York Times* Best Sellers list. In 2007, he released *Lyrics*, a comprehensive collection of lyrics accompanied by personal commentary and photos.



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Sting's support for human rights organizations such as the Rainforest Fund, Amnesty International and Live Aid mirrors his art in its universal outreach. Along with wife Trudie Styler, Sting founded the Rainforest Fund in 1989 to protect both the world's rainforests and the indigenous people living there. Together they have held 18 benefit concerts to raise funds and awareness for our planet's endangered resources. Since its inception, the Rainforest Fund has expanded to a network of interconnected organizations working in more than 20 countries over three continents.

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