



Mott The Hoople  
"Under Review"  
MVD Visual  
by *Jonathan Mariante*

This is an unauthorized profile of the band. It features many people who were involved with Mott The Hoople in many different ways, or influenced by them. Included are several musicians (like the Clash's Mick Jones), journalists, and industry insiders, who tell the story of the band, album by album. Mott started off as Silence, then hooked up with producer/manager Guy Stevens and hired frontman Ian Hunter. These were major turning points in the band's career, and what really got the band going. After changing their name (which they got from a novel) they began recording albums and playing live. Although they developed a strong cult following on the live circuit (one critic calling them the most exciting live band in Britain at the time), their albums sold poorly, and they couldn't make a breakthrough. They were ready to call it a day when they met David Bowie, who offered to lend them his producing and songwriting talents. At first he offered them the song "Sufragette City", which they turned down (and Bowie later made into a hit of his own). Then Bowie suggested the song "All The Young Dudes". The rest, as they say, is history. This song gave Mott the breakthrough hit they needed, and became their most famous song, and their claim to fame. The band continued recording and touring into the 70s, scoring more hits, but this finally took its toll on Ian Hunter and he quit the band. While he started a solo career, the band continued on in various forms until they too eventually called it quits. This is a very detailed, insightful, and enjoyable look at the inside story of Mott The Hoople. They are best known for that one song, but this shows there was a lot more to the band. They made a lot of great music and were a very influential and underrated band. There are also some cool bonus items included; fan club founder Kris Needs talks about his first encounter with the band-they smuggled him into a school dance he wasn't supposed to be in, and he had to watch them from under a table! Mott keyboardist Morgan Fisher's (who later played keys with Queen on one of their tours) 8mm film of the band on tour in the US, with his commentary, is also included, along with a fun trivia quiz.

[back to top](#)