



Tune Into London



London, Trafalgar Square on this very very warm day.

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

We are here for the *grande evento* of the ELTons Awards.

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Mmm, we're representing Tune Into English which is a website, free resource for pop music, learning English through pop music.

(Scott Thornbury:) "And finally, Tune Into English. Sing us a song."

Tune Into English went to London in May 2012 for the ELTons Awards and the next day visited some locations made famous by album covers.

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

"How much for the ticket?"

(Armando:) "How much for the ticket?"

"Oh, it's £7 a day."

(Armando:) "£7"

"Very expensive, eh."

(Armando:) "For a daily, daily ticket."

"Yeah."

(Armando:) "We can go everywhere."

"We can go anywhere in Zone 1 and 2."

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

This is the site of the album shoot for the 1972 album Ziggy Stardust by David Bowie. Now, as you can see things have changed a lot, the lamp is still up there but because of this restaurant café you can't actually access... it's almost impossible to get exactly the same perspective as David Bowie had. The sign is gone, K-West is no longer there... it shows progress, 1972 so we're looking at 40 years....

Ok, so we're in Heddon Street in London.

I came here 20 years ago and it was slightly different.

Should I do the pose? Ok.

Do I look like David Bowie? (Laughs) I just need my guitar now.

(Music: Ziggy Stardust by David Bowie)

In the original site of the Ziggy Stardust shoot there is no longer a telephone box there, so we're going to try to do it in this telephone box which is just a telephone box in London.

It's not great, not wonderful, not wonderful reflections, not very clean, but let's give it a go...

(Music: Ziggy Stardust by David Bowie)

Carnaby Street, which back in the 1960's was the centre of swinging London and indeed the world centre for men's fashion. And it's still the world centre for men's fashion, if you like Oasis that is, because we're right beside Liam Gallagher's shop Pretty Green which features all of his great creations and designs.

Maybe we'll go in and see if he'll design something for Tune Into English...

This is Berwick St in Soho, the site of What's The Story Morning Glory, Oasis' second album. A huge success, they came here one morning to film it... It obviously had to be early in the morning because there's a lot of traffic now. So as soon as these cars go by maybe we'll try to get a shot. Yeah, it's a very famous site, there's a lot of record shops, www.sisterray.co.uk, that wasn't there at the time, but opened up afterwards... Very popular, ah here we go, let me see if I can get...

(Music: Wonderwall by Oasis)

We're back on the London Underground, but we're not getting the same attention as Rihanna did when she took the Tube to her concert here in London in March 2012*. Our next stop is Baker Street, famous of course for Sherlock Holmes, but in the world of music for Gerry Rafferty's 1978 single of the same name.

(Music: Baker Street by Gerry Rafferty)

I was lucky enough to be able to visit the EMI offices in High Kensington, I didn't manage to film but did photograph Pink Floyd on the roof, and the famous Beatles railing, which has been moved from its original location. More about the Beatles in a while, of course, but here's Pink Floyd again, their album Animals which was photographed at the Battersea Power Station I took this picture from a moving train...

(Music: Animals by Pink Floyd)

OK, this is Trafalgar Square, now, why is this special for music? Well, we have this wonderful place here, but the reason we're filming is because right in front of me way down in the distance we have Buckingham Palace. And Buckingham Palace, it's a long walk down there on this very warm day.

But Buckingham Palace is where the Sex Pistols signed one of their very important contracts, one of their important recording contracts, way back at the time of punk.

(Music: God Save The Queen by The Sex Pistols)

Remember the telephone boxes we did Ziggy Stardust in? That was in fact at Savile Row, the site of the last Beatles concert on the 30th January 1969. There they are!

(Music: Don't Let Me Down by The Beatles)

Ok, well, we've just come across the road from Savile Row, look, maybe you can get a better shot of the roof, you see it up there, where the Beatles played.

(Music: Don't Let Me Down by The Beatles)

Ok, so this is Savile Row, you can read the sign there, and...one of the richest streets in London, it's famous for its tailors. We're standing outside number 3. Now London is a bit of a building site with the Olympics coming on and you may wonder why we're outside number 3 Savile Row. The reason is that once upon a time this was the offices, the site of the offices of the Beatles, and it was here, not actually here, but there, that they played their last ever concert on the 30th January 1970[†]. So, they played four songs there, they would have played a lot more except the police came to stop the show. So, it would be great if we could play a concert up there, but we're not going to because we can't even get in - ha!

* In March 2012 Rihanna actually took the Tube to a Drake concert. She had already taken the Tube in November 2011 to her own concert.

† It was in fact 30th January 1969.

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

Ok, so London has always been a very popular place for the Beatles, Abbey Road of course and Savile Row, the last concert, but Paul McCartney as a solo artist or rather with the band Wings which had himself and his wife Linda McCartney and Denny Laine. They came here for their album London Town and they used this wonderful background of Tower Bridge.

The front of the album, you can see they were very very cold, it was obviously a very windy and wet day, but not today in London. It's a bit more like the back cover of the album.

If you turn the album around you can see a wonderful sunny day and everyone is smiling and happy. Just like us today on this beautiful beautiful day.

(Music: Mull Of Kintyre by Wings)

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

Here we are back in the underground and we're heading to St. James Wood. Thank you Armando our cameraman for pointing that out.

(Music: Come Together by The Beatles)

You can guess where this one is, it's Abbey Road, the site of the Beatles 1969 album.

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

As you can see lots of tourists come here.

(Armando:) "Here in Abbey Road, every car stops."

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

(Armando:) "Ah, we are in Abbey Road. The Beatles recorded all their records. That's Fergal, that's a wall."

I came here 20 years ago. And we were allowed inside as far as the steps. Fantastic.

It was in fact in 1989 when I came here. And at the time the street sign was still there. They have since removed it because it kept getting stolen.

(Music: Come Together by The Beatles)

So after all that walking around perhaps it's time for a break in a typical English pub for a beer and fish and chips. Mmm. Very nice!

(Music: Tune Into English by Gary Friel)

(Armando:) "Tune Into English London Mission!"

Ah, London Town!

(Armando:) "*Andiamo a casa, abbiamo finito!*"