

# AVERAGE WHITE BAND

**Regarded as** one of the top Soul, R & B, and Jazz–Funk groups, and first known for the timeless instrumental hit *Pick Up the Pieces*, the band's future would lie in its diverse songwriting and unique approach to rhythm & blues. With multiple gold & platinum albums and three Grammy nominations on the legendary **Atlantic** label, they were the first Brits to simultaneously top the US Top 100 Singles, Albums and R&B charts, before going on to similar UK and international honors.

Ironically, given their **Scottish** roots, the six–piece took the instrumental cues of US Jazz giants Adderley, Hancock, Sample, Shorter & co., and the soulful influences of Marvin Gaye, James Brown, Al Green, and Stevie Wonder, et al., to create their own authentic R & B blend, which, with the tongue–in–cheek name, happily surprised both black and white audiences alike. This uncanny paradox led to AWB's early Inclusion on **Soul Train** where their two famed appearances are still much viewed; doubtless it was partly why the music was featured in so many big movies: *Swingers*, *Private Parts*, *Superman 2*, *Starsky & Hutch* etc., to name but a few standouts.

While ensuing singles, **Cut The Cake**, **Queen Of My Soul**, **Walk On By**, **Atlantic Avenue** and **Let's Go Round Again** had major chart action around the world, album cuts such as **Schoolboy Crush**, **Person To Person** and **I'm The One** are still hailed as 'essential' grooves. Fast–forward two decades, and AWB's unlikely contribution to Hip–Hop, Rap, and modern R&B was sealed by the massive use of their samples, from **Erik B & Rakim**, through **TLC**, **Ice–Cube**, **Tribe Called Quest**, **Leena Conquest**, **P–Diddy**, **Mark Ronson** et al – right up to **Rick Ross (Rich is Gangsta')** today. Throughout, ballads such as **A Love Of Your Own**, **Cloudy** and **If I Ever Lose This Heaven** would stand out as some of the finest soul tracks ever recorded.

AWB's most recent release is 2018's **Inside Out** a collection of all new studio tracks and versions of AWB favorites recorded live with a five piece horn section.

**The Average White Band** – with Scots originals **Alan Gorrie** (vocals, bass, gtr.) and **Onnie McIntyre** (guitar) – alongside US heavies **Freddy V.** (tenor sax), **Cliff Lyons** (alto sax), **Rob Aries** (keys, bass), **Rocky Bryant** (drums), and **Brent Carter** (vocals), continues its deserved place at the pinnacle of live soul & funk music to the delight of widely eclectic and multi–generational audiences everywhere.

A full list of US, UK and other dates is at: [www.averagewhiteband.com](http://www.averagewhiteband.com)