

Biography

Christian Ingebrigtsen

Christian Ingebrigtsen is one of Norway's most successful artists. As a member of pop group a1, he achieved two UK number ones, a Brit Award for "best newcomer" in 2001, and a total of ten UK top ten singles selling over ten million albums worldwide.

Christian embarked on his solo career in 2003, and has reached the number one spot twice in his home country, Norway, with the songs "In love with an angel" and "Things are gonna change". He has released 3 gold and platinum selling solo albums since then, and has established himself as a household name in his home country.

Christian has also been involved in a bit of acting. In 2009 he played the role of Marius in the Norwegian theater Oslo Nye Teater's production of *Les Misérables*, playing 98 evenings in the Norwegian capitol. Christian also does voice over work, and has Norwegian lead voices in Disney classics like "Tangled" and "Brother Bear".

Born in 1977, Christian grew up in Siggerud outside Oslo, Norway. His father, Stein Ingebrigtsen, was one of Norway's most successful artists during the 70's, and sold 1,5 million albums in Scandinavia and Europe. Naturally, music became an important part of Christian's life. He went on his very first tour at the age of three! Although he spent most of his time just looking out from behind the drum-kit that year, soon he would develop his talents for playing and performing.

He started taking violin lessons at the age of six, then went on to piano and guitar, and chose to study music and drama in high school. Soon he would play piano concerts in churches and for various functions in his local area. But it wasn't until he was 16, that he started writing his first songs. He studied in Kentucky, USA for one year, where he took part in musicals, talent shows and concerts. His talents and love for performing impressed those around him so much, that he was given the highest honor awarded by the state: the title "Kentucky Colonel" by the governor in 1995 - a title Christian shares with such distinguished leaders as President Lyndon B. Johnson, Sir Winston Churchill, and entertainers such as Bing Crosby and Red Skelton!

He continued his classical piano training, as well as developing his skills as a composer, until in 1997; Christian was accepted among very few Norwegians, to study at Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts. The school is also known as the Paul McCartney fame-school. In his first year of studying song writing and production, a teacher at LIPA recommended Christian to manager Tim Byrne, who was looking for talents to work with. Christian met Tim and within a few moments Byrne was convinced that Christian was the right man for his next project. Together with three other talented young men (Ben Adams, Mark Read and Paul Marazzi) they developed and formed the group a1.

Today Christian is a full time artist, songwriter and producer, spending most of his time on the road, with concerts all around Norway. He also tours with a1 in the UK, Norway and around Asia from time to time. In between tours, he works in his studio in Oslo, where he writes and produces for several well known Scandinavian artists. Christian is also an ambassador for Compassion, a child sponsor organization helping more than 1,8 million children living in poverty worldwide, and MOT (the Norwegian word for courage) which helps youth to find the courage to stand up for each other against bullying, to say no to drugs, and to pursue their dreams.