

= Roger Waters =

George Roger Waters (born 6 September 1943) is an English singer , songwriter , multi @-@ instrumentalist , and composer . In 1965 , he co @-@ founded the progressive rock band Pink Floyd with drummer Nick Mason , keyboardist Rick Wright and guitarist , singer , and songwriter Syd Barrett . Waters initially served as the group 's bassist , but following the departure of Barrett in 1968 , he also became their lyricist , conceptual leader and co @-@ lead vocalist . Waters had the 9th widest vocal range on a list of over 150 contemporary Rock & Pop singers , with a total range of B1 @-@ C7 , with the magazine commenting " He 's not a tenor , he 's a mutation . "

Pink Floyd subsequently achieved international success with the concept albums *The Dark Side of the Moon* , *Wish You Were Here* , *Animals* , and *The Wall* . By the early 1980s , they had become one of the most critically acclaimed and best @-@ selling acts in the history of popular music ; as of 2013 , they have sold more than 250 million albums worldwide , including 75 million units sold in the United States . Amid creative differences within the group , Waters left in 1985 and began a legal dispute with the remaining members over their intended use of the band 's name and material . They settled out of court in 1987 , and nearly eighteen years passed before he performed with them again .

Waters ' solo career has included three studio albums : *The Pros and Cons of Hitch Hiking* , *Radio K.A.O.S.* and *Amused to Death* . In 1990 , he staged one of the largest and most extravagant rock concerts in history , *The Wall ? Live in Berlin* , with an official attendance of 200 @,@ 000 . As a member of Pink Floyd , he was inducted into the U.S. Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1996 and the UK Music Hall of Fame in 2005 . That same year he released *Ça Ira* , an opera in three acts translated from Étienne and Nadine Roda @-@ Gils ' libretto about the French Revolution . Later that year , he reunited with Pink Floyd bandmates Mason , Wright and David Gilmour for the Live 8 global awareness event ; it was the group 's first appearance with Waters since 1981 . He has toured extensively as a solo act since 1999 and played *The Dark Side of the Moon* in its entirety for his world tour of 2006 ? 2008 . In 2010 , he began *The Wall Live* and in 2011 Gilmour and Mason appeared with him during a performance of the double @-@ album in London . As of 2013 , the tour is the highest @-@ grossing of all time by a solo artist .

= = 1943 ? 1964 : Early years = =

George Roger Waters was born on 6 September 1943 , the younger of two boys , to Mary (née Whyte ; 1913 ? 2009) and Eric Fletcher Waters (1914 ? 1944) , in Great Bookham , Surrey . His father , the son of a coal miner and Labour Party activist , was a schoolteacher , a devout Christian , and a Communist Party member . In the early years of the Second World War , his father was a conscientious objector who drove an ambulance during the Blitz . He later changed his stance on pacifism and joined the British Army , and as a 2Lt. of the 8th Royal Fusiliers died at Aprilia , between Anzio and Rome in Italy , on 18 February 1944 , when Roger was five months old . On 19 February 2014 , Waters unveiled a monument to his father and other war casualties there , and was made an honorary citizen of Anzio . Following her husband 's death , Mary Waters , also a teacher , moved with her two sons to Cambridge and raised them there . Roger Waters ' earliest memory is of the VJ Day celebrations . Mary Waters died in 2009 , aged 96 .

Waters attended Morley Memorial Junior School in Cambridge and then the Cambridgeshire High School for Boys (now Hills Road Sixth Form College) with Syd Barrett , while his future musical partner , David Gilmour , lived nearby on the city 's Mill Road , and attended the Perse School . At 15 , Waters was chairman of the Cambridge Youth Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (YCND) , having designed its publicity poster and participated in its organisation . Though he was a keen sportsman and a highly regarded member of the high school 's cricket and rugby teams , he disliked his educational experience ; according to Waters , " I hated every second of it , apart from games . The regime at school was a very oppressive one ... the same kids who are susceptible to bullying by other kids are also susceptible to bullying by the teachers . " Whereas Waters knew Barrett and Gilmour from his childhood in Cambridge , he met future Pink Floyd founder members Nick Mason

and Richard Wright in London at the Regent Street Polytechnic (later the University of Westminster) school of architecture . Waters enrolled there in 1962 , after a series of aptitude tests indicated he was well @-@ suited to that field . He had initially considered a career in mechanical engineering .

= = 1965 ? 1985 : Pink Floyd = =

= = Formation and Barrett @-@ led period = = =

By September 1963 , Waters and Mason had lost interest in their studies ; they had moved into the lower flat of Stanhope Gardens , owned by Mike Leonard , a part @-@ time tutor at the Regent Street Polytechnic . Waters , Mason and Wright first played music together in late 1963 , in a band formed by vocalist Keith Noble and bassist Clive Metcalfe . They usually called themselves Sigma 6 , but also used the name the Meggadeaths . Waters played rhythm guitar and Mason played drums , Wright played on any keyboard he could arrange to use , and Noble 's sister Sheilagh provided an occasional vocal accompaniment . In the early years the band performed during private functions and rehearsed in a tearoom in the basement of Regent Street Polytechnic .

When Metcalfe and Noble left to form their own group in September 1963 , the remaining members asked Barrett and guitarist Bob Klose to join . Waters switched to the bass and by January 1964 , the group became known as the Abdabs , or the Screaming Abdabs . During late 1964 , the band used the names Leonard 's Lodgers , Spectrum Five , and eventually , the Tea Set . Sometime during late 1965 , the Tea Set began calling itself the Pink Floyd Sound , later the Pink Floyd Blues Band and by early 1966 , Pink Floyd .

By early 1966 Barrett was Pink Floyd 's front @-@ man , guitarist , and songwriter . He wrote or co @-@ wrote all but one track of their debut LP *The Piper at the Gates of Dawn* , released in August 1967 . Waters contributed the song " Take Up Thy Stethoscope and Walk " (his first sole writing credit) to the album . By late 1967 , Barrett 's deteriorating mental health and increasingly erratic behaviour , rendered him " unable or unwilling " to continue in his capacity as Pink Floyd 's singer @-@ songwriter and lead guitarist . In early March 1968 Pink Floyd met with managers Peter Jenner and Andrew King of Blackhill Enterprises to discuss the band 's future . Barrett agreed to leave Pink Floyd , and the band " agreed to Blackhill 's entitlement in perpetuity " regarding " past activities " . The band 's new manager Steve O 'Rourke made a formal announcement about the departure of Barrett and the arrival of David Gilmour in April 1968 .

= = = Waters @-@ led period = = =

Filling the void left by Barrett 's departure in March 1968 , Waters began to chart Pink Floyd 's artistic direction . He became the principal songwriter , lyricist and co @-@ lead vocalist (along with Gilmour , and at times , Wright) , and would remain the band 's dominant creative figure until his departure in 1985 . He wrote the lyrics to the five Pink Floyd albums preceding his own departure , starting with *The Dark Side of the Moon* (1973) and ending with *The Final Cut* (1983) , while exerting progressively more creative control over the band and its music . Every Waters studio album since *The Dark Side of the Moon* has been a concept album . With lyrics written entirely by Waters , *The Dark Side of the Moon* was one of the most commercially successful rock albums ever . It spent 736 straight weeks on the Billboard 200 chart ? until July 1988 ? and sold over 40 million copies worldwide . It was continuing to sell over 8 @,@ 000 units every week as of 2005 . According to Pink Floyd biographer Glen Povey , *Dark Side* is the world 's second best @-@ selling album , and the United States ' 21st best @-@ selling album of all time .

Waters produced thematic ideas that became the impetus for the Pink Floyd concept albums *The Dark Side of the Moon* (1973) , *Wish You Were Here* (1975) , *Animals* (1977) and *The Wall* (1979) ? written largely by Waters ? and *The Final Cut* (1983) ? written entirely by Waters . He referred or alluded to the cost of war and the loss of his father throughout his work , from " Corporal Clegg " (*A Saucerful of Secrets* , 1968) and " Free Four " (*Obscured by Clouds* , 1972) to " Us

and Them " from The Dark Side of the Moon , " When the Tigers Broke Free " , first used in the feature film , The Wall (1982) , later included with " The Fletcher Memorial Home " on The Final Cut , an album dedicated to his father . The theme and composition of The Wall was influenced by his upbringing in an English society depleted of men after the Second World War .

The double album The Wall was written almost entirely by Waters and is largely based on his life story , and having sold over 23 million RIAA certified units in the US as of 2013 , is one of the top three best @-@ selling albums of all time in America , according to RIAA . Pink Floyd hired Bob Ezrin to co @-@ produce the album , and cartoonist Gerald Scarfe to illustrate the album 's sleeve art . The band embarked on The Wall Tour of Los Angeles , New York , London , and Dortmund . The last band performance of The Wall was on 16 June 1981 , at Earls Court London , and this was Pink Floyd 's last appearance with Waters until the band 's brief reunion at 2 July 2005 Live 8 concert in London 's Hyde Park , 24 years later .

In March 1983 , the last Waters ? Gilmour ? Mason collaboration , The Final Cut , was released . The album was subtitled : " A requiem for the post @-@ war dream by Roger Waters , performed by Pink Floyd " . Waters wrote all the album 's lyrics as well as the music . His lyrics were critical of the Conservative Party government of the day and mention Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher by name . At the time Gilmour did not have any new material , so he asked Waters to delay the recording until he could write some songs , but Waters refused . According to Mason , after power struggles within the band and creative arguments about the album , Gilmour 's name " disappeared " from the production credits , though he retained his pay . Rolling Stone magazine gave the album five stars , with Kurt Loder describing it as " a superlative achievement " and " art rock 's crowning masterpiece " . Loder viewed the work as " essentially a Roger Waters solo album " .

Amidst creative differences within the group , Waters left Pink Floyd in 1985 , and began a legal battle with the remaining band members regarding their continued use of the name and material . In December 1985 , Waters " issued a statement to EMI and CBS invoking the ' Leaving Member ' clause " on his contract . In October 1986 , he initiated High Court proceedings to formally dissolve the Pink Floyd partnership . In his submission to the High Court he called Pink Floyd a " spent force creatively " . Gilmour and Mason opposed the application and announced their intention to continue as Pink Floyd . Waters claims to have been forced to resign much like Wright some years earlier , and he decided to leave Pink Floyd based on legal considerations , stating " ... because , if I hadn 't , the financial repercussions would have wiped me out completely . " In December 1987 , an agreement between Waters and Pink Floyd was reached . According to Mason :

We eventually formalised a settlement with Roger . On Christmas Eve , 1987 , ... David and Roger convened for a summit meeting on the houseboat [the Astoria] with Jerome Walton , David 's accountant . Jerome painstakingly typed out the bones of a settlement . Essentially ? although there was far more complex detail ? the arrangement allowed Roger to be freed from his arrangement with Steve [O 'Rourke] , and David and me to continue working under the name Pink Floyd . In the end the court accepted Jerome 's version as the final and binding document and duly stamped it .

Waters was released from his contractual obligation with O 'Rourke , and he retained the copyrights to The Wall concept and the inflatable Animals pig . Pink Floyd released three studio albums without Waters : A Momentary Lapse of Reason (1987) , The Division Bell (1994) and The Endless River (2014) . By 2013 , Pink Floyd had sold over 250 million albums worldwide , including 74 @.@ 5 million RIAA certified units in the US .

= = 1984 ? present : solo career = =

= = = 1984 ? 1996 = = =

Following the release of The Final Cut , Waters embarked on a solo career that produced three concept albums and a movie soundtrack . In 1984 , he released his first solo album , The Pros and Cons of Hitch Hiking , a project about a man 's dreams across one night that dealt with Waters ' feelings about monogamy and family life versus " the call of the wild " . In the end the character ,

Reg , chooses love and matrimony over promiscuity . The album featured guitarist Eric Clapton , jazz saxophonist David Sanborn , and artwork by Gerald Scarfe . Kurt Loder described The Pros And Cons of Hitch Hiking as a " strangely static , faintly hideous record " . Rolling Stone rated the album a " rock bottom " one star . " Years later , Mike DeGagne of AllMusic praised the album for its , " ingenious symbolism " and " brilliant use of stream of consciousness within a subconscious realm " , rating it four out of five stars . Waters began touring in support of the new album , aided by Clapton , a new band , new material , and a selection of Pink Floyd favourites . Waters debuted his tour in Stockholm on 16 June 1984 . Poor ticket sales plagued the tour , and some of the larger venues had to be cancelled . By his own estimate , he lost £ 400 @, @ 000 on the tour . In March 1985 , Waters went to North America to play smaller venues with the Pros and Cons Plus Some Old Pink Floyd Stuff ? North America Tour 1985 . The Pros and Cons of Hitch Hiking has been certified Gold by the RIAA .

In 1986 , Waters contributed songs and a score to the soundtrack of the animated movie When the Wind Blows , based on the Raymond Briggs book of the same name . His backing band featuring Paul Carrack was credited as The Bleeding Heart Band . In 1987 , Waters released Radio K.A.O.S. , a concept album based on a mute man named Billy from an impoverished Welsh mining town who has the ability to physically tune into radio waves in his head . Billy first learns to communicate with a radio DJ , and eventually to control the world 's computers . Angry at the state of the world in which he lives , he simulates a nuclear attack . Waters followed the release with a supporting tour also in 1987 .

In November 1989 , the Berlin Wall fell , and in July 1990 Waters staged one of the largest and most elaborate rock concerts in history , The Wall ? Live in Berlin , on the vacant terrain between Potsdamer Platz and the Brandenburg Gate . The show reported an official attendance of 200 @, @ 000 , though some estimates are as much as twice that , with approximately one billion television viewers . Leonard Cheshire asked him to do the concert to raise funds for charity . Waters ' group of musicians included Joni Mitchell , Van Morrison , Cyndi Lauper , Bryan Adams , Scorpions , and Sinéad O 'Connor . Waters also used an East German symphony orchestra and choir , a Soviet marching band , and a pair of helicopters from the US 7th Airborne Command and Control Squadron . Designed by Mark Fisher , the Wall was 25 metres tall and 170 metres long and was built across the set . Scarfe 's inflatable puppets were recreated on an enlarged scale , and although many rock icons received invitations to the show , Gilmour , Mason , and Wright , did not . Waters released a concert double album of the performance which has been certified platinum by the RIAA .

In 1990 , Waters hired manager Mark Fenwick and left EMI for a worldwide deal with Columbia . He released his third studio album , Amused to Death , in 1992 . The record is heavily influenced by the events of the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989 and the Gulf War , and a critique of the notion of war becoming the subject of entertainment , particularly on television . The title was derived from the book Amusing Ourselves to Death by Neil Postman . Patrick Leonard , who worked on A Momentary Lapse of Reason , co @-@ produced the album . Jeff Beck played lead guitar on many of the album 's tracks , which were recorded with an impressive cast of musicians at ten different recording studios . It is Waters ' most critically acclaimed solo recording , garnering some comparison to his previous work with Pink Floyd . Waters described the record as , a " stunning piece of work " , ranking the album with Dark Side of the Moon and The Wall as one of the best of his career . The album had one hit , the song " What God Wants , Pt . 1 " , which reached number 35 in the UK in September 1992 and number 5 on Billboard 's Mainstream Rock Tracks chart in the US . Amused to Death was certified Silver by the British Phonographic Industry . Sales of Amused to Death topped out at around one million and there was no tour in support of the album . Waters would first perform material from it seven years later during his In the Flesh tour . In 1996 , Waters was inducted into the US and UK Rock and Roll Halls of Fame as a member of Pink Floyd .

= = = 1999 ? 2004 = = =

In 1999 , after a 12 @-@ year hiatus from touring , and a seven @-@ year absence from the music industry , Waters embarked on the In the Flesh tour , performing both solo and Pink Floyd material .

The tour was a financial success in the US and though Waters had booked mostly smaller venues , tickets sold so well that many of the concerts were upgraded to larger ones . The tour eventually stretched across the world and would span three years . A concert film was released on CD and DVD , named *In the Flesh ? Live* . During the tour , he played two new songs " *Flickering Flame* " and " *Each Small Candle* " as the final encore to many of the shows . In June 2002 , he completed the tour with a performance in front of 70 @, @ 000 people at the Glastonbury Festival of Performing Arts , playing 15 Pink Floyd songs and five songs from his solo catalogue .

Miramax announced in mid @-@ 2004 that a production of *The Wall* was to appear on Broadway with Waters playing a prominent role in the creative direction . Reports stated that the musical contained not only the original tracks from *The Wall* , but also songs from *Dark Side of the Moon* , *Wish You Were Here* and other Pink Floyd albums , as well as new material . On the night of 1 May 2004 , recorded extracts from the opera , including its overture , were played on the occasion of the Welcome Europe celebrations in the accession country of Malta . Gert Hof mixed recorded excerpts from the opera into a continuous piece of music which was played as an accompaniment to a large light and fireworks display over Grand Harbour in Valletta . In July 2004 , Waters released two new tracks on the Internet : " *To Kill the Child* " , inspired by the 2003 invasion of Iraq , and " *Leaving Beirut* " , an anti @-@ war song " inspired by his travels in the Middle East as a teenager " .

= = = 2005 ? present = = =

In July 2005 , Waters reunited with Mason , Wright , and Gilmour for what would be their final performance together at the 2005 Live 8 concert in London 's Hyde Park , Pink Floyd 's only appearance with Waters since their final performance of *The Wall* at Earls Court London 24 years earlier . They played a 23 @-@ minute set consisting of " *Speak to Me / Breathe* " / " *Breathe (Reprise)* " , " *Money* " , " *Wish You Were Here* " , and " *Comfortably Numb* " . Waters told the Associated Press that while the experience of playing with Pink Floyd again was positive , the chances of a bona fide reunion would be " slight " considering his and Gilmour 's continuing musical and ideological differences . Though Waters had differing ideas about which songs they should play , he " agreed to roll over for one night only " , Gilmour told the Associated Press , " The rehearsals convinced me it wasn 't something I wanted to be doing a lot of . There have been all sorts of farewell moments in people 's lives and careers which they have then rescinded , but I think I can fairly categorically say that there won 't be a tour or an album again that I take part in . It isn 't to do with animosity or anything like that . It 's just that ... I 've been there , I 've done it . " In November 2005 , Pink Floyd were inducted into the UK Music Hall of Fame by Pete Townshend of the Who .

In September 2005 , Waters released *Ça Ira* (pronounced [sa i??a] , French for " it will be fine " ; Waters added the subtitle , " *There is Hope* ") , an opera in three acts translated from the late Étienne Roda @-@ Gil 's French libretto based on the historical subject of the French Revolution . *Ça Ira* was released as a double CD album , featuring baritone Bryn Terfel , soprano Ying Huang and tenor Paul Groves . Set during the early French Revolution , the original libretto was co @-@ written in French by Roda @-@ Gil and his wife Nadine Delahaye . Waters had begun rewriting the libretto in English in 1989 , and said about the composition : " I 've always been a big fan of Beethoven 's choral music , Berlioz and Borodin ... This is unashamedly romantic and resides in that early 19th @-@ century tradition , because that 's where my tastes lie in classical and choral music . " Waters appeared on television to discuss the opera , but the interviews often focused instead on his relationship with Pink Floyd , something Waters would " take in stride " , a sign Pink Floyd biographer Mark Blake believes to be , " a testament to his mellower old age or twenty years of dedicated psychotherapy " . *Ça Ira* reached number 5 on the Billboard Classical Music Chart in the United States .

In June 2006 , Waters commenced *The Dark Side of the Moon Live* tour , a two @-@ year , world @-@ spanning effort that began in Europe in June and North America in September . The first half of the show featured both Pink Floyd songs and Waters ' solo material , while the second half included a complete live performance of the 1973 Pink Floyd album *The Dark Side of the Moon* , the first time in over three decades that Waters had performed the album . The shows ended with an

encore from the third side of The Wall . He utilised elaborate staging by concert lighting designer Marc Brickman complete with laser lights , fog machines , pyrotechnics , psychedelic projections , and inflatable floating puppets (Spaceman and Pig) controlled by a " handler " dressed as a butcher , and a full 360 @-@ degree quadraphonic sound system was used . Nick Mason joined Waters for The Dark Side of the Moon set and the encores on select 2006 tour dates . Waters continued touring in January 2007 in Australia and New Zealand , then Asia , Europe , South America , and back to North America in June .

In March 2007 , the Waters song , " Hello (I Love You) " was featured in the science fiction film The Last Mimzy . The song plays over the film 's end credits . He released it as a single , on CD and via download , and described it as , " a song that captures the themes of the movie , the clash between humanity 's best and worst instincts , and how a child 's innocence can win the day " . He performed at California 's Coachella Festival in April 2008 and was to be among the headlining artists performing at Live Earth 2008 in Mumbai , India in December 2008 , but that concert was cancelled in light of the 26 November terrorist attacks in Mumbai .

Waters confirmed the possibility of an upcoming solo album which " might be called " Heartland , and has said he has numerous songs written (some already recorded) that he intends to release when they are a complete album . In June 2010 , Waters released a cover of " We Shall Overcome " , a protest song rewritten and arranged by Guy Carawan and Pete Seeger . He performed with David Gilmour at the Hoping Foundation Benefit Evening in July 2010 . The four @-@ song set included : " To Know Him Is to Love Him " , which was played in early Pink Floyd sound checks , followed by " Wish You Were Here " , " Comfortably Numb " , and " Another Brick in the Wall (Part Two) " .

In September 2010 , Waters commenced The Wall Live tour , an updated version of the original Pink Floyd shows , featuring a complete performance of The Wall . Waters told the Associated Press that The Wall Tour will likely be his last , stating : " I 'm not as young as I used to be . I 'm not like B.B. King , or Muddy Waters . I 'm not a great vocalist or a great instrumentalist or whatever , but I still have the fire in my belly , and I have something to say . I have a swan song in me and I think this will probably be it . " At The O2 Arena in London on 12 May 2011 , Gilmour and Mason once again appeared with Waters and Gilmour performing " Comfortably Numb " , and Gilmour and Mason joining Waters for " Outside the Wall " . For the first half of 2012 , Waters ' tour topped worldwide concert ticket sales having sold more than 1 @.@ 4 million tickets globally . As of 2013 , The Wall Live is the highest @-@ grossing tour of all time by a solo artist . Waters performed at the Concert for Sandy Relief at Madison Square Garden on 12 December 2012 . On 24 July 2015 , Waters headlined the Newport Folk Festival in Newport , Rhode Island . Waters was accompanied by the band My Morning Jacket and two singers from the group Lucius . On 3 May 2016 , Waters was announced as one of the performers at the Desert Trip music festival , due to take place from October 7th through the 9th .

= = Personal life = =

In 1969 , Waters married his childhood sweetheart Judy Trim , a successful potter ; she was featured on the gatefold sleeve of the original release of Ummagumma , but excised from subsequent CD reissues . They had no children together and divorced in 1975 . Trim died in 2001 .

In 1976 , Waters married Lady Carolynne Christie , the niece of the 3rd Marquess of Zetland . His marriage to Christie produced a son , Harry Waters , a musician who has played keyboards with his father 's touring band since 2006 , and a daughter , India Waters , who has worked as a model . Christie and Waters divorced in 1992 .

In 1993 , he married Priscilla Phillips ; they had one son together , Jack Fletcher . Their marriage ended in 2001 .

In 2004 , Waters became engaged to actress and filmmaker Laurie Durning (born 1963) ; the two married on 14 January 2012 and filed for divorce in September 2015 .

Waters is an atheist .

= = Activism = =

After the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and subsequent tsunami disaster , Waters performed " Wish You Were Here " with Eric Clapton during a benefit concert on the American network NBC . He was outspoken against the Hunting Act of 2004 , and performed a concert for , and attended marches supporting , the Countryside Alliance . Waters explained that whether he supported hunting or not , it was important to defend it as a right . He left the UK soon afterwards . He clarified in October 2005 that he had not left the country in protest against the hunting legislation but for family reasons , and that he often returned to the UK .

After leaving Britain , he moved to Long Island in New York with his fiancé Laurie Durning . In June 2007 , Waters became a spokesman for Millennium Promise , a non @-@ profit organisation that helps fight extreme poverty and malaria . He wrote an opinion piece for CNN in support of the topic . In July , he participated in the American leg of the Live Earth concert , an international multi @-@ venue concert aimed at raising awareness about global climate change , featuring the Trenton Youth Choir and his trademarked inflatable pig . Waters told David Fricke why he thinks The Wall is still relevant today :

The loss of a father is the central prop on which [The Wall] stands . As the years go by , children lose their fathers again and again , for nothing . You see it now with all these fathers , good men and true , who lost their lives and limbs in Iraq for no reason at all . I 've done " Bring The Boys Back Home " in my encore on recent tours . It feels more relevant and poignant to be singing that song now than it did in 1979 .

In 2012 , Waters led a benefit for United States military veterans called Stand Up for Heroes . He invited a music group of combat wounded veterans called MusiCorps to perform with him . In June 2013 , Waters and numerous other celebrities appeared in a video showing support for Chelsea Manning .

In June 2009 he spoke against the Israeli West Bank barrier and later that year , pledged his support to the Gaza Freedom March . In 2011 he announced that he had joined the Boycott , Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel . He has said he is disillusioned with UK foreign policy towards Israel . In October 2010 , after an animated B @-@ 52 bomber had been shown dropping symbols including the Star of David and dollar signs as part of The Wall Live tour , the Anti @-@ Defamation League (ADL) criticised the imagery and claimed it was anti @-@ Semitic . In response , Waters changed the video and wrote an open letter to The Independent where he denied he was anti @-@ Semitic and distinguished criticism of Israel from anti @-@ Jewishness . In March 2013 , during an interview with Electronic Intifada , Waters criticised American media for their coverage of Israel . For many years , Pink Floyd concerts and Waters concerts have used a pig @-@ shaped balloon painted with political and religious symbols flown overhead during shows while he performs in fascist uniform . In July 2013 , the Israeli media complained about the symbolism .

The ADL 's National Director Abraham H. Foxman has accused him of anti @-@ Semitism as has Rabbi Abraham Cooper , associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center . Waters stated that Cooper 's accusation was bigoted . On 2 October 2015 , Waters published an open letter in Salon criticising the band Bon Jovi for performing in Tel Aviv , which led Howard Stern to criticise Waters on his radio show .

= = Equipment and instruments = =

Waters ' primary instrument in Pink Floyd was the electric bass guitar . He briefly played a Höfner bass but replaced it with a Rickenbacker RM @-@ 1999 / 4001S , until 1970 when it was stolen along with the rest of the band 's equipment in New Orleans . He began using Fender Precision Basses in 1968 , originally alongside the Rickenbacker 4001 , and then exclusively after the Rickenbacker was lost in 1970 . First seen at a concert in Hyde Park , London in July 1970 , the black P @-@ Bass was rarely used until April 1972 when it became his main stage guitar and as of 2 October 2010 , the basis for a Fender Artist Signature model . Waters endorses RotoSound Jazz

Bass 77 flat @-@ wound strings . Throughout his career he has used Selmer , WEM , Hiwatt and Ashdown amplifiers but has used Ampeg for the last few tours , also employing delay , tremolo , chorus , stereo panning and phaser effects in his bass playing .

Waters experimented with the EMS Synthi A and VCS 3 synthesisers on Pink Floyd pieces such as " On the Run " , " Welcome to the Machine " , and " In the Flesh ? " He played electric and acoustic guitar on Pink Floyd tracks using Fender , Martin , Ovation and Washburn guitars . He played electric guitar on the Pink Floyd song " Sheep " , from Animals , and acoustic guitar on several Pink Floyd recordings , such as " Pigs on the Wing 1 & 2 " , also from Animals , " Southampton Dock " from The Final Cut , and on " Mother " from The Wall . A Binson Echorec 2 echo effect was used on his bass @-@ guitar lead track " One of These Days " . Waters plays trumpet during concert performances of " Outside the Wall " .

= = Discography = =

The Pros and Cons of Hitch Hiking (1984)

Radio K.A.O.S. (1987)

Amused to Death (1992)

Ça Ira (2005)