

= U2 360 ° Tour =

The U2 360 ° Tour was a worldwide concert tour by rock band U2 . Launched in support of the group 's 2009 album No Line on the Horizon , the tour visited stadiums from 2009 through 2011 . It was named for a stage configuration that allowed the audience to almost completely surround the stage . To accommodate this , a massive four @-@ legged structure nicknamed " The Claw " was built above the stage , with the sound system and a cylindrical , expanding video screen on top of it . U2 claimed that the tour would be " the first time a band has toured in stadiums with such a unique and original structure . "

In an era of declining music sales , analysts expected U2 360 ° to be a major source of income for the band . Every date of the tour sold out , many within minutes of tickets going on sale . To accommodate the time required to assemble and transport " The Claw " between tour dates , three separate stage structures were required on tour . The 360 @-@ degree production increased the capacity of venues by up to 25 % , leading to attendance records at over 60 venues . Various themes were incorporated into the shows ; portions of the concerts featured outer space themes , due to " The Claw 's " resemblance to a spaceship . Pre @-@ recorded messages from the International Space Station were displayed during the shows , as were sociopolitical statements from Desmond Tutu and Aung San Suu Kyi . The setlists were adjusted for each year of the tour ; for the 2010 shows , unreleased songs were debuted live , while for 2011 legs , the group performed more 1990s songs to mark the 20th anniversary of the release of Achtung Baby .

Comprising three legs and 110 shows , the tour began on 30 June 2009 in Barcelona , Spain and concluded on 30 July 2011 in Moncton , Canada . It twice visited Europe and North America , while making stops in South America , Africa , and Oceania . The 2010 North American leg of the tour was postponed until the following year after frontman Bono suffered a serious back injury . U2 won Billboard Touring Awards for Top Tour and Top Draw of 2010 and 2011 , and for Top Boxscore at a single venue in 2009 for shows at Croke Park in Dublin . A 2009 show at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena , near Los Angeles , United States was filmed for the concert video U2360 ° at the Rose Bowl and was streamed live over YouTube ; the concert set a new US attendance record for a single headlining act . The tour was generally well received by critics and fans . By its conclusion , U2 360 ° had set records for the highest @-@ grossing concert tour with \$ 736 million in ticket sales , and for the highest @-@ attended tour with over 7 @.@ 2 million tickets sold .

= = Conception and stage design = =

Willie Williams , who has worked on every U2 tour since the 1982 ? 1983 War Tour , was again a designer for this tour ; Mark Fisher served as the architect . Williams had been toying with ideas for 360 @-@ degree stadium staging for U2 for a number of years , and presented sketches of a four @-@ legged design to the group near the end of their Vertigo Tour in 2006 . The inspiration for the " spaceship @-@ on @-@ four @-@ legs " design , nicknamed " the Claw " , came from the landmark Theme Building at Los Angeles International Airport . Early reports referred to it as the Kiss the Future Tour , though the name was later changed .

The tour featured a 360 @-@ degree configuration , with the stage being placed closer to the center of the stadium 's field than usual . The stage design featured a large four @-@ legged steel structure that held the speaker system and cylindrical video screen and hovered above the performance area . The stage was surrounded by a circular ramp , which connected to the stage by rotating bridges . Fans with general admission tickets could be placed both outside the ramp as well as between the ramp and stage . The stage had no defined front or back and was surrounded by the audience . The stage design was able to increase the venues ' capacities by about 15 ? 20 % . Tiered football stadiums were preferred venues in this scheme , compared to flat fields or baseball stadiums , although a few of the latter added to the routing . As with many large @-@ scale tours of its era , the U2 360 ° Tour had both the workforce and the revenues associated with a medium @-@ sized company .

The stages were built by the Belgian company Stageco along with the U.S.-based company

Enerpac . Each stage deployed high @-@ pressure , state @-@ of @-@ the @-@ art hydraulic systems . These were used for the first time ever to assemble and dismantle the high tonnage structure . Stageco designed a unique system , based on Enerpac 's Synchronous Lift System , to raise the modular construction to a height of 30 metres in an efficient and effective manner .

The steel structure was 51 metres (167 feet) tall (doubling the size of the stadium set for The Rolling Stones ' A Bigger Bang Tour , the previous record holder) , was able to hold up to 200 tonnes underneath it , and required 120 trucks to transport each of the three sets constructed to support the tour . Each leg of the structure contained its own sound system . The cost of each structure was between £ 15 million and £ 20 million (\$ 23 million and \$ 31 million , respectively) . As a result , the tour was heavily insured . The size of the stage led to some problems with its construction in certain venues . The band paid \$ 2 million to raise the HD video screen in Cowboys Stadium for their concert in Arlington , and paid \$ 3 million to expand the Hippodrome de Montréal into a temporary stadium for their concert in Montreal . The 360 ° tour crew consisted of 137 touring production crew supplemented by over 120 hired locally . Daily costs of the production were approximately \$ 750 @,@ 000 , not including the stage construction ; the majority of this came from truck rentals , transportation , and staff wages . The tour was not expected to break even until the conclusion of the second leg .

When the tour was announced , U2 guitarist The Edge said of the show 's design : " It 's hard to come up with something that 's fundamentally different , but we have , I think , on this tour . Where we 're taking our production will never have been seen before by anybody , and that 's an amazing thing to be able to say . For a band like U2 that really thrives on breaking new ground , it 's a real thrill . " Lead singer Bono said the design was intended to overcome the staid traditional appearance of outdoor concerts where the stage was dominated by speaker stacks on either side : " We have some magic , and we 've got some beautiful objects we 're going to take around the world , and we 're inside that object . " He also said that the group 's goal was for the show to not be too choreographed . Williams said the goal is to establish a physical proximity : " The band is just sitting in the palm of the audience 's hand . " At the conclusion of the tour , the intent was to leave the three structures in different parts of the globe and turn them into permanent concert venues . An auction of the stages was planned following the last concert .

The transforming video screen was designed by Mark Fisher in a collaboration with Chuck Hoberman and Frederic Opsomer . The screen was fabricated by Opsomer 's company Innovative Designs of Belgium , using LED pixels manufactured by Barco . The screen was purchased and rented to the tour by XL Video . It is made up of elongated hexagonal segments mounted on a multiple pantograph system , which enables it to " open up " or spread apart vertically as an effect during the concerts . The video screen is composed of over one million pieces : 411 @,@ 000 pixels , 320 @,@ 000 fasteners , 150 @,@ 000 machined pieces , and 30 @,@ 000 cables are needed to create the visual display at each concert . The screen is mounted on a cabled pulley system to enable the entire screen and pantograph system to move lower and closer to the band . The automation for the screen deployment was provided by Kinesys UK . The LED segments of the screen are weather @-@ resistant .

U2 announced that it would purchase carbon offsets to take into consideration the environmental impact of the large production , which has been estimated to be up to 65 @,@ 000 tonnes of carbon dioxide ; approximately the same amount that would be emitted in flying a passenger plane 34 million miles . In addition to the carbon offsets , the band also set up a page on PickupPal so that people could carpool to concerts in an attempt to lower the carbon footprint . Additionally they launched a fan travel carbon offset program in partnership with Offset Options . Most of the carbon emissions are a result of transporting the three stage structures across Europe and North America . An environmental consultant to carbonfootprint.com noted that to offset the tour 's 2009 emissions , the band would have to plant over 20 @,@ 000 trees . In an interview with BBC Radio , The Edge reiterated that U2 were offsetting their carbon emissions , also stating , " We 'd love to have some alternative to big trucks bringing the stuff around but there just isn 't one . "

Load @-@ out of the massive set from venues took as much as 3 1 ? 2 days . Sound and light equipment was packed into the fleet of trucks first during the four hours following the concert ; the

remainder of the time was spent deconstructing the steel structures making up the stage using four cranes . The extensive amount of time it took to assemble and disassemble the stage interfered with the development of the schedule for the 2010 Major League Baseball season . U2 was also forced to reschedule what would have been their final Giants Stadium concert , when the NFL changed the start time of a New York Jets game , and load @-@ out time from the concert a day and a half prior would have been insufficient .

= = Commercial partnerships and philanthropy = =

The tour was U2 's first under their 12 @-@ year deal with Live Nation . It was sponsored by BlackBerry , in a move that broke U2 's prior relationship with Apple Inc. and opened possibilities for collaborations between U2 and Research In Motion on mobile music experiences . Lead singer Bono said of the new relationship , " I 'm very excited about this . Research in Motion is going to give us what Apple wouldn 't : access to their labs and their people so we can do something really spectacular . " The explicit corporate sponsorship of a tour was a first for the group , and was due to the anticipated production costs being higher than for any previous U2 tour . The first commercials for a new Blackberry application , called the " U2 Mobile App " , began airing in early July 2009 against the song " I 'll Go Crazy If I Don 't Go Crazy Tonight " ; the application allows the user to listen to the album No Line on the Horizon , contains a news section which features updates about the tour , and an interactive section that allows the sharing of images and enables the user to see their position during a concert relative to the band and other application users . Models of the stage were added to Google Earth approximately a week before the scheduled concert took place ; tour architect Mark Fisher stated , " We thought it would be interesting to put up on Google Earth a piece of portable architecture . "

A category of stage @-@ close seats called " The Red Zone " was created to be sold by an auction process , at prices estimated at up to ? 1 @,@ 000 (\$ 1 @,@ 300) . All proceeds are to be donated by U2 members to charity , with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS , Tuberculosis and Malaria expected to receive much of it . Approximately ? 9 million (\$ 11 million) in U2 360 ° Tour profits is expected to go to charity . The band asked fans to bring masks of Aung San Suu Kyi to concerts and wear them during performances of " Walk On " in her support ; the song was originally written for Suu Kyi .

The tour was subject to minor criticisms , at both the events surrounding the opening concerts in Barcelona , and the concerts in Dublin . When rehearsing for the tour in Barcelona , residents of the city complained about the band 's noise after 10 pm , which was the time until which the city allowed the band to rehearse . The setup of the band 's stage for the Croke Park concerts in Dublin was criticised by fans for only allowing seating around part of the circular @-@ shaped stage , taking away from the 360 ° seating configuration that was used at other venues . One fan claimed that only 270 ° of seating around the stage was being utilised for the three Dublin concerts , and that there was no reason that the stage could not be placed in the middle of the venue . Additional criticisms about the Croke Park shows arose from about 80 Dublin citizens , who protested against the Dublin City Council for allowing the band 's crew to dismantle the stage in the middle of the night following the three concerts , due to the loud noises caused by the crew . The protest blocked several crew trucks from exiting the venue , putting the tour behind schedule , and tour promoter MCD Productions delivered a letter to the protesters informing them that they could be sued for any of the tour 's financial losses due to the protest . In addition to the loudness of the band 's crew , the Dublin City Council decided to withhold the band 's ? 80 @,@ 000 (\$ 104 @,@ 000) bond , after breaking the 75 decibel maximum volume at all three of the Dublin concerts .

Like most concerts , tour venues have benefited from hosting concerts . North Carolina State University 's agreement with Live Nation resulted in \$ 166 @,@ 000 in parking proceeds and \$ 175 @,@ 858 food and beverage concessions . Additionally Live Nation agreed to pay for replacing the sod on the football field where the stage and floor seating was located up to a cost of \$ 250 @,@ 000 .

= = Ticketing and itinerary = =

The initial tour dates were announced in March 2009 . U2 played 44 shows in that year . The tour began in Barcelona on 30 June and played in Europe through 22 August 2009 . The North American leg of the tour began on 12 September 2009 in Chicago followed by two nights in Toronto and ended on 28 October 2009 in Vancouver . The band played in Europe in 2010 following the postponement of the second North American leg until 2011 . They finished 2010 by playing Australia and New Zealand in November and December . There were multiple shows in each city making it the largest stadium tour of Australia in the band 's history .

U2 manager Paul McGuinness confessed anxiety over initial ticket sales taking place during the late 2000s recession . Drummer Larry Mullen , Jr. said , " Will we sell it out ? Who knows ? Will the economic situation have an impact ? Probably . But that 's not going to stop us . " Bono said , " I want to put on an extraordinary show , but I ' d like to own my house when it 's over . " The tour featured a tiered pricing system for tickets ; the most expensive ticket being slightly higher in price than the last tour , but the cheapest tickets , the general admission tickets , being lower . Playing larger capacity venues allowed the band to price tickets more conservatively and subsidise less expensive tickets with costlier ones . In the US , field level tickets were priced at \$ 55 , and approximately 10 @, @ 000 tickets per show were priced at \$ 30 . The price points were \$ 30 , \$ 55 , and depending on the market , \$ 90 ? 95 and \$ 250 . McGuinness said , " We have worked very hard to ensure that U2 fans can purchase a great @-@ priced ticket with a guaranteed great view . "

Tickets for European shows first went on sale in mid @-@ March , with high demand . Shows in Gothenburg , Amsterdam and Milan sold out reasonably fast , with second dates being added in each city ; those also sold out quickly . In The Netherlands , demand rendered all of KPN 's 0900 paid service numbers unreachable . The nearly 90 @, @ 000 tickets for the opening concert in Barcelona were sold in 54 minutes , establishing a new record for concerts in Spain . The tour set a record by selling 650 @, @ 000 tickets in seven hours . Regarding the quick sellout of two Croke Park shows in Dublin , Bono said : " It 's overwhelming , really . It 's a very big deal for us to sell @-@ out our hometown at such speed , it 's unbelievable We don 't take anything for granted . " Fans from all around the world travelled to Ireland for the band 's hometown shows , leading the Gaelic Athletic Association to close their museum in Croke Park for the duration of the events due to fears over security and excessive demand . The Croke Park shows later won Top Boxscore at the 2009 Billboard Touring Awards .

The first North American tickets went on sale in late March . Fans who purchased general admission tickets were given seating closest to the stage on a first @-@ come , first @-@ served basis . Presales were held for U2.com subscribers , with those holding membership the longest getting the first chance to purchase tickets . Sales were strong , with initial dates in Chicago and outside Boston and New York selling out within minutes once the public sale began , and with second shows being added at each venue . Due to the higher capacity of the 360 degree configuration , the shows often set records for the largest concert attendance at each venue ; tour director Craig Evans claims the tour set attendance records for 60 different venues . Two of the U2 360 ° Tour 's concerts remain in the top five highest @-@ attended single concerts in the United States ever , with the 25 October performance in Pasadena , California , setting the record at 97 @, @ 014 attendees .

The high US demand for tickets for the tour , and the difficulty which some fans had in getting them , brought attention to rapidity with which tickets turned up on the higher @-@ priced secondary market . Some tickets were being resold on the secondary market for prices of up to \$ 7 @, @ 500 . Additionally , pre @-@ sale passwords were being sold on eBay for bids of up to \$ 400 . Although some artists were known to be holding back tickets from general sale and delivering them straight into the secondary market , Live Nation said that U2 did not engage in this practice .

= = = Postponement of 2010 North American shows = = =

Bono sustained an injury to his back during preparation for the North American third leg of the tour , the damage to which included sciatica , a ligament tear , a herniated disc , and partial paralysis of his lower leg and resulted in the need for emergency spine surgery at Ludwig Maximilians @-@ University Hospital in Munich . Following the surgery , Live Nation announced that the opening concert in Salt Lake City , which had been scheduled to take place on 3 June 2010 , would be postponed to a later date , with other dates also potentially being affected . His doctors , who included noted sports physician Hans @-@ Wilhelm Müller @-@ Wohlfahrt , then said Bono had a good prognosis but would need eight weeks of physical rehabilitation , and McGuinness and Live Nation announced that the entire North American leg was being postponed and would be rescheduled into 2011 . McGuinness stated , " Our biggest and I believe best tour has been interrupted and we 're all devastated . For a performer who lives to be on stage , this is more than a blow . He [Bono] feels robbed of the chance to do what he does best and feels like he has badly let down the band and their audience . "

On 13 July 2010 , the rescheduled concert dates were announced for 2011 , beginning 11 May in Mexico City , Mexico , and ending 30 July in Moncton , Canada . Bono apologised for the inconvenience to fans over their affected travel plans , but noted that it had given the band the opportunity to record new material in the studio which U2 were considering playing live .

= = Concert setlists and show themes = =

= = = Main set = = =

Each concert of the U2 360 ° Tour contained between 22 and 26 songs . Two songs played over the public address system preceded the band 's arrival on stage ? David Bowie 's " Space Oddity " and an outtake from the No Line on the Horizon sessions called " Soon " (previously titled " Kingdom of Your Love ") . The opening five tracks were identical each night on the first leg ; " Breathe " opened and was followed by " No Line on the Horizon " , " Get on Your Boots " , " Magnificent " , and " Beautiful Day " . The next few tracks featured the most variation of the setlist . " I Still Haven 't Found What I 'm Looking For " was played frequently , while early concerts featured a selection from " Angel of Harlem " , " In a Little While " , " Desire " , and " Party Girl " . Concerts later on included " Mysterious Ways " , " Until the End of the World " , " New Year 's Day " , and " Stuck in a Moment You Can 't Get Out Of " . " Stay (Faraway , So Close !) " , " Elevation , and " Electrical Storm " were played on rare occasions , and " One " , which usually closed the main set , was sometimes performed about half @-@ way through . The rest of the setlist had little variation . " Unknown Caller " was played most nights , and was followed by " The Unforgettable Fire " , " City of Blinding Lights " , and " Vertigo " . The remix arrangement of " I 'll Go Crazy If I Don 't Go Crazy Tonight " was performed next , featuring Larry Mullen , Jr. walking around the outer stage playing a djembe , followed by " Sunday Bloody Sunday " , which features scenes from the 2009 Iranian election protests on the video screen . " Pride (In the Name of Love) " , " MLK " , " Walk On " , " Where the Streets Have No Name " , and " One " typically rounded out the main set , though the band occasionally closed it with " Bad " or " Mysterious Ways " . " One " was usually preceded by a video from Archbishop Desmond Tutu talking about aid to Africa and the ONE campaign , though the video was played prior to " Where the Streets Have No Name " on occasion .

The second leg of the tour featured more variation in the first part of the setlist . " Breathe " opened most concerts , though its place was occasionally taken by " Magnificent " . " No Line on the Horizon " continued to follow " Breathe " in early setlists , but was later moved back so that it followed " Beautiful Day " instead . " Mysterious Ways " and " Elevation " were performed more frequently , as was " I Still Haven 't Found What I 'm Looking For " . " Your Blue Room " , a track from Original Soundtracks 1 , made its live debut on the tour (with recorded guest vocals by Sinéad O 'Connor) , while " Pride (In the Name of Love) " was dropped . " Unknown Caller " was dropped for a period of several weeks before being revived towards the end of the leg , and " In a Little While " also returned to the setlist .

The third leg of the tour featured the debut of six previously unreleased songs : " North Star " , " Glastonbury " , the instrumental " Return of the Stingray Guitar " , " Every Breaking Wave " , " Mercy " and " Boy Falls from the Sky " , a song written by Bono and The Edge for the musical Spider @-@ Man : Turn Off the Dark . " Every Breaking Wave " was later released on U2 's following studio album , Songs of Innocence (2014) , and " Return of the Stingray Guitar " evolved into the backing track for the song " Lucifer 's Hands " , which was released on deluxe editions of the same album . " Breathe " , " Stuck in a Moment You Can 't Get Out Of " , and " Unknown Caller " were dropped from rotation , while " Miss Sarajevo " , " I Will Follow " , " Mothers of the Disappeared " , " Hold Me , Thrill Me , Kiss Me , Kill Me " and " Spanish Eyes " made their tour debuts . On the fourth leg of the tour , " Scarlet " was performed in place of " MLK " and dedicated to the release of Suu Kyi . " One Tree Hill " made its tour debut and was dedicated to the 29 miners who died in the Pike River Mine disaster ; their names were shown on the screen at the conclusion of the song . " All I Want Is You " and " Love Rescue Me " were also included in the set during the fourth leg .

During the sixth leg of the tour in South America , the " Fish Out of Water " remix of " Even Better Than The Real Thing " , later released in the 20th anniversary reissue of Achtung Baby , was revived as the show opener . " Out Of Control " and " Zooropa " were also debuted , while " In a Little While " was dropped from the setlist . The seventh leg saw the tour debut of " The Fly " . It moved " Mysterious Ways " and " Until the End of the World " both up in the setlist to be the third and fourth songs following " The Fly " . The last show in Moncton , New Brunswick had the chorus of " The Ballad of Springhill " included in the setlist , as a tribute to the nearby town of Springhill , Nova Scotia , which suffered from a large mining disaster in 1958 .

= = = Encores = = =

The encore was identical each night and consisted of " Ultraviolet (Light My Way) " , " With or Without You " , and " Moment of Surrender " . " Ultraviolet " featured an elaborate staging wherein Bono wore a suit with embedded with lasers that shone through the violet lighting scheme , while singing to , around , and hanging from , an illuminated steering wheel @-@ shaped microphone dropped from above . Following the band 's exit from the stage , Elton John 's " Rocket Man " was played . Beginning on the second leg of the tour " One " opened the first encore and was followed by " Where the Streets Have No Name " , with " Amazing Grace " often used to bridge between them . The second encore remained unchanged until the third leg , when " Hold Me , Thrill Me , Kiss Me , Kill Me " was debuted ; U2 rotated it with " Ultraviolet (Light My Way) " to open the encore . At the 2 July 2011 show in Nashville , Bono invited a visually impaired fan on @-@ stage to play " All I Want Is You " on guitar for his wife after the normal set closer " Moment of Surrender " . After the song , Bono gave the fan his Gretsch Irish Falcon guitar . At the next show on 5 July 2011 in Chicago , the band performed " One Tree Hill " to end the show in honour of New Zealander Greg Carroll , an employee of the band whose 25th death anniversary was two days prior . The band 's first single , " Out of Control " , " Bad " and " 40 " each closed a single show , each of them played after usual closer " Moment of Surrender " .

= = = Diversity of material performed = = =

" The Unforgettable Fire " and " Love Rescue Me " were played in a U2 concert for the first time since the Lovetown Tour in 1990 . " Ultraviolet (Light My Way) " and " Zooropa " had not been performed by the band since the Zoo TV Tour in 1993 , while " Electrical Storm " , a 2002 single from The Best of 1990 ? 2000 , was played for the first time ever . " Hold Me , Thrill Me , Kiss Me , Kill Me " was played for the first time since the end of the PopMart Tour in 1998 . " Scarlet " , from the group 's 1981 album October , was played for the first time ever in a concert setting , and for the first time since 1981 .

= = = Rehearsals = = =

Before the U2 360 ° Tour commenced , " If God Will Send His Angels " , " Sometimes You Can 't Make It on Your Own " , and " Drowning Man " , a previously unplayed song from War , were rehearsed , as was " Even Better Than the Real Thing " in the Perfecto mix style , while The Edge stated in an interview with Rolling Stone that " Luminous Times (Hold on to Love) " was also being considered . None of these were played during the first four legs of the tour . Willie Williams stated in his 27 June 2009 tour diary entry on U2.com that the band " really wants [Drowning Man] to work and it sounds great " , but the rest of the setlist struggled due to the song 's " beautiful melancholy " . In his 24 July 2009 entry , Williams noted that " October " and " White as Snow " were also being considered . " Sunday Bloody Sunday " and " Mysterious Ways " were rehearsed in an acoustic style , but performances during the tour were done by the full band . Before the third leg , " Tryin ' To Throw Your Arms Around the World " was also rehearsed .

= = = Show themes = = =

Bono stated that the setlist was divided into two acts and a coda . The first half , from " Breathe " to " Vertigo " , focused on the personal , where Bono " envisages himself as a young man , struggling to find his feet in life and in search of some kind of personal epiphany . " The remix version of " I 'll Go Crazy If I Don 't Go Crazy Tonight " was created by the music team Fish out of Water as a mashup of previous remixes by Redanka and Dirty South . The " I 'll Go Crazy " remix is intended to disorient the audience as the band moves into the second act , " Sunday Bloody Sunday " to the encore , which focuses more on the political aspect of Bono 's persona , where he " [wrestles] with the problems of the wider world . " The coda , showcased in the encore , displays U2 " at their most raw and vulnerable , stripped to the metaphorical bone . "

= = Link up with the International Space Station = =

During some concerts on the European leg of the tour , a video link @-@ up with the crew of the International Space Station was aired . This segment was recorded by the astronauts on 26 June 2009 . In an interview with BBC Radio , Bono stated that a second video piece had been recorded where the astronauts aboard the International Space Station sang " Your Blue Room " . A NASA press release revealed that crewmember Frank De Winne had recorded the final verse of the song on 18 August 2009 . Images of the Station and of space provided to the band by NASA were presented in a video montage during the piece , recorded for the North American leg of the tour . A different video piece featuring DeWinne debuted at the Las Vegas concert during " In a Little While " where Frank repeats the bridge at the very end of the song .

During the second North American leg , a recording of astronaut Mark Kelly during Space Shuttle Endeavour 's trip to the International Space Station was used to introduce the song " Beautiful Day . " Using lyrics from David Bowie 's " Space Oddity " , he dedicated it to his wife , US Congress member Gabrielle Giffords . The representative , injured in the 2011 Tucson shooting and still in recovery at the time of the recording , had previously selected " Beautiful Day " as a wake @-@ up call for Kelly during a previous shuttle mission .

= = Concert broadcast and releases = =

= = = U2360 ° at the Rose Bowl = = =

The 25 October 2009 concert from the Rose Bowl in Pasadena , California , U2 's penultimate show of the year , was simultaneously broadcast live on YouTube and filmed for a future video release . Directed by Tom Krueger , the shoot used 27 high definition cameras , and it marked the first time since 1983 's U2 Live at Red Rocks : Under a Blood Red Sky that the band intentionally filmed over a single night ? in contrast to recording multiple shows . It was the first time a concert was streamed live on YouTube , and nearly 10 million people from 188 countries were reported to have watched .

The feed was initially set to be restricted to 16 countries but was later made available worldwide . In June 2010 , the show was released to home video as U2360 ° at the Rose Bowl on DVD and Blu-ray , receiving positive reviews from critics .

=== U22 ===

On 24 October 2011 , it was announced that U2 would release a double CD set entitled U22 , containing 22 songs recorded during the tour . Members of U2.com were able to vote on what songs would appear on the release through December 2011 . U22 is available only to members of U2.com. A bonus track , " Unknown Caller " , was also made available to subscribers .

=== From the Ground Up ===

On 30 September 2012 , U2.com announced its 2012 / 2013 subscriber 's pack would contain a "lavish 260 page large @-@ format hardback photobook " called From the Ground Up featuring photographs from the tour , 4 lithographs of each band member , bookmarks and an album called Edge 's Pick that will contain 15 tracks from the tour selected by The Edge that were not on U22 . Five bonus tracks , " No Line on the Horizon " , " Spanish Eyes " , " Desire " , " Pride " , and " Angel of Harlem " , were also made available to subscribers .

== Reception ==

=== Critical response ===

Reception towards the U2 360 ° Tour was generally positive . The New York Times described the stage as " part insect , part spacecraft , part cathedral " , noting that the design meant the band was more visible than on previous tours . They also praised the fact that political messages took a backseat to the music , while NBC News suggested that using the video screen to display Aung San Suu Kyi and Desmond Tutu reminded attendees of the plights of people in the developing world . Rolling Stone called the production a cross between Zoo TV and the Elevation Tour and noted that the design elements " all but disappear " from the band 's perspective onstage . Canada 's National Post saw structural similarities in the stage to the alien craft in War of the Worlds , stating the concert " was as if the band had descended to colonize the stadium with their message of intergalactic hope " , and that the space theme meant " When you can play music with someone who 's in space , the idea goes , you 're shrinking our corner of the universe down to size . " The Washington Post stated that the visual display made the band seem invincible , but that the performance was more of an " orgy of light and sound " than a rock concert . In contrast , The Boston Globe complained that the stage 's size caused the band to struggle to connect with the audience and play with intimacy , as all four members were often playing to a different section of the stadium .

=== Commercial performance ===

The U2 360 ° Tour was the highest @-@ grossing tour of 2009 , with earnings of over \$ 311 million for the year 's 44 shows , and around 3 million ticket sales . Due to the high costs to operate the tour , U2 's profits were minimal . Sales of No Line on the Horizon had been slow , meaning the group was not making much money from that either . Through November 2010 , the tour 's first 66 shows had grossed \$ 443 million and sold 4 @. @ 3 million tickets . At the 2010 Billboard Touring Awards , U2 were honored for the year 's Top Tour and Top Draw for U2 360 ° .

On 11 April 2011 , Live Nation announced that the U2 360 ° Tour became the highest @-@ grossing concert tour in history , with ticket sales totalling over \$ 700 million . The tour concluded in July 2011 with a final gross of \$ 736 @, @ 421 @, @ 586 , and a total attendance of 7 @, @ 272

@, @ 046 . According to Billboard.com , the final gross and attendance figures for the tour were the highest ever reported to the site . At the 2011 Billboard Touring Awards , U2 repeated as winners in the Top Tour and Top Draw categories .

= = Tour dates = =