

## = The Sound of Girls Aloud : The Greatest Hits =

The Sound of Girls Aloud : The Greatest Hits is the first greatest hits album of British girl group Girls Aloud . It was first released in the United Kingdom through a limited edition on 23 October 2006 , while the standard version was released on 30 October 2006 . The Sound of Girls Aloud features twelve of the group 's singles , two of which reached number one in the UK . The album features three new tracks , with " Something Kinda Ooooh " and " I Think We 're Alone Now " being released as singles and peaking inside the top five on the UK Singles Chart .

The Sound of Girls Aloud received positive reviews from critics , who praised it as a reflection of the group 's success . The album entered the UK Albums Chart at number one , making it Girls Aloud 's first album to do so . It also peaked at number nine on the Irish Albums Chart . In 2009 , the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry ( IFPI ) recognised The Sound of Girls Aloud as one of the nine albums that year to sell at least 1 million units in Europe .

## = = Release and content = =

On 6 October 2006 , Girls Aloud announced that they would release their first compilation album , following rumours that they would split after Chemistry ( 2005 ) . A limited edition of The Sound of Girls Aloud was released in the United Kingdom on 23 October . The limited edition included a bonus disc with alternate edits of the group 's previous singles " No Good Advice " and " Wake Me Up " , and unreleased tracks , including a cover of " Sacred Trust " , originally recorded by fellow Popstars : The Rivals contestants One True Voice . The bonus disc was also going to include a cover of Chris Isaak 's " Wicked Game " , however , the track did not make onto the final track listing .

The standard version of the compilation album was released the following week , on 30 October . The regular track listing includes three new tracks : " Something Kinda Ooooh " , " Money " and a cover of Tommy James and the Shondells 's 1967 single " I Think We 're Alone Now " . Originally , a cover of " What A Feeling " from the film Flashdance was included on the tracklist instead of " I Think We 're Alone Now " , but Girls Aloud contacted the record label three days before the album was manufactured to say they would rather record the Tommy James and the Shondells song . The group recorded the song the following morning and the album was mastered three days later . Apart from the new tracks , the album contains twelve of the group 's previous singles , two of which reached number one in the UK : " Sound of the Underground " and " I 'll Stand by You " .

According to Irish bandmate Nadine Coyle , the first draft of the artwork included only the Union Jack , but she demanded the addition of the flag of Ireland . However , the flag appears upside @-@ down on the cover .

## = = Reception = =

## = = = Critical response = = =

The Sound of Girls Aloud received positive reviews from critics . Talia Kraines of BBC Music called the album " a journey through the most exciting and daring pop music of recent times " and went on to add that " this reality band has surpassed all expectations , " while Paul Scott of Stylus Magazine described it as " an irreverent party through the last 30 odd years of pop , taking inspiration from the most unexpected of places " and hailed Girls Aloud as " the finest singles band Britain [ sic ] has produced this decade . " Allmusic reviewer Andy Kellman noted the album for making " an ideal introduction " to the group , and said that the three new songs would most likely " keep the group 's remarkable streak of dominance afloat . " Dan Cairns of The Times gave the album 4 out of 5 stars , stating that Girls Aloud 's personality flows " through unimpeachable , sugar @-@ rush pop singles " such as " Something Kinda Ooooh " , " The Show " and " Sound of the Underground " .

Pitchfork Media critic Tim Finney described the album as " a whirlwind trip through bizarre but

lovable pop gadgetry that may leave the uninitiated reeling . " He complimented the songs ' " deathless hooks and multi @-@ genre pyrotechnics " and noted that they are diverse , varying from different genres while embracing " elements of electroclash , big beat , and even skiffle . " Leonie Cooper of The Guardian characterised the album as " slick ... near @-@ faultless high @-@ octane pop all the way " ; however , she felt that the ballads were not really necessary , as " Girls Aloud sound far more exciting when they 're simply having fun " .

= = = Chart performance = = =

The Sound of Girls Aloud became Girls Aloud 's first album to debut at number one in the United Kingdom , and stayed on the UK Albums Chart for a total of 38 weeks . On 24 November 2007 , Mark Sutherland of Billboard reported that the album had already sold a total of 767 @,@ 000 units in the country . On the week ending 2 November 2006 , the album debuted at number 13 on the Irish Albums Chart , rising to a new peak of number nine the following week . It was certified Platinum by the Irish Recorded Music Association , denoting shipments of 15 @,@ 000 units in the country alone . On 29 January 2009 , the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry ( IFPI ) recognised The Sound of Girls Aloud as one of the nine albums that year to sell at least 1 million units in Europe . As of 21 March 2013 , the album has sold over 1 @,@ 2 million units in Europe .

= = Promotion = =

= = = Singles = = =

" Something Kinda Ooooh " was released on 16 October 2006 as the lead single from The Sound of Girls Aloud , one week prior to the album 's release . The track debuted at number five on the UK Singles Chart on download sales alone , before reaching its peak position at number three on the week ending 4 November 2006 . The accompanying music video was directed by Stuart Gosling and produced by Jon Adams , and features the group " singing and dancing glamorously " . " I Think We 're Alone Now " was chosen as the second and final single from the album , being released on 18 December . The song peaked at number four on the UK Singles Chart during Christmas week . The music video was directed by Alex Hemming and Nick Collett , and portrays Girls Aloud in an attempt to rob a Las Vegas casino .

= = = Tour = = =

In 2007 , Girls Aloud went on a tour of the same name to further promote the album . The announcement of the tour and the recording of their fourth studio album helped to stop rumours that the band were splitting up , which had surfaced due to the release of their greatest hits album . The show received mixed reviews from music critics , with Dave Simpson of The Guardian saying that the group " fare best when they are playing their own songs , " while a critic for Daily Mail deemed it the group 's " raunchiest tour ever [ ... ] there was singing and dancing , but the stand out element of Girls Aloud 's latest tour : sex appeal a @-@ go @-@ go . "

= = Track listing = =

All tracks were produced by Xenomania . Credits adapted from the liner notes of The Sound of Girls Aloud : The Greatest Hits .

= = Personnel = =

Credits adapted from Allmusic .

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =