

= Rumours ( album ) =

Rumours is the eleventh studio album by the British @-@ American rock band Fleetwood Mac . Largely recorded in California during 1976 , it was produced by the band with Ken Caillat and Richard Dashut and was released on 4 February 1977 by Warner Bros. Records . The record reached the top of both the United States Billboard chart and the United Kingdom Albums Chart . The songs " Go Your Own Way " , " Dreams " , " Don 't Stop " , and " You Make Loving Fun " were released as singles . Rumours is Fleetwood Mac 's most successful release ; along with winning the Grammy Award for Album of the Year in 1978 , the record has sold over 45 million copies worldwide , making it one of the best @-@ selling albums of all time . Rumours has received diamond certifications in several countries , including the US , Canada , and Australia .

The band wanted to expand on the commercial success of the 1975 record Fleetwood Mac , but struggled with relationship breakups before recording started . The Rumours studio sessions were marked by hedonistic behaviour and interpersonal strife among Fleetwood Mac members ; these experiences shaped the album 's lyrics . Influenced by pop music , the record 's tracks were recorded using a combination of acoustic and electric instruments . The mixing process delayed the completion of Rumours , but was finished by the end of 1976 . Following the album 's release in 1977 , Fleetwood Mac undertook worldwide promotional tours .

Rumours garnered widespread critical acclaim . Praise centred on its production quality and harmonies , which frequently relied on the interplay among three vocalists . The record has inspired the work of musical acts in different genres . Often considered Fleetwood Mac 's best release , it has featured in several publications ' lists of the best albums of the 1970s and the best albums of all time . In 2004 , Rumours was remastered and reissued with the addition of an extra track and a bonus CD of outtakes from the recording sessions . A three @-@ CD reissue of the album was released by Warner Bros. on 29 January 2013 . The set included outtakes of songs and concert tracks the band played while on tour in 1977 .

= = Background = =

In July 1975 , Fleetwood Mac 's eponymous tenth album was released to great commercial success , reaching No. 1 in the U.S. in 1976 . The record 's biggest hit single , " Rhiannon " , gave the band extensive radio exposure . At the time , Fleetwood Mac 's line @-@ up consisted of guitarist and vocalist Lindsey Buckingham , drummer Mick Fleetwood , keyboardist and vocalist Christine McVie , bassist John McVie , and vocalist Stevie Nicks . After six months of non @-@ stop touring , the McVies divorced , ending six years of marriage . The couple stopped talking to each other socially and discussed only musical matters . Buckingham and Nicks ? who had joined the band before 1975 's Fleetwood Mac , after guitarist Bob Welch had left ? were having an on / off relationship that led them to fight often . The duo 's arguments stopped only when they worked on songs together . Fleetwood faced domestic problems of his own after discovering that his wife Jenny , mother of his two children , had an affair with his best friend .

Press intrusions into the band members ' lives led to inaccurate stories . Christine McVie was reported to be in hospital with a serious illness , while Buckingham and Nicks were declared the parents of Fleetwood 's daughter Lucy after being photographed with her . The press also wrote about a rumoured return of original Fleetwood Mac members Peter Green , Danny Kirwan , and Jeremy Spencer for a 10th anniversary tour . Despite false reports , the band did not change its line @-@ up , although its members had no time to come to terms with the separations before recording for a new album began . Fleetwood has noted the " tremendous emotional sacrifices " made by everyone just to attend studio work . In early 1976 , Fleetwood Mac crafted some new tracks in Florida . Founding members Fleetwood and John McVie chose to dispense with the services of their previous producer , Keith Olsen , because he favoured a lower emphasis on the rhythm section . The duo formed a company called Seedy Management to represent the band 's interests .

= = Recording = =

In February 1976 , Fleetwood Mac convened at the Record Plant in Sausalito , California , with hired engineers Ken Caillat and Richard Dashut . Production duties were shared by the three parties , while the more technically adept Caillat was responsible for most of the engineering ; he took a leave of absence from Wally Heider Studios in Los Angeles on the premise that Fleetwood Mac would eventually use their facilities . The set @-@ up in Sausalito included a number of small recording rooms in a large , windowless wooden building . Most band members complained about the studio and wanted to record at their homes , but Fleetwood did not allow any moves . Christine McVie and Nicks decided to live in two condominiums near the city 's harbour , while the male contingent stayed at the studio 's lodge in the adjacent hills . Recording occurred in a six @-@ by @-@ nine @-@ metre room which included a 3M 24 @-@ track tape machine , a range of high @-@ quality microphones , and an API mixing console with 550A equalisers ; the latter were used to control frequency differences or a track 's timbre . Although Caillat was impressed with the set @-@ up , he felt that the room lacked ambience because of its " very dead speakers " and large amounts of soundproofing .

The record 's working title in Sausalito was Yesterday 's Gone . Buckingham took charge of the studio sessions to make " a pop album " . According to Dashut , while Fleetwood and the McVies came from an improvisational blues @-@ rock background , the guitarist understood " the craft of record making " . During the formative stages of compositions , Buckingham and Christine McVie played guitar and piano together to create the album 's basic structures . The latter was the only classically trained musician in Fleetwood Mac , but both shared a similar sense of musicality . When the band jammed , Fleetwood often played his drum kit outside the studio 's partition screen to better gauge Caillat 's and Dashut 's reactions to the music 's groove . Baffles were placed around the drums and around John McVie , who played his bass guitar facing Fleetwood . Buckingham performed close to the rhythm section , while Christine McVie 's keyboards were kept away from the drum kit . Caillat and Dashut spent about nine days working with a range of microphones and amplifiers to get a larger sound , before discovering they could adjust the sound effectively on the API mixing console .

As the studio sessions progressed , the band members ' new intimate relationships that formed after various separations started to have a negative effect on Fleetwood Mac . The musicians did not meet or socialise after their daily work at the Record Plant . At the time , the hippie movement still affected Sausalito 's culture and drugs were readily available . Open @-@ ended budgets enabled the band and the engineers to become self @-@ indulgent ; sleepless nights and the extensive use of cocaine marked much of the album 's production . Chris Stone , one of the Record Plant 's owners , indicated in 1997 that Fleetwood Mac brought " excess at its most excessive " by taking over the studio for long and extremely expensive sessions ; he stated , " The band would come in at 7 at night , have a big feast , party till 1 or 2 in the morning , and then when they were so whacked @-@ out they couldn 't do anything , they 'd start recording " .

Nicks has suggested that Fleetwood Mac created the best music when in the worst shape , while , according to Buckingham , the tensions between band members informed the recording process and led to " the whole being more than the sum of the parts " . The couple 's work became " bittersweet " after their final split , although Buckingham still had a skill for taking Nicks ' tracks and " making them beautiful " . The vocal harmonies between the duo and Christine McVie worked well and were captured using the best microphones available . Nicks ' lyrical focus allowed the instrumentals in the songs that she wrote to be looser and more abstract . According to Dashut , all the recordings captured " emotion and feeling without a middle man ... or tempering " . John McVie tended to clash with Buckingham about the make @-@ up of songs , but both admit to achieving good outcomes . Christine McVie 's " Songbird " , which Caillat felt needed a concert hall 's ambience , was recorded during an all @-@ night session at Zellerbach Auditorium , across San Francisco Bay in Berkeley .

Following over two months in Sausalito , Fleetwood arranged a ten @-@ day tour to give the band a break and fan feedback . After the concerts , recording resumed at venues in Los Angeles , including Wally Heider Studios . Christine McVie and Nicks did not attend most of the sessions and

took time off until they were needed to record any remaining vocals . The rest of Fleetwood Mac , with Caillat and Dashut , struggled to finalise the overdubbing and mixing of Rumours after the Sausalito tapes were damaged by repeated use during recording ; the kick and snare drum audio tracks sounded " lifeless " . A sell @-@ out autumn tour of the US was cancelled to allow the completion of the album , whose scheduled release date of September 1976 was pushed back . A specialist was hired to rectify the Sausalito tapes using a vari @-@ speed oscillator . Through a pair of headphones which played the damaged tapes in his left ear and the safety master recordings in his right , he converged their respective speeds aided by the timings provided by the snare and hi @-@ hat audio tracks . Fleetwood Mac and their co @-@ producers wanted a " no @-@ filler " final product , in which every track seemed a potential single . After the final mastering stage and hearing the songs back @-@ to @-@ back , the band members sensed they had recorded something " pretty powerful " .

= = Promotion and release = =

In autumn 1976 , while still recording , Fleetwood Mac showcased tracks from Rumours at the Universal Amphitheatre in Los Angeles . John McVie suggested the album title to the band because he felt the members were writing " journals and diaries " about each other through music . Warner Bros. confirmed the release details to the press in December and chose " Go Your Own Way " as a December 1976 promotional single . The label 's aggressive marketing of 1975 's Fleetwood Mac , in which links with dozens of FM and AM radio stations were formed across America , aided the promotion of Rumours . At the time , the album 's advance order of 800 @,@ 000 copies was the largest in Warner Bros. ' history .

Rumours was released on 4 February 1977 in the US and a week later in the UK . The front cover features a stylised shot of Fleetwood and Nicks dressed in her " Rhiannon " stage persona , while the back has a montage of band portraits ; all the photographs were taken by Herbert Worthington . On 28 February 1977 , after rehearsing at SIR Studios in Los Angeles , Fleetwood Mac started a seven @-@ month @-@ long promotional tour of America . Nicks has noted that , after performing mostly Rumours songs during gigs , the band initially encountered poor receptions from fans who were not accustomed to the new material . A one @-@ off March performance at a benefit concert for United States Senator Birch Bayh in Indiana was followed by a short European tour of the UK , the Netherlands , France , and Germany in April . Nigel Williams of Uncut called Fleetwood Mac 's performances " rock 's greatest soap opera " . " Dreams " , released in June 1977 , became the band 's only number one on the US Billboard Hot 100 .

= = Composition = =

= = = Lyrics = = =

Fleetwood Mac 's main writers ? Buckingham , Christine McVie and Nicks ? worked individually on specific songs , but sometimes shared lyrics with each other . " The Chain " is the only track that all members , including Fleetwood and John McVie , collaborated on . All songs on Rumours concern personal , often troubled , relationships . According to Christine McVie , the fact that the lyricists were extensively focusing on the various separations became apparent to the band only with hindsight . " You Make Loving Fun " is about her boyfriend , Fleetwood Mac 's lighting director , after she split from John . Nicks ' " Dreams " details a breakup and has a hopeful message , while Buckingham 's similar effort in " Go Your Own Way " is more pessimistic . After a short fling with a New England woman , he was inspired to write " Never Going Back Again " , a song about the illusion of thinking that sadness will never occur again once feeling content with life . The lines " Been down one time / Been down two times " are in reference to the lyricist 's efforts when persuading the woman to give him a chance .

" Don 't Stop " , written by Christine McVie , is a song about optimism . She noted that Buckingham

helped her craft the verses because their personal sensibilities overlapped . McVie 's next track , " Songbird " , features more introspective lyrics about " nobody and everybody " in the form of " a little prayer " . " Oh Daddy " , the last McVie song on the album , was written about Fleetwood and his wife Jenny Boyd , who had just gotten back together . The band 's nickname for Fleetwood was " The Big Daddy " . McVie commented that the writing is slightly sarcastic and focuses on the drummer 's direction for Fleetwood Mac , which always turned out to be right . Nicks provided the final lines " And I can 't walk away from you , baby / If I tried " . Her own song , " Gold Dust Woman " , is inspired by Los Angeles and the hardship encountered in such a metropolis . After struggling with the rock lifestyle , Nicks became addicted to cocaine and the lyrics address her belief in " keeping going " .

= = = Music = = =

Featuring a soft rock and pop rock sound , Rumours is built around a mix of acoustic and electric instrumentation . Buckingham 's guitar work and Christine McVie 's use of Fender Rhodes piano or Hammond B @-@ 3 organ are present in all tracks . The record often includes stressed drum sounds and distinctive percussion such as congas and maracas . It opens with " Second Hand News " , originally an acoustic demo titled " Strummer " . After hearing Bee Gees ' " Jive Talkin ' " , Buckingham and co @-@ producer Dashut built up the song with four audio tracks of electric guitar and the use of chair percussion to evoke celtic rock . " Dreams " includes " ethereal spaces " and a recurring two note pattern on the bass guitar . Nicks wrote the song in an afternoon and led the vocals , while the band played around her . The third track on Rumours , " Never Going Back Again " , began as " Brushes " , a simple acoustic guitar tune played by Buckingham , with snare rolls by Fleetwood using brushes ; the band added vocals and further instrumental audio tracks to make it more layered . Inspired by triple step dancing patterns , " Don 't Stop " includes both conventional acoustic and tack piano . In the latter instrument , nails are placed on the points where the hammers hit the strings , producing a more percussive sound . " Go Your Own Way " is more guitar @-@ oriented and has a four @-@ to @-@ the @-@ floor dance beat influenced by The Rolling Stones ' " Street Fighting Man " . The album 's pace slows down with " Songbird " , conceived solely by Christine McVie using a nine @-@ foot Steinway piano .

Side two of Rumours begins with " The Chain " , one of the record 's most complicated compositions . A Christine McVie demo , " Keep Me There " , and a Nicks song were re @-@ cut in the studio and were heavily edited to form parts of the track . The whole of the band crafted the rest using an approach akin to creating a film score ; John McVie provided a prominent solo using a fretless bass guitar , which marked a speeding up in tempo and the start of the song 's final third . Inspired by R & B , " You Make Loving Fun " has a simpler composition and features a clavinet , a special type of keyboard instrument , while the rhythm section plays interlocking notes and beats . The ninth track on Rumours , " I Don 't Want to Know " , makes use of a twelve string guitar and harmonising vocals . Influenced by the music of Buddy Holly , Buckingham and Nicks created it in 1974 before they were in Fleetwood Mac . " Oh Daddy " was crafted spontaneously and includes improvised bass guitar patterns from John McVie and keyboard blips from Christine McVie . The album ends with " Gold Dust Woman " , a song inspired by free jazz , which has music from a harpsichord , a Fender Stratocaster guitar , and a dobro , an acoustic guitar whose sound is produced by one or more metal cones .

= = Commercial performance = =

Rumours was a huge commercial success and became Fleetwood Mac 's second US number one record , following the 1975 eponymous release . It stayed at the top of the Billboard 200 for 31 non @-@ consecutive weeks , while also reaching number one in the United Kingdom , Australia , Canada , and New Zealand . In May 2011 it re @-@ entered Billboard 200 chart at number 11 , and the Australian ARIA chart at number 2 , due to several songs from the album being used for the " Rumours " episode of the American TV series Glee . The album was certified platinum in America

and the UK within months of release after one million units and 300 @, @ 000 units were shipped respectively . All three major US trade publications ? Billboard , Cash Box , and Record World ? named it Album of the Year for 1977 . After a debut at number seven , Rumours peaked at the top of the UK Albums Chart in January 1978 , becoming Fleetwood Mac 's first number one album in the country . In February , the band and co @-@ producers Caillat and Dashut won the 1978 Grammy Award for Album of the Year . By March , the album had sold over 10 million copies worldwide , including over eight million in the US alone .

By 1980 , 13 million copies of Rumours had been sold worldwide , a figure which increased to nearly 20 million by 1987 . By the time of Fleetwood Mac 's reunion tour in 1997 , it had sold 25 million copies worldwide . The amount rose to 30 million by 2004 , and to 40 million by 2009 . As of May 2016 , Rumours has spent 630 weeks in the UK Top 75 album chart and is the 11th best @-@ selling album in UK history and is certified 11 x platinum by the British Phonographic Industry , the equivalent of 3 @. @ 3 million units shipped . The record has received a Diamond Award from the Recording Industry Association of America for a 20 x platinum certification or 20 million units shipped , making it , as of 2012 , the sixth best @-@ selling album in US history ( by number of units shipped ) .

= = Critical reception = =

Rumours has been acclaimed by music critics since its release . Robert Christgau , reviewing in The Village Voice , gave the album an " A " and described it as " more consistent and more eccentric " than its predecessor . He added that it " jumps right out of the speakers at you " . Rolling Stone magazine 's John Swenson believed the interplay among the three vocalists was one of the album 's most pleasing elements ; he stated , " Despite the interminable delay in finishing the record , Rumours proves that the success of Fleetwood Mac was no fluke . " In a review for The New York Times , John Rockwell said the album is " a delightful disk , and one hopes the public thinks so , too " , while Dave Marsh of the St. Petersburg Times claimed the songs are " as grandly glossy as anything right now " . Robert Hilburn was less receptive and called Rumours a " frustratingly uneven " record in his review for the Los Angeles Times , while Juan Rodriguez of The Gazette suggested that , while the music is " crisper and clearer " , Fleetwood Mac 's ideas are " slightly more muddled " . The album finished fourth in The Village Voice 's 1977 Pazz & Jop critics ' poll , which aggregated the votes of hundreds of prominent reviewers .

In a retrospective review , AllMusic editor Stephen Thomas Erlewine gave Rumours five stars and noted that , regardless of the voyeuristic element , the record was " an unparalleled blockbuster " because of the music 's quality ; he concluded , " Each tune , each phrase regains its raw , immediate emotional power ? which is why Rumours touched a nerve upon its 1977 release , and has since transcended its era to be one of the greatest , most compelling pop albums of all time . " According to Slant Magazine 's Barry Walsh , Fleetwood Mac drew on romantic dysfunction and personal turmoil to create a timeless , five @-@ star record , while Andy Gill of The Independent claimed it " represents , along with The Eagles Greatest Hits , the high @-@ water mark of America 's Seventies rock @-@ culture expansion , the quintessence of a counter @-@ cultural mindset lured into coke @-@ fuelled hedonism " . In 2007 , BBC 's Daryl Easlea labelled the sonic results as " near perfect " , " like a thousand angels kissing you sweetly on the forehead " , while Patrick McKay of Stylus Magazine wrote , " What distinguishes Rumours ? what makes it art ? is the contradiction between its cheerful surface and its anguished heart . Here is a radio @-@ friendly record about anger , recrimination , and loss . "

= = Legacy = =

Mick Fleetwood has called Rumours " the most important album we ever made " , because its success allowed the group to continue recording for years to come . Pop culture journalist Chuck Klosterman links the record 's sales figures to its " really likable songs " , but suggests that " no justification for greatness " is intrinsically provided by them . The Guardian collated worldwide data

in 1997 from a range of renowned critics , artists , and radio DJs , who placed the record at number 78 in the list of the 100 Best Albums Ever . In 1998 , Legacy : A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac 's Rumours was produced by Fleetwood and released . The record contained each song of the original Rumours covered by a different act influenced by it . Among the musicians involved were alternative rock bands Tonic , Matchbox 20 , and Goo Goo Dolls , Celtic rock groups The Corrs and The Cranberries , and singer @-@ songwriters Elton John , Duncan Sheik , and Jewel . Other diverse acts influenced by Rumours include baroque pop artist Tori Amos , hard rock group Saliva , indie rock band Death Cab for Cutie. and art pop singer Lorde , who called it a " perfect record " .

In 1998 , Q placed Rumours at number three ? behind The Clash 's London Calling and Pink Floyd 's The Dark Side of the Moon ? in its list of 50 Best Albums of the 70s . In 1999 , Vibe featured it as one of 100 Essential Albums of the 20th Century . In 2003 , VH1 ranked the record at number 16 during its 100 Greatest Albums countdown , while Slant included it as one of 50 Essential Pop Albums . The same year , USA Today placed Rumours at number 23 in its Top 40 Albums list , while Rolling Stone ranked it at number 25 in its special issue of " The 500 Greatest Albums of All Time " , the highest Fleetwood Mac record . In 2006 , Time named it in its All @-@ TIME 100 Albums shortlist , while Mojo featured it in its unnumbered list of 70 from the 1970s : Decade ? s Greatest Albums . The record is included in both The Guardian 's " 1000 Albums to Hear Before You Die " and the book 1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die . In the 2013 reissue of the album , Pitchfork Media 's Jessica Hopper gave the album a rare 10 out of 10 , earning it best new reissue .

= = Track listing = =

#### Cassette

The original cassette release has a different running order , transposing " Second Hand News " and " I Don 't Want to Know " .

#### Silver Springs

" Silver Springs " ( 4 : 48 ) , a song written by Nicks , was recorded at the same sessions and intended for inclusion on Rumours . It was eventually released as the B @-@ side of " Go Your Own Way " and has been restored to later reissues of the album .

#### 2001 reissue

The DVD @-@ Audio version of Rumours released in 2001 includes " Silver Springs " ( Track 6 , with " Songbird " relocated to Track 12 ) , and short audio interviews with band members about the making of each song .

#### 2004 reissue

Warner Bros. released a remastered version in 2004 with " Silver Springs " between " Songbird " and " The Chain " . The booklet features additional photography and detailed liner notes . Rhino Entertainment coupled this disc with a bonus disc of demos , roughs , and outtakes .

#### 2013 reissue

The 2013 triple CD reissue restored the original running order of the album , instead moving " Silver Springs " to follow " Gold Dust Woman " . The second CD contained live versions , recorded during their 1977 tour , of eight songs from the album and three from its predecessor , Fleetwood Mac . The third disc contained demo versions , early takes and instrumental versions of songs from the album , but different selections from those on the 2004 reissue . A Deluxe Edition also included the second disc from the 2004 reissue , a DVD documentary , The Rosebud Film , from 1977 and the original album on 12 " LP .

= = Personnel = =

Those involved in the making of Rumours are :

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =