

= Adam Levine in 2011 | birth \_ name =

Adam Noah Levine | birth \_ date

= ( 1979 @-@ 03 @-@ 18 ) March 18 , 1979 | birth \_ place =

Los Angeles , California , U.S.

| occupation =

Adam Noah Levine ( born March 18 , 1979 ) is an American singer and songwriter . He is the lead singer for the Los Angeles pop rock band Maroon 5 .

Born and raised in Los Angeles California , Levine began his musical career in 1994 , when he co @-@ founded the alternative rock band Kara 's Flowers , of which he was the lead vocalist and guitarist . The band split up after their only album , The Fourth World ( released in 1997 ) , which did not gain popularity . In 2001 , the group was reformed ? with guitarist James Valentine joining the line @-@ up ? and began a new , musical chapter , changing their name to Maroon 5 . In 2002 , the band released their first album , Songs About Jane , which went multi @-@ platinum in the US . Since then , they have released four more albums , It Won 't Be Soon Before Long ( 2007 ) , Hands All Over ( 2010 ) , Overexposed ( 2012 ) and V ( 2014 ) . As part of Maroon 5 , Levine has received three Grammy Awards , two Billboard Music Awards , two American Music Awards , an MTV Video Music Award and a World Music Award .

Since 2011 , Levine has served as a coach on NBC 's reality talent show The Voice . The winners of the first , fifth and ninth seasons , Javier Colon , Tessanne Chin and Jordan Smith , were on his team . In 2012 , he made his acting debut as a recurring character in the horror television show American Horror Story : Asylum for the series ' second season . He also starred in the film Begin Again .

As an entrepreneur , Levine launched his own eponymous fragrance line in 2013 . The same year , he collaborated with K @-@ Mart and ShopYourWay.com to develop his menswear collection . He also owns a record label , 222 Records . In 2013 , The Hollywood Reporter reported that " sources familiar with his many business dealings " estimated Levine would earn more than \$ 35 million that year .

= = Early life = =

Adam Noah Levine was born in Los Angeles on March 18 , 1979 to Fred Levine , the founder of retail chain M. Fredric , and Patsy ( née Noah ) Levine , an admissions counselor . He has two uncles , journalist and author Timothy Noah and television producer and writer Peter Noah . He is also the nephew of economist Jordan Levine . He has two brothers , Michael and Sam . Levine 's parents divorced when he was seven . Growing up , he spent weekdays with his mother and weekends with his father . He underwent therapy for his parents ' divorce , but called it a " waste of time " explaining that his parents could not " accept the fact that I might have been OK with it . I cried my eyes out and kicked and screamed and said , ' Why ? ' and all the things you do when you find out . A few days later I was fine but I still had to go to therapy . "

Levine describes his family as " very musical " and credits his mother with " start [ ing ] me out on the path " . He also attributes his mother 's idols ? Simon & Garfunkel , Fleetwood Mac and , most notably , The Beatles ? to shaping his musical style , calling them " a huge part of my upbringing " . He attended Brentwood School , where he met Jesse Carmichael and Mickey Madden , his future bandmates . He carried his musical interests to high school , where he states he was " a little rebellious . I didn 't want to do the things they were teaching me ... [ music ] consumed my every thought . "

Levine used hallucinogenic drugs in his adolescence . In an interview with Q , he said that using mushrooms " really forced me to look at myself " but added that he had never abused drugs . On Jimmy Kimmel Live ! , he stated that he stopped using prescription drugs after his first experience with prescription drug Ambien , which left him unconscious for an hour .

Levine 's father and maternal grandfather are Jewish , while his maternal grandmother was Protestant . Levine considers himself Jewish , though according to an interview with The Jewish Chronicle , he " has rejected formal religious practice for a more generalized , spiritual way of life " .

He chose not to have a Bar Mitzvah as a child , explaining : " I felt as though a lot of kids were trying to cash in ... I just don 't think it 's the most respectful way to deal with God and beliefs and years and years and years of cultural heritage . "

= = Kara 's Flowers = =

In September 1995 , Levine , along with Mickey Madden , Jesse Carmichael , and Ryan Dusick , another Brentwood High student , formed garage band Kara 's Flowers . The group played their first gig at the Whisky a Go Go , a nightclub in West Hollywood , California , with Levine on vocals and guitar . In 1997 , the band was discovered while they were performing at a beach party in Malibu by independent producer Tommy Allen . Allen , along with his partner John DeNicola , had the band record an 11 @-@ track album . Owing to a string of industry showcases in Los Angeles , they were signed on to Reprise Records through producer Rob Cavallo . In 1997 , Kara 's Flowers released their first album , titled The Fourth World . That same year , the band appeared on an episode of the drama series Beverly Hills , 90210 . After their graduation , the band toured in support of their debut . Despite high expectations , the album had little success , selling about 5 @, @ 000 copies , and its only single , " Soap Disco " , failed commercially . Finally , on Cavallo 's exit from the label , Reprise decided to drop the band . Disappointed with the results of their album , the band broke up . Later , Levine would say of the experience : " Kara ? s Flowers was just floating up the wall beneath the sticks . Make a record quickly , put it out . No touring base , no nothing . Just try to make it happen right out of the gate and it just doesn ? t work " .

= = Maroon 5 and mainstream success = =

After the break up of Kara 's Flowers , Levine , along with Carmichael , left Los Angeles to pursue further studies in New York . On MTV News , in 2002 , he said : " That 's when I started waking up to the whole hip @-@ hop , R & B thing . We had friends named Chaos and Shit . It was not Brentwood High " . After dropping out of Five Towns College , in Dix Hills , Long Island , New York , where he and Jesse Carmichael spent a semester , they reunited with Mickey Madden and Ryan Dusick to form a band once more . They experimented with several styles , including country and folk , before deciding groove @-@ based music would become their genre . Levine explained the need for a makeover for the band : " We were just so sick of being a typical rock ' n 'roll band ... I felt like I needed to look elsewhere for vocal inspiration . " The band put together a demo that was rejected by several labels , before falling into the hands of Octone Records executives James Diener , Ben Berkman , and David Boxenbaum . Following Berkman 's advice , the band added a fifth member , James Valentine , and was renamed Maroon 5 . In an interview with HitQuarters , Berkman explained that Levine " seemed to be a very shy , shoe @-@ gazing type ... a fifth member could play the guitar to free up the singer [ Levine ] , so he could be the star I perceived him to be " .

Around this time , Levine had been working as a writer 's assistant on the CBS television show Judging Amy , whose producer Barbara Hall was his family friend . While on the show , he would spend time writing songs about his ex @-@ girlfriend Jane . These songs were put into Maroon 5 's debut album Songs About Jane , which was released in June 2002 . The album slowly gained airplay , and eventually became a sleeper hit , selling an estimated 10 million copies and becoming the tenth best @-@ selling album of 2004 , two years after its release . In 2005 , Maroon 5 won their first Grammy Award , for Best New Artist . The next year , they won the Grammy Award for Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocals for the second Songs About Jane single " This Love " .

By 2006 , the band started recording once again , and in May 2007 , Maroon 5 's second album It Won 't Be Soon Before Long was released . Levine described the album as " a vast improvement " , explaining : " I think this record is a little more self @-@ confident and powerful lyrically " . To support the album , the band performed on a " six @-@ date club tour " in which they visited small venues in Boston , San Francisco , Los Angeles , Minneapolis , Miami , and New York City in early June 2007 . The album and its lead , third and penultimate singles ( " Makes Me Wonder " , " Won 't

Go Home Without You " and " If I Never See Your Face Again " , respectively ) each received Grammy nominations , although only " Makes Me Wonder " secured a win .

After winding down from a world tour in support It Won 't Be Soon Before Long , the band began recording in Switzerland in 2009 , in collaboration with record producer and songwriter Robert John " Mutt " Lange . Levine said Lange " worked me harder than anyone ever has " . In 2010 , Maroon 5 released their third studio album , Hands All Over . The album did not initially meet expectations . In an interview with Los Angeles Times , Levine explained that the album suffered from being " all these disparate ideas and songs that didn 't make any sense together " . After the moderate success of the album 's first three singles , the band released " Moves like Jagger " which Levine classified as " one of those songs that was definitely a risk ; it 's a bold statement " . The single became a success worldwide ; it was the ninth @-@ best @-@ selling digital single of 2011 with sales of 8 @. @ 5 million copies and , as of 2012 , the eighth @-@ best @-@ selling digital single of all time . Levine later credited the song with " totally reviving the band " .

Since " Moves Like Jagger " was the first time Maroon 5 had collaborated with an outside writer , the band decided to attempt it again on their next album , entitled Overexposed . Its title is supposedly an allusion to Levine 's public ubiquity . In an interview with Rolling Stone , he opined that is their most dance @-@ driven album ever , commenting : " It 's very much an old @-@ fashioned disco tune . I have a love / hate relationship with it - but mostly I love it " . The album and its lead single " Payphone " gave Maroon 5 their second Grammy Award for Best Pop Vocal Album and Best Pop Duo / Group Performance nominations . In support of Overexposed , the band conducted the Overexposed Tour from 2012 ? 13 ( with the European leg extending to 2014 due to scheduling conflicts ) , and also headlined the 12th Annual Honda Civic Tour , which included The Voice contestant Tony Lucca .

Over 2014 , Maroon 5 continued their collaboration with Ryan Tedder , Max Martin and others to release their fifth studio album , entitled V. Levine acknowledged that they followed the same song @-@ writing process that they tried with Overexposed , saying : " We developed a really nice system on the last record ? we found songs we were passionate about , developed them and put our stamp on them [ ... ] this time we kept it going but looked for different types of songs . " Five singles were released from it . In support of the album , the band undertook the Maroon 5 World Tour 2015 , which kicked off with a show in Dallas in February 2015 .

In 2007 , Levine had stated that he believed Maroon 5 was reaching its peak and might make one more album before disbanding . He was quoted explaining : " Eventually I want to focus on being a completely different person because I don 't know if I want to do this into my 40s and 50s and beyond " . But in 2010 , he dispelled any rumors of the band breaking up , saying : " I love what I do and think that , yes , it might be tiring and complicated at times [ but ] we don 't have any plans on disbanding any time soon " . He has also turned down the idea of having a solo career , stating that " there will never be a solo record . I would sooner have another band " .

= = Other work = =

= = = Musical collaborations = = =

Levine has collaborated with several musical artists . In 2005 , he was featured on the song " Live Again " by hip @-@ hop duo Ying Yang Twins . The same year , he appeared on Kanye West 's album Late Registration , on the third single , " Heard ' Em Say " , a collaboration Levine called " very pure and very easy " . The song was created during an airplane flight that he and West shared , and its refrain was later used for the Maroon 5 song " Nothing Lasts Forever " from It Won 't Be Soon Before Long . He also appeared on Alicia Keys ' third album Alicia Keys : MTV Unplugged , as part of the cover of The Rolling Stones song " Wild Horses " . Around the same time , he featured on fellow Octone Records singer K 'naan 's single " Bang Bang " . In 2009 , he recorded " Gotten " , a song for Slash 's first solo album Slash ( 2010 ) . In February 2010 , he was among approximately 80 musicians who sang on the charity @-@ single remake of " We Are the World " , called " We Are

the World 25 for Haiti " . In 2011 , he appeared on the Gym Class Heroes song , " Stereo Hearts " . He also worked with hip @-@ hop artist 50 Cent on his song " My Life " , recording the vocals almost two years before it was released as a single in 2012 , which included rapper Eminem . He is also featured as a singer for his band 's song " She Will Be Loved " in the music rhythm game , Band Hero . In 2015 , Adam Levine was featured on duo , R. City 's , single , " Locked Away " .

= = = TV and media = = =

Levine has made four notable comic appearances on television . During 2007 , he appeared in the 33rd season premiere of Saturday Night Live in an SNL Digital Short called Iran So Far , performing with Andy Samberg , Fred Armisen and Jake Gyllenhaal . Levine played himself while singing a humorous bridge to a " love song " for Mahmoud Ahmadinejad . In 2008 , he performed on Comedy Central 's " Night of Too Many Stars " . He also had a cameo on Jimmy Kimmel Live ! for the night of stars and endorsed Barack Obama in the 2008 Presidential Election . In 2013 , he hosted Saturday Night Live and featured alongside Kendrick Lamar on Lonely Island 's digital short " YOLO " , which parodies the acronym for You Only Live Once . His hosting was generally disliked by reviewers , who called it " mediocre " and " subpar " .

Since its inception in 2011 , Levine has served as a contestant judge / coach on the reality talent TV show , The Voice . The winner of the first season , Javier Colon , was on his team , as was the Season 5 winner , Tessanne Chin and Season 9 winner Jordan Smith . The Voice has been credited with reviving Maroon 5 's " faltering " career after the sub @-@ par sales of Hands All Over as well as increasing Levine 's popularity . According to polling firm E @-@ Poll Market Research , awareness of Levine has nearly tripled since he joined the show . He has also been described as the " breakout " star of the series , with # TeamAdam and @ AdamLevine scoring a respective 203 @,@ 000 and 2 @.@ 14 million Twitter mentions in the show 's third season , higher than all the other coaches . In 2013 , The Hollywood Reporter estimated that Levine was paid \$ 10 ? 12 million for each season of The Voice .

In 2012 , Levine appeared as a recurring character in American Horror Story : Asylum , the second season of the anthology series . He plays Leo Morrison , a newly @-@ wed photographer visiting modern @-@ day Briarcliff Manor , an insane asylum , on honeymoon with wife . Teresa , played by Jenna Dewan @-@ Tatum . The scenes were shot around his summer touring schedule . In an interview with E ! , he said of his role : " It sounded like so much fun and that 's why I wanted to do it ... this sounds , like , hysterical , funny , dark and cool and right up my alley " . However , he admitted to not being a fan of the show nor horror genre in general , stating he didn 't watch the episodes because " it 's just so weird and disturbing " .

In June 2012 , Levine was cast in the musical romance @-@ drama film Begin Again . The film was directed by John Carney and had Keira Knightley and Mark Ruffalo play the lead roles . In it , he plays Dave Kohl , Knightley 's songwriting partner and former boyfriend of five years , who leaves her behind on finding success in the music industry . The film premiered at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival to generally favorable reviews from critics .

In November 2013 , Levine was named People magazine 's Sexiest Man Alive , becoming the first singer and the second non @-@ actor ( after John F. Kennedy , Jr . ) to claim the title . He was ranked # 41 on Glamour 's " Sexiest Men of 2012 " list . In 2008 , he appeared on People 's " Single and Sexy Men " list . He was elected TV 's Most Crushworthy Male Reality Host / Judge in a poll held by Zap2it . In April 2012 , Shalom Life ranked him Number 7 on its list of " Top 50 Hottest Jewish men in the world " . Levine stripped naked for testicular cancer awareness for a centerfold in Cosmopolitan UK 's February 2011 issue .

In June 2016 , sources close to Levine stated he was considering not returning to The Voice after the murder of former contestant Christina Grimmie , citing his feelings of guilt over the singer 's death and his belief that The Voice should do more to protect its current and former contestants .

= = = Business ventures and endorsements = = =

In October 2008 , Levine collaborated with First Act to create the First Act 222 Guitar , which was fashioned to his specifications . The guitar was made available for purchase at Target retail stores . Two years later , he launched his own fashion line , entitled " 222 " , at the Project Trade Show in Las Vegas . The collection is a minimalistic line of jeans , basic T @-@ shirts and leather jackets , a style he described as " simple and pure and durable " . The venture was organized in partnership with his father , Fred Levine ( who operates a chain of specialty boutiques ) , and his cousin , Sami Cooper .

In June 2011 , Levine took part in an educational campaign to raise awareness of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder . The project , titled " Own It " , was created by Shire and organized in collaboration with the Attention Deficit Disorder Association ( ADDA ) , Children and Adults with Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder ( CHADD ) . The project targets people who were previously diagnosed with the disorder , focusing on how it may continue into adulthood . Levine , who himself was diagnosed with it as a teenager , said , " This campaign is important to me because it can help young adults and adults realize that there 's a chance they may still have ADHD if they had it as a kid " . In connection to this , he wrote an article in ADDitude Magazine about his personal experience with it .

Levine founded his own record label , 222 Records , in February 2012 . He stated that he was inspired to start the label to sign on Rozzi Crane , an USC music student he discovered through a mutual friend . She became the first singer signed on to the label , followed by Glee actor Matthew Morrison , Mexican artist Diego Boneta and The Voice season 2 contestant and part of Team Adam , the singer Tony Lucca . It was reported that he was negotiating further with potential distributors , as well as organizing staff , to operate as a full @-@ fledged record company with departments such as marketing , radio and publicity .

In 2013 , Levine collaborated with ID Perfumes to create his debut eponymous scent . The line was launched at the Premiere Fragrance Installation in Los Angeles in February 2013 . The fragrance range , consisting of scents for both for men and women , is sold through Macy 's department stores in microphone @-@ shaped bottles . Speaking at its launch , Levine said : " The task was to make something that I would wear . So that was a process and we finally came to a great conclusion and it smells great " The fragrance garnered media attention for contradicting his tweet the previous year , in which he said that he wanted to " put an official ban on celebrity fragrances . Punishable by death from this point forward " .

In 2013 , Adam Levine became a celebrity spokesperson for Proactiv , a well @-@ known company with acne @-@ fighting products . In the commercial , Adam shares details about his acne experiences in high school , and promotes Proactiv Plus .

In 2013 , it was announced that Levine would be entering a partnership with Sears Holdings to launch a multi @-@ department lifestyle brand to develop apparel and accessories collections . The company , which owns Kmart and ShopYourWay , a shopping social platform , also included rapper Nicki Minaj in the same contract . The menswear collection was launched on October 1 that year and conducts business via 500 Kmart stores across the US , as well as online . In an official statement , Levine said : " Partnering with ShopYourWay to develop this line was an exciting opportunity for me and I am really looking forward to diving into the process of designing an apparel and accessory collection " . In an interview with People , he commented further , " it was cool that they really promoted creative control . I like to be involved with process rather than just phoning it in " .

= = Artistry = =

Levine 's interest in music started at around ten years of age , when he first started playing the guitar . He found music an outlet for feelings , stating : " I picked up a guitar and that was it . I fell so madly in love with it , it 's all I did " . He performed his first professional gig at The Troubadour when he was twelve , but was so nervous he played with his back to the audience . Throughout his childhood , he had been influenced by the diverse groups like the Beatles , Fleetwood Mac , The Who , Pearl Jam , Soundgarden , Alice in Chains , and Nirvana , and , in high school , by Bob

Marley , Bill Withers , Al Green , Stevie Wonder , Marvin Gaye and Michael Jackson . He also incorporated elements of The Police and Prince into his music . In an interview with Billboard , he explained the diversity of his influences : " I love every single kind of music ... even the most saccharine , sugary pop song can be the greatest thing ever . But so can a 25 @-@ minute crazy avant @-@ garde fusion gnarly Herbie Hancock jam from the ' 70s " .

Levine remembers that listening to " Are You That Somebody ? " by Aaliyah convinced him to pursue a more soulful sound than that of his then @-@ band Kara 's Flowers . His move to New York introduced him to a new music scene that involved hip @-@ hop , R & B , gospel and soul music . He took to changing his musical style , extensively emulating Stevie Wonder . Subsequently , Songs About Jane was released , deemed " bluesy funk " and similar to Busted 's music . Critics also drew comparisons between Levine and Jamiroquai singer Jay Kay .

While earlier work was deemed " vaguely funky white @-@ soul " and " rock " , recent ones have been judged to have a more reggae , anthemic pop sound , evoking comparisons to Coldplay . Levine refuses to fit his music into a genre , saying : " There 's so much variety in music , it 's silly to belong to a specific club and try to sound a certain way " . He considers himself an orthodox lyricist sticking to conventional themes , acknowledging : " Romance , love , the lack thereof are still very big themes . I haven 't figured out a way to use everything yet . As a songwriter , I 'm still limited to that one thing . " He also claims he does not like mincing words , stating in a Rolling Stone interview : " I was so sick of typical lyrics like ' Ooh , baby ' and ' I love you ' and all this vague shit . I thought the more explicit I got without being totally explicit was a nice approach " .

Levine is tenor , he has a 3 and a half octave vocal range and has been noted for his falsettos . Salon wrote : " When he ? s crooning come @-@ ons , his voice lends the music a satisfying lewdness , a sense of sticky physicality that gives his snaky hooks a pheromonal urgency . " In a review of It Won 't Be Soon Before Long , Entertainment Weekly described his vocals as " smug , R & B @-@ slick deadpan ... there 's a twisted logic to his dispassionate delivery " . In another review , Allmusic noted that " he knows that he 's a pop guy , somewhat in the tradition of Hall & Oates , but he isn 't trying to be retro , he 's ... making records that are melodic , stylish , and soulful " . In a review of the 2013 Honda Civic Tour , The Boston Globe also commented positively on his on @-@ stage presence , which " exude [ s ] a sense of up @-@ for @-@ anything playfulness ... combined with a rock solid work ethic and a clear love for their audiences and performing " .

Levine 's popularity outside of his musical work has seen him tagged as a " stand @-@ alone star " , which critics say have pushed other members of Maroon 5 to the backseat , even in their music . Their guitarist Valentine noted that his vocals were a central aspect around which their music revolved . Conversely , others opine that Levine 's fame has been a boost to the band , with Paper writing : " Maroon 5 has managed to ebb and flow with the times ... thanks in no small part to their frontman 's uncanny ability to be extremely entertaining " . Delta Sky described him as " a natural , if slightly neurotic , leading man " . He claims that the image was consciously cultivated , explaining : " We talked about it a long time ago and decided I would step out , for us , not for me or my own ego ... We wanted there to be a frontman " .

= = Personal life = =

In early 2010 , while performing at the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue release party in Las Vegas , Levine met Russian Sports Illustrated swimsuit cover @-@ model Anne Vyalitsyna . They began a relationship which ended in April 2012 .

Levine began dating Namibian Victoria 's Secret model Behati Prinsloo in May 2012 . They broke up in March 2013 , but later reconciled and subsequently became engaged in July that year . The couple were married on July 19 , 2014 in Cabo San Lucas , Mexico . In March 2016 , it was announced that the couple are expecting their first child together .

Levine practices yoga under instructor Chad Dennis and has stated that " yoga will drastically improve you in every way imaginable " . He began the practice as a way to improve his back pain and eventually replaced his weightlifting with yoga .

Levine , whose brother openly identifies as gay , is an outspoken supporter of same @-@ sex

marriage and LGBT rights . In 2011 , he made a video on Maroon 5 's official YouTube account in support of the It Gets Better Project . In January 2012 , he announced that Maroon 5 had changed the location of their post @-@ Grammy Awards show because of the " unnamed Los Angeles restaurant 's backing of Proposition 8 " .

In 2013 , Levine was mentioned in a hostile work environment lawsuit filed in Los Angeles Superior Court by an unnamed security guard who claimed that Universal Music Publishing Group 's Santa Monica location was " infiltrated with pervasive drug use where you could smell marijuana seeping from various offices and openly used in common areas , and lounges " . The guard claimed that when she complained about the cannabis smoke coming from one of the studios , she was told that " it 's Adam Levine ... if he wants to come to the lobby and do a line of cocaine on the floor , it 's OK " . In an official statement to The Hollywood Reporter , UMPG described the allegations as " absurd " .

= = Discography = =

= = = Singles as an artist = = =

= = = Guest appearances = = =

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

= = = Television = = =

= = = Video games = = =