

P4 – December 1997

When Robbie was in Norway just before Christmas he did this interview with radiostation P4.

P4: Are you proud of yourself when you see your name on the same pages as the Beatles and the Rolling Stones?

RW: Um, I'm proud of myself anyway, you know, I'm proud of what I've achieved and what I've accomplished in such a short time. Um, but to be on the same sort of pages? I don't even think about it to tell you the truth.

P4: It's kind of scary isn't it?

RW: Um, well it used to be scary but now it's just, I'm here now, I'm just here and I'm doing what I'm doing.

P4: You're doing well with the new album.

RW: Yeah, I am yeah. I think I am. I think I am. It's been received very well. You know, and the single is selling in England at the minute. And that's great, you know.

P4: Angels is a great song.

RW: Thank you very much.

P4: Life Thru A Lens, erm, the name, is that kind of a metaphor for your life in any way?

RW: Yeah, um, along with the album being very autobiographical. So it's my life through a microscope really. And also my life's been spent in the media since I was 15, 16 so.....

P4: Do you like it?

RW: Um, I don't know anything different to tell you the truth so I don't

know if I like it or dislike it. You know.

P4: Would it be interesting to be you for a day of a week?

RW: Erm, yeah, yeah, yeah, you'd have fantastic sex! *[laughs]*.

P4: NO!

RW: YES!

P4: With whom?

RW: Anybody! *[laughter in the background]*.

P4: Do you miss working in a flower shop? I know you worked in a flowershop before.

RW: Yes I did. Um, I used to work in a flowershop. It was me mums flowershop. But I could wrap a good bouquet of flowers. You know, 'a bouquet flowers 15 pound!' Yeah!

P4: That would be a great sales idea for your mother if she had you to deliver some flowers?

RW: Robbie on request! We could have it, couldn't we?

P4: For birthdays.

RW: Robbie an extra 50 pence. Yeah and then we could have a hell of a lot celebrities coming down. Liam on request. He'd be 75 pence. We'd have to negotiate the price there I think.

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P4: Was it hard to make the album? It was your first solo album after Take That.

RW: Ooooooh it was hard! It was hard, my hands were blackened all day I got a big[says something I don't understand] through making it....NO! It was very easy.

P4: You've written all the stuff yourself?

RW: Yeah, I tend to only do stuff that's easy. Anything hard I, ohhh, I'll run away.

P4: Come on, it sounds hard. It's great music!

RW: It's not hard. It's not hard. It's not hard. It's NOT hard, it's easy to do, anybody can do it if they wanna go out and do it, you know. I'm fortunate to have found somebody that's a genius that i write songs with.

P4: Who?

RW: Guy Chambers. And he makes my life very, very easy. You know and he, he's....we enjoy it. I don't consider it just to be my album, it's his album as well.

P4: A lot of great songs. And the George Michael song is not on the album.

RW: No.

P4: But did you get his permission to use it?

RW: NO! What I did was, right because I couldn't tell anybody that I was releasing Freedom for some reason. And I phoned him up the night before it came out. Because I was doing a big press conference, and I was just

chatting away to him and I said blahblahblah and I'm doing a cover version of your song Freedom, anyway dah, dah, dah, dah. [lots of laughter]. So he, I sent him round a copy of the video and he listened to it and he really liked the song. He said it was a better version than his.

P4: Erm, what about Take That questions?

RW: Argh! I don't really, you know, I'm sick of answering them to tell you the truth, but.....

P4: You know the thing everybody wonders about is the odds of you getting back together...

RW: The odds? Erm, slim and none I would say, yeah.

P4: Do you think, erm, it's strange that the music you guys now make separately is so different, do you think that's strange? Different from each other?

RW: Nah, I don't, I don't, I don't. Having know the boys and having known what they're tastes are what they're likes are. It's not strange at all, yeah.

P4: How would you describe your music? More like the Oasis thing or.....

RW: I would say it was guitar music! You know and I don't want to categorise it really but people, you know there is this thing that everybody's saying about britpop, so if it's, so if it's anything it's britpop.

P4: What do you want for Christmas, Robbie?

RW: My two front-teeth.

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P4: Come on you have your two front-teeth, what do a guy like you want for Christmas?

RW: I don't want anything, I don't want anything. Eh, erm, peace and unity for the whole world that would be nice but apart from that I'll settle for a electric set and a rattle and a drum.