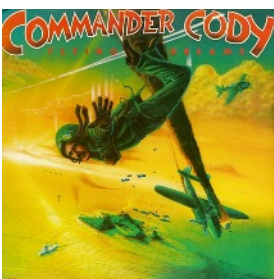




Progressive rock is a specific genre of rock music that originally developed in the United Kingdom, during the late 60s and early 70s, but was also very much influenced by the UK & US psychedelic movement of the 1960s. Generally, the style emerged from those psychedelic bands who abandoned standard pop or rock traditions in favour of instrumental and compositional techniques more commonly associated with jazz, folk, or classical music. Other notable elements associated with "progressive rock" were the lyrics being more poetic in style and the conceptual story lines harnessed within the long play albums. Technology too played a huge part in the construction of the music harnessing new sounds, especially studio generated. Certainly the focus of musical activity, was creating music for listening rather than dancing.

Progressive rock includes a fusion of styles, approaches and genres, and tends to be diverse and eclectic. Progressive rock is often associated with long intertwining keyboard versus guitar solos, extended pieces and meaningful lyrics. Certainly too an obsessive dedication by the individual musicians to technical skill.



Gradually, from such isolated beginnings in the UK, the progressive rock phenomenon spread itself around Europe, North America and even South East Asia. Progressive Rock, is still very popular today with many new bands trading the boards, although one must admit, mostly as a series of underground movements.

The U3A group 'Sounds Like The Seventies' explores this musical format in some detail, looking at the various bands, styles and musicians.

The title 'Sounds Like The Seventies' is purposely derived to allow the exploration of both the initial pioneering bands together with the modern day bands around today.

