

ESCUELA
OFICIAL
DE
IDIOMAS
OVIEDO

CENTRO DE AUTOAPRENDIZAJE

IDIOMA: INGLÉS

PRÁCTICA: COMPRENSIÓN ORAL

NIVEL: NIVEL INTERMEDIO

MATERIAL: CINTA-CD / CUESTIONARIO / SOLUCIONES

TEMA: LENGUAJE DESCRIPTIVO



Chris Rea

Virtuosity on the guitar and an unmistakable smoky-soft voice have paved the way to world-wide success for Chris Rea. With economical gestures and few words, the artist convinces audiences, beyond the mainstream and fashionable trends, with his blues-influenced, very personal style.

The exceptional career of Chris Rea goes back to the mid-seventies and meanwhile encompasses 18 albums which found more than 10 million buyers - not including the numerous single hits. His special live-play quality is acknowledged by the media "as a great moment of blues-rock" - "the singer and the guitarist commune with each other". Though he sometimes appears awkward on stage, he masters his instrument and voice to perfection. Chris Rea certainly sets no big talk or effects on show, but he loves the stage because he can sense the audience's response to his songs there. Guitar, voice and personality merge into a unique experience communicated by music.

Chris Rea derives his strength and inspiration from his private life. The son of an Italian and an Irish woman, his favourite enjoyments are homey: he likes nothing better than to cook Italian style and appreciates a fresh draught beer. His passion for motor racing and Ferrari show a surprising side of his complex personality. In the music of Chris Rea, romantic rock, instrumental finesse and the artistic maturity of a musician who has learned to distinguish between superficial fame and lasting impression flow together.

"Writing music and texts and not being a rock or pop star would never be a contradiction. To say one has to be both is a narrow, unrealistic and lame statement and can only be considered an antiquated concept nowadays," Chris Rea observes.

- ① Read the lyrics of Chris Rea's song **On The Beach** and, before listening, for each paragraph try to match the beginning of each verse on the right to its continuation on the left.
- ② Listen to the song and check.

On the Beach



1986

Between the eyes of
Behind the guarded
Upon a summer
Takes me back
Down

to the place that I know
on the beach
love I call your name
wind there's a certain melody
walls I used to go

The secrets of the
The sands of
No-one but
Underneath that
Take me back
On

time will blow a mystery
you and I
the beach
moonlit sky
to the place that I know
summer I will keep

Forever in my dreams
Hanging on to
A day of
And a night that
Take me back
On

strange desire
this sweet memory
to the place that I know
the beach
my heart will be
burned like fire

LANGUAGE NOTES

blow = (verb *blew, blown*) to send out air; to be moved or make sth. move on a current of air

desire = a strong feeling that you want something

hang on = to continue or persist in an activity, esp. with effort or difficulty. Example: *hang on at your present job until you can get another*; to cling, grasp, or hold

moonlit = lighted by the moon

underneath = at or to a lower place than; below

KEY

On the Beach

Between the eyes of love I call your name
Behind the guarded walls I used to go
Upon a summer wind there's a certain melody
Takes me back to the place that I know
Down on the beach

The secrets of the summer I will keep
The sands of time will blow a mystery
No-one but you and I
Underneath that moonlit sky
Take me back to the place that I know
On the beach

Forever in my dreams my heart will be
Hanging on to this sweet memory
A day of strange desire
And a night that burned like fire
Take me back to the place that I know
On the beach