

# Rolling Stones

## Tribute: Keith Richards' Life and Times

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In rock icon Keith Richards' new autobiography he reflects on his nearly 50 years as guitarist for the Rolling Stones and his 66 years spent on the planet Earth (and elsewhere). In celebration of the release of the appropriately titled "Life" – we spoke with Michael Rubino of the GigMasters Rolling Stones Tribute Band [The Glimmer Twins](#) (Philadelphia, PA). Michael shared his thoughts about the notorious 'Keef' Richards and life in a [Rolling Stones Tribute Band](#).



*Will you read Keith's new autobiography "Life"?*

Yes.

*How much of Keith's reputation is myth and how much is true? Does he even know?*

The man has definitely lived his life on his own terms. He is the Frank Sinatra of his generation! I think most of it is true although he admits the "blood transfusion in Switzerland" is a myth.

*How many Stones shows have you been to?*

I've been to seven or eight. Since we are focusing on Keith, it is really nice to see how much he enjoys performing. I was lucky enough to get row five seats given to me by friends of our band a few years back. Keith was smiling ear to ear most of the night. It was very genuine and cool to watch.

*Favorite Stones album?*

I think the big five are my favorites. Beggars Banquet, Let It Bleed, Get Your Ya Ya's Out, Sticky Fingers and Exile on Main Street. It's my favorite era of a band that's been around for almost fifty years!

### *Favorite Keith story?*

One of my favorite stories is when a roadie approached Keith to ask him a love relationship question. Keith's response was to explain that since women have been throwing themselves at him since he was nineteen, his perception of the male-female relationship is probably a little skewed. So he is probably not the best person to ask advice on the subject. I didn't take that as any kind of arrogance. It just shows that he understands his life is different than just about anybody else's.

*Do you have to live the Rolling Stones lifestyle to play their music?*  
Some of us occasionally try but no!

*How much do you work on getting down the Stones look and attitude in addition to their sound?*

Well I am lucky enough to work with the best Mick & Keith, as a pair, in the country. They have a certain chemistry when they work together that in my opinion is a natural Mick and Keith of the 1970's. No wigs or that sort of thing. They do work hard at capturing each idiosyncrasy, but honestly it's something you can't learn or teach in my opinion.

*How much longer do you think the Stones will keep playing?*

As long as they want to. They have earned it. But realistically you are talking about men approaching 70.

*Will Keith live forever?*

YES!



Check out The Glimmer Twins [here](#).

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