

Niall Horan - Flicker Sessions

In September of 2017, Niall Horan performed his unreleased album to the intimate crowds of his biggest fans. This included me. I attended the first show of the North American tour in a small little theatre in Hollywood, California. He performed every song as we all listened to it for the first time. As we had a front row seat to his show, he had a front row seat to our reactions of hearing the album he had worked so hard for. It was beautiful. Every song had captivating lyrics and a beat that spoke for itself. The set on stage was intimate and personal, so we knew we were seeing Niall Horan right down to his soul.

I saw Niall Horan 6 times when he was apart of One Direction, but this man on stage was a human I had never seen before. Instead of stadiums and arenas, it was a quiet little theatre. Instead of electric guitars and lasers, it was a nice rug and an acoustic guitar. He had the crowd hanging on every single word, and even brought tears to our eyes when he covered "Fools Gold", originally performed by his former band, One Direction. Fans were in complete awe over the unreleased music, but even the songs we had heard before had us craving the next note that would come out of his mouth.

He ended the show with an energetic song that had everyone dancing, even if we didn't know the words. After assuring us that he would be seeing us again on his Flicker World Tour, he left the stage as casually as he had entered it.

When he returned to the stage less than a year later, he had a higher confidence about him. His album had been released for about 8 months, and he cruised through each note and lyric stronger than ever. He began dancing around the stage, singing directly to fans and even mocking how awful some of us danced.

I saw him again on July 30th, 2018. At this show, I had a 3rd row seat and got to meet him. He is such a funny guy in person. When you meet him, he is so warm, inviting and sweet. We knew, the second he stepped on stage, that this was his home. Performing in an outdoor amphitheater as the sun set, telling the stories of the words written on the inside of his heart. He had fans just as captivated as

his first tour, but this time, there were tens of thousands of them. He sang a few covers, some One Direction songs, tossed out some guitar picks (I got one!!) and headed off the stage. Niall Horan puts on one of the most amazing shows I have ever witnessed and brings together fans of different generations and nationalities. Out of all the celebrities that the world has, I hope this one stays on the stage till he's 90.