

For Immediate Release

Sat July 1, 2006

All Four Original Members of



RE-UNITE FOR 2006/2007 WORLD TOUR

Geoff Downes, Steve Howe, Carl Palmer & John Wetton have reformed to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of their historic multi-platinum debut album. US and UK Dates announced.

ASIA, the first supergroup to emerge with the dawn of the MTV-age, has reunited with its original line-up intact to celebrate the band's 25th anniversary. The founding members of ASIA emerged from classic rock icons *Yes*, *Emerson Lake & Palmer*, *King Crimson*, and *The Buggles*, and released one of the most enduring and commercially successful debut albums of all time, simply entitled *ASIA*.

The reunion of the band's original line-up marks the first time all four founding members will be playing together since 1983. In addition to ASIA hits including "Heat Of The Moment," "Only Time Will Tell," "Sole Survivor," "Don't Cry" and others, the band will play selections from their individual careers. Audiences can expect to hear such rock radio staples as "Roundabout," (from *Yes*); "In The Court Of The Crimson King" (from *King Crimson*); "Video Killed The Radio Star," (from *The Buggles*); "Fanfare For The Common Man" (from *Emerson Lake & Palmer*) and other rock classics.

VH1 Classic will present the US tour, and a series of dates in the UK has also just been announced. Combined these shows will make for one of the most anticipated reunion tours of the decade. Collectively as ASIA, and in their various other bands, the four original members have sold over 200 million records since 1970.

The world tour will take the supergroup to many cities and countries where it has never previously performed, starting with an intimate show at the Water Street Music Hall in Rochester, NY on August 29th, in celebration of popular drive-time DJ Dave Kane's 25th anniversary with radio station WCMF. Among the noted appearances on the tour will be: two nights at the Nokia Theater in Times Square, Manhattan; Boston's legendary Avalon Ballroom; Trump Marina Casino in Atlantic City, NJ; and the House of Blues concert theater in Las Vegas, Nevada. The US tour will be followed by a trek through the band's native UK, ending December 3rd. These shows mark the first time the original line up of ASIA has played the UK since promoting the debut album in 1982, and the first time they have ever played in Scotland. The Asia reunion will continue with a nationwide tour of Japan in March of 2007, followed by an extensive global tour throughout the remainder of next year.

"We've waited a long time to put the original line up back together once again," says vocalist and bassist, John Wetton. "Although we always remained friendly, we had all moved on to other musical commitments. With the 25th Anniversary coming up, it just seemed like the right time to bring back the music we made as ASIA." Since the demise of the original line-up in 1983, the members had worked in various combinations, including numerous versions of ASIA that performed with one or two of the original members. Only now, has the band re-emerged with all four of the founding members.

"There is a certain chemistry and energy that comes out when the four of us are working together", says drummer Carl Palmer, who returned to ELP after ASIA for several years, and continues to record and tour with his own power trio. "There is a distinct pedigree that was the foundation of the band, and that history was always apparent in the music we created during that period. It feels good to be playing those classic songs again with the guys who wrote and recorded them originally."

"This is the *REAL* ASIA," says guitarist Steve Howe. "There have been other versions of the band, but this original line-up is the one that the public truly embraced. Since we only toured for a couple of years, it will be nice, finally, to play for audiences all over the world, many of whom never had a chance to see the group in concert, until now."

Adds Geoffrey Downes: "We've all remained dedicated to our craft of making compelling and powerful music. After many years apart, I think we all bring a new and very fresh attitude to the music from our initial studio recordings. I am looking forward to playing these songs on stage with these musicians, once again."

Originally released on Geffen Records in 1982, the debut *ASIA* album scored four Top 10 Billboard and Radio hits and stayed at the #1 spot on the Billboard Top 100 album chart for an astounding 9 weeks. Only a handful of albums such as Pink Floyd's *Dark Side Of*

The Moon and Michael Jackson's *Thriller* have been #1 on the Billboard charts for a longer time. Universal records will mount a worldwide catalogue campaign in celebration of ASIA's landmark anniversary.

The initial leg of the 25th Anniversary tour will include these shows and cities:

Tues August 29 ROCHESTER, NY – Water Street Music Hall
Thur August 31 ATLANTIC CITY, NJ - Trump Marina Casino
Fri September 1 JIM THORPE, PA – Penn's Peak
Sat September 2 NIAGARA FALLS, NY - Seneca Niagara Casino
Sun September 3 MASHATUCKET, CT - Foxwood Casino
Thur September 7 BOSTON, MA - Avalon Ballroom
Fri September 8 NEW YORK, NY - Nokia Theater
Sat September 9 NEW YORK, NY - Nokia Theater
Sun September 10 NORWALK, CT - Oyster Festival
Tues September 12 RED BANK, NJ - Count Basie Theater
Wed September 13 PHILADELPHIA, PA - Keswick Theater
Fri September 15 CLEVELAND, OH - House of Blues
Sat September 16 CHICAGO, IL - Park West
Sun September 17 MILWAUKEE, WI - Pabst Theater
Wed September 20 LONG BEACH, CA - The Vault
Thur September 21 LAS VEGAS, NV - House of Blues
Fri September 22 FOUNTAIN HILLS, AZ - Fort McDowell Resort & Casino
Sat September 23 LOS ANGELES, CA - Canyon Club
Sun September 24 PALM DESERT, CA - McCallum Theater

UK TOUR

Tue November 28 - Liverpool Carling Academy
Wed November 29 - Newcastle Carling Academy
Thur November 30 - Glasgow Carling Academy
Fri December 1 - Wolverhampton Wulfrun Halls
Sun December 3 - London Shepherds Bush Empire

For further information including management, agency, and links to band member websites, please visit:

www.originalasia.com

For Media & Interview Requests:

Please contact Bruce Pilato / Pilato Entertainment

Brucetune@aol.com