



## “We Built This City”

**Narrator:** deliver a poem about ‘Leeds’ and how iconic it is for music, creativity and development! Spotlight on the Narrator and sound starts to build as the choirs start to walk onto the stage.

*(Lights rise slowly. Industrial sounds. City ambience. Ensemble builds.)*

**NARRATOR (over final chorus, underscored):**

“Before the stages... before the spotlights... before the crowds that would fill fields and arenas...  
there was a city.”

**Song** - ‘We built this city’ (half of the song)

*(Music softens, pads continue underneath)*

**NARRATOR:**

“A city of mills, of movement... of voices waiting to be heard.”

*(Beat)*

“And then... the music came.”

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## The 60s: Leeds Finds Its Voice

*(Warm amber lighting. Vintage feel.)*

**NARRATOR (after applause, gently):**

“In the early 1960s, a band from Liverpool stepped onto a stage in Leeds... at the Odeon.”

“They were just four young men then... but the sound they carried would change everything.”

“Leeds didn’t just hear it... Leeds felt it.”

**SONG: Let It Be** – The Beatles

*(Pause, shift in tone)*

“And as the decades turned... the city grew louder.”

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## **The 70s/80s: A New Energy**

*(Lighting snaps to bold colours )*

**NARRATOR (over instrumental outro):**

“A new wave surged through Britain—punk, rebellion, electricity.”

“Sounds that would one day fill arenas... spaces built for thousands of voices singing as one.”

*(Beat)*

“And Leeds was ready.”

 **SONG: *Call Me*** – Blondie

Sound effect of crowd's cheering

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## **The Big Gig Era**

*(Lights explode. Big concert energy.)*

**NARRATOR (over final hits):**

“From theatre seats... to open skies.”

“In places like Roundhay Park, tens of thousands gathered to see Robbie Williams”

“One voice... one stage... one unforgettable night.”

*(Beat)*

“This was Leeds... turned up to the max.”

 **SONG: *Let Me Entertain You*** – Robbie Williams

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## **Leeds Identity (Skunk Anansie / Skin)**

*(Spotlight.) Music intro as spoken word over the top*

 **\*\*SONG:** *(Skunk Anansie track. “Weak”)*

**NARRATOR:**

“Some artists don’t just pass through Leeds... they become part of its story.”

“Skin—lead singer of Skunk Anansie—stands not only on stages... but at the heart of education here in Leeds.”

“As Chancellor of Leeds Arts University, she inspires the next generation—supporting students, celebrating their journeys, standing beside them at graduation.”

*(Beat) - start singing here! Weak!*

*As it is finishing Narrator will speak these last words below.*

“A reminder... that music doesn’t just live in performance.”

“It lives in people. In learning. In legacy.”

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## **Music & Memory (Kirkstall Abbey)**

*(Atmospheric lighting.)*

**NARRATOR (soft, almost whispered):**

“In 2015... among the ancient stones of Kirkstall Abbey...”

“A voice carried through history.”

“Stevie Nicks spoke of a spiritual connection to that place.”

“Because sometimes... music doesn’t just fill a space.”

“It becomes part of it.”

**SONG: *Dreams*** – Fleetwood Mac

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## **Intimate Leeds (Brudenell)**

*(Lights tighten. Close, gig-like feel.)*

**NARRATOR (warm, conversational):**

“Even the biggest names... like Bryan Adams, come back to smaller rooms.”

“To places like the Brudenell Social Club.”

“Where the crowd is close... the music is raw... and every note feels personal.”

*(Beat)*

“This is Leeds... up close.”

🎵 SONG: *(Heaven)* – Bryan Adams

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## **Spoken Word/Song: LEEDS VOICES**

*(Rhythmic underscoring begins- heartbeat-like)*

**VOICES (layered and overlapping, building):**

“I predict a riot...” – Kaiser Chiefs

“I get knocked down...” – Chumbawamba

“...but I get up again...”

“Girl, put your records on...”

*(Voices overlap, grow stronger)*

“This is Leeds.”

“This is sound.”

“This is ours.”

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## **FINALE – Reprise**

*(Music swells back in)*

🎵 SONG: *We Built This City* (Reprise)

**NARRATOR (over final build):**

“It wasn’t built in silence...”

*(Choir swells)*

“It was built in song.”

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*(Final chord. Lights hold. Fade.)*