

One-time gospel singer Chris Willis is best known as the powerful voice behind many of French DJ and producer David Guetta's biggest chart-topping club anthems. But his career began long before that.

Born and raised in Dayton, Ohio, Willis began singing in a quartet with his brother and sisters at his local church. After graduating from college, his touring began with a West Coast-based gospel group, making hundreds of appearances across the USA and the South Pacific. Later, a solo-album deal on Warner Brother's Gospel label, Warner Alliance (Mervyn Warren, Producer), moved Chris to Nashville, where he contributed to a popular compilation of *Handel's Messiah: A Soulful Celebration* (Warner Alliance, 1992). Touring continued and, this time on backing vocals, he supported Christian artists Twila Paris, Amy Grant and Mark Lowry, appearing in Norman Miller's musical showcase *Emmanuel*. In 1996, he released his self-titled gospel debut album (Star Song/EMI) a collection of self-penned spiritual songs, which earned a nomination for Best R&B Album at the Nashville Music Awards.



"When I first started writing and performing, the question that haunted me most was 'what do you have to say that hasn't already been said and why should others listen to it?"

Willis soon established himself as a popular session singer and songwriter. From 1996 to the present, Chris has performed backing vocals for an impressive array of artists, ranging from American- Idol- sensations Fantasia Barrino, Clay Aiken and Kelly Clarkson, to gospel notables CeCe Winans and Take Six. The index also includes country veterans Kenny Rogers, Dolly Parton, Brooks and Dunn and Amy Grant and influential pop legends Quincy Jones, Desmond Child and Dusty Springfield.

Willis' work with noted songwriter and producer Desmond Child (from 1998 to 2004) –which includes providing backing vocals on Ricky Martin's multi-platinum album Sound Loaded— earned Willis his first production credit working with 2BE3 as coproducer on the Parisian pop stars' album Excuse My French (EDEL Music, 2000).



In 2000, Willis was introduced to DJ David Guetta. The renowned French producer invited Chris to record at his Paris studio, where the pair co-wrote a series of tracks that would later become worldwide hit singles, including "Just a Little More Love," "Love Don't Let Me Go," and "Love Is Gone." After performing with Guetta on his One Love Tour and his F\*\*\* Me I'm Famous Ibiza club night, they scored a U.K. #1 alongside Fergie and LMFAO with "Gettin Over You," with almost 150 million views on YouTube.

Willis' solo single "Louder (Put Your Hands Up)" (from "Premium - Songs from The Love Ship, Vol 1" on his imprint, Veneer) was released October 12, 2010. Willis co-wrote the song with Cut father and Jonas Jeberg. The video premiered October 26, 2010- on Daily Motion. Shot in Los Angeles and directed by Billie Woodruff, (Tony Braxton, Usher, Celine Dion) the video has over 2.5 million views on Willis' YouTube channel. The song reached number one on the January 8, 2011- issue of Billboard's Hot Dance Club Songs.

"I wasn't certain back then, but all my experiences, the mix of the good and bad, and just being alive have given me a clearer idea and focus."





His second single "Too Much in Love" was released digitally August 16, 2011. The song features a guitar sample of Lenny Kravitz's "Are You Gonna Go My Way." The video was shot in Los Angeles and released on January 10, 2012, and the song has seen many remixes created and released on iTunes.

Willis took an artistic hiatus the next several years to start his own family. On June 2, 2014, he married the love of his life, Canadian country singer Jake (Jacqueline) Leiske, and, in 2017, welcomed their daughter Avalon.



His creativity renewed by his new family, Chris signed a publishing deal in 2015 with Adage Music Group and began delving into writing and producing for film and television. However, he remains a prodigious composer and tireless performer.

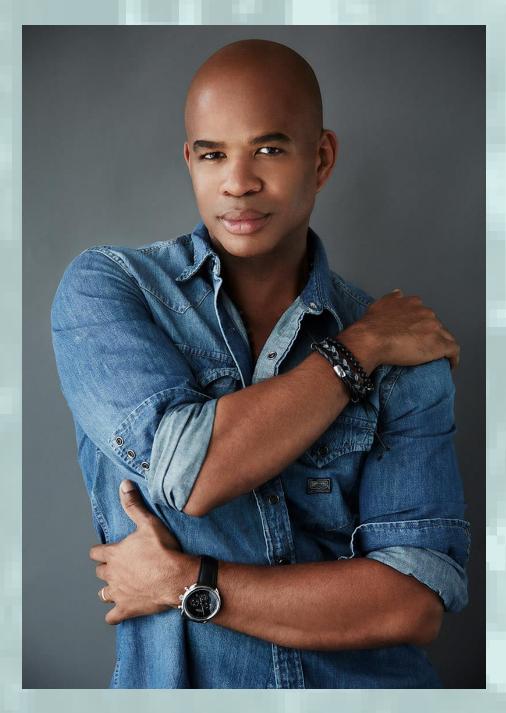
The next several years saw Willis release non-stop hits with EDM giants that have garnered millions of online and streaming views. In 2017, Chris released "Slipping Away" with Max Freegrant, "Hooked on a Feeling" with Alex D'Rosso and long-time collaborator Marco Farouk, "Colors" with Celestal, and "Come to Me" with Sean Finn, which made the Billboard's Top-10 Dance Club Songs.

Willis kept up the pace in 2018 and 2019, with a steady barrage of hits, including "Run with Me" with Farouk and Sprngbeats, "We Don't Care" with legendary DJ Robbie Rivera and "Without Your Love" with DJ Groove, "Top of the World" with DJ Lenny Fontana, "I Belong to You" with TAAO, "Wild Horses" with Otherview, "Feelings for You" (with DJ Fenix), "Make It Last" with Bad Vice DJ and "Turn Your Love Around" with French hit-master Cedric Gervais. Despite the dreadful impact of COVID, Willis did not let the pandemic slow his passion to bring music to his fans and the world. He collaborated with Colin Crooks and Rob Styles to release the "Warriors of the Night" remixes set, released "Getaway" with Oryane and Twincloth and closed out 2020 with his live-streamed Rooftop Rave in November and a Holiday Concert in Miami, highlighted by his inspired rendition of "The Christmas Song."



In 2021, Chris released "Blood in my Veins" with Vinyljackers and Benny Brown, "You are the One" with Audax and Pontifexx (on Martin Garrix's label STMPD), "Bring You Back" with DJ Fenix, "Love Around the World" with Alvix and Farouk, "Not Afraid" with Marc Benjamin and "Dance -Dance" with DJ Thierry von der Warth (BIP Records).

Chris continues to perform from Miami to Rio, from Amsterdam to Ibiza, and Moscow to Dubai, collaborating with renowned DJs, producers and other artists from around the world. And 2022 has more in store...



"I am so lucky to be able to do what I love and share some of my experience, passion and revelations with a receptive audience. This is truly powerful, healing and uplifting." -CW



List of singles as lead artist, with selected chart positions and certifications, showing ye												ng year released and albu	m name		
					ı	Peak p	osition	1				Album			
Title		US	US Dance	AUS	BEL	FRA	ITA	NLD	SWE	swi	UK			Certifications	
"Out of My Hands"	1996	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Chris Willis		
"He's Mine" <sup>[29]</sup>	2004	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"My Freedom" <sup>[30]</sup>	2006	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Non-album singles		
"Tomorrow Can Wait" (with David Guetta vs. Tocadisco)	2008	-	-	-	19	7	-	21	-	43	84		- Pop Life		
"Everytime We Touch" (with David Guetta, Steve Angello and Sebastian Ingrosso)	2009	-	-	-	43	-	-	46	-	97	68		- гор ше		
"Gettin' Over You" (with David Guetta featuring Fergie and LMFAO)	2010	31	1	5	12	1	3	31	28	11	1	ARIA: 2x Platinum <sup>[31]</sup> BPI: Gold <sup>[32]</sup> BVMI: Gold <sup>[33]</sup> FIMI: Platinum     PROMUSICAE: Gold	One More Love		
"Louder (Put Your Hands Up)"		-	1	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	_		Premium - Songs from the Love Ship, Vol. 1		
"Too Much in Love"	2011	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_		r remain conge nom the zero chip, rem		
"People (Feel the Love)" (with OtherView)	2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"Survivor" (with Ben DJ)	2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"One Life"		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"Lonely One" (with Crazibiza)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"No One Can Replace You" (with Purple Aura featuring Akon)	2015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"Don't Cry (Remember My Name)" (with Joachim Garraud)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Non-album singles		
"Blood in my veins" <sup>[34]</sup> (The Vinyljackers (MikeNova))	2016	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_				
"Would I Lie to You" (with David Guetta and Cedric Gervais)	2016	-	-	-	30	20	71	-	80	35	-	BVMI: Gold <sup>[33]</sup>			
"Warriors of the Night" <sup>[35]</sup> (with Colin Crooks and Rob Styles)	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		_		
"Warriors of the Night" [36] (with The Vinyljackers and MikeNova)	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"Not Afraid" <sup>[37]</sup> (with Marc Benjamin)	2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
"—" denotes a recording that did not chart or was not released in that territory.															



#### Featuring Chris Willis

Title					F	eak p	osition						
	Year	US	US Dance	AUS	BEL	FRA	ITA	NLD	SWE	swi	UK	Certifications	Album
"Supersonic" (Billyweb featuring Chris Willis)	2001	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-		Non-album single
"Just a Little More Love" (David Guetta featuring Chris Willis)		-	-	_	29	29	_	80	-	59	19		
"Love Don't Let Me Go" (David Guetta featuring Chris Willis)	2002	-	-	_	7	4	-	37	-	13	46	<ul> <li>SNEP: Gold<sup>[38]</sup></li> <li>BEA: Gold<sup>[39]</sup></li> </ul>	Just a Little More Love
"People Come People Go" (David Guetta featuring Chris Willis)		_	-	_	47	42	_	_	-	54	-		
"Money" (David Guetta featuring Chris Willis and Moné)	2004	-	-	-	52	63	-	-	-	52	-		Guetta Blaster
"Stay" (David Guetta featuring Chris Willis)		-	-	-	19	18	-	-	-	82	78		Guetta Diaster
"Love Is Gone" (David Guetta featuring Chris Willis)	2007	98	_	-	9	3	28	10	9	11	9	SNEP: Silver <sup>[40]</sup> IFPI SWI: Gold <sup>[41]</sup>	Pop Life
"Give It All You Got" (Ultra Naté featuring Chris Willis)	2007	_	1	-	_	-	_	_	-	-	-		Grime, Silk, & Thunder
"My DJ Rock Superstar" (Nicola Fasano featuring Chris Willis)	2012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
"Party 2 Daylight" (Global Deejays featuring Chris Willis)	2013	-	-	-	_	-	_	-	-	-	-		
"Magnet" (Hook N Sling featuring Chris Willis)		-	-	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	-		Non-album singles
"This Is Your Life" (Psyko Punkz and MC Lyte featuring Chris Willis)		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	-		
"Turn Your Love Around" <sup>[42]</sup> (Cedric Gervais featuring Chris Willis)	2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

<sup>&</sup>quot;-" denotes a recording that did not chart or was not released in that territory.





