



mat andasun

Mat Andasun is an experienced percussionist, singer and guitarist. He has just finished writing and recording his second EP with all of his own material. Mat's appealing cross-over sound is a mix of great songs and punchy Brazilian grooves, which sells as well to clubbers as it does to older rockers.

Mat's music has been described as "rhythmic heritage mixed with freshly squeezed Brazilian juice - blistering percussive workouts; airy and relaxed sambas with chill out floating vocals; solid dance grooves underpinning classic sounds and twisting, freewheeling soloing" .

Mat has written songs for Universal Publishing and is currently writing material for BMG Zomba. He writes strong pop songs, ballads, more extended jazz fusion compositions and production music. He has written extensively for dance theatre, including several commissions for Nott Dance festival and the critically acclaimed *England Is Mine* by ABCDance, which got a rare 5 out of 5 stars in the Guardian

As a performer, Mat's main instruments are voice, guitar and percussion. He has played alongside master Brazilian percussionist, Dudu Tucci and Europe's leading percussionist, Bosco de Oliveira. He has played guitar with "Sharp Edge", the creative music ensemble of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. He has played alongside jazz luminaries such as Andy Sheppard and Steve Lodder.

Mat was raised in the salty air of Southend-on-Sea and moved to Stroud to play drums for cult progressive rock band, Pendragon. He went on to composition with James Fulkerson at The University of Nottingham and came out front to sing in his twenties when he got tired of being the last in the bar after packing away his kit at gigs.

Mat's curiosity for music from other cultures has seen him collaborate with a Qawaal artist from Pakistan, Sohail Aqlhaq, and persuaded him to set up Carnival Arts company, Sambawamba. Through his teaching and training work with Sambawamba, Mat has introduced thousands of people to samba and songwriting across the UK.

Mat formed the Mat Andasun band in 1998 and it has played at festivals around the country such as Bracknell, Canterbury and Wirksworth, and venues such as Sheffield Lyceum and Derby Assembly Rooms. The band currently stars percussionist Bosco de Oliveira (Terry Callier, Beth Orton), bassist Dave Sturt (Dave Gilmour), drummer Jeff Davenport, percussionist Richard Sliwa, keyboard player Nick Daines and sax/flautist Ben Martin, all experienced international musicians in their own right.

His latest EP, *"Nottingham Songs Pt 1"* features a variety of songs from **I Could Be Your Lover**, a tale of unrequited young love set to an irresistible Latin groove that just doesn't let up, to the irrepressibly funky **What You Are**, a song about a man wanting to become a woman that owes a debt to Prince's more camp late 70's outings. It was produced by mat, who played many of the parts with input from the band.

The Buzz About Mat And His Music

"Music that takes you airborne. I was riveted by the band"

Stephanie Ferguson, The Guardian.

"Strong songs played beautifully"

John Paricelli, Musician magazine

"This band are superb! Such energy, charisma and talent!"

Craig Annetts, Bracknell Festival

"Is there no end to Mat Andasun's musical output? It's got Latin, Samba, African, Jazz, Pop, Acid Jazz. I find it absolutely glorious. Music to play on a sunny day and sing along to at the top of your voice."

City Lights Magazine

"Blending the sounds of sun soaked South America with those closer to home"

Nigel Bell, BBC