

## **The Groove Merchants**



Created in early 2006 the new and contemporary band The Groove Merchants are based in London. All of the members of the band are accomplished professional musicians who work within today's music industry. The bands aim is to provide live modern dance music to a high standard for Corporate Events, Private Functions and Live Music venues.

The Groove Merchants the band consists of Vocals, Keyboards, Electric and Bass Guitars, Drums as well as a Brass section.

PA and Lighting are supplied and appropriate background music will be played between sets.

Meet the Band:

Vanessa Haynes — Vocals

Singing sensation Vanessa originates from Trinidad and in the short time that she has resided in the UK, has rapkilly taken the music business by storm. A combination of Soul and Jazz, her versatile and powerful voice is in high demand for both Live and Studio work. Vanessa is currently recording her own album.

Karen Rush — Vocals

Karen has a degree in the Performing Arts. She has a versatile voice ranging from Musical Theatre to Pop, Rock and Soul. During a successful career in Musical Theatre she has managed to find a voice in the work of Function and Tribute bands, singing lead vocals with Star, Scaramouche, Souled Out, Abba Gold, Abba Magic and most notably Abba Mania, which toured Germany, Holland and Russia.

**TEL: (UK Freephone) 0800 781 3343 International:- +44 1945 46 55 66**

or email [\*\*info@theedge-uk.com\*\*](mailto:info@theedge-uk.com)

## ***The Edge Entertainment Consultants – Quality Entertainment Booking Service***

### **John Hinch — Trumpet & Flugelhorn**

Graduate of Leeds and Trinity (London) Colleges of Music. John is an experienced freelance trumpet player working in all areas of the profession: Studio, Live, Theatre, Cabaret, Media, etc. Artistes and organisations worked for include Shirley Bassey, Nancy Wdson, The Drifters, BBX, Eurojazz and West End Theatre.

### **Andy Holdsworth — Guitars**

Top London session Guitarist, Andy is highly regarded in the music industry and is in constant demand for both Studio and Live work. Currently appearing on a freelance basis in all the main West End shows, he has previously appeared with the likes of Carly Simon, Petula Clark, Michael Ball and Grace Kennedy.

### **David Cash — Keyboards**

David is enjoying a successful and varied freelance career in the music industry both as a Pianist / Keyboard player and as a Musical Director! arranger. Artistes worked with include Michael Ball, Jane MacDonald, The Real Thing, The Pasedenas and The Drifters. He has also appeared on BBC television and Radio and currently lectures on musical composition.

### **Mark Elvin — Bass Guitar**

Freelance London Musician for over 20 years. Mark has worked with Juan Martin, Stock Aitken and Waterman, The Drifters and in several West End shows including Fame, Saturday Night Fever, Grease and Soul Train. He has also written music for TV and is currently working on his first solo album.

### **Darren Ashtord — Drums**

Darren has performed with a wide variety of artistes and acts that include NYJO (National Youth Jan Orchestra), Roy Castle, The Drifters, The Backstreet Boys, Westlife, Will Young, Will Smith, Joss Stone, Lucie Silvas, Lionel Richie, Chaka Khan, Shola Anam, Black Eyed Peas, Romina Johnson, Beverly Knight, Angie Stone, Roachford, Kelly LeRoc, Omar and Roy Ayers. Darren also teaches at the Drum Institute in London.

### **Richard Sidwell — Trumpet! Music Preparation**

Richard graduated with a Music BA (Hons) in 1987. Since then he has worked with many artists both touring and recording; including Blur (World Tour '97), The Stranglers, The Pet Shop Boys, Robbie Williams, Spiritualized, Gary Barlow, Jimmy Nail, Eddie Reader, Shirley Bassey and Peggy Lee. Theatre and Cabaret have also played a large part in Richard's life as well as writing and arranging music for TV, Radio and Theatre.

### **Simon Niblock — Saxaphones ! Music Arrangement**

An Accomplished arranger and performer, Simon has written for and played with extensively varied artistes such as Madeline Bell, Kid Creole and the Coconuts, Midge Ure, Claire Sweeney, Paul Young and Fish from Marillion! He has played numerous West End shows and was a regular performer and arranger for S4c Television for many years. Other TV credits include the National Theatre Awards, the BAFTAs and the Irish chat show aKeny Simon has his own limited company producing shows and arrangements for all genres.

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Mike Innes — Trombone

Mike started playing the Trombone aged 12 and has become one of the UK's leading session Trombonists having recorded albums with the likes of Jools Holland, Robbie Williams, Gary Barlow and most recently Darius. He has also recorded with the BBC Radio Orchestra, the Birmingham Royal Ballet and the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Mike also has numerous TV credits to his name; appearing on shows as diverse as TFI Friday, A Song for Europe, GMTV and even the Budweiser adverts.

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