



HAMISH STUART BIOGRAPHY – 2010

This year you might have heard Hamish playing on CDs and gigs with Tina Harrod, Lucie Thorne, Tim Rollinson or maybe Ian Moss. Over the last 30 years Hamish Stuart has played with dozens of innovative musicians and popular bands in a range of genres and is one of the most sought-after, respected and loved drummers in Australia. His deep musicality is always in demand for live shows, album recordings and tours.

“He puts air around the beat, eschews cliché, and brings to bear beautifully-tuned drums, the sound of which always fits the context like a glove,” says John Shand, music critic and author. “He also makes the musicians feel good, which is why he so sought after. Hamish has a way of making simple drum parts sound profound and complex ones sound easy. Playing improvised music he feeds the other players an incredibly buoyant stream of ideas that are like bubbles constantly rising to the top of a glass.”

Hamish was brought up in Sydney and played in high-school bands doing original songs alongside rock covers such as Jimi Hendrix and the Stones. He had training with the jazz drummer Barry Woods for a year. Influences Hamish cites include Elvin Jones, Tony Williams, Jack de Johnette, Tony Oxley, Phil Treloar, Charlie Watts, Aynsley Dunbar, Steve Gadd, Roger Hawkins, Jim Keltner and all the drummers who played with James Brown. Hamish says he has done most of his learning on the gig – and he still does.

When he left school at 18, he was snapped up by legendary jazz-rock group Ayers Rock and worked with them for 5 years, co-writing some tunes for their 1980 album *Hotspell*. After leaving Ayers Rock in 1981, Hamish toured with the Marcia Hines band for 4 years.

From 1985 Hamish worked closely with bassist and bandleader, Jackie Orszaczky and the two had a close friendship and musical partnership for more than 20 years. As a rhythm section Jack and Hamish were the engine room that pumped along hundreds of nights of exhilarating music in festivals and clubs in Sydney, all over Australia and in Europe with projects including the soulful Godmothers, the bizarre Hungarian Rhapsadists, the innovative Industrial Accident and the funky Jump Back Jack (a band that featured *two* drummers on stage with full kits – Hamish and Phil Campbell).

Another crucial collaborator and influence has been fellow percussionist Phil Treloar, now in Japan, another of Australia's most creative drummers. They have performed together in Japan and recently recorded as a duo, with their album ***Shades Of There*** out in October 2010.

Hamish has done some beautiful work with original songwriters. In tandem with some fine bassists, he has conjured a nuanced, lyrical rhythm section style using his jazz knowledge alongside a real understanding of songs. He is as at home with a jazz tune as he is with a songwriter's repertoire and can enhance both with his subtle touch.

Now, with his first 'solo' album '**Someone Else's Child**' Hamish Stuart proves he has a gift for composition as well. As Australia's much-loved and respected 'rhythm king', Hamish called upon an extraordinary family of world class musicians to help out with this project including **Chris Abrahams, Dave Symes, Ben Hauptmann**, the late **Jackie Orszaczky, Tina Harrod** and **Phil Slater** among many others. A gorgeous exploration of texture and mood '**Someone Else's Child**' is testament to one of Australia's greatest, and most humble, musical talents.

Hamish Stuart and friends will launch '**Someone Else's Child**' with a series of special shows in December.

The list of people Hamish has worked with is enormous and here are some highlights:

Billy Field, Marcia Hines, Ayers Rock, Doug Parkinson, Jackie Orszaczky, Mike Nock, Dale Barlow, Tim Hopkins, Slim Dusty, Wendy Mathews, Jon Cleary, Andrew Robson Trio, The Catholics, Mark Isaacs, Tina Harrod, Melanie Oxley and Chris Abrahams, Phil Treloar, Lucie Thorne, Ian Moss, Don Walker, Dog Trumpet, Mr Percival, Billy Harper, James Morrison, Renee Geyer, Ursula Yovitch, Justine Clarke, Vince Jones, Kate Ceberano.

TV and film soundtracks:

Ashley Irwin Martin Armiger Amanda Brown Peter Best John Grey

Discography (This is just the last few years):

Lucie Thorne *Black Across The Field* The Catholics *Inter Vivos* Mr Percival *Microphones*
Tim Rollinson *You Tunes* Tina Harrod *Temporary People* Jackie Orszaczky Trio *Ready To Listen*
Ian Moss *Soul On West 53rd Street* Ian Moss *Lets All Get Together* Dog Trumpet *Anti Social Tendencies*
Phil Treloar/Hamish Stuart *Shades Of There* Alex Hewetson *Gobotron*
Informal Troupe *Urban Parkland*

More info at
www.hamishstuart.net

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