

# PROFILE

## andy mitchell



Andrew's interest in the world of entertainment began early. Taking every opportunity to perform regardless of the entreaties of those around him his first public performance was probably when he was Seven, on this occasion he marched up to some poor solo entertainer on the ferry from Norway to Newcastle and asked if he could sing a few songs.

Even in those days a few meant an entire set. The perceived adulation or possibly bemusement of the thousand or so inebriated passengers meant that Andy had a captive audience. The inception of his career path as a vocalist can probably be dated from this point.

Some years passed and through his fathers connection to the film industry he had developed a firm interest in cinema with a desire to write and direct, but his commitment to music endured nonetheless.

In his early teens he began writing and performing scripts with original compositions to go with it. Some might call these musicals but Andrew would like it to be known he will kill anyone who does so.

He had also formed his first inglorious band called Writers Revenge with fellow songwriter John Falcini.

His direction towards music was finally established after a brief tenure as a trainee recording engineer at the world famous Abbey Road Studios.

After several years and numberless incarnations and name changes the band developed an impressive record of live performances which included a spot on Busk Aid, The Covent garden buskers answer to live aid playing to an audience of Two Thousand people, Live sessions on BBC Greater London Radio support spots with legends such as Desmond Dekker and even the odd celebrity guest appearance with the band with artists like Paul Young. They also recorded Three albums between the period of 1988 to 1990.

The final incarnation of the group The AM Band split in 1990. Since then Andy has performed with his current incumbents Big Funk Corporation and has continued to write and record his own material under the guise of Andy & the Other One featuring Jamiraquoi's keyboard player Matthew Johnson, Roy Aire's bass player Derick MaCyntire and old AM Band guitarist Austen Hornbrook and ably assisted by John Falcini on background vocals. This outfit has spawned two albums to date Songs from the Bottom Drawer and La La La I'm not listening. He is currently working on his next offering I'm a nonentity get me out of here.

In the past fifteen years Andrew has supported artists such as Bony M, comedian Sean Hughs, Imagination, Edwin Starr, Alvin Stardust, Sybil and the late lamented Steps. Performed live with Ace, Michael Ball, Blue, Natalie Cole, Eddy from Charles & Eddy, Steve Harley, Roy Harper, West Life and Bill Wyman. He has also recorded with Tom Robinson, Billy Myers, Samuel Purdey, Sara Stockbridge and had a featured vocal on the 1997 film soundtrack of Alan Parker's "Evita" starring Madonna.

He has been asked to perform at such celebrity events as The British Soap Awards, Claudia Schiffer's wedding, Ronnie Wood's (Of the Rolling Stones) Charity Auction party, Variety Club of Great Britain's Annual Charity Ball, Disney's "The Lion King" London Premier Party, David Genola's Birthday Party, The Black Heroes Concert as part of The London Festival of Black Culture, The Cowes Week Festival to an audience of Three Thousand, The Americas Cup Concert, Fife Aid and Andrew Lloyd Webber's 50th Birthday Concert held at The Royal Albert Hall.

In addition to these credits he has featured on soundtracks and appeared on television shows such as Bally Kiss Angel, The Bill, Park Life, Star Search America, Star Search International written and presented a documentary feature for Radio Four entitled "The Greatest Movie Never Made" and wrote, directed and performed his own theatrical production "The Roots of Soul" performed on five occasions for Charity.

