



Rodos Panagiotou

was born in Limassol on July 1st, 1977. He brought up in a family with a musical background and his interest in drums and percussion was obvious since he was a toddler as he banged with his hands or small branch sticks on with anything that

he could make a sound.

Self-taught, he started to play drums at the early age of eight on a small four piece jazz kit his father bought him. At the age of ten, he began performing for several years in his family group, which included his dad playing guitar, his brother on bouzouki and his sister on vocals. The family group played for local weddings, parties and season festivals all over the island. At that time, Rodos was the youngest drummer to perform live in Cyprus. At the age of sixteen, he was already performing alongside a variety of well-known singers from Greece and Cyprus (Nicos Xanthopoulos, Yiota Lydia, Stratos Kiprios, Spiros Zagoreos and Petros Anagnostakis).

After graduating from high school and finishing his army services, he attended percussion and drums lessons and gained a diploma in 1999 from the Hellenic School of Music at which afterwards he was teaching drums for two years. The same year he was asked to join and perform with the New Dimensions, the most famous jazz band on the island at that time, as well as with other local latin, rock and jazz bands. He also performed many times at the Jazz Festival in Pomos and at the Nicolas Economou Jazz Festival in Limassol.

In 2000, Rodos left Cyprus and entered Rotterdam Conservatorium where he studied for five years drums and percussion focusing his studies on Latin-Jazz and World music. In Rotterdam, he recorded and performed with local latin and

jazz bands at Heineken Music Hall, De Dullen Theatre, Dizzy Jazz Café and many other places in The Hague and Amsterdam.

Coming back to Cyprus in 2005, he taught for two years at a private Primary and High School as well as giving private drums and percussion lessons. Since 2007 until today, he is teaching drums and percussion at the European University as well as at the University of Nicosia.

As a distinguished musician he was given the golden opportunity to perform, cooperate and accompany, both as a drummer and as a percussion player, with other famous singers from abroad such as George Dalaras, Marios Fragkulis, Kostas Makedonas, Pantelis Thalassinou, Vasilis Lekas, Demetris Mbasis, Manolis Lidakis, Mihalis Violaris, Kostas Hadjis, Vasilis Saleas, Viki Leandros, Debora Meyers, Nena Venetsanou, Glikeria, Miltiadis Pashalidis and Stefanos Korkollis. He also recorded and performed with several local bands and singers.

Since 2005, he plays with Andreas Georgiou, a well-known Cypriot guitarist and composer of ethnic jazz music. Together they have performed all over Europe and recorded Andreas Georgiou 11th album (to be released soon).

In June 2009 after hard work and determination, he set up “Batukinio” the first percussion group in Cyprus. They performed for the first time at the grand opening of the Cyprus Small Countries Games and then in several events throughout Cyprus. Today the percussion group “Batukinio” consists of 35 percussion players of various ages.

In May 2011, he performed and recorded live in a tour in Cyprus with the famous flamenco guitarist Hernan Romero. At the same year, he also performed with the well-known band “Blues Wire”.