

All That Jazz

4th March 2008

Issue #1

The classic sort of snake



Chris 'Snake' Davis playing his saxophone

By our correspondent
Greg Carrick

Snake has been involved in a number of projects since the last newsletter. There have been several gigs with The Snake Davis Band, The Blue Shoes and The Suspicions as well as lots of studio work, guest appearances and preparation for the forthcoming albums. You may have spotted him on the recent TV show 'An Audience with Lulu' too? Following on from the Platinum success of the

'Classic Chillout' album (Columbia STVCD115), Snake has been working on his own classical music production - a project that, we hope, will be released in the not too distant future. He has also worked on several studio sessions including a number of films and albums plus a mammoth project with other artists arranging and performing on a new 'Big Band Chillout' album - details to follow soon.

The follow up album to the highly acclaimed 'Snakebites' is taking shape and several tracks are well underway. There is a lot of interest and we are hoping for a release date in May 2008. We'll keep you posted.

Platinum success of the 'Classic Chillout' album

One of the most exciting things coming up soon is a unique opportunity to witness Snake performing live with his own band and very special guest, Heather Small. Heather has been described as the most powerful and distinctive voice to emerge in the British Isles in the last decade. Diva, soul icon, the voice of M People and singer and writer of 'Proud' - the anthem of the 2000 Olympic Games. Her professional relationship with Snake spans almost ten years. Snake was heavily involved with M People from the early days and he continues to direct Heather's live band. She made a guest appearance on 'Snakebites' with a powerful version of Sam Cooke's 'Bring It On Home'. Originally

brought together by a shared love of soul music, of songs that are romantic and emotional but at the same time realistic and not despairing, it is still this passion for the music as well as a burning desire to work hard and get out and do it, which has resulted in this unique and exciting project!

I asked Snake what we can expect from these limited number of shows and he told me, "We'll certainly play some of Heather and M People's greatest hits and some material from the 'Snakebites' album but the theatre environment will give us a chance to experiment a bit, to try something different, songs we've never done live before. It's an exciting opportunity and we guarantee everyone a wonderfully soulful night to remember!"

The Suspicions have recorded three fabulous original compositions - a new instrumental called 'Organ Highs' plus the brilliant 'Reconstruction' and 'You Need Me' - both of which have been performed at recent Suspicions gigs. The Suspicions have also recorded 'Get Ready' in the studio for top boy band, "Blue"!

The Blue Shoes have played several venues around the country to rave reviews including South Wales and Scotland and they are now working hard on the new studio album as well as preparing for a big provincial theatre tour throughout June. They are joining the 'Folks Like Us' tour alongside Benny Gallagher (Gallagher & Lyle), Steve Simpson, Ian Gibbons and Steve Holly and they play 22 venues in the UK, including several in Scotland and Northern Ireland. Please keep up to date via their web site:

www.theblueshoes.co.uk

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