

# PAN PODIUM



**RUDY 'TWO LEF' SMITH**

*The Quintessential Pan Man*

**LAURA BAIRD**

*Music Is My Passion*

**CALYPSO SONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA**

*Where Words Fail, Music Speaks*

**KWESI 'SHOTTALINKZ' PAUL**

*Music in my Blood*

**CCC STEELBAND**

*Spreading The Steelpan in Northumberland*



**PAN CLASH SOLOIST  
COMPETITION 2017**

*-Building confidence & musical expression!*

the essential magazine for steelpan culture  
news • reviews • interviews • special features

ISSUE 25 / SPRING 2018 / FREE

Caribbean  
REUNION CLUB



Looking for flights?

Relax!

...we'll take the hassle out of searching

We have the **BEST FARES** to the

CARIBBEAN, USA & CANADA!

LOW DEPOSIT - SPREAD THE COST OF YOUR FLIGHTS



BOOK WITH  
CARIBBEAN  
REUNION CLUB  
SHE DID!

BRITISH AIRWAYS  
Specialist Partner

virgin atlantic

Caribbean Airlines

AIR CANADA

flybe

AA



JATA

FOR THE **BEST PRICES** CALL:

**020 7344 0101**

GO **ONLINE:**

**www.flycrc.com**

VISIT OUR **LONDON OFFICE:** AT THE CORNER OF OXFORD STREET AND 93 NEWMAN STREET, W1T 3EZ

the essential magazine for steelpan culture  
news • reviews • interviews • special features  
ISSUE 25 / SPRING 2018

PAN  
PODIUM

# Contents.

- |               |  |              |   |
|---------------|--|--------------|---|
| <b>6/7</b>    | <b>CALYPSO SONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA</b><br>Where words fail, Music Speaks                     | <b>26/27</b> | <b>CLASSORAMA 2017</b><br>Celebrating its 4th Anniversary   |
| <b>8/9</b>    | <b>MIKE WENDELN</b><br>Teaching the steelpan youth of today from florida to ohio.          | <b>28/29</b> | <b>UK STEELPAN TUNERS GUILD</b><br>Celebrating their 10th Anniversary   |
| <b>10/11</b>  | <b>ST ANN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL STEELBAND</b><br>Overwhelmed by their musicianship           | <b>30/33</b> | <b>DARIA &amp; THE HIP DROPS</b>  |
| <b>12 /13</b> | <b>LAURA BAIRD</b><br>Music is My Passion  | <b>34/36</b> | <b>RICKFORD 'RICKY' DECAIROS</b><br>Music is not what I do.<br>It is what I am!   |
| <b>14/15</b>  | <b>NORTHERN STEEL ORCHESTRA</b><br>Offering a platform to develop playing and musicianship | <b>38/41</b> | <b>EBONY STEELBAND</b><br>Retains their UK Junior Steelband Panorama Champions title. Continuity of our steelpan culture lies with the youth! |
| <b>16/18</b>  | <b>DIATONIC PAN INSTITUTE</b><br>Promotes Youth Empowerment through Steelpan!              | <b>42/43</b> | <b>PAN CLASH SOLOIST COMPETITION 2017</b><br>Building confidence and musical expression!  |
| <b>19</b>     | <b>KALYPSOKIDS</b><br>A steelpan project for children 7 and under                          | <b>44/46</b> | <b>KWESI 'SHOTTALINKZ' PAUL</b><br>Where words fail, music speaks   |
| <b>20/21</b>  | <b>RUDY 'TWO LEF' SMITH</b><br>The Quintessential Pan Man                                  | <b>48/49</b> | <b>NOSTALGIA'S TRIUMPHANT TRIP TO TRINIDAD CARNIVAL 2018</b>  |
| <b>22/23</b>  | <b>BAS LONDON NOTTING HILL J'OUVERT 2017</b><br>Keep Calm and Play Yourself!               | <b>50/52</b> | <b>MEET NAOKO YABUTA - TOKYO, JAPAN</b><br>She doesn't just love Pan - she lives the experience of Pan.                                       |
| <b>24/25</b>  | <b>CCC STEELBAND</b><br>Spreading the Steelpan Gospel in Northumberland                    |              |   |





**FASTER  
SAFER  
RELIABLE  
EXPERIENCED**

**Shipping to the Caribbean for over 15 years**  
*Unbeatable price match & beat offers*

OUR LOCATION:  
839 GARRATT LANE, TOOTING, LONDON SW17 0PG

Speak to the experts:

**020 8946 6161**

Online: [www.interislandshipping.com](http://www.interislandshipping.com)



## Editors Message

---



The steelpan instrument continues to evolve to keep abreast of the digital era that faces the world in the 21st century that we live in. Steelpan Apps, Blogs, Facebook, You Tube, Instagram, Google+, LinkedIn, Twitter, Ning, Snapchat and the list goes on as new Apps continue to be developed and circulated on a regular basis to maintain global awareness.

The E Pan and the Percussive Harmonic Instrument (PHI) are also digital innovations to assist in the transformation of their culture into the Digital age. However, the original steelpan, crafted and honed by our skilful steelpan tuners emitting those captivating sounds when rubber meets steel and melodious tones are created to put its listeners into that musical trance that leaves you thirsting for more when the tune comes to an end. The 'Jumbie' continues to mesmerise pan aficionados with its captivating musical embrace.

The continuity of our steelpan culture lies with the youths of our global nations as they introduce changes, developments, creations and innovations to take it to another level and maintain its momentum in this digital era to command its rightful place amongst conventional musical instruments.

Panpodium continues to assist in the promotion of the steelpan and its culture through its digital media platforms in conjunction with our universal media partners to ensure that we are reaching the wider audiences and capturing virgin territories that the steelpan culture is yet to reach and be recognised.

This year the UK is celebrating the 41st anniversary of it's National Steelband Panorama competition from its humble begins in 1978 to its iconic status as the precursor to the Notting Hill Carnival.

I offer my personal thanks to everyone who has contributed to Pan Podium's success and look forward to your continued support in making Pan Podium a beacon for the artform.

**Pan 4 Life!**





# CALYPSONIC STEEL ORCHESTRA

“WHERE WORDS FAIL, MUSIC SPEAKS.”

BY Y. LEON LORENZ

Formed in 2009, Calypsonic Steel Orchestra from Germany found its way to sweet T&T. Under the direction of Jonas and Justina Plöger, Y. Leon Lorenz and Lovis B. Suchmann and supported by the non-profit organization, “Calypsonic e.V. – Institute for Steel Pan and Calypso”, up to twenty young musicians committed to Afro-Caribbean music have impressed their audience time and again.

Not only did they win the UK Panorama in London in 2012, 2013 and 2014 as members of Real Steel. They also swept a bunch of prestigious national awards in Germany such as the regional competition “Jugend jazzt” in 2009, the 1st prize in the NRW Orchestra Competition in Paderborn in 2011 and the 1st prize in the German Orchestra Competition, Hildesheim, in 2012 where they also received a special award for “Best Performance”.

Calypsonic Steel Orchestra is one of Germany’s truly outstanding and authentic steel bands. Toussaint Clarke, Vice- Chairman of the prestigious UK Steelpan Tuners Guild, tunes their steelpan instruments. By working with and learning from some of the best arrangers and “pan-personalities” in the World such as Leroy Clarke, Toussaint Clarke and Duvonne Stewart, Calypsonic has musically developed in leaps and bounds through the years.

It has been noted that members of Calypsonic have played with Real Steel Orchestra (UK),

Metronomes Steel Orchestra (UK), Endurance Steel Orchestra (UK) and even BP Renegades Steel Orchestra from Trinidad and Tobago. Calypsonic also maintains close connections to Steelbands in Holland, Austria, Australia, Switzerland and Greece.

Most of the musical pieces of Calypsonic’s repertoire are of Caribbean origin and arranged by Jonas Plöger, Y. Leon Lorenz and Lovis B. Suchmann.

This orchestra not only plays soca and calypso, but also reggae, contemporary Rock, Pop, Jazz and Classical music. Their repertoire includes “Get Lucky” by Daft Punk, “Aicha” by Cheb Khaled, Sting’s “Englishman in New York” and John Legend’s “Ordinary People”, and even a violin concerto by Johann Sebastian Bach.

Calypsonic Steel Orchestra recently released their first album “Life on Planet Pan”. This is one for the pan connoisseur’s collection so check their Calypsonic Steel Orchestra Facebook page to order one.

Panpodium has seen these young and talented pan musicians progress from their early days in Pan Gang to the outstanding musicians are today. This transformation has come with their determination, dedication, commitment and love for music with the steelpan as their chosen instrument. They are perfect ambassadors for spreading the steelpan gospel.







# MIKE WENDELN

TEACHING THE STEELPAN YOUTH OF TODAY FROM FLORIDA TO OHIO

BY RAY FUNK AND DR. ANDREW MARTIN

For the past eight years Mike Wendeln has lived his dream teaching steelpan at Leon High School in Tallahassee, Florida. One of the premiere secondary school steelband programs in the United States, the program at Leon High School features seven steelband classes that meet daily as part of the regular school curriculum. They are broken into three beginner steelbands and two intermediate and one advanced as well as a small gigging band. The program offers four concerts annually and all seven steelbands perform at every concert. The intensity of the program is evident in the achievement of the students and the program is beloved by the surrounding community of Tallahassee which now boasts three community steelbands.

Out of 2,000 students at Leon High School, over 175 play steelpan every school day in a program which began modestly enough in 1991 as an

afterschool program. Most of these students are new to steelpan and begin their steelpan journey in the beginner steelbands. During his tenure at Leon High School, Wendeln took his most advanced bands, known as “Lion Steel” to compete at national competitions including PANFest in Virginia Beach, Virginia where they won grand champions in 2013 and 2015. The Leon High School steelband program has also been in the forefront of the Florida steelband festival for the past decade.

When Wendeln took the job at Leon High School in 2009, he took over an established program and set about leaving his mark. Wendeln’s training is typical for a pannist in the United States. He first earned an undergraduate at Miami University in Ohio where he became very involved in the steelband and studied under notable steelpan pedagogues Dr. Chris Tanner. A

stalwart of the art form, Tanner is among several colleagues including Dr. Larry Snyder of the University of Akron who have spent the past twenty years building a strong base for steelpan in Ohio.

Wendeln went on to earn a master’s degree at Eastern Kentucky University where he studied with Dr. Jason Koontz—who is an expert in both pan and Brazilian percussison and with Andy Narell developed a new program in Laborie, St. Lucia. Wendeln has since furthered his studies by traveling to Trinidad three times, twice playing with Birdsong in Panorama. Inspired by his college experience, and playing steelpan in Trinidad, Wendeln was determined to bring a similar energy to youth steelpan education in the United States. “I was hooked on pan. Even though there aren’t many opportunities out there, I said to myself, someday I need to teach steelband.”

His wife, Kendra, was offered a job opportunity in Ohio and could not pass it up. As she followed her dream career working with marching bands, she took a part time job at a small private school as well. She soon realized that this school’s music program needed a major overhaul, so in August 2017, Mike made the hard choice to resign his position at Leon High School and relocate from Florida to Cincinnati, Ohio.

In planning for such a move, he was concerned that he would not be able to find a position teaching steelband so Wendeln was proactive and decided that the best way to increase his chances of a successful transition was to purchase his own full set of instruments. The financial risk was great but Wendeln knew that one of the most common problems plaguing primary and secondary school steel in the United States, and UK for that matter, is lack of instruments and instructors and that he would have to provide both in order to be successful creating a new steelband program. He sought out one of the best builder/tuners in America, Alan Coyle (one of the first to be trained under the legendary Ellie Mannette at West Virginia University) to make them a full 18 piece steel orchestra. It was an enormous investment but Wendeln and his wife were confident it would be the best way for Mike to continue his passion for teaching steelpan. “I had loads of experience teaching steelband in schools, so I felt confident

about my skills, but showing up at a school and proposing that I build a band from scratch is a tough sell, and in the short term, I needed to find work.”

When life throws you challenges, it also creates new opportunities as Kendra’s school, Purcell Marian Catholic High School agreed to use his instruments as a way to re-start its dormant music program. To let students know what steelband was, his wife and he played lunch time pan sessions and they worked hard to get the word out.

With Purcell Marian’s first student steelband off the ground with nine students, Wendeln set his sights on recruiting players to create his community steelband. After a bit of social media networking a community steelband of more than ten players, many of which are Miami University of Ohio alumni, took shape. He began teaching steelband during the school day and an afterschool community steelband. On December 6, Wendeln’s new groups performed their first steelband concert with the student and community bands at Purcell Marian each playing tunes by themselves and a few together. “I’m all smiles!” noted a delighted Wendeln.

In addition to his new program at Purcell Marian High School, Wendeln also got the opportunity to take over two steelpan classes at Walnut Hills High which has had an established steelpan program for many years and it is clear that for Mike Wendeln, the transition and new opportunities are very exciting. Beyond his dedication to youth steelband education, Wendeln’s path offers a new model for anyone interested in making a career of teaching steelpan. “

This new opportunity allows me more flexibility, and honestly, it feels great to continue to spread pan music to the people. Obviously, I personally love the artform, but it is clear that steelband is an excellent teaching tool that works great in schools alongside choir, band, and orchestra. In fact, I believe teaching pan makes students into more well-rounded performers as they play literature from all over the world, in varied styles, not to mention bringing it all to a stage show that keeps crowds entertained! Students loving music-making, that’s what it’s all about.”

# ST ANN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL STEEL BAND

*"Overwhelmed by their musicianship"*



In 2016, Alicia 'Lissi' Brown started setting up her company, Lissipan (website coming soon – [www.Lissipan.com](http://www.Lissipan.com)), which incorporates steelpan teaching, steelpan sheet music, steelpan hire etc. Alicia has been sourcing and buying steelpans for about ten (10) years and finally had enough to start up the hire side of the company. Alicia and her family spent the whole of Easter painting all the steelpans ready for new clients. One of Alicia's clients for Lissipan is St Ann's CE primary school based in Tottenham. This school has not had a steel band for many years but was revived but unfortunately did not have any steelpans.

This project started in April 2016 with 15 children per group with every child from year 3-5 learning the Steelpans. Every week each of Alicia's bands

rehearse in the church hall for 45 minutes. She was so pleased with their progress that each group performed after only 9 weeks of practice at their school summer fair. The children at this school are extremely musical.

Since the project started the school has done amazing. After only a term Alicia entered St Ann's Year 4 Band to take part in the Music for Youth Regional Festival, they did so well in the Camden 1st round that they were invited to perform in Birmingham at the Symphony Hall, the reception they received was amazing. Alicia stated, "I was truly astounded when I found out the St. Ann's steelband was the only steelband chosen nationally out of many steelbands to perform at the Royal Albert Hall schools proms. It was truly an amazing

experience that we will never forget we had amazing feedback from the audience and other musicians."

St Ann's CE Primary School steelband was hoping to perform at the 2017 Classorama competition initiated by Kyron Akal and hosted by the Steel Pan Trust but unfortunately they never got to take part as the performance date was too close to Music For Youth Festival and the focus on the MFY was well worth it. Mrs Morcea Walker MBE who attended the MFY Proms stated, "On Tuesday 14th November the last act of the first half was introduced by the compere as the 'cutest so far at the Proms – St Ann's CE Primary School Steel Band! What an amazing group of performers! They all walked on to the stage with such confidence – size

did not matter. We were all given an energetic musical treat. Such excellent collaboration amongst their musicians and staff! Their three pieces were varied and gave all those playing a real challenge, which they were able to master perfectly. I was completely overwhelmed by their musicianship."

Alicia continues to work laboriously to spread the steelpan gospel far and wide, something that she has made a personal commitment owing to her love of the instrument. Alicia keep your dreams alive, your determination, dedication, self-discipline and effort will ensure you reap your rewards. Watch out for more of her achievements with the steelpan instrument in the future.





# LAURA BAIRD

*Music is My Passion*



**Laura is a dedicated musician who when performing is consumed by the music she plays. When you look at her play you can see that she feels the music with a passion. The true beauty of music is that it connects people. It carries a message and the musicians, are the messengers. Laura certainly connects with her peers as well as her audience and is a true ambassador for the steelpan instrument.**

Laura was first introduced to the steelpan instrument at age 9 in primary school where she learned classical instruments such as the piano but never had any fun or related to what she was playing, she wanted to play an instrument that she really enjoyed and after attending a steel pan taster class run by Chris Storey she was hooked. She started playing pan properly in year eleven with the Hornsey Schools for Girls Steel Orchestra in North London.

She has played for Hornsey Steel Orchestra, Pan Nation, CSI and Endurance Steel Orchestras. The first time she played at the UK National Panorama was in 2011. Laura has also performed at the UK Junior Panorama and the BAS Pan Explosion competitions. She has also completed tours of Italy, Rotterdam and Austria.

Laura stated that competing in Pan Explosion and having to execute a solo was a very challenging experience that definitely pushed her outside of her comfort zone. She is the double tenor section leader of the Pan Nation Steel Orchestra and ensures her section is up to date on music past

and present but also ensures that they bond as a section and grow in their musical abilities. She also confirm that as a section leader you need to be reliable, approachable and motivating, especially when new people join your section, as initially the double tenor can be quite overwhelming.

She stated that the continuation of competitions such as Pan Clash, Classorama and Pan Explosion is vital to encourage the next generation of pan players. She would like to see pan more integrated with the "classical" orchestral instruments as it brings an interesting flavour to mainstream music and would benefit from more exposure on mainstream media platforms to assist its integration. Laura hopes to see Pan respected on the same level as orchestral instrumentals and carry the same discipline and training.

Her aspiration is to arrange more music on pan and eventually create her own musical hub/platform for all different artists to perform, generate exposure and network and revealed that she is musically inspired by Chris storey, Duvonne Stewart, Andre white, Donnie McClurkin, Aaliyah and Timbaland.



## NORTHERN STEEL ORCHESTRA

### Offering a platform to develop playing and musicianship

Northern Steel Orchestra (NSO) was formed in March 2015 by steelpan tutor/arranger Jenny Gilberg and is supported by Northern Steel Network (Chair: Dave Edwards). Made up of 40 of the region's most talented pannists, aged from 11 to 21 years, NSO operates as a regional band and rehearses seasonally between April to August each year. Players in the band are drawn from several local performing and school bands across the North-East (Ashington, Cramlington, Morpeth Newbiggin, Newcastle and North Tyneside).

**The objective of NSO is to offer a platform and opportunity for advanced pannists to develop their playing and musicianship to a high level and to open up a range of performance opportunities both regionally and nationally in events such as UK Junior Panorama.**

Jenny thinks everyone involved can see, hear and feel the players' progress.

Players have formed new friendships and grown in confidence, are networking beautifully and have a lot of fun during the season. Through participating in Junior Panorama they are also



seeing 'the bigger picture' and learning from watching other very talented national bands performing.

The first year, 2015, was a pilot for NSO and they were thrilled to be crowned the winners of UK Junior Panorama. The orchestra is the first band outside the London area to enter the competition and lifted the trophy at its first attempt, winning the title with a polished performance of Trinidad soca hit 'Ducking' by Fadda Fox.

Jenny said, "What most people won't know is that when we started NSO, none of our players had ever seen, let alone competed in, a Panorama, so the entire concept and process of preparing and participating in one was a brand new experience. The long intense rehearsals were initially a shock to the system but everyone got stuck in, built stamina and really embraced the disciplines involved and the hard work. We are very lucky to be working with such talented, dedicated and driven young musicians." As a direct result of involvement with NSO, four players have gone on to play with Ebony Steel Band in UK National Panorama and one of these players is taking the plunge and venturing out to Trinidad with Jenny in February 2018 to play in her first Trinbago National Panorama with the BP Renegades Steel Orchestra. What has been great to see is how the players work so well together and take responsibility within the band. Players have stepped up and taken various roles including Band Captain, Vice Captain and section leaders.



NSO has a dedicated team of musicians supporting Jenny including experienced tutors Michael Darling and Karina Atkinson, who work with players and drill the band, as well as excellent Band Captain Kieran Finney, Vice Captain Jason Ying and some great section leaders. NSO manager, tutor and arranger, Jenny Gilberg, has a unique style and her arrangements draw upon her classical background.

During the season the orchestra learns a range of classical, world, pop and Caribbean soca/calypso pieces as well as the junior panorama piece. NSO players have enjoyed workshops with guest tutor Leroy Clarke in which they also explored the engine room. Toussaint Clarke, who has always offer support and guidance, is also their pan tuner.

The orchestra has performed at local festivals including the Under the Dome Festival 2015 in Whitley Bay and the Northern Steel Network Festivals of Steelbands 2015-17, has given private performances at venues including St James' Park and Stephenson Railway Museum and has put on concerts at their panyards: The Langdale Centre (Wallsend) and The King Edward VI School (Morpeth).

NSO is on an exciting journey and is looking forward to many more years of great panning and inspiring future generations of players to push themselves and enjoy all that the steelpan has to offer.

**Visit their website or FB page:**

- <http://www.northernsteelnetwork.org.uk/northern-steel-orchestra/>

- [www.facebook.com/Northernsteelorchestra](https://www.facebook.com/Northernsteelorchestra)

by NSO.



# Diatonic Pan Institute Promotes Youth Empowerment through Steelpan!

"CREATED STEEL IN MOTION COMPETITION JUST FOR SINGLE PAN BANDS"

BY RAY FUNK AND DR. ANDREW MARTIN



For the last six years, Diatonic Pan Institute has been hard at work creating and honing a different model for steelpan focused on youth empowerment. In the process this band from Siparia, located in the South of Trinidad, has made its hometown proud. The Diatonic Pan Institute is the vision of founder Keith Byer, who along with community leaders, sought to offer Trinidadian youth a positive way forward in troubled times, teaching life skills through steelpan.

Keith Byer is no stranger to steelpan. A retired oil company engineer, Byer played with Siparia Deltones in his younger days and later managed the band. He also served as chairman of the south/central region of Pan Trinbago, Vice President of Pan Trinbago, General Secretary

of the Caribbean Steelband Association, and managed Silver Stars Steel Orchestra for three years.

With his wealth of experience and desire to give back to his community, Byers wanted "to reach out to the youths, especially in the light of the trending for youths to be involved in serious crime and the lack of love for one another." He sought out two old friends from Deltones, Vernon Dimsoy and Janelle Paris, who agreed with his vision and were committed to translate it into action. They formed a non-profit corporation and received a long-term lease for a panyard in downtown Siparia, a safe place for the youth to learn, practice, and trust one another. From the beginning, the primary goal of Diatonic Pan Institute has been to teach the members of the



steelband more than just musical proficiency and literacy, and this includes life skills such as band management, event management, broadcasting, magazine production, and more.

The Diatonic Pan Institute steelband has three weekly rehearsals and performs regular gigs every month. They also offer free music literacy classes and a vacation steelpan camp during the summer. Initially, they hired an instructor for the steelpan camp but, as Byer notes, "we had the kids working with him. Last year was the first year that the kids ran it on their own. Now they know what to do, they have the experience and they don't need any help."

Unlike most steelbands in Trinidad and Tobago, the Diatonic Pan Institute does not perform in Panorama—though some members perform with other steelbands, instead they perform at a variety of other events. In addition, the Diatonic Pan Institute on their own created a new steelband competition in Trinidad called Steel in Motion just for single pan bands.

The competition is held in Siparia on the third Saturday after Easter in conjunction with the local religious festival celebrating La Divina Pastora, the patron saint of Siparia. Participating bands perform two songs on the road. One is a religious number and one is by a chosen calypsonian who changes each year. In addition, the young people create a magazine that celebrates the city of Siparia, the chosen calypsonian, and the yearly activities of the steelband. They learn event management skills by tackling everything from publicity to managing the flow of steelbands on the street.

Beyond Steel in Motion, the Diatonic Pan Institute also hosts concerts in their panyard

bringing in calypsonians from across Trinidad to perform and recently recorded a double album of Christmas classics. The steelband received further national exposure by creating a syndicated steelpan television show. Created, starring, and produced by the band members, the first season of fourteen episodes featured Diatonic Pan Institute members visiting and interviewing steelband leaders and band members from across the country.

Most exciting for the members has been touring internationally. Their first experience abroad was to the United States in 2011 for a nine-day tour of five cities in Indiana when they helped start two steelbands there in addition to performing. "What we did is leave some of the pans with [Indiana Wesleyan University] and some with the community steel band". For their efforts, Diatonic Pan Institute was presented with the Indianapolis mayoral certificate of appreciation and the governor declared the week of their visit steelpan week in their honor.

In 2014, Diatonic Pan Institute attended the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Independence celebrations. St Vincent has a program called Pan Against Crime. As Byer recalled, "They felt that our program could compliment their program. So they brought us up for their Independence celebration and the idea was that the youths would see our performances and gravitate to the steelpan."

Also in 2014, the steelband attended Folkmoot, an international folk festival in North Carolina. Diatonic Pan Institute so impressed the local mayor there that he gave the band the keys to the city. It was at this festival that they were spotted by officials who invited them to Taiwan.

Finally the summer of 2017 the Taiwan tour was realized. They traveled to Taiwan for three weeks and performed alongside 26 groups from 20 different countries at the Yilan International Children's Folklore and Folkgame Festival. Besides performing, the Diatonic steelband embarked on a partnership with the Taiwan Ministry of Culture and held workshops teaching kids at a local elementary school and leaving a starter set of steelpans. The collaboration was a great success and they now have an ongoing relationship with the Taiwanese Ministry of Culture.





More recently in Trinidad, the Diatonic Pan Institute has introduced their youth members to dramatic arts. The steelband presented a show entitled 'Remembering Christmas' which tells the story of Christmas past and present as celebrated in Trinidad. The program is a combination of cultural exchange as well as highlighting changes in children's attitudes and has received great reviews from the public.

In only a few short years, the Diatonic Pan Institute has created much more than a steelband, they've fostered what they believe will be the future leaders of tomorrow. In its efforts, Diatonic has successfully developed its members' skills in steelpan playing, music literacy, event management, dance, drama, broadcasting, and team building. With their newfound confidence, leadership skills and positive attitudes, the youth members of the Diatonic Pan Institute are ready to go forth and achieve their dreams.



# KALYPSOKIDS

" A steelpan project for children 7 and under

KalypsoKids! is a steelpan project aimed at youngsters aged 7 and under. It was started by CCC Steelband in 2017 with the aim of making pan enjoyable and accessible for those not able to see over a tenor pan! The project introduces pan playing, musicality and rhythmic skills from the earliest age using alternative techniques age appropriate - colours, numbers and letters. Their junior pans were custom made by, Toussaint Clarke, Vice Chairman of the UK Pan Tuners Guild.

KalypsoKids! offer workshops, demonstrations, tasters and short and long term projects all over the region and has been very quickly established in local schools as term long projects for preschool age. Claire Falcus continues her hard and dedicated work in promoting the steelpan culture and spreading the pan gospel. Her work with young people can only prove to be the catalyst for the continuity of the steelpan culture far into the future.







## RUDY 'TWO LEFT' SMITH 'THE QUINTESSENTIAL PAN MAN'

**Rudy 'Twoleft' Smith opined,  
"Quite often people talk about what they did for Pan, its  
development and growth but not what Pan did for them."**

Steelpan connoisseur, arranger, steelpan maker and mentor Rudy 'Twoleft' Smith, went so far to record an album "What Pan Did for Me," a tribute to the sustainable life, growth and opportunities Pan has afforded him and his family throughout his artistic career.

Rudy Smith, a Trinidadian, formerly of Woodbrook, residing in Copenhagen, Denmark,

has been coming to Trinidad for the past 11 years to arrange music for Bird Song Steel Orchestra for Panorama. This cultural ambassador continues to promote sweet Steelpan music in Copenhagen and throughout Europe.

When President Anthony Carmona learnt from mutual friend Mr Peter De Gourville, Director IT



and Cloud Research and Development, Ericsson Ltd, Stockholm, Sweden of Smith's presence in Trinidad, he invited this quintessential pan man to the Office of the President (20 February, 2018).

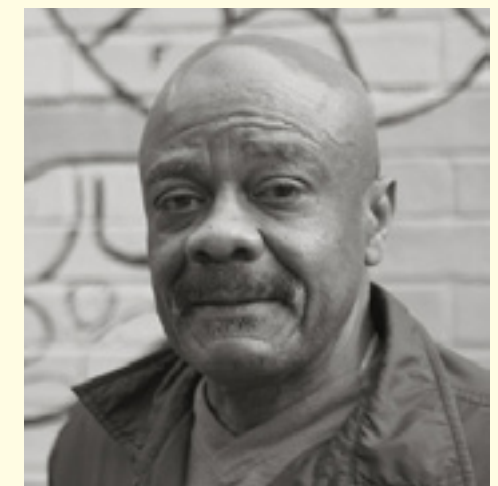
His Excellency President Carmona is a lifetime supporter of the arts. As part of his thrust to recognize and appreciate distinguished cultural sons and daughters at home and abroad who continue to internationalise our artforms, culture and competencies, he would often invite to the Office of the President such great patriots. President Carmona spoke at length with a man who has dedicated his entire life to the internationalization of our national instrument. In 1952, at the tender age of 9, Rudy played with Steel Band Merrymakers for the first time on the road. This band was originated from the Red Army Steel Band of Sackville Street Port of Spain. He later travelled with Merrymakers to Suriname, Martinique and Barbados to perform at concerts and functions. On the 8 December 1962, Rudy Smith left his homeland for a 6-month contract with Merrymakers in Europe.

The contingent of ten comprised 8 Pan players, Alfred 'Valger' Cooper, Alfred 'Sack' Mayers, Cecil 'Lord' Yuille, Ansel 'Baboolal' Joseph, Buntin 'Danny' Grant, George 'Cuma' Anderson, Herbert George and Rudy 'Twoleft' Smith, a Singer Daphne Shepard and a Limbo Dancer, Nolan Jacob.

The extended tour took them to many countries in Europe including Germany and Sweden. Merrymakers were phenomenal in their outreach and vision spreading our Steelpan music to Copenhagen, Malmo, Milan, France, Japan, Rome and Tunisia. Europe had its influence and exposed Rudy Smith to Jazz Music and he eventually became a master Pan and Calypso Jazz musician. Rudy Smith holds the distinction of being among the musicians invited to play at the gala ceremony in Switzerland (a fact unknown to most Trinbagonians and West Indians) when Sir Derek Walcott was bestowed the Nobel Peace Prize in Literature in 1992.

The untold story of Rudy 'Twoleft' Smith is a testament of the viability of the Steelpan and the arts as a career. There is now greater international reach and significant appreciation of our national instrument due to persons like Rudy 'Twoleft' Smith. At the age of 75, he continues to spread the gospel of our national instrument (the Steelpan) throughout the cities of Europe.

By The Office of the President  
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO







## The BAS London Notting Hill J'ouvert 2017 Keep Calm and Play Yourself!

Thirteen years since its revival, London J'ouvert celebrations saw Ladbroke Grove invaded by revellers adorning themselves in oil, mud, powder or brightly coloured paint depicting the celebration of emancipation. The pre-dawn tranquillity broken by the sweet strains of steel band music in West London and masses of people chipping down the Grove in true Trinidadian style.

This all steelband event, provides lively steel band music, which is well received by the public and is constantly growing in popularity. **The British Association of Steelbands continue to work laboriously to ensure its growth is sustained through the inclusion of more steelbands and masqueraders and maintain its status of being an important ingredient of the cultural fabric of Notting Hill Carnival.**

The celebration started with the procession leaving the Sainsbury's car park at the top end of Ladbroke Grove around 6:15 a.m. This late start gave the rhythm section a chance to keep the crowd entertained with their pulsating beats. The steelbands snake along Ladbroke Grove as the revellers swelled to great numbers filling the air with a mist of powder and flour whilst covering each other with brightly coloured paint. The London J'ouvert celebrations saw conventional and pan round the neck steelbands and the traditional rhythm section playing along Ladbroke Grove and turning around at the bottom of the Grove and returning to Sainsbury's car park.

Ebony, Nostalgia and Rhythm sections had the revellers chipping down the Grove in true Trini style to the sweet strains of steelband music

coupled with the copious amounts of alcohol they consumed. That combination certainly had them enjoying themselves fully. The rhythm section and the headphones section listening to music played by a mobile DJ certainly added to the ambience.

### The Future of London J'ouvert:

When the celebration ended at 9:00 a.m. the revellers are always begging for more. Everyone is looking forward to more successful J'ouvert celebrations in the future and BAS continues to work laboriously to ensure its growth is sustained through closer working relationships with the various Carnival partners/entities 2018 should see an increase in steel bands on the road for J'ouvert as this event continues to grow in stature.







# CCC STEELBAND

*SPREADING THE STEELPAN GOSPEL IN NORTHUMBERLAND*

The Cramlington Caribbean Crew steelband started in 2008 at Northburn Primary School in Northumberland. Back then, they held two classes, one for children and one for teachers and parents. The band very quickly became an intrinsic part of the school's performance calendar and enquiries from other organisations and schools in the region started flowing in.

**With the support of Northburn Primary School (the band's panyard for the entirety of its life), doors were opened to the wider community and the children who left us in year 6 returned to progress their playing skills. Many of those young people now form the core and experienced band that are seen regularly in their performances.**

In 2012, the bands MD Claire Falcus and her team decided to concentrate their time and energies into developing the band within the



region, offering out more classes, performance opportunities and projects with the primary aim of promoting steel pan music within South East Northumberland area. The band has been busy for a number of years with performances of all kinds including weddings, festivals, community and corporate events.

In 2016, the band launched as a registered charity and now offers various steel pan programmes for all ages from as young as 3 to adults. At the same time, they were lucky to secure a significant Arts Council England grant which aided the purchased of a full set of new pans.

**At the same time, a young leader programme was launched offering the young people who work with the band, the opportunity to work with groups of steel pan players, gaining experience in arranging, teaching and leading steel pan lessons.**

Claire plans to bridge the gap between London and the North through collaborative projects in the aim of widening the skills and experience of the young people of CCC Steelband and all of its supporters, friends and participants. One of these projects was to work with the incredible Delphina 'Panness' James on a new piece of music in April 2018. This was Delphina's first visit to Cramlington and the players were very excited. She taught them a calypso version of 'Heal the World' by Michael Jackson. Laura (Tenor) 'loved the choice of music!' and Elize

(Tenor) 'loved working with Delphina'. The band is looking forward to working again with Delphina in the near future to aid their progression as a band.

2018, marks their 10th anniversary, in which time the band has grown in size and stature at Northburn Primary School. They now have more participants than ever before providing steelband tuition and performance opportunities for all ages through their various projects from age 3 -adult. The band is led by Claire Falcus and her team of dedicated and enthusiastic tutors, volunteers and the participants of our young leader programme.

They are aiming to make this year extra special and throughout the year will be celebrating their special milestone in various ways - so watch this space\





# Classorama 2017

Celebrating its 4th Anniversary

## About Classorama:

Classorama is a steelband competition for primary and secondary school steelbands that started in 2014. It emulates the Panorama competition held annually in Trinidad and in the UK. The purpose of Classorama is to recognise the many excellent school bands in the UK that go unnoticed for their wonderful works and achievements; in the same way that we recognise sports and other school activities.

**An initiative by steelpan tutor, Kyron Akal, Classorama started as a competition with his school pupils in 2007 at Sir John Cass's Foundation & Red Coat Church of England Secondary School. It very soon developed into a true Panorama atmosphere celebrated**

**by parents, teachers and pupils alike. What makes Classorama unique is Kyron Akal's concept to take any song from any genre and transforming it into a creative calypso piece of music. This permits children and young people to perform music they enjoy and are familiar with whilst emulating the Panorama competition from Trinidad & Tobago. Steel Pan Trust has developed Classorama into a national annual event in the month of July.**

## 2017 Competition:

Classorama is celebrating its 4th anniversary in 2017. This year, it was boldly located in a field in the High Wycombe area in the county of Buckinghamshire, under a big top circus tent. The event also included fun rides for the pupils,

which created a more festival atmosphere. What a success it was, with thirteen schools participating and everyone appreciated the outdoor location. In the past two years it was hosted in a large theatre in the Kilburn area of London.

## Quote of the day:

Shareen Gray, Director of the Steelpan Trust which hosts this iconic event said, "at one point during the day I looked around and there were children playing football on the field, children on the rides, pupils performing on the field and the competition commencing under the high top tent. It was one of the best feelings I have ever had at a Classorama".

The MC for the 2017 event was none other than Rodell Sorzano, the UK Soca Artist known as Triniboi Joochie who kept the audience entertained along with the assistance of a DJ. Throughout the day he held interviews with the judges, audience and participants. As usual there was a real buzz at the event and schools performed very well.

## The Winners:

The secondary school champions were **Kingsdale Foundation School who have won this competition for a third time with their steelpan tutor, Marlon Hibbert, who is also the Founder and Manager of the Endurance Steel Orchestra.** The primary school champion was **Harris Academy Coleraine Park with their pan tutor, Dan Sadler, who is also a Steel Pan Trust trustee.** Both gentlemen received awards at the **British Association of Steel Bands Awards event held on the 2nd December 2017 at the Holiday Inn in Bloomsbury, London.**

All the participating schools are now eagerly awaiting next year's Classorama competition and spreading the word of how much fun that this event brings to all its participants.

**The 2018 Classorama event will be held on 13th July 2018 at The Lordship Rec, Tottenham, Lordship Lane N17 6NU from - 09.00 - 17.00p.m.**







# UK Steelpan Tuners Guild

*Celebrating their 10th Anniversary*

## **Excellence, Professionalism, Innovation**

The UK Steelpan Tuners Guild was formed on the 4th November 2007. Steelpan craftsmen in the UK who wish to support the development of their craft and industry set up the Guild. This not for profit organisation was created by Guild members who wished to work together as a benevolent society supporting themselves and their families by the practice of their craft.

**Some of their aims include creating a centre for tuning services and technical advice, providing specialist education, training and accreditation, developing a benevolent society for Guild members, creating a forum to develop and share research including future technical developments and improving health and safety guidance in their field.**

The Guild was constituted on the 12th December 2010.

Their current members continue to spread their professional services globally offering steelbands and individuals the benefit of their highly honed skills, ensuring that they actively contribute to the growth and expansion of the steelpan culture, capturing audiences and encouraging the birth of steelbands in different parts of the world that are still virgin to this artform.

Some of the other creations and achievements of this talented group of craftsmen include the Octopan, Aubrapan Folding Stand, Collapsible Stage, Initiation of the Brixton Carnival to being the first person to introduce the steelpan instrument to the UK National School Curriculum and by 1978 having over 160 schools in the

London teaching the artform to students are certainly notable accomplishments.

Quote from Ludwig Van Beethoven, ' Music is the mediator between the spiritual and sensual life. Although the spirit be not master of that which it creates through music, yet it is blessed in this creation, which, like every creation of art, is mightier than the artist,'

The UK Steelpan Tuners Guild's appointed executive officers are:

Chairman – Robbie Joseph  
Vice –Chair – Toussaint Clarke  
Secretary – Cordelia 'Dene' Johnney  
Treasurer – Aubrey Bryan

**Check out their website:**

**[www.steelpantuners.com](http://www.steelpantuners.com)**

**Contact the UKPTG:**

**Email: [Info@steelpantuners.com](mailto:Info@steelpantuners.com)**







# DARIA & THE HIP DROPS

By Ray Funk and Dr Andrew Martin

**The spirit of steelpan has a way of leading people, and steelpan began taking over her life!**

In the diverse musical landscape of the United States, players of the steelpan find themselves in a variety of performance situations. The steelpan is often featured in steelbands and, increasingly, finds itself as part of a mixed ensemble with other traditional western musical instruments. One of the more eclectic ensembles featuring steelpan is the New Orleans-based band Daria and the Hip Drops. This pop group is a mainstay, performing in the vibrant New Orleans music scene as well as touring all over the Gulf Coast region from Louisiana to Florida. Daria and the Hip Drops have a unique sound that mixes a bit of Soca with a Pop joyfulness and lots of New

Orleans Funk. The band is led by vocalist and double seconds player named Daria Dzurik. New Orleans is a town full of musicians and bands of all styles and makes; yet, Daria and the Hip Drops are the only local band led by a steelpan soloist.

**Daria Dzurik was born into a musical family in Tallahassee, Florida. Her father, an engineering professor, is a devoted jazz pianist and music lover. Daria started learning piano at age four and not long after discovered steelpan when her older sister joined Lion Steel at Leon High School. Lion Steel is a well-known school steelband program in Florida and recently celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. Lion Steel is a real success story and currently boasts ten different steelbands of various age levels and abilities.**

It was into this fertile atmosphere that Daria ventured when she entered high school it was almost natural for her to follow suit in the Lion Steel Band. “I was president of Lion Steel while I was at Leon, designed their logo and t-shirts, and wrote my first steelband scores for them which included “Stayin Alive” by the Bee Gees and “Ob-la-Di, Ob-la-Da” by the Beatles.” After high school Daria continued her training at Florida State University which itself has long boasted a strong steelpan program. A devoted student and member of the Florida State University steelband Mas and Steel, Daria earned an undergraduate degree in music—though she thought she’d never focus on steelpan. **The spirit of steelpan has a way of leading people, and steelpan began taking over her life and that has remained her focus since she relocated to New Orleans. “It’s simple, really, she notes, “Pan is the sweetest sound. I listen to it everyday. Why not try to make a career out of it?”**

In 2009, Daria came to New Orleans to pursue a career performing and recording alongside bassist Graham Robinson—himself a talented musician who doubles as an audio producer/engineer. The pair learned recording technology and Robinson is now a skilled producer working with such legendary musicians as funk master Papa John Gros, Cajun great Zachary Richard, and many others. These intersections put Daria in contact with many of the greats of the New Orleans music scene and her refined musical style on the steelpan displays the marks of a variety of influences.

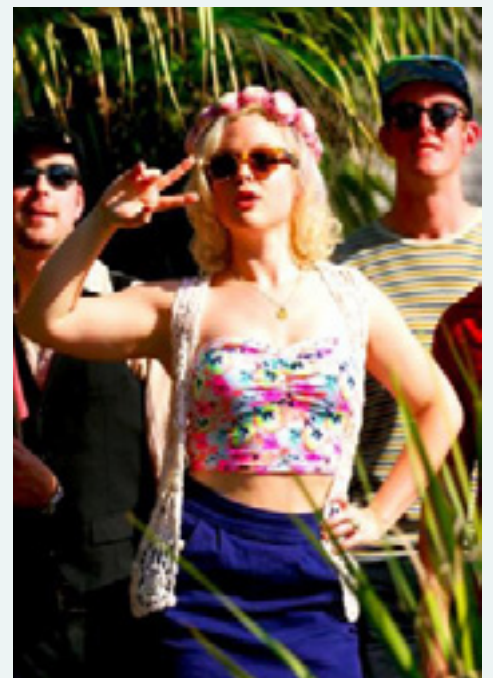
**Daria released her first album Calliope in 2010 and then formed her current band called the Hip Drops shortly thereafter. The name Hip Drops comes from a beloved 1970s New Orleans R & B classic called the “Hip Drop” made popular by the band the Explosions. Daria has since led the band playing mostly her own distinctive upbeat and danceable compositions and the past few years have been specifically devoted to songwriting and performing.**

A wide-ranging performer, Daria is adept at performing as a singer/steelpanist in a variety of situations and the band lineup of the Hip Drops changes periodically and ranges from a duo with her and Robinson to the full quartet. Daria prefers the full quartet with guitar and drummer as it shows the full range of steelpan within the context of her band’s sound. In 2015, Daria and

the Hip Drops released their first album as a band titled Hipnotic and have recently produced a slew of new music videos for many of the songs from the album.

In addition to steelpan playing, Daria is involved in several aspects of the Mardi Gras in New Orleans. Her interest in the Carnival arts led her to join the New Orleans-based Cherry Bombs, a dance troupe that regularly performs for Mardi Gras parades and other events in the Gulf Coast region. The Cherry Bombs have grown to more than thirty members and Daria finds the experience of being in a dance troupe and performing in parades liberating and inspiring. **Her time in the Cherry Bombs further inspired Daria to choreograph a soca-inspired routine for her last video “Sun Goddess.” The routine was created with the aid of dance teacher Jeremy Guyton and features several “Cherries”.** The connection between music and dance has since become very real for Daria and she now approaches composition thinking of body movements to match the lyrics, melody, and rhythm! As one of her band members said in an interview, “It’s all about having fun and getting people to dance in the sun!”

Daria is also involved with other band







**Daria is one of only a handful of steelpan players active in the New Orleans music scene. However, the region has a long history of steelpan dating back to the 1960s. The US Navy Steel Band, itself formed in Puerto Rico in 1957.**

projects and has recently lent her steelpan skills to a new band called Mike Dillon and the Punk Rock Percussion Consortium. Band leader Mike Dillon is an accomplished vibraphone player and wanted to put together a large ensemble of over a dozen percussionist that play a variety of instruments.

As Dillon told Offbeat magazine, **“The main concept is taking the percussion ensemble out of universities or the classical world and bringing it to the jazz/rock/punk world. Bring percussion to the people!”** The Mike Dillon and the Punk Rock Percussion Consortium features wild musical arrangements that display roots in jazz, free jazz, minimalism, and Punk Rock music. Daria serves as the

resident steelpannist for the band and this work has allowed her a whole new musical outlet.

Daria is one of only a handful of steelpan players active in the New Orleans music scene. However, the region has a long history of steelpan dating back to the 1960s. The US Navy Steel Band, itself formed in Puerto Rico in 1957, made regular trips to New Orleans as early as 1959 and the band relocated to the Algiers naval base in 1972. The US Navy Steel Band was a fixture in the New Orleans music and school scene until their disbandment in fall of 1999. The band made numerous local appearances and were very active during the Mardi Gras season in New Orleans, participating in fetes, parades, and other related Carnival-inspired events.



**Sun Goddess**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSgkBnoEDxM>

**Hole in Heart:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kpngv3n1wzc>

**Quatimplative Beat:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v\\_eQPHhw9Ts](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_eQPHhw9Ts)

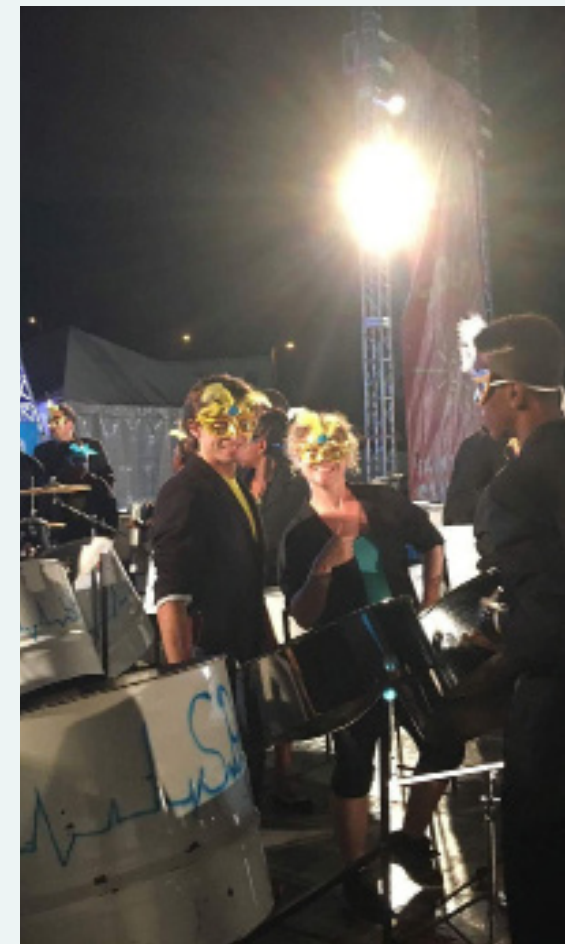
**Beyonce’s “Hold Up”:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEa-5tvhiGQ>

Two former members of the US Navy Steel Band have continued to be active in New Orleans for many years teaching in the schools and performing in the clubs. These include Gregory Boyd who has since relocated to Denmark and New Orleans native Roland Lawes who led his own steelband called the Executive Steel Band. Lawes was forced to relocate following Hurricane Katrina and the latest version of this band is currently based in Austin, Texas. Several Trinidadians also now call New Orleans home and Reynold Kinsale, who was for many years was the leader and arranger of Blue Diamond Steel Orchestra in Port of Spain, moved to New Orleans in 2012. He has since been teaching steelpan at several schools in the area and working with the newly formed Neptune Steel Band which is comprised largely of Trinidadian expatriates.

The city of New Orleans has always shared a kinship with the Caribbean and the annual Mardi Gras celebration is witness to the connection between Carnival and American culture. What better backdrop for the progressive sounds of Daria and the Hip Drops, where Daria Dzurik is creating a new steelpan sound in the Big Easy on a nightly basis that embraces and expands on its Caribbean forefathers.

**Ray Funk is a retired Alaskan judge and a Fulbright scholar who is passionately devoted to calypso, pan and mas. Dr. Andrew Martin is an ethnomusicologist, percussionist, pannist, and Professor of Music at Inver Hills College in St Paul, Minnesota.**

VIDEOS:





## Rickford 'Ricky' Decairos

*Music is not what I do. It is what I am!*

*Music has the power to express your emotions when words are not enough.*

Rickford Decairos, mostly known to everyone as Ricky or Mr Decairos, was born on 29th October 1938 in Georgetown, Guyana (formerly known as British Guiana). He went to Borda Market Primary School and also attended a sports club in the afternoon where he enjoyed playing table tennis, basketball and football. At the age of eleven (11), Ricky found his love for music when he joined The Invaders Steelband and was a member for 4 years.

In 1955, he came to England to live with his grandmother, when he was 15 years old. He attended Day's High School where he achieved the Junior Cambridge Certificate (equivalent to O Levels) with passes in English, Maths, English Literature and English History from 1066.

Ricky went on to study at the Polytechnic College in Shoreditch for four (4) years. **At the age of nineteen (19) he was called up for National Service, which he did for two (2) years at RAF Staffordshire Air Base, achieving the rank of LAC (Leading Air Craft Personnel).**

While doing his National Service, Ricky took the relevant military exams and progressed to the rank of SAC (Senior Air Craft Personnel) for the next three (3) years. During that period he undertook the Royal Air Force exams Part 1 and Part 2, passing in English, Maths, Civics and RAF History. He also took and passed the RAF Air Movements exams that gained him promotion to the rank of Corporal, which would have led to Sergeant, had he stayed in the RAF, at the Cardington Air Base.

During that time Ricky served in the Far East Air Force for MAMS (Mobile Air Movement Squadron) from November 1965 to May 1967, where he was part of the aircrew in charge of aircraft handling. He served in Brunei, Cyprus, Malaya, Philippines, Sarawak, Sabah and Singapore. Some of his responsibilities were dealing with the control of passengers, baggage and freight for outbound and inbound flights. A quote from Ricky's RAF testimonial says, "Corporal Decairos greatest asset was his appearance, which has always been to the highest standard". Anyone who knew Ricky will surely concur with such a statement, as he was quite particular with his appearance." After 12 years of exemplary service in the RAF, at the age of thirty-one (31), he left and went on to a career with BOAC (British Overseas Airways Corporation), now British Airways.

While working with BOAC, Ricky started teaching at Goldsmiths College for two evenings a week, doing steelband music and lecturing to Bachelor of Education students for their music exams in Specialist Percussion Instruments from around the world for a total of six (6) years. Having a burning passion for music since he was eleven (11) years old and this continued throughout his life until he sadly passed away. His passion for music was so prominent that in 1975, at the age of thirty-seven (37); he was granted a one-year leave of absence from BOAC to undertake, on a part-time basis, teaching steelband at Haselrigge JM and Crawley JM schools (now known as Mostyn Gardens JM School).

After Ricky's probationary period, a request was made by Mrs De Bray (HMI retired) to BOAC for him to be put on the panel of steelband tutors. That request was accepted by all the senior officials and was his initiation of teaching steelband permanently in different schools in three different boroughs. Ricky also aspired to form and be part of his own steelband called Silver Echo, which was both successful and entertaining.

**In 1979, he became known in the pan world, as the founder of Lambeth Youth Steel Orchestra (now Southside Harmonics Steel Orchestra), which has gone on to become one of London's finest steel bands. They regularly perform in the capital, have toured**

**the Channel Islands, Italy and France, and since 1987 they've appeared regularly at the Notting Hill Carnival where they have been voted "Best Steel Band On The Road" for many years.**

**Ricky's steelband tutor's career spanned over thirty-five (35) years. During that time, he achieved his British Association of Steel Bands' (BAS) Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award, in 2009 at the age of seventy-one (71).**

Sadly, Ricky had an unfortunate accident in December 2007, which left him bedridden for ten (10) years, but that did not stop him, his spirit and love for music continued. He would always ask to listen to music whilst sitting in his wheelchair, bopping his head along to it, or to watch it on TV. He used to like to watch all the sports channels, you name it Ricky had seen it. Not forgetting his action movies – his favourite movies were Shaka Zulu, Roots and Shogun. It has been confirmed that Ricky has seen them over and over and over again!

Sometimes in our lives we meet a special person. Ricky was one of those people who we can honestly say has had a great influence on a lot of people (he tutored hundreds and inspired even more) because he changed something deep within us. He may have said or done something that really touched your soul.

**'Colour is the keyboard, the eyes are the harmonies, the soul is the piano with many strings. The artist is the hand that plays,**






**touching one key or another, to cause vibrations in the soul'. Ricky you were the inspiration!**

Ricky will always have a place in our hearts because we owe a little part of ourselves to him. His teaching was stimulating and supportive, with students encouraged to develop an advanced, critical approach to music that was supported by theoretical understanding and practical skills. Without him lots of his students and people he interacted with may never have become the people that they are today because of his tutorship, kindness, gentle and caring ways.

He has always been an inspirational role model and motivated us to greater achievements. On a personal note, Ricky taught my son to play the steelpans at a early age that fuelled his musical passion, so much so that he went on to excel in music composing his own songs and creating a boy band with his fellow students.

Rickford 'Ricky' Decairos. You have gone to continue your musical journey in heaven to

serenade the angels with your musicality, but you will never be forgotten by all of us you touched!

# TINY'S STIX

WOODEN & ALUMINIUM CUSTOMISED  
STEEL PAN STICKS

AUTHENTICALLY MADE FROM TOP QUALITY MATERIALS

EMAIL: MZTINEYWINEY@HOTMAIL.COM  
FACEBOOK: TINY'S STIX  
WEBSITE: WWW.PANTONIC-UK.COM  
PHONE: 07506121808





## Ebony Steelband retains their UK Junior Steelband Panorama Champions

*"Continuity of our steelpan culture lies with the youth!"*

Kensington Memorial Park, St Marks Road, London, W10 was transformed into a mini Carnival Village on Monday the 14th August 2017 to accommodate the annual CAPCA/BAS Carnival and Junior Panorama competition.

After months of planning and laborious work by their pannists, the bands were ready for their Panorama performance. On the day it was an early start to the activities with all players combining their efforts to get their instruments set up and also participated in 'warming up' sessions before they initiated the start of the Panorama. The sweet strains of steelband music attracted the public like bees to honey and the performance area was soon filled with an appreciative and fully entertained audience.

On the 14th August 2017 the British Association

of Steelbands in partnership with the Children and Parents Carnival Association under the leadership of Lee Woolford-Chivers hosted the competition. Junior Panorama judges for the 2017 competition were Debbie 'Pan Diva' Romain, the UK renowned steelpan musician, Marlon Hibbert, founder, manager and arranger of the Endurance Steel Orchestra and Michael from the Children and Parents Carnival Association.

**Ebony Junior Steelband played Peter Ram's, Good Morning, musically arranged by David Ijaduola to retain their BAS/CAPCA Junior Panorama Champions title for 2017. Their dynamic rendition filled with musicality certainly captivated the audience. Their melodious strains of music coupled with the energy and enthusiasm of their players was**

**certainly a winning combination.**

Pan Nation Steel Orchestra captured the runners up position with 209 points. They treated the audience to a scintillating rendition of Len 'Boogsie' Sharpe's, Red White and Black, musically arranged by none other than the talented, Chris Storey, founder, manager and musical director of Pan Nation. This was 'The Nation's' first appearance at this contest and they have certainly left their mark of greater things to come. Their rendition was vibrant and filled with enthusiasm. They were also awarded the trophy for the Best Presentation.



In third place with 190 points was Sussex Steel Orchestra another newcomer to this competition. **Sussex Steel is a charity (CIO) created by individuals who are passionate about steelpan and committed to increasing the musical opportunities for people in Sussex and beyond.** Their goal is to make steelpan accessible to everyone. They run Sussex Steel professional, youth and community bands. They also played Len 'Boogsie' Sharpe's, Red, White and Black musically arranged by Pablo Barrios.







## Croydon Steel Orchestra

Attaining fourth place with 186 points was Croydon Steel Orchestra. What a great show by these young musicians. There was a five-year-old in the band jamming music that really epitomised the spirit of this competition.

**Paul Dowie, manager of CSO continues to work tirelessly, inspiring his young musicians to produce some exciting music in his quest to develop his young musicians.**

In fact, this year he allowed three of his young members to arrange their tune of choice; Single, and Jordan Quinn- Hillier, Jordan White and Jonathan Turner and they did him justice.

Capturing fifth place was Northern Steel Orchestra; Jenny Gilberg's musical arrangement of Destra's 'Lucy' saw them amass 184 points. This youthful band had bags of drive and enthusiasm, which will prove to be useful assets in future, competitions.



Metronomes Steel Orchestra's outstanding performance saw their youthful players attain 163 points to captured sixth place. Their tune of choice was Tambu's, We Aint Going Home, which was musically arranged by their manager, Eversley 'Breeze' Mills. **This band of young players certainly showed their potential and dexterity with the instrument. Their rendition certainly transported the audience back in time.**

On the day the audience was treated to an explosion of sweet steel band music played by young enthusiastic pan musicians. Steel band music continues to be the overall winner; the



wealth of music on offer certainly captivated the audience. In fact, it was deemed the best UK Junior Steel Band Panorama since this competition started both by the officials as well as the audience on the day.

**This infectious music is spreading like a global pandemic and Pan Podium is ably assisting in its dispersion. Everyone is now looking forward to next year's competitions with great enthusiasm. Pan 4 Life!**

Panpodium leaves with a quote from John Denver:

"Music does bring people together. It allows us to experience the same emotions. People everywhere are the same in heart and spirit. No matter what language we speak, what colour we are, the form of our politics or the expression of our love and our faith, music proves: We are the same."





## Pan Clash Soloist Competition 2017

Building confidence and musical expression!

10 Years of Pan Clash was celebrated on Sunday 22nd October 2017 at The Tabernacle, W11. With that said it is fitting that a whole new generation of steelpan soloists took part in this year's, 'Over 16's' category some of which were only 10-years old when this competition began.

### PAN CLASH OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To provide more steelpan opportunities for young people
- 2) Build young people's confidence and musical expression
- 3) To increase the audience that listen to live steelpan music

### ABOUT PAN CLASH:

Pan Clash is a steelpan soloist competition for children under 16 and young people aged 16-30

that happens every October. Competitors can take part using any range of steelpan. Each year the rules change but at the heart of these rules is soloing by competitors for a set amount of bars which is performed with a professional 3/4-piece steelband.

The winner receives a cash prize, a BAS Award, tickets to the MOBO Awards and performs at the MOBO Awards VIP Reception. Also on the night of Pan Clash are outstanding live performances and presenters to keep the audience entertained. Pan Clash is a great event in Black History month to demonstrate the art of steelpan music.

Pan Clash was created by Steel Pan Agency's Owner/Manager, Shareen Gray BA (Hons). Steel Pan Agency, with a team of up to 15 musicians, predominantly provide workshops and

performances at schools, private functions and corporate events and so far have visited over 300 schools; [www.steelpanagency.com](http://www.steelpanagency.com).

Shareen has been organising Pan Clash since 2007 and in 2013 she formed Steel Pan Trust a charity promoting Steelpan Music that now organises this event; [www.steelpantrust.com](http://www.steelpantrust.com).

### 2017 Winners:

Lola Peach was the champion soloist in the Under 16's Category. Lola was also a part of the Kingsdale Foundation School; champions of Steelpan Trust's Classorama event, a school steelband competition held in July.

The over 16's category competition winner Ebow Mensah was the champion last year in the under 16's category which is both a fantastic achievement on his part and he will receive his first British Association of Steelbands (BAS) Award this year as a result. Other prizes included £500 cash and 4 tickets to the British MOBO Awards.

It was a great evening that included performances from Carlene 'Sweetwrist' Etienne, Debra Romain and Alexander D. Great. The whole event had a natural high as many people involved were recognising how long they have been a part of this event.

Kayleigh 'Loudmouth' Lewis who is a recognised British comedian said to the founder of Pan Clash Shareen Gray, "You bought me to the stage before I was even a comedian and believed in me before I knew I loved a microphone and a stage. You saw something in me 10 years ago and continued to watch me grow into the stage woman I am today! Not everybody has the friends or platform to do what they love and instead of beating down on people you prefer to lift them up and I am forever grateful!"

The evening ended with a speech from Shareen Gray giving flowers and a bottle to the presenters Joel 'Tubbs' Hamilton-Mills & Kayleigh 'Loudmouth' Lewis who have become the faces of Pan Clash, steelpan musicians Samuel Dubois and Thomas Sinclair for supporting the event in many ways from the beginning and BAS Debi Gardner who has supported this event since 2007.



### 2017 Results:

Under 16s:

Lola Peach – 1st  
Nyle Auguiste-Bailey – 2nd

Over 16s:

Ebow Mensah – 1st  
Marlon Hibbert – 2nd  
Aaron Davidson – 3rd  
Siobhan Mitchell – 4th

To enter the competition or for more info please visit; [www.panclash.co.uk](http://www.panclash.co.uk).

By Shareen Gray BA (Hons)  
Steel Pan Trust  
[www.steelpantrust.com](http://www.steelpantrust.com)





## Kwesi 'Shottalinkz' Paul

### *Music in my Blood*

Born in the leafy suburb of Cascade in the northeast corner of the Queen's Park Savannah in Port of Spain, Trinidad in 1981, Kwesi who is the last of his siblings on his father's side of the family was dubbed the black sheep of the family and also gained his father's musical talents. Oscar Henry Paul aka Kembu, was very supportive of Kwesi's musical career. As a very young child Kwesi would listen to the music his father played and could distinctly remember holding a Michael Jackson's album to his chest and no one was able to take it away. He would fall asleep to music and it was clear from such a tender age that music was in his blood, something his father recognized and appreciated.

Kembu formed the first steelband in Cascade, called Soul City. Kwesi would sneak out from home and go to the panyard where Kembu

arranged musical compositions for the band. At five years old he was able to watch, listen and play the music on the steelpan instruments in a relatively short period of time standing on a box or bucket to everyone's amazement. However, his mother waited patiently at home and on his arrival from the panyard he would be subjected to a beating or 'cutass' but this did not deter him as his father continued to encourage him and his musical prowess, taking Kwesi everywhere he went.

The pressures of life took its toll when Kwesi was older and he lived temporarily with his father after his parents separated. His mom eventually took him to live with her and his sister and his pan playing days disappeared as she thought that there was no future in it for him. They eventually moved to La Horquetta in the east of Trinidad where Kwesi excelled as a cricketer at

his primary school, La Horquetta North, making outstanding contributions. He went on to attend Barataria Junior Secondary where he progressed in his music classes, he moved to Arima Senior Comprehensive, where he was reunited with his beloved instrument, the steelpan. The school had a steelband led by his mathematics teacher, Ian Teddy Belgrave. Kwesi pleaded with his mother to join telling her that that he was getting free maths lessons and she allowed him.

At Arima Comprehensive, Kwesi played the tenor pan with my best friend, Tristan, and they went on to win the School Music Festival with a test piece by Dr Jit Samaroo and their tune of choice, the Seagull, this was a historical moment in his musical journey. Sadly, his mother's dislike of the steelpan and its music saw his musical career come to an end once more. He returned to Port of Spain at age 19 to live with is father and started working on construction sites, eventually he began to work as a DJ and MC which he really loved and excelled in.

Kwesi's lifestyle soon changed for the worst as he fraternized with the wrong crowd and was incarcerated for doing drugs and crime which he paid dearly for but as luck will have it he discovered there was a steelband in the prison and he there he met Delbert Henry, a very talented player and arranger from Tobago who noted Kwesi's musical talents and encouraged Kwesi to learn his scales, chords, harmonization etc.

Kwesi earned his respect in the prison where everyone including the prison officers and chiefs addressed him as, 'The Pan Man'. On his release a prison officer called, Forbes, recognized his musical talents and introduced him to Neal and Massy All Stars Steel Orchestra, where he won the National Panorama with them playing the tune, Firestorm. He took his final night uniform home as a memento for his father who displayed it with great admiration even though he was a diehard Amoco Renegades supporter.

Sadly, one day after playing football and returning home Kwesi was confronted with the horrifying news that his father had passed away after a severe asthma attack. The whole village of Cascade mourned his death, as he was an iconic person who brought unity to the village



by introducing Blockorama street parties with sporting events. Kwesi played at his funeral, his hero had gone and he could barely finish the song. He went back to being a DJ \ MC again with his close friend, Ahkiel Benjamin and started making positive waves working on 104.7 and then 91.9 FM radio stations as a radio announcer.

Kwesi was then introduced to Harlem Syncopators Steelband where he started playing the steel pan again and from then he never stopped. He had found his calling and was given a chance to arrange a tune by their manager, Daisy Mc Clean. His first arrangement was Shurwayne Winchester's, Don't Stop. A few months after his cousin, Kevin Baptiste, took him to the Pandemonium Steel Orchestra in Belmont where his musical career kicked off. He started teaching kids from Belmont and the surrounding areas sharing the love and respect with them through his music. He spent nineteen years with them being a musical director. Not being rewarded properly for his services led to his departure for greener pastures.

In his quest to become a great arranger and soloist his learning journey took him along the path to work with the likes of arrangers like Ken 'Professor' Philmore , Len 'Boogsie' Sharpe, the late great Clive Bradley, Robert Greenidge and the lists goes on . In 2005, Kwesi was given a great opportunity to be the musical director for a musical steel pan production entitled, Steel, written and directed by Sir Derek Walcott and the musical genius, Galt McDermott. It was his biggest production ever and was very proud to work with such great people. Kwesi

then returned to arrange in competitions for Pandemonium Steel Orchestra for Pan in the 21st Century and Laventille Back Road celebrations.

In 2013, his first panorama arrangement, Melosian Rhapsody, gave him strength and belief even though they did not qualify for the finals but attained 12th place in the preliminaries and qualified for the semi-finals. Unfortunately, the following year he was replaced as their arranger and this action left his hopes and dreams of being an arranger shattered. Kwesi did not allow this setback to dampen his spirits so he diverted to be a soloist after watching a band called, Pantasy.

Kwesi gives credit to Duvonne Stuart, whose style of playing and arranging inspired him. He also extended thanks to his uncle, Rick Robley, who gave him his first steel pan and encouraged him to play with Desperadoes Steel Orchestra but he did not remain as he wanted to make a name for himself so continued his musical journey, playing and developing his musical skills with steelbands like, Steel Explosion, Courts Sounds Specialists, Phase 11 Pan Groove amongst many others.



As a steelpan soloist Kwesi has played at many events in Trinidad and Tobago including Machel Monday 2017 and Steel in 2005. In June 2016, Kwesi confirmed that he was contracted by Trelton Layne Management Group who landed a distribution deal with Grammy nominated record label, VPal Music, being the first steel pan artiste to be signed to a Grammy Nominated



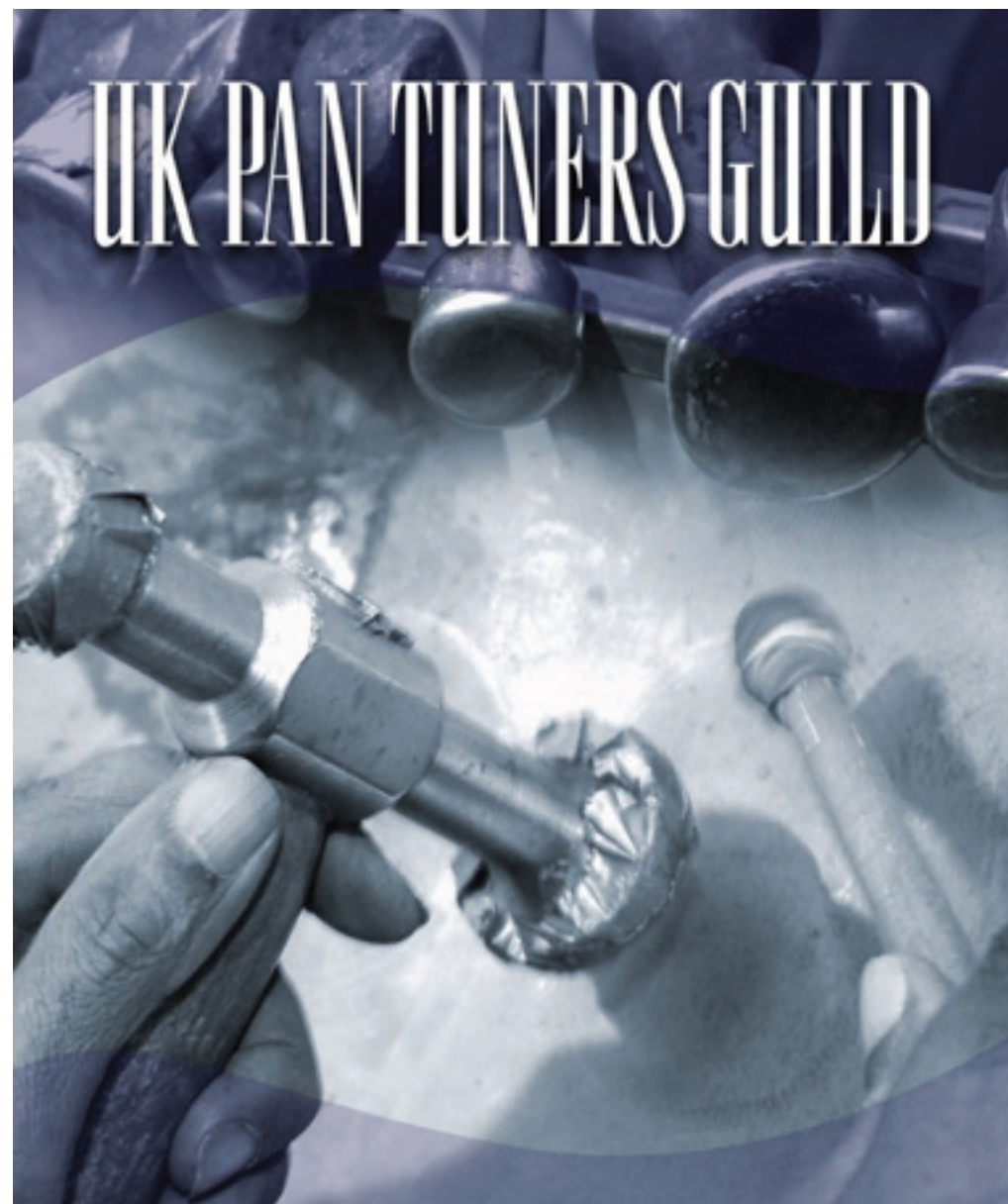
label. His manager got him on a TV6 morning edition and CTV.

This was followed by his album launch at the Kaiso Blues Café on the 24th July 2016. He continued performing in small engagements and in late 2017 he landed an opportunity to perform in the St Vincent Panorama competition under the arrangement of Duvonne Stuart

and assistance of his uncle, Rick Robley, they went on to win the panorama competition and a few weeks after returning to Trinidad, Rick formed his band, Caribbean Steelpan Connexion, and their first gig was to travel to Kazakhstan and perform in the World International Expo entitled, Future Energy, where Kwesi was the lead player and co-musical director. Israel Mc Cloud, their manager organized the tour and their appearance created history as the first black men and a steel band ensemble to perform in Astana, taking the steelpan culture and its mesmerizing music to another uncharted territory.

Kwesi's album, The Love Groove, is still on sale on all leading digital platforms and he is planning to release another with the right level of financial support and/or sponsorship. His goal is to get the steel pan and its music in places and events where it has never been and to continue to make history in his solo career by pushing himself to hone his skills even more to reach the highest level he can achieve in music.

Pan Podium applauds this talented musician who has persevered against all odds to achieve his goals with great determination and conviction for his culture and his country's national instrument.



## UK STEEL PAN TUNERS GUILD

EXCELLENCE - PROFESSIONALISM - INNOVATION

Email: [info@steelpantuners.com](mailto:info@steelpantuners.com) - Telephone: 07973 69750

[www.steelpantuners.com](http://www.steelpantuners.com)





## NOSTALGIA'S TRIUMPHANT TRIP TO TRINIDAD CARNIVAL 2018

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MORE RECIPROCAL PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN LONDON AND TRINIDAD

BY PROFESSOR HAROUN SHAH

From its inception in 1964, Nostalgia Steelband has been one of the most ethnically diverse steelbands. For Notting Hill Carnival (NHC), players join the band from various parts of the globe, however, until the arrival of Ishmael "Luxy" Zackerali, pannist/arranger for Southern All-Stars, Nostalgia had not recruited a player directly from Trinidad. In three successive years, Luxy's arrangement of Sparrow's 'Drunk and Disorderly' (2015) and Kitchener's Rainorama' (2016) and 'Pan in A Minor' (2017) grew in complexity, boldness and key modulations.

But in 2017, he surpassed his own expectations and was so overwhelmed at NHC that he

wanted his protégé, Bobby Mohammed (one of Trinidad's legends) to hear the music. The solution was to take the group to Trinidad and preliminary plans were immediately drawn up for this historic trip. Two keys pieces were selected, Lord Kitchener "67" and Simon and Garfunkel's 'Bridge Over Troubled Waters'.

Undaunted by the task ahead, Nostalgia held practice sessions between November 2017 to the end of January 2018 before flying out to Trinidad with our pans on 9th February 2018. Both bands practiced diligently during carnival Saturday and Sunday at Southern All Stars's panyard at 'Union Claxton Bay Senior

Comprehensive School', Claxton Bay in south Trinidad (see main Photo- Panyard of Southern All Stars; juxtaposed to the back of 'Union Claxton Bay Senior Comprehensive School', Claxton Bay in south Trinidad. Members of both bands at the initial stages of practice on Carnival Saturday, just hours after landing in Trinidad).

Practice was intense to harmonise the single pans of Nostalgia with multiple conventional pans of Southern All Stars in such a short time and to learn about 40% of the new arrangement of both pieces.

We entered J'Ouvert competition, San Fernando at 6am at Harris Promenade and played our 'Bomb' tune on Coffee Street (pass my old home) and returned to Claxton Bay at 1pm. We departed again at 3pm for Carapichaima, a small, charming, rural town in Central Trinidad. As the only Steelband at their Night Mas, we were given a tumultuous welcome and played there before returning to our panyard at 10pm. Tuesday carnival was challenging along the crowded main streets, especially Cipero Street.



The single pans of Nostalgia and multiple pans of Southern All Stars were interspersed on the racks while the 6- and 5-base pans, a drum set and percussion were placed in the middle of the float. Southern All Stars/Nostalgia playing in the maroon-coloured tops of Southern All Stars on Coffee Street, San Fernando. Just opposite (Carib Street) is the old panyard of the band.

The band plays there annually to acknowledge its local supporters before starting the carnival route.

Unlike decades ago, the mobile Sound Systems dominate, our steelband being the sole one. Yet, this was the highlight of our trip, being given emotional ovation along the route until we ended at 7.30pm.

Travel, customs, immigration, police clearance and documentation to play on the road, packing, pan tuning upon arrival, transport etc needs meticulous planning beforehand. This monumental trip was both transformative and illuminating and we feel opens up new vistas for more direct collaboration between Trinidad and the diaspora.



Members of Nostalgia prior to assembling pans on the float which held 30 players. Back row; from left to right: Yvanna Barbe, Angelina Anshah, Maria Wardale, Karen Jackson, Christine Davis, Pier Reid, Haroun Shah and Laila Shah. Front, left to right; Abigail Gibb and Dominic Markes. Missing for the photograph; Sera Terry, Daniel Bessong and Marvin Barbe.

Members of smaller bands rarely get this opportunity to travel. We are now working toward bringing Southern All Stars for NHC and members of Pamperri. We are in the throes of organising our 7th biennial steelpan conference (19-21st October 2018, Tabernacle, London W11 2AY) titled "Empowering the Youth to Lead the UK Transformation of Carnival Arts; Celebrating Windrush 70" and having witnessed the extraordinary work Franka and Vanessa Headley with the youth band, 'Golden Hands', we are aiming to bring the bandleaders here for this conference to share their experience with the youths in the UK.





# Meet Naoko Yabuta Tokyo, Japan

by When Steel Talks (WST)

"After our Panorama performance, I listened to the final result on the radio at the Desperadoes panyard. I didn't understand English well but when I saw everyone bubbling over with joy, I knew we had won!"

She doesn't just love Pan - she breathes Pan and lives the experience of Pan. She was born and lives in Tokyo, Japan - but there is absolutely no doubt, that she is 1000% Desperadoes. In an exclusive interview with When Steel Talks - panist and performing artist Naoko Yabuta shares her reflections, experiences and views on Pan, and the steelpan art form overall.

WST - "Tell us about Naoko Yabuta?"

Naoko-san - "I'm Naoko Yabuta from Japan. I've been playing in the Panland Steel Orchestra in Japan as a triple or four cello player since 2002. We practice every Saturday afternoon to prepare for various performances in the greater Tokyo metro area.

"On weekdays, I work at a sportswear

and goods company in human resources department. And I study English diligently."

WST - "How were you introduced to the steelpan instrument; what pan do you play?"

Naoko-san "In 1999, I watched a Japanese TV program on Trinidad and Tobago. That's when I first learned about the steelpan and

other Trinbagonian culture (music, food, nature, people, etc.). The program was very interesting and it really made me want to play the steelpan. In 2002, I joined the Panland Steel Orchestra, and I play cello now."

WST - "What is it about steelpan that attracts you so?"

Naoko-san - "One attractive part of the steelpan is the sound of the instrument. Sometimes sweet, sexy, passionate, cute and more..... Steelpan has many facets depending on the number of players and the playing method. I hope to learn more about many aspects of the steelpan."

WST - "How long have you been playing pan? Do you play any other instruments?"

Naoko-san - "I've been playing the steelpan since 2002, so about 14 years. I played the electronic organ for 25 years, and played the horn (brass) in primary school."

WST - "What keeps your love for the instrument, the music and culture going?"

Naoko-san - "The Desperadoes!! I love Desperadoes music very much and everyone from Desperadoes. I'm so happy when I get to play with the band every year. If I'm drinking STAG, I become MUCH HAPPIER too!! Everyone knows that I love STAG.

"Every time I come back to Japan from Trinidad, I immediately miss Desperadoes. I'm already planning my next trip to visit Trinidad for next Panorama."

WST - "This year you won Panorama in Trinidad with Desperadoes Steel Orchestra. What was that experience like?"

Naoko-san - "After our Panorama performance, I listened to the final result on the radio at the Desperadoes panyard. I didn't understand English well but when I saw everyone bubbling over with joy, I knew we had won!

"I was extremely happy and it reminded me when I joined the band all by myself in 2011. At the time, I couldn't speak much English. In 2012, we didn't make the finals. Since my time with Desperadoes, I experienced four arrangers and three different panyards. A lot has happened but I'm always happy to play with the Desperadoes. The victory from this year not only gave me happiness, but also thankfulness to the Desperadoes.



"I thinking to go back next year as a supporter and not a player to cheer on the Desperadoes, but I'm still deciding."

WST - "What Pan did you play in Desperadoes this year?"

Naoko-san - "I've always played four pan since I joined the band in 2011."

WST - "What disappoints you the most in the steelpan movement?"

Naoko-san - "The steelpan is not as well-known in Japan as in other countries.

"Panland Steel Orchestra was formed to share the joy of steelpan with people in Japan. So, we are happy if we are introducing the steelpan to many more people to create joy through our music."

WST - "How has Pan changed over the years for you?"

Naoko-san - "Steelpan changed my life. My life now revolves around steelpan. I take a long vacation every year. I think my family and friends understand that about me."

WST - "What is Panorama to you?"

Naoko-san - "For me, Panorama is like a combination of my birthday, Christmas, and New Year's Day all mixed into one big holiday. There are many people from all over the world who love steelpan that go on to the stage in the Queen's Park Savannah with lots of fun and excitement. Panorama gives us the best time together. It's the happiest place."



WST - "Do you have a favorite arranger?"  
Naoko-san - "My favorite arranger is the Desperadoes arranger every year."

WST - "What is your vision for the steelpan instrument in Japan?"  
Naoko-san - "I wish more people could know about the many facets of steelpan sounds. From children to elderly, irrespective of age, I hope



they get an opportunity to encounter steelpan music and have fun.

Naoko-san - "Lastly, we had a very sad incident after this year's carnival. We lost one of our beloved steelpan players, Asami Nagakiya. People from all over the world expressed sadness and shared condolences with me and others from Japan. I'm very thankful for your thoughts and prayers. I hope to spread the music of steelpan and the wonderful culture of Trinidad and Tobago that she loved so much. I believe that all Japanese people who love Trinidad and Tobago feel the same way. I also hope to do the same when I visit Trinidad and Tobago. It is our wish that more people from



various countries can come to Japan to see Japanese steelpan culture someday.  
Asami Nagakiya

See more at: <http://www.panonthenet.com/woman/2016/naoko-yabuta.htm#sthash.TnlypLgD.dpuf>

WST - "What have you been most proud about as it relates to Pan?"  
Naoko-san - "Steelpan brings lots of fun, pleasure and happiness to everyone. I felt the same when I was introduced to steelpan."

LITHO

DIGITAL



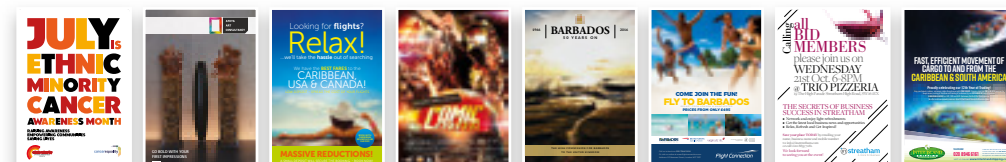
# 1000 A6 FLYERS £30.00

READY IN  
\*24 HOURS!  
+ FREE  
ARTWORK  
CHECK

PRINTED DOUBLE SIDED - FROM YOUR PRINT READY ARTWORK  
ONTO 300GSM GLOSS OR SILK PAPERS - TURNAROUND TIME: 1 DAY (\*ORDERS UNDER 1000 COPIES)

A6 FLYERS <small>300GSM GLOSS OR SILK D/S - 105X148MM</small>				DL FLYERS <small>300GSM GLOSS OR SILK D/S - 210X99MM</small>				A5 FLYERS <small>300GSM GLOSS OR SILK D/S - 148X210MM</small>			
500 A6 SIZE £25	1000 A6 SIZE £30	2000 A6 SIZE £60	5000 A6 SIZE £100	500 DL SIZE £30	1000 DL SIZE £40	2000 DL SIZE £70	5000 DL SIZE £120	500 A5 SIZE £30	1000 A5 SIZE £60	2000 A5 SIZE £100	5000 A5 SIZE £125
SQ FLYERS <small>300GSM GLOSS OR SILK D/S - 148X148MM</small>				A3 POSTERS <small>250GSM GLOSS S/S - 297X420MM</small>				TICKETS <small>FULL COLOUR TICKETS - BOOKS OF 25'S</small>			
500 SQ SIZE £30	1000 SQ SIZE £40	2000 SQ SIZE £70	5000 SQ SIZE £100	25 A3 SIZE £15	50 A3 SIZE £25	100 A3 SIZE £40	200 A3 SIZE £60	100 TICKETS £40	200 TICKETS £50	500 TICKETS £80	1000 TICKETS £120

✓ OPEN TILL 8PM ✓ QUALITY LITHO AND DIGITAL ✓ SAME DAY PRINTING AVAILABLE



**020 8648 3036**  
8 MENIN WORKS, BOND ROAD, MITCHAM, CR4 3HG  
Opening Times: Mon-Sat 9am-8pm / Sun 10am-4pm  
[www.printify-uk.com](http://www.printify-uk.com)

**PRINTIFY**  
COMMERCIAL LITHO & DIGITAL PRINTERS