

## **Ralph Salmins**

b 1964, Farnborough. Drums

Attracted to music and fell in love with jazz when parents took him to concert in London. Attracted to the drums so learned. Playing in bands in Islington from age 16 - got seen and joined Ken Mackintosh Band as poor for 2 years. Went to study classical percussion at Guildhall for two years - left in 1986 and joined the BBC Big Band. Began to get studio session work by people who saw him on the live music scene. Rare in that he was both jazz and classically trained so very versatile - jazz, pop, rock, classical. Went on the Gloria Gaynor Tour - learned discipline, loads of music to read - fixers started using him - TV etc. All better paid than his jazz work! But less artistic merit - but needed to pay the bills so a balancing act. Live and recording - played with everyone - Van Morrison, Everything But The Girl. First Take Syndrome (best take often the first).

Was a Union rep - very good on conditions and role of the union,

The whole scene was already changing radically when he got into it. Massively changed by the Drum Machine. Still playing.