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A Chat with the DJ

MB.. You Have very kindly agreed to do a mix for the podcast but I feel it's always good for listeners to get to know you a little with a 5 step Q & A.. So we know that you play the deep, melodic and progressive style but when did you start to DJ and what made you take the step from punter to player ?? (as in the DJ kind)

Mick:

I started DJing when I was around 14 years old 36 years ago!!! So to be honest I was always a player (ha ha). Joking aside, this is all I've ever want to do, and I have been lucky enough to be able to have made a living and a career from it. Saying that a lot of hard work has gone into achieving this dream.

MB.. If you can share one musical memory with us, as a DJ or punter, which has lodged itself in the memory bank, what is it??

Mick:

There are so many but one significant one would be when I played the Berlin Love Parade (many years ago) I was at the top of the Victory Column (Which they had turned into a DJ booth) in the middle of the Tiergarten with views to Brandenburg Gate, over a million people had filled the area going off to the most amazing music, I had a 360 view of the whole area, the electricity in the air was magical, over a million people in one moment just connecting to the music and to each other, I have never had goose bumps like it, I almost broke into tears, amazing!!!

MB.. Tell us about a significant moment in your DJing career?? (A warm up slot for a name, release of a track, the moment we asked you to do a mix 😊 !!)

Mick:

There have been so many, but one that I recall was one of the big festivals, I think it could have been Homelands, or Creamfields I can't remember which one, but it was a big one, I was playing an early set with Mick Parks on one of



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the mainstages and when we had finished I decided to hang around afterwards, Mick was flying off to somewhere so had to leave, later on in the night one of the promoters came up to me and asked me to go back on as Dave Seaman was stuck in traffic and couldn't make his slot, essentially I was given the warm up slot to Carl Cox. I was in a bit of a mess to be honest but thought what the heck, and got back up on the decks, the set itself just flowed, it was one of my best, don't know how as I was blind drunk and then some, but I managed to keep it going on, it was wicked, the crowd were wicked and the music was wicked, the energy was electric, then Carl came up and congratulated me on one of the best sets he had heard that day!!! Of course this is going to sit happily with you as a DJ, rocking the stage in a respectable way before the main headliner goes on to take it up even further and getting the nod of approval. To be honest there have been so many amazing moments behind the decks and in the booth, as well as in terms of releasing music that gets received well, in fact when we had a top 20 hit that was a pretty amazing moment, we were travelling back from a gig on the Sunday and they were counting down the top 40 and then it got to the 30 then 20s and we heard our name called out, that was a truly we've made it moment, ha ha, I told my mum, when I got back in doors, she didn't seem that impressed ha... Her son making the national charts and she was like "Oh!!!" Ha ha

MB: What are your 5 all time significantly important and memorable house tracks, ever..... The ones which you hear and it takes you to a time and place and just makes you smile !!!!!

Mick:

LFO – LFO, this record has a bassline like no other.

Candi Staton/Frankie Knuckles/Jamie Principle – You Got the Love/Your Love, two versions of this track both simply amazing.

Age of Love – Age of Love, Simply Epic no more needs to be said

Joe Smooth Promised Land even now the lyrics and the sentiment of this record is something that we need to take into our lives.

Manuel Göttsching E2 – E4 this is a true Balearic classic which was sampled by Sueno Latino one of those records that will always hold the moment.



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MB.. What is your favourite place in the world and what makes it so special to you ??

Mick:

Again there are so many, I've been lucky to have taken in a few places on my travels with DJing, Some amazing cities and countries. South America is amazing, great vibe, they really know how to enjoy a party in that part of the world, and then you've got Japan and China, the far east, different entity but again I've had some wicked times over there, especially in terms of the culture. Then Ibiza also has to feature heavily as one of the most amazing places that I have ever played and visited, to the point that I now call it home, it is such a special place, magical, especially for the vibe and the musical history.