



BAS/GLA STEELBAND JAMBOREE '07

BAS HAS FULLY SUPPORTED THE MAYOR OF LONDON IN TAKING THIS ICONIC LOCATION - TRAFALGAR SQUARE, TO ANOTHER LEVEL TO BE FULLY APPRECIATED BY LOCAL AND NATIONAL COMMUNITIES AS WELL AS GLOBAL TOURISTS OVER THE PAST SEVEN YEARS. WITH THE RECENT TORRENTIAL DOWNPOURS AND EXTENSIVE FLOODING OF LARGE AREAS OF THE UK, IT WAS A BLESSING THAT SUNDAY 22ND JULY 2007 WAS A GLORIOUS DAY FUELLED BY THE HOT WEATHER. COUPLED WITH THE AMBIENCE OF THE SQUARE AND CROWD APPRECIATION, THE SQUARE WAS TRANSFORMED INTO AN ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE WITH PEOPLE DANCING EVERYWHERE.

➤ The six orchestras were dotted around the lower level of the Square and it was not unfamiliar to see the crowds drifting from orchestra to orchestra as they played alternatively. Eclipse positioned to the left of Nelson's Column certainly treated their audience to some lively and melodic music. Mark 'Tyson' Williams has certainly done a wonderful job with his young musicians. To the left of Eclipse was Comets who fielded players from their three bands. Their young musicians from the Comets Community Project

band certainly entertained the audience with some catchy numbers and choreographed dancing. In one year, Jason Butcher has developed them into budding pan musicians. Croydon positioned at the foot of the stairs which provided an amphitheatre setting, treated their audience to a varied repertoire. Paul Dowie continues to inspire his young band of musicians.

Pantasia was again a favourite; with their varied repertoire that pleased the crowds immensely. The young and innovative Chris Storey continues his musical

journey to develop his young and capable players into skilful and talented pannists. Ebony, Europe's finest, commanded their usual location, positioned at the foot of Nelson's column and between the two magnificent lions which after all is Ebony's trademark. Captivating the crowds with their wide repertoire, their submission to the public's request for more saw their performance surpass the scheduled time. Nostalgia started late but had the crowds chipping around the square to their rhythmic renditions, with

Marvin leading the procession and Haroun encouraging their young members. The Square's heritage warden had to stop Nostalgia festive procession in the end, much to the dislike of the crowd.

The appearance of the event's flag woman, proudly waving her Trinidadian flag was missed this year. BAS and the Mayor of London have hosted yet another successful Steel Band Jamboree filled with a wealth of steel pan music.

Pan 4 Life!