

cd reviews



Rainbow Steel band - 50 Glorious Years

The sound on this CD has been very well organised/engineered, one of the best studio live recordings to come from the UK. To own this CD would be money well spent. Fantastic collection of pan melodies, each one representing great international and Trinidadian hits. Easily marketable to a large commercial audience. Musicianship is world class. A great product to celebrate 50 years of Rainbow.



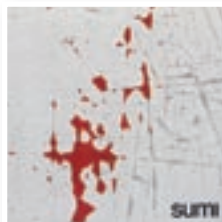
Steel Band Music - Earl Rodney

Extremely pleasing to the ears. Consistent high quality sound throughout the CD. Great attention to percussion. The high level of pan playing helps to make everything gel and work as one. Track 6 - Steel Band Music is wonderfully nostalgic and encourages you to reminisce on the good times. Good CD to add to your easy listening section of your collection.



Small Talk - Fimber Bravo and Kadialy Kouyate

Small Talk came when these two musicians met in Break House, Oxfordshire playing together for friends and family. This album has fused two traditions of Africa and the Caribbean, the steelpan and the kora musical instruments in an innovative and contemporary way. The album affords its listener an original and innovative combination of sound with vocals containing powerful lyrics. Ten tracks of music, each telling its own story musically. Track eight - Kilonding is truly beautiful. Visit www.bravo.co.uk for more information.



SUMI

The music on this CD is not traditional at all. The steelpan is featured as part of a collective sound. The music can be described as alternative, futuristic and abstract. A melancholy of experimental ambient sounds.



BIMA Caribbean Paradise

This CD is well engineered and packaged. A professional product. A steel pan CD to add to a connoisseur's collection. Great relationship between the melody of the tenor pan, live percussion and bass guitar on the title track, Caribbean Paradise. Fantastic percussion which adds real worth to each track. This CD will appeal to a more mature, appreciative audience. Bima plays a Big Mama pan manufactured by E.C.S on all tracks.

For you copy email Bima at bima@panworld.de



EBONY ROTTERDAM CARNIVAL

Rotterdam Summer Carnival is an annual 3-day event held in the city centre of Rotterdam, Netherlands. Hosted in the last weekend of July, 1 million people from around the globe got together in Holland to celebrate Rotterdam's Carnival's 23rd anniversary in 2007.



Hill Panorama Champions performing a grand finale lasting forty five minutes that left the audience wanting more and anxious for the street parade the following day. **THIS EXCHANGE PROGRAM BETWEEN THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF STEELBANDS AND THE ROTTERDAM CARNIVAL ORGANISERS, DUCOS PRODUCTIONS, HAS SEEN THE 'CHAMPIONS OF STEEL' AND THE 'BEST BRASS BAND OF SUMMER CARNIVAL' PERFORM AT EACH OTHER'S CARNIVALS.**

On Saturday, the big Street Parade emerges in the city centre. At night there is still a lot to see on the two live stages and last but not least you can visit 'La Noche Grande del Carnaval', so you can party until the wee hours.

Ebony performed on the float with the radio station Fun X. The players and presenters of the radio station gave out condoms to the crowd, danced to the pan music, waved their rags to the soca music on the float and created a brandy fruit salad leaving everyone 'getting on bad!'

Kayleigh Lewis

↗ The growth of Summer Carnival, both in size and quality, meant that the city of Rotterdam has embraced the event. Pictures of Summer Carnival are increasingly featured in promotion material for the city of Rotterdam. Everyone is proud of this event. It is festive, colourful, proud and a protest - all at the same time. Its form appeals to a wide audience.

The Thursday evening's Beach Party was held on the Strand aan de Maas. The following day, the Warming Up/Battle of Drums was held at the Coolsingel stage just outside the Town Hall, you could

literally feel the beats of the drums. Highlight of the Warming Up is without any doubt the Battle of Drums. The music style is called Asembleho and is a wild mixture of salsa, merengue, calypso and soca. Four brass bands with over a hundred percussionists and trumpeters competed in front of an audience of 70,000 people in this musical battle for the coveted title of 'Best Brass Band of Summer Carnival 2007, prize money of 6000 euros and the opportunity to perform at the 2007 Notting Hill Carnival.

The night ended with Europe's finest, Ebony Steelband, 2006 Notting