

## Mark Wingfield - Guitarist

Mark Wingfield is one of the most original and distinctive electric guitarists today. Mark's improvising is always compelling, continually inventive and melodically uplifting. Mark's guitar playing is steeped in the language of jazz, with influences such as John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Keith Jarrett and Jan Garbarek. However other often eclectic influences feature strongly in his playing. Indian, Japanese and African music have all influenced him as well as rock players such as Jimi Hendrix.

As a composer Mark embodies a unique mixture of influences and backgrounds. His considerable experience as composer and performer for European jazz groups such as SMQ and now Scapetrace, is mixed with his involvement in classical forms, including pieces for renowned harpsichordist Jane Chapman, string quartets for McFall's Chamber. The third cornerstone of Mark's work is the influence of world music. Having collaborated with Lebanese singer Samia Afra on his CD *Fallen Cities* he continued his interest in non-western forms working with Turkish musicians in Istanbul. What many find remarkable about his music is the way all three of these musical strands are seamlessly integrated into a unique musical voice.



Mark recently completed *Naiads* a piece for oboe, harpsichord and piano. This was commissioned for DNaVigate a European Commission funded Waterways project. His compositions were recently the subject of a lecture at Goldsmiths College London to mark the opening of its new Contemporary Music Department and has also been featured in lectures and workshops at Trinity College of Music London and Dartington College of Arts Music department.

Mark's interest in music technology again came into play when he was asked to join ResRocket. This was a band made up of respected musicians from around the world who, using ground breaking software, played together live over the internet. Among the well know musicians Mark played with as one of Resrocket's core members were Peter Gabriel, Tricky, Matt Black, Dave Stuart and Todd Rundgren. As well as recording an album, the band toured playing London, Paris, LA, Oslo and elsewhere. During concerts some of the members were on stage while others played live over the internet projected on giant screens on stage. Almost every aspect of this band was a "world first", truly ground breaking on every level.

As a jazz guitarist Mark has played all over Europe and has just released his fifth CD, *Guitar Encryptions* on the Dark Energy Music label (Available on iTunes and Tower records).

Quotes:

"One of the UK's best new composers" *SPNM*

"I was lucky enough to see...pieces...written by jazz guitarist Mark Wingfield that almost moved me to tears." *Bill Thompson BBC News*

"Simply one of the best guitarists I've ever heard in my long career, essential listening" *Richard Newman (Producer and presenter of Ch4 TV guitar documentary, author of numerous books on music).*

Mark has also received accolades from:

Aric Rubin (writer from *Guitar Player Magazine's* Master Series).

Jon Finn (Senior guitar instructor at Berklee School of Music Boston U.S.)