

Guy Schalom

& The Baladi Blues Ensemble (Egypt/UK)



Press Quotes:

"Guy Schalom is one of the most versatile and interesting percussionists working in the UK today." **fROOTS**

"A masterful album..." **Songlines**

"Schalom's mastery of this music is as out of this world as his mastery of the darabuka, both of which are breath-taking... I want some of that fuel!" **Rich Rainlore**

"One of my WOMAD festival highlights." **Fiona Talkington, BBC Radio 3**

"A great party band!" **Simon Broughton, Songlines Editor-in-Chief**

Review: fROOTS

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*This is a vibrant music often associated with belly dancing and the **Baladi Blues Ensemble** will enliven any party. However, with five of the finest exponents working together there is much more to it than that...the performances are outstanding, being fresh and compelling as well as technically superb - and for all the high energy the total effect is actually one of delicacy.*

Schalom's percussion manages simultaneously to hold everything together and provide a focal point, as if he were playing rhythm and lead at the same time. His playing has a rare lyricism, such that one feels that each beat is personally tailored for the moment - there is no bombast and nothing routine or perfunctory here, only an almost understated creativity.

Chris Williams.

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