



## **Jim Watson**

### **Piano/Keyboards/MD**

Jim studied at the Leeds College of Music where he obtained a first class BA Honours degree in Jazz and Contemporary Music, studying piano with Nikki Isles.

After Leeds he moved to London, studying at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he gained a Post Graduate Certificate in Jazz and Studio music, studying, among others, with pianists Simon Purcell and John Taylor.

Moving to London in 1996 , Jim began to work with a broad selection of artists both in the jazz and the pop idiom and continues to enjoy a varied selection of work with many different performers both live and in the recording studio.

## **Artists Performed With**

Meshell Ndegeocello ,  
Gary Barlow,  
Marti Pellow  
Cat Stevens  
Paloma Faith  
Chris Difford (Squeeze) ,  
Hamish Stuart (Average White Band) ,Zero 7 (world tour),  
Brand New Heavies, Incognito(world tour)  
Omar,  
Lalo Schifrin  
US3(european tour),  
James Taylor Quartet,  
Patti Austin(Berghausen Jazz Festival), Gary Moore, Gerard  
Presencer  
Guy Barker International Septet,  
Jim Watson Trio,  
The Organ trio,(Jim Mullen),  
New York voices,  
Bobby Watson,  
James Moody (tour of spain)  
Javon Jackson, Herb Geller, Pat Kane(Hue and Cry),  
Jill Scott (Mobo awards), Dave O' Higgins Julian Arguelles  
Quartet, Omar (Montreux Jazz Festival),BBC big band,  
Clark Tracey, Alan Barnes, Peter King,  
Jean Toussaint.

## **Recent work**

Currently playing keyboards in the Strictly Come Dancing House Band,  
M.D for Marti Pellow (Wet Wet Wet) ,  
Keyboards and Piano with Katie Melua,  
and performing with Manu Katche's band (Sting, Peter Gabriel)

## **Discography/Awards**

James appears on Manu Katches recent release on ECM Records,

'In a Sentimental Me' Marti Pellow (featured as Pianist/M.D and String/Band Arranger

'Soundtrack' by Guy Barker 'The Big Shake Up' and the Grinders Monkey' by the Dave'O'Higgins Band,out on shortfuse records,

'Life, Stranger Than Fiction' by Incognito,'Autumnal'- Geoff Gascoyne Quartet, Gerard Presencers 'The Optimist' on Linn records,and

NYJO's album '47 Frith St' recorded live at ronnie scott's.'. James was nominated for the '1998 BT Jazz Awards' in the rising star category,won the 'Best Soloist Prize' in the 'Europ Jazz contest(Jazz Hoeilaart) held in Belgium in 1996,and was the overall winner of the 'Worshipful Company of Musicians' award in 1997.

## **Selected Discography**

Oceans 11 soundtrack  
Buffalo Soldiers Soundtrack  
Manu Katche ECM Records  
Power Of The Blues- Gary Moore  
'Life, Stranger Than Fiction' Incognito

'11 by 3' The Organ Trio-feat. Jim Mullen ,Matt Skelton.

'Way of life' The Organ Trio-feat. Jim Mullen ,Matt Skelton.

'Slightly Askew' Chris Bowden Band

'The Grinders Monkey' Dave O'Higgins  
Short Fuse Records

Dave O' Higgins biggish band Dave O'Higgins  
Short fuse records

'Too Marvellous For Words' Anthony Kerr,Steve Brown  
Zephyr Records

'If You Could See me Now' with Alan Barnes, Steve Brown ,  
Andy Clyndert  
-Zephyr Records

'Polka Dots And Moonbeams' with Andy Clyndert, Steve  
Brown  
-Zephyr Records

'Autumnal' Geoff Gascoyne quartet  
Jazzizit records JITCD 0026  
'47 Frith St' NYJO

'Bums Rush' Dominic Glover-feat. Andy Panayi, Mornington

Lockett, Jim Hunt.  
Timewarp Records

'Back To Funk' Rams Band  
'The Optimist' Gerard Presencer-feat. John Parricelli, Jeremy  
Stacey, Jeremy Brown -Linn Records

### **Film Work**

Oceans 11 (recent remake), Buffalo Soldiers (Joachim  
Phoenix, Ed Harris)

### **Quotes**

'Stunning young pianist'-1997 soho jazz festival

'Classy jazz pianist'- Time out 2001

'Internationally renowned' -John Lewis, Time Out

'Convincing....His McCoy Tyner like percussive chords and  
torrential right hand lines was a standout' -John  
Fordham, The Guardian

'Mellifluous piano'-Clive Davis, The Sunday Times

'Inestimable'-Jazzwise Magazine

'One of the most talented pianists in the country'-606 club

'Acclaimed' Jars magazine Ronnie Scotts club

