

David Hirschfelder

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Re: **John Clark**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the composer and soundtrack producer of such film-scores as "Strictly Ballroom" (1992), "Shine" (1996), "Elizabeth" (1998), "Australia" (2008) and more recently, "Legend Of the Guardians" (2010) and James Cameron's "Sanctum" (2011).

From the mid 80's to the early 90's, I was John Farnham's musical director and keyboardist, and it was during the 1988 Classic Jack tour with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, that I first experienced the pleasure of meeting and working with this effervescently cheerful percussionist, **John Clark**. John's upbeat personality, superb musicianship and vast array of percussion instruments really helped the band shine. If the John Farnham Band was a car, it had now been upgraded to a new model with a sunroof!

Then in 1989, when I was musical director of the Logie Awards, I wanted the television orchestra to have that "sunroof" sound, so once again, I called upon John Clark to put his inimitable sparkle into the mix.

Subsequently, John went on to become widely recognised and highly regarded as one of Australia's most sought-after music-theatre percussionists, and he has been constantly working in orchestras for countless music-theatre productions in Sydney and Melbourne, for over two decades now, yet he still looks so young!!

In recent times, John has been based at the Allan Eaton Studio complex in St. Kilda, and consequently, I had the good fortune to work with John again, this time on a quirky art-house film-score, which I composed and recorded in 2009, titled "The Blue Mansion". As always, John's masterful command of his magnificent vintage vibraphone, the "good vibe", plus his professionalism, patience, and attention to detail, all had a hugely beneficial impact on the recording session, and the sound of the score.

John Clark is a uniquely talented musician, with a wealth of experience, knowledge and an endless supply of passion for percussion! His enthusiasm, generosity, good humour and positive energy are just some of his many delightfully infectious attributes. John is a "people person", a great guy with an easy-going nature, a highly effective communication skill-set, and a vast network of contacts drawn from his extensive career.

It is a certainty that John will continue to be successful in all his future endeavours, and I am looking forward to working with him again.

Sincerely,



David Hirschfelder