



CTA BIOGRAPHIES

Danny Seraphine, drums

Danny Seraphine is one of the world's most highly-respected rock drummers, rated by the legendary Buddy Rich as one of his favorite young drummers. He was the drummer, percussionist and a founding member of the multi-million selling, Grammy award-winning band Chicago. From 1967 to 1990, Seraphine played on and helped produce 18 gold and 13 platinum albums, 50 Top 40 hits, including 20 Top 10 singles, and 5 number ones.

Seraphine grew up in Chicago, Illinois and started playing drums at the age of nine, eventually studying privately with famed percussionist Bob Tillis. After forming Chicago in 1967 he continued studying the drums, first with big band drummer Chuck Flores, then with legendary jazz drummer Jo Jones. When Danny and Chicago parted company in 1990, he moved to Colorado to set up his own label and production company. Returning to Los Angeles in 2001, Seraphine continued to produce and manage recording artists, and produce Broadway and off-Broadway shows.

All this time, Danny continued playing drums, but it was after conversations with his friends, composer and musician Peter Fish, Don Lombardi (Chairman and Founder) and John Good (Vice President) of DW Drums which started him thinking about forming a band. Danny was introduced to Marc Bonilla by drummer extraordinaire Greg Bissonette and as soon as they started jamming together, they developed a rapport. Seraphine and Bonilla initially put a band together to play for several charity benefit shows. The response was so overwhelming that they decided to get serious and put a full 70-minute set together and so '**CTA**' was born. For Danny Seraphine, this is the first time in 15 years that he has played live with a band. "I was born to play, it's been my calling since I was nine years old, and it's what I do best," he explains.

"It is an honor to be playing with such a talented group of musicians who are also great people. It's going to be a great ride".

MARC BONILLA, guitar

Marc Bonilla started playing guitar when he was five years old. He has been a highly respected guitar player since his first recordings and bands in the early 1990s, with two critically acclaimed solo albums, *'EE Ticket'* and *'American Matador.'* As a fixture in the Los Angeles music scene, he played with the band 'Toy Matinee', and had his own musical success with his band 'The Dragonchoir'. In the process he joined forces with rock vocalist and bass player Glenn Hughes (playing, producing and composing for Hughes' 1997 release, *'Addiction'*) and legendary keyboardist Keith Emerson (recording and live performances with Hughes and Emerson). He also played on the ELP tribute CD, *'Encores, Legends & Paradox'*, which featured a long list of top musicians including Simon Phillips, Peter Banks, and John Whetton.

He is a supremely talented technical guitar virtuoso, who also excels at composing, arranging and programming, often creating a complex, richly textured sound, whether it's a hard jazz rock number or soulful electric blues. It is no surprise, therefore, that in recent years Marc has been the go-to-guy for soaring guitar sounds and compositions for film and TV, including the *The Replacements*, *The Scorpion King*, *The PJs* and an Emmy nomination for the *'Big Apple.'* Working alongside such film luminaries as *James Newton Howard*, *John Debney* and *Joel McNeely*, his riffs have added thrills to countless major motion pictures such as *'Falling Down'*, *'Spiderman 2'*, *'Bruce Almighty'*, *'Terminal Velocity'* and *'Spy Kids,'* as well as several of TV's hit shows: *Beverly Hills 90210*, *'ER.'* and *'The West Wing.'*

Danny says of Marc's playing, "He's the best guitar player I've played with since Terry Kath and in my opinion Terry was one of the top five in the world. Marc's in that category. Marc has filled a void in my life left by the death of Terry Kath. A musical soul mate, so to speak. He's amazing, so it's a privilege to have him in the band." Marc was subsequently instrumental in bringing together Mick Mahan, Ed Roth, Robert Mason, and Mike Wallace, all of whom he had played with before in various bands.

PETER FISH, keyboards

Peter Fish, a six time Emmy winner with 15 Emmy nominations, is a veteran keyboard player, composer, producer and arranger whose work spans Top 10 singles, movies and TV. His work regularly reaches an audience of 200 million homes worldwide. He creates music and sound design for TV, including primetime themes for CBS's *'Street Stories'*, and the Fox reality hit, *'Anything for Love.'* He has also composed themes for over

30 TV series including *'The Rosie O'Donnell Show'*, CBS's *'Face the Nation'*, MSNBC's *'The News with Brian Williams,'* themes for all three network morning shows and the *'CBS Evening News'*.

In London he composed and recorded all the thematic material for NBC Super Channel, the largest pan-European general entertainment network. His Emmy awards include *'Best Original Music for a Daytime Drama'* for *'All My Children'* in 2002, 2003 and 2005. He composed the symphonic score for former Vice President Al Gore's video biography at his nomination for the Presidency in Los Angeles, and for John Kerry's 2004 campaign, Peter scored all the campaign's commercials.

In the music industry, he has produced Carly Simon, Judy Collins, Tony Bennett, Johnny Winter, Edgar Winter, and Rick Derringer. Most recently he recorded with jazz/funk group, 'QB3'. He's also known for his vintage keys and textures on the Fender Rhodes and Clav.

MICK MAHAN, bass

Mick Mahan was only eleven and living in Youngstown, Ohio, when he joined his first band, playing guitar. A couple of years later he started playing bass and found his instrument. He studied music at the Grove School of Music in Los Angeles. . Although, at present, he is best known for providing the solid rock foundation for Pat Benatar's band, he is also an accomplished groove jazz / funk player. From 1999 – 2001, Mick was musical director and bassist for Sophie B. Hawkins tours and recording. He has also played and toured extensively with a host of other big names including Toni Childs, Phillip Bailey, Alan Parsons, Steve Miller, and Spencer Davis. He has also released two CDs with California ensemble 'Tin Drum' with the husband-wife team of Burleigh Drummond (ex-Ambrosia) and Mary Harris.

His playing skills are often called upon for TV and film themes, including *'Good Morning America'*, *'Fox After Breakfast'*, *'VH1 – Behind the Music'*, and *'Michelob Draft Beer'* and *'Harley Davidson'* commercials. As a composer and musical director, he has also worked on preparation and production for Prince's *'Under the Cherry Moon'*, new-age music for Muzak and various corporate and educational videos.

EDWARD HARRIS ROTH, keyboards

Edward Harris Roth' soulful keyboard playing has made him the top choice of top artists, producers and musicians worldwide. Roth's instinctual feel has allowed him to amass

credits in all sorts of genres of music. He has toured with Grammy winners: Coolio, R&B group The Brothers Johnson, and R&B vocalist Mya. Roth has also toured with Grammy nominees Sophie B. Hawkins, Latin pop star Marisela, and reggae vocalist Sistah Carol. He has also performed with dance diva Kristine W. who has nine #1 Billboard dance hits to her credit, rock vocalist Glenn Hughes, guitar legend Ronnie Montrose, new pop/R&B Jive Records recording artist Samantha Jade and pop vocalist Sheena Easton.

Ed Roth has numerous recording credits, including Coolio, Kristine W., Sophie B. Hawkins, Rob Halford, Jerry Cantrell, Glenn Hughes, Ronnie Montrose, Will Smith, Jao Sebastian and Marisela. As a long time session player, Roth has numerous soundtrack and commercial credits including Touchstone Pictures, BET, Warner Brothers, Sony Pictures, Hanna Barbera, Disney, The History Channel, Honda, Tropicana, Kenwood, Roland Corp. and JBL.

MIKE WALLACE, guitar

Mike Wallace, several years a fixture in Marc Bonilla's Dragon Choir, started playing guitar at the age of 10. His first inspirations came from guitar legends such as George Harrison, Jeff Beck, Jimmy Page, and David Gilmour; however, his ability to first play a lead guitar lick came from a surprising source. Mike and some school friends overheard a band rehearsing at the auditorium next door to the grammar school they attended, the band turned out to be Loggins & Messina who were writing and rehearsing music for their first record. Mike and his friends went over to check it out, were invited in, which led to Kenny Loggins teaching Mike his first two Chuck Berry style riffs. Many years later, and more experienced (!), Mike played with Kenny at a 'Mark and Brian Christmas Show.' When reminding him of the incident, Kenny vividly remembered. Mike has played in several bands throughout the 80s and 90s, including 'Ignition', a brass-oriented soul/funk band signed to Atlantic Records, MOJO recording artist, 'Bogus Toms', a powerhouse rock n' roll band ala AC/DC, and several others to include Boize Club with Keith Emerson, Glenn Hughes, and his long time guitar friend Marc Bonilla. Mike says his true passion is in the live performance of playing; "nothing like the energy" – so the CTA ensemble is giving him the opportunity to do what he loves.