

Ben Krames - Biography

Ben Krames is a highly talented multi-instrumentalist, producer, arranger, composer and engineer who has paid his dues. Studying with rhythm masters in Cuba, attending Berklee School of Music, spending years of hands-on experience in top notch recording studios, playing and touring world-wide with internationally known acts, producing numerous full length albums and films scores, and most recently, coming out with a major record release "Bolistik" that he composed, engineered, and produced, have all given Ben the experience it takes for that winning combination of: manifesting a creative vision, bringing superb technical skills to the table, and delivering a beautiful finished product - while never losing sight of the Spirit in the music.

His years of working in various Northern California studios such as Laughing Tiger (San Rafael) Prairie Sun (Cotati) and Infinite Studios (Alameda), have helped Ben perfect the art of tracking, mixing and producing vocals, giving artists the crisp edge needed to stand out on the international scene. Ben's many years touring, performing, and recording as a kit drummer and percussionist have also given him the advanced, diverse rhythmic knowledge and ability to add these touches to all his productions, creating that extra bounce. A partial list of the renowned Reggae artists Ben has worked with include: Winston Jarret, Everton Blender, Mikey Dread, Don Carlos, Wadi Gad, Groundation, Sister Carol, Yami Bolo, Jr. Reid, Lutan Fyah, and many others. Beyond Reggae, Ben's client list also includes Latin and Hip Hop heavy weights such as Grammy winner David Sanchez and Orestes Vilato (of Santana), Platinum-selling artist Dwayne Wiggins (producer of Destiny's Child and member of Tony Toni Tone), Kev Choice (Lauren Hill's current music director), E-40, Too \$hort, Mac Dre, Kevin Cadogan (Third Eye Blind), Jack Blades and Tommy Shaw (Night Ranger), Adam Topal (Jack Johnson's drummer), and Nzinga Shakur (Tupac's sister).

While attending the Berklee School of Music, Ben studied under the tutelage of percussion masters Giovanni Hidalgo, Kenwood Denard, Horacio "El Negro" Hernandez, and others. He also studied at the National School of the Arts in Havana, Cuba where he learned both in class and on the streets with many of the masters of folkloric and popular styles of Cuban drums and percussion.

Ben's musical influences in Jazz, Hip-Hop, R&B, Pop, Latin, Rock, World Music, Reggae, Afro Cuban, Middle Eastern and many others have instilled in him an incredible knack for bringing together diverse talents and music, while his technical and musical experience have allowed him to create a confident, first class creative atmosphere from which the artist and production can shine.

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