

# BEACHCOMBER MUSIC



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**MAT DICKSON**

Mat first caught the musical 'bug' at an early age, but after some initial classical guitar lessons, it was his elder brother's record collection during the late 70s with albums from groups such as Supertramp, Pink Floyd, The Alan Parsons Project, Genesis and Dire Straits which got Mat really hooked on playing the guitar.

After college Mat gravitated into Theatre, working on the technical side, first in Chichester, then London, progressing from stage crew to lighting and finally to sound, where the preparation of 'show tapes' of sound effects and the live sound mixing for musical productions were to provide the grounding for his future studio work.

Following a bilingual upbringing and many trips to France, it was inevitable that Mat would be tempted to swap the 'bright lights' of London for the 'City of Light', Paris, where he lived for a number of years. Although involved in a rock band whilst there, it was during this time that he composed much of the music that was to become his first album, "The Lighthouse Keeper".

Having been brought up near the sea on the south coast of England, Mat has long been fascinated by lighthouses, since the earliest memories of hearing the Needles lighthouse foghorn!

"When I started to work on my first collection of atmospheric guitar tracks, it soon became apparent to me how much I was drawing inspiration from my recollections of coastal experiences, the main 'cornerstone' of my memories being the emblematic lighthouse. This, coinciding with the final phase of automation of Great Britain's lighthouses, inspired me to dedicate my first album to the memory of the lighthouse keepers, and also led to the idea of featuring different lighthouses with each subsequent album", explains Mat.

Mat Dickson's first three albums, "The Lighthouse Keeper", "The Keeper's Log" and "Land's End" are striking a special chord across a wide age-range of fans.

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