



Paradise Band Newsletter

Issue 5 Autumn 2016

AUTUMN LEAVES

Welcome to the Paradise Band Newsletter, published four times per year it provides news on what's happening at Paradise Band and covers gigs, technology and player profiles. This issue we've included an interview with Samatza, bass player for the band for 30 years and gives us some insights into what the band has meant to him and how it has changed over this time.

Also in this issue coverage of the John Tikis Tour 21—the ultra-cool tour which was an incredible success and marks 21 years of collaboration with the band.

Paradise Band has always believed in keeping up with the latest technology when it comes to sound. Recently acquiring a new digital mixing desk they took advantage of the functionality to update the recording studio with the latest technology which provides the highest audio quality recording.

This enables the band to record music on multiple tracks and then mix and master into various formats including CD & MP3 & WAV files for download.

Samatza states “We are pushing in the direction of recording and producing music and video and wanted to give our audiences the best possible quality product. We are also in the process of improving the acoustics and functionality of the studio to make it easier to get great results & there are plans to build a new space that we can expand into for audio & video production.”

PARADISE BUILD NEW RECORDING STUDIO



JOHN TIKIS TOUR 21 A HUGE SUCCESS



John Tiki's
The ultra-cool tour
2016



For 21 years in a row John Tiki's wowed audiences around the country with his spectacular live shows. Paradise Band are proud to have been John's band of choice in Australia and we look forward to continuing our collaboration.

A huge thanks to the fans who attended the shows, we had a great time playing for you. Thanks to the venues that hosted the show and a special thanks to our very own Irene Vacondios for her beautiful performances and Themis Ioakimidis for once again providing the awesome guitar work.



John pulled out all the stops and gave every ounce of energy to provide a spectacular performance night after night. Singing songs from his new album and a selection of his most popular classics John thrilled the audience and had them singing along and having a great time.

We wish John and his beautiful wife Katie a safe trip home and thank him for once again putting on a great tour performance, we look forward to doing it again in 2017.

There are lots of pics on the web site so go to www.paradiseband.com.au and check them out.



PLAYER PROFILE

Samatza - Bass Guitar

Samatza has been holding down Paradise Band's fat & funky low end for three decades. We caught up with him to get his thoughts on playing music and being a part of Paradise.



Q: *30 years in Paradise is a long time, how did you start in the music business?*

A: I grew up in a musical family, my late father and my brother both played bouzouki so I grew up around Greek music. I started on piano accordion, moved to keyboards and piano but was always drawn to the deep sound of the bass. 30 years ago I joined the Paradise Band & it's been my main gig ever since.

After all this time and over 4000 gigs I still enjoy playing out with the band & making great music.

Q: *How has the Paradise Band changed over the last three decades?*

A: Paradise Band has always been the most versatile band I have worked in. All our former members, Theo, Greg, Ari & Chris were high caliber players so we played a lot of different styles of music and interesting gigs.

The current lineup includes Irene Vacondios & Steven Flevaras fronting the band, besides their awesome talent they are hard working team players & really great people.

Q: *What do you enjoy most about playing in Paradise?*

A: There is no greater enjoyment than making people happy. As I look out at the audience, everyone smiling, singing & dancing it gives me an overwhelming feeling of satisfaction to know we are spreading love & happiness which is good for the soul you know.

I'm blessed to have worked with so many wonderful & talented people over the last 30 years & I consider all of them my musical family. As the bass player I'm there to support the front line and lay down the foundation for them. I know it's right because the whole is so much more than the sum of it's parts.



PLAYER PROFILE

Samatza*continued*

Q: *What kind of gear do you use?*

A: I tend towards the Fender Jazz Basses these days that are played straight into either a Roland Cube amp or for bigger stages a Gallien Krueger 1001RB rig, I'm not into effects.

I do still use my battle hardened Tune basses both fretted and fretless, they have been with me for a long time and they still sound & play great.

In the studio I use two Surine basses which were custom made for me by Scott Surine in Denver USA.



Q: *What are your plans for the future?*

A: I'm involved in a lot of projects however Paradise is my home base.

Paradise means so many things to me; the guys are all great players and it is like a family, sometimes we agree to disagree but we get along and we respect each other.

I have a lot of plans for the future and there will be wonderful surprises along the way. I'm planning to do a lot more writing, recording & video, this has become my new passion, to provide people with another channel of enjoyment and produce musical videos that will arouse their imagination.

There are plans to build a new space for audio and visual recording and mastering. This will be a space where people can collaborate in writing, recording & producing music & video. This will allow everyone to work together without time constraints or financial pressure, it's going to be my gift to my peers and I hope they will take advantage of it and provide the alchemy that makes the magic happen.

I will be strapping on a bass guitar and playing for people for as long as they enjoy it, after all it's all about them and I'm thankful that they allow us to be a part of their lives and that they still come to celebrate with us, they make it so special, I love them all.

We would like to Thank Samatza for giving us some insight on 30 years in Paradise.



A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to sincerely thank a couple of awesome guys for helping us out recently. Johnny Diamond & George Paradisis who both stepped into the bouzouki role to help us out, thanks guys, we had a great time making music with you and we are very grateful for you stepping up to the plate in our hour of need. Respect!



TOP SECRET

We've got a sweet treat coming to this space soon!