

Shar

Shar is one-half of SharDave, and is a singer-songwriter, philosopher, poet, photographer and artist. Throughout this last decade she has written an impressive set of around forty original works. SharDave owns and operates a production studio and is continuing to write and produce highly original music.

Shar's song-writing and musical creativity began early. Both parents being musicians, tutored by her brother on the guitar at the age of five, sent off to piano lessons with her swag of siblings, struggling with the clarinet as a small child with small hands, and tagging along with her dad to sing in various choirs, Shar draws upon a breadth of musical influences to continually develop her skills as a songwriter, musician and producer.

In her twenties she played in dance bands (playing clarinet, piano and guitar) and large concert venues such as Chandler Concert Hall (Brisbane). She sang as a background singer in recording studios, and was a pianist for a choir. But it was the working with a group of musicians called 'Rescue'—album release 'Cry of a Lonely Planet'—that was to lead to her interest in music production. Her original music featured on the album. Surrounding herself with musicians and those within the sound engineering industry, Shar engaged with music production in the recording studio.

After an interlude in which she worked as a visual artist and photographer—owning an inner-city art gallery in Brisbane, convening major art exhibitions including her own solo shows; and after having completed a Doctorate of Philosophy in Philosophy and working as an academic lecturer across multiple universities, Shar has finally returned to her earlier love, her music.

Her recent decade spent in the Northern Territory (NT), apart from 'jamming it up' at some fabulous parties and singing on the beach, Shar's musical performances have included singing and touring with the Darwin Centre for Youth and Community choir, Voxcrox, directed and conducted by Paolo Fabris. She was also member of a gypsy jazz guitar ensemble led by Francis Diatschenko. She performed a set of her original music in a large, NT open-air concert for charity (Kids with Cancer), and in a range of festivals including regularly in Darwin's famous First Sunday Blues and the Seabreeze festivals. Apart from performing with SharDave, she also plays Guitar with the Latrobe Community Concert Band, and percussion with the Invy Horn Jam, a roving New York style brass band.

Her key interest is in writing, producing and performing her original music, crafting her songs from the materials of a life-long set of experiences steeped in the creative arts and informed by her philosophic career. She sees the role of the musician and the poet as one whose burden and responsibility is to capture ideas, melodies and riffs, and moods, the creative and subtle identities that seep into her mind and soul. It is this approach that has led Shar to become a songwriter whose music is truly unique, and a producer intent on maintaining the integrity of the musical creations that she develops and presents to the world.