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Multimedia music man: New music by Århus-based midiwizard, Tony Brooks

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Published in:
Djembe

Publication date:
2008

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication from Aalborg University](#)

Citation for published version (APA):
Donen, J., & Lewis Brooks, A. (2008). Multimedia music man: New music by Århus-based midiwizard, Tony Brooks. Djembe, 16.

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Multimedia music man

New music by Århus-based midiwizard, Tony Brooks

 By Jack Donen



The midibass player and multimedia musician Tony Brooks has released his first CD in his own name.

"HeavenPeople" was produced together with the ex-buddhist monk from South Korea, Lim Dong Chang, and is a live studio recording. Exciting music and a rewarding experience

for the listener who allows the time to absorb new worlds of sound. Tony Brooks is a Welsh musician based in Århus, with 20 years of international experience as a professional musician behind him, and a lot of ideas to promote the growth of his own concept of "experimental world music", as he calls it.

A short list of his projects would give most people pause for thought: At the moment it includes trying to establish a European Music Collective, to encourage a pan-European exchange of musical expression.

A project that he emphasizes often is called "Soundscapes". Its aims include creating a multimedia platform that will allow everyone, regardless of age, sex and ability, to express themselves through sound and sight. Central to this concept is the possibility of giving disabled persons the opportunity to express themselves creatively.

He is also engaged in talks with a New York company, who works with "Realtime Interactive Multimedia Theatrical Environments" (RIMTE). The idea here is for musicians from all forms of music to interact with mediums of performance. And this leads to the most topical of his projects, in which he's planning a satellite connection later this year, between the Olympic Games in Atlanta, and Copenhagen, the European Cultural Capital of 1996.

The goal is to create an interactive transmission, with a group of musicians and dancers, large screens and computer installations, transmitting both ways, on both sides of the Atlantic.

Not surprisingly, this last project is dependent on a lot of goodwill in the form of money. He's applied for some funding from Copenhagen Cultural Capital, but they have yet to make a decision on the matter.

We'll will be doing a review of Tony Brooks' new CD, including an interview with the man about his work, in the next number of Djembe.

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And in between gigs all over the world, Tony Brooks takes the phone
at (+45) 86 18 21 57.

This article is published on print in Djembe Magazine, no. 16, April
1996.

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