



MUSIC AND MIRACLES: THE JOURNEY OF STEVEN DEAN

BY DET-N-ATORS INTERNATIONAL REPORTER.

Let's delve into the fascinating life and musical odyssey of Steven Dean. With a career spanning over half a century, Steven's musical journey began at the tender age of 12, when he discovered the magic of music through an acoustic guitar. His early experiments with the instrument led him to play iconic tunes like Status Quo's 'Pictures of Matchstick Men' and Cream's 'Sunshine of your Love,' all on a single string.

However, Steven soon realized the need to expand his musical repertoire beyond a single string. His solution came when his family acquired a piano, which allowed him to grasp the fundamentals of chords and technique. From there, he dived into the world of guitar heroes like Eric Clapton, Rory Gallagher, Ritchie Blackmore, and Jimmy Page.



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But there was one hurdle – he didn't know any chords. This led him to invest in a tutor called 'Guitar' by Dan Morgan, which provided him with the essential knowledge of chords and technique. This marked the beginning of Steven's remarkable musical journey.

He made his debut on the stage at Plaistow Grammar School, East London, at the age of 16 with a rock trio named 'Worm.' From there, his musical adventures took him across England, Scotland, Australia, and the USA, playing in various groups and trios. Notably, he transitioned to bass guitar in 1977, forming 'Shooting Star' with guitarist Dave Whelan and drummer Peter Flint.

His passion for bass was ignited, becoming his primary instrument. In 2010, while continuing to play bass and guitar, Steven embarked on another path – teaching 'A Course in Miracles,' a profound spiritual teaching. His belief in its principles, especially the concept of 'Oneness,' deeply influenced him.



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In 2013, a journey to Rwanda as part of a humanitarian project brought Steven in contact with Ras Banamungu, a musician and spiritual therapist. Together, they played local gigs and created music that resonated deeply, including the hit song 'Evi Tingz Agwaan' in East Africa. Steven was inspired by Ras Banamungu's understanding of spiritual principles, particularly the Rastafarian concept of 'I and I' in place of 'you and I.'

Upon returning to Australia, Steven brought Ras with him. They joined forces and created 'Ras Banamungu the Det-n-ators International.' This musical project featured Ras on vocals and congas, with Steven on bass and vocals, Gez Ball on lead guitar, Glenn McInnes on rhythm, and Tony Ball on drums. Their local gigs built a solid reputation. However, Steven's life took a different turn when he married Victoria Dill, a Texan, and relocated to the USA.



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Ras Banamungu continued the Det-n-ators International concept, welcoming diverse musicians who resonated with his ideas. Steven decided to temporarily put his music on hold and dedicate his efforts to teaching the profound truths of 'A Course in Miracles.' His teachings revolve around the idea that we are not our bodies; we are spiritual beings returning to the Oneness from which we originated. The material world is an illusion, and our purpose is to awaken to our true nature.

Steven's journey is a testament to the power of music, spiritual exploration, and the pursuit of truth. While he temporarily stepped away from music to share the teachings of 'A Course in Miracles,' it's likely that he will return to the stage, especially when Ras Banamungu makes his way to America in the near future.