

Baka Beyond Biog.



About 300 words:

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For over 30 years, Baka Beyond has blended African and Celtic music into an electrifying mix that's got everyone dancing! Their music isn't just about beats; it's about bridging cultures and spreading joy.

Inspired by the Baka Pygmies of Cameroon, Baka Beyond doesn't just play their music – they live it. Martin Cradick and Su Hart, the brains behind the band, were so moved by the Baka's spirit during their first visit to the Cameroon rainforest that they knew they had to share it with the world. Their album "Spirit of the Forest" catapulted them to global fame, but they've stayed true to their roots. To ensure the Baka people benefit from their music, they set up the charity "Global Music Exchange" and still visit the same Baka extended family every year to ensure that they continue to benefit.

From humble beginnings to a multicultural phenomenon, Baka Beyond's stage shows are a testament to the power of music to unite us all. With band members hailing from across the globe, each bringing their own unique flair, Baka Beyond honours the Baka philosophy: "everyone is to be listened to."

The current touring unit brings the Spirit of the Forest to Chapel Arts. Martin Cradick (guitar), Su Hart (vocals) and Clyde Kramer (drums) have all spent time living and playing music with the Baka Pygmies in their rainforest home. Ayodele (percussion) brings the rhythms and colour of his native Sierra Leone into the mix, while all these elements are grounded by the solid Congolese grooves of Kibisingo (bass) who toured with Kanda Bongo Man for many years. The lineup is completed by violinist, Ben Money Penny bringing a Celtic flair.

Join the celebration and let the music take you on a journey around the world!

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For over 30 years, Baka Beyond has been blending African and Celtic music into an electrifying mix that gets everyone dancing. Their music transcends mere beats, focusing on bridging cultures and spreading joy. Inspired by the Baka Pygmies of Cameroon, founders Martin Cradick and Su Hart were deeply moved by the Baka's spirit during their first visit to the Cameroon rainforest, prompting them to share this experience with the world.

Their debut album, "Spirit of the Forest," catapulted them to global fame, yet they have remained true to their roots. To ensure the Baka people benefit from their success, they established the charity Global Music Exchange and maintain annual visits to the Baka extended family. Martin and Su are joined by Ayodele (Sierra Leone) and Kibisingo (Congo), bringing the authentic African groove, with Clyde Kramer on drums and fiddler Ben Money Penny bringing the Celtic flair. Bring your dancing shoes!

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For over 30 years, Baka Beyond has fused African and Celtic music into a vibrant, dance-inducing mix. Inspired by the Baka Pygmies of Cameroon, local founders Martin Cradick and Su Hart have shared their spirit globally. Their album "Spirit of the Forest" brought fame, and their charity, Global Music Exchange, benefits the Baka. The band, which includes members from Sierra Leone Congo and Ireland, embodies the unifying power of music. Bring your dancing shoes!

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