

## TONY ALLEN

Tony Allen is one of the greatest drummers on the planet – the man who created Afrobeat with Fela Kuti. 24 years after leaving Fela's band he remains a restless and potent trail blazer for new African musical adventures.

The Afrobeat master drummer released albums on Comet Records Black Voices, Homecooking, Psycho on Da Bus and recently on Honest Jons with Lagos no Shaking.

In 2007 Afrobeat has been breaking out all over. The Groove has become a Temple where many worship – artists like Fela's sons, Femi and Sean, New York revel collective Antibalas. There's been Afrobeat subversion of the dance floors of New York through the work of DJ/remixer/producers like Masters at Work and Joe Clausell and in London and Paris, Ashley Beadle, Da Lata, IG Culture.

It's simultaneously grown into a widely used jazz form and a dance floor style. Clubs, labels and compilations which celebrate Fela, Afrobeat and Nigerian Afro Rock are seizing the time and pushing up shoots into the balmy Afrobeat springtime.

Tony Allen always wanted to mix his beat into other music through artist collaborations like Damon Albarn, St Germain, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Air, Lenny Krawitz, Grace Jones...