



INTERVIEW WITH BRIAN BECVAR

You were born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, and there you began training in classical piano at the age of eight... do you think you were born to play music or was a coincidence?

I now believe I was born to play music. It is my fulfilment in life. I also believe I was born to play piano.

What were your influences being so young? Did they come by family, friends, radio...?

My influences came through family, friends, radio, records: Pop music-Beatles/classical-Rachmaninoff/etc.

In 1976 you obtained a degree in psychology in the Duke University... why Psychology?

I have been fascinated with the study of human behaviour since I was very young.

And in the same year, in 1976, you were invited on a three-year U.S. and European tour with then emerging rocker John Mellencamp. How was that experience? Was your first big experience in music business?

Yes, Mellencamp was my 1st pro-music touring/recording experience. It was a very good education—I learned much from John—and he was a good friend—John wanted a player with a classical background, so it worked out very well.

What were the stages of your career after that year?

After Mellencamp, I toured with Wild Cherry, Bobby Caldwell, Roberta Flack, Laura Branigan, Kitaro, Air Supply, Jon Anderson, Celine, Dion and now Michael Bolton.

When you moved to Los Angeles, you started to work and tour with such artists as Roberta Flack, Celine Dion or Laura Branigan. What are your memories of those days?

My memories are very good—I worked hard and always stayed open to learning from these people. My education was an everyday thing—a process that never stopped.

We have read on your music as “a unique style of instrumentation to give the music an extraordinarily rich, textured sound spiced with a South American flair inspired by extensive travels in Venezuela, Peru, Brazil and Chile”. Do you find this appropriated? How would you define it by yourself?

Yes, it is appropriate. I define my own artistry as a blend of world music styles. I am very rhythmic and spacial as well. I like to bring a balance to my musical experience.

You have talked in some places about “the wonderful rhythmic feeling of Spanish countries”. What is your favourite thing from them and their music?

I love the musical feeling, the family values, the celebration of life, the dancing, and, of course, the beauty of Latin women!!

You have play music and you have composed melodies for collaboration with some of the industry's top talents. What do you prefer?

My preference is really songwriting, but the experience of performing is very close behind in value for me.

What are your plans for future in music?

To continue touring the world, to compose songs and underscore for all media types, to work with great musicians around the world.

Talking about Michael Bolton

How did you meet him and how did you start to work together?

I was performing in Celine Dion's band in the early 1990's- we opened for Bolton—that was the start of my connection with Michael.

How do you live a MB tour? What are the best and the worst things?

The best is the concert performance, those incredible moments.

The worst is the travel; seeing the world is great, but sometimes “getting there” is very tough.

Maybe a lot of people could not understand how a classic piano can be part of all the Bolton songs in a concert, especially in those not so classic and in a rock key... how would you explain that? What does the classic piano add to the show?

The classical piano adds an old-world energy which I love. It is old and new world energies together!

If you have to describe Michael as musician, boss and human being, what would you say?

Michael is a man with many incredible gifts-musical and personal. He has been very generous and a good friend to me. He works very hard and is demanding of all on his team. His dedication and passion for his art are on the highest level.

What do you think, as musician, on the new album “One world one love”?

I really love the new work -musically and energetically- very fresh with catchy melodies and rhythms, smart lyrics.

You are just about to start a big tour in 2010 all over the world. What are your expectations?

I expect a great experience of travel, people world cultures, musical celebration and sharing.

Short question-short answer

- **One drink**---high energy protein smoothie
- **One meal**---salmon with veggies and brown rice
- **One movie**---Avatar
- **One song**---“Pearls” by Sade
- **One smell**---roses
- **One flavour**---papaya
- **One gift**---love
- **One problem**---no problems, only solutions
- **One memory**---all the moments with my mother and brothers and sisters
- **One philosophy**---live for now, give everything, find the love, share the love

