

JP BIO

Bay Area musician Mark Karan has added his distinctive guitar sound to recordings and shows from quite a diverse collection of musical folk... from classic rockers like Dave Mason and Delaney Bramlett to more modern, mainstream acts like the Rembrandts. Though best known for his contributions to Grateful Dead-related bands The Other Ones and Bob Weir & RatDog, Karan frequently takes the time along with drummer John Molo, to step out with their peculiarly named band...Jemimah Puddleduck.

Jemimah Puddleduck features players who, like Karan, have made their names as hired hands for big-name acts. Along with groove guru John Molo, John "JT" Thomas (Bruce Hornsby) on keys and Bob Gross (Albert King, Delaney Bramlett) on bass, "JP" is a loose-limbed aggregation of seasoned players that aren't afraid to stretch out and jam, giving them a great vehicle for developing their own unique musical visions.

Karan and Molo joined forces in 1998 when touring with The Other Ones (featuring Phil Lesh, Bob Weir, Mickey Hart and Bruce Hornsby) as well as Mickey Hart's Planet Drum. Molo (also of Phil Lesh & Friends) and keyboardist JT Thomas had played together with Bruce Hornsby for many years, Karan and bassist/vocalist Bob Gross had also played together with Delaney Bramlett. With their collective resumes including artists as diverse as those listed above (in addition to Tracy Chapman, Albert King, John Fogerty, Paul Carrack, Sophie B. Hawkins, and Sparks), JP brings an eclectic and sophisticated edge to their material...a music lovers' dream.

You can hear why their fanbase is growing on their band's live CDs, including Live at the Fillmore, Live at the Great American Music Hall, and Live at the Sweetwater (available at markkaran.com). In addition to Mark's original songs like "Time Will Tell", "Rock Your Papa", and "Leave a Light On", as well as those of songwriter friends Susan Sheller ("Memphis Radio"), and Alex Call ("Annie Don't Lie"), they also cover a range of eclectic songs like Johnny "Guitar" Watson's "You Can Stay (But the Noize Must Go)", and Peter Tosh's "Don't Look Back". Whether it's funk, reggae, country, or soul- Mark's unique choices in music are the hallmark of every show, and are evident on his studio album (currently in production-2007).

Other recent recordings featuring Mark on guitar include RatDog's "Live At Roseland" (2001) and "Evening Moods" (2000), and The Other Ones'"Only The Strange Remain" (1999) – all on Grateful Dead Records (gdstore.com).