



The Blessed is the name of an exciting new musical collaboration between veteran DJ/promoter Dave Beer and producer Gareth Whitehead. Having already gained support from the legendary Norman "Fatboy Slim" Cook, this pair of established musical innovators have teamed up with a host of talented new faces to bring us a collective that has already established itself as a stunningly entertaining live act as well as delivering an eclectic and highly original recorded output that promises to go from strength to strength.

Dave Beer is a man that has seen House music progress from the very beginning and as head honcho of the legendary Back To Basics club and label, he has done so from the absolute vanguard of not only the music but the culture and community that has grown in its light through the years. Dave's real passion lies in writing and producing. Over the years Dave has produced under an array of different guises such as The Godsquad and Out of Order and has worked with the likes of David Bowie and Chrissy Hynd plus many more. His open-ended approach to music is reflected in his awesome DJ sets that see him remain a massive draw on the international club and festival scene. Although rooted firmly in 4 on the floor house, Dave has never forgot his original punk ethos and draws from a collection of funk, punk, new wave, electro and beyond.

Gareth Whitehead is a vastly experienced producer, remixer, DJ and artist that has established his own signature brand of deep and dubby tech-house and minimal. After setting up the legendary Edit/Select label with Anthony Scott and then his own Bullet

Dodge Records, Gareth has been responsible for a procession of techno gems that have helped define the sound of the modern era. With massive support from the very best of techno's glitterati, Gareth has become a huge underground success and a highly respected and sought after producer/remixer.

The duo's offering as The Blessed promises to be a blinder and their recent gig at Leeds O2 Academy with Fatboy Slim produced more conclusive evidence that this a promise that they very much intend to keep. Fronted by the Reverend Cleve Freckleton and backed by an impressive array of talented musicians including singers, guitarists, percussionists and a brass section all of whom have worked with the best in the business, the two producers conduct a highly polyphonic arrangement of their compositions. Their live show also includes an astounding breakdance show from the dancers from The Anti Gun Campaign and Mothers Against Violence.

The Blessed's mission statement is one of unity through music with the name deriving from the idea that one must count one's blessings in life, expressing that life is indeed for the living and unlike most bands have a true message, and want to bring people together through music.

The band have two singles out now on Soulman Music, "Love is Everywhere" and "Discourse of Loving Kindness". They also have the highly anticipated "Erectile" EP due for release on Back To Basics Recordings and a remix for the ever-eccentric Lo Recordings.

Live Set Track Listing

(Click on tracks below to play)

- 1 - Discourse of Loving Kindness
- 2 - Come Together
- 3 - Love is Everywhere
- 4 - Beans
- 5 - Deep Heat
- 6 - Erectile
- 7 - Herbie
- 8 - You Don't See Me
- 9 - Community
- 10 - Hustler

(Click on links below to view media)

[Video 1 \(Official Live\)](#)

[Video 2](#)

[Video 3](#)

[Video 4](#)

[Still Photograph's
Gallery](#)

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Beer for the community

IT'S the start of Easter and it looks like local DJ and club promoter Dave Beer has ignored the traditional words of warning and put all his eggs in one basket for this monster showcase extravaganza.

A familiar face at the nightclub Stinkys Peep House, where his club night Back2-Basics celebrated its 18th year in 2009, Beer takes to the The O2 Academy Leeds for this special night.

Beer and partner-in-crime Gareth Whitehead are the men behind the group The Blessed, a local pool of talent featuring percussion, guitars and live musicians. They include on vocals Clare and Louise Newsam, guitarist Steve Baker, bassist Simon Nixon, brass player Toby Wiltshire,

percussionist Jam from Sponge Studios, with Beer and Whitehead backing them as producers and DJs.

Bringing this event to the Academy has been a mammoth task, taking over a year, and involving the backing of superstar DJ Norman Cook, aka Fatboy Slim.

The show attracted a diverse mixture of people and the music was amazing.

There was a message running through this whole gig – we are bringing the community together through music.

The band have a track released, called Sole Man, on Back2Basics Recordings.

Review by Nathan Folan