



# Gone To Lunch

[www.gonetolunchmusic.com](http://www.gonetolunchmusic.com)

[GTLproductions@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:GTLproductions@hotmail.co.uk)

Unit A, 36 Selsdon Rd, West Norwood, London SE27 0PG

+44 20 8761 6890

## Michael Natkanski

Michael Natkanski grew up in Colchester, Essex, and began in the 70s as a drummer in the glam rock band 'The Mighty Plod'. He served the usual hired hand and covers band apprenticeship, including chart pop, soul, country, cabaret, indie rock and backed Elvis impersonators on Clacton pier and the soul singer Lucas. In '75 he got signed twice, firstly with 'The Mighty Plod' to indie label Banjul, then later to EMI under legendary 60s writer/producers Ken Howerd and Alan Blaikley as a member of the boy band 'Fiver'.

His teenage collaborators included later-to-be Cleaner From Venus and pop poet Martin Newell, jazz bass player Mick Hutton, country crooner Steve Travis and renowned session guitarist Kevin Armstrong. In 2003 The Mighty Plod belatedly surfaced on Cherry Red's acclaimed 'Velvet Tinmine - Junk Shop Glam' compilation. He was also the character 'Stix' in Martin Newell's autobiography 'This Little Ziggy' which the London Evening Standard referred to as a 'Spinal Tap of the A12'

In the 80s he took a few years out as a mature student to do a Psychology degree at the University of Plymouth. After that he qualified as a software engineer and designed computer systems for city firms and major charities. Throughout all this he kept his chops up in covers bands and doing songwriter demos. He also played drums on some of the recently released 'Cleaners From Venus - Box Set, Vol. 2'

Keen to pursue his dream of songwriting, in 1991 he began studying piano and music theory at Morley College, where one of his teachers was Lisa Westerhout. Along the way he also did a Certificate in Copyright law at the City University and set up his own studio to teach himself audio engineering and production.

At Morley he studied composition with Phil Wachsmann and later won a scholarship to do a classical music degree at Royal Holloway University of London, which he finished in 2008. He is the author of the only harmonic analysis of Ringo Starr in the known universe, which he did as an undergraduate dissertation. As well as songwriting and producing with Lisa Westerhout as 'Gone To Lunch' he also composes his own instrumental music.

His favourite musicians include Hal Blaine, Joe Morello, Claude Debussy, Paul McCartney, Maurice Ravel, Carlos Santana, James Jameson, Don Henley, Burt Bacharach, Antonio Carlos Jobim and John Barry.