



SMA TALENT

PAUL HEARD **COMPOSER & SONGWRITER**

Paul Heard, the original co-writer, band member and producer of the group **M-People**, is now established scoring films and tv drama and his credits include the UK film **Clubbed**, directed by Neil Thompson for Formosa Films, a gangster movie set in the Northern clubs in the early 1980's and which premiered last year. He earlier composed the music for **Ahead of The Class**, ITVs much lauded production starring Julie Walters. Directed by Adrian Shergold for ARGTV and World Productions, this was the true story of Marie Stubbs, the Head Teacher brought in to take over the troubled North London school whose previous Head Teacher, Philip Lawrence, was stabbed to death outside the school.

Paul's other film credits include the Focus Films's award winning comedy, **Secret Society**, produced by Vesna Jovanoska and David Pupkewitz and directed by Imogen Kimmel. He also provided the music for Focus Films' horror movie, **The Bone Snatcher**, produced by Malcolm Kohll, Koa Padolsky and Andreas Poulsson and directed by Jason Wulfsohn.

He co-founded the Manchester based band **M-People** in 1991 with Mike Pickering, Andrew Lovell and singer Heather Small. During their 10 year reign as the world's no.1 dance act they sold more than 11 million records. Their best known singles were **Moving On Up** and **Search For a Hero** while their 1994 album, **Bizarre Fruit**, was in the UK charts for some 2 ½ years. As a portent of what was to follow later with Paul's move into film scoring, their songs were featured in films such as **The Full Monty**, **First Wives Club** and **Pret-A-Porter**.

They were awarded **The Mercury Prize** for their 1994 album, **Elegant Slumming** and two **Brit Awards** for Best Dance Band. They were even awarded the Freedom of Manchester in 1999, a very rare privilege, previously given to Sir Matt Busby and Sir Alex Ferguson.

He has also been writing songs for other recording artistes, most recently contributing four songs for **Denise Van Outen's** album for BMG Records.

Before **M-People**, he worked with and co-produced **Working Week**, a band signed to Virgin Records and for two years played bass in the group **Orange**, who were signed to Polydor. He also had his own band, **Ace of Clubs**, which released avant-garde albums on the Acid Jazz label. Paul initially trained at City University and then went on to a three year music degree course at London's Guildhall School of Music.

9/10

Contact: Carolynne Wyper, Olav Wyper

...over for credits

