

# Norman Hedman

## Contact

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## One-Line Bio

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Percussionist, Solo Artist, Producer, Composer

## Biography

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One man's trash is another man's treasure. Nothing could be truer for Norman Hedman and the discovery of his first hand drum, a conga, he rescued from a Brooklyn garbage can. A native of the West Indies, Hedman instinctively knew how to repair the conga at age 12 and has been playing music ever since.

## Background

Today, the music of this first call percussionist, solo artist, producer, and composer, gathers multi-genre music connoisseurs around the globe. Attracted to Hedman's number one hits with broad appeal, audiences discover his passion for accessible music. "I think music heals, and Tropique's music falls into that category; whether you're a teen or 80 years old," says Hedman. From Latin Jazz to R&B and Pop, Hedman's commercial recognition is widespread. His extensive product pedigree includes a variety of hit projects:

## Music Accomplishments

<b>Number One Hits</b>	<b>Movie Soundtracks</b>	<b>GRAMMY® Nomination List Best Latin Jazz Album</b>
<b><i>Songs in A Minor</i></b> , Alicia Keys (5 GRAMMY® Awards)	<b>Ali:</b> "Fight"	1. <b><i>Taken By Surprise</i></b> (Tropique)
<b><i>Fear of Flying</i></b> , Mya (Platinum Album)	<b>Shaft:</b> "Rock wit You"	2. <b><i>Healing Hands</i></b> (Tropique)
<b><i>I Ain't Movin'</i></b> , Des'ree (Multi-Platinum Album)	<b>Dr. Doolittle 2:</b> "Rearview Mirror"	
<b><i>Brass Construction</i></b> , Brass Construction (Gold)		
<b><i>Walkin - the Line</i></b> , Brass Construction (Gold)		

## Norman Hedman's Tropique

After accumulating much of his own material, Norman Hedman founded Tropique in 1995. His percussion instruments continue to lend themselves to Latin jazz and island flavors. This dance-based genre makes use of percussion instruments such as timbales, cowbells and congas. Although several band members play horns, the focus is on percussion.

Hedman and his accomplices captured the attention of the Recording Academy in recent years on two albums. "*Taken By Surprise*" and "*Healing Hands*" were both on the nomination list for a GRAMMY® Award.

### **Hedman Defies Boundaries of Musical Categories**

Chances are if you migrate to more than just one musical genre, then you will love Norman Hedman. A world-class conguero since the early 1980s, the rhythms of studio extraordinaire, Norman Hedman, cross breezy island grooves infused with Latin jazz traditions. Often times, Hedman's music is also characterized as 'world' or 'alternative' music. "That's what Tropique is all about - a lot of different styles rolled into one. Although it's difficult to put Hedman's music into just one category, he has not abandoned his heritage. Hedman maintains the rhythmic value of Latin music. "I'm a player first. I like rhythms and melodies," he remarked. There is no doubt Norman sets the pace for Latin induced rhythms.

### **Traditional Instruments Used in Non-Traditional Ways**

As an inventive and tasteful percussionist Mr. Hedman has combined his command of diverse musical styles with an understanding of the traditional roles of Latin sounds. As an assertive and original producer, Mr. Hedman has combined a roster of talents that infuses the traditions presented with new concepts, clean, tight lines, and original composing. He defies any attempt to suggest that new music is not as interesting as the great standards of old, indeed, it has progressed. In years to come, it is clear, this *Latin Jazz Band* will set the standard, both in exciting performances, and in groundbreaking recording.

### **Benefits**

Norman Hedman's music makes you feel good. Imagine blue skies, and a music that enables you to forget your troubles and release stress. Not only did Hedman identify a multi-genre music void with tropical influences, but he continually delivers quality music for the masses. Through focus, determination, and teamwork, Hedman found his passion and built a business around it.

Before forming Tropique in 1995, Hedman found work as a studio and touring musician after leaving the military service. For two years while in the service, Hedman played with the Third U.S. Army Soldier Show in South Carolina. And just one year prior to entering the military, Hedman graduated from Brooklyn College with a business major in marketing.

## **Guilty by Association**

Over the past 25 years, Norman Hedman has worked with many world-class artists in the multiple genres listed below:

### Jazz

Arturo Sandoval; Nancy Wilson; Bobby Watson; Grady Tate; Pat Martino; Chico & Vaughn Freeman; Arthur Blythe; George Cables; John Hicks; Gary Bartz; Ahmad Alladeen; Giovannie Hidalgo; Hilton Ruiz; Arthur Blythe, Horacee Arnold; Airtio **Moreira**; Monguito Santamaria; Delmar Brown, Lew Soloff and Marcus Miller.

### R&B / Pop

Alicia Keys; Main Ingredient; The Jackson's; New Kids on the Block; Daryl Hall; Luther Vandross; The Spinners; Des'ree; Mya; Sister Sledge; Jean Carn; Adrienne Wilson; Earth, Wind & Fire; Brass Construction; Skyy; New Birth; Night Liters; Colors; Charisma Band; Boobie Knight & The Soulciety; The O'Jays; Cuba Gooding, Sr.; and Katherine Dunham.

## **The Man**

Norman Hedman resides in Northeast part of the United States with his family. The entire Hedman clan is successfully involved in the entertainment industry.

With a brown belt stashed in his desktop drawer, Hedman is far from your typical percussionist. He enjoys working with computers, riding horses, and the great outdoors. Best of all, this weaver of rhythmic rhapsodies brings honesty and integrity to everything he does.