

「DAVE OKUMU」



BIOGRAPHY

Born in Vienna to Kenyan parents and ultimately settling in London via Edinburgh and Paris, Dave Okumu grew up surrounded by music enthusiasts. Mixtapes from siblings and friends would sow the seeds for dynamic and diverse creative expression taking the forms of songwriter, producer and performing musician.

Best known for fronting his critically acclaimed band The Invisible, whose eponymous debut was nominated for a Mercury Prize (2009) and was also selected by iTunes UK editorial team as 'iTunes Album of The Year'. The band's third album 'Patience' was released in June 2016 to critical acclaim and features collaborations with Connan Mockasin, Anna Calvi, Jessie Ware and Rosie Lowe.

Dave has also collaborated, performed or recorded with numerous artists including Adele, Lianne La Havas, Grace Jones, Anna Calvi, Eska, Paloma Faith, Kwabs, Lilly Wood, Jordan Rakei, Amy Winehouse, St Vincent, Yoko Ono ("Double Fantasy", Meltdown Festival), Beck, Savages, Jane Birkin, Sara Creative Partners, Brigitte Fontaine, Theo Parrish, Tony Allen, King Sunny Ade, Omar, Matthew Herbert, Dani Siciliano, Toddla T, Bilal and Jack De Johnette.

In 2010 Dave met Jessie Ware and the pair began to write and record her debut album 'Devotion' - named after the opening track, which Dave co-wrote. 'Devotion' led to Dave's second Mercury nod, this time as producer and co-writer. Dave and Jessie continued to work together, with Dave featuring as a co-writer / producer on Jessie's 'Tough Love' album, and blockbuster "50 Shades of Grey" soundtrack. He has co-written and produced Rosie Lowe's debut record, which was released in February 2016 through Wolf Tone / Polydor. He continues his work as writer/producer/collaborator with Rosie Lowe, Jessie Ware, Lexxx and Paul Epworth.

In June 2016 Dave released his Prince tribute single 'Oceans of Purple' on his new label Ruby Moon Records. Written and produced by Dave it featured additional vocals by Jamie Woon, with all proceeds going to music therapy charity Nordoff Robbins.

In March 2016, as Musical Director Dave gathered an all-star line-up of artists (including Joan as Policewoman, Kate Tempest, Loyle Carner and Nadine Shah) at the Roundhouse for a musical tribute to Gil Scott Heron. More recently he helmed another tribute to musical legends David Bowie and Prince for a special 10th anniversary show at In the Woods Festival.