

TREVOR EXTER

Bio:

For most of his life, Trevor Exter has been a professional singer and cellist with his own approach to all aspects of composing, songwriting, producing, performing and touring. He's had a few bands where he got to make a spectacle of himself, and some producers like to use him as a secret weapon.

First-time listeners are sometimes puzzled when Exter steps on stage, a cello plugged into an amp the way a rocker bears his axe. Exter has toured with De La Guarda, Steve Kimock, author James McBride, DJ Tasha Blank and his duo with John Kimock, XVSK. He frequently performs solo.

Raised in Tompkins County, NY and fascinated by the cello at an early age, he moved to Brazil at age 19, hypnotized by the fire and tenderness in its music. He played with young Brazilian musicians who reveled in the Beatles, Coltrane and Ellington as well as their country's icons: Antonio Carlos Jobim, Gilberto Gil, Chico Buarque and Toninho Horta. He later moved to New York to pursue a performing career.

At age 30, Exter survived the near-death experience of getting run over on his bike by a cement truck, an accident which shocked him into a heightened awareness of life's fragility. Unable to walk for several months during his recovery, he befriended a beat-up cello which had fallen into his possession.

Starting from scratch with basic hand percussion on the strings, he slowly crafted a sound which can (and does) go the distance from dance bands to jazz clubs, nightclubs, churches and concert halls. He found his stylistic footing by combining unorthodox cello techniques with pop songwriting.

Exter's musical quest has always been to dig deep and find new ways to meld the traditional with the experimental. Very rarely in the mainstream do we get to see cellists innovate at the front of the stage, but Exter has always felt that the cello has more to offer than just warming up the mix. So he seeks out new fertile ground, making music for nighthawks and dreamers.

He performs regularly around the world.