Biography

Al Marconi first picked up a guitar at the awkward age of 13 after being inspired as a child by his fathers collection of Shadows LP's. It wasn't long however before he developed a taste for the heavier side of guitar music such as the likes of Deep Purple, Black Sabbath and Rainbow and very soon these were dominating his own record collection.

As a teenager he went on to learn many of the great iconic riffs from the classic rock era and to hone his electric guitar playing skills with the hope that one day he would become the quintessential rock guitar Demi-God.....oh well!

It was whilst at art college in the late eighties that Al discovered the Baroque lute music of J S Bach where a love affair with the nylon strung guitar was born. This heralded a complete change of musical direction and for the next few years Al was to study his chosen instrument under his own esteem and with no formal musical education or tuition he was soon able to get the mastery of some of the more technically demanding exercises within the popular classical repertoire.

Eventually though Al found himself becoming jaded and frustrated with the methodical and somewhat mechanical nature of much of the standard classical repertoire that restricted him from displaying the more aggressive, passionate and fiery side of his musical temperament.

Then one evening AI shared the stage with a guitar duo who were performing among other things some cover versions of the Gipsy Kings and wham! from the instant he heard the rumba flamenco style AI was hooked. He immediately saw that this would be the perfect vehicle for him to explore the more aggressive and dynamic side of his playing.

In the years that followed AI set about writing and recording his own original music in the rumba flamenco style which on his 1997 debut album 'equilibrium' he fused with a more traditional classical approach that, at the time, he was reluctant to let go of.

Following the relative success of 'Equilibrium' AI made the decision to concentrate on developing his creative and compositional skills recording only works of his own originality. The results of which were 'Monument' in 1999, 'Esperanto' in 2001 and 'Terra Nova' in 2007.

Over the years the development of modern technology and innovative software has allowed AI to explore new sounds and textures and to bring a more colourful and exotic sound palette into the equation resulting in a more world fusion influenced orientation.

Al has gone on to become one of the UK's top selling independent instrumental guitarists selling his recordings all over the world and he has performed from his home territory in the South West of England to as far a field as Peru and Mexico.