

# Premium Comfort Shoes



Band-mates Amos Clarke and his lovely spouse Nikki Hartnett-Clarke are no newcomers to the scene. Both halves of this New Zealand-based duo have toured internationally as members of several successful groups and winning consistent acclaim for their catchy song writing and inventive playing. Now, they're bringing their talents to bear as the first ever "Indie Power Duo" to create a sound that's fresh, new and brimming with commercial appeal.

Until you hear the opening bars of their first Premium Comfort Shoes single **'All My Love'**, you might find it difficult to believe that songs consisting entirely of drums, bass and vocals could generate so much sheer energy and ear-catching fun. Well, get ready to be seduced.

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# The Line Up



## **LEFT SHOE: Amos Clarke**

**Bass, vocals, music, lyrics, engineering and production**

**Amos has been lovingly caressing** the long slender neck of his Stu Hamm signature Fender bass for more than 20 years. In his words, “There’s nothing more addictive than locking into a sly and stinky groove and feeling the Gods of Funk take control.” It’s a feeling he’s enjoyed playing a range of styles, spanning rock, pop, funk, reggae, blues, folk and jazz.

Among other credits, Amos was one of the founding members of *One Million Dollars*, a 13-piece funk/jazz/world styles group that he toured with for more than five years, contributing to three of the group’s albums.

When he’s not communing with the Gods of Funk, Amos lectures at UNITEC and is the owner and proprietor of sHOWpONY Recording and Production, a cozy recording studio nestled in sunny Auckland. There, he has earned a glowing reputation for his ability to guide clients successfully from initial pre-production through to finished, radio-ready releases. Among other credits, Amos is producer and engineer for the band Fuser and is currently working on their third album and a series of music videos showing the band in action.

In addition to his role as proud papa of baby Aria, Amos enjoys carving and making humorous videos, such as Baby Baby Baby (in which he portrays ‘Skeeter,’ his emo-addled alter-ego). Another recent highlight is My Girlfriend, a moving tribute to a love affair with a difference and Pay Up, a song that is sure to win the hearts and minds of Accounts Receivable departments the world over.

## **RIGHT SHOE: Nikki Hartnett-Clarke**

**Vocals, bass, drums, teacher, coach, Mensa member and MUMMY**

**Nikki was one of those kids** who started singing around the time she started to walk. As the years passed, her voice grew in power and range. Soon, she was fronting local rock bands as lead singer and making the jam session rounds with her electric bass in tow.

One day, her drummer left his electronic kit at her house and suggested she, “Have a play.” It turned out to be a fateful moment. When Nikki picked up the sticks she discovered a passion for the traps that led her to spend countless hours listening to—and learning to emulate—memorable tracks by *Steely Dan*, *Jamiroquai*, and NZ band *The Feelers*, among others. But most of all, she says, “Dave Grohl taught me how to play the drums,” she smilingly acknowledges, “Although he doesn’t know it.”

In addition to her multi-instrument skills, Nikki is also a multi-life-stylist, pursuing her musical passion at night while working the daylight hours as a high school teacher, where she also mentors music students and prepares them for high profile competitions and performances. She also shares her vocal talents around while working nationally and internationally as a session vocalist.

Nikki is much more than a pretty face with a Mensa-level IQ. She's also a sports and fitness enthusiast, finding time to coach local football and cricket teams and leading them to championship seasons and tournament wins. Nikki was named 'Coach of the Year' at a local Auckland College for two years running.

Today, Nikki manages to continue pursuing her musical career in the breaks between answering the melodic cries of Aria, the baby daughter she and daddy Amos are hoping will one day front a rock band of her own. Now, if the kid could just learn to play lead guitar...



## Before The Shoes

**For seven years**, Amos and Nikki made up one half of indie pop/rock band, *Siren Junkies*, which toured extensively both locally and internationally, including gigs in the U.S. and Canada. In its 2008 review of the band's debut album, *Fascinate*, Tone Magazine wrote that, "Nikki Hartnett-Clarke has a genuine vocal presence..." and that..."Amos Clarke's production/engineering/mastering is superb."

The band's first single, *Elevator* garnered significant radio airplay and was subsequently released as a music video, which is still available on [YouTube](#), as are subsequent videos for [Little Darling](#) and [Salty Air](#), which was featured on Air New Zealand's in-flight entertainment network throughout the summer of 2008. *Elevator* was also selected as a finalist at the DB Export Gold Ignition Competition and the music video for the single was highly commended at the 'Handle the Jandal' (Independent) Music Awards. That same year, Nikki won Female Vocalist of the Year honors at the Rock Factory Music Awards for her role as lead singer.

## The Now

**PCS is currently putting the finishing touches** on their first single, *All My Love* and has begun shooting the promotional video that will accompany the formal release. The creative process is being produced by SHOWpONY by a series of video diaries that will shortly become available on YouTube.

In January 2014, *All My Love* will go into worldwide release and will be promoted by Musik and Film.

Premium Comfort Shoes  
Slip them on and have a listen