

Rob da Bank – A BIOGRAPHY

Born in the mid 1970's when love was free, the sun always shone and mums and dads looked like they'd just strolled out of Woodstock, Rob da Bank was always destined to escape the grimy confines of Southampton and get lost in music somewhere.

By Feb 1995, Rob da Bank had founded Sunday Best in the warm glow of South London's Tearooms Des Artistes based on a love of chill out, electronica and an anything goes policy. Sunday Best Recordings was born in 1997 unveiling then unknown acts Groove Armada, Bent and Lemon Jelly to the world via single releases and compilations. By 2002 Sunday Best and DJing around the world was becoming too big a headache for Rob to juggle with a full time job resulting in him knocking his day job of music journalism on the head and taking over the reins full time of his home grown empire. Having become the first weekly chill out club in Ibiza the previous year, with guests Groove Armada, Goldfrapp and Norman Cook attracting record crowds, 2002 saw him take Sunday Best on the road in the UK, taking in Glastonbury and Creamfields.

2004 was the year that Sunday Best Recordings kicked into gear as a force to be reckoned with. Most notably it saw the release of Grand National's debut album, Max Sedgley's killer underground anthem 'Happy' (Euro 2004 title music for ITV) and Rob da Bank's debut artist album, alongside Dan Carey, as Lazyboy. 'Penguin Rock' featured collaborations with Lee 'Scratch' Perry, Roddy Frame and Estelle, Earl 16 and has been described by the pair as a "beautiful mess", as it takes in r&b, pop, funk, soul, house and chillout vibes. The album also featured 'Police Dogs Bonfire', a track selected by Vodafone for a worldwide TV ad campaign. Rob also then created the entire musical soundbed for Bloomberg TV, and Lazyboy has also featured in hit US TV series CSI and for commercials for Hewlett Packard.

And then came Bestival in 2004. Rob's very own independent three-day festival in the picturesque surroundings of Robin Hill Adventure Park on the Isle Of Wight. The event, hosted by The Cuban Brothers and headlined by Fatboy Slim, Basement Jaxx and Mylo, was a huge success. Bestival set the benchmark for 'boutique' festivals, and was used as a case study of how a modern day music festival should look by brand companies in the UK. More importantly, the event became established in its first year.

In April of 2002, Rob was asked to do a pilot for BBC Radio 1 and along with Chris Coco became Radio One's newest DJ presenting The Blue Room leftfield show on Saturday mornings, a show widely considered to be one of the world's most influential for new music over recent years.

Two years later, Rob was asked by BBC Radio 1 to fill in for the sadly departed John Peel, for three nights a week on Radio 1. When the BBC station unveiled their new strategy for replacing John Peel's weekly shows,

Rob was asked to host the Thursday spot, under the banner of One Music. In September 2006, Rob embarked on a new role with the Rob da Bank Show on Sundays, officially tagged as Radio 1's Leftfield Show. The new show is a weekly platform for Rob to express his true self. Rob da

Bank's shows are now broadcast live to the whole of North America via the Sirius Satellite radio network (Channel 11). And Rob da Bank remains one of the most popular Listen Again artists on the BBC website. Rob is now developing an international radio show titled Around The World.

In 2005, Rob released two critically acclaimed compilations. In July, Rob selected the 4th instalment in the series "Rob da Bank presents Sunday Best" – CD1 featured Dusty Disco and Balearic Beauties while CD2 was a Best Of Sunday Best – 1997 'til Now! The CD brought together all the singles release on the label, and acted as a great entry point for a new generation of Sunday Best / Rob da Bank fans. In September, Rob had the honour of being asked to mix the latest Fabric compilation, with a CD that captured the dancefloor side of Rob's music, proving how Rob's club DJ-ing career had evolved from back rooms into the main dancehalls.

The second Bestival event attracted over 15,000 people, with curator Rob da Bank selecting Röyksopp, The Super Furry Animals and The Magic Numbers to headline the main stage. The event was a massive success and won Best Medium-Sized Festival and Most Innovative Festival at the UK Festival Awards. Bestival also featured on Channel 4 with a one-hour documentary, capturing the full story of Bestival / Sunday Best / Rob da Bank. In 2006, Bestival went supernova with The Scissor Sisters and the Pet Shop Boys, both acts stating it's one of the best live events they've ever performed at. Channel 4 furthered their support with a two-hour TV special broadcast the week after the event.

In 2006, Sunday Best Recordings now has international partners in France, Australia, Italy, Germany, South Africa, Sweden, Benelux and North America. Rob compiled a trans-atlantic compilation titled 'Folk Off', and has created a concept called 'A-Z' – a collection of alphabetical tunes selected by different artists. The first release is by the Cuban Brothers and part two by Annie Mac. Rob also released a compilation with Chris Coco in August titled 'Listen Again' on Ether Music.

Rob da Bank the broadcaster is also becoming a wanted name for TV. Rob fronted a TV show for mobile phones for Nokia, and his dulcet tones are in-demand for TV voiceover work on credible crossover music artists.

In addition, Rob is curating 30 live events for Jack Daniels / JD Set, a made for television concept that has seen the likes of The View and The Rapture filmed for Channel 4, all featuring Rob as ambassador. The show begins transmitting in January 2007 on Friday nights, immediately after the Album Chart Show, and continues for 30 weeks.

www.sundaybest.net / www.bestival.net
www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/robdabank
www.myspace.com/robdabank
www.myspace.com/sundaybestrecordings

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PLEASE NOTE: It is Rob da Bank and not Rob Da Bank