

Matthew Backer (New Orleans) is an American guitarist, singer, songwriter and composer and the guitarist for the UK band ABC. He was educated at The Berklee College of Music in Boston and The University of Warwick in the UK. Backer began recording and performing in 1986. In 1998, he played on Julian Lennon's "Photograph Smile" record. The record was followed by a world tour and Backer became Lennon's bandleader. Backer plays on Julian Lennon's new record "Everything Changes" (2013).

Backer is a diverse musician and is well known for his work in the 80's pop genre, playing with bands like Martin Fry's ABC, Marc Almond (Soft Cell), Paul Young ("Everytime You Go Away") and Rick Astley (Never Gonna Give you Up). Backer is also a composer and has contributed music to television shows (Without a Trace, Cold Case, Top Gear, LA Ink) movies(Fahrenheit

9/11, Horton Hears a Who and White Lightning') and commercials (Ping, Chrysler, MTV, Nickelodeon, Hard Rock Cafe). Backer also writes music for The Extreme Music Library owned by Sony Records.

His ability to play all styles with equal exceptional ability has lead to studio work with Steve Winwood, Rumer, Joe Cocker, Emmylou Harris, Alice Cooper and Steve Earle among many others.

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Matt Backer's stage and TV credits include work with Cher, Sinead O'Connor, Bananarama, Belinda Carlisle, Michael Bolton and Aimee Mann among others.

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Backer is featured in the 2008 Smithsonian TV series, Music Revolutions, narrated by Morgan

Freeman.

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Backer wrote the guitar chapter in the 2003 Cambridge Companion to Gospel and Blues.