

## **BAND HISTORY**

How do you produce a high-energy dance band that mixes classic rhythm and blues with jazzy standards, all while showcasing a tight horn section? In the case of The Alter Ego Band of Atlanta, the seed sprouted in Florida.

In 1999-2000, bassist/guitarist Robert Barclift founded The Alter Ego Band of Fort Myers. It features horns and specializes in dance music from the '60s and '70s. The band's gigs have included opening for the '60s hit-makers The Grass Roots as well as being regular entertainment for the Edison Festival of Lights events, which once included the Prince of Monaco in attendance.

The Band's personnel over the years included musicians who toured with Sly and the Family Stone; Celia Cruz; Donna Summer; Shania Twain; and SHeDaisy, and who co-wrote the smash hits "Butterfly Kisses" and Dolly Parton's "Why'd You Come in Here Lookin' Like That." Though Robert left Florida in 2017, Alter Ego of Fort Myers continues successfully to this day.

In early 2020, Robert met Josh Peacock, a freshman physics major at Emory University and trombonist for the Emory Jazz Band. As they began recruiting Josh's fellow bandmates and other musicians for an Alter Ego-style horn band, Josh also proved to be exceptional also on electric piano, Hammond organ and would even pinch-hit on trumpet and drums as needed.

After going through lots of musicians before finding the right combination, and hampered along the way by the Covid pandemic, The Alter Ego Band of Atlanta came fully into its own in 2023 and 2024. The band is known for its danceable hits, many from nationally known Motown, Memphis and Muscle Shoals artists, as well as jazz-pop and assorted other songs – all with full-bodied reproduction, thanks to precise horn accompaniment absent in most bands today.