

Louis Upton-Wheeler BIO

I was introduced to music from a young age, growing up in a musical household and through my education. My musical training began in classical music, studying trombone and singing from the age of seven taking the lead role in annual musical productions and performing as a soloist with ensembles such as the Reading Youth Orchestra. Throughout school I went on numerous tours across Europe performing as lead tenor in my college's chamber choir in Venice, Florence and Paris and also developed my Jazz studies, training one-on-one with jazz composer-singer Laure Holloway (Strictly Come Dancing). Whilst my classical training progressed, with help from my family, I taught myself how to play guitar, bass and piano and performed around my hometown in cover bands and amateur rock bands. As a teenager I started to develop an interest in songwriting and composition and in my final year of school had my music premiered by the London Mozart Players in concert, whilst recording and releasing three singles with his first band.

After graduating school with A* in Music, Performing arts and Music Tech, and with a Grade 7 qualification in Trombone, I began studying at Abbey Road Institute in Production and Sound Engineering. It was at Abbey Road that I first met David Leondi and began our relationship as professional collaborators, performing with David playing bass in Abbey Road renowned Studio 2 (Beatles, Pink Floyd) and on sessions with Sophie Loyed (Machine Gun Kelly). Whilst studying I gained experience running the studio at my old school, producing and mixing performances by students and creating virtual concerts for parents during the COVID pandemic. Upon graduating I had used my access to Studio 13, Angel Studio and Abbey Road to build up a small circle of clients who I wrote for and produced (inc. Micheal Burns-Peake, Air Circus, DEADLINES, Oscar Simons, Francis La Lune).

Throughout my academic studies and work as a freelance producer and engineer, I have also pursued a career as a performer and songwriter with my band Phantom Booth. Self-producing the band, we recorded in studios across London (Abbey Road, Strongroom, Fossil Studios, 123 Studios Peckham) and began releasing material. With an excited early response to our music, my band began extensively playing around the London and Reading scene selling out venues such as the Lexington, Dublin Castle and the Grace. In doing this I developed an ample understanding of London's underground live music scene, making connections with promoters and bands alike. In addition to playing with my own project, Phantom Booth, I work as a session bassist and vocalist for Matt-Felix (Yungblud) and his project and am set to perform with him in his 2024 UK summer tour.