



# MARK CRANEY

Newest recruit to the Jethro Tull ranks is 28-year old Mark Craney, the first American to join Jethro Tull in their 12-year history.

Born 26th August 1952, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, he started playing drums at 14. His formative years were spent sitting in with local bands and later on attending art school at the University of South Dakota. However, Mark's musical aspirations were to take him to the hub of the recording industry—Los Angeles. He made an immediate impact and gained the attention of French jazz/rock violinist Jean Luc Ponty who invited him to tour.

Eventually Mark made his first major recording debut on Ponty's 1976 album 'Imaginary Voyage': they teamed up again recently for the violinist's forthcoming album, as yet untitled.

Late 1976 saw Mark's versatile technique in more of a heavy rock setting, touring the United States with

ex-James Gang/Deep Purple axeman Tommy Bolin and subsequently an invitation from the highly influential Mark Almond Band to record and undertake a major tour.

By 1978 Mark had established himself as a top session man with his highly imaginative playing. He was recruited into Gino Vannelli's Band after playing on his 'Brother Brother' album and subsequently spent two years of

constant touring with him.

Eddie Jobson, appearing on tour with Jethro Tull as a special guest, recommended Mark to Ian Anderson when Jethro Tull's drum chair became vacant. Eddie had played with Mark on various sessions in Los Angeles and was impressed by Mark's superb technique which has now transformed into being part of the Jethro Tull sound.

