

Ras Lil Dread - # 1 Apprentice of International Reggae Legend Mikey Dread.

Ras Lil Dread's Bio

Antone R, Chatton aka **Ras Lil Dread** was born in Santa Monica, California on July 10, 1964, To Antone Owen Chatton, Black Ethiopian and Alice Lafaye Edwards, Black Native American. **Ras Lil Dread** Started playing piano at the age of four. He continued taking music lessons, also learning to play the accordion and violin. When **Ras Lil Dread** was about 16 years old he found himself in the company of Rastafarian musicians and listened to Reggae music. This is when he realized that Reggae music is Spiritual music and this is the type of music he was born to play. He and two of his friends Christian Brown, Keith Brown began to explore the Culture and started a Reggae group called (Three The Hard Way) , which later became (Ras Dashan) named after the great mountain in Ethiopia, with Ras Lil Dread playing bass. Around this time Ras Lil Dread took some very important music lessons from the legendary Reggae Singer, teacher -Joe Higgs, who was very instrumental in teaching Bob Marley and The Wailers how to harmonize, write and produce music. He also took music lessons from the Singer Makabee from London England. This is also around the same time when he met Michael Campbell aka Mikey Dread and started to learn first hand what it really takes to be a Reggae Artist. Ras Lil Dread worked hand and hand with Mikey Dread handling all aspects of the music business. A young view of Ras lil Dread can be seen in the MTV video entitled - **Mikey Dread (The source of your Divorce) produced by hip hop producer KRS1**, for Warner Bros music. This video was filmed in Beverly hills, at the great Actor, Dancer -Gene Kelly's house for Planet Pictures in 1990. Mikey Dread also produced the music to "**Jah Salvation**" by Ras Lil Dread in 1992. Ras Lil Dread has performing with many Reggae Artists such as Beenie Man, Shine Head, HR from Bad Brains, Carl Malcolm, English Man, Half Pint, Mikey Dread, Ras Michael and the Sons of Negus, Stranger Cole, Swelele and Ital Joe, etc. Ras Lil Dread has always been in the studio, compiling songs with different producers like Shaka Man and Haile Maskel, two members of group known as the Rastafarians.

Ras Lil Dread also toured Hawaii with Mikey Dread in 1996. At that time Ras Lil Dread served as road manger for Mikey Dread and also as concert organizer for the Reggae Explosion Concert tour, featuring Yellow Man, Mikey Dread, Born Jamericans, and Marty Dread, which played on two islands in Hawaii, Honolulu and Maui. Ras Lil Dread toured with Mikey Dread throughout the United States and Canada for over 20 years playing bass and or serving as road manager. In 2005 Ras Lil Dread was offered the chance to perform his music for a movie called "**One More Round**", performing and composing several songs in the movie, Ras Lil Dread wrote and produced the title track called "**One More Round**". The movie "**One More Round**" is available now on Netflix.

When Ras Lil Dread came to Hawaii in 1996 he realized that Reggae Music is loved and appreciated by Hawaiians. Hawaii's enthusiasm for Reggae music is what brought Ras Lil Dread back to the islands of Hawaii to play and record his Reggae music. Since returning in 2009, Ras Lil Dread has jammed with many local artists and played bass for a band called Keys of Creation. He has now formed his own group called , **Ras Lil Dread and The Fiyah Blaze Band**. The band has been very busy. They've performed all over Maui, at Charley's in Paia; at Casanova's in Makawao, a pre-show for the Monsta Mash featuring Barrington Levy and Inna Vision sponsored by Q103 radio station at the Halloween Cannery Family Fun Day at the Lahaina Cannery Mall, which was also sponsored by Steinlager, Harley Davidson, Toys for Tots and local businesses. The Iyanna Flores Benefit Concert at the Hard Rock Cafe in Lahaina on November 13, 2010, . Presently Ras lil Dread has been very busy in the studio recording songs for various Producers on an international level. He has released three singles (Born Free, Champions and Reggae to Survive) that have caught the attention of the radio programmers in Hawaii, Europe and Asia. The music for **Born Free** is called the Indo rhythm, produced by Jah Youth Productions. Ras Lil Dread filmed his first Video to this song and is now receiving big recognition in the music industry.