

*Soulful Allsorts – Best Specialist Music Programming (Subcity Radio)*

Soulful Allsorts is Subcity's premier Soul show which plays black music from the sixties onwards. We take full advantage of Subcity's no playlist policy by broadcasting a show dedicated to styles of popular music neglected elsewhere. We realise there is a cachet to Northern Soul in the written media but we want to present soul music as worth listening to rather than a hobby akin to stamp collecting. We emphasise the danceability of the music as well as the emotional content.

Several specialist soul labels provide us with advance copies of their current releases. Artists who hear about the show from fans also send us their demos and we've played HQ MP3s from artists looking to revive their career as well as new acts inspired to put a contemporary spin on soul and sixties rhythm and blues. Most of the music on the show is played off vinyl from Fraser's own collection. He's built it up by a canny approach (he is Scottish) to buying records on line, from fellow collectors and a network of contacts across the world.

Luckily both Fraser and I have broad tastes in soul music and have both worked as mobile DJs working all sorts of functions. We met up at Glasgow's legendary Goodfoot soul, Motown and funk club where we eventually became the resident DJs. We are fans of live acts and having introduced records by Sharon Jones, Nicole Willis and Rebirth try to catch them on tour as well.

We go to as well as play at soul clubs across Scotland. We promote the show as we would flyer a club. And we publicise other clubs on our gig guides. We want to share our enthusiasm and as well as listing the records played on Subcity's web site we always let listeners know label details and where to get them (particularly if it's new material). Fraser has a deadpan delivery but listeners get his sense of humour as well as an amusing history of the soul scene in Scotland and elsewhere. Fraser is respected by his fellow collectors and soul DJs and we have them as guests on the show. They bring fresh music and tales of collecting and playing soul music. We're serious about the music but we're not past talking a rise out of the more po faced aspects of collecting soul music.

We have a local student audience and an audience of soul fans across the world. Our show goes out on a Saturday afternoon as a laid back alternative to the football. A lot of our fan base use our listen again feature. Particularly a regular in England whose only access to a computer is at his local library which restricts his live listening to a one hour session on Saturday and an enforced return mid week to catch the rest of the show. We use the in studio e-mail system to engage with listeners and the show is promoted and discussed through online message boards and other soul sites. You do not have to be a dedicated soul fan to listen as we emphasise the playing of good music rather than obscurity or rarity. We're not snobs about the music and play disco, reggae, and gospel tinged soul. We stand out amongst other soul shows with the breadth of soul played within the two hours as well as our enthusiastic presenting style.