

ANDY SUMMERS

Pro-Chancellor,

Andy Summers has achieved an international reputation as a musician, songwriter and producer, in the genres of rock, pop and jazz. A rock and jazz guitarist of wide experience and versatility, he co-founded The Police and enjoyed huge worldwide success with the band in the 1980s, and again in its recent reunion tour. He is also a published author and photographer.

career and which enabled him, even in his earlier years, to play and record with a very diverse range of well-known bands and solo artists including Zoot Money's Big Roll Band, the Animals and the Soft Machine. His innovative guitar style has made dynamic use of electronic effects and synthesiser technology. In the 1980s and later his music has increasingly reflected his love of modern jazz.

However, Andy Summers' period of greatest popular success began in 1977 when he joined with Gordon Sumner (better known as Sting) and Stewart Copeland to found The Police. With their distinctive and innovative blend of rock, jazz and reggae styles, The Police became one of the most successful bands of all time, with world-wide chart-topping hits such as *Every Breath You Take*, *Message in a Bottle* and *Walking on the Moon*, not to mention 80 million album sales. Their international tours broke new ground when they visited countries such as Mexico, India and Egypt which were then unfamiliar territory for rock bands. They received Six Grammys and two Brit Awards, including one for Outstanding Contribution to Music. As well as sharing in the collective successes of the band as guitarist, backing singer and songwriter, Andy took particular credit for the 1981 Grammy as writer of *Behind My Camel* which was voted Best Rock Instrumental. The Fender, Gibson and Martin guitar companies have all made signature guitars in his honour, and Gibson's group the honour of Ch

After 1984 the three members of The Police followed their separate and increasingly divergent musical directions, though they came together briefly at intervals, most notably in 2003 at their induction to The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. As a solo artist Andy has produced 11 albums, and has performed

