

István Etiam is a musician and songwriter from Budapest, based in the United Kingdom.

In 1990 he formed East Meets West, an acoustic duo with David Buckley. For five years they played in and around London and toured on the continent. In 1992 they performed at the Glastonbury festival and the following year they recorded an album in Vienna at the recording studio of renowned Austrian musician and producer Fred Jakesch. After his death, the studio closed down and the master tapes were lost. East Meets West went their separate ways in 1995, but István continued to write songs and regularly performed in London.

In 2001 István's song 'Yuri Gagarin', which he wrote for the 40th anniversary of Gagarin's flight in space, won a special prize in a Gagarin competition organised by Moscow's Voice of Russia radio station (now Radio Sputnik).

In 2005, István persuaded his friend Andy 'Thunderclap' Newman to come out of retirement and to reform Thunderclap Newman. Andy was the only surviving member from the original Thunderclap Newman, the band that had a number one hit in 1969 with 'Something in the Air'. With David Buckley, his partner in East Meets West, István put the Thunderclap Newman Band together. The band played gigs mainly in the London area, and in 2008 performed in London's 100 Club in Oxford Street. The Thunderclap Newman Band disbanded in 2010 and Andy passed away in 2016.

Since then, István has been concentrating on his solo career, performing in Paris, London, Berlin, Budapest, Vienna and many cities in the UK. In 2016 he released his EP 'Faith', the first in his trilogy of 'Faith, Hope, Love'. His second EP 'Hope' came out in 2019 followed by 'Love' in 2020. In April 2021 he released his song 'Yuri Gagarin' on 7" vinyl disc, to commemorate and to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Gagarin's historic flight as the first man in space. He launched his debut album "Butterfly Dreamer" on vinyl in September 2023. This album was mentioned in Soundcloud Editor's Pick 2025. István tours regularly in Germany, Austria and Hungary as well as playing dates around the UK.

For more information and for bookings, please use the Contact form or email 'Info' (at) IstvanEtiam (dot) com.