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The Streets

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AND RAKING IT IN!

+ DRUM & BASS 2003!

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jungle's rudest

"YOUR MUM TAKES IT UP THE..."

Muzik crushes wack MCs
in rap battle! p64

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Glastonbury & Sonar

+ Air

Panjabi MC

Eminem

June 2003 £3.80



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AOL Keyword: Muzik



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kandi
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Robin S / Show Me Love
Crystal Waters / Gypsy Woman
Mory Kante / Yeke Yeke
Mantronix / King Of The Beats
Eric B & Rakim / Paid In Full
Monie Love / I Can Do This
Kenny Thomas / Outstanding
Beats International/ Dub Be
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All Kandi DJ's On Rotation

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THIS MONTH

MUZIK

p46 Unbeatable festival mayhem!

We Love... Homelands! And Creamfields!
And Sonar! And... well, just check our
guide to getting intense, in tents

p54 Superfreak!

Pete Burns of Dead Or
Alive: the sharp-witted
Eighties tranny tells all

p62 New school jungle

The best duplates, the hottest clubs,
the freshest names in d&b today

p68 Grimey!

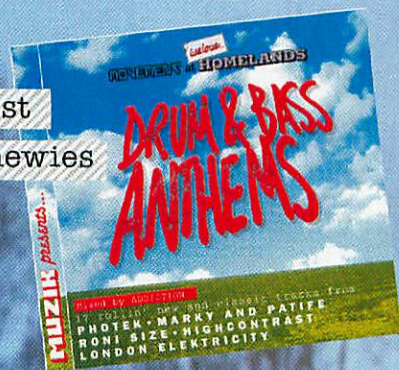
Your free CD: the biggest
drum & bass classics and newies

p56 "My name is..."

Muzik stomps on lesser
MCs - it's just like 8 Mile.
But in Camden...

"Being called
geezer garage,
hooligan house,
it's quite
funny... It's
better than
being called
... a war
criminal."

Mike Skinner p38



p38 Geezers cause excitement

The Streets' returns to rock
Homelands. Muzik is there
to scribble down his
thoughts on everything
from Hooligan House™ to
embalming fluid abuse

The Streets. Or 'The Sidewalk',
as he's now known after his
success in America

EVERY MONTH

THE MESSAGE

KROME ANGELZ P14

PRINCESS SUPERSTAR P22

DAVID GUETTA P29

Cool **Sunglasses**; **Princess Superstar** burns us a disc; **Air** go high brow; **Fallacy**, **Krome Angelz** and **David Guetta** provide the talent; exclusive **Eminem** quiz and an idiot's guide to **Scooter**...

THE TUNES

DAVE GAHAN P74

JUNKIE XL P75

PANJABI MC P71

Panjabi MC takes the Asian underground overground. Plus **Matthew Herbert**, **Dave Gahan**, and comps from **Scratch Perverts** and **Nightmares On Wax**

POSITIVA P82

SUNGLASSES P21

CLUBS P101

Alan McGee's Death Disco, **Joseph Malik** and new venues **Egg** (London) and **Satellite** (Newcastle). Plus **Chicken Lips' Brain Scan** and **Lil' Louis' top Miami tracks**

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BY THE
MUSIC
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paul richards

dj heather pete moss

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global room

hosted by

hip hop and r&b

Fiasco

breaks electro

(dj set) **nenah cherry**

adam freeland

yo yo's seb chew

jacques lu cont

leo greenslade

dj rap

performances

terra deva live

robert owens

shawnee taylor

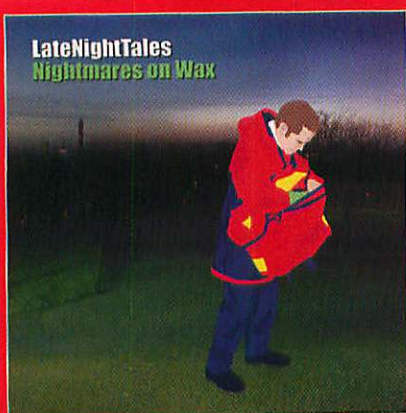
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donica thornnton

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VIRGIN LOVES



Nightmares On Wax
Late Night Tales

Nightmares on Wax open a new chapter in Late Night listening, featuring a stunning set from their own mix of Ian Brown's Gravy Train, the jazz funk of Quincy Jones the cool hip hop of Large Professor.

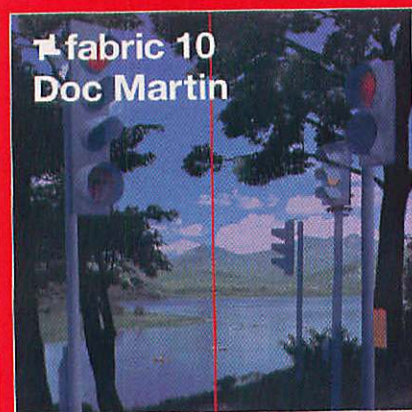
Album
Out 12 May



Jazzanova
Remixed

A follow up to the seminal Remixes 1997-2000, Jazzanova have pulled in some of their own favourite remixers to return the favours with Vikter Duplaix, King Britt and Jazzy Jeff all delivering superb remixes of Jazzanova's classics.

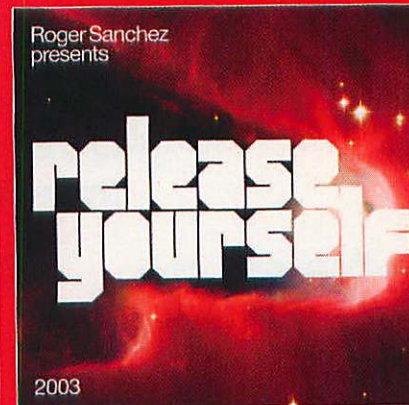
Album
Out Now



Doc Martin
Fabric 10

Doc Martin provides a silky-smooth blend of deep house flavours in a pulsating Fabric mix, which includes tracks from artists such as Pete Moss, Tiefschwarz and Shaboom.

Album
Out Now



Roger Sanchez
Release Yourself 2003

The S-Man returns with a deep and soulful vibe on CD1 with tracks from Dubtribe Sound System and Kaskade, whilst CD2 pumps up the party vibe with some tougher sounds from Gus Gus, Scumfrog and Soul Rebels.

Album
Out 19 May

Demo-licious

Think you can make tunes as good as the ones in Muzik? Show us what you've got!

Attention bedroom producers: Fed up of your DJ counterparts getting all the props in Bedroom Bedlam? Fret no more: we want to hear what you're up to, and from next month, Muzik will be providing a platform for unsigned artists/producers, alongside our world famous bedroom DJ competition.

We don't care about the genre. If you want to be the next Dre, the next Chemical Brothers, the next Theo Parrish or the next Cliff fuckin' Richard – or if you're making a type of

music that's never been heard before – you're in with a chance, as long as you've got skills. If your work's good enough, we might even be able to help you get a deal, thanks to our huge network of contacts who owe us favours, and the many boozy lunches we attend with industry types.

So what are you waiting for? If you think DJs suck and that producers and artists are the *real* talent behind dance/electronic music, get off your arse and prove it!

How to enter: Demos should be sent on CD, MP3 or Minidisc format – no cassettes (old hat) or DATs (too hi-tech for us). Tunes can be instrumental or feature singers, MCs, yodellers or any other type of vocallist. If you're sending multiple tracks, please indicate which one you consider to be the best. Send everything to **Demo-licious, Muzik, King's Reach Tower, London SE1 9LS**

MUZIK

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AND OUR FAVOURITE FESTIVAL MUST-HAVES ARE...

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Managing Director Tim Brooks A helicopter and a five star hotel

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Printed by Polestar Watmoughs Ltd **Repro by** FE Burman Ltd

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ipc
ignite!
more music. more power.



this month
we have
been
listening to...

Blaxxx 'Version Egyptian' (Blaxxx)

A little bit snake charmer, a little bit dark, this seven is the next ragga riddim to go ballistic in a 'Diwali' stylee. Bounty Killer provides vocals on this version.

Crydamoure Presents 'Waves II' (Source)

A cracking compilation featuring Le Knight Club, Archigram and Crydajam. Review next month.

Johnny L 'Let's Roll' (Piranha)

Dangerously bass heavy, this is a slick d&b grower from 1993's 'The Ansaphone' man. George 'Dubya' Bush kindly provides the vocal.

Tim Deluxe 'Less Talk, More Action' (Underwater)

Every bit as tasty as his smash, 'It Just Won't Do'. The vocal's by Terra Deva (doing Shirley Bassey meets Eartha Kitt). It'll drop in August.

Groove Armada's Muzik festival CDs

Tom and Andy's CDs (see p47 for the full tracklisting) have been getting us in the mood for summer with their ace mix of everything from Stevie Wonder to The Beatles.

FABRICLIVE.

May / June 2003



Friday 16th May

room 2
THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS dj set
JAMES LAVELLE
ALI B

room 2 **ZINC PRESENTS FASTER**

ZINC
GROOVERIDER
TOM MIDDLETON
ZED BIAS
JOE RANSOM
MCs DYNAMITE, SLARTA JOHN
& ANGELA HUNTE

room 3
DAVID HOLMES
DISASTRONAUT

Friday 23rd May

room 1
PLUMP DJS
JAMES LAVELLE
FALLACY live
STANTON WARRIORS
DEKKER

room 2 **METALHEADZ**

GOLDIE
LEMON D
DOC SCOTT
STORM
DANNY C
CLARKEE
MCs GQ, RAGE & 2SHY

room 3
ROOTS MANUVA dj set
JOE RANSOM

Friday 30th May

room 1
TRUE PLAYAZ
DJ HYPE 2 hour set

ZINC
PASCAL
BAD COMPANY
DJ SS
PROBE
MCs GQ, FATS, RAGE & AD

room 2 **DISTINCTIVE BREAKS-Y4K**

HYBRID
FREQ NASTY
MEAT KATIE
DJ HYPER

room 3
SKITZ & RODNEY P
JOE RANSOM
BEAT MONKEYS

Friday 6th June

room 1
FREE *LAND live
JAMES LAVELLE
SCRATCH PERVERTS
EVIL 9

room 2
KAOS
ADAM F
GROOVERIDER
DJ FRESH bad company
ED RUSH
DANNY C
GAPP SHAKK
MCs GQ, SHABBA, & 5-0

room 3
DJ DSL
PEPE DELUXE dj set
ALI B
JOE RANSOM

Vocal Track

Letters:

Le Vache Qui Lit, Muzik, IPC Media,
King's Reach Tower, Stamford St,
London SE1 9LS

E-mail: muzik@ipcmedia.com
Please include your name and address

Guest editor of the month!

Iraq's missing-presumed-dead Information Minister and top dance music expert, Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf, writes exclusively for Muzik!
"I am right on one - as surely as Bush and Blair shall perish at the hands of our forces!" He told us, via a medium.

Letter of the month

Get ur Greek on

Hello guys,

You're getting better and better as a magazine, you know that? Your last four CDs were so fucking good - 'Disco Punk' is superb! Generally, I think that the last year you had great CDs (not all of them of course) and your articles are much better (and you can do more). Stay far away from boring music and remember that music is not only for parties and dancing (we listen to it first, you know?). I'm sick of all these predictable and boring DJs. Keep rocking and fight against the fucking war pigs. Quality to music! Peace on earth! Death penalty for Bush!

Aris Bouras, Greece

Mohammed says: "No death penalty is required, Aris, for I tell you this - the serpent Bush has been cut down by his own hand after we pounded him. He ran away, like the jackal he is, but we pounded him! You win a subscription!"

Hungry for Cocker

Dear Muzik

Ta very much for the 'Bassline Pressure' CD last month, very tasty. I particularly enjoyed the Audio Bullies' 'Face In A Cloud', but let's give credit where it's due: the man on the mic, Sheffield gas-fitter turned raw blues-soul legend Joe Cocker. If anyone wants to check the original, it's called 'Marjorie' and was his first single with the Grease Band. Cheers and slainte
Steve Kinsey, Jazz FM, Dublin

Mohammed says: "I am a big fan of Joe Cocker's Sixties work. Now take the subhuman Audio Bullies away and kill them!"



Bustin' Justin

I think your magazine is pretty phat mos of the time, but why have you put that poppy asshole Justin 'Voice Like A Gerbil' Timberlake on the cover? Okay, so he smokes dope and touched up the arse of some woman he was working with, but so did Bill Clinton. Does that make Clinton hardcore? Also

Timbershit is not proper dance, just pop! I have no doubt that the likes of DJ Shadow, Hype and Roni Size would still be making music whether they were popular or not. Would Timberwank still be writing and singing if he wasn't in the Top Ten? I don't fucking think so! Yours Miserably,
Tom Dean, Bristol

Mohammed says: "The weakling criminal Timberlake sings of 'crying like a river', and looks like a girl! Sales of my own album have long since overtaken his, and his slaughtered carcass is being dragged through the streets as we speak. This I tell you!"

The realm of Tong

Dear Muzik

Where does everyone get off on slagging off Pete Tong? Everywhere I look, I see comments on how shite he is, but he's the man behind the Essential Selection, ferfucksake! He provides the listener with the same info as Muzik mag: BIG TUNES AND NEW GENRES, BEFORE EVERYONE ELSE! Pete was caning 'Bucci Bag' about two months ago, and now it's set to take the UK by storm. Two fucking months ago! This man is the key player in the UK's dance scene. To all those muppets who claim he's a wanker - OPEN YOUR EARS!
Craig Maddison, Durham

Mohammed says: "The infidel Tong's radio studio shall become his tomb! Chris Moyles and Emma B also! John Peel we may spare, but only because we pity him. These things I can verify!"

Beedle's about

Dear Muzik

Just been reading the new issue - great feature on X-Press 2 rarities but to be quite frank that's just the tip of the iceberg! Spend more money, you cheap bastards!

Ashley Beedle, by e-mail

Mohammed says: "There are no X-Press 2 rarities! None! They and their evil creators shall, God willing, be dealt with in the appropriate way - like snakes and criminals!"

Accidental irony

Dear Muzik

What the fuck is 'pop trance' all about? These so-called 'producers' have no creativity. All they do is find a cool Eighties sample, press a few buttons, the computer does everything automatically, and the single will be selling like hot cakes in no time at all. Bastards! Having said that, it's great to see Junior Jack at Number One with 'Make Luv'. It just goes to show that cool records can rise above the dross.

James Rene, Croydon

Mohammed says: "What? Sampling by pop trance's true believers brings nothing but scorn from your infidel lips, but sampling by the whole Junior Jack is acceptable? We shall besiege and slaughter you for your words! And your blood shall be washed away by the Cobra beer that I am contractually obliged by Muzik to award you!"

Smoking craic

Your magazine kicks ass! Especially the feature on Moloko, a wicked Irish act - Roisin comes from a part of Ireland not far from me. Keep up the good work!
Mars Mangaoang, Ireland

Mohammed says: "There are NO Irish people in Moloko! None! Only one who is sick in their mind could claim for a moment that Roisin was EVER in Moloko!"

Special prize corner

Here at Vocal Track, we're declaring the month of June to be The International Month Of Delicious Lager. And to get us off to a flying start, we've teamed up with our lovely chums at Cobra - the beer that's less gassy, or something - to brighten up one lucky reader's day with the gift of a crate of their fine, fine product. Tasty!



TEXT MUZIK

Send your pics and text to:

07732-169-179

On the matter of public DJ licenses. Fuck Bush's bum boy. U can't control everything so fuck off Blair!

Raf Daddy & Jon Carter rock Muzik's party @ AKA, London 23.04.03



Di! Muzik! Your MJ Cole CD busted my speakers. Thanks!

I USED 2 think mj COLE was a bell-end. How things change!

Saw Psychic TV in 88, one of the best nites of my life - first 100 through the door got a free acid tab - one mad nite!!

Don't forget about LTJ Bukem. He's out there...

Oh my god! Just seen a three foot floater skinning a joint!! I'll ask for the bill...

Boy George, you're such a darling! Stonik, Leeds

Send us your texts on the number at the top of the column, or e-mail your pics to muzik@ipcmedia.com



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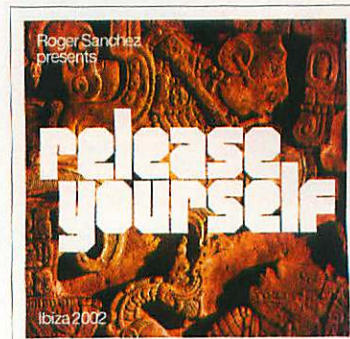
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The Message

edited by LAUREN COCHRANE

Princess Superstar • Fallacy • Eminem • Scooter • Krome Angelz • Air



SHADES OF RHYTHM

Coloured vinyl rules. It's gimmicky, it's frivolous, it diminishes sound quality and probably damages the environment, but we don't care – we love it, and it's back like chiropractic. Labels like Output, DFA and Kitty-Yo and artists such as the white vinyl-fancying Audio Bullz and Lemon Jelly are taking your record collection somewhere far over the rainbow, bringing glee to record collectors and small children alike.

Lemon Jelly's baby blue 7-inch in denim casing fetches a fortune on Ebay and Felix Da Housecat's red 12-inch for 'Silver Screen Shower Scene' is much sought after. Little wonder. As bootleg guru Freelance Hellraiser says, "they take us back to the days when record companies actually cared about what kids spent their pocket money on!" Watch this space: the flexidisc revival could be next. . . (JH)



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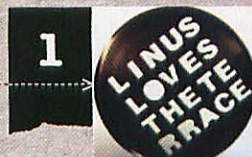
ROMANTHONY SAYS

■ "Wow! I'm really feeling Linus Loves The Terrace – that is one hell of a dope tune! I can't wait to get back to Ibiza to start dropping it! It reminds me of Housecat shit, but on more of a house groove. Breastfed is definitely working!"



GILLES PETERSON SAYS

■ "This is a really cool record. I got his first twelve and loved it and this is a strong, quirky version of a classic Donald Byrd track. The album has some good humour too. It's everything you expect from the Scandinavians!"



LINUS LOVES The Terrace (Breastfed)

"I just want to make music that makes people feel loved," says Linus. This track, permeated with the spirit of Ibiza, Prince 'Mad' Rogers Nelson and Brian 'Madder' Wilson does just that

2



WAYNE WONDER

No Letting Go (Atlantic)

Another wicked vocal rides out on the brilliant 'Diwali' riddim – see p85 for more...

3



MOLOKO

Forever (Francois K Mixes) (Echo)

The original is great, but FK's remix heads to Body And Soul-revival land for 11 glorious minutes

4



**RALPH MYERZ & THE JACK
HERREN BAND**

Think Twice (Emperor Norton)

Attaboy's bubbling house mix is the winner here

5



FRANCOIS DE ROUBAIX

Cinemix (Sido Music)

Cinematic epicness remixed by Twitch, Gonzales, Luke Vibert and Carl Craig. A braindance classic!

6



CLIPSE

Ma, I Don't Love Her (Star Trak)

The third single from their LP comes complete with some nodding 'Lady Dog' mixes from Axwell

7



I:CUBE

Vacuum Jackers (Versatile)

Classic I:Cube that looks to the future while pummelling beats straight outta 1985

8



**PURE ORANGE FEATURING
SHANE NOLAN**

Feel Alive Remixes (Stealth)

Scumfrog, Fatboy and Roger S rock it

9



ISOLEE

It's About (Freundinnen)

The masters of new school old school house return with another twelve of brilliant head music

10



KARDINAL OFFISHALL

Belly Dancer (white label)

This Neptunes-produced Westwood favourite is a proper club banger. Seek out or lose out



MATT WHITE SAYS

■ "Just like 50 Cent's record a few months ago, Wayne Wonder just kills it on the dancefloor. I've been banging it for ages after I heard it and the Sean Paul version, 'Get Busy', in Jamaica about a year ago. It's the 'Diwali' riddim that makes it stand out – part reggae, part hip hop, part almost bhangra. An unbelievable record."



SCUMFROG SAYS

■ "Roger remixed 'Music Revolution' for me, so I said I'd do one in return. He gave me 'Pure Orange' and I asked to remix it immediately. It works, simple as that. Is the world ready for another record that samples Gary Numan? Well, is the world ready for another Chic or James Brown-sampling record? It's all about how it's executed, and this is very creative. 75% of the people on the dancefloor don't know it's Gary Numan, they just know it's a great record."

The Next 5>>>

11) Presslaboys Electric Generation (Crosstown Rebels) 12) Alexi Delano Featuring Robert Manos Round And Round (Charles Webster & Metro Area Remixes) (Strat) 13) J-Walk Another Lover (RJD2 Remix Vocal) (Eastwest) 14) Mr Rods Versus DJ Scribble Can You Feel It? (FFRR) 15) Dust Where You Wanna Be (Roots Manuva Mix) (Bar De Lune)

The Message

Talent

Heavenly Bodies

Mis-teeq better watch out. **Krome Angelz** are coming for their UK urban crown

Krome Angelz are three cheeky minxes from Harlow, Sheffield and Maidenhead. They've only been together for three months, but they've already got an arsenal of drum and bass, r&b, garage and bashment bangers in the can. Here's Muzik's guide to why you're going to love Sonia, Annika and Daizy.

They live up to their name. . . a bit
"We're good at heart like angels, but have a hard edge - we drink pints," says Annika, who got to the final 15 in Pop Stars - The Rivals. Daizy was once arrested for shoplifting as a nipper: "I feel so bad still, the police woman knew my mum too!"

They're independent women who until recently had day jobs. . .

Sonia was 'discovered' after selling Public Demand's A&R man a top up card for his mobile phone. Daizy was a receptionist at a local hair salon, practising harmonies between booking appointments, while Annika was studying Performing Arts.

They show love for their soon-to-be rivals, The Sugababes and Mis-teeq
"It's easy to say we're like Mis-teeq because there's three of us," explains Annika, "I rate the Sugababes though, they're wicked. The worst thing that could happen though, is that we're called the new Atomic Kitten."

They're no urban bandwagon jumpers

Think Lisa Maffia meeting Big Brovaz at a Mis-teeq concert with Sean Paul on backing vocals and you're somewhere near their sound. Asked about their dream collaborations, they bizarrely namecheck R Kelly and Oasis. "We could get those Gallagher brothers back on track with some of our flava," muses Daizy.

They're all Virgos. . . Which is quite 'cosmic' and, according to our source, means they are all logical, hardworking and would make good bus drivers and/or pimps. Success guaranteed then. (CF)

Promos of 'Dick Turpin', 'Angelz Prayer' and 'Rise' (Marcus Intellex Mix) are out in May on Public Demand

From left to right Sonia, Annika and Daizy enjoy a rest after a hard day's rinsing of rude bashment dub plates



THE LIST PAGE

Top 5 afros

1. **Marsha Hunt** (enormo-barnetted star of hippy musical Hair)
2. **Questlove** (drummer with the aptly-named Roots)
3. **Megaman** (embedded afro comb optional)
4. **Beyonce** (her hair was the funniest thing about Austin Powers 3)
5. **Gil Scott-Heron** (the revolution would not be televised, and nor would Gil's hair. In pre-widescreen days, it wouldn't fit!)

8 Radio-unfriendly songs during wars

Bombs Over Baghdad Outkast • War Pigs Black Sabbath • World Destruction Afrika Bambaataa • War Inna Babylon Max Romeo
Rape (Tactic Of War) Fun Da Mental • War Edwin Starr • The Bomb Bucketheads • How Does It Feel To Be The Mother Of 1,000 Dead? Grass

5 artists who have recorded 'In Da Club'

- 50 Cent
- Mary J Blige
- Beyonce Knowles
- Bubba Sparxxx
- 50 Pence

7 gun references on 50 Cent's 'Get Rich or Die Tryin'

"I'll hunt or duck a nigga down like it's sport/Front on me, I'll cut ya, gun butt ya or bump ya" **What Up Gangsta?**

"You don't want me to be your kid's role model/I'll teach them how to buck them 380s and load up them hollows/Have shorty fresh off the stoop, ready to shoot/Big blunt in his mouth, deuce deuce in his boot" **High All The Time**

"You can squeeze ya lil' handgun until you run out and you can run for ya back-up/But them machine gun shells gone tear ya back up" **Heat**

"I love to pump crack, love to stay strapped/Love to squeeze gats but you don't hear me though/I love to hit the block/I love my two Glocks/Love to bust shots but you don't hear me though" **Bloodhound**

"Pistol in hand homie, I'm down to get it popping/Once I squeeze the first shot, no I ain't stopping till my clip is empty" **Don't Push Me**

"From the last shootout, I got a dimple on my face/It's nothin', I could go after Mase's fanbase/Shell hit my jaw, I ain't wait for doctor to get it out/Hit my wisdom tooth/split it out" **U Not Like Me**

"We ridin' round with guns the size of Lil' Bow Wow/What you know about AKs and AR 15s equipped with night vision/shell catchers and dem things?" **Wanksta**

3 minimal effort dance music TOTP appearances

Orbital 'Chime', 1990. Two bored-looking English urchins stand around behind table with equipment piled on it while some bored-looking lovely girls dance. Badly
Human Resource 'Dominator', 1991. A load of bored-looking Belgians stand around while a very bad MC endlessly repeats the "Rougher and tougher" lyric with the air of a man reading a shopping list aloud
X-Press 2 'Lazy', 2002. Three old house heads lounge around on bunk beds - quite literally, 'lazy', you see? - while David Byrne dances like a trendy vicar

8 reasons why Prince is still cool

- We wouldn't have The Neptunes without him
- His Minneapolis house is painted purple
- He's still got lead in his pencil: in 2001, he married Manuela Testolini, an employee 18 years his junior
- It's rumoured he covers his windows with tin foil so he can sleep at any time of the day
- '1+1', 'Everlasting Now', 'Last December' and 'Family Name' on new album, 'The Rainbow Children' are all purpletastic classics
- Behind the scenes documentary 'Purple Rain: The Truth' is scheduled for release next summer
- We put him on our front cover in February



5 street phrases
Boops: sugar daddy/guillible person
Slew: cuss
Raggo: ghetto style
Burff: fit
Messy: Eeod

4 Fox Kids Europe asked young'uns what music they listen to. Here's what they found out

- **84.5%** of all European 10-14 year olds listen to hip hop
- **87.2%** of British 10-14 year olds said hip hop was their favourite music
- **69.5%** of UK 6-9 year olds still like pop best
- Spanish and Italian kids were the biggest fans of classical music

In Da Classroom

Pupils at Wolverhampton's Deansfield High School are studying all aspects of clubland with a little help from the city's Atlantis nite spot.

Muzik asked the wee scamps what they've learned...

1 RAVINDA, 12, WANTS TO BE A BRAIN SURGEON

"We're turning the club's cafeteria into a French bistro, and have learned how to serve food in French. The best bit was when we got to eat baguettes."

2 JAMES, 14, 'HAVEN'T DECIDED YET'

"I've been learning about making films so I can film the club opening. Operating the camera's fun."

3 KIRANDIP, 13, WANTS TO BE A BEAUTICIAN

"I learned how to used decks for DJs - how to beatbox. Sorry, beatmatch! I didn't have a go. My friend Letish did, though."

4 LETISH, 13, WANTS TO BE A LAWYER OR SOLICITOR

"We were taught how to mix and scratch. Scratching's when you put your finger on the disc and move it from side-to-side. We also had an MC called Mad, who made noises with his mouth. Beatboxing? Yeah, that's it."



A stylized world map composed of white dots on a dark green background, with the text 'dance music' in yellow.

 Godskitchen



The **Gallery**

Global

Sundissential

Lab 4 Live
Lisa Lashes
Andy Farley
Rob Tissera
K90 Live
BK
Nick Rafferty
Ian M
DJ Karim
Ilogik
Jez and Charlie
Paul Kershaw
Mark Grey
Strange Dave



OHMV
topping for music and games

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Aylebury Records 01296 4507/0
Barnes Vinyl 0181 226 1234
Barnsley Vinyl Junkies 01220 201638
Barnor Antiques Records 01229 620 058
Barnstaple Records 01326 862 225
Bart Poplay 01225 494 060
Bedford Antz & Records 01463 341 184
Beverly Antz & Records 01223 822255
Birmingham Depot 0121 643 6454
Birmingham Old Skool Beats 0121 472 0777
Birmingham Records 0121 435 4777
Birmingham Suburban Sounds 0121 698 6665
Birmingham Three Shades Records 0121 687 6776
Blackburn Town and Records 01525 887005
Blackburn Vinyl 01525 845 785
Bolton Antiques 01204 373 388
Bournemouth M2 Clothing 01202 351 555
Bristol 01274 297 290
Celtic Founder Records 01273 325 440
Bessie (Dress) T-Shirt Shop 0179 259004
Bessie (Dress) 0179 041 811
Bessie (Dress) 01284 228 418
Bury Vics 0161 744 3013
Bury St Edmunds Antz & Records 01284 767 529
Cambridge Antz & Records 01223 341 184
Cambridge Antz & Records 01223 341 068
Camrack Antz & Records 01563 572 522
Camrack Antz & Records 01563 572 548
Canterbury Records 01227 452 2628

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Isle Of Wight
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Kettering
Kings Lynn
Kingston
Lancaster
Leeds/Nottingham
Norwich
Nottingham L.
Nottingham V.
Odiham
Oxford
Oxford Circus
Oxford Street
Peterborough
Plymouth
Poole

Portsmouth
Preston
Putney
Reading
Reading Fnr
Redditch
Richmond
Romford
Rotherham
Scarborough
Sheffield H
Sheffield M
Shrewsbury
Slough
Solihull
Southampton
Southend

Spoke Park
St Helens
St. Albans
Stockport
Stratford Upon Avon
Sunderland
Sutton
Swansea
Swindon
Telford
Thurrock
Trocadéro Truro
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York - Monk's Cross Centre

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A new dawn for global dance music
Godskitchen
GlobalGathering

What started as a dream has become a reality. The promise of a real dance music festival bringing together all elements of dance was our goal and to this aim we have been true. Global Gathering is now the essential festival for every dance music fan. In under three years this event has become recognised as one of the premier dance music events in the world. The last two years have seen us achieve a capacity crowd each time and this year will be no exception. But why has Global Gathering achieved so much in such a short space of time? We believe it's because of our commitment to providing something a bit different, by combining the best DJs available alongside a production that is second to no one we have managed to achieve that rarity of things, a true party atmosphere. So this year we have sat down and tried to continue that theme of partying harder and longer than you have ever partied before surrounded by the most amazing weird and wonderful sights and sounds. We are proud to present Godskitchen Global Gathering 2003, with a production theme that will blow your mind. 35,000 dance music enthusiasts will party in eight magnificent arenas, each individually dressed using more sound, lighting, video screens and lasers than ever before. Global Gathering 2003 will be the benchmark for all other events. This is true 21st century technology used to the max. As you enter the event you know it's going to be special. In front of you will be the largest array of extreme rides ever used at a festival: rollercoasters, big wheels, bungee jumps, and so much more that it is guaranteed to get your heart racing in anticipation. Further in to the site the first thing to meet your eyes is the new addition of the Bora Bora Beach Party. We have built an oasis in the site using 3,000 tons of sand and a scattering of palm trees surrounded by seating and bars to create the ultimate open air beach party. At one end will be a stage hosted by a selection of Ibiza's best Balearic players belting out those summer anthems while you dance in the beautiful sunshine. This is the true spirit of dance music where dreams are realised and new friends are made. Friends that will be with you all day, all night and for a lifetime. Wander further and you will find an additional 3 outdoor stages, these are hosted not by DJs but by a selection of the world's most unique and outrageous circus and street performers. These acts will perform on each stage throughout the day and night constantly changing for your entertainment and amusement. Fire breathers, jugglers, balancing acts, comedy and much more; everything that you could expect to see at a circus or theatre will be laid out for you to witness on these stages, lit up throughout the event, changing colour, breathing fire and adding to that extra special Global Gathering atmosphere. Every area of the event will be decorated with an assortment of props from the now legendary Global windmills towering 15ft high in to the sky to the 100 foot dragon you can spot from anywhere in the event. This is a true visual festival, no area of Global Gathering will be left untouched. We aim to achieve event perfection, this is Global Gathering. This is the future. So with much planned outside the arenas what have we in store for you inside? Well the best of everything is the answer. Every arena will be decked out with the most advanced sound systems set up to deliver the optimum sound. Complement this with a total of 50 laser systems, 18 huge video screens, over 600 moving head light effects and some of the best stage shows you have ever seen and you know this event is going to go off big time. 84 DJs, 5 Live-Acts, 8 arenas, 3,000 tons of sand for a beach party, 28 miles of electric cables, 600 moving head light effect, 50 laser systems, 75 windmills, 380 tons of staging, over 5 miles worth of lighting trussing, 24 sets of Technics turntables, 6 miles of fencing, 4 miles of water piping, 17 bars and much much more all put together by a team of over 500 workers taking two weeks to build just for one night. The best night of the year and quite probably the best night of your life.

Global Gathering 2003 it's here. Will you be?



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babooshka*

Roger Sanchez
Erick Morillo
Bob Sinclar
Junior Jack
Kid Crème
Dean Coleman
James Algate

Bedrock

John Digweed
Steve Lawler
Nick Warren
Herman Cattaneo
Jimmy Van M
Futureshock Live
Chris Fortier
P.O.B. Live
Phil Thompson
Jonathan Lisle



Grooverider, Fabio
DJ Craze, Krust,
Die, Zinc, Andy C
Hype, Mampi Swift
Adam F, Bryan Gee
Brockie, Ratpack
Nicky Blackmarket
Garry K, Dollar
MC's Skibadee, IC3
MC MC, Spyda, Det
Fearless, Navigator
Dynamite, Tali, Presha
Stamina, Juiceman
Shabba, Five Alive
Everson Allen



DJ Gee *Samuel Funk*
Jason Bye *Space*
Oliver Lang *Privilege*
Tim Sheridan *Dopestruggles*
Gordon Matthewman
The Trumpet Man
Pav *Manumission Percussionist*

Carlisle Pink Panther 01228 528 740
 Chelmsford Sound Proof 01245 356 771
 Chelmsford Andy's Records 01245 354800
 Chelmsford C.A. Casing 01245 356 044
 Chester Global Groove 01244 343 781
 Chesterfield Hutton Records 01246 271 179
 Chippinham FM Music 01249 446592
 Chisham Lozo 01263 418300
 Clacton On Sea Tapes Caching 01256 222844
 Cokerley Townsland Records 01257 284 727
 Colchester Andy's Records 01206 544334
 Cowley Revue 01479 253 882
 Darlington Legos 01325 466434
 Derby BPM 01332 382 038
 Doncaster Rhythm Nation 01392 308 762
 Dunstable Street Sounds 01582 682 449
 Durham Concepts 0191 383 0745
 East Gershead Jingles 01342 252215
 Essex Ticket Bank 01702 345250
 Exeter Solo Music 01392 425 309
 Gloucester 45 Records 01452 309445
 Gwentland Btm Bank 01474 321331
 Gurnsey Andy's Records 01472 347 143
 Halifax Andy's Records 01422 349 942
 Harrogate Mix Music 01423 528 900
 Hatfield Other Tunes 01429 282 225
 Hatfield Jingles 01422 345631
 Hitchin Unknown Zone 01482 454611
 Huddersfield 4th Wave 01484 512 972
 H.A. Andy's Records 01482 223 319
 Huntington Gals 01480 454 549

Inewich Andy's Records 01479 258933
 Lancaster Andy's Records 01526 844 644
 Leamington Spa Stratford Ticket Shop 01926 880000
 Leamington Spa Review 01926 831 007
 Leeds Jumbo Records 0113 242 5570
 Leeds Cyber Dog 0113 246 749
 Leeds Crash 0113 243 6743
 Leicester Plot 0116 2625 336
 Leighton Buzzard White Label 01525 384477
 Leighton Buzzard Left Legged Pinapple 01509 236 791
 Lichfield Andy's Records 01543 415268
 Lincoln Andy's Records 01522 348 478
 Liverpool 3 Beat Records 0151 770 3355
 Loughborough Andy's Records 01509 216626
 Manchester Eastern Box 0161 228 6432
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 Manchester Piccadilly Box Office 0161 832 1100
 Mansfield Andy's Records 01623 624569
 Marnborough Sound Knowledge 01672 511 106
 Mervy Hill Diffusion 01354 480534
 Middlesbrough Alan Fearnley Records 01642 245 520
 Milton Keynes Flat Trax Records 01908 314006
 Milton Keynes Playboys 01908 676975
 Newcastle Ruff Records 0191 260 3246
 Newcastle Flying Records 0191 222 1995
 Newcastle Kidmandu 0191 261 8334
 Newmarket Discs 01538 522157
 Northampton Spin A Disc 01604 250 607
 Northampton Cloud 8 01604 233 388
 Norwich Sound Clash 01603 761004
 Nottingham Select A Disc 01159 479 4201

Nottingham Big 01159 410 255
 Odiham Andy's Records 0109 4000 354
 Oxford Massive Records 01893 260 476
 Peterborough Vinyl Dreams 01733 566 802
 Plymouth Music Box 01752 361 920
 Plymouth Needle To The Groove 01752 294 104
 Portsmouth With A Mix 0238 287 4300
 Preston Action Records 01772 258 309
 Reading Hard Edge 01189 634003
 Rugby Hope 01788 571 595
 Salisbury Stand Out 01722 411 344
 Sheffield Brother 2 Brother 01142 634115
 Slough Slough Records 01753 244 469
 Slough Slough Records 01753 628 194
 Southampton Trip 2 02380 223962
 Southend Vinyl Rhythm 01702 438203
 Southport Andy's Records 01704 549 222
 Stafford Andy's Records 01785 25510
 Stoke On Trent Global Groove 01782 207 234
 Stratford On Avon Zipco 01789 262 089
 Stratford On Avon The Bureau 01789 297641
 Stevenage F. M. Music 01438 743312
 Stroud Kines Records 01453 766 886
 Sunderland Wax Trax 0191 556 6013
 Swindon Sunco 01793 480 051
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 Torquay Sounds 01303 211 707
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 Uxbridge Revolution Records 01895 236001
 Wakefield Diffusion 01922 627257

Walsley Garden City City Sound 01707 372700
 Walsford Vinyl 01923 243074
 Walsley Vinyl & More Music 0191 263 5175
 Winchester Debut 01962 877 288
 Wincob High Street Records 01945 465987
 Wolverhampton Diffusion 01902 715762
 Wolverhampton Ruby Red 01902 771 186
 Worcester Jingles 01905 723 646
 Worcester Andy's Records 01905 617800
 Worthing Salsa Discs 01900 620011
 Worthing Pure Pleasure 01903 200515
 Wrexham Phase One 01978 264940
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Belfast
 Belfast Mixmaster Records 02890 439 159

Wales
 Bridgend The Jungle 01666 645111
 Cardiff Catapult 02920 228 990
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 Heath Video Records 01692 648246
 Newport Flat Beats 01693 250 059
 Newport Diversa Records 01693 255661
 Pontypridd Rainbox Records 01493 497261
 Swansea Demos Records 01792 654 226
 Swansea Barkers Clothing 01792 646558

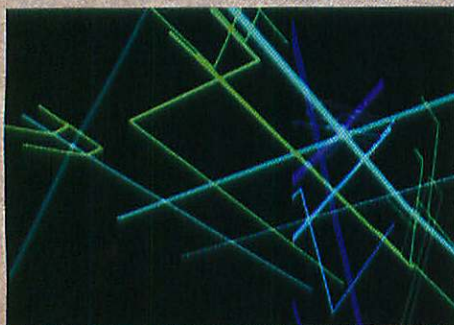
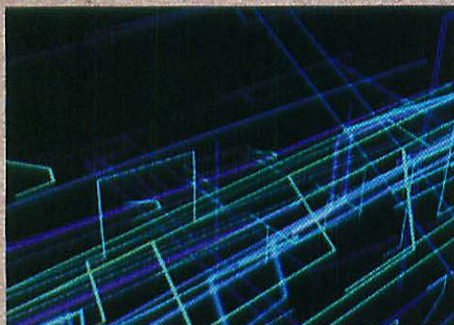
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 Camden Cyber Dog 0207 482 2842
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 Ealing Carga Records 02024 567 1330
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 Kingston Cyber Records 0208 547 0110
 London City Box Office 0207 4782002
 Oxford Circus Stagebox Office 0207 734 8932
 Soho Blackmarket Records 0207 437 0478

The Message

THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH

↓ PLAY WITH D-TONATE

VJs with a mission to fuck with your head, D-Fused have worked with Kid 606 and Funkstörung. Now they unleash the D-Tonate DVD, featuring videos where you can change the viewing angle, as well as one that never plays the same way twice. www.d-fused.com



↓ CHECK OUT MOONDOG-LOVESYOU.COM

This wildly eccentric website is dedicated to the best in lo-fi animation, featuring moondogs, music links to the likes of The Gotan Project and a scone under 24-hour webcam surveillance. www.moondoglovesyou.com

moondog
loves you



↓ BUY HINT'S PORTAKABIN FEVER

... and get a comic book and stickers thrown in. Designed by Will Barras, who's also worked with the likes of Adidas and skate shop Bond. It's amazing what people will do to shift units these days. 'Portakabin Fever' is out on May 19th. www.ninjatune.net



18 MUZIK

Quincy Jones
Thriller

↑ GIVE PROPS TO QUINCY JONES

Give props to Quincy Jones by wearing one of Good At Magic's 'Thriller' T-shirt. There's an extra special essay on the man on the inside the T-shirt, but resist the temptation to show people your stomach. Available in pink and white at Fly London 020-7376-7606 or check their website www.goodatmagic.com for more designs.

↓ BE A GUEST AT WARPS PARTY

Over the weekend of May 23rd and 24th, you can enjoy performances by Plaid, the DJing of Chris Cunningham and interior decor by Designers Republic, in the amazing minimal surroundings of La Fondation Vaserely. www.warprecords.com



↑ GO TO ANTENNA

Past participants at this bi-monthly evening at the NFT devoted to music videos, have made videos for The Audio Bullies and Dirty Vegas (as shown here). It's also a forum for new talent to show their work. The next one's on July 24th. www.antennapromo.co.uk



—Saturday 17th May—

Room 1—Craig Richards
Steve Bug. Ricardo Villalobos

Room 2—Haywire Sessions:
Andrew Weatherall
Adam X. Mat Carter

Room 3—Simple Records:
Walkner:Hintenaus (Live)
Fink presents Sideshow
Will Saul

—Saturday 24th May—

Room 1—Craig Richards
DJ Buck. Dave Congreve

Room 2—Wiggle:
Eddie Richards. Terry Francis
Nathan Coles

Room 3—Bill Brewster
Ross Allen

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—Saturday 31st May—

Room 1—Jon Marsh. Jef K
Neon Heights (Live / DJ)

Room 2—Dave Angel
Terry Francis. Technasia (Live)

Room 3—Cosmo
Daniel Wang

—Saturday 7th June—

Room 1—Carl Cox
Terry Francis

Room 2—Craig Richards
Silicone Soul
Circulation (Paul Davis)

Room 3—Baby Mammoth
Album Launch:

Baby Mammoth, Beige (Mamma
Gravy). Murray (Leggobeast)

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UDG



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IBIZA OPENING PARTY JUNE 17TH

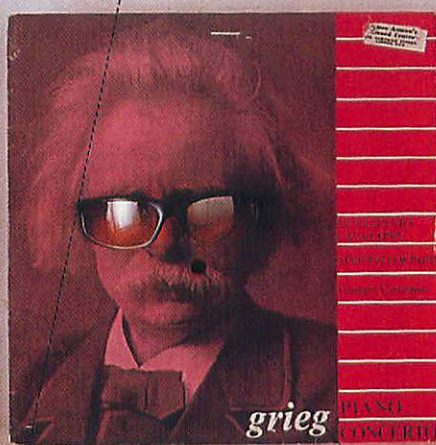
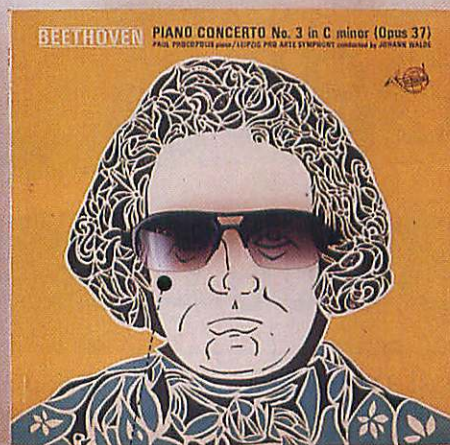
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6 OF THE BEST... SUNGLASSES



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Kirk's Originals £199

Von Zipper £46

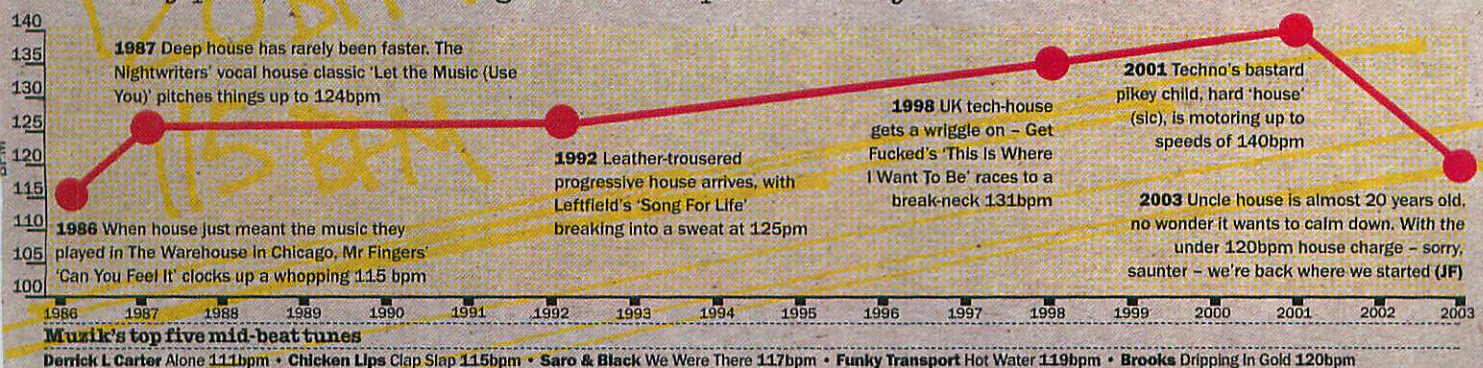
Kirk's Originals £199

Von Zipper £43

STOCKISTS French Connection: 020-7399-7200 • Kirk's Originals: 020-7240-5055 • Nike: 0800-722-020 • Von Zipper: 0800-085-1857

CALM DOWN, CALM DOWN!

Mid-tempo house is back - that's 120bpm and below to you - and in honour of this more leisurely pace, here's Muzik's guide to the speed versus year ratio since 1986...



Burn us a disc...

Princess Superstar

Her Royal Rhymeness, Superstar reveals her essential tunes

"It's a party tape, a sex tape and an exercise tape," she reckons...

1 JJ FAD

Supersonic (Ruthless, 1988)

"They were amazing Eighties, female rappers, and this track is the essential hip hop/electro hybrid. They were way ahead of their time. As far as female rap anthems are concerned, this often gets overlooked for 'Push It'."

2 VITALIC

Le Rock 01 (International Deejay Gigolo, 2002)

"I've got a new project called 'DJs Are Not Rockstars'... 'It's me and Alexander Technique spinning on four turntables, and when we play live we put 'Supersonic' over 'Le Rock 01'. It's fucking brilliant. For me, this is the best Gigolo release ever."

3 LCD SOUNDSYSTEM

Beat Connection (DFA, 2002)

"'Losing My Edge' gets all the play, but this song is incredible and it's such a passionate amazing beat. I've actually known James [Murphy] for a long time. In the Nineties, when I'd just started, he was around in a band called Pony, and we'd play indie-rock softball every summer. A bunch of us, really pale, straggly, wearing black cut-off shorts, trying to make some sense of hitting a ball around."

4 LIAM LYNCH

United States of Whatever (Global Warming, 2002)

"This track never came out in the States. It's kinda cool because whenever I whip it out, my friends are like, 'what the fuck is that?'. If this was a US magazine I would have been super cool and obscure [laughs]."

5 BLACK REBEL MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Punk Song (Whatever Happened To My Rock 'N' Roll) (Virgin, 2002)

"'United States Of...: Beat Connection' and this track epitomise a feeling of, 'what the fuck is going on in my country?'. Everything's so fucked up. There's a lot of sadness here."

6 SALT 'N PEPA

Push It (ffrr, 1988)

"There's a few songs that no matter where you are, Austria or the Bronx, they work... and this is one. I really want to write a song like this. It's like, 'my God, what is it about certain songs like this one and, say, DJ Kool, that no matter where you are people go nuts?'."

INSERT DISC

7 PRINCESS SUPERSTAR

Do It Like a Robot (IK7/The Corrupt Conglomerate, 2003)

"I wrote this around the turn of the millennium. Over here it was just like Y2K... paranoia and everybody was bunkering down with flashlights, convinced it was the end of the world. So, I decided to write a really futuristic robotic thing to celebrate. It's kinda sexual and kinda mechanical."

8 MISSY ELLIOT

Work It (Elektra, 2002)

"For me she's just the best female rapper out there. The way she does stuff, her rhythms, her concepts, the risks she takes, she's like nobody else. An incredible visionary force."

Princess Superstar in her
gracious, bird-filled home, New
York, April 3rd, 2003. Nice tits!
Let's hope there isn't a pussy
in the room!! Sorry

9 KHIA

My Neck, My Back (Artemis, 2002)

"This is an out and out sex track, where she just says, 'my neck/my back/lick my pussy and my crack'. It's kinda like junk food. It's offended a few people but, hey, get over it."

10 NOTORIOUS B.I.G.

Unbelievable (Bad Boy, 1994)

"One of my favourite hip hop tracks ever. B.I.G. was a huge pioneer and, although you probably wouldn't be able to tell from the way I rhyme, he was an inspiration for me. I wish it could have been someone else that died."

11 LIL' KIM

We Don't Need It (Atlantic, 1996)

"This is a fabulous track. When 'Hardcore' came out, that really changed everything for women. Every man had been rapping about sex and Kim came out and was just balls to the wall; the nastiest but funniest shit ever."

12 THE STOOGES

Loose (Elektra, 1970)

"Certainly, performance-wise, energy-wise, they're a huge influence on me: I was so nervous for my first performance, back in 1994, I stood still in the centre of the stage the entire time, and couldn't look at anybody. I was like, 'this is no fun'. Meanwhile, at home, I'd be running around my apartment listening to The Stooges. I was like, 'I gotta take this fuckin' energy and use it'. Now, of course, I stage dive and go nuts."

13 JIMI HENDRIX

Fire (Elektra, 1967)

"One reason why I love Jimi is he couldn't get a record deal in the US, he had to go to London. It's always the people in the UK who fuckin' find us brilliant people from here in New York."

14 THE POLICE

When The World Is Running Down (A&M, 1980)

"Let's be clear, I fuckin' hate Sting, but this song is really good and, again, it goes with my three war tracks. The Police were total pioneers and geniuses." (TN)

WIN THAT CD!

To win the only copy of the Princess' CD, send a postcard with your name and address to Do It Like A Superstar, Muzik, King's Reach Tower, London SE1 9LS. First card out of our 'special hat' wins the prize. The winner of Mira Ladytron's tape is Gordon, Tayside.





"Excuse me young man, do you have any sneaks that is, like, well munty, bruv?" Fallacy and old laydee, Roman Road Market, London, March '03

Talent

Breaking more ground

Meet **Fallacy**: British hip hop's working class hero

Everyone who heard Fallacy And Fusion's 'Groundbreaker' last summer knew they were hearing the start of something big. With producer Fusion's high impact, syncopated beats and Daniel 'Fallacy' Fahey's rapid-fire verbal rifting on the good life, it was the sound of UK hip hop at its most box fresh and assured.

'Blackmarket Boy', Fallacy's bruisingly assured debut album delivers on the promise of 'Groundbreaker'. It runs the gamut of UK urban styles from jungle, through garage to dancehall, meshing jovial street-corner banter with battle

rhyme boasts and a smattering of conscious lyrics. "It's easier to make entertaining music and sprinkle it with social commentary than to make political music and make that entertaining," says the 24-year-old south Londoner.

'Black Market Boy' features guest vocalists Elizabeth Troy and Tubby T, as well as high calibre producers like Fusion, Roni Size and Shy FX, but it's Danny's colossal lyrical presence that makes this the best UK hip hop album since Blak Twang's 'Kik Off'. And despite the ducking-and-diving implications of

the title, Danny's as as comfortable talking about life's luxuries as he is recounting grimy street tales.

"I'm not about to tell somebody whose mum lives in the ghetto to go out and sell drugs so they can buy a chain," he asserts, "but, the niceties of life, if you can afford them and work hard for them, I say go and get them, cos I enjoy every one that I work hard to buy." (MC-H)

The single 'Big 'N' Bashy' is out now, the album 'Blackmarket Boy' is released on May 19th, both on Virgin



GLASTONBURY '82.

How bad was that? It chunked it down. We sat in our tent drinking lager the whole of the first day and when we finally emerged on the Sunday, it was like the Somme. Only with a reggae soundtrack. I was in a foul mood because the mud had ruined my Reeboks. I'd had them ages and I knew I'd never get another pair like them. So when my girlfriend said I should've worn something else, I lost it. Dig time. I never saw her again after that.

REEDOK GOLD MEDALLIST.

A style available for the first time since the 80s.

The Message

EMINEMERA

Ephemera: Random trivia. **Eminem:** Popular vocal entertainer and foul language enthusiast. But how great is YOUR Shady knowledge?

Think you know Eminem? You don't know Eminem. You can't handle the whole Eminem. Etcetera, We at Muzik, however, DO know Eminem. Enough, in fact, to test your asses on Slim Shady. Answers are at the bottom of the page, upside down like in a quiz book.

1 Your starter for five. What is Marshall Mathers' middle name?

- a) Ken
- b) Bruce
- c) Sheila

2 Where was Eminem born?

- a) Kansas City
- b) Detroit
- c) Trumpton

3 How well did he do at school?

- a) Was Head Boy, a philately club member, and graduated with honours
- b) Scraped through by writing his final exams in rhyme
- c) Dropped out after failing ninth grade for the 12th time

4 What was the name of Eminem's first release

- a) The Slim Shady EP
- b) Infinite LP
- c) My Name Is 12-inch

5 Which of these terms best describes that album?

- a) 'A foretaste of genius from a nascent wonder of the rap world'
- b) 'Motor City's answer to the Beastie Boys strikes gold'
- c) 'Really, really shit'

6 Where did Eminem come in the Rap Coalition's 1997 'Rap Olympics'?

- a) Second
- b) First
- c) Disqualified for calling everyone in the world a 'faggot'

7 Eminem's stomach tattoo says what?

- a) 'Slim Shady'
- b) 'Rot In Pieces'
- c) 'I'm sorry about D12, I didn't realise they'd be so rubbish'

8 Which of these groups was Eminem not involved in before he blew up as a solo artist?

- a) Champtown
- b) Tightly Whiteys
- c) Soul Intent

9 Which artist asked Eminem to tone down the homophobic lyrics of 'My Name Is...' in return for use of a sample?

- a) Labi Siffre
- b) Ken Kaniff
- c) Dido

10 At the 2002 MTV Music Awards, Eminem aimed the following words at which popular 'techno' artiste: "I will hit a man with glasses"?

- a) Harry Hill
- b) Ronnie Corbett
- c) Moby

How did you do?

0-3 Do you even know who Eminem is? Is this your grandson's copy of Muzik? Muzik is available in large print or Braille on request.

4-7 Not bad. You've clearly bought the records and read the interviews. You may even have flicked through a dreadful, ghost-written 'autobiography'. But you only got into him because you liked Dido's voice.

8-10 You're either Eminem himself or you run one of the scary fan nerd websites we nicked all these answers off. Cheers! (AE)

Eminem plays at the Milton Keynes Bowl on June 21st. Eight Mile is released on DVD on May 26th. To win a copy of it, text your address and the rudest rhyme you can think of to Textmuzik (Vocal Track p9)

Answers: 1:b 2:a 3:c 4:b 5:c 6:a 7:b 8:b 9:c 10:c



REEBOK GOLD MEDALLIST.


WHO'S QUEEN VICTORIA?

Purposeless posh birds Lady Victoria Hervey and Victoria Aitken are swapping canapes for cusses and 'going hip hop'. Stand by for verbal violence with a cut-glass accent

Victoria Aitken

Possible MC Name: Lauryn Primrose Hill

Style: Fancies herself as 'an Eminem in reverse' whatever that means. And, rather incredibly, she has actually entered rap battles.

Bling rating: 

Kicks it with Prince William and used to work at investment bank Goldman Sachs. Gains street-level points for jailbird dad Jonathan.

Lady Victoria Hervey

Possible MC Name: Miss DineAtChinaWhite

Style: She's taking lessons from Mister 'Do Ya Really Like It?', DJ Pied Piper, so she's sure to be infuriatingly catchy and entirely meaningless

Bling rating: 

She's a genuinely titled-up Chelsea-ite who hangs out on P-Diddy's yacht

ROUND 1

Vicky Aitken Drops Mad Lyrics On The Hervey

Don't you know that I'm hardcore?/ My old man's on lockdown/
While you're in the Titanic bags taking Pied Piper's cock down/
You kick it in Knightsbridge? Yo, I'm cooling in Sloane Square/
Now shut your bitch mouth - you've had Neutrino's bone there/
SW1 for life BEEYATCH!

Lady V Brings It To The Aitken Headpiece

Yo Vic you're doing music? I think that you'll find/
The only bars that you know are the ones Dad's behind/
If you think you can test me? You know full well/
That your ass will get fucked up like Dad in his cell

ROUND 2

V To The Izzay All Up In Lady V's Shit

I know you're hatin' cos no rapper's shitter than you/
And you're pissed off cos your younger sister's fitter than you/
Stop knockin' pops - he rolls with MPs in Westminster/
While you roll with C-listers and will be dying a spinster/
Trust fund ho!

Hervey Comes Back With Type A Foulness

Why you sweatin' a lady over Titanic?/
It's cos you couldn't get in it/
I'm the name on the guest list that can't be ignored/
Bet you get more refusals than Daddy's parole board/
Knaamean? (PC)

Catch Lauryn Primrose Hill at a battle near you
Miss DineAtChinaWhite is in the studio right now

Aitken (left) and Hervey:
Straight on some trust fund shit

News In Brief

■ Best Miami give away ever! At the MAW party, the luckiest of guests were blessed with a super-limited edition set of specially produced seven-inches, all in a neat and mega-collectable logo-ed box. Huge Ebay bids are a certainty.



■ Fascinating fact about new Sunday Best recruits Palace Of Pleasure: band member Stian's great grandfather is Paul Gauguin (Post-Impressionist artist who spent his final years in Tahiti shagging much of the female populace).

■ Evidently not content with DJing, promoting clubs, being a popstar and a producer, deep house sophisticate Ben Watt is launching his own label, Buzzin' Fly Records. Promising both established and less well known names, the first release, 'Lone Cat (Holding On)' comes from Watt himself.

MAW
MAW 2003



Masters At W
ultra-desi
seven-inch b



David Guetta, Little Havana, Miami, March '03: He's got the bike, but where's his beret, string of onions and under-arm baguette?

Talent

French Fancy

David Guetta - Parisian producer, DJ, promoter, musical director and general Gallic groover

"I used to see a man who'd dress up as a skeleton every week but people just don't dress up at parties anymore."

Relaxing over a strawberry daiquiri in Miami, David Guetta is in despair about the new breed of party people, and he should know. As the man behind that deadly house re-rub of Bowie's 'Heroes' (approved by the old codger himself), 'Distortion' (big with Fatboy Slim) and the driving force behind Paris' infamous Fuck Me I'm Famous nights, David knows more about throwing parties than Saddam Hussain knows about losing wars.

What's more, David helped launch the DJ careers of Daft Punk and Motorbass, although he remains surprisingly humble about his central position in the birth of the French house scene.

"I just wanted to play what I do to the people," he says. "When acid house came through in '88, I was working in a gay club and there was only Laurent Garnier and me playing this music!"

"I was flying to England to buy my records at Blackmarket every week. It was the only place you could buy this kind of music," he chuckles.

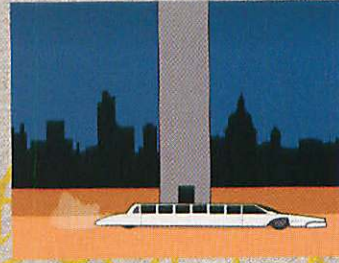
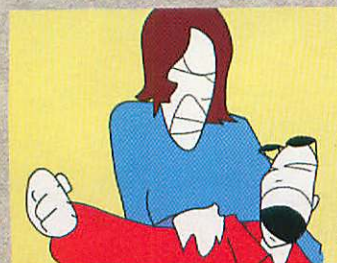
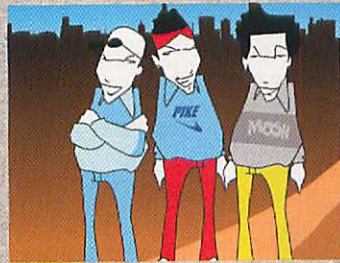
Fast forward a decade and David is now a proper Gallic pop champ.

"My last single ['Love Won't Let Me Go'] sold half a million in France. I don't know what happened," he shrugs. "And 'Distortion' was meant to be a joke! I was finishing a track and had distortion in my left ear, so we made a record out of it. I never thought it would be a success. But you British are very strange. . . ." (RM)

David Bowie Versus David Guetta
'Heroes'/'Distortion' will be out this summer on Virgin

The Message

THE BOOO KROOO



BOOO WHO?

Stand by for garage's answer to Gorillaz, the Booo Krooo. They may be a bunch of made-up cartoon characters, but they've got the majors gagging to sign them...

Fed up with brainless A&R men pestering them for fresh garage groups to sign, on-line mag RWD decided to get their own back. They came up with the animated Booo Krooo – a cartoon posse of UKG MCs and producers. Fantastically, the very same A&R men promptly got back in touch once again, vying to sign a group that didn't exist! You can log on to the RWD website to watch the boys' adventures unfold, but here's a crash course in their world...

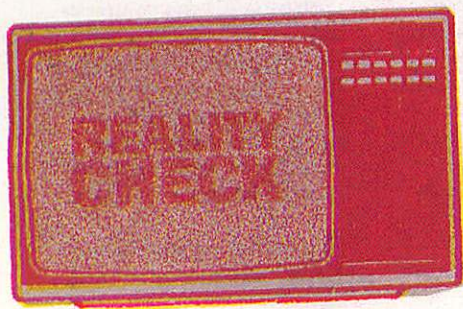
Bowling around their fictional manor of Peltham, Bucky, Flexster and Giro are often spotted hanging out at the burnt down tree stump in Crackrock Park or MCing at the premier nitespot, The Crip Club. Bucky likes to think he's the business man behind the venture, leading the others with his vision. Squeaky voiced DJ Flexster (Muzik's favourite) and wannabe ladies man Giro can only follow.

Dressed in the latest sportswear labels like Pike

and Moscheepo (geddit?) they're on the prowl for fit girls, trouble and superstardom. Strangely enough for such a bunch of losers, they've found it. After seeing two of the episodes, Missy Elliott demanded a cameo appearance in the third, and now garage don Sticky's planning to record with them – look out for their, er, 'toons' on pirate radio soon.

Go to www.rwdmag.com to see for yourself

Reality Check: Scanning the meedja for calamitous club culture references...



TV Controversy!

Radio 1's Emma B, on GM:TV's Kelly Goes Pop, questioning whether Sugababes deserved to win Best British Dance Act at the Brits. "Oh, that's a bit strange," agreed Lorraine K, in a tone that suggested she had no idea what B was on about, or really just

Sugababes are wack. Bring on the gabba!

couldn't give a shit. And who did B think should have won instead? Dirty Vegas, Fatboy Slim and Mint Royale. With blisteringly cutting-edge names like that, we should watch morning TV more often.

TV Diarrhoea

Or maybe not. On the supposedly more hip RI:SE, we caught presenters Iain Lee and Edith Bowman plus Dirty Vegas slagging off Muzik's favourite Xs, Richard and Liberty. Lee called it "silly", while the blonde one out of t'Vegas rambled "I just wish they'd write some of their own

records... everything they've done so far has been covers," which as mega-hit, 'Just A Little' proves, isn't true. It's also a bit rich coming from someone whose own songs all sound like Underworld, only rubbish.

WAR Dope rhetoric

Vice-Admiral Timothy J Keating addressing the American troops in the Gulf: "Make no mistake, when the President says go, it's hammer time!" Amazingly, no-one laughed. Perhaps it actually is a form of military strategy – you could fit plenty of explosives in Hammer's voluminous gimp-trews. And that's actually a very good idea. (TN)

subliminal sessions back to basics



May 24
Subliminal Sessions 5
CD release party

featuring

Erick Morillo

July 26
Jose Nunez

September 27
Harry Romero

October 25

Erick Morillo

November 29

Richard F

December 20

Who Da Funk

Back to Basics @ Rehab, Assembly St, Leeds LS2 7DE UK
www.backtobasics.co.uk

www.subliminalrecords.com

Subliminal Sessions @ Pacha Ibiza
with resident Erick Morillo and friends
Wednesdays starting 18 June through 24 September



The Message

IT'S MORE FUN TO COMPUTE

Junk the bits of crap that came with your PC and check these monster woofers and tweeters out...

1 TITANIUM WUNDERKINDS

CREATIVE I-TROQUE 2.1 3300 £89

A tech-geek says: "A solid combo of die-cast alloy satellites and a real wood sub-unit with a plentiful array of six cones. A micro-remote reduces the risk of muscle strain too."

Muzik says: It's cheaper than three PC games, and the bass kicks arse on our highly illegal UK garage MP3 bootlegs.

Info: www.europe.creative.com

2 FREAKY BEASTS

HARMAN KARDON JBL CREATURE £99

A tech-geek says: "The curvy, toughened plastic finish helps cut down on 'standing waves', making for bass that's solid without being boomy. The two 'horns' are bass and treble controls respectively."

Muzik says: A cross between a

storm trooper's helmet and a sea dwelling bottom-feeder - in other words, it's excellent. Doesn't sound too shoddy, either.

Info: Computers Unlimited: 020-8358-6600/www.harmanmultimedia.com

3 A LITTLE BIT MORE

CREATIVE MEGAWORKS 2.1 2500 £180

A tech-geek says: "A professional affair with three inputs (two analogue and one digital), wall-mount kit and a fully featured remote control on a wire. Expansive highs, great mid-range warmth and a thunderous bass."

Muzik says: This costs the same as more than 60 pints of delicious lager. But when we turned it up really loud, the baby next door started crying - result!

Creative: www.europe.creative.com

4 BARGAIN BASEMENT

TEAC POWERMAX-1200 £44

A tech-geek says: "A nasty moulded plastic casing hides the considerably more attractive aluminium cone and mylar padding that knocks it out admirably. The mids are a bit too weak for our ears, however."

Muzik says: Cheerful and cheap, leaving us ample cash to spend on drunken, on-line rare record buying sprees. And porn. Marvellous.

Info: MicroWarehouse: www.microwarehouse.co.uk

5 SERIOUS GEAR

ECLIPSETD PA508 £800

A tech-geek says: "A first class build and breathtakingly detailed and accurate sound throughout. Weighty and nigh-on unbreakable too. Though the only knob to play with is the volume control."

Muzik says: Unbelievable! Looks like a really, really expensive kettle and a Porsche headlight, and sounds like Heaven. (NW)

Info: 020-7328-4499/www.eclipse-td.co.uk

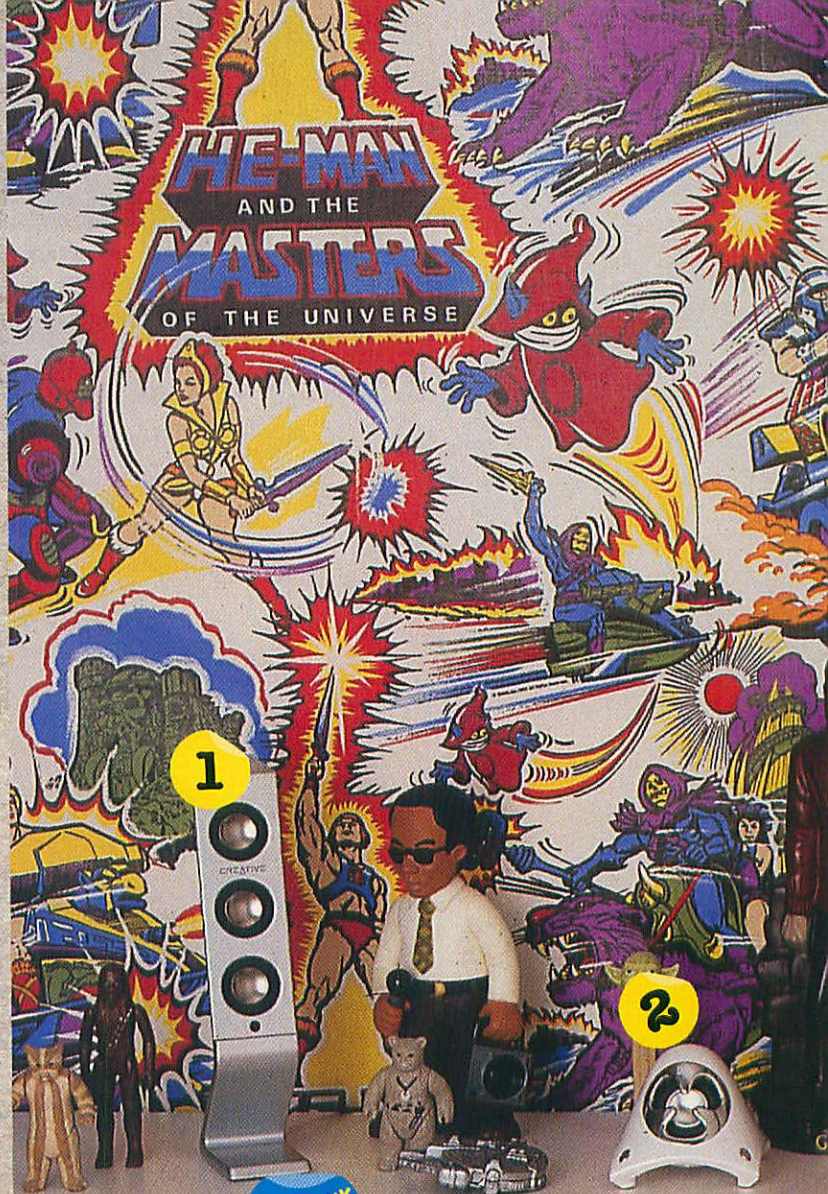


photo SEAN MYERS with thanks to the boys of EMMA ROBERTSON, JOE CURRIE, CHERRY BOMB, DECLAN FAHY, LAUREN COCHRANE and STEPHEN WORTHY

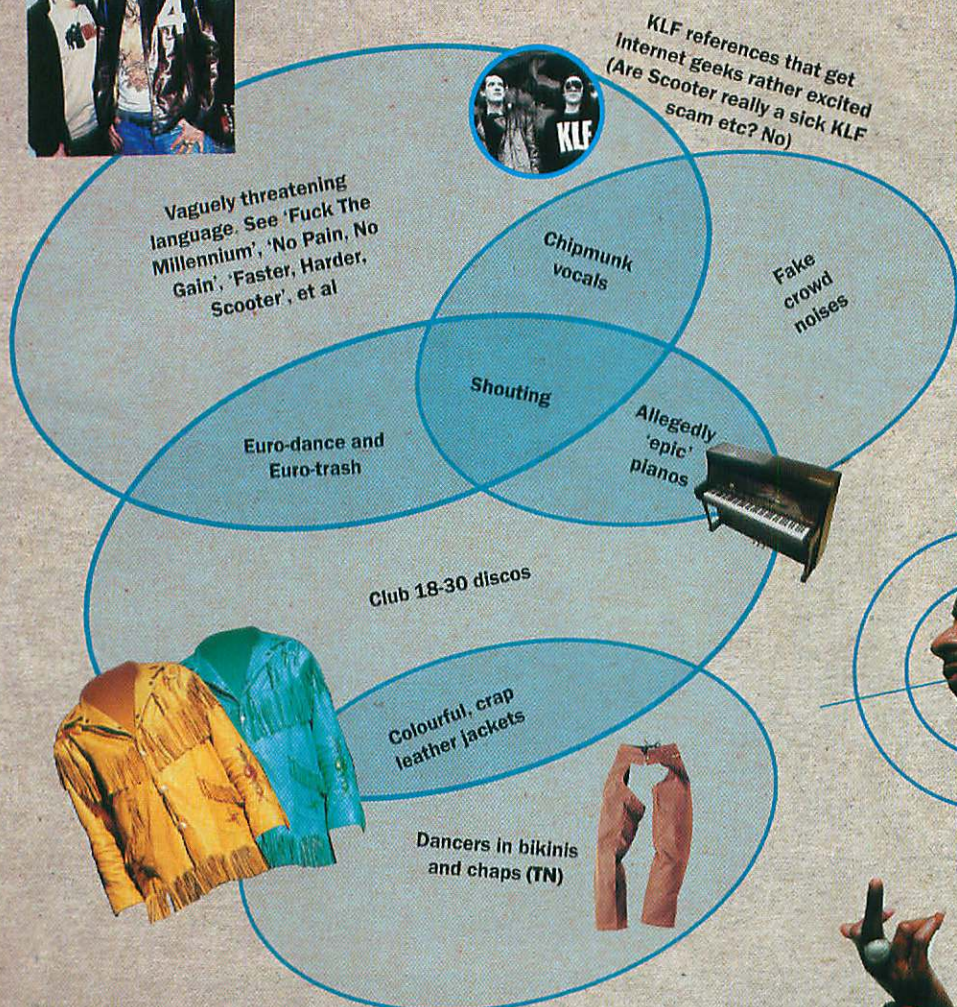


The Message

SCOOTER MADE SIMPLER



We all love the low quality hardcore high jinks of Scooter. But at times, their art could seem a little complex. Until now, that is...



WHO SHOT SNOOP?

Prime suspects in the greatest non-murder case to hit rap EVER!

50 Cent

MOTIVE: Is trying to shoot or get shot by everyone in the world and must have worked his way to 'S' by now.

Hugh Hefner

MOTIVE: Anger at Snoop's excursions into his territory (ie porno). His alibi of "I was at home getting jiggy with three women young enough to be my granddaughters" seems to stand up, however. Even if nothing else about Hef does these days.

Justin Timberlake

MOTIVE: An act of gun violence would cement his hardcore credentials once and for all. Then, that threesome with the Minogues would be a dead cert.

2Pac

MOTIVE: What with the world mistakenly believing he is dead, 2Pac can operate above the restrictions of normal morality, like Amanda Holden does.

Snoop 'Doggy' Dogg

MOTIVE: How better to underline one's own status as the Godfather Of Gangsta than by busting a cap in one's own skinny ass? Snoop's next plan might be to pimp his own ass out to himself, for crazy loot.

So Solid Crew

MOTIVE: They're EVIL and GANGSTAS who PROMOTE GUNS and SHOULD be BANNED! We suspect Oxide, Neutrino and an unknown third sniper.

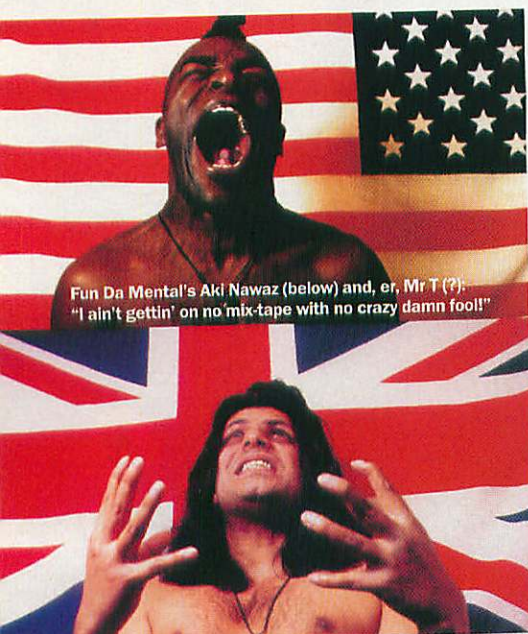
Saddam Hussein

MOTIVE: Strike at the heart of America and take out one of their most beloved entertainers. Or, failing that, a former murder suspect who most of the country would like to see in jail. (PC)

No Dogs were harmed in the making of this article...

Burn CDs, not people!

The hip hop nation is fired up about America's foreign policy - even blingers like Jay-Z. Here, exclusive to Muzik, is radical UK group Fun Da Mental's anti-war, anti-Bush mix CD



Fun Da Mental's Aki Nawaz (below) and, er, Mr T (?): "I ain't gettin' on no mix-tape with no crazy damn fool!"

1) SAUL WILLIAMS Not In Our Name (Ninja Tune)

"No more transfusions of blood for oil!". Heartfelt vocal resistance for everyone who marched against the war."

2) PUBLIC ENEMY Son Of A Bush (peace-not-war.org)

"A vitriolic attack on the greed of the Bush dynasty."

3) COMPANY FLOW Patriotism (Rawkus)

"Patriotism is another opium of the masses; a short-sighted and absurd ideology designed to prevent you from opening your mouth."

4) FUN DA MENTAL A Lesson In Love (Nation)

"Until the philosophy that holds one race superior and another inferior is dismantled, there shall be war."

5) THE EXPLOITED Fuck The USA (Secret Records)

"Proves you don't even have to be intelligent to speak out against the USA!"

6) MACKA B Who Are The Terrorist? (Ariwa)

"Grass-roots people, especially in the reggae scene, have always spoken out and challenged the system."

7) DEAD KENNEDYS Stars And Stripes Of Corruption (Alternative Tentacles)

"The great line about 'Dying for business scams' is still unfortunately relevant today."

8) THE CURE Killing An Arab (Fiction)

"The title has nothing to do with the content of the song, a bit like our own 'Why America Will Go To Hell'."

9) BURNING SPEAR No More War (Island)

"An awesome song, inspired by mid-Seventies violence in Jamaica. Again, the title speaks for itself."

10) MAHALIA JACKSON If We Never Needed The Lord Before (We Sure Do Need Him Now) (Sony)

"Whichever platform we speak out from, whatever its hypocrisy and contradictions, we all aspire to love. Mahalia speaks to the human spirit and gives us a temporary respite from this pathetic world." (DB)

Fun Da Mental's 'Voices Of Mass Destruction' is out now on Nation

The Message's scribbles with attitude this month are: Angus Batey, Duncan Bell, Mike Carnart-Harris, Pete Cashmore, Andrew Emery, Chantelle Fiddy, Jane Fitzgerald, Victoria Goodwin, John Hall, Martin James, Ralph Moore, Tony Naylor, Jason Riley, Rod Stanley, Nick Watts

A full-page photograph of two men standing at night in front of a city skyline. The man on the left has long dark hair and a beard, wearing a dark jacket and jeans. The man on the right has short dark hair and is wearing a dark jacket. The background shows a city skyline at night with lights and a dark sky.

DEEP DISH TORONTO #025

GLOBALUNDERGROUND ♥

To commemorate the milestone 25th edition in the esteemed Global Underground series Deep Dish present their landmark Toronto mix collection, available over a staggering 4 CD set. The standard edition will be a 2xCD club mix. Also available will be 2 limited edition, individual Afterclub mixes from Dubfire and Sharam respectively. The title will also be available on 3xLP limited edition vinyl.

OUT JUNE 2003.



visit: globalunderground.co.uk/toronto



Air

Air have just completed the soundtrack to an Italian novel. We asked **Jean-Benoit Dunckel** how much more arty the duo can get...

Are Air vying with Radiohead to become the most pretentious band on Earth?

J-BD "Maybe this album is, but for us it's like a risk and risks are very important when you're making music. This is how you get new kinds of music and for us this is a new kind of style."

How do you feel now about your last album, the prog rock monster that was '10,000 Hz Legend'?

J-BD "It was psychotherapy for us. It was an experimental pop album made by two boys who were having a very nice time. The thing is our music always comes out the opposite to our state of mind. With 'Moon Safari' we were feeling very distressed, and the album sounded very mellow and happy. With '10,000 Hz Legend' we were very happy, but it sounded dark and heavy. How are we feeling now? Disconnected from the outside world, but our new songs are very happy! Our next album after 'City Reading' is nearly finished and it's all very minimal, simple pop music - very happy sounding, not dark like 'Legend'. It'll be out in January 2004!"

Are there any more songs about shagging on this new album?

J-BD "Of course, our music is all about emotions, so it's always sexual. It's not hardcore sex though!"

'Wonder Milky Bitch' (from '10,000 Hz Legend') was about cock sucking, was it not?

J-BD "That was a fantasy about meeting easy going girls on tour, which is a dream a lot of people have about what rock stars do. But, really we are very soft, normal boys, not perverts so we live our fantasies through our lyrics and our music. Music is about imagination. We don't say these things about sex to shock people. If we wanted to shock we'd have to be more intellectual about it. We're too nice to shock with sex stories. And it's boring when it's all been done so many times before."

You've soundtracked the English language 'Virgin Suicides' and now an Italian book. Was the language barrier a problem?

J-BD "Well, we had translations of course, but sometimes I think it's better not to understand lyrics; it leaves more room for the imagination to play. We know this album is very complicated for people who don't speak Italian. We think even our biggest fans will only listen to it closely maybe two or three times! Artistically we're very happy with it, but we don't have a lot of hope for it commercially."

Do you feel a bit schizophrenic, keeping one foot in the easy listening pop world and the other in the psychedelic avant-garde?

J-BD "It's good to be schizophrenic! Some people get lost by our inconsistency. People who liked 'Moon Safari' might have found 'Virgin Suicides' too dark and 'Legend' too rocky but that's part of the fun. You can't be the same all the time. We have to take an intellectual approach to this."

Film soundtracks, music for book readings... What other 'concepts' do you have up your sleeves?

J-BD "Well, we're about to produce some music for a ballet. It'll be written in a similar way to Stockhausen (mad, experimental electronic music pioneer) and we're also thinking about doing some catchy jingles or music for weather forecasts. Also we feel a lot of inspiration for adverts. What's more we're launching our website in June - www.intainet.org - and it'll have Air tracks for remix and exclusive stuff. It'll be very cool." (MJ)

'City Reading' is out now on Record Makers/Source



Illustration: DAVID FOLLOWS © BIG ACTIVE

capire la loro

SE VUOI CAPIRE LA



"People wanna listen to what I'm doing. Probably next year they won't. But I've done alright for myself..."

WORDS SYLVIA PATTERSON PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES BURNS

The Streets, aka Mike Skinner has had a mammothly successful year, but he's still keeping it real. Generally...

Mike Skinner has been called many things, but what he seems to be, above all, is illegal.

There he goes again, being illegal: driving across Hampstead Heath, all back-spinning wheels, lurching across the grass.

"I can drive," he chirps out of the window of our photographic prop, "I just don't have the necessary paperwork."

Over a year since 'Original Pirate Material' dropped like a cluster-bomb into the pop sap's cultural trifle and Mike Skinner is now the emblem of 'geezer garage', a one-man crossover connection between the dance, garage and indie-rock tribes, who's also being investigated by intrigued American hip hop heads.

"Geezer garage, hooligan house," muses Mike, "it's quite funny. Better than being... a war criminal." As well as being illegal, he's now, conversely, a legal, limited company. Muzik knows this because he's showing us, there on his business credit card, his company

name, 'The Streets'. Which makes him the managing director of, erm, himself.

For the last few months, Mike's been out of the UK spotlight. The last we heard of him was around the time of The Brits, when he was nominated for four of the popstastic trinkets. He didn't attend - he was playing in America and couldn't have cared less anyway.

"It's an extension to the pop star's empire now, innit?" he notes, sat in a beer garden on the edge of Hampstead Heath, "a TV event. Will Young won the first award didn't he? And after that it was never really happenin' for The Streets..."

Today, Mike's strangely muted - in no way the brandies 'n' kebab-chaser character you might expect, though he is wearing archetypal wide-boy gear; baseball cap at an insanely jaunty angle, jeans, white Nikes and a silver barbed-wire bracelet. His eyes are huge discs of melting chocolate, his teeth, charismatic tombstones of varying size and shape. This is sober Mike Skinner, scoffing a bowl of ravioli, a calm, wry,

easily distracted 24 year-old bearing scant resemblance to the chaotic, narcotic-fuelled persona of his songs.

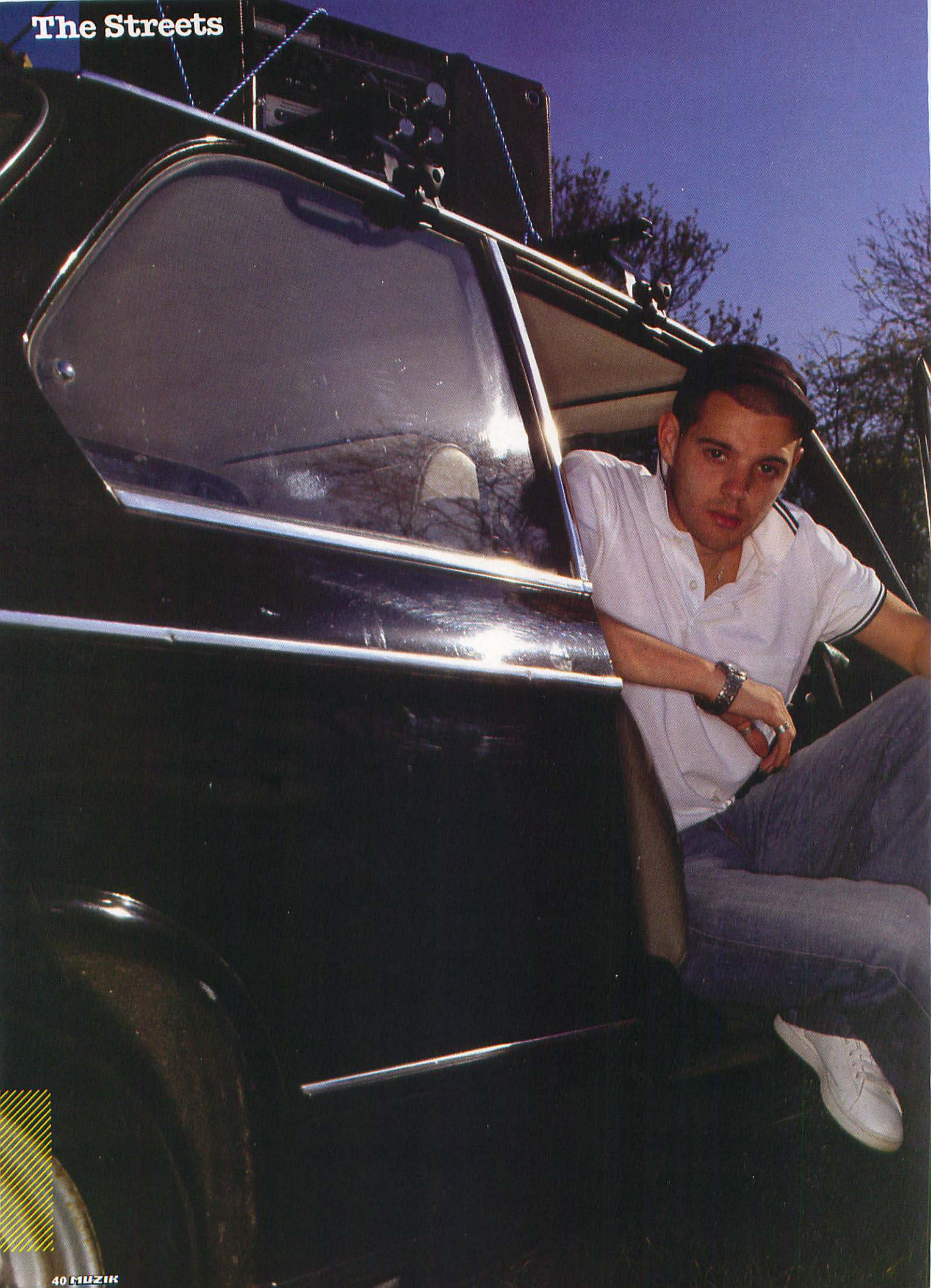
When asked to share the tales from his recent American tour, he starts flicking tobacco flakes off Muzik's jeans, asks where Muzik lives and talks about cinnamon for ten whole minutes, because America smells of cinnamon, apparently. In this way, he's exactly like the real-life Marshall Mathers: unfathomable.

People expect you to be the larriest man at the party, all the time. But you're not, are you?

"Well, that's what you do at the weekend," he says. "It's the same as ordinary working people. When I'm obsessing over work I haven't got time for anything else. If I'm drinking, I'll drink more than anyone else. I get locked into getting bollocksed. But that's just one night. The work's my absolute obsession. Almost like a fix. And if I get my fix, I'm fine. I'm a very intense person, believe it or not."

Mike Skinner: T-shirt influenced by Fred Perry, angle of hat influenced by Norman Wisdom







The Streets: Here in his car, he feels safest of all

Mike Skinner says he hasn't become the Howard Hughes of garage because a) he has no idea who Howard Hughes is and b) why should he be in your face when "there's nothing to promote?" His lone output this month is a remix of Cassius's 'Thriller', featuring Ghostface Killah and himself on vocals, plus his festival appearances at Homelands, Reading, Leeds and T In The Park. Mike's no festival veteran. His first ever visit to Reading was last August, when he played there, although he seems more enthused about the inverse-bungee ride they had on site than any other aspect of the festival experience. "But I've never done a proper bungee," he notes, "I don't think I'm capable of jumping. If someone pushed me, if it was a bungee push, I could do that!"

For the last month, he's been in America with his girlfriend, half on tour and half on holiday. The touring experience seeming to him "like Groundhog Day, or Mr Benn. . . with a parrot on your head, yeah!"

He was asked about being 'The English Eminem' "in every interview, bar none." The Americans have taken to The Streets - Rolling Stone voted 'Original Pirate Material' debut of the year, and it went Top 30, despite the Americans "not being able to understand a word I say half the time."

They balked at his teeth though, even claiming they were worse than those of Shane McGowan, the frequently inebriated ex-Pogues-man.

"Well, that's the thing that's really ugly about me, I think" he shrugs, "I can't smile. I have to go [massive smile, no teeth]. Well, it's better than having no legs."

While in America he took a helicopter ride across the Grand Canyon, with his bird, spending the journey wondering what would happen if the pilot had a stroke. He appeared on the talk shows, including Jay Leno and, along the way met big stars like Guns 'N Roses, and Prince. Well - maybe not so big. . .

"They're always smaller than you think," Mike guffaws. "Even Prince. Although Pharrell from the Neptunes is a lot taller. That's the problem me and my girlfriend've got at the moment.

She's got her Pharrell, and I've got my Cheryl Tweedie from Girls Aloud. I like Girls Aloud. Cheryl Tweedie, if you're listening, dump that fucking Ultimate KAOS boy and have me!"

Since the release of 'Original Pirate Material' - a superb, poetic love-letter to good-time oblivion and its aftermath - Mike's talked, wide-openly, about his life-long appreciation of dope, coke, pills, acid, crack, smack, the lot, though he reigns it in, these days, feeling a "responsibility" to his family. (He has nieces and nephews, all, *apparently* "Justin Timberlake-mad - it's all they think about," aged from 9 to 18). He even steered clear of the disco dust at this year's Miami Conference, preferring to stick to delicious lager instead.

"I made a right twat of myself," he grins. "I got really pissed. If I get really pissed I start getting abusive. Going 'fuck off, fuuug off!' to everyone. Dunno why cos I'm quite laid back really. The Devil comes out when I'm drunk."

Elsewhere on tour, though, he'd seek out, or was offered, 'home-grown' pharmaceuticals. "There's a really big prescription drugs scene," he says, "and it's a scene we just don't have. Loads of drugs you've never heard of, like Zanax, Oxycotin, Vicodin, most of 'em are downers to be honest. They do a lot of acid as well. And they have Wet. It's a really processed skunk, dipped in embalming fluid. I've done some dodgy drugs but that? Nah, nah, nah. Apparently, it makes you absolutely loopy juice. The nickname's 'Stuck'. It makes your arms [holds arms stiffly in front of him] stick, cos it's embalming fluid! People have seizures from it as well. And I've got epilepsy. But I'm a curious person. So in the right circumstances. . ."

He's no fancy theories on humanity's eternal romance with neurological meltdown - "it's just a ticket to a good night out." Drugs have taught him nothing about life, except how many drugs his mind and body can take. "You learn the rules if you take things to the limit. Every mistake I've made has been as a result of taking something too far." Ultimately, he says, "you can't get anything done when you're on drugs."

"When you meet stars, they're always smaller than you expect them to be. Even Prince. Pharrell from the Neptunes is tall though"

The Streets

Do you believe life wouldn't be as good without drugs?

"Well I don't really need 'em," he muses. "I don't need to do drugs. Until I start drinking. I never think about doing drugs, then I have a few pints and it's 'ooh, let's do some drugs'. I haven't got anything to escape from. I never think 'oh God, I really wanna get fucked'. Never. When I was younger, it was all the time. . . [stares off into distance] Drugs, drugs, drugs. . . Are you bored with talking about drugs?"

"No. I'm always quite honest about it. But that's not hard. Or maybe it is. I don't understand why everyone doesn't talk about drugs. If you've got a job that you've gotta hold down you don't need that kind of scandal, but there's no reason why an artist shouldn't be happy to talk about it." Like the alleged current MDMA powder obsession of a certain American hip hop producer?

"Yeah yeah!" he chortles, "but, it's not as acceptable in the States. A lot of Americans I know do a lot of drugs but you never hear them talk about it [reaches over and picks up tape recorder]. So, what are these buttons? I'm thinking of getting a TV in my bathroom. When I was in Vegas in this casino, they had a TV in the tiles in the bathroom. Imagine removing two tiles from your bathroom. And replacing those tiles with glass and then behind that glass having a TV."

Would you want to spend that amount of time in your bathroom, with no drugs?

"Well, no, it's just a gadget. But having a TV in your bathroom, how cool would that be? Well, not for women, maybe. For men!"

Mike's a geezer who likes his gadgets. With fame has come Free Stuff, beyond the drinks he now "never" has to buy. Today, his phone rings and a conversation ensues about getting "all my Logic [Music production software] upgraded," in return for a bit of product placement.

"I like product placement," he smiles, "I wanna get a free computer. I'm working my way up. It started with a T-shirt, then pairs of trainers, then you've got a free keyboard. Look, Jade Jagger's given me her book."

He rakes in his back-pack, pulls out a posh, hard-back catalogue of Jade Jagger's so-expensive-there's-no-price-on-it jewellery collection.

"They just gave me her book," he shrugs, "look, I could give that to my girlfriend [points to swish, spirally ring, all white gold and diamonds].



"Hmmm. . . brandy or prescription narcotics after my 'Taste The Difference' steak dinner? Decisions, decisions. . ."

It's free jewellery, innit? Why would they give me the book otherwise?"

To wear something in a public place that counts?

"Yeah. Like a video."

So, have you got any qualms about taking the corporate dollar?

"No," he says, "those are the perks, aren't they?"

Mike Skinner is a London-born, Birmingham-raised hip hop fanatic who grew up in the suburban drudgery of "Barratt Class boredom," the youngest of four kids to a salesman dad and hospital-worker mum. Prone to epileptic fits, he became a temperamental, skateboarding teenager who was always being robbed, who cleaned toilets for a living or worked in Burger King. He made a hopeless facsimile of American hip hop for years, became disillusioned enough to leave Britain, aged 19, following a girlfriend to Sydney who almost immediately dumped him. He returned from his travels with a new idea for his stalled musical career: "Be yourself."

He moved from Birmingham to London, wrote, recorded and produced 'Original Pirate Material' in his Brixton bed-sit, selling 200,000 copies in 2002. You'd think he'd be swinging, permanently, from a

metaphorical chandelier. Instead, he has a strange theory about age and the pleasure principle.

"Your brain has a kind of balance to it," he explains, sipping another Coke, "and I think as you get older it gets dampened down. To pure enjoyment. Cos you've done everything so many times before. It's not a bad thing, cos the down times aren't as down but the up times aren't as up either. I can't remember the last time I was seriously depressed. When I was young I was always down, but some of the best times of my life were when I was younger. I couldn't tell you, in the last year, where I've had the excitement of when I was a kid."

You don't get the impression he's bullshitting you excessively here. Mike genuinely seems to feel the fame, money, glory and success account for a negligible change in the contents of his soul. He's moved house, recently, but only "up the road" in Brixton. He's "chuffed" with the success, but not too surprised - "I've worked hard". Unlike the pop goons, he's been "able to choose who I'm surrounded by," so his door remains closed to hazardous showbiz hokey.

"You have to be strong," he says, "to not get carried away with it. Maybe it's a part of what people see as me retreating but I don't really get a sense of it. All I really do is make the music."

"I don't understand why everyone doesn't talk about drugs - there's no reason an artist shouldn't be happy to talk about it"



Avoid sweat. Attract women.

New Lynx Dry Anti-Perspirant



The Streets

"Gigs are the only place that you ever get a sense of what that record's doing. Like, this isn't hectic now, is it? And this is about as hectic as it gets. It sounds arrogant, y'know, but nothing really changes. Money's better, you can have steak. And I think that's probably why I'm so mellow. How could that be intense? Intense is having 300 pound rent to pay, only a tin of tuna to eat, someone who owes you 60 quid for a gram of charlie they had off you three weeks ago. I've ate a lot of tuna. But I eat 'Taste The Difference' steak now."

So, other than that, nothing feels different whatsoever?

"It doesn't, no. It could do if you wanted it to. You could chase that kind of lifestyle and those are the people you read about in the Daily Star, because they need it. I've built a wall around me, really."

Made out of what?

"Just the fact that... well, my managers'll probably tell you it's really hectic, but I'm that bit of the swan that is above the water whereas everyone else is doing the paddling."

"Fame isn't intense. Intense is having 300 pound rent to pay, only a tin of tuna to eat and someone who owes you 60 quid for a gram of charlie"

With success comes the tendrils of your past coiling themselves round your neck, reminding you where you came from. Back in Birmingham, Mike worked with local producers and, for the last two years, two of them – Chris B and SK – have been claiming he stole their ideas and used them on 'Original Pirate Material'.

"I don't really get on with Chris B," says Mike. "He's hard to get on with and I decided I didn't wanna hang around with him anymore. He's always saying hateful stuff about me and it was a good thing I went to London and got out of all that. SK, I do feel for him, cos I was influenced by him a lot. But the reason why it hasn't looked like I've helped him out is because I'm not gonna be threatened by people. I was influenced by working with those guys but I didn't nick stuff from 'em. There's a million and one ideas that went into making that album."

Could they try to sue?

"Well it's not like anyone's gonna do anything really stupid," he decides. "I just think if I'd have not gone to London, just disappeared and SK'd never seen me again, he'd still be in

the same situation he's in now, but he wouldn't be pissed off with me. I don't see how me going to London and being successful has changed his life, d'youknowwhatmean? He's putting together a record himself and hopefully he'll do well, cos hopefully the attention'll help him. I've had to watch my back before. I've realised that's what I've gotta deal with, if I wanna be in this position."

Mike spends his days working on his second album and telling no-one what its contents might be. He even pretends it doesn't exist.

"There is no second LP. It's all over, finished. I'm making a film. See, I can do sad, happy, angry..." [pulls theatrical faces].

Do you worry people will pinch your ideas if you talk about them?

"No, I don't think ideas are amazingly important, to be honest. There's loads of ideas in the world and they all just float round. It's how you execute 'em that's important. What's important is you're skillful, you do it well and you're honest."

The way Mike sees it is that "it's been a good year, so far," the year he's "grown up a lot." Some people, it seems, can simply handle it.

"There's pressures you have to deal with that are slightly loony," he nods, "but I just feel really secure in my abilities. I'm really focused. And for some reason people wanna listen to what I'm doing. And probably next year they won't. And four years ago they certainly didn't. But it doesn't matter. Doesn't matter what happens in the future. I've done alright for myself, even so far."

You're like Jimmy Shand, you are.

"Who's Jimmy Shand?"

Jimmy Shand is a legendary Scottish, country dancing accordion player, famed for his perfectionist's timing in the most hectic of sonic assaults. On his last year on Earth, he was interviewed by a noticeably refreshed Lorraine Kelly, on Scotland's Hogmanay (New Year's Eve) telly show. "Well, Jimmy, it's Hogmanay, you must be really excited," Lorraine enquired. Jimmy Shand replied: "Lassie, ah've nivvir been excited in mah life."

"Heheheh!" roars Mike Skinner, giving full view to his spectacular teeth. "Jimmy Shand, eh? 'I've Never Been Excited In My Life'. I'm gonna say that. That's the name of my next album."

The Streets. In the country. Isn't it ironic?



Catch Mike this summer at the Muzik Live Arena at Homelands, The Carling Weekend (Reading/Leeds) and T In The Park



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Simply the fest!



Clubs are all good, but getting down and dirty in a field just can't be beat. Here's Muzik's guide to this summer's finest al fresco frolics, starting with the Daddy of 'em all. . .

we love...

HOMELANDS

Are you ready? You'd better be. This one will rock harder than ever before

It's hard to believe, but this is actually the fifth Homelands and the line-up this year looks better than ever. What with Muzik hosting the Live Arena (featuring our cover star The Streets), and Movement's pick of the top d&b talent (as showcased on our Movement-hosted covermount), plus an incredible, multi-DJ dance music pile-up, this might just be the best 17 hours of life so far. . .

We Love. . . Homelands 2003 kicks off at 1pm on Saturday May 24th. For more details see www.welovehomelands.co.uk. For tickets for all the summer music festivals or any UK gigs call the 24-hour Muzik ticket line on 0870-166-8945

Who should YOU see this year?

If you're RAVEY

The Chemical Brothers, Sasha, Jeff Mills, Timo Maas and Derrick Carter

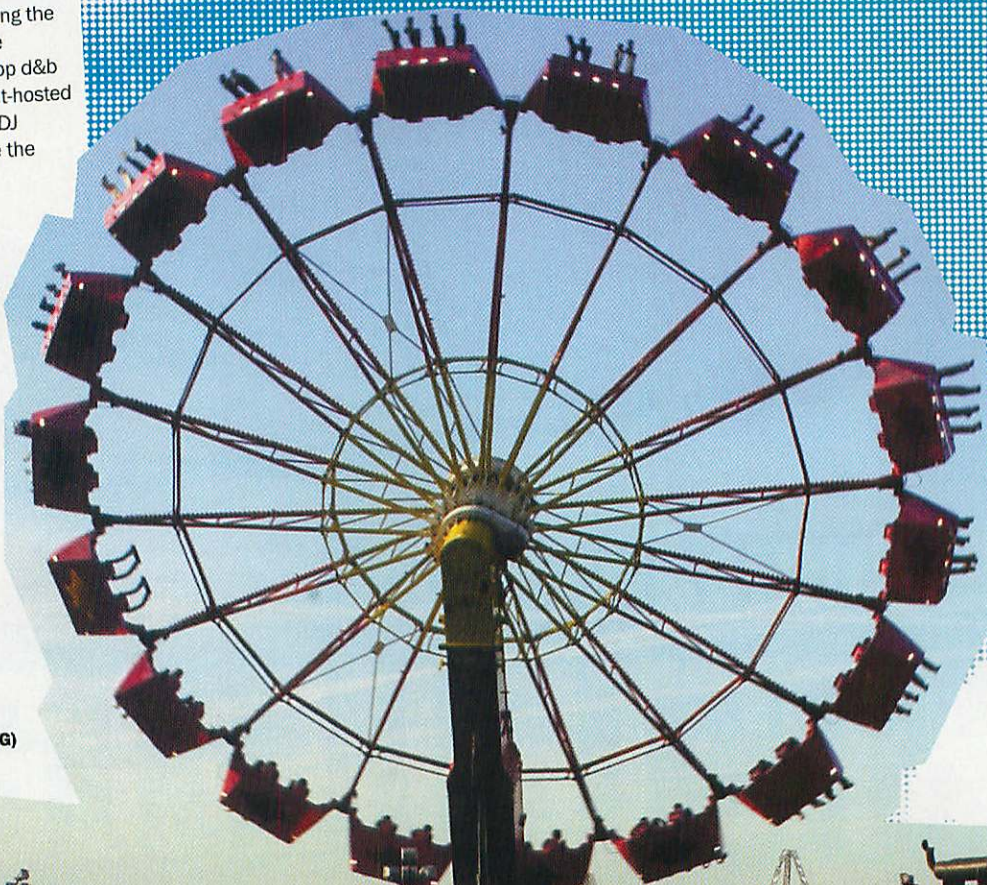
If you're GRIMEY

PhoteK, I Kamanchi, Bryan Gee, Fabio and Andy C

If you're TRENDY

The Streets, Audio Bullys, Erol Alkan, 2 Many DJs (Soulwax) and Rooty DJs (VG)

Words: VICTORIA GOODWIN



IT'S THE MAGIC NUMBERS!

Not excited enough about Homelands yet? Check last year's sensational stats!

People there: 30,000 • Live acts playing: 16 • DJs: 96 • DJs still sober at 6am: 11 • Pints of Strongbow drunk: 6,234 • Weird, silver survival 'blankets' used: 845 •

Spliffs smoked: 91,000 • AA vans called out: 5 • Plays for Layo & Bushwacka's 'Love Story': 23 • People wishing they had a spare jumper at some point: 29,997

Words: VICTORIA GOODWIN

WIN THIS!

Groove Armada Burn Us A Double Disc!
The lovely Tom and Andy have put together a CD of top festival-friendly tunes. One's for the journey there, the other's for the home run



THE BIG FIELD GENERAL

Darren Hughes, driving force behind Homelands, gives us the lowdown on this year's first – and best – outdoor dance bash

"It's been a pretty stress-free this year, thank goodness. In 2001 we thought we were going to have to cancel it, what with the hangover from 2000's awful weather and the threat of foot and mouth. Last year everything was getting stale – all the festival line-ups were the same – so this time we've tried to get it that bit more edgy. Ultimately, I'd like Homelands to be like a dance music Glastonbury.

"This year, I'll be at the gates for the first couple of hours watching everyone come in, then I'll try and get to see a few DJs and live acts while making sure everything's running smoothly. Then, as soon as the headline act comes on, that's me for the night. The live arena is closing at midnight this year cos we've had so many problems with noise restrictions.

"My favourite Homelands moment ever? Jeff Mills last year: the way that guy performs and the effort he puts in is just phenomenal. This time it'll be great to have Tom and Ed back. They've not played for a couple of years. And I can't wait to check out Soulwax on a massive sound system!" (JH)

FIVE YEARS GO MAD IN HAMPSHIRE

The Best Homelands Moments... Ever

1. Basement Jaxx, 2002: Their million-strong troupe of high-kicking Brazilian dancers brings some much-needed glamour to proceedings
2. Erol Alkan, 2002: The Trashman rinses the VIP tent, playing harder, better, faster and stronger than many in the big arenas
3. Andy C, 2001: Andy drops 'Bodyrock' for the first time ever. Punters initially think, 'Eh?!' then go absolutely insane. Result!
4. The Big Impromptu Footie Game, 2001: The entire drum & bass contingent go head-to-head with the house and techno boys for hours in the broiling sun. Jumping Jack Frost proves to be Man Of The Match
5. Danny Tenaglia, 2000: At the height of his powers, he takes the VIP tent on a phenomenal, extra-long length journey (VG)

Photos: ANGELA LUBIANO / LIFE, JASON MANNING



Darren Hughes

CD 1: GETTING THERE Andy's 'Day Tripping' Mix

THE BEATLES

Here Comes The Sun (Andy's Re-edit) (white label) (2002)
"An appropriate lyric for the start of the festival season. The mix is pretty faithful to the original and the bottom end is big and proper."

SUENO LATINO

Sueno Latino (Derrick May Remix) (Creative) (1992)
"Every time I play in a field, this fits the bill. It's been the soundtrack to more blissful days than I can remember."

MR G

G's Feelinz (Moods & Grooves) (2002)
"Reminds me of the old DIY parties. It's raw house music with crudely sampled vocal loops. It says 'marquee' to me."

BLAKKAT

Tonight (Detour) (2002)
"This one's got that filtered French sound: the soundtrack to nights spent at those small sound systems you get at after-hours Glasto sessions."

THE FOG

Been A Long Time (The Hoxton Whores Remix) (White Label) (2003)
"A classic, deep and funky house track given a twist – a good all-rounder for the summer season."

SANDY RIVERA

I Can't Stop (Europa Disc) (2002)
"This is big tent music. It's simple but fat and will definitely get you thinking of the evening to come."

IAN BROWN

F.E.A.R. (Instrumental Mix) (Polydor) (2002)
"You've got clear of the city limits, you're in the countryside and you know you're on your way..."

GROOVE ARMADA

Lovebox (Jive) (2002)
"This reminds me of the dozens of times I've stood in a field watching Underworld and Orbital with just the lights – and maybe some drizzle, but who cares about that?"

CHICANE

Offshore (Modena) (1996)
"The original version, not the trancey one. Balearic film music, basically, and a beautiful backdrop for having a little bit of a smoke and watching the fields roll by."

GROOVE ARMADA

The Final Shakedown (Unreleased Mix) (White Label) (2002)
"When you realise you've got quite near to the festival, everyone in the car starts going a bit mental and turning the stereo up far too loud. This is the perfect tune for that moment."

CD 2: GETTING HOME Tom's 'Tiredness Kills – Take A Break' Mix

STEVIE WONDER

If You Really Love Me (Motown) (1971)
"A lovely Motown sing-a-long track, but be careful who you're with, cos they ain't gonna sound as good as Stevie!"

KOOL & THE GANG

Jihli (De Lite) (1971)
"It's quite long but it's worth the emotional investment. Pure jazz-funk, very groovy, and you can get lost in it."

THE BEATLES

Tomorrow Never Knows (Apple) (1966)
"George Martin's production field day. The effects are brilliant. This is a very druggy tune."

THE LOVE UNLIMITED ORCHESTRA

Strange Games And Funky Things (20th Century) (1974)
"Barry White in his instrumental guise. It's got a tough bassline and epic, soaring strings. A big 'morning has broken' tune."

ROOTS MANUVA

Next Type Of Motion (Big Dada) (1997)
"A perfect toe-tapper for when you've left the madness of the festival but don't want to leave the groove behind."

VAUGHN MASON & CREW

Bounce, Rock, Skate & Roll (Brunswick) (1980)
"A surreal little number. It has this bassline which goes round and round while this voice goes 'Bounce, rock, skate and roll' over and over. It's just heaven!"

DJ DSL

Double Drums (G Stone) (2002)
"I can never work out whether it should be played at 33 or 45, but it sounds good either way! A real mind-twister."

THE ROLLING STONES

Sympathy For The Devil (London) (1968)
"I felt like I was disappearing up my own arse with some odd records, so I thought I'd slap in a crowd-pleaser. I'm sure you'll 'Woo woo' along with it all the way home."

METRO AREA

Orange Alert (DFA Remix) (Environ/Source) (2003)
"You could even get out of your car and have a little boogie to all the weird little noises on this one."

BUDDY MILES

Where You Gonna Run To? (Casablanca) (1976)
"The vocal is so teary and lovely. I've been getting stoned to this a lot recently."

FUNK FACTORY

Rien Ne Va Plus (Atco) (1975)
"A great example of how, sometimes a sexy bassline can be all you need. It's a bit dark, but it's about a time we had some creeping weirdness."

CYMANDE

The Message (Janus) (1973)
"A funk track with a real head nodding, dub feel to it. Warm, cuddly but with a snarl, like Luther Vandross."

DIONNE WARWICK

You Can Have Him (Scepter) (1965)
"The vocal just builds and builds and you keep thinking it's going to end but it doesn't. People in the back seat will be bouncing up and down to this."

GROOVE ARMADA

Think Twice (Jive) (2003)
"From our last album, this is a downtempo ballad with Neneh Cherry sounding very soulful. Definitely more 'Manchild' than 'Buffalo Stance'." (JR)

To win Groove Armada's exclusive, one-off double CD, send a postcard with your name and address to: I'm A Big Festival Loving Bitch!, Muzik, Kings Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. Groove Armada play the Muzik Arena at Homelands

RAVEY ONES!

Get your dancing clogs on and have it all summer long with these...



CREAMFIELDS

Where? Old Liverpool Airfield, Speke, Merseyside
When? Saturday August 23rd (bank holiday weekend), 2pm-6am
What? Creamfields always pull out all the stops on the burning, speaker-stomping front, and, though the club may have closed its doors for the last time, the festival is still bang up for it.

This year, Bugged Out!, Nukleuz and Subliminal all host arenas, with Sasha, Erick Morillo and Timo Maas among the DJs. Scandinavian odd balls Gus Gus, cigar-chomping techno champ Dave Clarke and world-beating miserablists Massive Attack all go live. And, if you want to take your bank holiday to the brink, you can dovetail Creamfields with Notting Hill Carnival!
How Much? £47 plus booking fee, with group discounts available
Information: www.cream.com

GODSKITCHEN

Where? Long Marston Airfield, Stratford-Upon-Avon
When? Saturday July 26th, 4pm-7am
What? The all-conquering Midlands stomp-merchants return for the third year running. As far as arenas go, Sundissential are boshing it; Helter-Skelter go back to the old school; while Diggers and Coxy bring some unequivocal class to the proceedings
How Much? £45 plus booking fee
Information: www.godskitchen.com

V

Where? Hylands Park, Chelmsford and Weston Park, Stafford
When? Saturday August 16th - Sunday August 17th
What? This year V's pulled in Underworld, Misteek, Lemon Jelly, The Roots and Moloko. And, the stage is so high we can look up Mis-teeq's skirts too, innit?
How Much? £42.50 for a one-day pass, £75.00 for a weekend pass, £90.00 for a weekend pass with camping
Information: www.vfestival.com

T-IN-THE-PARK

Where? Balado, Near Kinross, Perth and Kinross, Scotland
When? Saturday July 12th - Sunday July 13th
What? As usual, Slam have tempted the techno aristocracy, including Laurent Garnier, Richie Hawtin and Dave Clarke, out for the weekend. Stinking live acts include Roysopp, Gus Gus and FC Kahuna
How Much? Weekend ticket £70, £82 camping, day tickets £38.50
Information: www.tinthehack.com

WITNESS

Where? Punchestown Racecourse, County Kildare, Ireland
When? Saturday July 12th - Sunday July 13th
What? An essential part of the Irish summer. Expect Roysopp, Ladytron, Lemon Jelly, Underworld and Richie Hawtin to be adding to the 'craic'
How Much? One day €59.50, weekend €109.50
Information: www.witness.com

And also...

COLOURSFEST

Braehead Arena Glasgow, Sunday May 25th
 Long running mash-up for the suicidally hedonistic, headed up by Carl Cox, Sasha and prog poster boy Digweed
www.colours.co.uk

THE CARLING WEEKEND

Richfield Avenue Reading, Venue TBC Leeds, Friday August 22nd - Sunday August 24th
 Despite being in the most part populated by grumpy adolescents in dog collars, this double-headed festie does always provide an oasis of sense in a field of badly applied mascara in the form of their dance tent. This year, Lamb and Death In Vegas headline, and The Streets and Jay-Z charge the main stage
www.readingfestival.com
www.leedsfestival.com

BUG JAM

Santa Pod Raceway, Bedfordshire, Friday July 18th - Sunday July 20th
 VW Beetle enthusiasts collide with Ratpack, Slipmatt and, rather improbably, Chas & Dave
www.bugjam.co.uk

ESCAPE IN THE PARK

Swansea, Saturday August 2nd
 Anne Savage, Graeme Park and Tim Deluxe head an eclectic line-up of class and cheese
www.efestivals.co.uk/festivals/escape/2003/

NY SUSHI BIG BANG

Sheffield, Sunday May 25th
 The Sheffield stalwarts host their ninth, six-arena event, heavy on the breaks, jungle and skating action
www.nysushi.co.uk (JH)

WHAT ARE YOU IN FOR?

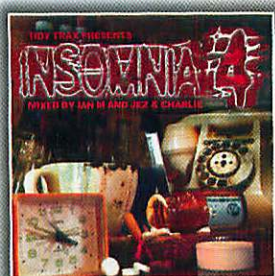
At-a-glance ravey festival stats:



EROL ALKAN

"My mate Gordon ('The Gordo') is my essential festival item. He's my one-stop saviour. He has a car, he gets me out of trouble, he makes sure I'm always on time, that I don't lose my records and that I know where I'm staying. He lives in Ireland now, but he still comes over every festival season to help me out"

new music



RELEASED 26TH MAY

INSOMNIA 4

MIXED BY IAN M AND JEZ & CHARLIE

The definitive hard house compilation series continues with Insomnia 4. Hard house veterans Ian M and Jez & Charlie mix up a storm with this set featuring the cream of the crop from the UK scene, including tracks and remixes from Paul Glazby, Ian M, Paul Maddox and Lee Haslam.



RELEASED 26TH MAY

ED RUSH & OPTICAL

THE ORIGINAL DR SHADE

The Virus label heads, Ed Rush & Optical, return in spanking form with their third album The Original Dr Shade. Packed full of their trademark twisted grimey drum & bass it also throws up a few surprises like the house anthem Smarty Pants and The Scratch Perverts cut Get Ill.



RELEASED 26TH MAY

TIDY SINGLES 2003 - VOLUME TWO

Hot on the heels of Vol.1 comes the second collection of 10 of the best recent singles to come out of the UK's finest hard house stable, Tidy. Featuring tracks from label big hitters Paul Maddox, Psyclone, Jez & Charlie, Champion Burns and Paul Glazby.



RELEASED 9TH JUNE

U.N.K.L.E - BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING

Fresh from the success of U.N.K.L.E.'s previous release Do Androids Dream Of Electro Beats? comes a new U.N.K.L.E. soundscape DJ mix. This 2CD set comes in deluxe packaging with artwork from Mo'Wax legend Futura 2000.



playlist: dance & urban

The new HMV playlist CD showcases a stunning selection of the best new music from the dance and urban scenes. Featuring soulful goodness from Dwele and McKay, hip hop from Gang Starr, Prince Paul and Fallacy, cool and deadly beats from Ralph Myerz and Jazzanova, drum and bass from Krust & Die and London Elektricity as well as a track from the hotly tipped Audio Bullys.

Get HMV playlist FREE when you buy any of the albums shown here, or selected new music titles. Available at any HMV store or online at www.hmv.co.uk/newmusic

buy now: www.hmv.co.uk

Playlist and all other titles are subject to availability while stocks last at participating stores/on-line. Excludes R.O.I. Offer applies to stickered products only - see instore for details.

top dog for music · dvd · games



HIPPY ONES!

Can't dance no more? Skin up, chill out and fall over. . .

WHAT ARE YOU IN FOR? At-a-glance hippy festival stats

- 30% You are offered a dubious and expensive form of spiritual healing/Oriental massage/narcotic canape by a person with a beard (gender undisclosed)
- 10% You are sucked into an intense but tedious philosophical discussion with a wide-eyed acid casualty
- 5% You gag on the noxious fumes of an apocalyptic bonfire of polystyrene cups and Special Brew cans tended by shaven headed men with disturbing body piercings
- 5% You return to find your tent occupied by a family of crusties and a lingering aroma of cider and patchouli oil
- 5% You attempt to play some form of African percussion instrument
- 30% After using the toilets - with horrifying consequences, you resolve to 'keep it in' for the rest of the weekend

GLASTONBURY

Where? Pilton, Somerset

When? Thursday June 26th - Sunday June 29th

What? If you need to ask, then you've been living under a stone for the past quarter of a century - and not an ancient, druidical kind of stone either. Glasto is everyfestival: 72 hours of quasi-spiritual multi-media anarchy on a 900 acre site where you can goggle at the kind of people who spend the rest of the year gibbering in caves. You'll find it takes seven and a half hours to get from the Dance Tent to the Glade if you've had too many 'shrooms, but Moby, The Streets and Radiohead are among the acts you'll be too stoned to catch this year

How Much? £120 (officially)

Information: www.glastonburyfestivals.co.uk

MELTDOWN

Where? South Bank Centre, London

When? Tuesday June 10th - Sunday June 29th

What? This year Lee 'Scratch' Perry is in charge. Though nobody was confirmed when we went to press, the reggae demigod is madder than a bag of spiders so expect a high degree of leftfield weirdness. "Hello folks, lovely peoples of 2003," Lee says. "I am looking far-word to this festivity. We will celebrate with the music-makers from all over the world. Love from the Open Door." Indeed

How Much? TBC

Information: www.rfh.org.uk

WAKESTOCK

Where? Llyn Peninsula, North Wales

When? Friday July 18th - Saturday July 19th

What? A fine combination of dance music and wakeboarding, whatever that is. Riders from all over the world compete in Europe's largest competition, while the lazier majority lap up Norman Jay, Judge Jules, Plump DJs and Mint Royale

How Much? £35

Information: www.wakestock.co.uk

THE BIG CHILL

Where? Eastnor Castle, Herefordshire

When? Friday August 1st - Sunday August 3rd

What? The gorgeous grounds of Eastnor Castle in the Malvern Hills welcomes the more civilised, soap-loving festival-goer. There, they'll see the likes of Mr Scruff, Francois K, Matthew Herbert's Big Band, London Elektricity, Ralph Myerz & The Jack Herren Band and Fila Brazillia Soundsystem. With cocktail bars, warm showers and cutting-edge visuals, the non-musical menu is just as tasty

How Much? £105

Information: www.bigchill.net

SHAMBALA

Where? An undisclosed location in the southwest of England

When? Friday August 8th - Sunday August 10th

What? If you're a fan of the Green Fields bit of Glastonbury, this small, friendly hippy-fest should be right on your ley line. Once you've achieved inner calm, enjoy Afro-Latin-funk-hop and groove to jocks from Home Cooking, JuJu Club and Munchbreak in the Dance Dome

How Much? £42 plus booking fee

Information: www.shambalafestival.org

And also...

ASHTON COURT FESTIVAL

Bristol, Saturday July 19th - Sunday July 20th

It's a Bristol thing at this highly commendable festie, which selects the majority of its line-up from local, unsigned acts. There's a Roots marquee, a performing arts marquee, a classical one and the special Blackout stage where you can, er, 'enjoy' experimental cinema. In the evenings there's the Big Top where local spinners promise to play funk and soul

Information: www.ashtoncourtfestival.com

THE BIG GREEN GATHERING

Somerset, Wednesday July 30th - Sunday August 3rd

Organic love and pedal-powered sound systems abound at this eco-friendly gathering, featuring performance poets, stand-up comedy, 'burlesque dance' and the hugely intriguing Amsterdam Balloon Company

Information: www.big-green-gathering.com

AMBIENT GREEN PICNIC

Guildford, Sunday July 20th

Chill-out and acoustic relaxation, with free entry to all

Information: www.surreyvap.co.uk/Ambientgreen/ambienthome.html

KNOCKGONROCH MAYFEST

Castle Douglas, Friday May 23rd - Sunday May 25th

Traditional Celtic sounds in a remote Scottish glen

Information: www.knockgonroch.org.uk

WOMAD

Reading, Friday 25th July - Sunday 27th July

Danger! Danger! World music! Mr Scruff's playing though. . .

Information: www.womad.org (EP)

LOTTIE

"I can't wait for the Exit festival in Serbia. It's the best I've ever been to or played at. It has an amazing sound system and there are 35,000 people just going crazy. I did it last year with Darren Emerson and Yousef - it was very special event that blew me away"



Muzik Promotion

GET REFRESHED!

The Strongbow Rooms: Bringing you wicked tunes, table football and more ice-cold Strongbow than you can drown an elephant in



WHERE & WHEN? All round the country, at all the very best fests, all summer long.

WHAT? For years, visiting corporate-sponsored tents at festivals was like being plunged into a strange demi-monde. There'd be no punters able to speak, the 'DJ' would be playing the latest Superclub 'Sounds Of Summer Bosh' compilation, and desperate-looking girls in shiny waistcoats would try and foist a thimble full of alcopop on you.

At Strongbow, however, they do things differently. Having spent years working the circuit, their tents are now regular and welcome features at all the big festivals, providing sound systems, music and atmosphere that puts some of the 'proper' tents to shame.

This year, they're taking it to the next level, launching The Strongbow Rooms, an 'outdoor club' with a wooden sun-deck to chill out on, table football to twat your mates on and, of course, a funky clubroom to

get right off it and dance all night in. The music policy is simple: If it's good, it'll get played, from house to r&b, hip hop to leftfield. DJs like Louis Osbourne, Martin Metcalf and Jim Byers will be spinning everything from the Hooligan House™ of the Audio Bullies to the bang down flipping of Missy Elliott. And hey, if that isn't enough, you can even enjoy 'triple-chilled' pints of Strongbow – cold enough to freeze the testicles off a penguin.

HOW MUCH? Free!

Where's the shed at?

The Strongbow Rooms can be found at...



we love...

HOMELANDS

24th May, Winchester



THE GREAT BRITISH SUMMER

26th July-3rd Aug, Newquay



PRIDE IN THE PARK

26th July, Hyde Park, London



Godskitchen Global Gathering

26th July, Stratford



V Festival

16th-17th Aug, Chelmsford & Stafford



CREAMFIELDS

23rd Aug, Liverpool

The joy of decks

Meet The Strongbow Rooms spinners...

The resses will be **Matt Dix** (Fabric, Twice as Nice), **Jim Byers**

(Bar Rumba, Soshomatch) and **Ben Arnold** (Bar Rumba, Dogstar), mashing up Balearic beats, old school hip hop, classic disco and funky deep house. They'll be joined by guests like **Louis Osbourne** (Café Mambo, Cream @ Amnesia, Ibiza) and **Martin Metcalf** (Kindergarten Club, Power FM), both of whom will be rocking Homelands.



Sexy on-line fun

For all the latest festival news and to find out more about The Strongbow Rooms, enter competitions and play on-line table football, point your browser straight at www.strongbowrooms.com



OTHER ONES!

Dance in the sun, or get serious, deep and leftfield. Or both!



SONAR

Where? Various venues, Barcelona, Spain
When? Thursday June 12th - Saturday June 14th
What? An excellent multi-media festival spread across three days and two nights, with the emphasis solely on quality electronic music of all kinds. Situated in the heart of the Catalan capital Barcelona, Sonar always pulls in the Premier League of DJs, record labels and artists and this, their tenth event, is no exception. With night-time jump-ups taking place in a humungous concert hall and daytime events spread across five stages, headliners include Björk, Underworld, Matthew Herbert's Big Band, UKG yoot's Oxide & Neutrino, Aphex Twin, Ladytron, Metro Area, Jeff Mills, Ladytron and DJ Hell. It's also worth checking the smaller night-time parties that take place around the city - last year's Kitty-Yo theatre gig had all and sundry creaming their pants in pure electronic glee, while the drunken debauchery of Gigolo's party has already passed into legend.
How much? Three day/two night tickets are €93, night tickets only are €33-36 each
Information: www.sonar.es. There's also a Sonar deal with the Hotel Please! reservation centre, offering competitive prices. Tel: +34-91-713-07-77

DANCE VALLEY

Where? Spaarnwoude Recreational Area, Amsterdam
When? Saturday August 2nd (TBC)
What? One for those who fancy taking advantage of the more relaxed drugs policies of our European neighbours, with a blinder of a 14-hour event that has a suitably 'high' (aha ha ha!) reputation. The event boasts a capacity of around 30,000, a line-up of over 100 top DJs and live acts from around the globe, and takes in a multitude of genres, from techno, hard house and ambient to drum & bass and trance. The laser shows that take place across the festival's valley setting are worth the entry price on their own.
How much? €67.50
Information: www.dancevalley.nl or www.dancevalley.com

BENICASSIM

Where? Valencia
When? Friday August 8th - Sunday August 10th
What? Celebrating independent rock, pop and electronica, the ninth annual Benicassim will be taking place in a small coastal town in Valencia. US alt. country boy Beck might be headlining but, even if he can't make it, the rest of the confirmed acts sure are pretty enough and include Moloko, Chicks On Speed, Blur, Death In Vegas and Green Velvet. Improvements this year include better camping sites and a bigger venue. The party doesn't stop till 5am either - result!
How much? €110 for a three-day weekend ticket
Information: www.fiberfib.com

LA ROUTE DU ROCK

Where? Saint Malo, Brittany, France
When? Friday August 15th - Sunday August 17th
What? Now into its 13th year, LRDR takes place near an ancient fort in the seaside resort of Saint Malo and boasts both a free campsite and shuttle buses to and from the event. With a capacity that stretches to just over 20,000, the line-up includes international artists of the highest calibre. Previous years have welcomed DJ Shadow, RoxySopp, Sigur Ros and The Coral. This year's line-up will be announced shortly, but rumours are that there will be a strong New York influence to this year's Gallic festivities.
How much? €60 for a weekend pass, €25 for one day
Information: www.laroutedurock.com or Tel: 00-33-299-535-030

MOVEMENT, DETROIT

Where? Hart Plaza, Detroit
When? Saturday May 24th - Monday May 26th
What? A free electronic music festival in downtown Detroit that has previously attracted over one million attendees, organised by the techno-tastic triumvirate of Derrick May, Kevin Saunderson and Carl Craig. The trio promise this year's line-up will include a range of DJs as techno as they are legendary.
How much? Free
Information: publicity@hightechsoul.com

And also...

Sun Dance Music Festival (SDMF)

Estonia, July (exact date TBC)
 A newer addition to the European festival circuit, and akin to a cross between Homelands and an Eastern European version of the WMC
www.stereo88.com or www.vibe.ee

Area 3

USA, Dates TBC
 A touring festival that pulls in some of the biggest and best rock and dance acts from around the world
www.areafestival.com

PUKKEL POP

Netherlands, Thursday August 28th - Saturday August 30th
 More rock and pop heavy than other European festivals, but worth a gander because of the calibre of DJs and dance acts that are also on the bill. Last year had Aphex Twin, RoxySopp and Jazzanova
www.pukkelpop.be

I LOVE TECHNO

Lommel, Belgium, Saturday July 19th
 Does exactly what it says on the tin, with confirmed DJs including Luke Slater and Dave Clarke playing in the great Belgian outdoors.
www.ilovetechno.be

STREET PARADE

Lake Zurich, Zurich, August (exact date TBC)
 The 12th Street Parade, with hundreds of smaller parties dotted around the 2.8km parade route
www.streetparade.ch (SM)

WHAT ARE YOU IN FOR?

At-a-glance sunny festival stats:

- 15% Those who've forgotten what hotel, campsite, road or town they're staying in. ('It's near the road with the big tree')
- 2% Faces that resemble a tortoise's arsehole after losing their shades
- 15% Have a gammy nipple due to their hot polyester shirt sticking to their new piercing
- 3% Totally legless, due to the more 'generous' continental drink measures
- 20% Rampant Romeos who've mis-translated a guide book chat-up line and spent the last hour telling fit girls they have one testicle
- 10% Have lost their passport and are crying
- 30% Are shouting in pidgin English at some bemused local

PHOTEK

"I can't wait till Homelands. It'll be my first live performance ever, with Choc Ty and Chiara, for my new label Do Or Die Records. My best festival moment? DJing at Japan's Festival In The Clouds on Mount Fuji. That was magical"

words JOHN HALL, VIC GOODWIN, JASON RILEY, ED POTTON, SARAH MONK

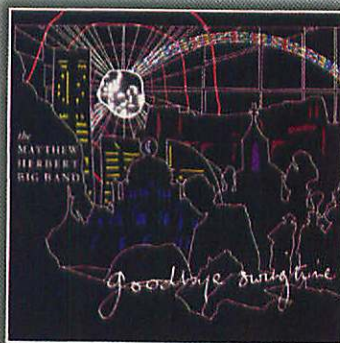
new music



RELEASED 19TH MAY

RICHARD DORFMEISTER PRESENTS A DIFFERENT DRUMMER SELECTION

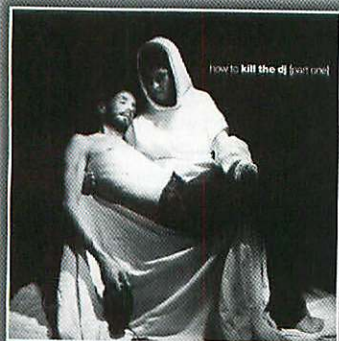
Birmingham's Different Drummer celebrates ten years of deep reggae dubs and downtempo stylings with a selection from their extensive back catalogue. Hand-picked by Vienna's finest Richard Dorfmeister, with Farda P's distinctive vocal charms added to the mix.



RELEASED 19TH MAY

THE MATTHEW HERBERT BIG BAND GOODBYE SWINGTIME

Fascinating, eclectic album from musical maverick Herbert. Recorded with a 16-piece big band and featuring the cream of the UK jazz scene alongside vocalists Arto Lindsay, Dani Siciliano and Jamie Lidell. Goodbye Swingtime confirms Matthew Herbert as one of the most inventive and singular talents in UK music.



RELEASED 19TH MAY

VARIOUS ARTISTS HOW TO KILL THE DJ [PART ONE]

Tigersushi, one of the labels to watch in 2003, have put together this stunning selection of leftfield electronica snatched from the legendary Parisian club night that's been rocking the French underground scene. Resident DJ Ivan Smaghe showcases some of its essential sounds on this flawless mix. "Album Of The Month." Jockey Slut



RELEASED 2ND JUNE

MOODYMANN SILENCE IN THE SECRET GARDEN

First album in three years from the legendary Detroit producer. Full of his trademark deep soulful house from the dark minimalism of the title track through to the pure unadulterated jazz of Sweet Yesterday. This is a Detroit classic in the making.

buy now: www.hmv.co.uk

Titles are subject to availability while stocks last at participating stores/on-line.

top dog for music · dvd · games



GET UR FREAK

Pete Burns, Scouse superfreak and singer of one of the greatest dance tracks ever, **Dead Or Alive's** 'You Spin Me Round (Like A Record)', gabs off about Wacko Jacko, Kym Marsh and 'Christina Ugly-Area' (Arf!)

WORDS CHRISTIAN WARD PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES & JAMES DIGITAL MANIPULATION GOZRA LOZANO

If this new version of 'You Spin Me Round' is a hit, are you ready for a repeat of stardom?

"I never meant to be a pop star. I was very happy being a pop singer, and then 'Spin Me Round' got to number one and I became a pop star, and with that came a whole mountain of social responsibilities I wasn't ready for. I wasn't happy going on the Basil Brush Show – I'm not going to be interviewed by a fucking fox with someone's hand stuck up its arse. It was the end of us in England, really. Shows like Basil Brush and Roland Rat: the producers of those shows did other shows which we weren't allowed on thanks to the fact I'd thrown a diva fit about being interviewed by a puppet. But if that's all your career amounts to in this country – co-operating with Basil Brush – then there's something wrong."

Do you mind being called a freak?

"It's not a derogatory term as far as I'm concerned. When I'm called a freak by the 3am Girls I think it's highly complimentary, especially when I look at them – a bottle of shampoo and some Clearasil wouldn't go amiss in their case."

What does fame mean in 2003?

"Fame doesn't affect me now. I can see it for the pile of old shite it is."

When I was younger, I thought all these famous people like Bowie and Bolan were just born famous. I didn't think that somebody from an ordinary, working-class background who had a clothing shop in the back of a record store in Liverpool was ever going to be a singer. I had no ambition. Now we live in a culture that's desperate for fame, it's become a sickness, like terminal cancer. There's some old boiler called Kym Marsh, who was in *Hear'say* for about 15 fucking minutes and she's welcomed back to the music industry as though she's the long lost daughter of Whitney Houston, and I really don't understand it. I can't actually say why it's wrong. But I do find it questionable that you can sign a long-term contract with *Hello* magazine for them to cover the removal of your haemorrhoids, and there'll be a big spread with you coming out of some fucking hospital with an arse full of bandages."

What do you make of Michael Jackson these days?

"I saw the documentary and thought he was wonderful. I thought Martin Bashir came across as some twisted cunt who wanted to make everything Jackson did seem strange, and I don't think it was. It's almost the mentality of the French Revolution,

when somebody is up there in this dream life that's a kind of fantasy, but because it's not everyone else's fantasy they want to storm the Bastille and behead him. If Michael Jackson had a rap video life, surrounded by women with cannonball boobs and jacuzzis, people would think 'that's fabulous, I want to be like him,' but because he's got a merry-go-round and Disney characters jumping out of the wardrobe they want to drag him from his mansion and behead him in a public square."

Didn't you once threaten to sue scurrilous celeb rumour-mill website Popbitch?

"They said I was in the nuthouse. The timing was bad; it was the morning my wife's mother died. So I'm trying to organise the funeral and the *Daily Star's* on the phone wanting to speak to me. So, we put it out that we were going to sue Popbitch, and straight away they phone us. And we put their number on our website and linked it to 75 other celebrity websites so Popbitch could be contacted about all the stories they'd written that weren't factual. They shat themselves, but if you write things like that you've got to take the consequences, and not be such a shithouse. They were fucking shithouses."

Fischerspooner nicked all your idea: discuss?

"I don't know who they are! I haven't bought a record in years. The last record I really wanted to own was Christina Ugly-Area's 'Dirrty', I thought it was great. I try to avoid going to nightclubs because they're too fucking messy and I'm not that aware. I'm not in Neverland like Jacko, I'm in Cuckoo-land."

You're a hero to the electroclash generation, you know.

"I seem to have struck a chord with those kids. Thank god for those freaky kids. I hope they take it out of the clubs and into the street, and actually give youth culture a new movement, because there hasn't been a relevant movement in youth culture since punk."

But, what about acid house?

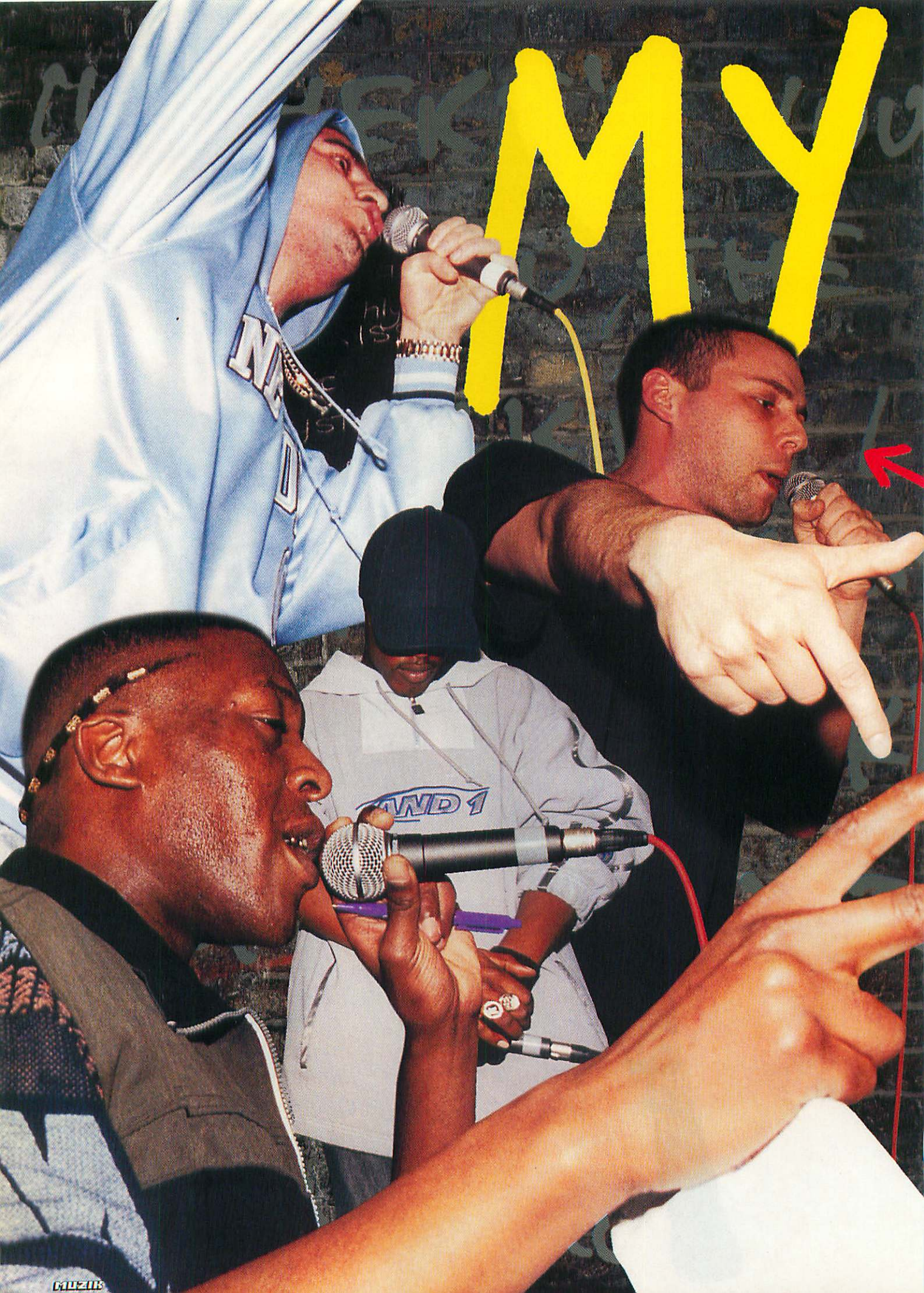
"Oh, that was drug culture, that was nothing to do with youth culture. Acid house fucking killed creativity, people dropping out and doing this shaky little dance. I do know that when I went to those acid house raves, most of the reason why people weren't aggressive to me was because they thought they were hallucinating. I was given diplomatic immunity because people thought I was part of a bad trip."

'You Spin Me Round (Like A Record)' is out now on Colombia

Pete Burns: Wiping his
arse must be a trial

ON

"ACID HOUSE FUCKING KILLED CREATIVITY
— PEOPLE DROPPING OUT AND DOING
THIS SHAKY LITTLE DANCE"



MY



NAME IS

What's it like to be in
an actual 8 Mile style
rap battle situation?

We sent our 'street'
hack Drew Huge
to the front line...

WORDS **ANDREW EMERY** PHOTOGRAPHY SANNA CHARLES

"BATTLING WITH DREW
YOU MIGHT BRUISE YOURSELF!
EMINEM TOLD YOU, 'GO 8
MILES AWAY AND JUST LOSE
YOURSELF! YOU DON'T WANT
TO BRUISE YOURSELF, PERUSE
THE SHELF FOR MAGAZINES
I EDIT! IF YOU WANT BEEF
THEN YOU'RE GONNA GET IT"

Rap battles

It's midnight. I should be in bed or immersing myself in a hot bath and something by Bret Easton Ellis while sipping a lightly spiced chai tea. Instead, I'm in a north London club, about to go on stage and battle someone at rapping, while my colon is trying to escape from any available orifice.

Friends and peers mingle in the crowd; they're here to watch me either triumph in this Camden based approximation of 8 Mile or, more likely, fall flat on my arse. I can't speak to them - I'm too busy hurling down pints of Guinness in an attempt to stop shaking. How the hell did I get here?

Well, about 16 years ago, around about the time I discovered girls and a fine downy hair on certain parts of my body, I got into hip hop.

I spent my every waking moment rapping along to my heroes, who at that point were called MC Fresh this and DJ Supreme that. I changed my name frequently too: from Kold Kid E to MC Melody Ski, and, when hip hop got all serious and political I became SCAM (Speaking Critically About Mankind).

I haven't rapped in 10 years - even when drunk. And then, thanks to bloody Eminem and his glorified teen flick, I'm about to relive those days - and all for bloody Muzik magazine.

Earlier in the day I've decided - as I'm not a natural MC, have no breath control and can't even find my inhaler - to go for snappily delivered punchlines. What's more I have to work in some kind of verse about Muzik magazine, or the entire editorial team will beat me with paddles and label me a ho.

A friend e-mails me a particularly good idea, but it involves me rapping backwards for a bit. Now, there's running before you can walk, and there's getting your ankles shattered with hammers before challenging Paula Radcliffe to a marathon. I'm starting to panic.

It's 10pm at The Lyric Pad. Friends are patting me on the back, but time is drawing near.

The competition works like this - 16 MCs are drawn against each other. Each of the eight pairs step up and the challenge goes back and forth three times for 45 seconds each. Then there's a second round, then semis, then a final. But I can only remember enough material for one round, tops: if the unthinkable happens and I go through, I'm in serious trouble.

"Yo! Emery - you down with Dick?"

THE DOS AND NOT DOS OF BATTLES

DO Rap clearly. Would you cheer someone who rapped like Gareth Gates with a mouth full of sawdust?

DON'T Pretend to be American. Hip hop crowds can spot an impostor 8 miles away. Don't pretend to be Welsh either.

DO Roll up with a massive crew. Even if you suck you'll save a bit of face and they can help you if your mouth gets you into trouble.

DON'T Push or prod your opponent. Chances are they'll have a massive crew, too, who will stomp on whatever bit of face you attempted to save earlier.

DO Be topical. Crowds lap up lyrics about current events, stars and news given a funny spin. If you can't remember the news, just think Matthew Kelly, Jonathan King, Barrymore etc.

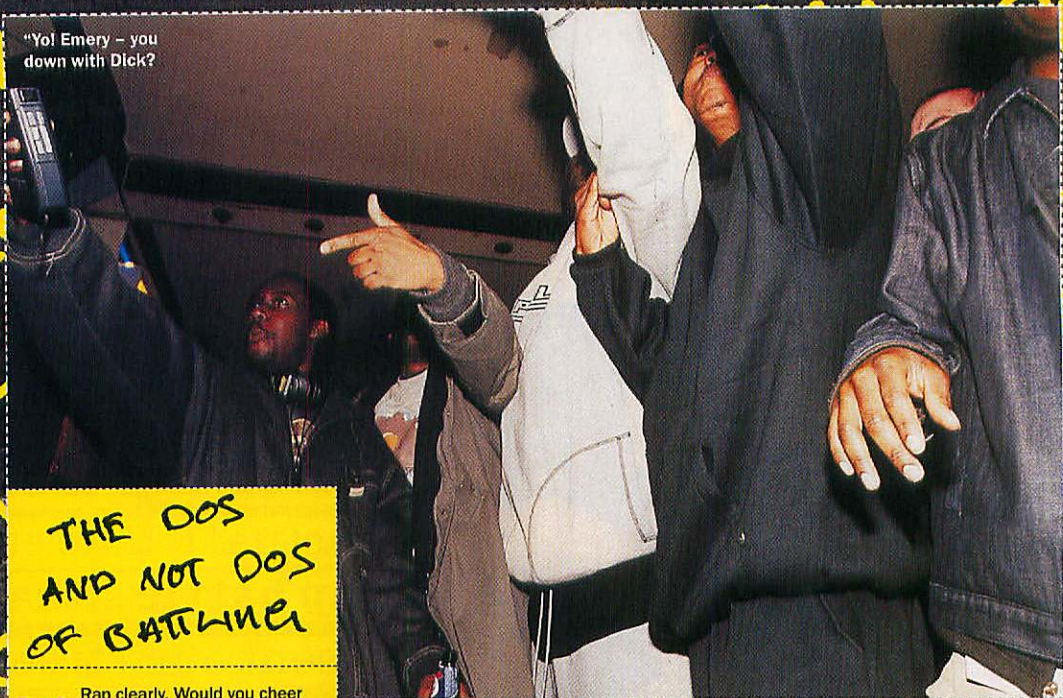
DON'T Freestyle unless it's specifically a freestyle contest. Unless you're a genius, it sounds rubbish. Do you think Eminem freestyled in '8 Mile'? Of course not: that was a script. It wasn't even real. It was a film.

DO Use props. If you've got something in your pocket that you can use to get a laugh when you deliver a punchline, it's worth its weight in gold.

DON'T Try to be too clever or elaborate. You'll lose your thread, sound shit and fall on your face even before your foe picks up the mic.

DO Rehearse. If you know your lyrics back to front, you might even be able to adapt them to the person you're battling.

DON'T Get too pissed. It might calm the nerves, but you can't win a battle by hugging your opponent and saying 'You're my fuggin' besht mate in the world', now can you?



After the first, impossibly swift round, Roger (the Master of Ceremonies) calls me up and, exercising moderate control over my sphincter, I take the stage. The venue's rammed and I'm just a foot above and away from the front row, who are baying for MC blood. I can see clusters of mates and colleagues, but they're sparsely dotted among the, genuine London hip hop crowd, who can spot a faker before any vowels have been uttered.

I don't hear my opponent's name, I don't hear the beats, I just stare blankly as he spits a fog of lyrics into my face. It's a breakneck speed ragga mish-mash, so if he's saying anything bad about my mum, I don't know about it.

My opponent takes a breather, to minimal cheers, and I rip into my first verse. I'm too fast, too nifty, and my clever words aren't coming over. I get to the bit about Muzik Magazine and lose it. My adversary sneers "you're almost as bad as me." Cue collective cackles and boos.

I'm in a cold, sickly sweat. I'm getting slaughtered, I need to save some face. And then, light. He loses his thread and I come in, more confident, gesticulating to the crowd, turning and jabbing my finger at MC Impenetrable opposite me. One of my punchlines draws a hearty laugh.

As ever, it's put to the vote and there's nothing in it. We have to do another verse each. Thankfully, he's shot his bolt, and blusters to no effect. I get a couple of good lines off, and it's in the bag! Christ all-freekin' mighty!



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Slam - Positive Education • **New Order** - Blue Monday • **X-Press 2** - Lazy • **Moloko** - Sing It Back

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Rap battles

» Sweating with relief, I order two more pints of Guinness and watch the first round progress. Almost unbelievably, there are a few worse than me. But there are also a few who would kick my ample ass with a mouth full of bees.

There's been a growing vibe about freestyle rap battles ever since Slim Shady's cinematic debut. True hip hop heads have always cherished them, of course, and great freestylers such as Supernatural and Skillz are revered in the hip hop community. But it's taken the new Elvis and his film to make it so well known that everyone - from my 13 year-old nephew to my 62 year-old mum - knows who's dissed who.

Catherine Carver, who runs The Lyric Pad at The Oh! bar in Camden, explains, "At the moment there's a lot of focus on the MC in hip hop. There are already a lot of organised DJ and breakdancing competitions, but not so much for the MC. Most of the originators of hip hop say you haven't seen hip hop unless you've seen MC battles."

"Of course there's a lot of buzz after 8 Mile and rightly so, because the battles in that film were exhilarating displays of quick wit and honed intellect."

16 MCs down and it's the second round. Archer, my foe, looks like the biz and gets some applause when he comes at me with a tight tirade.

My turn. I step up and my first eight lines are killing him. I make allusions to him being handicapped and sucking off his dad. Yes, I am big and I am clever! The crowd are loving it, I have him licked and then... I choke. It all disappears from my head. I can feel time slow, and a night that was previously flying now stretches out like an endless vista. Frustration builds. I had him on the rack! But no matter how hard I try, I can't dredge a single line from my brain. After the euphoria of my palpable hits, this is slow, live torture. "Is that all you've got?" he taunts. One last roll of the dice, I kick in again. Two lines later, I'm blank. I shrug, and resign.

Incredibly, Archer doesn't get any more cheers than me, but I've got nothing left and he has, so he deserves it. A second round knockout. Of course, when I see him at the bar later, I tell him that I'm not an MC, just a writer doing a piece. His eyes widen, and I have the last word. "I nearly had you, didn't I?" With that parting shot, I call an end to my mercifully short rap career.

The Lyric Pad is fortnightly Thursdays at the Oh! bar, Camden, London. Call 07958-208-978 for details



The terrifyingly named MC Roger crowns another winner

FROM BETTER TO VERSE

Four Lyric Pad gems for you to rip off for your own use

Reno Rivers: "You a faggot and so are the friends that follow you/Your mum should've closed her eyes and swallowed you"

Snowboy C: "What's that jumper right here? An Eighties revival?/Do you think you're tribal?"

Reno Rivers: "Your mum is a slapper/You're just a transvestite rapper/You don't write verses/You carry handbags and purses"



THAT MUZIK RHYME IN FULL

"And for all those who don't understand what I mean let me break down exactly what is Muzik magazine

M is for Malik Meer, who controls the dice Always subs the mag once, never subbing it twice

V is for underselling, but they're working on that My next article's headline? 'Defeat Of This Twat'

Z is the noise the crowd makes cos you're boring I had to give 'em all speed just to stop 'em from snoring

I I, first person singular, meaning me You know, the bloke kicking your ass on the M.I.C

K And the final K, well let me be totally blunt Even journalists spell wrong, the K stands for 'kunt'"



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DRUM & BASS: CLASSES OF '03

Drum & bass is resurgent. Ruling tings once again. Those in the genre's tight-knit community of artists, promoters, DJs and fans will suck their teet' and claim it never flagged for a moment, but more reasoned heads will know it's had its hard times in the last five years. But with the charts under attack, the club scene on fire and the producers pushing boundaries like it's 1993-4 all over again, Muzik hails the kings of the jungle...

WORDS LONDON ELEKTRICITY BEN WILMOTT EVERYTHING ELSE MARTIN CLARK

LONDON ELEKTRICITY

"Yeah, I'll be cutting the heads off small babies during the live show," laughs Tony Colman, the driving force behind drum & bass crew London Elektricity as he sits, post photoshoot, in their west London studio. He's referring to Alice Cooper's famed on-stage glam horror theatrics. It was the rock legend's classic Seventies album 'Billion Dollar Babies' that inspired the title of LE's landmark second album 'Billion Dollar Gravy'.

It's not a musical reference you'd expect to from a d&b artist, but then Tony Colman is not your average d&b artist. Dressed more

YOU'VE GOT TO EXPRESS YOURSELF. I DON'T LIKE WHAT'S GOING ON IN IRAQ AND I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ANTI-AMERICA

like a trendy English teacher than a hoody-wearing breakbeat warrior, he's good humoured, and exceedingly mild mannered for a man who's just made one of the best d&b albums of 2003.

'Billion Dollar Gravy', the follow-up to 1990's debut 'Pull The Plug', is a great album, and one with crossover potential that even d&b virgins will find hard to resist. A product of the underground it may be, but don't be surprised if it goes on to sell a million or six.

It's been a long road to the top for Colman. Both London Elektricity and Hospital, the label which he and former collaborator Chris Goss started in 1996, have had to pay their dues to become pillars of the d&b community. With a darker sound ruling d&b dancefloors at the time of the label's inception, they've had to be patient, waiting for fashions to change and for their more varied, jazzier sound to be accepted.

"We never felt like we were fighting a battle because we only ever made records we liked," Tony says. But still, London Elektricity have suffered setbacks since their birth, not least being dropped by Sony, and Goss' departure to run Hospital full-time. But with the label now packing artist heat like High Contrast, king of the broken beat Landslide, Oxford's >>

London Elektricity:
Wired for sound

dark ravers Total Science and even garage don Zed Bias' junglist project, their patience is paying rich dividends – "We're a well oiled machine now," Tony says proudly.

London Elektriccity, like their label, have risen to prominence without sacrificing their ideals. The album title 'Billion Dollar Gravy' is partly a declaration of the crossover success this second album will surely bring the band, it's also an angry punk protest at globalisation and corporate control based around the d&b slang for cash, 'gravy'. Tony's pictured on the sleeve leading a huge crowd of banner-waving protesters.

"I wouldn't call it overtly political, even though you've got track titles like 'The Great Drum & Bass Swindle' on there," Tony explains, "but I do feel you've got to express yourself. I don't like what's going on in Iraq at the moment, and I've always been Anti-America. Anti-America, rather than Anti-American. It's an important distinction."

With the album in the can, Tony's next trick is to make the London Elektriccity live experience the first ever fully live drum & bass show, and Muzik is just in time to catch a rehearsal. There are no headphones, no click track, no playback. Absolutely everything is played live – "so we can speed up and slow down and react to the crowd." It's hard work, though. Much harder than turning up at a venue with a bag of dubplates. . .

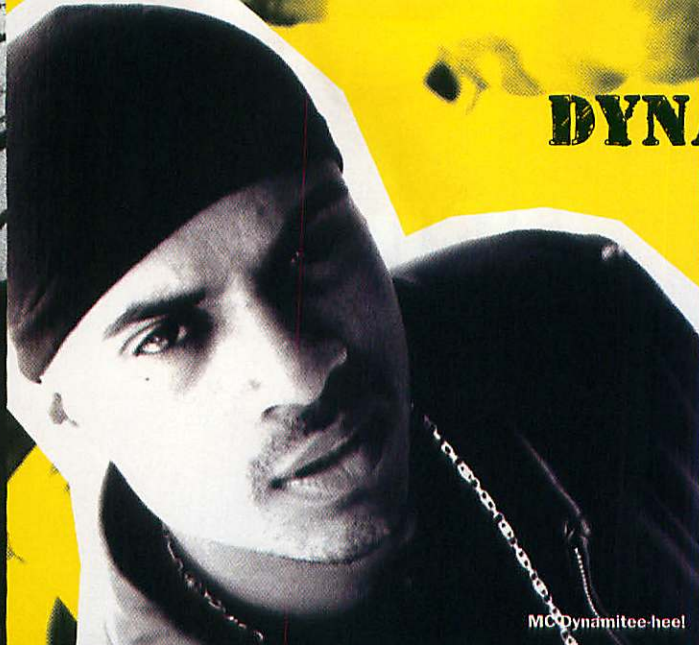
"It's hell, it loses money," Tony says of touring, "but after DJing for years I just wanted to go that little bit further and give a bit extra."

Not surprisingly, the key element to the live show is the drummer; the man who has to pump out the sinuous breaks that define the d&b genre. London Elektriccity's sticksman is The Jungle Drummer, an MC and percussionist who cut his teeth up at d&b raves, playing alongside the DJs for hour after hour.

"I had in my mind my idea of the perfect drummer," Tony says. "Not a jazz drummer or a session musician, but someone who had taken up the drums because of their love of drum & bass. The Jungle Drummer is that musician. He played on about three quarters of the tracks on the album and when he came in, he turned up and drummed from midday until 10 in the evening, all at d&b speed, and by the end he was still only just warming up!"

London Elektriccity have been warming up for seven years now, and they're damn hot – check them out.

'Billion Dollar Gravy' is out now on Hospital Records



MC Dynamite MC

DYNAMITE MC

Drum & bass MCing hasn't always got the respect it deserves, but Dynamite MC, along with the likes of Tali and Eksman, is at the forefront of the rentagobs who are changing that. He's worked with Andy C, TNT, Wookie, Skitz, Zinc, Roni Size, Sticky and High Contrast. He's a lady killer and a rhyme killer, and now he's made an album to unite all genres. Sickening, isn't it?

Dynamite's single 'Hotness' is out in July on Ram. The album, as yet untitled, will follow later in the year



High Contrast: Cwm on feel the noise

HIGH CONTRAST

Welsh teenager High Contrast smashed into drum & bass' top level overnight with the album 'True Colours'. It went down a storm with the d&b massive, but crucially, it also features tunes even your r&b-fancying girlfriend can sing along to.

His secret? Sampling. There was no stopping his cheeky bootleg mash-up of Andy C's 'Bodyrock', The Streets

and 'RIP Groove' – "It was saying how ironic it was that garage DJs were playing 'Bodyrock' after the face-off between the two scenes," chuckles the sample-mad Welshman.

As a further exercise in bridge building, his latest anthem 'The Basement Track' is on a classic garage tip and he's also working on a rock booty, but the best sample of all

has to be in the Johnny L dubplate he's playing at the moment: 'George Bush'. "In the states there are pro-war protesters, saying 'Give war a chance' and 'Let's roll'," he says incredulously. "I make a point of playing that tune everywhere I go in America."

'The Basement Track' is released this summer on Hospital

ED RUSH & OPTICAL

They'll hate us for reminding them, but many people credit Ed Rush & Optical, and their many biters, for clearing the dance of any females whatsoever with their late Nineties darker than dark darkness.

So, it's a sign of the times when their third album returns with MCs, the Scratch Perverts and disco-house d&b on board. There's even a straight house track currently being championed by portly houser Seb Fontaine, no less. . .

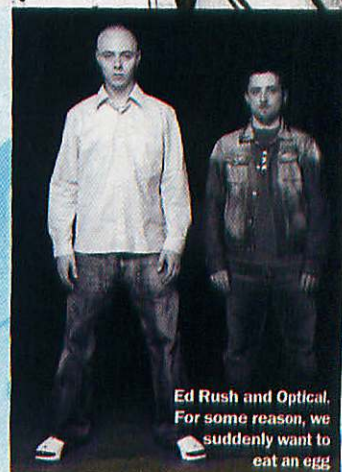
"We were going to do it on our first

album but we didn't have the balls," laughs Optical, "but it's got to the point where even if it isn't acceptable, we don't care anymore."

Responsible for the massive d&b bootleg of Lil' Louis' 'French Kiss', the duo see themselves as educators, revealing acid house gems to the kids.

"Those original tunes are too old for most people into the music now," says Ed. "They missed out, I'm telling you."

Ed Rush and Optical's 'The Original Dr Shade' (Virus) is out on May 26th



Ed Rush and Optical. For some reason, we suddenly want to eat an egg

THEN 1998 NOW 2003

The five year swiiiiitch

| | |
|---|---|
| DJs ruled the dance | MCs are big. See Brighton's <i>Knights Of The MCs</i> and Skibba & Shabba's <i>MC Connection</i> . Don't no-one mention garage though, right? |
| 'Gatecrasher', 'trance' and 'disco-house' were foul words | D&b raids trance (see Jon B & Concorde's 'Dawn'), and house (J Majik, Peshay, EZ Rollers and Influx Datum). 'Ave it! |
| D&b: strictly a London ting | Worldwide, baby! See the US, Brazil, Ireland, Puerto Rico and Australia |
| Serious d&b only. It's dark, techno style or nothing | Bootleg madness abounds, with Missy Elliott, 'French Kiss' and 'Love Story' all co-opted |
| It's all about simple, two-steppy beats – boom cack... boom cack! | Mental breaks are back! See <i>Technicality</i> @ Herbal and Breakin' and Inperspective records for proof |

RUNNING THINGS IN '03

THE ARTIST: Concept albums are generally a very bad thing, but not when DJ Zinc's involved. Famous for his jungle classic 'Super Sharp Shooter', his bootleg remixes and the breakbeat garage banger '138 Trek', Zinc's now made an album called 'Faster'. The idea being – it starts slow and gets, erm, progressively faster (*Genius! – Ed.*). To celebrate this bravura conceptualism, a Fabric night sees Joe Ransom, Zed Bias, Tom Middleton, Grooverider and Zinc each building the tempo in turn. 'Faster' is released on Polydor this summer

THE PRODUCERS: Scene barriers are tumbling in 2003, making this the year for new talent. Step forward Leicester duo Distorted Minds have a passion for grime, and Twisted Individual, who makes records with titles like 'Gimp Mask'. Interestingly, the two outfits hate each other, and exchanged dubplate slaggings this year.

Two lads who feel the Latin vibe are Danny C and DK. The first is a scene veteran come good, the latter a European with an anthem. So good was his 'Barcelona' that Bad Company snapped it up quick sharp, while, after the ace 'The Mexican' Danny C's got the single 'Star' forthcoming on Metalheadz and an LP for Fabio's TouchDown Soundz label in the works.

From Manchester comes Marcus Intalex and ST Files, aka MI:ST. Purveyors of dreamy, deep house-d&b, Intalex was pivotal in bringing the scene back from near total

darkness in 2000. Now Total Science, Marky and DK are gagging to record for his high-quality Soul:ution imprint. Irish liquid funk hotshot Calibre is involved too – check his hot remixes for Black Rain and Jaheim.

From Bristol, Roni Size-affiliate Clipz goes dark but never dreary. 'Sound Boy', his collaboration with New Zealand dynamite stick Tali, is a bona fide anthem. Other hotshots include the cinematic Artificial Intelligence, the housey Sonic & Silver and the trancey Pendulum.

THE MC: Drum & bass has never had a shortage of hot new producers, but where the mic's concerned, it's been locked. That is until MC Eksman arrived. This 22 year-old is the hottest new MC in d&b, touring internationally with J Majik, Optical and Andy C. Everyone wants a piece of his ragga hip hop style.

THE LABEL: The Bassbin stable is a microcosm of all that's good in drum & bass right now. Based in Ireland, a portfolio of labels (Bassbin, Breakin', Looney Toonz and Solas) promote the full spectrum of d&b, from dancefloor beats to breakbeat revival to jump up and eclectic. They've brought their quality to radio and their Refuge night too. Label-talent Zero Tolerance recently remixed Lenny Fontana's house classic 'Spread Love' for Hospital.



THE RADIO SHOW: The flagship show remains Fabio & Grooverider on Radio 1, and not just for Fab's hilarious banter about Tottenham, EastEnders and dodgy cab drivers, but for the huge number of hot-off-the-press dubplates given an airing. Hot on their heels are Bailey, L Double and Flight on 1Xtra, and resurgent pirate stations Origin, Rude and Kool FM.

Catch Fabio & Grooverider every Saturday 1am-3am on Radio 1 (bbc.co.uk/radio1)

THE DJ: Andy C might be the biggest DJ, but Bailey's the most exciting. On 1Xtra, this versatile spinner's show gets deluged by text messages from all over the world and at home he uses instant messaging to gather the freshest music, minutes after it's been made. Whether playing militant Twisted Individual dubs, epic Danny C cuts or championing the new Inperspective breaks revival, Bailey rocks!

Check Bailey Sundays 11pm-1am, 1Xtra (bbc.co.uk/1xtra), Wednesdays at Swerve at The End, London. Monthly Sundays at Metalheadz, Bridge & Tunnel, London

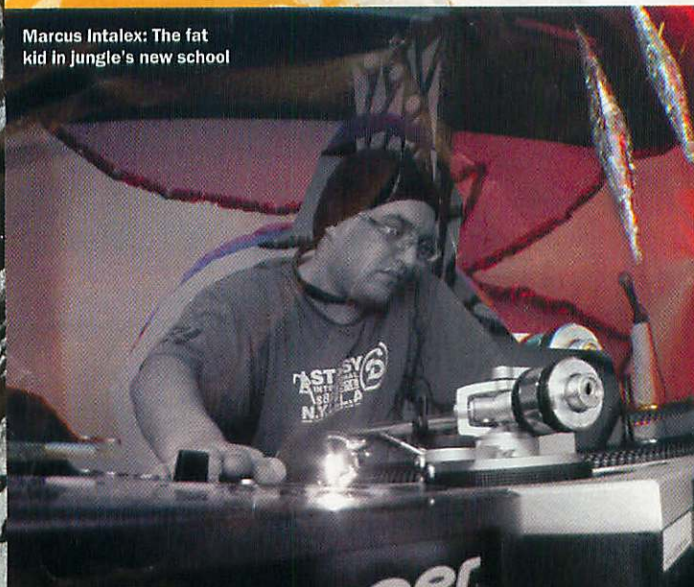
THE CLUB: Tucked away in Manchester, Marcus Intalex and Calibre's Soul:ution night is a bastion for the deep, housey and funky end of jungle, held every third Friday of the month. The duo play sounds you won't hear at big UK raves, so don't expect ear-quaking bass detonations and rude-bwoy bizness. This is all about nu-soul richness.

Soul:ution, every 3rd Friday of the month, Band On The Wall, Manchester

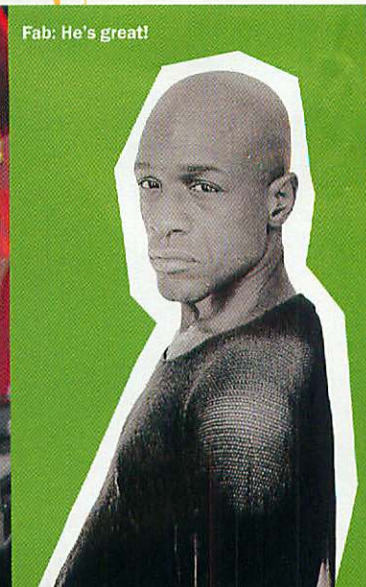
5 PIVOTAL 2003 TUNES

- 1) **Omni Trio** Renegade Snares (High Contrast Remix) (Moving Shadow) A decade on from its original release, the Welsh wunderkind re-ignites the old school classic
- 2) **Jaheim** Put That Woman First (Calibre Remix) (WEA) A liquid funk remix on a major label, this simply would not have been commissioned two years ago
- 3) **Distorted Minds** Warrior (Formation) Darker than dark, harder than titanium. Distorted Minds are the new boys currently ruling the dance
- 4) **Equinox** Murder Style (Inperspective) The return of cool breakbeat edits to d&b: mad rhythm!
- 5) **Ram Trilogy** Screamer (Ram) The biggest thing on Ram since 'Bodyrock'? Andy C thinks so...

Marcus Intalex: The fat kid in jungle's new school



Fab: He's great!





Krust (left) and Die. Die's earlier collaboration with an MC called 'Fuck Off' flopped, as did Krust's work with DJ Ple

KRUST & DIE

They helped build jungle's foundations and won a Mercury prize for Reprazent, so you might forgive Bristol DJs Die and Krust for sitting on their laurels. Instead they're pushing things forward again with the I Kamanchi album, a collection of vocal dancefloor shakers and hip hop gems featuring Tali, Violet, Darrison and Rodney P. Music-wise it's simple, Krust reckons: "Me and Die just go to the studio, have a laugh and by the morning, we've made a beat."

The restless Krust has big plans for the future, including adding visuals to the vocals. Films, DVDs and videos are the current obsession for the king of the cinematic beats, and a 'Full Cycle TV' DVD is incoming.

"There's a whole audience out there who know about songs and vocals," he says. "You need to have a face to put with the music now."

Krust and Die Present 'I Kamanchi' is out on Full Cycle in June

GROOVERIDER

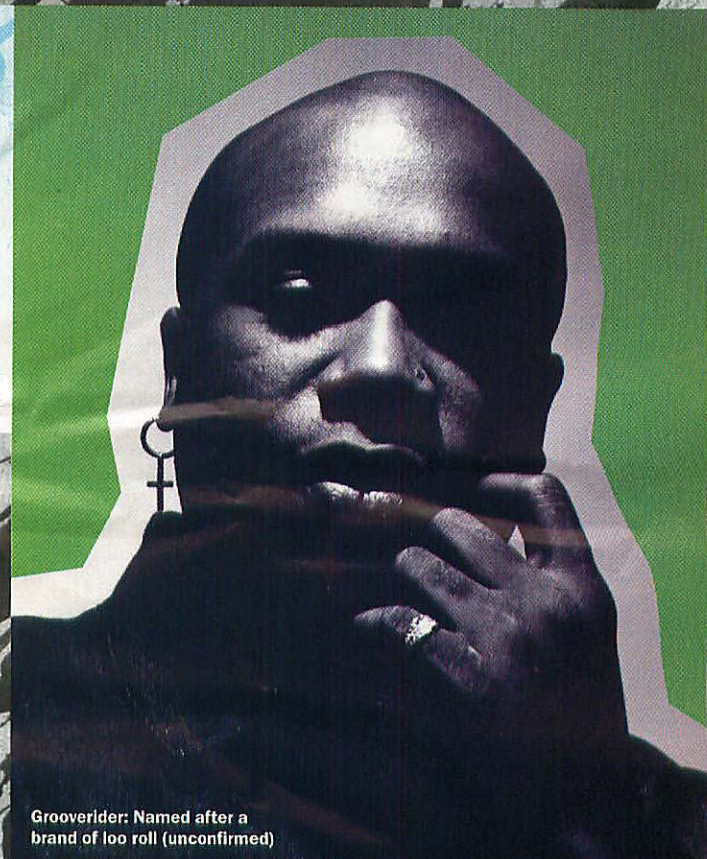
Timing is everything, and Grooverider's got it. He was there at jungle's birth, and now he's dropping his second album when drum & bass is in the rudest health it's been in for some time, with guests from Cypress Hill's B-Real to George Benson's nephew Rasheed. "Vocals give tracks identity," says Groove. You can't hum a bassline in a shop without sounding stupid!"

So Groove's made an album with

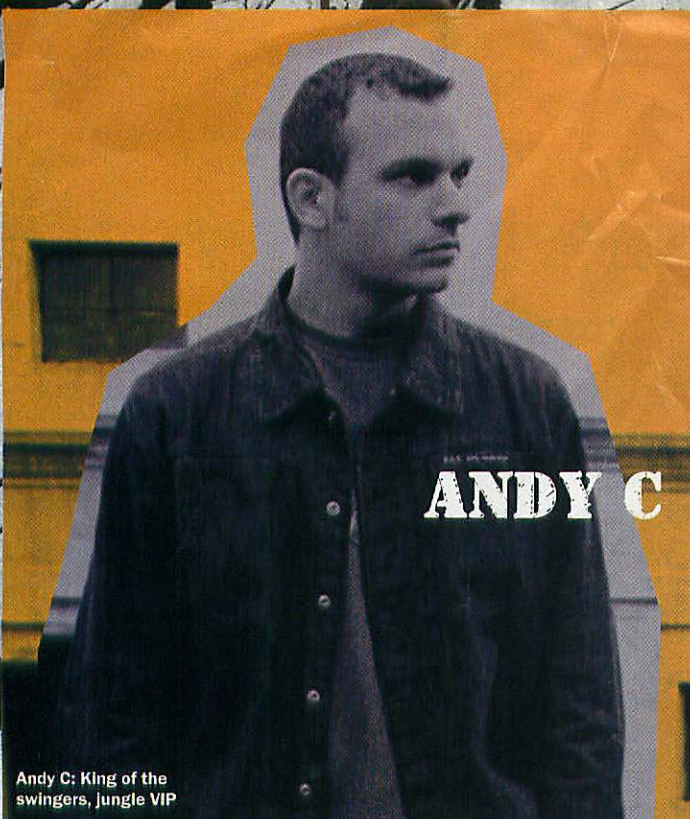
broad appeal: "I'm interested in reaching people who don't know," he explains. His Radio 1 show is going from strength to strength, too. How does it feel to be live on air?

"I'm a private person. If I thought about talking to a million people I'd probably shit myself. Seriously!"

Grooverider's album, as yet untitled, is out on Higher Ground/Sony this summer



Grooverider: Named after a brand of loo roll (unconfirmed)



ANDY C

Andy C: King of the swingers, jungle VIP

Every scene has a top DJ, the badboy everyone turns to bring the biggest beats. In d&b, that DJ is Andy C. He gets voted the People's Choice Awards number 1 DJ each year ("I pay 'em off mate, send 'em fivers, ha ha!") and put his bonkers 'Bodyrock' in the top 40.

"It's crazy how many we sell. It's the power of d&b," Andy laughs. "Majors' marketing spend would be £40,000 to achieve what we do with basically a dustcart and a few wooden spoons."

He's also responsible for two of the biggest tunes on dubplate, Dynamite MC's 'Hotness' and Ram Trilogy's 'Screamer', which got rinsed on his recent, rapturously received US tour.

"Every state has a drum & bass crew now," he says. "It's definitely not just a UK thing. People from all over the world are making wicked contributions."

Andy C Presents 'Play' on Ram is out at the end of June

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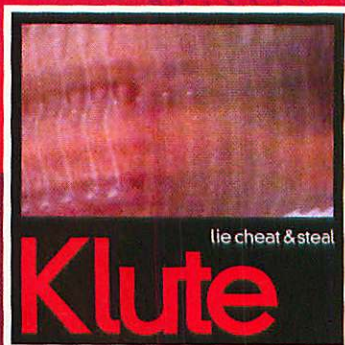
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JAZZANOVA // Remixed

Compost / JCR // 2LP+2CD // Out Now

Double CD collection of all the mixes so far of
Jazzanova tracks. Reinterpretations from the likes
of Jazzy Jeff, Stereolab, Doctor Rockit and King Britt.



KLUTE // Lie Cheat & Steal

Commercial Suicide / ST Holdings // 2CD // Out 19/5/03

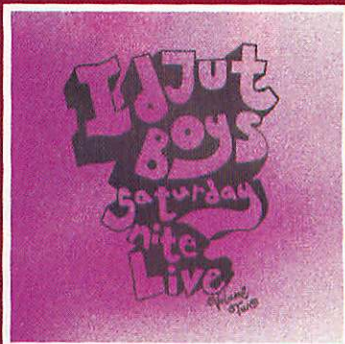
Third album from the drum 'n' bass phenomenon.
One disc of drum 'n' bass; plus a companion disc of
techno / down tempo. A complete musical statement.



RIMA // This World

Compost / JCR // 2LP+CD // Out 19/5/03

Rima is Domu & Volcov, whose remix credits to date
include Viktor Duplaix & Koop. 'This World' is a blend of
broken beats, classic house & Detroit techno.



IDJUT BOYS // Saturday Night Live (Vol.2)

Glasgow Underground // 2LP+CD // Out 12/5/03

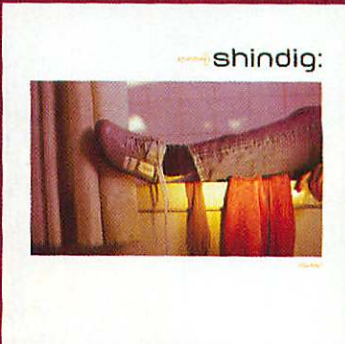
70 minutes plus of doozy dance shenanigans.
Old to new, weird to wonderful, peak time to
gentle groove - this mix has it all



ESTEREO // Something Estereo 01

Estereo // CD // Out 12/5/03

One of the UK's most enduring labels nears its
50th release, a compilation of Latin, Garage, Afro
& House for your summer soundtrack.



SHINDIG // Adventures Of Shindig: Vol.1

Shindig // 2CD // Out Now

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Centre Slough // Record Collector Sheffield // Rhythm Camden // Rockaboom Leicester // Rough Trade Nott'ng Hill //
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YOUR TRACK-BY-TRACK GUIDE TO THIS MONTH'S MUZIK CD

DRUM & BASS ANTHEMS



1 DJ Die Autumn

Mixing raw funk, a tender sadness and the barest suggestions of menace, this is the essence of the Bristol sound.

Addition: "What can I say? One of the essential Die productions, and a track that seems to sum up everything that Bristol was about at that time. A true classic."



2 London Elektricity Versus Robert Owens My Dreams (Total Science Remix)

Soulful drum & bass with fuel injection and boy-racer chrome fittings.

Addition: "Two formidable producers working in unison. Total Science have enhanced the original, taken it to another level."



3 Total Science Chicken In A Basket

More Total Science sound trickery, and one of the nimblest basslines you'll hear all year. Quite what it has to do with Seventies pub food is anyone's guess.

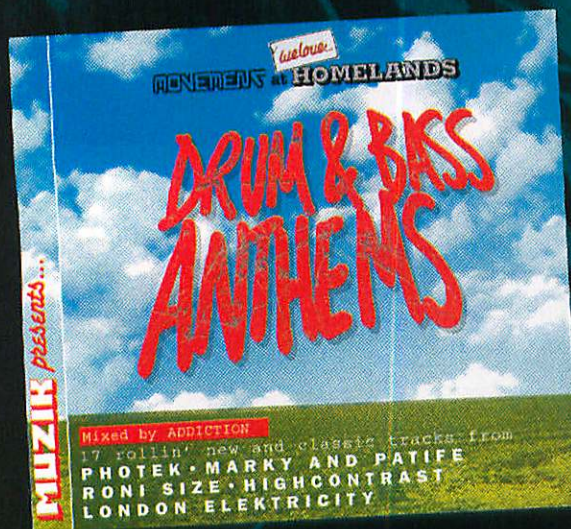
Addition: "A thumping dance tune. Not too hard, not too grungy, but it's got the grooves that count."



4 Special Forces Featuring Robert Owens The End (Original Mix)

Robert Owens howls "I can't come down" over what sounds like someone twanging the world's biggest rubber band. Another modern classic.

Addition: "At the more techy end of drum & bass, no-one can match Photek."



10 XRS Search

The production maestro behind 'LK' comes with a piece of blurry, chattering bassline business that picks you up and lifts you off like a magic carpet. Percussion doesn't get much more intense than this.

Addition: "It's good to see XRS doing his own thing. This is a bit more underground than 'LK', I think."



11 Total Science Good Love

The kings of the razor-sharp break deepen the vibe and get bubbly with the percussion. Made to make your limbs water.

Addition: "A lot of people forget the stuff Total Science produced as Funky Technicians, but this shows that they can still be as liquid as anyone."



12 High Contrast Return Of Forever

We've had our eye on HC ever since he burst onto the scene with 'Suddenly'. This tranced-out little stepper is more evidence of his vast talents.

Addition: "This track was hammered by all the big DJs from Grooverider to Fabio. It made everyone realise he was more than just a one-off."

Movement: How a small, subterranean London club became the nerve centre of the world's drum & bass community...

Since it was first conceived in the dark days of tech-step, Movement has evolved into one of the biggest names in drum & bass. They're now six years into their Bar Rumba residency, and Thursday nights have become synonymous with the sweaty intensity of that subterranean dancefloor. Not content with playing host to every serious junglist from Goldie to

Grooverider via Roni Size and erm, Todd Terry, Movement have hosted events in Brazil, the States and now at Homelands. They've also introduced Brazil's top DJs Marky and Patife to the world, and released three hugely successful compilation albums.

"The love that Movement is getting now is just massive," comments Movement head Bryan G. "It's a global thing. We wanna be, like, the Cream of the drum & bass world."

Movement have also provided much-needed support for rising MCs and DJs, one of whom mixes this CD.

"Addiction's a fantastic, hugely underrated DJ. 'Feel It' [Addiction's collaboration with Danny C] was the biggest tune on the label so far," says Movement mainstay Oliver.

For anyone who's caught one of Addiction's formidable sets, the quality of this mix won't come as a surprise. Nor will its diversity.

"Basically," he says, "I wanted to

try to represent the last ten years of drum & bass. This is the most challenging mix I've ever been asked to do, and I challenge anyone to better it!"

Movement is every Thursday at Bar Rumba, London. Movement Radio is every Thursday 9pm - 11pm on www.ministryofsound.com.

Movement present a world exclusive Photek live performance at Homelands on Saturday June 24th



5 Roni Size Hopscotch

A snapshot of the current Full Cycle sound, sounding like a voodoo ceremony conducted using nothing but the contents of a scrap yard. Maximum harshness.

Addiction: "Roni at his most energetic. You can just imagine him jumping around in his studio to this as he was making it!"



6 Tomahawk Until Dawn

One of Hospital's hot new talents, Tomahawk seduces you with summery guitars before rolling out the heavy artillery. Liquid funk with a militaristic edge.

Addiction: "This is a personal favourite, and an excellent representation of the fiercer side of the liquid sound. A definite grower."



7 DJ Marky/DJ Patife/Esom Featuring Fernanda Porto So Tinha De Ser Com Voce (Cosmonautics Mix)

Brazilian drum & bass at its enchanting best.

Addiction: "True Brazilian d&b, complete with Portuguese vocals! Beautiful sounds from a great musical nation."



8 DJ Krust & DJ Die Circus

More thuggish, fevered brilliance from the Full Cycle crew. The sound of a demonically possessed drum machine.

Addiction: "This project is going to surprise those who haven't previously given Krust & Die the attention they deserve. Still the Bristol thing, but developed and polished."



9 London Elektricity

The title track from London Elektricity's second album is a blend of live-sounding breaks, elegiac strings and humming bass. A roll-out to die for.

Addiction: "This is a real landmark track for Tony, now producing on his own. A classic Hospital groove!"



13 Jorge Ben/ Toquino

LK Carolina Caro Bela (DJ Marky & XRS Land Mix)

This version of 'LK', with added, chart-friendly vocals, has gone from strength to strength. The ultimate summer track.

Addiction: "The track that redefined drum & bass for a new generation."



14 Addiction & Danny C Feel It

Disco-jungle with a sting in its tail, 'Feel It' hammers you with drums and then rearranges your innards with its monstrous bass. Not feeling it is not an option.

Addiction: "The first tune me and Danny did together. From the moment I first gave this to Brian, it was a massive Movement track."



15 Roni Size It's Jazzy

About as jazzy as a kick in the teeth, this was Roni Size turning digital funk into a WMD. Still hurting after all these years.

Addiction: "This was probably more of an introduction to the darker side of things than an introduction to jazz! Opened up a lot of possibilities to a lot of people."



16 Alex Reece Pulp Fiction

Alex subsequently made an album that epitomised the phrase 'coffee table' and then disappeared altogether, but this spellbinding 'jazzy' track is still utterly sublime.

Addiction: "The classic track for a lot of people, and the ultimate representation of the jazz sound. The groove is just phenomenal."



17 LTJ Bukem Horizons

"Each new hour holds new chances for new beginnings" ... If drum & bass has a national anthem, those are its words, and the Kid Caprice break has never sounded better.

Addiction: "A tune made with a purpose and a passion. It still makes the hairs on the back of my neck stand up."

The Scumfrog

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Herbert p72 Junkie XL p75 Blur p77 Cabaret Voltaire p79

The Tunes

- 71 ARTIST ALBUMS
- 79 REISSUES
- 81 COMPILATIONS
- 85 SINGLES

Trainspotting

- 87 HOUSE
- 88 TECHNO
- 89 PROGRESSIVE/TRANCE
- 90 SOUL/ROOTS & DANCEHALL

- 91 JUNGLE
- 92 HIP HOP
- 93 BREAKS
- 94 URBAN

- 95 UK GARAGE/HARD HOUSE
- 96 LEFTFIELD
- 98 CHILL

Punjabi MC: Now
that's a haircut

Virgin
This month's
BIG album

Head bhangra



PANJABI MC
The Album
(Showbiz/
Instant Karma)

After 'Mundian's' coupe
cruise through the charts, here's some more
freaky-assed Asian shit, comin' atcha

Before Panjabi MC's 'Mundian To Bach Ke' dropped an Asian bomb into the charts and onto global dancefloors there were three things that most people knew about bhangra music. Do you remember?

1) It was something hammered by Asian rude boys in flash cars, sporting unironic mullets and bad attitudes (true!).

2) It was a form of Punjabi folk music reinvented in the UK by Indian and Pakistani immigrants (historical fact!).

3) Daytime bhangra clubs, meanwhile, were where Asian kids caught in a culture clash went to escape their family lives because their oppressive parents wouldn't let them out at night (fuck right off!).



» Relegated to the 'world music' ghetto after brief interest from yooof TV in the mid-Eighties, the bhangra scene disappeared from mainstream view, although it quietly continued to sell shitloads of records and slowly built into a massive UK club scene.

Then came 'Mundian To Bach Ke' (included here in original and Jay-Z remix form), an urgent beast of a tune. Originally released four years ago – easily predating US rap's current obsession with eastern sounds – it was proof that you couldn't keep a good thing down.

Buoyed up by the success of that track, 'Panjabi MC The Album' is the

first major label bhangra offering ever, putting one of the last untapped, underground youth cultures firmly on the musical map. A 'greatest hits' of sorts, it's a collection of the best bits from PMC's last three long players ('Grass Roots', '100 % Proof' and 'Legalised'). As a result, it's lacking a little cohesion, with three competing sounds struggling for control: an eastern influenced, easy listening one (set to soundtrack chill out bars the world over); an average UK hip hop one (we've got enough of them already, thanks very much); and best of all, one that takes the the bhangra hip hop/

Desi licks/urban Asian template and runs with it all the way.

'Jatt Ho Giya Sharabee' and 'Yaaran Kollon Sikh Kuriye' are the most obvious successors to 'Mundian To Bach Ke', mixing PMC's banging production, unapologetic Punjabi vocal lines, killer tablas and Magnum PI theme-tune and En Vogue bassline samples respectively. 'Jogi' is a hands-in-the-air blast of pure

pop joy while 'Jugni' effortlessly shifts tempo from dancehall to hip hop to house. 'Contractual difficulties' permitting, Panjabi MC might deliver a more complete album later in the year. Right now though, whether you're Bugged Out or thugged out, this is the soundtrack to your summer. . .

Malik Meer

★★★★

"Banging production, Punjabi vocals and killer tablas"

PANJABI MC
THE ALBUM
(SHOW BIZ/
INSTANT
KARMA)

Showbiz Herbert



THE MATTHEW HERBERT BIG BAND
Goodbye Swingtime
(Accidental)

Brilliantly successful sonic experiment from one of electronic music's greatest talents

Here are the facts: 'Goodbye Swingtime' was written by Matthew Herbert. Arranger Peter Wright then turned his songs into a score for trumpets, trombones, saxophones, bass, drums and piano. A group of professional jazzbos recorded the album in four days at Abbey Road, where they were also asked to drop phone books on the floor, rip up tabloid newspapers and hit anything they could find to provide percussion sounds that didn't contravene the strict rules of Herbert's PCCOM manifesto (Article 2: 'Only sounds that are generated at the start of the compositional process. . . are available for sampling').

Vocals were added by Dani Siciliano, Shingai Shoniwa and others. Then Herbert loaded the results into his computer to give us his distinctively recontextualised take on a musical form that for most people disappeared along with powdered egg and Pathe newsreels.

It could have been a grating retro-racket like Björk's lamentable 'It's Oh So Quiet' or a clever and amusing sleight-of-hand in the Senor Coconut mould. But, Herbert's better than that. And it's hard to imagine many other people successfully turning an already ambitious musical idea into a concept album about reading books, an anti-war polemic, an innovative combination of acoustic and electronic sounds, a blueprint for a new form of music-as-protest and a subtle, poignant set of songs that not only reveal multiple layers of meaning with repeated listens but also possess tunes that you'll find yourself humming in the bath. Exemplary.

Tom Muiridge

★★★★

Q&A

Herbert on
the miracle

of making something
good from the Daily Mail

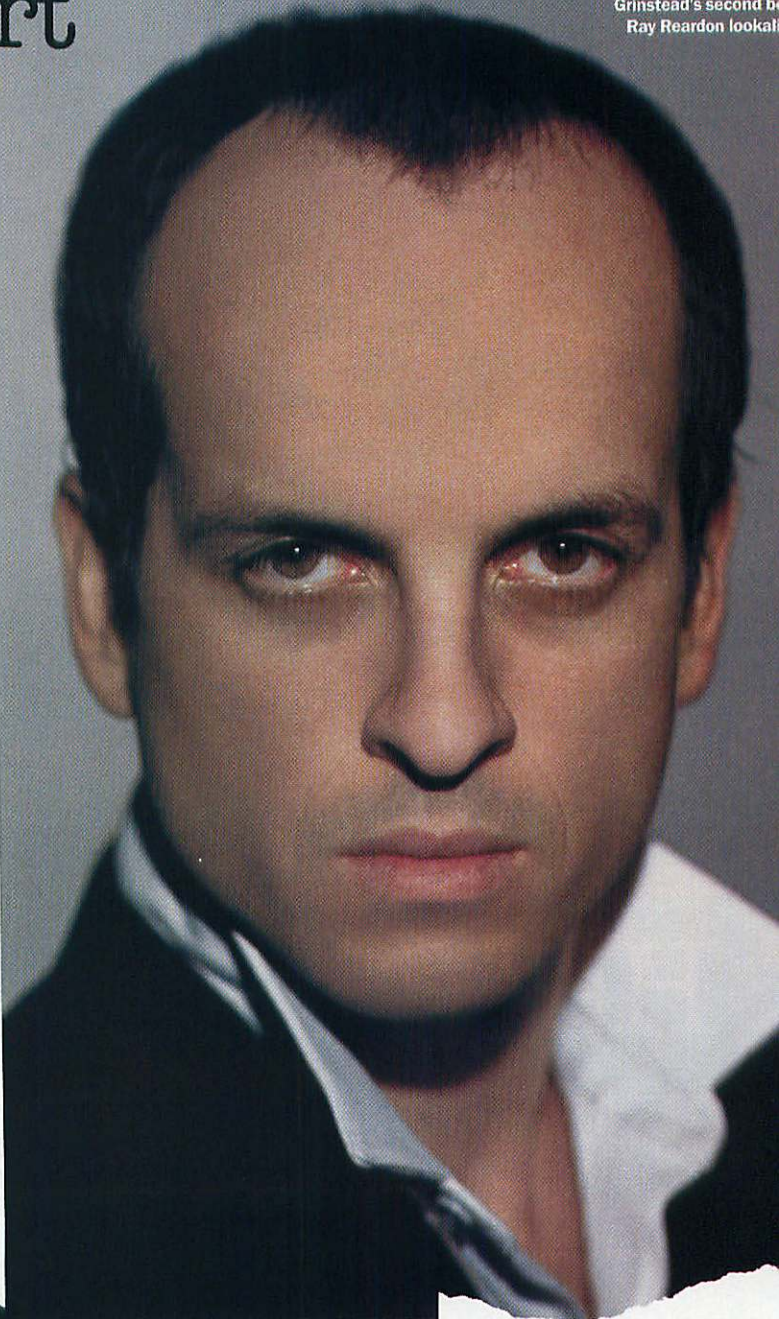
How does it feel to be a Big Band leader? "It's tough, because my contemporaries are no longer Warp or Classic or whatever; now they're Duke Ellington and Count Basie and Miles Davis, and that's a terrifying position to be in. But because I'm quite a late-comer to jazz, I've got a healthy disregard for a lot of the conventions and the reverence that goes with it. I'm trying to bring something to it that they couldn't and the quickest and easiest short-cut to that is by using technology that's only available now."

The Big Band players are all jazz veterans – did they find your methods a bit unorthodox? "Ask 20 professional musicians to tear up copies of the Daily Mail in time to the music and you're not always going to get a good reaction! They were all very cool about it, though."

Your records always have a political content – is that as important to you as your music?

"My plan is always to make the music stand up in its own right, but I think it's very important that music presents an alternative and offers people the chance of unification through ideas and melody and experience. I really feel I've managed to resolve that struggle with this album. For example, the very last thing you hear on the album is the sound of three books closing – and if you think 'what's that sound?' you go to the liner notes and it tells you it's three books about Iraq, and maybe that'll lead you to read those books. You've just got to scratch the surface, it's all there."

Matt Herbert: E
Grinstead's second b
Ray Reardon lookal





FALLACY
Blackmarket Boy
(Virgin)

A rising star of hip hop, from right here in the UK

It's hardly been a meteoric rise, but six years on from his debut on a Black Twang B-side, Fallacy is heading for the stars: there hasn't been a British hip hop album with such scope and élan since London Posse's 'Gangster Chronicle' in 1990. Like that classic, this is a snapshot of urban Britain; there are Roni Size-produced junglist steppers ('Scrunch'), UK garage-style dust-ups ('The Groundbreaker') and spicy ragga stews ('Big 'N Bashy'). Plaudits are due to Fusion, producer of the latter tracks, and many of the other best moments on 'Blackmarket Boy'. He dovetails effortlessly with Fallacy's raspy English patois throughout. Fallacy even invites London Posse's Rodney P aboard on 'Rap Folly', providing fitting symmetry. You'll not hear a more confident album all year.

Stephen Worthey

★★★★



EVOLUTIONARY CONTROL COMMITTEE
Plagiarhythm Nation
(Seeland)

'Plunderphonics' from the USA

Anyone who's suckled on Cassetteboy and Chris Morris' teats of satire lately may be interested in this 29-track journey into copyright buggery. 'Rocked By Rape' is particularly spiffy, and apparently demed 'controversial' in America. Actually nowhere near as offensive as its title suggests, it finds august CBS news anchor Dan Rather intoning depressing words ('Mayhem/Crisis/Horrible!') over an AC/DC cut-up. There's a tendency to overstretch jokes (although the self-explanatorily named 'Prick' is - aptly - both short and funny) and there's nothing to match Cassetteboy's monumentally offensive 9/11 tribute, but still, this is worth getting a friend to burn you a copy of - and the ECC can hardly complain about having their copyright infringed, can they?

Duncan Bell

★★★★



SENIOR COCONUT
Fiesta Songs
(New State)

The man who gave us 'Tour De France' is back with 'Smoke On The Water'. Nooooo!

Just when does a joke stop being funny? Well, erm, this very instant. With the Kraftwerk covers album 'El Baile Aleman' Chile-based Frankfurter Uwe

Schmidt - for Senor Coconut is he - came close to some sort of conceptual genius, sunnying up Ralf and Florian's cerebral machine music with a Latin twist, but producing something that was remarkably listenable given the jokey premise. On this disappointing effort, however, wit and musical invention are replaced by sub-Mike Flowers 'comedy' covers of 'Beat It', 'Smoke On The Water', 'Riders On The Storm' and other well known pop hits. Avoid.

Carl Stroud

★★



MOODYMANN
Silence In The Electric Garden
(Peacefrog)

The mysterious Detroit musician pulls off another near masterpiece

Enigmatic, that's Moodymann. Slightly eccentric too. He never gives interviews, preferring instead to let his work do the talking, but if his goal is musical eloquence, the man born Kenny Dixon Jr hits the target here. 'Silence In The Electric Garden' is his fourth album, and third for Peacefrog. Warm, sumptuous house ('Shine') is pitted against schizoid, jacking acid ('On My Way Home'), and lazy, loping funk ('People') shares the same bill as driving, gospel-tinged, dark techno. So, is Moodymann a knob short of a full 303? Who cares when the results are this good?

Tom McKeown

★★★★



KRUST AND DIE PRESENT
I Kamanchi
(Full Cycle)

Bristol's syncopated beat merchants come up trumps, proving that Size isn't everything

Full Cyclists Krust and Die put their bang down together for their new I Kamanchi project, and both bring their unique skills to this bass-bin breaking bonanza: Die takes care of the rolling joints while Krust makes sure this dog has plenty of bite. 'Back To Da Boogie' opens proceedings with vocalist Violet proselytising over live drums and jazzy slap bass. Rodney P, Darrison, Retna and Tali all rhyme on the ferocious hip hop of 'Sounds Of The Culture', and Keith Moon sounds like he was trapped in a darkened squash court with only a drum kit and medicine cabinet for company on the quite tasty 'Ultimate'. 'I Kamanchi' does lose its flow in places, but for the most part Full Cycle once again will have you in a spin.

Carl Stroud

★★★★

"Keith Moon trapped in a squash court with a medicine cabinet"

KRUST & DIE PRESENT I KAMANCHI (FULL CYCLE)

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FUNKY FRESH FEW
Stealing

(Grand Central)

Only occasional thrills from GC's Blackpool B-boys

Label head Mark Rae reckons that the Few are the only act on the label qualified to do a 'proper' hip hop album, but sometimes 'Stealing' feels a bit too 'proper'. Grand Central's best work comes from splicing hip hop's DNA onto different grooves, from Aim's spectacular atmospheric, to Rae's pop nous and Tony D's stoopid breaks. This, by comparison, is relatively lumpen UK hip hop, light years behind the sonic experiments of artists on labels like Ronin and Big Dada. Of course, there's pleasures to be had with unashamedly old school grooves, and the opening triple whammy – especially the title track – would rock any Boutique-sized back room. But on the whole, 'Stealing' is only mildly fresh and moderately funky.

Carl Stroud

★ ★ ★



ED RUSH AND OPTICAL
The Original Dr Shade

(Virus Recordings)

D&B's roughest head straight for the jugular

It's been three years since two of drum & bass' most talented and respected

producers last collaborated, on 'The Creeps', but this, their third album, shows Ed Rush and Optical's love affair with brutal bass and discordant funk is stronger than ever. There's no pandering to the current trend for disco-fied, girly vocalled d&b here. Opening track, 'Why?' boasts militant beats, a depth of bass that's unparalleled, with only MC Ryme Tyme adding a human touch. '32-8', is a juggernaut of bass littered with techno stabs and a haunting vocal, while 'Get Ill', featuring the Scratch Perverts, is a maelstrom of scratches, cuts, funk and Ryme Tyme. If you like your drum & bass to be big and booming, this is definitely worth investigating.

Rahul Verma

★ ★ ★ ★



BLIM
Lost In Music

(TCR)

Unassuming breakbeat from a guy called Gervase

BLIM may be 'Lost In Music', but, boy, is he caught in a trap. His album is stuffed with obvious and offensively inoffensive 'tribal' affectations ('Loonies'/'Afrique') and man-sized rabbit kookiness ('Too Clever' and '2 Freaks') – it's like big beat never really died. It's the sort of thing you'll hear mixed by some anonymous DJ bloke in a thousand trendy bars, leaving uninterested bar-goers not even riled

"Proper? Yes. Filthy? Ish. Naughty? Not enough!"

PROPER
FILTHY
NAUGHTY
'FASCINATION'
(10 Kilo)

enough to manage a grimace. There are so many other paths that producers can go down – why bother painting the lines down the middle of the road? '2 Freaks' is definitely a classic of sorts and BLIM has a lot of potential but it's up to him to raise the bar now.

Jim Robinson

★ ★



PROPER FILTHY NAUGHTY
Fascination (10 Kilo)

Raw, floor-shaking electro breaks

Not sure what to make of this. It's a hefty, mashing blend of electro, hip hop and digital beats that hits more than it misses, but there's an aggravating lack of coherency to it. Title track 'Fascination' is a breathy slice of pure trance pop, but elsewhere there's redeemingly meaty breaks action on 'To The Beat' and 'Cowfunk'. There's an admirable lack of over-production too, with walls of expensive noise forsaken, for a big, spacious sound which gives the beats room to wobble about in. That said, the lack of intricacy and iffy vocals make for some flat moments, on tracks like 'Beautiful Day'. Ultimately, it's a club

rocker that might sit a little uneasily on your stereo at home. Proper? Yes. Filthy? Ish. Naughty? Not enough!

Tim Wild

★ ★ ★



PLANETFUNK
Non Zero Sumness

(Illustrious)

Ostentatious Italian dance-pomp mess

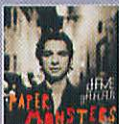
Planetfunk are a would-be 'supergroup' put together by Neapolitan DJ Alex Neri. Their album is a gallivanting affair that nods heavily towards Eighties cocaine pop: the expensive studio productions of Fleetwood Mac and Peter Gabriel set to a 'groovy dance beat', perfect for sordid suburban toga parties. The peroxide spectre of Duran Duran looms large with Le Bon-a-like Dan Black, whose snotty prole-rap on 'Who Said' is wretchedly awful. The 'serious' Manc monologue on 'Under The Rain' could be by a bit-part seamstress from Coronation Street. Overall, this is a mismatched combo of Eurotrash cheapness and hackneyed Brit-rock pomposity that congeals into an amusingly garish and overblown mess.

Mike Carhart-Harris

★

Mode Warrior

Dave Gahan: cheer up mate, it might never happen!



DAVE GAHAN
Paper Faces

(Mute)

Debut solo album from former wild man of the Mode

After two decades in one of Basildon's most influential bands ever, Dave Gahan has finally decided to release that all-important solo album. Recorded in New York with Sigur Ros producer Ken Thomas and new instrumentalist buddy Knöz

Chandler, 'Paper Faces' has a dark, malevolent edge. 'Stay' is a soaring little number, while 'Hidden Houses' is an understated, Smashing Pumpkins-Meets-Depeche classic, and Dave's voice has never sounded better. It's not all gravy though – there's a definite over-insistence on painful, overwrought rock dynamics, worst exemplified on the wretched 'Bottle Living'. Enough faux-rock posturing already Dave – get back to singing over synths!

Ralph Moore

★ ★ ★

Q&A

Dave Gahan on putting up walls, running away and the emptiness of materialism. Jeez

Why did you move to New York?

"When things get bad, the oldest trick in the book is to run away. Which is exactly what I did. But what do you end up with? Just you. And the person that I was becoming wasn't the person I wanted to be. That's why I called this album 'Paper Monsters'. I put up these walls in front of me and the walls just got smaller and smaller."

This doesn't sound like a particularly happy album. . . "Well, my life hasn't been particularly happy. But today I'm more fulfilled than I've ever been. I've finally realised it's the little things that

bring me a lot of joy. I know that if I spend 50 grand on a car it's not going to make me feel any better. In fact, I haven't even got a car!"

After 20 years in Depeche Mode, do you know each other better than you know yourself? "We must do, and there are still places we haven't gone yet. But there's so much attached to what we're supposed to be. If I really want to feel different, to do something different, otherwise it gets bigger in me than I can handle. But, will there be another Depeche album? I could definitely see one happening. . ." (RM)



HUBTONE Interiors

(Repap)

Schmoov! bloke eases the groove pressure

Chilled out and proud, Hubtone beckon you into their padded sound-den of benevolent, cosy delights. As bassist with the Midlands' most drunken auteurs of live deep house hedonism, Schmoov!, Andrew Tytherleigh is already versed in the libidinous power of the groove. Here he gets wilfully indulgent, shutting Alice Coltrane, Brian Eno, Lonnie Smith and Maria Callas in a communal love-nest and watching them get creative. The result is tender, Balearic-tinged mood music that doesn't purport to be anything more. Simple pleasures indeed.

Mike Carhart-Harris

★★★★



RZA The World According To RZA

(Virgin)

RZA gets on a Gotan Project tip? Strange but true...

Wu Tang's producer gives his President a lesson in international diplomacy with this project, producing tracks for a European cast of hip hop cats. Our contribution is Westwood interviewing RZA and 'Boing Boing', a track featuring Blade, Skinnyman, Mr Tibbs and RZA. So much for the 'special relationship'. Elsewhere, RZA does head nodding beats for Swedish rapper Feven; a melancholy feeling pervades on Germany's Afrob & Sekou's 'Black Star Line Up'. Best of all, though, are the collaborations with French artists: 'Saian' is a swinging, funky rap relay between RZA, Ghostface Killah and France's finest, Saian Supa Crew. Obviously vibing off this European shit, RZA even cooks up a beat that sounds like Gotan Project for Bams' 'French Kiss'. An ear-opening exercise in *entente cordiale*.

Rahul Verma

★★★★



DOPPLER-EFFEKT Linear Accelerator

(International DJ Gigolos)

Germanic electronica

straight outta Detroit. Go figure

A very odd album from a very odd group. This mysterious Detroit outfit – a bunch of techno brothers who pretend like they're Germans – open this album with the 20-minute, slow burning, dark ambient piece 'Photo Injector', a series of tuneless heart murmurs that recalls late period Psychic Warriors' occultist rock grooves. CD:UK are most unlikely to come knocking. The electro static

'Niobium Resonators' sounds like a radio dial being turned in Hades, but the closing three, lengthy tracks, particularly the melancholic 'Mylon-Neutrino' and the burbling 'Z-Boson' wouldn't sound out of place on Warp's 'Artificial Intelligence' series. An intriguing curate's egg.

Nell Gardner

★★★★



GHOST CAULDRON Invent Modest Fires

(IK7)

Berliners' spooked oddity

burns only fitfully

Like a German cousin of UNKLE's 'Psyence Fiction', this album from Berlin's DJ Kaos and CE:EL is a conceptual opus that lacks overall cohesion, but possesses flashes of indisputable brilliance. 'Whole World', featuring rap sorceress Apani B Fly, is hip hop immersed in enrapturing whorls of sound-smoke. The glowering 'Fear' (with the now disbanded Anti-Pop Consortium) is like Depeche Mode producing Tricky. Unfortunately, the grandiose horror movie orchestration and snatched Twin Peaks dialogue of 'Fire Walk With Me' sounds derivative and uninspired by close comparison with Shadow et al., whilst the gauzy, androgynous navel-gazing of indie contenders Perilous Bull sits awkwardly next to the modish electro flex of 'Death Before Disco'. A disorientating brew, but then who said Germans always had to make sense?

Mike Carhart-Harris

★★★★



A.R.E. WEAPONS ARE WEAPONS

(Rough Trade)

Dude! Awesome! Not!

Dear ARE Weapons, I am writing to complain about your album. I was led to believe by the style and rock press that it was, and I quote, a 'bitching electro-rock'n'roll muthafucker'. Imagine my surprise, then, to find that far from sounding like Suicide vigorously fucking The Stooges, as I had been led to believe, it actually resembled Carter The Unstoppable Sex Machine rimming Sham 69. Also, although many of your lyrics are very amusing and 'kinky', I do not wish to be told how hard it is being 14 by two men in their thirties who look like members of some gay Christian bikers' group. May I suggest that to avoid any further confusion and hurt being caused, you immediately change your name to ARSE Weapons or perhaps ARE Rubbish. Yours sincerely,

Kurt Lesblan (Mrs, Rtd)

★★★



Junk rock



JUNKIE XL Radio JXL: A Broadcast From The Computer Hell Cabin

(Roadrunner)

Album number three from Sasha's mate

Life must be tough for Junkie XL. Stick some mischievous breakbeats underneath The King for three minutes and all of a sudden the populace at large can't get enough of it. Put out your usual prog-breaks-American-dance thang and everyone looks perplexed. This double album from the Elvis-remixer, based around the devastatingly

original concept of a radio broadcast, features a stellar cast of collaborators including Chuck D, Peter Tosh and, er, Saffron from Republica. One CD is full of punchy, joyous dance-pop with big beats and quiet guitars like 'Crusher' and 'Sleepy Policeman' while the other has the slower, atmospheric business. It's big, slick pop music that references everything from dub to hip hop, but it's all too smooth to have any lasting impact. Next time, let's have a little less masturbation, and a little more action, please.

Tim Wild

★★★★

Q&A

How to make a 21st century prog concept album... with **Junkie XL**

Collaborate with superstar vocalists like Gary Numan, Chuck D, Terry Hall, Solomon Burke and your old mate Sasha...

"I just wanted to get in contact with all the people I admire. It took three years to put it all together, but it was an overwhelming feeling when everybody responded to all the tracks so positively."

Ditch your previous two albums...
"The dance press hated the first record; they thought it was jumping on the Chemical Brothers' bandwagon. The second one was Fifties orientated on one side and way more trippy on the other. That was the one Sasha picked up on."

Don't hold back – on anything...
"On the album there's a '3pm' and a '3am' side, but on the website

there's a third side called '7am' and very extensive interviews with everyone who worked on the album."

Think big, ball-busting live shows...

"We're going to do Pink Pop (the Dutch Glastonbury) and close down the main stage for the day and put together a JXL radio broadcast with guests. We've got Dave Gahan, Gary Numan and Solomon Burke confirmed, and we're trying to get the other collaborators on board too."

Ignore fashion and get conceptual...

"I think it's time to do stuff like this – most albums right now are too disparate. I'm a big fan of Pink Floyd's 'Dark Side Of The Moon' – it's a big trip. It's a journey you can listen to from beginning to end and it goes through so many different atmospheres." (CS)

"They look like gay, Christian bikers"

A.R.E. WEAPONS
'ARE WEAPONS'
(ROUGH TRADE)



Proper Filthy Naughty: Spikey, Scruffy, Smelly (unconfirmed)

Digging deeper

Breaking Rules

Why aren't breaks producers making breakbeat albums?

Breaks producers are a contrary bunch. Central to a genre that more than most attracts the top-end anally retentive trainspotters, they do strange things when it comes to recording albums. Just look at the two reviewed on p74. . .

Gervase Cooke, aka BLIM (Boy Lost In Music), reckons he's "never sat down and listened to a whole breaks album all the way through," and Proper Filthy Naughty, aka Ronnie Ross, agrees that "Endless bosh-bosh-bosh for 70 minutes at home is quite boring. I think if you're a breaks producer, fundamentally you're a bit more inclined towards a more varied type of music."

So breakbeat producers like to spice their long players up a bit. Ross



continues: "I've been releasing 12-inch dance tracks and they are quite formulaic. When you get to do an album, you think 'thank god I can make an interesting record!'"

Scene leaders the Plump DJs are another act abandoning the breakbeat, in their case for more contemplative

collaborations with the likes of Gary Numan and Louise from Lamb. BLIM, though eschewing collaborations, has engineered his debut as a non-stop mix in a bid to make it stand above other breakbeat longplayers.

So will we ever see a classic breakbeat album? Perhaps the question should be 'is breakbeat even a medium that you can make albums in?' Time will tell. . . (CS)

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BLUR
Think Tank
(Parlophone)

Former Parklifeers lose their guitarist and get all moody

So the geekboy guitarist has fucked off to spend more time with his Sebadoh B-sides and Fatboy's been drafted in to produce some of the tracks. You may be preparing yourself for a wave of perky cheeky-chappiness so stomach churningly upbeat it will make you want to strangle kittens, but you're wrong. This is an adult (yawn), mature (yeah, whatever), thoughtful (zzzzz) album. Occasionally, you even think 'for fuck's sake cheer up!' Before you realise that were Blur to cheer up, they might visit another 'Parklife' or 'Country House' style horror on the world. Anyway, 'Caravan' and 'Battery In Your Leg' are gorgeous and sad. 'Ambulance' is art-rock at its bass-fuzzed, parping best. Damien All-bran still hasn't found a voice of his own, sounding at various points like Bowie, Strummer, Barrett, Davies and Curbishley. The two rocky numbers suck all the arse in the world. But with Suede dead in the water, Pulp gone and the rest of the Brit-pop wave now rightly deemed laughable, the big question is, do Blur even still matter anyway?

Duncan Bell
★★★★



TODD EDWARDS
Full On Volume 2
(iRecords)

'The God' takes us back to the good old days of garage

Todd Edwards burst onto the scene in 1995 with his stunning remix of Saint Germain's 'Alabama Blues' and is one of the few producers who could reasonably claim to have spawned a genre (UK garage, mid-Nineties model) single-handedly. 'Full On Volume 2' collects his work from the last three years, and boy is it good to have him back – nobody works dancefloor alchemy like Todd The God. Apparently inspired by bloody Enya (yes, I know, bear with me), Edwards dices up vocals into tiny fragments, then layers and layers them over two-steppy, fractured beats and warm, pulsing bass to create an effect that's sensual yet irresistibly funky. Certain phrases are kept intact – Kate Bush is very recognisable on opener 'I Hear Him' – but much of it is chopped into wordless vocalese, sounding at once both alien and familiar. The effect is repetitive in the best way, utterly hypnotic, and an example of true nu-soul; a broken wireless transmission from the depths of the human heart.

Duncan Bell
★★★★



PRINCE
The Rainbow Children
(NPG)

Belated retail release for this formerly internet-only album. Much, much better than you probably expect

A decade on from his last raw flashes of true genius on the still-shimmering 'Diamonds And Pearls', it would be easy to dismiss the latest Rogers Nelson album as another interesting but inessential funk-out. But as the scintillating JB staccato-funk of '1+1+1 Is 3' and the sweet balladry of 'She Loves Me For Me' prove, Prince's soul can still burn bright when he makes an effort. Rumbling vocoder interludes and jazz flourishes are dotted throughout – hey, it's a concept album! – but the meat of the album is provided by a masterclass in soul-funk songwriting from His Purpleness. The 'Rainbow' ends with the classic 'Last December', where incongruously grinding GNR guitars, chiming bass and keyboards and gently rising melodies take you to musical nirvana. Rumour has it that Prince has relaxed his attitude to WEA somewhat and is considering making a sequel to 'Purple Rain'. Let's hope it's true, because the boy is back. . .

Ralph Moore
★★★★

Still cutting it

Four albums you really should have bought already

THE BUG

Pressure (Rephlex)

Armageddeon for beginners as Kevin Martin sheds his Techno Animal guise for this lesson in brilliant bottom-end brutality. 'Killer' indeed

CALEXICO

Feast Of Wire (City Slang)

The Tucson troubadours triumph once again with their narcotic mariachi and menacing alt.country pastoralia. Calexico rock. Gently.

JAY-Z

The Gift & The Curse (Rock-A-Fella)

Jay's still spitting funny, clever lyrics of fury on his latest LP, which bucks the double-albums-are-shit trend by being really good

THE GREENSKEEPERS

Ziggy Franken Radio Show (Classic)

A super-sunny jazz flapper-house opus that's perfect for open-top driving to festivals, gas stations and barbecues alike. Can you sing like this? We can. . .



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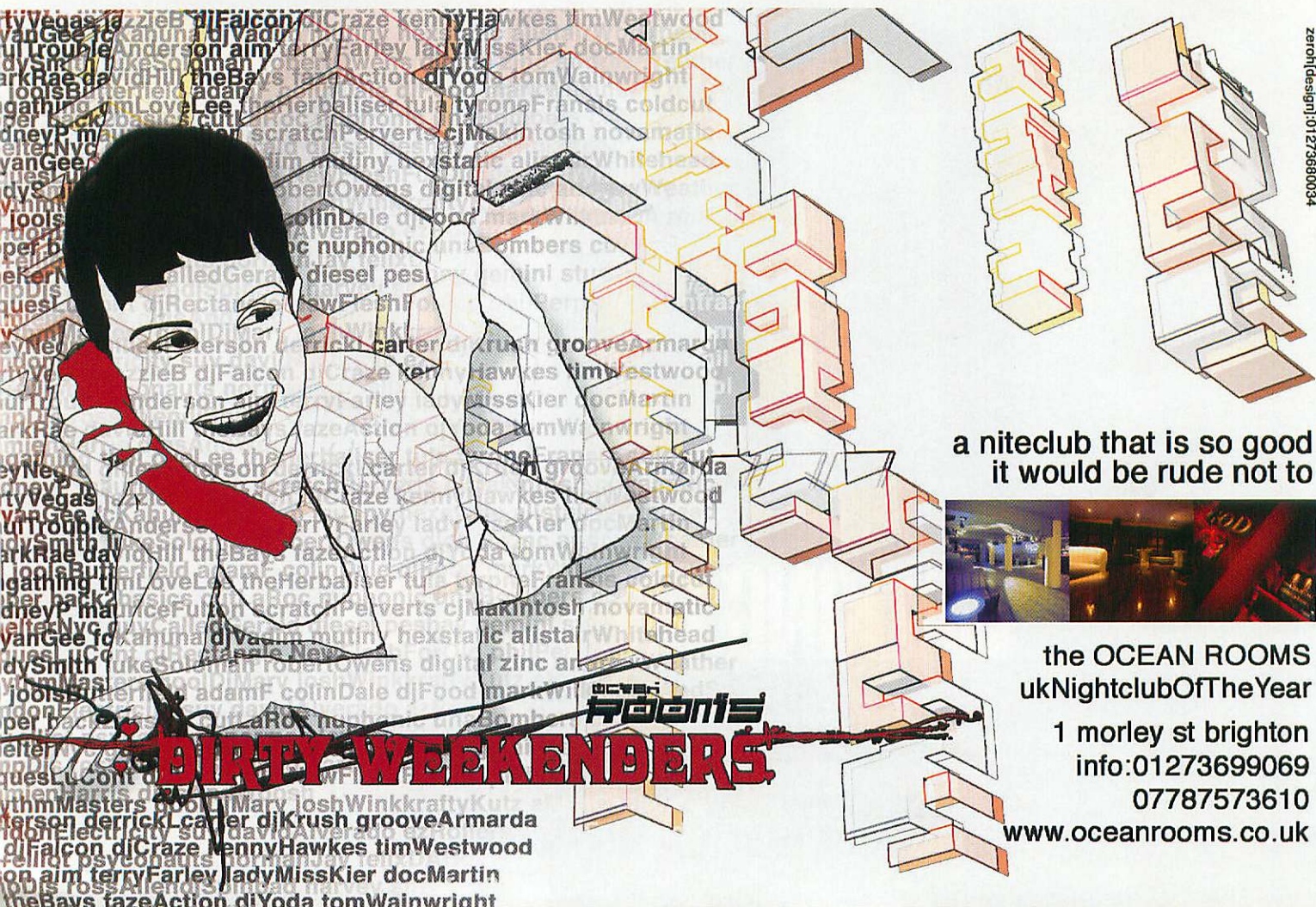




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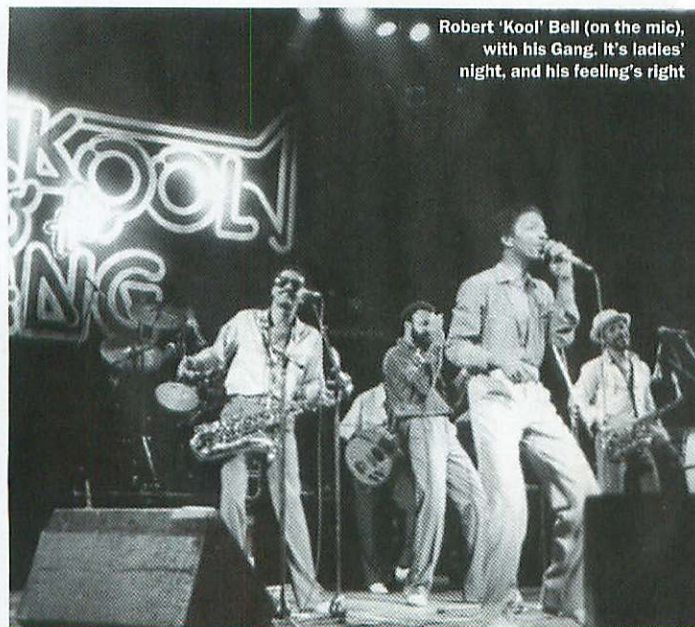


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Robert 'Kool' Bell (on the mic), with his Gang. It's ladies' night, and his feeling's right

Kool as fuck!



KOOL & THE GANG Gangthology

Universal

The ultimate party band get down on it again – quite literally!

Everybody knows Kool & The Gang, right? They're the patron saints of mobile DJs, hen party organisers and all those who want to keel over in the name of a good night out, courtesy of those wedding disco specials 'Celebration' and 'Get Down On It'.

But, if you've got the Gang down as flamboyantly dressed disco automatons, 'Gangthology' will make you think again, revealing a canon of credible dancefloor destroyers that

dates back to the late Sixties. The group's jazz roots and sheer musical skills mean that for every 'Jungle Boogie' there's an 'I Remember John W Coltrane', for every 'Celebration' there's a 'Sea Of Tranquility' and to counterbalance 'Ladies' Night' there's 'Summer Madness', a tune so good it even survived Will Smith's assault on it with its dignity intact (just).

Add some nice touches like a superb live version of 'Wichita Lineman' and you have a collection that really shines. If you've got the Gang down as one-trick cheese ponies, 'Gangthology' is gonna open up a whole new Kool world for ya.

Cal Gibson

★★★★★

Q&A

Robert 'Kool' Bell gets down on da Muzik questions...

Is 'Gangthology' your way of trying to regain some credibility? "People listening to the album will hear that there's a history to what we did. They're gonna hear jazz, they're gonna hear funk as well as the popular records we've had over the years. It gives a perspective on what we've done over the past 30 years."

It must piss you off that people see you as just a party band...

"Oh sure, you know, we've written songs like 'Who's Gonna Take The Weight?' and 'Peacemaker' back in the Seventies that are all about peace and love. We need more love in the world, not war."

Is there such a thing as a Kool philosophy? "We say 'celebrate life!'. We're not politicians, we're

musicians, people come to our shows to celebrate and dance: what could be better than that?"

Does it bother you that you've been sampled so many times? "If it introduces us to a new generation of fans then that's cool. The artists sampling us add their own little flava to the tracks: most of the people who've sampled us are pretty cool."

[Robert is clearly a very Christian and forgiving man – Ed.]

What's next for Kool & The Gang? "Yeah, we're doing a film called The Kool & The Gang Story and then we're doing 'The Kool & The Gang Odyssey' where people like Jamiroquai and The Sugababes cover our songs. And we have our own label, KTFA – Keep Tha Funk Alive!" (CG)



CABARET VOLTAIRE Methodology '74 To '78

(The Grey Area Of Mute)

53-track box set of the Cabs' earliest tape experiments

Almost 30 years since their birth, Sheffield's Cabaret Voltaire are the unsung heroes of electronic music, lurking in Kraftwerk's shadow like an android mugger. 'Methodology' captures the Cabs' first steps, cutting up found sounds, looping tapes, and setting white noise symphonies to subliminal rhythms. It's astonishing to think that when the Cabs recorded these gloriously wayward combinations of punkish anger and Studio One rigour, the Bay City Rollers ruled the charts, Bowie was still called Ziggy and the first disco record had yet to be released.

Martin James

★★★★★



CABARET VOLTAIRE Mix Up/Voice Of America/Red Mecca/2x45 (Mute)

The Cabs' classic first four albums re-issued

And while we're on the subject... Any newcomer daunted by the prospect of listening to a triple CD of Cabs demos should check out at least one of these four re-issues. 'Red Mecca', with its dense, suffocating layers of dubby electronics, is probably the most fully realised snapshot of the early Cabs sound, but the sampling experiments of '2x45' and the punky cyber-shot of 'Voice...' are almost as good. Thrillingly raw, visceral sounds, with an energy, intelligence and integrity that puts much modern electronic music to shame.

Duncan Bell

★★★★★ / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★



SNAP! The Power: Best Of Snap (Ministry Of Sound)

Tasty cheese from the Nineties

Snap! were the perfect dance-pop band. Some bird on vocals, a brace of brilliantly cynical Euro-tune producers in the backroom and the masterfully ludicrous Turbo B – who clearly thought, despite the evidence, that he was in Public Enemy – up front. 'Rhythm Is A Dancer' ('I'm serious as cancer...'), 'Exterminate' and, most of all, 'The Power' – could you imagine that chattering, dark sound at Number One today? – are true classics, crushing the likes of Room 5, Lasgo and Ian Van Dahl under an elephantine heel. Admittedly, everything else on this comp is shit, but that still leaves it boasting two more classics than the last Orbital, Underworld, Chemical Brothers and Fatboy Slim albums put together.

Cheddar George

★★★★★



FUGEES Greatest Hits (Columbia)

Hoplessly belated hits package from one of the most successful hip hop crossover groups ever

The Fugees were massive in 1996. Unfortunately, the omnipresence of their hits 'Killing Me Softly' and 'Ready Or Not' rendered most of the population ready to kill them if they so much as uttered the phrase 'one time' again. The highlights of this cheap-looking compilation ('Fu-Gee-La', 'How Many Mics', 'Cowboys') suggests a critical reappraisal may be in order, however. Certainly, anyone who can sample bloody Enya, drop it under a load of pseudo-intellectual chit-chat and a chorus filched seemingly at random from an old soul song, and make something as undeniably magnificent as 'Ready Or Not' is clearly possessed of some kind of evil genius.

Juan Tyme

★★★★★



MANUEL GOTTSCHING E2-E4 (Vinyl Factory)

Chill out classic or interminable dirge? You decide...

You'll know this one, because its central synth riff was sampled by Sueno Latino for their eponymous beachside cafe classic. They, however, had the good sense to house it up a bit and add some sexy lady gasping. Ex-Ash Ra Tempel man Gottendamerung instead loops it for 59-and-a-half minutes grudgingly tedious minutes, and that's it. Oh, no, we tell a lie – about half way through he starts doing some horribly noodly 'jamming' on his guitar. Perhaps you might like to try adding your own accompaniment. We suggest noises such as "Zzzzz", "Snore" and "For pity's sake make it stop!"

Kurt Lesblan

★★★★★



V/VM HelpAphexTwin4.0 (V/Vm Test Records)

Subtitled 'We Don't Give A Shit... Because You Don't Give A Fuck', this was originally out a couple of years ago, and finds V/Vm aiming his nihilist kneejerkers squarely at the groin of Mr 'Ricky D Jimjams', running some of his best-loved ditties through the patented V/Vm 'digital grinder of nightmarish unlistenability' and mixing in the odd Bros or Abba song ('Money Money Money', naturally) for good measure. 'WINduckyQuaCKer', 'CoMe*to*big Daddy vs gIANT Haystacks', 'Laughing All The Way To His Tank'... will the mirthquake never end? Apparently, the next V/Vm release will display a more 'mature' musical approach. It's a compilation called 'It's Fan-Dabi-Dozi' hosted by The Frankies. Can't wait.

Tom Mugridge

★★★★★

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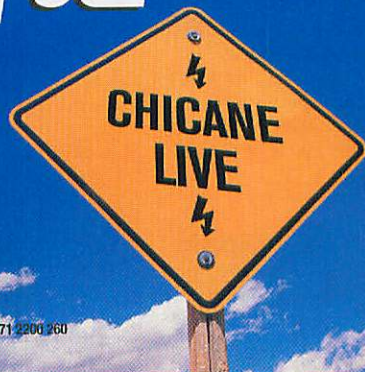
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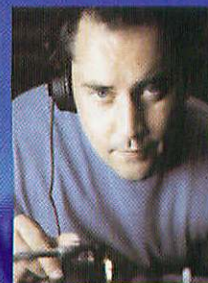
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The Three Big 'Uns

BADMEANINGOOD SCRATCH PERVERTS



SCRATCH PERVERTS

Badmeaningood

(Whoa Music/Ultimate Dilemma)

Diverse, daring and decidedly different: welcome to the Scratch Perverts' world

If you're DJing hip hop, you're forced to develop some tough turntable tactics, just to keep pace with the records. DMC heroes Scratch Perverts know this, but they also know that showing off your deck skills can be every bit as wanky as an endless rock guitar solo. Hence, their installment in this reassuringly fine mix series is a restrained affair, with few of the frenzied cut and paste tricks that's seen them win practically every DJing comp going.

The point of this mix is not to be obscure and arsey. Instead, it's a brilliantly breezy flip through two decades of beats. It isn't afraid to flirt with the obvious (MOP's 'Ante Up', Minnie

Ripperton's version of 'Les Fleurs'), but nor is it afraid to wander off the path completely (Blackalicious' 'Alphabet Aerobics' is brilliantly morphed into Squarepusher's 'My Red Hot Car').

The unpretentious intelligence of the mix marks it out. It kicks off with The Specials and The 24 Karat Black casting critical eyes on urban decay. It throws in Gang Starr's ferocious 'Speak Ya Clout', then tempers it with Sister Nancy's sweetly dubby 'Bam Bam', giving voice to both the macho and the feminist. It's a highly-charged history lesson, and it's not to be missed.

Christian Ward

★★★★★

UNDERWATER EPISODE 2

Mixed By Darren Emerson And Mutiny

(Underwater)

Dazza gets frazzled on his label's second compilation

Following a couple of fairly workmanlike and unengaging efforts for the Global Underground brand powerhouse, Darren Emerson's mix with Tim Deluxe last summer not only marked the debut compilation release on his own label, it also signalled an upping of the ante from the Underwater imprint that had laid dormant and unloved while the Essex man was extricating himself from his previous day job with Underworld. Ultimately, it also saw Emerson finally stepping out of the limelight of the band that made him famous.

This second effort – complete with ridiculously literal 'underwater' cover shot with co-stars Mutiny – doesn't quite reach those heights, unfortunately.

Mutiny's sun-flecked house mix on the first CD is cool but decidedly not that deadly.

Emerson's Underwater-only disc however, shows that his particularly favoured brand of zeitgeist-dodging tech-house is in impeccably good taste, showcasing classy tunes like his rattling edit of Paul Jackson's 'The Push', as well as Wally Lopez's synapse-scraping 'Tribute To Acid House' and the devilish new single from Tim Deluxe, 'Less Talk, More Action'. It really is no wonder that Pacha in Ibiza can no longer accommodate both Darren and Erick Morillo under one roof on the same night.

John Hall

★★★★★

NICE UP THE DANCE

Two Worlds Clash

(Soul Jazz)

The reggae reissue wizards just keep on delivering...

The Soho based crate-diggers at Soul Jazz leave aside their voluminous Studio One back catalogue for a while to concentrate on the rinsing of dancehall and ragga hip hop. And perhaps they should ditch Clement Dodd's proto-reggae legacy a bit more often if it gives them the chance to highlight cuts like these.

At a time when contemporary dance hall king Sean Paul is set to go supernova Soul Jazz have got their timing absolutely spot on, with an album of straight-up dancehall and ragga-influenced hip hop. Kenny Dope starts the dance nicely with 'Boomin' In Your Jeep', with a thick wallowing breakbeat riding some huge bass theatrics. Cutty

Ranks does his best to cuss everyone who's anyone in contemporary Jamaican dance hall from Capleton to Ninjaman on the dancehall bluster of 'Who Say Me Done', while Miss Thing hilariously steal Cher's vocoder stylings on the girl power anthem 'Get That Money', where they demand: "Ladies get that cash and have fun/Get your face and hair and nails done."

It's not all sweetness and light though, as Ward 21's menacing chat has you looking over your shoulder anxiously, before Dawn Penn's 'No, No, No' arrives to sweetly soothe. Phew.

Carl Stroud

★★★★★

NICE UP THE DANCE

TWO WORLDS CLASH



SEAN PAUL/CUTTY RANKS/KENNY DOPE/DAWN PENN
POMPIDOO/CHAKA DEMUS & PLIERS/J-LIVE/TENOR SAW

» "Electroclash with some trumpets on, basically"

NO WAVE
(KICKIN')



RICHARD DORFMEISTER PRESENTS A Different Drummer Selection (IK7)

What's it all about? High priest of downtempo Dorfmeister leaves his G-Stone home to mix a selection from the vaults of Birmingham's Different Drummer label.

What's on it? Franky Valley kicking off with the jazzy 'Imagination'. G-Corp wade into the fray with three bass detonations, 'Peacetime' being by far the best, and International Observer provide some Letfield-esque dub house.

Any cop then? Unlike to sell like hot hashcakes, but a fine overview of Brum's decade-old bass fanciers nonetheless, and manna from Jah for G-Stoners looking to widen their horizons. (CS)

★ ★ ★



NICOLAS MATAR Sundance (JDJ)

What's it all about? Pacha resident and Bah Samba man Nicholas Matar contributes his second offering to the revived Journeys By DJ series.

What's on it? Matar sets out his sundappled, hippy-tastic stall from the start, with sample voices saying right-on things playing over flute-filled house. By the time you're even halfway through, it's all become soporifically flaccid, however. Richard Gow, Sven Love and DJ Q are among the usual deep house suspects. **Any cop then?** It's hard to listen to any Journeys By DJ mix without thinking 'but this is the same series that released Coldcut's '70 Minutes Of Madness!' Matar's effort is an anonymous pleasantry by comparison. (JH)

★ ★ ★



HOW TO KILL A DJ (Tigersushi)

What's it all about? Sweepings from the Parisian dancefloors of Le Pulp's monthly Kill The DJ nights comes a clashing electro soundtrack to beautiful people getting ratted and mating.

What's on it then? Trans-continental disco that takes *de rigueur* bored, chic chick spoken word samples and puts them over CD-skipping beats while miming the sound of impeccable cheekbones. See the Krikor remix of Digital Tongue's 'No Way You Can Sleep' or the original blueprint, courtesy

of Soft Cell's 'Memorabilia'. Intentionally or not, it's all summed up with Queen Of Japan's rubbish/good cover of Queen's 'Cool Cat'. **Any cop then?** Nice enough, although it probably depends on where you're listening. In some place-to-be-seen, on a continent where even the pronouns have genders, it'd be wonderful. Heard in under-sexed Britain, you can't help feeling like they're taking the piss. (JR)

★ ★ ★



RALPH LAWSON Stars On 33 (Fat City)

What's it all about? Basics' resident Ralph does his first non-house mix album, the second in this excellent series from the reliably ace Fat City crew. Rae And Christian drummer Double D provides breaks between those occasionally tricky mixes. **What's on it?** Sleazy, saucy soul from Larry Young's Fuel with 'Turn Off The Lights', comical shuffling from Mr Scruff with 'Shrimp' and a load more funk, breaks and late-night ass-shifters. **Any cop then?** It sounds like drugs, fumbles and big grins back at a stranger's house at four in the morning. Another quality slice from Manchester's seamy underbelly and an impeccable selection of quality tunes. (TW)

★ ★ ★



NO WAVE (Kickin')

What's it all about? According to the laughable press release, it's certainly 'nothing to do with electroclash'. No, right. And the Pope is 'nothing to do with Catholicism', presumably. **What's on it?** Electroclash. But only the very finest electroclash: 'Emerge', Jacques Lu Cont's epic electrofunk remix of 'Silver Screen, Shower Scene', Percy X's mix of Death In Vegas Versus Adult's 'Hands Around My Throat'. . . you get the picture. There's also some disco punk-style action with The DFA's mix of Radio 4 and Tiny Trendies' excellent 'The Sky Is Not Crying'. Both of which are basically electroclash with some trumpets on. **Any cop then?** Yes! Now the media's moved on, the electroclash generation huddle like Nuremberg nazis, claiming zey were only followlink orders, and denying any links to the hated old genre, but there's just no need for it. Electroclash rules! (DB)

★ ★ ★

Oliver Cheatham:
He likes to party,
we're reliably informed



Digging deeper

Positiva

Celebrating ten years at the top of the charts



POSITIVA PRESENTS A DECADE OF DANCE (Positiva)

It takes all sorts to make a food chain. For Positiva, for ten years, it's been all about turning independently released tracks into mainstream hits. Sometimes this has led to pain and misery – anyone for Jeremy Healy & Amos' 'Stamp' or Vengaboys' 'Up & Down'? But when Positiva have got things right, they've captured clubland moments perfectly, dragging tunes from the murkiest of underground clubs to Top Of The Pops.

There's no question that Positiva made the dance world a better place through making such resolute stormers as Kenny Gonzales' Bucketheads project's 'The Bomb', Adam F's 'Circles', Junior Vasquez's 'Get Your Hands Off My Man', Spiller's 'Groovejet (If This Ain't Love)' and Barbara Tucker's 'Beautiful People' available to more

than 1,000 spoddy trainspotters. They've made a fine art of nimbly scene-shifting from the rumbling prog-house of The Disco Evangelists' 'De Niro' to the gung ho bolsterousness of Reel 2 Real's 'I Like To Move It'. Admittedly, in recent years the enduring gems have been harder to find, but you can blame that on the bland tyranny of trance (BBE, Lasgo, DJ Jurgen and Alice frigg'in' DeeJay et al) as much as on Positiva themselves.

While founders Nick Halkes and Dave Lambert are long gone, the Lynx-endorsing jubilation of Room 5 Featuring Oliver Cheatham's 'Make Luv' demonstrates Positiva's still got the firepower to thrust stylish dance music to the very top of the charts – a kind of firepower that most of its contemporaries lost long ago. The 46 tracks on 'A Decade Of Dance' offer a gamut of giddy highs, painful lows, stupid grins and sporadic outbreaks of outright cheese. And that's about as honest a picture of the last ten, turbulent years of dance music as you're likely to come across. (AC)



PRIMA NORSK 2 Mixed By Nils Noa (Beatservice)

What's it all about? More Scandinavians that you've not yet heard of, bringing you 'groovy Norwegian house music'. **What's on it?** Nordic grooves that resemble a backroom set made up of Loaded Records' dubs and B-sides. But in a really cool way. There's also space

for subterranean dub moves from Bermuda Triangle, as well as deep, primitive tribalism (Jackmaster Dahle) and electro (Trulz & Robin) before the aforementioned Loaded dub vibe kicks in. Watch out for Syntax Erik's catchy craziness at the end, too!

Any cop then? Nils Noa's opening and closing sections draw the ears (and possibly dancin' feet) into the mix but the middle chunk lacks zest. Niceness, though, definitely niceness. (THG)

★ ★ ★



LEXOLEUM

(Lex)

What's it all about? Warp's alt-hip hop offshoot label representing.

What's on it? Boom Bip's excellent, Shadow-esque opener, J-Zone's hilarious 'Calamine Lotion' (where golly-gee-whizz clean-cut teens are stomped by a supremely pissed off thug MC), Kid Acne's deranged 'Rap Dracula' and Sage Francis' two bulletins from the frontlines of small beer hip hop fame and the battle of the sexes are the pick of the more recognisably hip hop-derived tunes. But the likes of Mummy Fortuna and Subtle are just out there, making music of gnostic, interstellar beauty that owes as much to performance poetry, My Bloody Valentine, US emo-core and English electronica as it does to trad rap.

Any cop then? A few trip hoppy interludes aside, this is great. Where much hip hop has become utterly codified and dull, 'Lexoleum' suggests several ways forward. (DB)

★★★★★



KISS PRESENTS

David Rodigan 25th Anniversary

(EMM)

What's it all about? Legendary reggae DJ Dave Rodigan has been around for nearly as long as John Peel, and probably has as many records. Here are some of his faves.

What's on it? Where to start? It's a glorious romp from the early Seventies to the recent past, with such staples as Gregory Isaacs' 'Night Nurse'; Errol Dunkley's 'OK Fred' and Wayne Smith's 'Under Me Sleng Teng', last heard running tings on Muzik's last cover CD. Even the ultra-famous tracks sound fairly fresh, somehow.

Any cop then? Nothing new or even particularly clever here, but if you're not converted to the righteous reggae path, you need this lovingly compiled, perfectly programmed compilation. Also, the pictures of the exceedingly un-dread looking Rodigan in the CD booklet are an amusing bonus. (VG)

★★★★★



ROGER SANCHEZ

Release Yourself

(Stealth/Defected)

What's it all about? Senor Sanchez pokes his Kango-hatted head up and says, 'Yo yo, damn, I gotta new double mix CD. Sho' nuff love to everyone.' Or words to that effect, possibly.

What's on it? CD1 is to be played 'at your pre-party', it says here, though its interminable 70 minutes features the kind of grooves more usually found soundtracking dramatic panning shots

in home improvement programmes. Thankfully, the Latino gusset-creamer perks up somewhat on CD2 with plenty of simple, but ever so deadly screamers. Roger's new production pseudonym A Tribe Called Es gets an airing with the sambatronic 'Dancin'' and Jay-J and Chris Lum offer up the blistering 'Freaks Like Us'.

Any cop then? Roast CD1 on the barbecue while listening to something else at your 'pre-party', but don't harm the second CD - it's dead good. (CS)

★★★★★



ALL TOMORROW'S PARTIES 3.0

(All Tomorrow's Parties)

What's it all about? Autechre, curators of the All Tomorrow's Parties festival 2003, offer an affordable range of tasteful souvenirs from the annual avant-garde knobby knees-up.

What's on it? Quality entertainment for all the family, focussing largely on the pair's penchant for hip hop and techno rather than their more abstract tendencies - 'You Gotta Give The Peeps What They Need', as Public Enemy tout. So you get Detroit veterans Anthony Shake Shakir and Carl Craig, underrated UK techno old hands Baby Ford, Mark Broom and Stasis, Skam favourites Bola and Gescom, Mego noiseniks Pita and Hecker, Dr Doom, Push Button Objects and of course the 'techre themselves, with the pithily titled '7/[(-/11)']'.

Any cop then? It would have benefitted from a sprinkling of Bernard Parmegiani or a dash of Coil, but it's an astute and varied menu nonetheless. What's more, it's almost all previously unreleased or as hard to find as a tune on an Autechre album. (TM)

★★★★★



MUSIC FOR THE MAASES 2

(Hope)

What's it all about? Timo's latest mixes ('Maases' - geddit?!), plus one exclusive new track.

What's on it? Timo takes on Fatboy Slim, Moby, Placebo, Garbage, Moloko, Kelis, BT, Starecase and a couple of others. His newie, 'Unite' is a fine, tingling, techno-laced, vocoder-vocalled sliver of robot dance-pop.

Any cop then? Timo and his studio partner Martin Buttrich have a fine grasp of dancefloor dynamics relatively unhindered by genre, so 'MFTM 2' works fine up to a point, and that Kelis hook-up's still a killer. But compared to the first volume of 'For The Maases', which had the whole of the German fatty's long, varied and illustrious studio career to draw upon, there's something missing here. A case of 'difficult second compilation syndrome', perhaps. . . (THG)

★★★★★



REAL IBIZA VI

Mixed by Phil Mison

(React)

What's it all about? Despite overwhelming evidence that 'real' Ibiza is a damn sight harder, louder, faster and more fucked in the head, Muzik's Phil Mison sticks to his non-lethal weapons with this batch of chillarama.

What's on it? Split into 'Poolside Chill' and 'Hammock House' CDs to avoid extreme confusion, you can enjoy slothcore with Blue States, Nightmares On Wax and FC Kahuna on the former, then loiter indifferently on the edge of the spacey disco dancefloor with Metro Area, Annie, Thievery Corporation and Calexico with the latter.

Any cop then? Depends - ardent recliner freaks aside, there's a limit to have much of this stuff you can consume. If you're running low on chill it's worth considering. (AC)

★★★★★



JON CUTLER PRESENTS

Turn A Distant

Master Mix

(Distant)

What's it all about? 2001's most hotly tipped house hopeful makes a dignified and low-key splash with his debut headlining mix CD, keeping it deeper than deep, in a way that would do his hero Tony Humphries proud.

What's on it? Four more Cutler originals and a remix accompany the compulsory 'It's Yours', and the surprise is that his other productions nearly all match that E-Man collaboration for dazed dreaminess. Apart from that, there's Kick Affiliates' jazzy 'Don't Wanna Stop', Richard Earnshaw's spiritual 'People Are People' and all manner of gorgeously mellow Rhodes work-outs that make you want to melt.

Any cop then? Sussed, soulful and oozing good vibes, Cutler's found his niche and has worked his way to the top of his game. This isn't going to convert any confirmed house haters, but it's an assured and sassy selection nonetheless. (JH)

★★★★★



LATE NIGHT TALES

Nightmares On Wax

(Whoa/Azuli)

What's it all about? The series that's like 'Another Late Night' series, only different continues, with NOW's George Evelyn adding further clout to a lineage of chilled-but-skewed eccentrics that's included Zero 7, Groove Armada and Howie B to date.

What's on it? Plenty of the beat science, elasticated dub, rootsy grooves and odd pop savvy which has

permeated NOW releases in recent years. Everything from Ian Brown's 'Gravy Train' to Tom Scott's 'Sneakin' In The Back' to Tranquility Bass' still massive 'Cantamilla' and Dusty Springfield's ever gorgeous 'Spooky'.

Any cop then? Solid, dependable, if rarely eyes-on-stalks astonishing. It's perilously close to being the sort of CD they play in bars favoured by 'creatives' at times. (AC)

★★★★★



CHICKEN LIPS

Body Music

Nite:Life 015

(NRK)

What's it all about? The former Bizarre Inc-ers and recent Muzik cover CD stars show off their formidable understanding of what makes dark dancefloors tick.

What's on it? Starting off deep and dubby, the Lips soon dive into proper heads-down territory with hypnotic acid bubblers like Scoper And Bubba's 'I'm Satisfied'. As is seemingly obligatory at the moment, 'Make It Happen' by Playgroup is also present, as is the Freaks' none-more-heartstopping 'Where Were You When The Lights Went Out?'. Oh, and check Ian Pooley's mix of Crazy Penis' 'You Are We' and feel the Chic-lovin' force!

Any cop then? Hip as hell and twice as hot, this is one to file alongside 'Output 2' on your must-own shopping list. Chicken Lips are in the front rank of producers taking house music back to its fuck-you, disco punk roots, and so remaking it for the 21st Century (RM)

★★★★★



FABRIC 10

Doc Martin

(Fabric)

What's it all about? Fabric hits double figures running, with San Franciscan Doc Martin - now seemingly fully recovered from his near-death experience a few years back - putting his best boot forward.

What's on it? House heaven, from the mournful grooves of Broker/Dealer, to Larry Heard's re-modelling of Glowing Glisses. Also feel the quality of Tiefschwarz's acid-tinged disco, Patrick Turner's drumtastic 'Bonus Beats', Mark Bell's fine Batacumba-style overhaul of Shaboom.

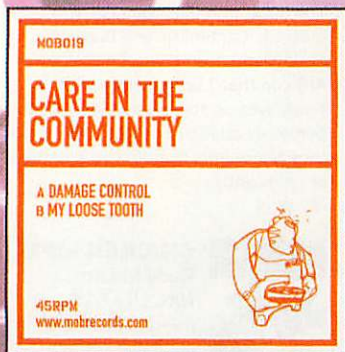
Any cop then? A finely tooled, soulful treat from the best DJ ever to be named after a type of footwear. Bound to cause a bit of bower, this is a tasty addition to an eclectic series. (NG)

★★★★★

CONTRIBUTORS: Duncan Bell, Andy Crysell, Neil Gardner, Victoria Goodwin, Thomas H Green, John Hall, Ralph Moore, Tom Mugridge, Jim Robinson, Carl Stroud, Tim Wild

six of the best

available from all record stores



MOB
CARE IN THE COMMUNITY
DAMAGE CONTROL

12" | 12/5/03

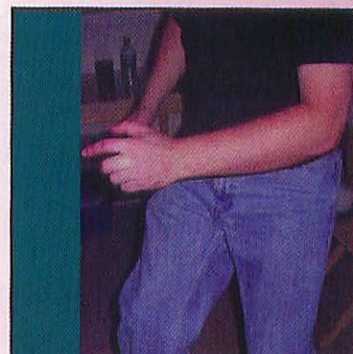
After remixing label-mates NuBreed, this is the first release on Mob from this south london trio. The dub tinged 'Damage Control' and the p funky electro breaks of 'My Loose Tooth' (featured on the current Y4k) have won them the praise of Hybrid ("Love these boys!") Rennie Pilgrem, Plump DJs, BLIM and Atomic Hooligan to name but a few.



TRUST THE DJ
TILT
LEFT OF CENTRE EP

12" | 12/5/03

Tilt return with a superb EP covering all bases from prog to breaks. 'The Siren' is a killer, weaving seductive female vocals and North African tribal rhythms over a bassline to die for. 'Bitter & Twisted' departs from the Tilt norm offering a David Arnold style production where menace meets melancholy. 'One Mile Deep' borrows from the laid back breaks influences of the Hartnoll Brothers and Rob Playford.



GOURMET
JOSHUA COLLINS
SENSATIONS EP

12" | 12/5/03

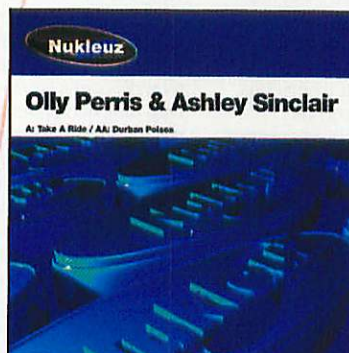
Joshua Collins (Grayhound Recs, Nite Grooves, Hooj etc.) debuts for Mazi's Gourmet Recordings label with the two track 'Sensations' EP. 'Gotta Know' pounds with beats that pay homage to the likes of Sandy Rivera and the Basement Boys whilst 'Tenderness' features a rhythm section that fuses house music's past with subtle sweeps, keys and bass of the future.



MAELSTROM
SUPAKANE
THEME FROM SUPAKANE

12" | 12/5/03

Supakane - John 'OO' Fleming and Tim Healey's (Paris & Healey) new electronic supergroup - launch with their own 'Theme From Supakane', a cutting edge, tech fuelled, future trance anthem. Two mixes are here, the slamming and risque vocal and the awesome John 'OO' Dub. Massive support already from all corners of clubland.



NUKLEUZ
OLLY PERRIS & ASHLEY SINCLAIR
TAKE A RIDE

12" | 19/5/03

Andy Farley's tip for the top, young guns Olly & Ashley have turned in a razor-sharp hard house stormer 'Take A Ride' (number one in the main man's chart for six weeks!) and an uplifting pounding hard trance monster 'Durban Poison' on one slab of pukka Nukleuz vinyl!



NUKLEUZ
PROJECT JUPITER
DRILL SERGEANT

12" | 27/5/03

The second Nukleuz Black is gonna damage dance-floors everywhere! Taking the vocal from the drill sergeant scene in Full Metal Jacket and planting it bang in the middle of a turbo-charged hardstyle production Project Jupiter ain't messing around! Organ Donors provide a hard trance remix on the flip that is an antidote to the madness of the original but still packs a mighty punch.

all these releases can be heard online at www.amatodistribution.co.uk

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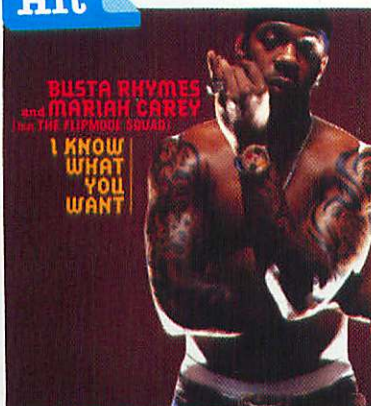
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BUSTA RHYMES & MARIAH CAREY FEATURING THE FLIPMODE SQUAD

I Know What You Want
(J)

As unpromising combinations go, this is up there with Fred West And Dennis Neilson's Guest-house Of Doom. However, this is a heart-meltingly brilliant record, with Busta and Carey reining in the vocal histrionics and turning in a love thug hyper-ballad, borne along on an

irresistible melody. It's not 'innovative', Busta and Mrs Mad are pop meat-rack slags and the lyrics are trite. But it's the best of the month by furlongs.

★★★★★

Chart Prediction: 1

The kind of record that justifies the continued existence of major labels



MOLOKO
Forever More
(Echo)

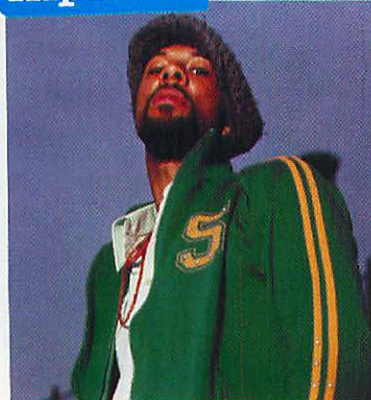
Influenced by disco, but not submerged in it, this is a real stormer. It's not hooky in an obvious pop way, and the mixes are from Herbert and FK rather than Pants And Corset, so this is obviously going to be more of an artistic triumph than a commercial one, but it is a triumph.

★★★★★

Chart position: 23

Too good for the top end of the charts, we fear

Hip Hit



COMMON

New Wave (Playgroup Mix)
(MCA)

The Marvin-bearded, Marvin-talented Common gets down and funky with Laetitia from Stereolab, and remixed by disco punk originator Trevor Jackson. Predictably, the results are dead munny, with bare skills on show from all concerned. Picture a car crash as imagined by Wim Wenders, between Sly & Robbie, Tom Tom Club and Flash and his

Furious Five, with the broken bodies pulled from the wreckage and hauled to a perfectly white limbo by an angelic Laetitia. Then, wonder why you picked such a gruesome metaphor and resolve never to eat cheese before going to bed again.

★★★★★

Chart Prediction: 18

Not a CD:UK record



IIO
At The end
(Free2air)

What do we hate the most about this single? The execrable, oompah-oompah backing track? The singer's mosquito-in-a-lampshade voice? That the chorus is like a wet weekend in a hospice in Croydon? That it'll probably sell more than Moloko, Chris Morris, Audio Bullies and Sea And Cake together? Decisions, decisions. . .

★

Chart position: 11

There's a lot of residual affection for their last hit 'Rapture'

Rare Shit



CHRIS MORRIS

Bushwhacked 2
(10NN)

"The American flag stands for... mutilation with drills, cutting out of tongues, mass murder and rape," intones George Bush on this limited edition twelve-inch from misanthropic genius Chris Morris. That's the US market sewn up then. Osymyo, Adrian Sutton and Jonathan Whitehead all turn in musical backing that matches the

masterly quality of Morris' tape splicing, and our favourite bit is when Dubya claims Saddam had three nuclear missiles, 30 million prisoners and the British government "hidden in his arse".

★★★★★

See www.thesmokehammer.com for more Bush-baiting. Or to complain to if you're a humourless, 'God bless the USA' type



HUMAN LEAGUE
Sound Of The Crowd/Love Action (Remixes)
(Virgin)

There are five other twelves and tens of League remixes set for release, but this package seemed the most Muzik-y. Freaks' pop at 'Sound of . . .' is okay, but presumably Freaks fans won't be feeling Phil Oakey's deadpan vocals too much, while League buffs won't much care for the ill-advised tempo change and excision of practically all the original's pre-lycra synth sounds. Brooks' stab at 'Love Action' is, again, not bad, but not necessary either.

★★

Chart position: 406

Watch out for Majik Johnson's 'Don't You Want Me' mix, though. It's so cheesy, you could make a delicious quiche with it



**BHANGRA KNIGHTS
VERSUS HUSAN**
Husan
(Positiva)

That tune off the advert where the Indian lad hammers his rubbish Asian car into a more aesthetically pleasing Euro-car. Housed up a bit. Gimmicky and cynical it may be, but it's got a lot more balls than any other mainstream house track this month, and you only have to worry about the lyrics being awful if you speak Punjabi.

★★★★

Chart position: 10

If they'd rushed this out when the ad first appeared, it could have gone all the way. . .



THE SEA AND CAKE
Glass
(City Slang)

The Chicago post-rockers turn out another collection of wistful, electro influenced phuture-pop. With four new tracks and remixes by Stereolab (fractured, chiming, Gallic), Broadcast (abrasive, chugging, Krautish) and Carl Craig (glitchy, ice-poppy, surprisingly un-Detroitian) and a CD ROM-o-video, this is the bargain of the month - why not buy two copies?

★★★★

Chart position: 107

... With a bullet



AUDIO BULLIES
The Things/Turned Away
(Source)

The great white hopes of Hooligan House™ return with one of the more 'thoughtful' numbers off 'Ego War', new track 'Turned Away' and a host of remixes. Simon Franks' clunking lyrical couplets make Maxi Jazz sound like Proust, but Tony Senghore's techy mix comes and has a go, and most certainly is hard enough, making this a must.

★★★★★

Chart position: 15

The Bullies' chart positions won't match the hype until the 'Ego War' LP finally gets a release



SEAN PAUL
Get Busy
(Atlantic)

On the first chart-bound incarnation of Lenky's all-conquering 'Diwali' rhythm, it's the intricate, compelling beat programming that is the star - dancehall-lite MC Paul's only there to make it look nice. True future funk.

★★★★★

Chart position: 12

Hopefully we'll now start to see more of these mad riddims appearing on major label cuts



Tiësto

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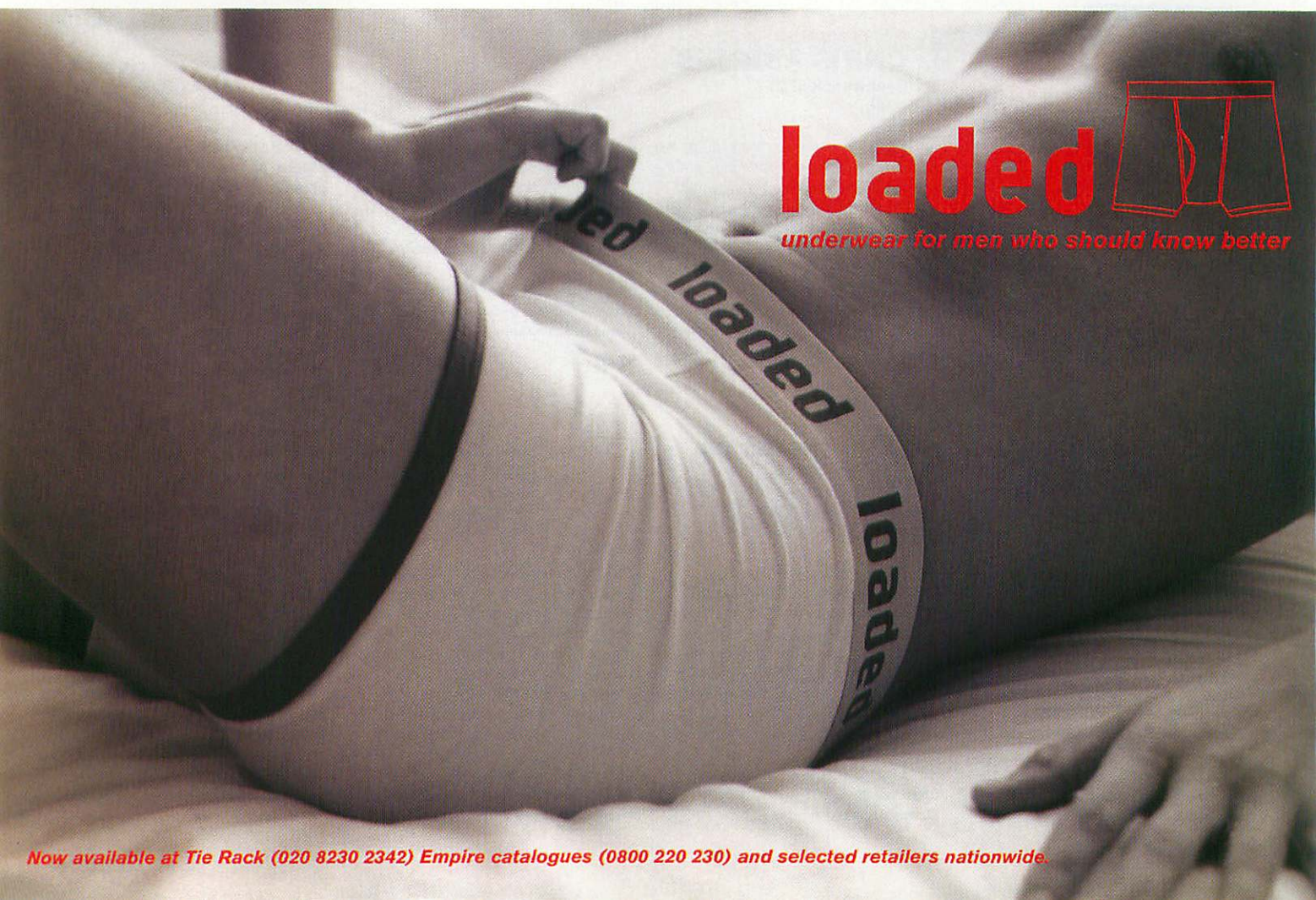


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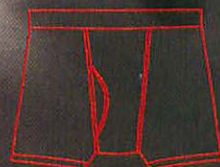
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Vital Release



DJ SPINNA FEATURING SHAUN ESCOFFREY Music And Me (BBE)

DJ Spinna's appearance at the Faith all dayer last year blew us sideways, switching from classic funk from the JB's and War to Masters At Work and Pepe Braddock with a hip hop sensibility that recalled the swing of a great Derrick Carter set. His song-writing and production skills are equally

bang on the money, and his glorious team-up with the heavenly, black velvet voice of Sean Escoffrey is another stone-cold classic. Thought they don't make 'em like this any more? Think again. This latest collaboration is as fruitful as the still-scorching 'Days Like These'. House veteran Paul Simpson gets a Salsoul vibe going, Escoffrey's ever-so-soulful vocals sit high in the mix and Spinna's beats bump and shine. House music that's true to its urban roots – brilliant. (TF)

★★★★★

TRUBLE MAN

Change Is What We Need (Farout)

Some will question whether this latest outing from former Jedi Mark Pritchard is strictly speaking house, but what is beyond question is that we have one serious groove here, with a smokey soul vocal sample riding on Pritchard's impeccable drum programming and typically gorgeous layers of sound. And hey – if Kenny Dope is of the opinion that Mark's got "the phattest drums ever," that's more than good enough for me. (KM)

★★★★★

TONY SENGHORE

The Music EP (F4 Music, US)

Tony has always made 'what-the-fuck-is-that?' records, and this is one of his finest 'what-the-fuck-is-that?' records for some time. Like a mash-up of Daft Punk, the Idjut Boys and Maurice Fulton, this cut has it all – hooks, cool drums and great effects. Don't miss out. (KM)

★★★★★

OUTTA LIMITS

Mission Control (Azuli)

The Murk/Ralph Falcon original was very Space in Miami, but the great duo of Ricky Montanari and Davide Ruberto drag it straight onto the terrace of DC10, with heaps of that druggy k-hole throb that fuels the dancers there. Last year it was Chicken Lips who haunted DC10's demented environs. Outta Limits already sound like this year's contenders. (TF)

★★★★★

SILENT PARTNERS AKA JOSHUA & MARK E QUARK

Down By Dub (Hi-Phen, Belgium)

Hi-Phen, the label brought to us by Belgian DJ Geoffroy hits top gear with this, its fifth release. Delivered over two 12-inches, this release is at its very best on Rob Mello's stunning 'No Ears Club Mix'. Smooth, acidic wiggling and Mello's canny ear for a funky beat make for one of those records that sounds superb on a big rig. Killer. (KM)

★★★★★

AL USHER

Slipshod EP (Out Of The Loop)

Al Usher is best known for his work with Ewan Pearson as Partial Arts. Here, he branches out for his first solo release, with spectacular results. It may not be 'peak-time' or 'big room', but this EP is far too good not to buy. For those plying their trade in more intimate venues, 'Disobbe Disco', in particular, is like the floorfiller Todd Edwards and the Idjuts never made. (KM)

★★★★★

LUOMO

Tessio (Remixes) (Force Inc)

The original of this is one of the finest house records ever made and updating a classic is always risky. Akufen and Moonbootica do their best, but the real deal here is cut by Luomo himself. His new version morphs 'Tessio' from a smooth late-nighter into a bass-bubbling floorfiller. (KM)

★★★★★

BRETT JOHNSON FEATURING DAVID BARKER Me Talk Pretty One Day EP (Icon Recordings)

After his dynamite mix for Scoper & Bubba on Classic it was only a matter of time before Johnson's own productions hit the highest level. 'Temptations And Lies' is the best club song we've heard recently. Marry that with Brett's white-hot production and the fact that 'My Cassio' is a track that would jack the Sub Club upside down, and this is surely one of the singles of the year. (KM)

★★★★★

Q-BURNS ABSTRACT MESSAGE

Innocent (NRK)

With the cool King Britt mixes still getting major purist props, Joey Negro takes the Lisa Shaw mini-classic into Saturday night territory. This scores with great, Tenaglian drums, driving keys and the under-rated song is kept intact. Ms Shaw's great vocal delivery shines even brighter in her new sexier home. (TF)

★★★★★

SOLID GOLD PLAYAZ

Chicago Hustlin' EP (Bumping City)

'All tracks pimped, played and hustled by MK Smokin' T and KJ Gino' – so says the label, normally indicating that it's been made by some posh white kids from Ladbroke Grove. But, as it's on Greg Cash's fine Windy City imprint, we'll give them the benefit of the doubt. As you've probably guessed, it's more of that relentless boompty-boomp disco badness that we all love and which works the floors to death. File under ghetto traxx and play at plus four – ooohhhh, mmmm. [You alright, Terry? – Ed.] (TF)

★★★★★

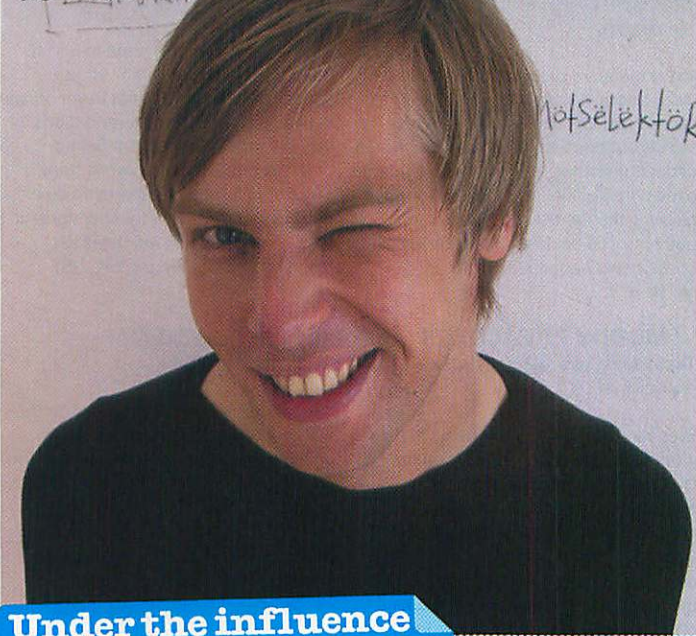
MASTERS AT WORK

FEATURING LYNE
Life Is But A Dream (MAW)

A lot of Louie Vega's recent output has been so soulful and jazzy that it's been scaring off all but the most 'right on' DJs. Well, this is classic MAW in vocal mode – great singer, great song, great arrangement. They've also got the balls to get a remix from the sadly under-rated Frankie Feliciano, and he turns in a really, super-deep mix. It's still got that urban vibe to satisfy the soul girls on the dancefloor and very modern beats for the geezers. Top shit. (TF)

★★★★★

Kiki: Good looking
bloke on house
page shocker!



Under the influence

Kiki

The 27-year old Finnish twisted houser – now relocated to Berlin – on the things that made him a man

PAIN AND HEARTBREAK FOR FUN AND PROFIT

"More or less everything I make is drawn from something that has happened to me in real life. For example, the 'Luv Sikk EP' on Bpitch happened when I was really down, heartbroken and messed up. It's always down to emotion."

DJS TAKE CONTROL

"DJing inspires me. 'Etheric', has a direct relevance to the time last summer in Spain and Greece when we did a load of free parties on beaches. It was like Woodstock."

HIP HOP HOORAY

"The do it yourself attitude of hip hop is what I liked most. In the early days of hip hop, DJing and scratching was all new and so creative. The whole idea of getting people together to be

creative rather than fighting in a pub is very inspiring."

SMACK MY BPITCH UP

"The biggest thing that affects what I do is my label, Bpitch Control. We have this big house in Berlin with three music studios, a graphics studio, a label office and a bookings office. Recently we beamed a projection saying 'No War'. It covered ten houses!"

ROUND THE HOUSES

"I used to study architecture and when I play a set, it is really affected by the surroundings. The music I play depends on the style of the building, its shape, decor and atmosphere." (KM)

Kiki & Silversurfer's 'Sleeza'/'Etheric' is out now on Crosstown Rebels. Kiki & Silversurfer's 'Wasp'/'Restless' is out now on Bpitch Control

Vital Release



SCAN X
Neurotronik
(F Communications,
France)

For a music form that prides itself in being forward looking, techno hasn't been that revolutionary of late. You could argue there's more innovation around r&b or even UK garage right now. That's precisely why this little gem is sitting pretty at the top of this page, because unlike almost

everything else this month, 'Neurotronik' actually sounds mad, bad and wonderfully dangerous to know, with dramatic, high-pitched strings clearing a path like a daisy-cutter bomb, before a Moroder b-line storms in amidst an artillery barrage of urgent hats and rides. The whole thing just races along, breaking down, kicking back in and finally dropping out. Job done. A truly awesome and very welcome slab of vinyl from F Comm. (DM)

★★★★★

GABE CANTANZARO

Nothing To Loose (Mental Groove, Switzerland)

Today there are probably more Italo-disco tracks released than in the genre's mid-Eighties heyday. This one stands out because Cantanzaro understands that, in this genre, writing a memorable hook is just as important as using the right synth sounds. So authentic you could almost believe acid house never happened. (DM)

★★★★

MOODY PREACHERS

Downward Spiral EP (Adrenogroov, Switzerland)

Even though Derrick May seems to have given up releasing records, his influence is still all over techno – and nowhere more so than on the Deetron and Dan Corco & Fred Carreira remixes here. Both use 'Strings Of Life'-style orchestral stabs as major hooks and the later version is awash with the kind of wonderfully furious, fast edit drum programming that made those early Transmat releases so exiting. (DM)

★★★★

REI LOCI

Faction (Seventh Sign)

Referencing B12, early Detroit and John Beltram, 'Faction' is a gentle glide into the realms of deep, stargazing electronica and as such is sure to delight fans of artists like Derek Car and Fabrice Lig. The flipside tracks have more dancefloor appeal, but they lack the emotional tug of the A-side. (DM)

★★★★★

VINCE WATSON

Blo Reshapes Volume 2 (Bio)

Though she's a proficient spinner, Mistress Barbara's productions have never convinced. Her remix here though, with its low slung bass, nifty drops and arpeggiated swirls really works a treat. Deetron and Jerome's versions are okay, but there's no contest – Barbara wins hands down. Good work, sista! (DM)

★★★★★

ADAM BEYER

Ignition Key Remixes (Truesoul)

Having proved there's more to his life than drum machines with last year's 'Ignition Key' album, Adam Beyer brings in two heavyweight reinterpretations in very contrasting styles. Aril Brikha provides the liquid funk, while flying Dutchman Speedy J delivers an epic, building, strafing dark thunderstorm of energy that only just manages to restrain itself from imploding. (JS)

★★★★★

MYSTERYMEN

Wide Apart (Disco B)

The Mysterymen glide into view on the electro-pop express. One can easily imagine the androgynous fashion-scum cognoscente voguing to their shimmering analogue groove, but there's enough grit here to carry the melodies into darker, thankfully less 'ironic' realms. (JS)

★★★★★

BERGHEIM 34

Random Access Memory
(Klang Elektronik)

The original here is a sublime slice of minimal house which Move D and D Man rough up without losing the subtleties of the original. Elsewhere, Swayzak add their unique sonic spin with scything electronics and loose drums before Super_Collider's Jamie Lidell beatboxes the show into ragga mash-up nirvana. Mind bending. (JS)

★★★★★

THE EMPEROR MACHINE

Pro Mars/SH3A (DC Recordings)

Two new tracks from the prolific Andy Meecham (Chicken Lips, Big 200, Sir Drew). Both are named after elderly synthesizers, and both are slices of shimmering, cinematic techno that would give John Carpenter a run for his sinister soundtrack money. Snaking its way through melodies, stabs and emotive chords, The Emperor Machine puts a spanner in electro's works. (JS)

★★★★★

MATEO MURPHY

Spectrum (Tronic)

Murphy (and occasional partner, louche electroclash ladyboy Tiga) gave us 2001's Yazoo-sampling 'Simulation' booty, but we'll forgive him on account of how good this is. All cavernous mid-range bass, relentless Latino carnival percussion and stonkingly pneumatic pads, this is a good, solid bit of crowd pleasing, big room-spinning tackle. (DM)

★★★★

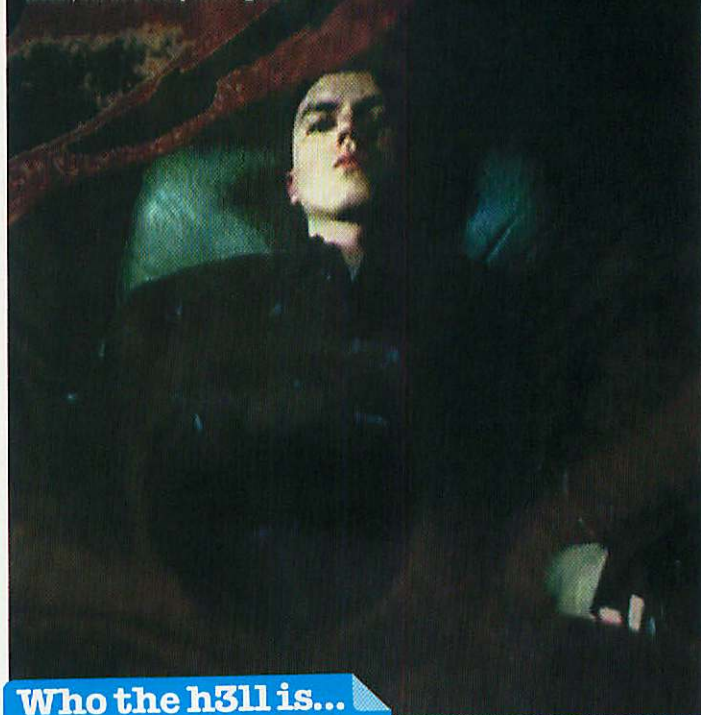
TERRY FRANCIS AND EDDIE RICHARDS

Garage Sessions Volume 1 (Lifted, USA)

Collaborations are mighty popular in the tech-house world, but as far as we can remember, this is the first time these two heavyweights have locked horns. Early reports from the field suggest that Evil Ed's mix of 'Breakfast At Tones' is the DJ's choice, but it's all pretty useable. (DM)

★★★★★

R3mote: He may look like a goth
toss3r, but he's really rather gr34t



Who the h3ll is...

R3mote

Big up 26 year-old Arts graduate David O'Malley: He's rinsing bare German Expressionist tings inna electro stylee

Your music references the darker side of electro-pop. Was that a major influence? "Well, I got an old Depeche Mode tape from the library when I was 13 and really started feeling their stuff. I like the idea of an organic song contained within the machinery of that cold, electronic medium."

What would you say to people who say you're living in the past? "It's just post modernism, innit? I think that I'm drawn to the Eighties because it's the first music I heard when I was a child."

You're not frightened to bear your soul through your lyrics are you? "I am just compelled to express myself that way. The lyrics on 'Remotion' are concerned with a response to the pain

that compels a fucker to go out and get fucked up. It has crossed my mind that if I wasn't making tracks I'd be smashing someone's head into a wall."

Do you think dance music is more open to lyrics nowadays? "I think so, yeah. If I go out and dance on the spot all night I find myself getting over-thoughtful. Words are weapons."

Does your background in art influence your music? "Probably, whether I like it or not. I was fascinated by German Expressionism and that may have influenced the way I started writing music too." (DM)

The 'Remotion' EP is out now on Rotters Golf Club

Vital Release



HOLDEN Break In The Clouds (Border Community)

When you're as far ahead of the pack as James Holden, there's really only one way to go – and that's to launch your own label. His uniquely engorged and throbbing talents are on full display on this debut release for Border

Community. Subtly layered, abstract, percussive loops and rhythms are in evidence from the off. Typically for Holden, it's very tech-edged, and it oozes along on a river of bass and staccato melody lines. With one foot in a bygone prog era and the other planted firmly in the future, Holden has upped the stakes once again, carrying the torch for the true spirit of progressive house. Essential.

★★★★★

GREED

I See You (Sog)

A hot contender for Vital Release this month, not only for the fantastic original, but also for the plethora of mighty fine mixes on offer. Nukem, Nalin, Minilogue and Van Bellen – when was the last time you saw that many top, if hard-to-spell, names on one release? All of them are sensible enough to keep Leslie Meguid's tantalising vocals – you just can't beat a good song – and the interpretations in every case are stunning. A must.

★★★★★

TILT

Left Of Centre EP (Trust The DJ)

The Brum boys return with a monster EP. 'Sirens', in two mixes, entwines stadium rock melodies with a trendy combo of softly spoken and ethnically wailed female vocals. That might sound like the worst thing ever but trust us – it's very cool. The incredible, downtempo 'Bitter and Twisted' also gets a full release here, and the package finishes in fine style with 'One Mile Deep' a dark, skanking reggae-tinged breakbeat beastie.

★★★★★

ICTUS

So Smooth/Party Bag (Dirty Blue)

After previously featuring on Dirty Blue's sister label Minimal Records, Ictus return with a funky, tribal, edgy, house-driven double-header. 'So Smooth' sits right in Howells/Lawler territory, while 'Party Bag' is a more New York-style cut, with a dark, if you will, Tenaglian vibe.

★★★★★

ROUZBEH DELAVARI

About You/020227 (Deep)

Following on nicely from the wonderful 'Petter', Deep continue to roll out the breaks with the spaced out prog breaks of 'About You'. '020227' on the flip is a speedier, darker, late night club rocker, with punchy, techy rhythms offsetting the driving rounded kick.

★★★★★

BUDS NOT BOMBS FEATURING IRINA

Deliodo (Baroque)

Once again, Baroque are on the money with this hot new double-pack. With mixes from Infusion, Coleman And Sen-sei and Buds Not Bombs, this is a simple pleasure – lively, uplifting and

driving, but also cool and underground. Merging Eastern chanting with chunky phat rhythms, Infusion's thundering mix is the pick of the bunch.

★★★★★

TOBI W

Nihil Nulla (Tune Inn)

Sog Records and Greed main man Tobie come with a stunningly different release. 'Nihil Nulla' mixes everything from live jazz to contemporary progressive house in a synth explosion that's equal parts Jean Michel Jarre, Pink Floyd and Brian Eno. A beautiful record that will be with us for a long time to come.

★★★★★

BRANCACCIO & AISHER

Everybody (Bedrock)

Get ready for the quirkiest record of the year so far! There are no atmospheric washes or epic breakdowns here. Instead, a crazy, almost childish, Bontempi-style riff carries throughout with an equally bizarre 'Everybody' vocal sample. For prog, this is pretty ground breaking stuff – hopefully people won't be put off by the wackiness.

★★★★★

TRANCE

Vital Release



BASIC DAWN Pure Thrust (Difuse)

A little pure thrust never did anyone any harm – unless of course you're unlucky enough to find yourself strapped under the launch pad of a rocket ship, as happened to me last

week. Basic Dawn is the work of elite Swiss born, Germany-based producer Dave Joy, who made such a big impression with, um, 'First Impression'. 'Pure Thrust' is another rip-roaring, titanium-plated trance missile, and with a host of storming mixes in tow, this is an unmissable trance package, guaranteed to leave dancefloors in tatters.

★★★★★

BEETSEEKERS

Walk Of Notes (Joof)

John Oooh Fleming unleashes his latest bomb, aided by Finnish producer Simo Paganus. This is a classy little trancer that drips with kinetic energy – it'll make you dance so much, you'll be 'paggard', as we say up north.

★★★★★

DJ CHOOSE PRESENTS

That Mucho (Release Me) (Drizzly)

A dark, dirty, malevolent trance track that just sounds NASTY through a big

system. This is a bad mother and no mistake – it starts baaaad, then just keeps getting more evil by the second, with an absolutely berserk synth breakdown putting the icing on the cake. Warning: it may be too much for you.

★★★★★

JOHN ASKEW

The Door (Discover)

Doorman John Askew boldly throws open his portal – dare you enter his sonic realm? Of course you do. John's colourful and animated style of trance is immediately accessible to all

connoisseurs. Just listen, and unlock the doors of your mind.

★★★★★

FATE FEDERATION

Mesmerize (Black Hole)

This is one of those brilliantly produced records that suggests there's a musician playing next to your turntables. Deep, melodic and highly hypnotic, 'Mesmerize' will draw you in with its richly intricate layers of sound. Intelligent trance for intelligent people.

★★★★★

MIRCO DE GOVIA

Things That Matter (Euphonic)

Mirco De Govia consistently impresses with his slick production, imaginative melodies and pulse racing arrangement. 'Things That Matter' is no exception. The Ralph Kyau and Albert remixes will have you arguing over which is best.

★★★★★

NICK RILEY & ANDI DURRANT

Candesco (Recover)

Recover are currently in the process of taking over the world, releasing records

left right and centre. That's no bad thing considering the quality of each track. Here, Nick and Andi combine their production skills to craft a blindingly smooth trance workout. The Wavestorm mix goes right off.

★★★★★

SILVESTER

One More Step to Heaven (Impetuous)

If you were a bit thick, you might confuse this Silvester with the Sylvester who made quite unfeasibly ace – and equally unfeasibly gay – disco choons many, many moons ago. This Silvester, however, produces high calibre, big rifting trance, and he's every bit his namesake's equal in terms of excellence.

★★★★★

NITROMETHANE

Time To Die (Anjunabeats)

What a wicked, evil title! When this little scorcher first surfaced last year on the Dutch label Captivating, we were convinced it would be a huge club anthem, but it never quite made it. Thank fuck Anjunabeats have had the good sense to sign this turbulent trancer and give it the exposure it deserves.

★★★★★

Vital Release



T'KOLAI
Teak All Eye
(Chilli Funk)

This album was born out of the love that two Washington based friends have for quality, meaningful, Motown and Stax-style soul. T'Kolai are Taha 'T' Elroubi and Nicolas 'Kolai' Laget, whose friendship was cultivated after DJing together at Washington DC's premier dance venue Club Andalu

back in 1999. Their soul searching, soul satisfying deep house album is very special indeed and should be welcomed by chill DJs like Phil Mison as much as soul heads. A deeply moving listening experience, the journey that 'Teak All Eye' takes you on is a beautiful one, suggesting new routes with every press of the 'play' button. Yes my friends, this is a truly life changing experience, full of peace, love and unity. So open up to the deep, emotional sounds of T'Kolai!

★★★★★

ANDRICKA HALL

Stay Inside My Life (SoulShine)

A helping of inspirational, American, black dance that oozes quality from start to finish. Brilliant, uplifting vocals from Miss Hall placed over a wonderful backbeat, produced with love and affection by Louis Benedetti. Add to that some smooth mixes from Jamie Lewis and you have some wicked future soul, no problem at all.

★★★★★

KINDRED

The Family Soul To Love album sampler (Hidden Beach)

Former Motown A&R chief Steve McKeever has really started something with Hidden Beach. Here, he introduces some new kids from the Philadelphia underground scene, enlisting the help of cult producer Steve Harvey to give their voices wings. For those who like their soul raw and uncut, this is for you.

★★★★★

DJ POPE & MUSTAPHA

Sign Of The Times (white label)

Oh boy, this is such a superb song. Imagine Gil Scott-Heron meeting Osunlade and you'll have an idea what this sounds like. Jazz meets raw, stripped rhymes and beats, making this one for those who like their music eclectic and cutting-edge. It's unadulterated soulful dance, for open minded lovers of the groove. Ten minutes of the most celestial sounds this side of Heaven. Amen to that.

★★★★★

Albums

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Full Flava: Colour Of My Soul (Dome)

Dome head honcho Peter Robinson is riding high at present having just signed the new Incognito LP. This time, though he's showcasing some of the best female voices the scene has to offer. From Carleen Anderson to Beverlei Brown, Alison Limerick, Donna Gardier, Hazel Fernandes, Donna Odain and Ce Ce Peniston, it's pure modern soul music from start to finish. Sisters, quite literally, doing it for themselves!

★★★★★

TIMELESS LEGEND

Synchronized (Escrow)

Back in those delightful, Afro-haired days of 1976, four young hopefuls from Columbus, Ohio produced what many believe to be the first truly modern soul album. 1980 saw these same, by now slightly older hopefuls score full points on the UK underground soul scene with the single 'I Was Born To Love You'. Now for the first time some sly fox has pulled together all of their best bits for your perusal. You need this.

★★★★★

CRYSTAL WINDS

First Flight (Escrow)

It's always good to see new UK labels dedicated to releasing the rarest and most beautiful unearthed gems from the world of soulful black music. This is their second release and one that originally dates from 1982. The UK modern soul scene warmed to the 'Love Ain't Easy' single in the mid-Eighties, but this long player eluded most of us at the time, and Crystal Winds will now be an unfamiliar name to many. But it's an extremely fine slice of sweet Chicago soul, long overdue a wider audience.

★★★★★

Roots & DANCEHALL

Trainspotting

Reviews by Kevin Martin

Vital Release



CEDRIC IM BROOKS
Cedric Im Brooks & The Light Of Saba
(Honest Jones)

Having worshiped John Coltrane, been smitten by Ethiopian music and studied under Count Ossie's Mystic Revelation drummers, Cedric Im Brooks conjured a bewitchingly beautiful blend of earthy

roots, liquid jazz, sweet soul and playful Afro-beat in the Seventies. From the majestic incantations of 'Satta Massa Gana' to the tribal mantra of 'Outcry', this extraordinarily uplifting retrospective taps into the joyous spirit of Sun Ra, as the minstrel shape-shifters transform nyahbingi folk messages into celestial anthems. Pure bliss for headspace wanderers.

★★★★★

BIGGA DREAD

Batty Dread (Chariot)

Badboy slapstick that might be the work of Chris Morris, but then again, might be by a Norwich brickie. 'Batty Dread' and 'Closet Bwoy' stretch anti-homophobic pissets across stiff, overlong dancehall pastiche, but the flip, 'Special Request' is sheer genius, and more than a little terrifying. 'Special request to all serial killah' proclaims Killawatt Valley, before bigging up Hindley and Brady over a virulent Studio One simulation. Certifiably sick.

★★★★★

BUJU BANTON

Neva Know (CJ)

Produced by Christopher 'CJ' James, this double-time derangement sounds like Rephlex records mating with Lenky. The 'Robbery' rhythm is a truly offbeat, breathless collision of skittering beats and warped pulsations, sounding like jungle made by a five year-old abusing the tools of the swingbeat trade. Ward 21 And Zumjay and Anthony B may provide better performances on this zany backbeat, but 'Neva Know' shows Buju can still chat up a storm.

★★★★★

WINSTON NINEY HOLNESS

Mutiny (PK)

'Mutiny' is a fierce steppas rhythm that carries a resolutely conscious message deep into the dancehall. Sounding like Burning Spear being dubbed out by King Tubby, Niney's under appreciated vocal is potent, riding on his typically awesome production. On the flip, The Observers are shown in technicolour, as their lethal ska machine rides on hi-octane skank fuel for the effortlessly catchy 'Zorro', and the supaslinky locomotion of 'Cutting Sword.'

★★★★★

Albums

VARIOUS ARTISTS

High Explosion: DJ Sounds From 1970-76 (Trojan)

Trojan cull 50 classic examples of the toaster's trade from their vaults, as logic defying streams of patois-packed consciousness illuminate the roots of rap in a tribute to mouth almighty deejays. Rightfully leading with U-Roy's anthem 'Rule the Nation', there's an abundance of classic talent, ranging from Big Youth to Dennis Alcapone, via Prince Far I and Dillinger. Irresistible.

★★★★★

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Tai Chi (VP)

One of dancehall's finest recent rhythms gets the full, 15-track gang bang treatment, and unusually, for a single rhythm selection, the results are brazenly seductive from beginning to end. The oriental bluegrass shuffle is a gift to bogle babes and freakbeat fiends alike, and with young guns (Chico, Monster Twins) joining war vets (Lady Saw, Bounty Killer and Red Rat), crucial status is confirmed. Apart from the lack of an instrumental, it's virtually impossible to find fault with this lazily funky floor filler.

★★★★★

GHETTO PRIEST

Vulture Culture
(On-U-Sound)

Capturing Sherwood in attack mode, this showcase album for Headcharge contributor Ghetto Priest is essential for Babylonian warriors and bass fiends. From the subversive radiance of the anti-slavery anthem 'Dungeon' to the anti-government steppa 'Masters Of Deception', Priest dishes out honey-coated bitterness to devastating effect. Priceless treasures from a golden voice.

★★★★★

Vital Release

PHASE 2:
• Body

VARIOUS ARTISTS Phase 2: Body (Defunked)

Defunked's 'Mind, Body & Soul' project gets fully into its stride with an even better second installment. First up, Aquasky's 'Strobe Light' is like a Swerve track that's been fed through a mangle: mean, intense and utterly

undanceable. Blue Sonix's 'Move Up Close' and Dice's 'Gimme Your Love' both use the laid back, spacious breaks we've been hearing a lot of lately, punctuated by addictive little vocal samples – very 2003. The highlight is label boss Fellowship's rough, raw 'So Real', which consists of little more than a gritty break, a deep King Tubby bassline and the sweetest, suggestive string caress. Can't wait for 'Soul'.

★★★★★

LONDON ELEKTRICITY Billion \$ Gravy (Hospital)

Hot from the forthcoming album of the same name, this rolls out in a sublimely melancholic style with elements of both Calibre (cut up, patterned vocals) and High Contrast (a womb-like bass moan). Flipside 'Harlesden' plays a variation on a similar theme with a live-sounding break, a warmly quivering bassline and vocals warped into enchanted yelps. Subtle, lyrical and wickedly physical.

★★★★★

R.A.G.E. Time Check (L-Plates)

Two pieces of searing darkside for people who like their breaks raw. 'Time Check' lays the "Too much war and too much blood" sample (previously used back in late 2000 on Digital's 'Fix Up') over a blurry bass-drone and scuttling, Rufuge Kru-esque drums to wreak a cold, cold frenzy. Equally good, 'Buzz' recalls early Ed Rush & Nico stuff with its horror film eeriness and hypnotic, long limbed breaks. Step with caution.

★★★★★

BLU MAR TEN Infected (Deep Structure)

A hypnotic little stepper from Good Looking regulars Blu Mar Ten. The beats seem absurdly simple at first, but the chattering percussive motif that pops up a third of the way in really makes the track, helped by a brief snatch of cheesily riffing piano. On the other side, 'Blu Runner' is a familiar piece of drifting, Bukem-esque spacefunk, raised out of the ordinary by its complex percussion.

★★★★★

UTAH JAZZ The Jazz Theme (Fallen Angels 21st Century)

Just as influenced by the disco sound as it is by jazz, 'The Jazz Theme' clatters along with tinny beats, thunderous bass detonations and some nice percussive touches. It's already big in the clubs but the breaks are perhaps not as strong as they could be. Overleaf, 'No Turning Back' lays the classic "Give yourself to me" sample over subliminal crowd sounds and rattling drums. Somehow, though, this one irritates more than it thrills.

★★★★★

FERNANDO PORTO Sambassim (MadZoo 2003 Mix) (SambaLoco, Brazil)

One of the tracks that kicked off the whole Brazilian thing, 'Sambassim' first appeared (remixed by DJ Patife and MadZoo) on V's 'Brazil EP'. Now it gets a nifty little reworking for 2003, with a synthetic-sounding version of Fernanda's 'Soinha De Ser Com Voce' on the flip. They're both pleasant enough, and it's great to hear those vocals again on the title cut, but it's not radically different from the original – how about letting a producer like Calibre get his hands on some Brazilian tracks? That really would be something.

★★★★★

VARIOUS ARTISTS Vintage Dread II sampler (Dread)

Four shots of classic Dread weaponry, ranging from the severely overdone to the darkly sublime. The Twisted Anger remix of Ray Keith's 'Something Out There' takes the malevolence into the cartoon zone, but the Simon Le Bon-sampling 'Sal's Theme' from London's Most Wanted sounds as dolefully brilliant as ever. The 'Chopper' VIP is a little too disjointed to gain any real momentum, but what can you say about Ray Keith's 'UFO'? One of the great jungle tracks, its rattling, bouncing, sneaker-wearing breaks are a masterclass in beat construction.

★★★★★

DYLAN Dark Planet (Freak)

Prepare yourselves for the most vicious Amen-onslaught of 2003. 'Be There 4 U', the first release on Dylan's Freak imprint, was always going to be a hard act to follow, but this easily matches it

for grandeur and ferocity, with its deadly, deadly beats. 'Chicago Sound' ("Take a walk on the house side") comes with a Todd Terry sample, breakless beats and filters aplenty. How about taking a walk on the jungle side instead?!

★★★★★

MARK XTC Rollin' Beats (Beatz)

Erstwhile Marcus Intalex collaborator Mark XTC takes over for the third release on the new Valve offshoot. 'Rollin' Beatz' is as funkily militaristic as you'd expect from any label associated with Dillinja, the metallic breaks chewing up and spitting out anything that gets in their way. Fans of Aphrodite and the bass-propelled funk of Calibre should also check. On the other side, 'Keys' sounds like a piano hitched to a Patriot missile launcher. Go get 'em, boys.

★★★★★

Albums

VARIOUS ARTISTS Sambass (Cuadra, Italy)

There's a blend of the obvious and the unexpected on this Brazilian-themed selection. Into the former category fall Fernanda Porto's much played hits 'Sambassim' and 'Soinha De Ser Com Voce', Drumagick's already-classic 'Easy Boom' and Landslide's 'Drum & Bossa'. They're all good, if not a little overexposed. But even if they're already in your box, you should bag this for London Elektricity's bass-heavy remix of Zuco 103's 'Humana', which shows how much the delicate bossa licks benefit from some slightly harder beats. Elsewhere, the beautiful Cosmonautics version of Funk Como Le Gusta's 'Meu Guarda Chuva' strays into broken beats territory.

★★★★★

Under the influence



Drumagick

Junior Deep and his brother Gui Lopes are the hottest new producers in Sao Paulo. Junior reveals what makes 'em tick...

Sao Paulo "Sao Paulo is the second biggest city in the world and it's an awesome place. There are so many different cultures and influences. African, Native Indian, Italian, Portuguese, Arab – it's all there. Think concrete jungle with a tropical twist." **Nightlife** "Nightlife is where we cut our teeth. I just love going out to different types of clubs, whether samba, drum & bass or house." **Music** "Listening to different styles of music, always keeping in touch with what's hot and new, as well as going back to classic rare shit too." **Mary** "My girlfriend. She's been with me from day one and she's an

inspiration. She's also one of the only female drum & bass DJs in Brazil." **DJs** "Sometimes people forget how much effort and dedication go into being a good DJ. Gilles Peterson and Fabio are the absolute dons for me." **Technology** "The amount of new technology available at the moment is crazy. All the software and plug-ins we use to make our music... it's like an addiction: the more you have, the more you want!"

'Sambaloco Classics' is out now. Drumagick's next single 'Malandrangem' [Samba slang for 'bad bwoy business'] will be released in the summer

Vital Release



LEWS TEWNS & NOBSTA NUTTS Poverty Is Thirsty Work (Wonky Wax)

Ever wondered why the Welsh rugby team is stranded up shit creek these days? It's because the principality's youth have decided to spend their time making really, really fucked up hip hop instead of getting their noses broken and ears cauliflowered. Last month it was the Headcase

Ladz, now the man Nobsta returns with Lews Tewns, and produces a fucking genius platter. Neither easy and obvious nor particularly difficult or abstruse, this whole thing is obsessed with council estate, dole queue stinkiness, rather than ghetto fabulous nonsense. As a result, it won't get on MTV Base, but the mixture of hard, fairly straight beats, ultra-odd musical bits and Mr Tewns' and Mr Nutts' full-on Welsh flow is nothing short of irresistible.

★★★★★

FALLACY

Big 'N Bashy (Virgin)

Is it another 'Groundbreaker'? No, but it is a really fine tune, augmented by the presence of the one and only Tubby T on chorus duty. Fallacy charges through his rhymes just like you'd expect and Fusion comes through with another brutally effective rhythm that will bang the arse out of any club sound system. A lovely taster for the album. [See p24 for more Fallacy - Ed.]

★★★★★

KID ACNE

Zub Zub Rockers (Electro Caramel)

"Check out my Benny Hill figure/In my Tommy Hilfiger". We dig Kid Acne. He's a fucking loon from Lutterworth, which is actually nearer to Coalville than Nottingham is, if you get my point. He raps nicely on this, coming over like a non-obnoxious Beasties, but with way more to say. Nifty.

★★★★★

DPF

Mental Floss EP (Son)

The sometime Def Tex collaborator releases a rather sparky six tracker of his own. Ranging from jazz through to reggae, a Black Adder pastiche, total backward weirdness and some downbeat oddness, DPF acquits himself admirably throughout. Completely confident and eccentrically fly.

★★★★★

THE PLANETS

The Epic (Dyna Mic)

The Planets return with a big blaster of an EP that sees them hooking up with producers Dug Infinite and guests like Junior Reid and Prince Po of Organized Konfusion (who they coax an amazing performance out of). The overall sound is very East Coast American, but the Planets hold their own throughout. Without doubt their most polished, confident work - better mixed, better put together and hungrier than much equivalent US underground fodder.

★★★★★

DAMAGED GOODZ

Brainwaves/Hustle 2003 (Powercut)

The lead cut on the latest single from the veteran Glasgow crew is a descending soul bumper with a keyboard line which gives it a distinctly Celtic feel. On the flip, stand out track 'Hustle 2003' combines a piano stab with some off-key electronics and solid lyrics from the group and guest Freestyle Master.

★★★★★

PART 2 & MR TAILOR

Tell Dem (Genuine)

Two thirds of New Flesh in shameful lesbian rhyme shocker! Seriously, folks, Part 2 laces up a thumping, bumping old-to-the-new beat and Toastie, freed from the abstract shackles of tha Flesh, gets to talk durrry durrry all up in your face. It works, it works! Ooh, Mr Tailor!

★★★★★

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Party Animals/Seen Red (YNR)

It's been three years already since Jehst's YNR arrived on the scene, and they've got a compilation incoming. To promote it, this double A-side comes through with one genuine party tune and a fantastic posse cut featuring Farma G, Jehst, Skriblah and Supa T (although he's called Sundragon now, apparently). The production is good throughout and you know they can all rhyme.

★★★★★

Albums

JAGUAR SKILLS

Revenge Of The Ninjas (Tokyo Bronx)

Wondering what happened to Matt Ckllz, legendary [In the sense that nobody knows who he is - Ed.] editor of Fatboss and sometime meditator? Well, during time off from his day job, he's been piecing together this intricate, odd mix album using two minidisc players. It's the kind of outsider art project Jarvis Cocker would love, but the rest of us should love it, too. Matt, we salute you, you mad fuck.

★★★★★

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Dark N Cold Dubplate Hosted By MCD
(Dark N Cold)

It looks like MCD's album for Ronin isn't going to come out. Don't be vex though, as in the meantime we've got this 36-track dubplate-on-CD special to contend with. It's raggedy rough round the edges, raw and immediate, but MCD himself is always worth listening to anyway, and this provides just enough of the sometime Silent Eclipse man to keep you happy.

★★★★★

DOYEN D

Game (Street Legal)

The Sheffield MC comes through with a full length of hardcore thug-lunatic northern poetry. "Sat in a chatroom with a million naked Britneys/Some of them 50/All of them savages". D's a disturbed mixture of bravado, self-hatred and humour which, in our book, makes him a compelling lyricist. He's also unconventional in his delivery, but genuinely very good with it.

★★★★★



State of the artist

Daddy Kev

The LA production powerhouse shares some thoughts

What have you been up to recently?

"Production-wise, I've been focused on wrapping up the new Busdriver album, and working on material from Shapeshifters and Awol, as well as various EPs"

How would you describe your production style?

"I'm usually pretty bad at describing my own stuff, but I like to think that I'm versatile. I've spent the last few years trying to demonstrate that I can do the dark vibes and the light vibes, and everything in between."

If you could work with anyone, living or dead, who would it be?

"Alive, Kurt Elling. Deceased, Miles Davis."

What was the first production you ever did?

"I got an old Akai S01 sampler back in college. That thing was janky as fuck, but I MIDI-ed it up

to my computer at the time and made some of the worst beats in history. This was all circa '93, '94ish."

What was the most recent?

"Most recent would be some of the Busdriver material. Nowadays all of my production happens in ProTools, so I feel like I'm able to do a lot more than I was with a drum machine and sampler."

What's the best record you've heard in the last six months that you weren't involved in?

"There's an underground group out here called the Dyslexic Speed Readers. It's on a comedy-rap type vibe and it gets really cheesy at some points, but the lyrics are truly remarkable."

Daddy Kev & Awol One's album 'Slanguage' is out now on Mush

Vital Release



ZERO Emit/Collect (Rennie Pilgrem Remix) (Streetwise)

This is a big, big tune. Rennie comes right and exact (as we say in the West Country) on this remix, taking the quirky, ravey riff of the original and simply working it in all the right places. The track builds and drops where it needs to, maintaining a taut,

sweat-drenched energy throughout. The drums are fat and tight, and the whole thing is underpinned by a deep, deep sub-bass that rumbles along exultantly. 'Emit/Collect' is definitely one of Rennie's strongest mixes to date and features some of his best beats ever. That's why it's currently in the boxes of all the heavyweight breaks DJs. A peak-time floor filler that masterfully moves breakbeat into a more accessible arena. (DB)

★★★★★

AQUASKY VERSUS MASTERBLASTER

Krush Groove/Cobra (Passenger)

On 'Krush Groove', the boys show us that it's not all about basslines like steel girders, with a deep and techy breakbeat choon that grooves along on a beat that's tighter than a Spanish waiter's trousers, rolling under melodic keys and warm strings. 'Cobra' has them in more familiar territory, harassing bass bins and scarring dancefloors. (T)

★★★★★

PLANET FUNK

Who Said (Mogwai Remix) (Illustrious)

Moggy goes on a punk breaks trip on this huge house anthem. The structure of the original is pretty much kept intact, while a tough, no-nonsense break is strapped underneath, with the mix tweaked in all the right spots allowing for mountainous builds and drops. If you're down with vocals, you'll love this. (DB)

★★★★★

CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

Damage Control (Mob)

Previously noted for their debut 'Dub Ting' on Freakaboom, and an excellent remix of label-mates NuBreed, CITC strike out on their own. 'Damage Control' is a rattling electro-dubber, while 'My Loose Tooth', featured on the last Y4K album, is a groovalicious dose of p-funk. These three lads are tipped by Rennie Pilgrem, BLIM and their Mob boss, so they must be good. (DB)

★★★★★

DJ SCRIBBLE VERSUS MR REDS

People Come On (Stanton Warriors Edit) (WEA)

What seems like years ago now, the Stantons threw together a Busta Rhymes vocal with the simplest, rudest breakbeat garage tune of the moment. And the people – they did bounce. Eventually all the grown-ups caught up with it, and by the time this review comes out, you'll probably be heartily sick of it. Still, killer tune nevertheless. (T)

★★★★★

RHINO DRUM

Shake It (Choo Choo)

A wicked two tracker from Sheffield prog people Choo Choo. The deepest of electro-breaks in a progressive stylee, with a bassline to toast the coldest of hearts. That it is to be found proudly residing in the front of boxes owned by Marine Parader Adam Freeland and James Zabiela should give you an indication of just what kind of excellent tune this is. Alternatively, it might mean toss all to you, in which case, what on earth are you doing reading this page? (T)

★★★★★

ARTIST UNKNOWN

Reckless Dub/Break Me With You (Punks)

A new label specialising in bootylicious beats. As the titles suggest, huge house cuts of yesteryear 'Reckless Girl' and Cosmos 'Take Me With You' are put to the test in a style reminiscent of... Well, that would be telling wouldn't it? (T)

★★★★★

BUSHWACKA!

Break Your Face (Plank)

Matthew B proves again that his production skills extend to breaks as well as house. 'Break Ya Face' is an understated groove, loaded up with a pile of captivating sounds. The rhythms and melodies have a warm, old school feel that maintain energy throughout the track. Another top Plank release. (DB)

★★★★★

SOUND ALLIANCE

From Home (Hexadecimal Remix) (Distinctive Breaks)

Dirty, funky-out breakbeat from this Nottingham based crew, with a filtered bass riff riding roughshod over jamming beats and live sounding edits. A vocal sample completes the picture, making another pretty decent release from the Distinctive stable. (DB)

★★★★★

MEAT KATIE & ELITE FORCE

Juju (TCR)

The same but different from Mark Pember and Shack on TCR. 'Juju' does the house breaks thing like you know it would, and the dancefloor will certainly sway to the bassline and 303 combination, though a surprise or two would be welcome. Apollo Kids break things up in style on the flip. (T)

★★★★★

TWO SINNERS

Timepiece (2S2)

Fresh from solo success, Klaus 'Heavyweight' Hill gets back in the studio with Karl Hovland for a long overdue Sinners release. 'Timepiece' fuses all the best ingredients of drum & bass and garage, then boils it down to a tasty breaks jus. 'Kingpin' on the other side is a dope tech-house joint. (T)

★★★★★

PFN

Fascination (10 Kilo)

PFN have been unable to resist the pull of the oh-so-vogueish Eighties thingy, effectively switching codes from good electro to okay electronica. They've even pulled in the Droyds to help out. Thank heavens then for Stirfy's remix. Hidden away on the B-side of the limited ten-inch release, it's better than all the other mixes put together. (T)

★★★★★



State of the artist

Pressure Drop

A beginner's guide to the sound of veteran beatsmiths Justin Drake and Dave Henley

Justin "The first track under the name Pressure Drop was a collaboration between us and Gareth Pasker and Mike Pugsley called 'Feeling Good' in 1990 which was a real breakbeat garage tune. They really wanted to pursue that avenue, but we wanted to branch out."

Justin "Running through all our albums is that core of reggae because it is one of the primary stepping stones for music, as we see it."

Justin "When we used to play God's Country at The Wag and Artists Against Apartheid in Covent Garden with Jerry Dammers we'd play a lot of James Brown and soundtrack stuff,

loads of go-go and all the hip hop that was coming over at the time, like early Tribe Called Quest."

Dave "I used to do the back rooms for a lot of Junior Boy's Own parties, spinning mainly reggae."

Dave "We do like our bottom end. When we were on Sony we worked with Tipper and he did a really classy mix of 'Got To Be For Real' for us. That was when he was doing the big, bassy stuff on Fuel and that's always been a big part of our sound." (CS)

The album 'Food Of Love' is out May 19th on One Eye. The single 'You're Mine' with Adam Freeland mixes is out now

Vital Release



B2K
Girlfriend (Sony)

Don't be fooled – B2K are not a US version of Blue. They may be a boy band, but this is one of the hottest r&b joints around. In its original, album form, *'Girlfriend'* was a fairly unremarkable, mid-tempo cut, but R

Kelly, in partnership with mix-tape king Ron G, has completely overhauled it. With a string-laden backing worthy of Dr Dre, Kelly gives the tune a shot of pure adrenaline that the B2K boys match with their vocals, starting out mimicking 50 Cent, before moving onto the Beastie Boys in verse two, then really shakking out on the choruses. This *'Girlfriend'* demands your attention.

★★★★★

DIZZEE RASCAL

I Luv U (Remix) (XL Recordings)

Just had to slup this one in [*As the Bishop said to the choirboy – Ed.*]. The rascal's monster UK garage track was one of the rudest dubplates of last year and now it finally gets a full release, with a more r&b-flava'd remix. 18 year-old Dizze is one of the fiercest wordists to emerge from the grimey scrum of British MCs, with enough lyrical skills to take him far beyond just the garage scene. This is real talent – watch this space.

★★★★★

FABOLOUS

Damn (Elektra)

This is a treble helix-style twisted track which appeared fleetingly as a B-side but now gets a proper release. It's all about the sparse, off-kilter electronic beat, to which the Harlem MC adds his trademark, drawing rhymes. There's more commercial offerings on the new LP, sure, but few are finer than this.

★★★★★

DWELE

Find A Way (Virgin)

With stoner-soul talents like Slum Village and J-Dilla coming through, Detroit could well be the new Philadelphia. The latest Motor City star in the ascendant is Dwele. Like all the best Philly joints, his material is couched quite firmly in the Seventies, but it's executed so skillfully that any retro quibbles soon evaporate like blunt smoke.

★★★★★

BEYONCE/MARY J BLIGE

In Da Club (white label)

A semi-official bootleg that sees Houston rocket Beyonce and elder stateswoman Mary J face off with rival r&b versions of 50 Cent's *'In Da Club'*. Old Mary turns in an admirable effort, but youth royally triumphs over experience in dis *'Club'*, as Beyonce wins the battle of the r&b divas with a trademark slice of dreamy, come-hither thug-lovin'.

★★★★★

COMMON FEATURING ERYKAH BADU, Q TIP AND PHARRELL WILLIAMS

Come Close (Closer Remix) (MCA)

Originally produced by James Poyser, J-Dilla (aka Jay Dee) has re-tweaked *'Come Close'*, using a hefty slice of Tribe Called Quest's *'Bonita Applebum'* as the backing track. The presence of Q Tip gives the whole package a royal seal of approval, but it's Williams' vocals that steal the show. An inspired overhaul.

★★★★★

KARDINAL OFFSHALL

Belly Dancer (Orange Label)

Showing that the Neptunes don't only work with big buck artists, the golden Virginian duo deliver a truly demented beat on this low-key seven-inch release from Canada's indie hip hop, Kardinal Offishall. The Kardinal blesses the backing track in his usual, ragga-infused style, relating a gimy little tale about an erotic dancer. It's mad stuff, but with the Neptunes on board, it's dancefloor friendly too. Pure nastiness that you need.

★★★★★

GINUWINE

Hell Yeah (Remix) (Epic)

The second killer R Kelly remix of the month shows that whatever legal battles go on outside the studio, they're forgotten when he gets behind the desk. Playful vocals have always been an integral part of Kelly's musical arsenal and here he excels – at one point even riffing on *'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang'*. With support from the perhaps unfortunately named Baby and Clipse, by the time the tune makes it to the original chorus, Kelly's got this sewn up. Even if you own the original, you'll be dipping your hand in your pocket again, unless of course you're Abu Hamza.

★★★★★

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

Rock Your Body (Jive)

Showing that he's still an old soul boy at heart, Paul Oakenfold – not a regular visitor to this page, let's face it – has rebuilt this track along the lines of Slave's Seventies funk classic *'Just A Touch Of Love'*. But, if the Oakenphant mix is a bridge too far for you, the brilliant original version is also included, again illustrating the debt young Timbo owes old Jacko.

★★★★★

NOVE L

Peach (Rawkus)

Rawkus have been dallying with r&b-infused hip hop for some time but now dip their toes into the r&b arena proper with male vocalist Nove L Peach. This is very much in a D'Angelo, histrionic hip hop soul style but thankfully makes enough of an impression to lift it above the slurry of tracks in that vein.

★★★★★

KELLY ROWLAND

Can't Nobody (Columbia)

This follow up to *'Stole'* is perhaps the most obvious, out-and-out r&b hit on Rowlands' debut solo album. Slick without being boring, there's a descending vocal hook on the chorus that will burrow its way into your head like a man-eating cockroach.

★★★★★

MARY J BLIGE

Hot Sex (white label)

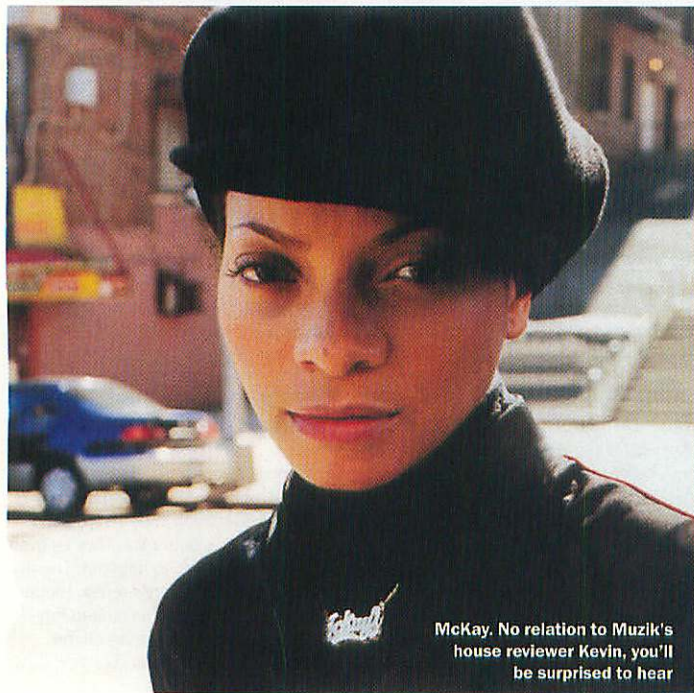
Another record to add to the pile of Mary J bootlegs. This one sees Mary climbing on top of Tribe Called Quest's *'Hot Sex'*, and we reckon it might be a semi-official stop-gap release rather than a 'proper' bootie. It's a useful DJ tool, sure, but how about some proper new releases from r&b's first lady?

★★★★★

The five-step plan

McKay

The former session musician and dancer tells Muzik how to get to the top



McKay. No relation to Muzik's house reviewer Kevin, you'll be surprised to hear

Tour with Talib Kweli "I thought I knew about hip hop but he really educated me with the tunes they played on the tour bus. I gave him a 12-inch, but I don't know if he's listened to it yet."

Be a guitarist in Kells' band "This guy saw me play and asked me to play with Kells. I was in my own girl supergroup and got to live out my fantasy of being a rock star!"

Get Portishead producer Geoff Barrow to work on your album "We went into the studio and because we didn't really know each other, I was really tough. Then we became friends

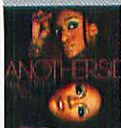
and I was like, 'wow, he knows how to put an album together'."

Sign to Go! Beat "When I was younger, I got signed for a girl group and the record didn't come out. But I learned from that, so I know what I'm doing now."

And... "Next, I can't wait to play live again. When you're on tour for as long as I was, it's in your blood. Sammy Davis Junior is my idol – he played an instrument, he sang, he danced. When I reach that level, then I'll stop." (LC)

The debut album *'McKay'* is out now on Go! Beat

Vital Release



ANOTHERSIDE This Is Your Night (DND Vocal Mix) (J-Did)

There's always a buzz when a new DND production lands. Always on point, this team of five became the first UK garage remixers to break the US Billboard charts with their remix of Daniel Bedingfield's 'Gotta Get Thru

This. This debut release for cousins Alani (ex-Kleshay) and Celena (ex-Honeyz), is a jamming, funk-fuelled riddim track, with a skanking bassline, blessed by a sassy combination of vocals and hooky, sing-a-long lyrics. A definite summer anthem, 'This Is Your Night' will bring out the weekend hedonist in you – even if you're only hearing it through a bad PA at your local Ritzy. (CF)

★★★★★

STICKY FEATURING KELE LE ROC Things We Do (Social Circles)

We've waited for what seems like a lifetime for this to get an official release, so waste no time in heading straight for the Sticky 'Triplets' instrumental. This is the epitome of 21st Century urban soul, laced with Ms Le Roc's emotive crooning. Even the most hardened garage thug will want to stroke a kitten as this gets the rewind time and time again. (CF)

★★★★★

BIG\$HOT The Old Skool EP (Southside)

Forget any preconceptions you may have regarding Big\$hot. While the production remains as tight as a virgin, the grime disposal unit have been called in and created 'So Much', 'Lonely', and 'Legacy' – three of the finest old school-style tracks we've heard in a long time, proving this sound is still very much alive. Squeeze this one onto your mum's shopping list. (CF)

★★★★★

JAMELIA FEATURING RAH DIGGA Bout (The Remixes) (Parlophone)

A bountiful remix package here. Sticky takes it easy, providing a catchy, lady-friendly starter. Danny Weed from Roll Deep and Target from Pay As U Go flip it like a bitch on the main course, showing just how dirty Jamelia and Flipmode first lady Rah Digga can sound over a blazing bassline. Delinquents top off the floor-show with a cool, old school vibe. C'mon you sluts, invest! (CF)

★★★★★

PD SYNDICATE FEATURING ELEPHANT MAN Zoom Zoom (Public Demand)

An excellent collaboration here, featuring the world-conquering dancehall legend behind 'Log On', and the English production team that gave us 'Ruffneck Sound'. The outcome is a predictably rinsing mix of two-step and grimy four-to-the-floor beats, powering Elephant Man's gruffly menacing ragga chatter. A release that's exciting and original and merges different genres – let's hope the competition are taking notes. (DC)

★★★★★

BILLY CRAWFORD You Didn't Expect That (Jaimeson Remix) (V2)

An outstanding mix from Jaimeson, continuing to develop the sound of his wicked hit single 'True'. Jaimeson uses his trademark, punchy beats and roaring basslines to create a feral, hungry club monster, which is good because the lyrics here are so bad, they rival the S Club Juniors. Watch out for the dub remix from the first run of white labels as it'll never be repressed. (DC)

★★★★★

BLACKJACK Queen Of Hearts (white label)

South London producer/DJ Blackjack has been building his name on the circuit for a few years now and this EP has been causing pandemonium on acetate. 'Queen Of Hearts' is a Wiley and Jammer style banger which will keep the ladies bubbling on the dancefloor just as much as the geezers. The other track to watch out for is the twisted 'Death', which sounds remarkably similar to Dizzee Rascal's 'I Love You' production. Raw, instrumental club beats – expect big things. (DC)

★★★★★

HARD DANCE

Vital Release



IAN M Crazy Pills (Tidy Trax)

A timely reminder of how it should be done by the original UK hard house master. Along with Tony de Vit, Ian M changed UK clubbing forever through his at Trade, while his co-producer here, Paul Janes, was arguably responsible for 2000's hard house boom through his seminal Untidy Dubs releases. The best and most important Tidy Trax

singles were produced by at least one of this hugely influential trio. It's hardly surprising, then, that 'Crazy Pills' is the most exciting, original and accomplished hard dance record in aeons. Proper gabba kick-drums, fierce, rattling techno beats, devastating sub-bass, razor-sharp synths and a memorable screaming vocal about taking 'crazy pills' are all cleverly arranged and polished to perfection. The trick now is for the rest of the hard dance lags to better it without stealing all of Ian's original ideas. . .

★★★★★

DMF Palpitation (Recharge)

Curiously ignored by the 'big three' hard dance labels, DMF is the most exciting producer in the UK right now – who else could throw the vocal from Matt Bianco's 'Wap Bam Boogie' atop a no-nonsense hard house slammer like 'Palpitation' and (almost) get away with it? Dave Randall supplies a percussion-driven remix.

★★★★★

CYBERDRIVE Blow Da Spot (Stimulant)

Stimulant's supreme DJs Paul and Hamilton don their Cyberdrive guise for an onslaught of fiery 303s and stadium house riffs, prodded by clever fills and featuring a ridiculously OTT breakdown. A wicked techy remix from Ingo hints at the change in direction which has everyone talking about him again.

★★★★★

OLI FREKE & LIZZIE CURIOUS Supercollider (Transition)

Founding member of Contact Assist and Medikal Records (along with Prime Mover's Aran Paramor), Oli Freke joins forces with Lizzie Curious for a glow-sticks-at-20-paces, trance-infused shoot out that contains a riff that will leave many a cerebral cortex blistered. It's the sort of foundation-rupturing throbber all Prime Mover fans will lap up like the thirsty trance bitches they are.

★★★★★

AXIS & MARK TYLER Damnation (Re-Entry)

This no nonsense, dogs-on-a-string-filthy London techno three-tracker is a BK favourite, apparently. Restraint is shown on 'Purgatory', with its minimal vibes, but more familiar service is resumed with the beats 'n' bass ruck of the main mix of 'Damnation'. The livelier 'Hard Dance Mix' is, one suspects, what they get their freak on to in Satan's inner chamber, while torturing God bothersers – it's dark, scary, aggressive, synth-scorched mayhem. Welcome to damnation – enjoy your stay!

★★★★★

VARIOUS ARTISTS Frantic Residents EP 3 (Nukleuz)

Hot on the heels of the awesome Lawson & Farley collaboration comes EP three from London's premier venue-ramming team. Lawson and Steve Hill combine on 'Love Is The Drug' for a typical Hill-ite party anthem, with less of a melted cheese topping than usual, thankfully. On 'Filthy Criminals' Phil Reynolds shares studio space with Lawson and the result is the sort of relentless, riff-dominated, take-no-prisoners dancefloor daisy-cutter we've all come to love and cherish.

★★★★★

KERNZY & KLEMENZA Back In Time (Vacuum)

Irish boy Paddy Kearns and Klemenza return with their second collaboration on Vacuum. It's a boundlessly energetic affair, trousered full of devastatingly catchy hooks and the 'It's time to start rolling' sample that first surfaced on Messiah's 'Temple Of Dreams', about 11 million years ago. Man of the moment Ingo works the flip into a pounding nu-tech [Stop making up genres – Ed.] assault on your senses. Suck it and see.

★★★★★

Vital Release

LIGHTNING BOLT Wonderful Rainbow (Load)

Deep down, there's a part of you that's always wanted music to sound this deranged. Providence, Rhode Island's Lightning Bolt are two men, both called Brian. Brian 1 drums with frenetic, Boredoms-style, superhuman aplomb

while Brian 2 on bass harnesses the chaotic energy of US punk (not the arty Television kind) and summons up scything, lightspeed, locked groove riffs. Topping it all off are the kind of distorted, lysergic vocals you might remember from the Butthole Surfers' 'Graveyard'. Raw, wrenching noise that shows up The Rapture, Faint et al for the anaemic scenester pantywaists they so surely are. Rock! (TM)

★★★★★

VALERIO CAMPORINI FAGGIONI Multitemporal Songbook (Unbearable)

There's a puerile thrill, similar to finding the word 'shit' in the dictionary at the age of six (or 26), to be gleaned from making those robotic voices on your computer spout a stream of obscenities. Making your iMac sing 'Fuck off, fuck off, please fuck off' repeatedly, however, to the kind of tune you'd normally expect to find on a Radio 4 Easter Service, and then pressing it up on an orange vinyl seven-inch for all to hear, surely makes you some kind of sociopath. Makes a great answerphone message, though. (TM)

★★★★★

SK/UM I Thagui Fallsins (Resonant)

Just when you thought 'IDM' was dead in the water, pulled under by its dogged adherence to tiresome stylistic ties and relentless tinkering at the margins of a tune, here's a record that reminds you why you liked it in the first place. Clean lines, a broad and tasteful palette and an unfussy approach to what works rather than what'll impress a handful of lapped-up, plugged-in mates make this eight-track Icelandic EP a much-

needed easy listening electronica treat. Knowing that the duo's names are Skurken and Prince Valium can only add to your enjoyment. (TM)

★★★★★

PARTY OF ONE Caught The Blast (Fat Cat)

Minnesota-based Eric Fifteen uses a deceptively straightforward guitar/bass/drums set-up, but his songs sound like Beavis after a crash course in international politics, spitting venomous lines like 'She used to wear a yellow star/She was a Zionist baby and she broke my heart' ('Six Million Anonymous Deceased'). The guy's obviously an abrasive, misanthropic loser, but hey, it takes one to know one. ... (TM)

★★★★★

CALE VERSUS HERBERT Friends Of Dumpty (white label)

Comes with no info and a crap flip (from The Bees), but what a pleasure it is to hear the broken baritone of John Cale over the subtle, lolling beats of Matt Herbert. 'Don't send hair follicles in the mail,' intones the Velvet Underground's Welsh legend. Er, right you are, John. (DB)

★★★★★

CHRIS CLARK Ceramics Is The Bomb (Warp)

Last time we saw young Chris, shortly after his first album, 'Clarence Park', came out, he was hungry and searching desperately for a promoter who owed him a paltry £30. Hopefully, his latest release will help resolve his fiscal crisis, because it's pretty decent gear, in that Ye Olde Warpe student warehouse party kind of way. Bit of acid, the odd nicely turned breakbeat, a hint of a tune - you know the kind of thing. But why such nostalgia from one so youthful? (TM)

★★★★★

JOHN CAMERON Psychomania (Trunk)

The OST to almost certainly the greatest ever British zombie-biker film starring Beryl Reid gets a long overdue release. This has the kind of strangeness that you only get when highly skilled session musicians get 'experimental', whacking their treasured instruments through lots of teak-veneered effects boxes to create a sometimes terrifying, sometimes hilariously incongruous, very English brand of psyche rock. Add brilliant dialogue snippets ('The word, mother, is 'fuzz', Beryl Reid's louche biker son reprimands his mum when she mentions the police.) and you have a leftfield classic. (DB)

★★★★★

VARIOUS ARTISTS Cut Your Teeth (Clean Cut)

If you deem some of the records on this page a bit 'weird', then fuck off, basically. But before you go, check out this ace showcase for the Clean Cut label. The likes of Moonrider and Twocsinak brilliantly combine electronics and organic sounds, crafting commercial music of real beauty and depth, leagues ahead of the mezzo-brow trip hop of most comparable labels (you know the ones we mean). (DB)

★★★★★

CHLORGESCHLECHT Unyoga (Deco) DANZEN JETZT Alles Will Los 2 (Klangkrieg)

Continuing this month's metal theme, 'Unyoga' is a blistering digital fuckfest of obscure grindcore riffs, hilarious vocal grunting and generalised wallowing in cartoony unpleasantness, sure to raise a smile after a stressful day's rape and pillage. Brief but brutal tracks bubble up from nowhere like last night's booze repeating on you, while final track 'Release That Ibiza Feeling' is the sound of a swarm of evil rave-goblins storming the Space terrace and pulling the DJ's quivering giblets out through his gaskarred nostrils. Danzen Jetzt are more or less the same gang in a different guise, showing off their lighter side with a playful EP encompassing everything from toe-tapping electro-pop to Negativland-style media manipulation to Fennesz type glitchscapes and Atari bleeping, all in similarly bite-sized chunks. (TM)

★★★★★ / ★★★★★

ZEIGENBOCK KOPF Nocturnal Submissions (Tigerbeat6)

Gayness is horribly respectable these days, thanks to shit like Will And Grace ('Hi honey, I'm homo!'), and Granny's favourites, Will Young and Graham Norton. German über-queers Zeigenbock Kopf, however, are not respectable. They are manly men. Sexual men. Men who know what they want, and who know that you want it too, bitch-boy. The first two tracks on this album are called 'Sex With A Man' and 'This Bass Is Too Loud'. That tells you all you need to know. The music is a neanderthal, broiling electronic maelstrom, the words guttural, distorted and drunk on cock. 'Bring me another boy/This one has burst/You say I'm the best/No: I'm the worst'. You need Zeigenbock Kopf in your box. Now. (DB)

★★★★★

Get fact!

Sun 0)))

Every important factoid on the maximum heaviosity psyche rock band, lovingly compiled

- Hailing from the American deep south, the nucleus of Sunn0))) is comprised of Greg Anderson and Stephen O'Malley, who sometimes prefer to be called 'Mystikk Kliff Makabre-Sunn' and 'MK Ultra-Blizzard-Sunn'. Well, who wouldn't?
- Their two stated aims are to 'honour the beautiful Ozma' (What is Ozma? 'A beautiful care-less-free netherworld') and to make the listener shit themselves by means of ultra-low frequency sounds and punishingly high volume. They claim to have achieved the latter on numerous occasions, mostly during live gigs.

- Guests on Sunn0)))'s latest album 'White 1' include Joe Preston of Sub Pop dirge-mongers **Earth and Julian Cope**, who contributes a monologue to the opening track 'My Wall', in which he re-casts the band as heroic figures from Norse mythology. Sample line: 'Play your gloom-axe Stephen O'Malley/Sub bass clinging to the sides of the valley'.
- You could say Sunn0))) were a **heavy metal band**. They probably wouldn't like it if you did, but if their music's anything to go by they'd be too out of their gourds on bourbon, 'barbs and Mexican weed to pay much attention.

- Sunn0))) recently opened for **Aphex Twin** at All Tomorrow's Parties, where they donned their 'Grimm Robes' - white shrouds worn over the head to give a kind of 'Scooby Doo ghost' effect.
- Greg also runs the **Southern Lord** label, home to like-minded/medicated drone merchants such as Weedeater, Grief, Toadliquo, and Boris From Japan.
- Sunn0))) would like to pass on this message to their British fans: 'Get back in the factory and get to work. **STAY OUT OF THE BOG. Doom.**'

'White 1' is out now on Southern Lord



Sunn0))) : "Doom"

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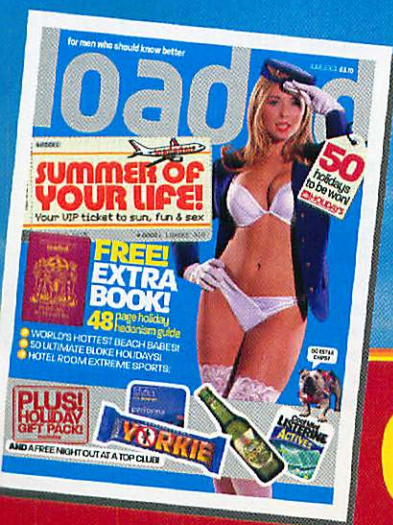
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Vital Release



ULRICH SCHNAUSS
A Strangely Isolated Place (City Centre Offices)

Ulrich Schnauss, the emotional electronic man machine, is back. We never dreamed that he could beat the powerful beauty and pure intensity of his debut album 'Far Away Trains Passing By', but he has. If there can be such a thing as hands-in-the-air

chill out, then this is it. Schnauss conjures up the spirit of U2 in full flow, the biggest breakdown of the night at a party, and the best bits of Eighties soundscape pioneers Cocteau Twins. What results are gorgeous slabs of synthesised music. It feels like the sounds are trying to burst out of the vinyl – as if they're just too big to be contained by the grooves. Another beatifically luscious release from Mr Schnauss. (CC)

★★★★★

PSAPP

Do Something Wrong EP (Melodic)

This delightful six-track EP blinks, sparkles, shimmers and shakes like reflections bouncing off a deep blue sea on a sunny day. 'Calm Down's' pastoral ambient electronica contains enough scratches and blips to make it modern, while 'Pocket' comes over like a slightly better behaved Herbert. Intriguingly, as well as the usual glockenspiel/music box chill mainstays there's also acoustic guitar on 'Infra Red'. A tumble through multiple influences that does something very right. (CC)

★★★★★

MINT ROYALE

Dancehall Places (Faith & Hope)

After their last ragga-house chart outing, Mint Royale take the tempo down on this excellent, folksy, downtempo number featuring American indie vocalist Damien Jurado. The original mix is delicious, but it's the GrandadBob version that sets this apart – a Big Chill summer anthem in the making. (CC)

★★★★★

BROADCAST

Pendulum EP (Warp)

With this EP, Warp's Brummy quintet Broadcast reposition themselves in the shadows of electroclash and on the fringes of chill. The lead track features Trish Keenan's deadpan vocals over a clunky, electronic groove and live drums and is wonderful, as is the more laid back 'Still Feels Like Tears'. The new album 'Haha Sound' is on the way in August – it's definitely one to look forward to. (CC)

★★★★★

IKARUS

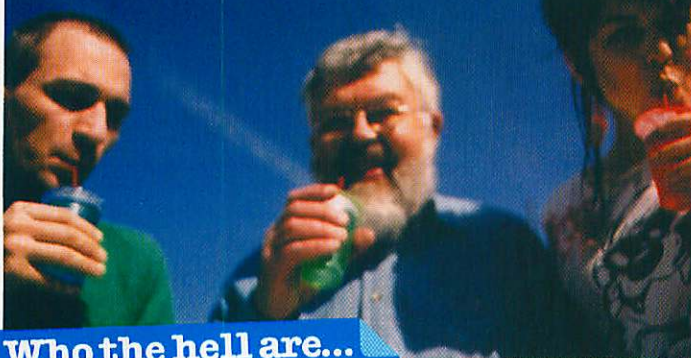
Touched The Sun (Stoned Asia Music)

Stoned Asia label head Pathaan keeps the quality gear coming with the latest release on his ace imprint. 'Touched The Sun' is a cool, downtempo groove with melodic, ethnic chanting and spacey bleeps and FX. 'Praying To

Different Gods', meanwhile, is a considerably more intense, dubby affair with uncharacteristically heavy beats and echoed vocals. A summery world beat track that should be a main stay on the grooviest of Ibiza dancefloors this summer. (PM)

★★★★★

"I intend to have you, even if it must be burglary." Psapp meet Withnail And I's Uncle Monty (centre)



Who the hell are...

Psapp

Doing something right by doing something wrong

Psapp, aka electronica and glitch-pop duo Carim Clasmann (34, grey hair, green eyes) and Galia Durant (23, black hair, brown eyes) live in hectic Kings Cross, but make sublime, near-pastoral chill. Their debut EP is called 'Do Something Wrong' but its blend of sweet melodies and strange bleeps sounds bloody right.

Is the title a reference to the way you make music or the way you live?

"We gave up trying to do things right a long time ago, as being wrong comes naturally. Mistakes are nuggets waiting to be discovered – we are giving every glitch and error a chance to shine."

How do you describe your sound?

"Music to drink tea by! Random and found sounds and audio snippets snuggled in between guitars, piano,

ILYA

The Revelation EP (Virgin)

Just as Goldfrapp goes all Eighties pop, along comes Ilya to pick up her Sixties kitsch crown. 'Philadelphia And Blue', with its understated groove and dubby harmonica works very well but lead cut 'Quattr Neon' veers a little too close to twee jazzual shores to elicit more than a shrug. Still, a name to watch. (CC)

★★★★

EARTH, WIND AND FIRE

Fantasy (Remix) (Sony)

A fine remix by Blaze which respects the original and – dare we say it – even manages to improve on it. Starting out with laid back percussion and guitar, 'Fantasy' is turned into a nine-minute, mellow disco odyssey, with sweeping strings, a Chic-ish bassline and Phil Bailey's sublime soul vocals. A must for Loft heads and chill lovers alike. (PM)

★★★★★

CHRIS CAGS

A Journeyman's Guide (Red Beard)

An EP intended to provide the first and last songs of a night out, 'A Journeyman's Guide' works best when it's at its most chilled. 'The Return Of The Velvet Elvis' has the makings of a Cafe Del Mar classic with swirling keyboards, guitars and hypnotic bassline, while 'Dog' is a quirky, ambient spoken word track. (PM)

★★★★★

GRANDADBOB

City Approach (Southern Fried)

Strange lot GrandadBob are back, complete with a bad taste sleeve (Seventies wallpaper) to contrast with their groovy musical vision. 'City Approach' is laid back Balearic funk; sunny, happy music for an afternoon on a terrace somewhere. The Mark Rae remix is good too, reminiscent of a slowed down Metro Area. (CC)

★★★★★

FINK PRESENTS SIDESHOW

Sound Of Today (Simple)

Will Saul's Simple label continue their mission to fuse breaks, broken beats and chill into some perfect new sound that works any time, day or night. 'Sound Of Today' is their latest musical/cultural mash-up. True to form it's groovy and relaxing at the same time. There's even a bit of a live Eastern feel in there to confuse and inspire us. Definitely pushing things forward. (CC)

★★★★★

BONOBO

Pick Up (Ninja Tune)

Quirky chill maestro Simon Green is back with this one-sided 10-inch promo, his first work for Ninja. It's more upbeat and jazzy than his 'Animal Magic' album, but it has the same charm. His forthcoming album 'Dial M For Monkey' should be one to treasure, as long as he can avoid the lure of the noodle. (CC)

★★★★★

Albums

CHUNGKING

We Travel Fast (Tummy Touch)

After the pure class of the 'Bubble Love' single, Chungking have a lot to live up to. On this album they almost get there, but you're left feeling that if they stopped trying so hard, their job would be a lot easier. They've smoothed out the spacey, sampled sound of the single to create an album that sounds like it was recorded by a live band, with the precise vocals of Jessie Banks well up front. This allows the listener to focus on the quality of the songs, but it also feels a little too smooth and safe for comfort. Can't wait for the remixes, mind. (CC)

★★★★★

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All other event information 01698 276866.

CLUBS BARS LIVE

MUZIK'S A-Z GUIDE TO THE UK'S HOTTEST NIGHTS

This month's photos, taken by Darren Regnier, are from Death Disco, the latest venture of Creation/Poptones guy Alan McGee. "Death Disco rocks like a rock 'n' roll motherfucker," rasps the diminutive ginge, and with trendy DJs-to-the-stars Queens Of Noize on the decks, who are we to argue? Death Disco is every Wednesday at Notting Hill Arts Club, and monthly Fridays at The Barfly, Camden.



"Yes, apparently, Death Disco is named after a song that John Lydon wrote about the death by cancer of his mother. Aha-ha-ha-ha! Isn't that great!"



UK A-Z

ABERDEEN

LIFESTYLE MAY 31ST

Venue: The Lemon Tree, 5 West North Street. **Price:** £10. **Time:** 10.30pm-3am
Tel: 01224-621-610
If Lifestyle were a London club it'd be full of the most preposterous ponces with lampshades on their heads. Luckily, it's in Aberdeen, so it boasts unusual and well thought out line-ups, and is constantly packed with funky, up for it party people.

BIRMINGHAM

FABULOUS EVERY SUNDAY

Venue: Radius, 37 Horsefair. **Price:** £10
Time: 3am-7am. **Tel:** 0121-693-6960
This is where the fabulous folk from Miss Money Penny's continue, er, looking fabulous. Debauched, but with a soupçon of style.

HOUSE OF GOD MAY 2-4TH

Venue: Custard Factory, Digbeth. **Price:** £8
Time: 9pm-6am. **Tel:** 07870-666-856
They've been throwing mind-bending parties for over ten years now, and tonight's all-nighter is a sure-fire, guaranteed techno and drum & bass blow out. Tonight, they've got Scion playing live, 'Arranging And Processing Basic Channel' - a must for true techno heads.

THE MEDICINE BAR EVERY WEEKEND

Venue: Custard Factory, 1 Gibb Street
Price: Free-£5. **Time:** Various
Web: medicinebarbirmingham.co.uk
We couldn't pick just one night at this ace bar-cum-venue-cum-whatever. Top notch talent from Asian underground sounds to rare groove classics; from house with a twist to 'proper' drum & bass.

BOURNEMOUTH

MAISON MAY 1-4TH & JUNE 11TH

Venue: The Showbar, Pier Approach. **Price:** £9-£15 (depending on guest). **Time:** 9.30pm-3am. **Tel:** maisonmusic.com
X-Press 2 visit in May, then it's Darren Emerson and Mutiny in June. The resident is Cliff Lay, and this is a top club.

BRIGHTON

MAXIMUM YARDAGE MAY 31ST

Venue: Concorde 2, Madeira Drive. **Price:** £8
Time: 10.30pm-late. **Web:** concorde2.co.uk
One-off bash to help celebrate the Brighton Fringe Festival with a more than serious line-up: Rhythm Division play live, with DJs Elite Force, Meat Katie, Kooki, Scape One... and it's also the launch pardee for the 'Elite Force' album. Expect tech-house, electro, booty bass and other tomfoolery.

CLUB ANTHEMS HOUSE OF GOD

Celebrating ten years of none-more-black techno and drum & bass in Birmingham, House Of God promoter Chris Wishart chooses the club's biggest ever eardrum mashers. You want chill out? Go somewhere else.
1) Mescaliniun United
We Have Arrived (Industrial Strength)
2) Underground Resistance
Punisher (UR)
3) Shake Inc
Adrenalin OD (Go Bang)
4) Wild Tracks
Volume 1 (Loaded)
5) Eon Cyber Tone
(Vinyl Solution)

BRISTOL

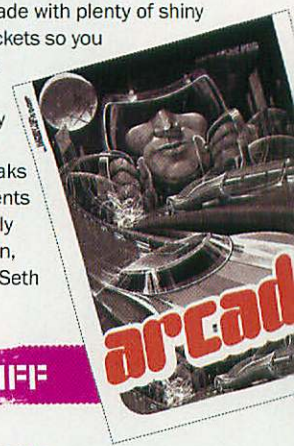
ARCADE MAY 31ST

Venue: The Blue Mountain Club, 2 Stokes Croft. **Price:** £7-£10. **Time:** 10pm-4am
Tel: 07729-220-791
Get down the 'Cade with plenty of shiny coins in your pockets so you can give it some suave at this sensational jazzy funk, old school hip hop and breaks night. The residents are the absolutely sensational Azlan, Mark Davis and Seth Holland.

CARDIFF

COOL HOUSE MAY 31ST

Venue: The Emporium, 8-10 High Street
Price: £8-£10. **Time:** 10pm-4am. **Tel:** 02920-664-577
Yousef surely does get his portly frame around a fair bit, and tonight he'll be bringing his cheeky Scouse house sound to the Cardiff massive. There's lovely, now boyos. Tip: the residents are double ace, so get there early and check them out, you won't be disappointed.



Death Disco table football: Please resist the urge to hurl sharpened coins at your opponent



JOSEPH MALIK

Joseph Malik:
Spiritual and
intelligent, if he
says so himself



One of Edinburgh's most talented musical sons, Joseph Malik is currently making bare tracks with peeps like Tim Deluxe, Darren Emerson and Craig Smith. He also has a new album 'Aquarius Songs' out in September, as well as numerous DJ dates, from Glasgow to Gdansk. But he still found time to speak to Muzik, because he loves us, big-style.

Describe your style, via adjectives. "Spiritual, intelligent, melodic, interesting, deep, soulful, African, Brazilian, jazz, sincere."

What's best, producing or DJing? "Producing!"

What one record sums you up perfectly? "Shuggie Otis' 'Island Letter'. This is my all-time favourite record. I learned how to sing by listening to it over and over. It's the essence of my personality."

Fave club in Edinburgh? "Get Together at Cabaret Voltaire, home to my new residency. I never thought that I would be allowed back into clubland in my home town, but I am very happy to play to my people once a month."

Tell us something you shouldn't. "Never date Scorpios."

Fave Scottish slang? "Caber. It means herbal jazz cigarette."

Get Together is at Cabaret Voltaire, Blair Street on May 17th and monthly

DUNDEE

THE READING ROOMS EVERY WEEKEND

Venue: Blackcroft. **Price:** £5-£7

Time: 9pm-2.30am

Web: thereadingrooms.co.uk

Proud Dundonians are rejoicing at this fantastic new venue. Visitors beating a path to its door include Fingathing (May 23rd) and Alan McGee's Death Disco (June 7th).

EDINBURGH

THE HUMAN BE-IN EVERY NIGHT

Venue: 2/8 West Crosscauseway

Price: Free. **Time:** 11am-1am

Tel: 0131-662-8860

We have mad love for this bar for a number of reasons. Firstly, the food's great, secondly the DJs rock, thirdly the seats and booths are comfy, and fourthly if the one week that is the Scottish summer descends, there are plenty of tables outside too. What, kids, could be better?

POGO VOGUE MAY 16TH & JUNE 6TH

Venue: The Bongo Club, 7 New Street

Price: £7-£8. **Time:** 10pm-3am

Tel: 0131-556-5204

This is a very desirable little spot, which regularly secures Scottish debuts from the cream of underground international talent. Check out future Spanish superstar Ricardo Villalobos in May and then the fantastic Si Begg in June. Residents include the four man mash-up machine of Brian d'Souza, Dr Air, DJ Krux and Dirty.

who had her bottom
insured for more than
her voice?

» PRESSURE VERSUS BUGGED OUT!

MAY 31ST

Venue: The Venue, Calton Road

Price: £11-£13. Time: 10.30pm-3am

Tel: 020-7684-5225

Tom Middleton! Richard Hood! Percy X! Rob Bright! A night of electro-techno-house excellence guaranteed! Dude!

LIEEDS

BACKTObASICS EVERY SATURDAY

Venue: Rehab, Assembly Street (behind

Corn Exchange). Price: £10-£12

Time: 10pm-6am. Tel: 0113-223-7644

Basics is still rocking, with guests this month; Hernan Cattaneo (May 17th), Erick Morillo (24th) and Silicone Soul (31st).

SUPERCONDUCTOR MAY 30TH

Venue: Stinky's Peephouse, 76 York Street

Price: £6-£7. Time: 10pm-4am

Tel: 07814-256-226

The legend that is Andy Weatherall will be gracing Stinky's Peephouse with his presence this month. Dub-electro-tech joy will be yours.

LIVERPOOL

BUGGED OUT!

MAY 30TH

Venue: The Lomax, Wolstenholme Square,

off Slater Street. Price: £11-£13

Time: 10pm-4am. Tel: 020-7684-5225

This month, Erol Alkan is celebrating his 26th birthday, and joining the freshly cropped girlie-boy are 2 Many DJs, Umek, Valentino, Rob Bright, Chris Blue.

CIRCUS JUNE 1-4TH

Venue: The Masque, Seel Street. Price: £12.

Time: 10pm-4am. Tel: 07866-503-021

Yousef is doing another of his brilliant five-hour sets. Big love in the scouse-house!

CREAMFIELDS LAUNCH MAY 2-4TH

Venue: The Lomax, Wolstenholme Square,

off Slater Street. Price: £13-£16

Time: 9.30pm-3am. Tel: 020-7299-0950

The countdown to Creamfields '03 starts here. Lots of international DJ types will be battling it out.

LONDON

AS ONE PRESENTS ALL NIGHT LONG

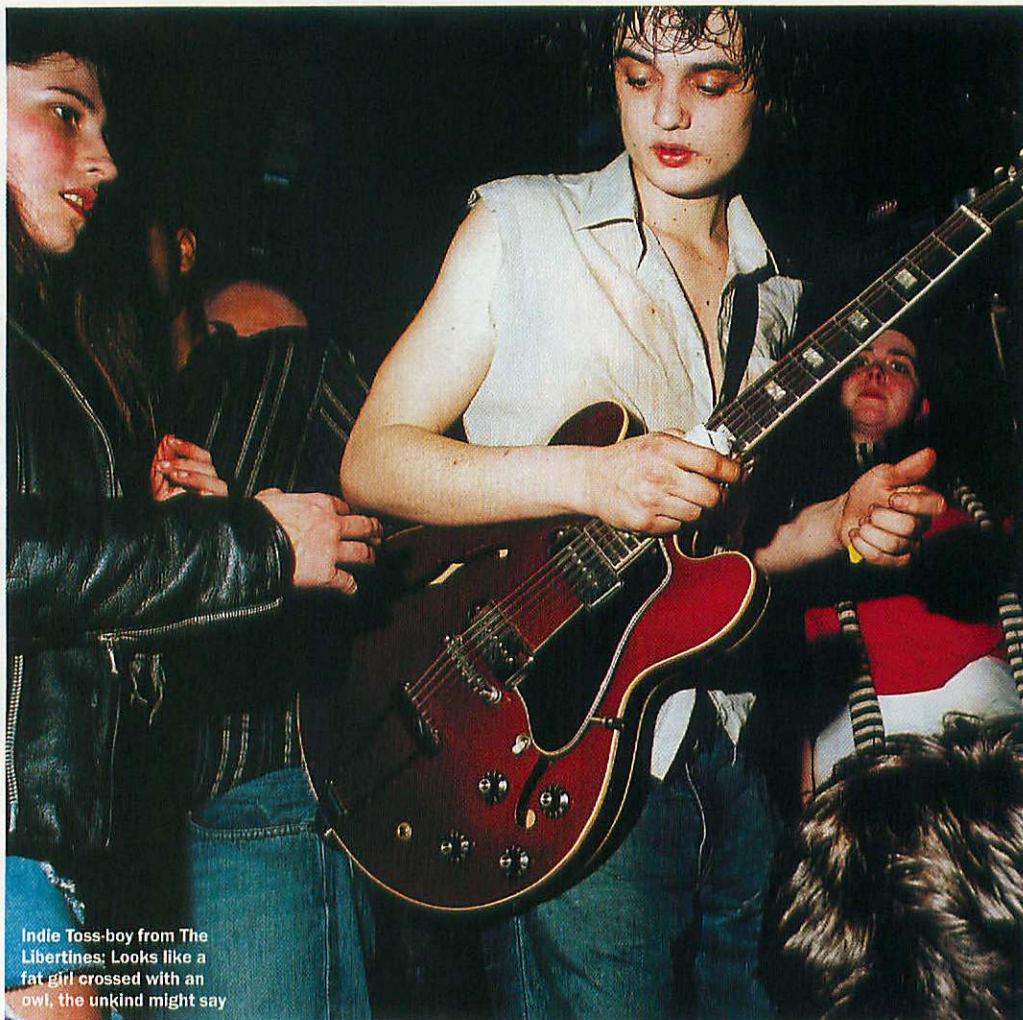
JUNE 7TH

Venue: The End, West Central Street

Price: £10-£15. Time: 10pm-7am

Web: the-end.co.uk

The mightily handsome duo of Layo and Bushwacka! play – you guessed it – all night long. An absolutely stomping night, guaranteed for all.



Indie Toss-boy from The Libertines: Looks like a fat girl crossed with an owl, the unkind might say

CDR JUNE 12TH

Venue: Bridge & Tunnel, Shoreditch High

Street. Price: Free. Time: 9pm-2am

Web: burntprogress.com



"A platform for the airing of new ideas, works in progress, unreleased songs, remixes and edits."

A very cool idea that deserves your support.

CITY LOUD MAY 17TH

Venue: Turnmills, 63b Clerkenwell Road

Price: £10-£15. Time: 10pm-7am

Tel: 020-7250-3409

Positiva host a Scumfrog launch party in the main room, with the back room containing a Bitches' Brew special.

FABRIC LIVE EVERY FRIDAY

Venue: Fabric, Charterhouse Lane

Price: £10-£12. Time: 9.30pm-5am

Tel: 020-7336-8898

One of London's biggest nights, Fabric attracts the very best talent, week in, week out. On May 16th, they've lured the Chemical Brothers to perform in one room, with Zinc, Zed Bias and their d&b/breaks/UK urban pals in the other. On May 23rd, the awesome Roots Manuva will be DJing in room three. Top stuff.

SECRET CLUB NIGHTS: FLEXIPOP

Secret club nights are going off all over the shop at the moment, as promoters, DJs and clubbers look for new thrills, away from the Megacub sheep farms.

One of the best of these clandestine clubs is Flexipop, a brilliant, irregular bash that happens at a 'secret London location'. This month, DJ I-F, the legend behind 'Space Invaders Are Smoking Grass' is the special guest, joining Mark Moore, Nathan Gregory Wilkins, Rowan Chernin, Mark Kirby, Joe Hillier, and Richard Clouton. Keep your ear to the ground and track this night down. You won't regret it.

NEW VENUES ALERT!

THIS MONTH IT'S NORTH VERSUS SOUTH, AS WE COMPARE COOL NEW VENUES SATELLITE AND EGG

Name? Satellite

Where? 21-33 George Street, Newcastle

What? This 900-capacity venue opened last November. There are two floors, with one main room on each floor, and a fancy bar at ground level.

Best nights? Saturdays. From live techno to drum & bass, future garage and hard dance, it's all going to be going off here.

Bonus points? Right near the Newcastle main line train station, and thus ever so handy for national travel.

Name? Egg

Where? 5-13 Vale Road, off York Way, King's Cross, London

What? An 800-capacity venue opening in May. From the people who brought you the legendary Trade, it boasts three floors, two roof terraces and an outdoor area.

Best nights? Where do we start? from 21st Century Body Rockers to Nag Nag Nag, Sonic Mook to Bugged Out! – pretty much the cream of London's clubland

Bonus points? Right near the prostitute and crack haven that is King's Cross, so everybody will be familiar with the area.

DJS BLOWING UP!

Death Disco guests Queens Of Noize (Mairead and Tabitha), have been wrecking decks since the summer of 2001 when, according to Tabitha, "we were leaping around the flat getting drunk and listening to records, and realised that we wanted to do a night exactly like our birthday parties."

Fighting the good fight for "kids who want chaos and not no-face DJs," they serve up a sonic assault that's equal parts London's Heavenly Social and New York's CBGBs. Their debut single, 'Indie Boys (Don't Deserve It)', described as "a bit like Shampoo meets Peaches" (*Run for the fuckin' hills! - Ed.*) is due out this summer. But how would the Queens sum up their approach to DJing?

"When we DJ, we think that we're in a band - just a band that doesn't have any instruments."

Can't say fairer than that. . .



The Queens Of Noize:
Better than the boize

THOSE WHO...

...ROCKED IT

MATTHEW HERBERT BIG BAND at the QEH, London
Shitloads of instruments, mind-meltingly brilliant tunes, and a standing ovation

RALPH LAWSON at Sankeys Soap, Manchester
He played 20:20 acetates, and a bass player, percussionist, and keyboard player filled in the gaps. . . And it was ace!

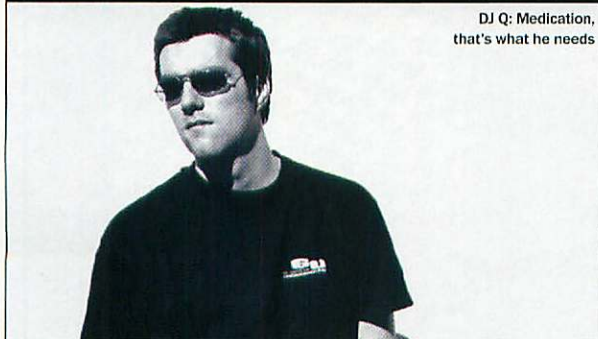
ELLIOTT EASTWICK at Snowbombing, Switzerland
For brown-nosing T4's Vernon and Harvey until they let him appear on TV, and charming all and sundry with his charm, DJing, and shite gifts

DURAN DURAN DURAN and **FIRESTARTER** at Bleep at the deLUXE gallery, Hoxton
Relentless, brain battering breaks. Sets that seemed to peak for an hour and the coolest crowd in the history of east London parochial chic ever. Like dance music with ALL the boring bits removed

...LOST IT

DJ Q at Mas, Glasgow
Having spent all day at the fitba', he turned up "off his heid," and drunkenly switched off his decks an hour before closing time. He was 'on medication' at the time, apparently, though we frankly don't believe that explanation

DJ Q: Medication,
that's what he needs



FAITH BOAT PARTY

MAY 25TH

Venue: A boat, central London **Price:** £20.

Time: 5pm-1am **Tel:** 020-7734-0172

Another journey along the Thames with DJs including Danny Rampling, Terry Farley, Bill Brewster, Leo Elstob, Dave Jarvis, Stuart Patterson and guests. Hello sailors!

FLEXIPOP

MAY 16TH

Venue: It's a secret. **Time:** 11am-6am

Web: flexipop@hotmail.com

The bi-monthly, semi-secret affair is not only worth a look, it's worth selling your grandparents for.

GRACE

MAY 25TH

Venue: Herbal, 12-14 Kingsland Road

Price: £8-£10. **Time:** 10pm-late

Tel: 020-7613-4462

Hype, Goldie and Grooverider all night. Raise your mobiles, lighters and airhorns.

HOMETOWN HI-FI

MAY 29TH

Venue: Catch, 22 Kingsland Road. **Price:**

£3. **Time:** 8pm-2am. **Tel:** 020-7729-6097

Pressure Drop join Simon from Basement Jaxx and Raf Daddy, putting the 'oo' in roots and culture. . .

KEEP IT UNREAL

MAY 23RD

Venue: The Forum, 9-17 Highgate Road, NW5 **Price:** £12. **Time:** 9pm-3am. **Web:** mrscruff.com

Mrs Cruff playing for hours and hours and hours.



which actress has a
phobia of mahogany
panelling in cars?

LED FESTIVAL MAY 23-25

Venue: Egg, 5-13 Vale Royal, off York Way, King's Cross. **Price:** £15-£35. **Time:** 10pm-4am (8pm-3am May 25th)
Tel: 020-7428-7574

Output Recordings, Nag Nag Nag, the Siren Suite and others come together for three nights of disco punk electro-house skill at a brand spanking new club. Live acts include LCD Soundsystem, Black Strobe, Playgroup, Squarepusher, ARE Weapons, Fat Truckers, and more. DJs include Johnny Slut, Barry 7, Luke Slater, Jo Jo de Freq, and Princess Superstar and Alexander Technique. Is this the coolest bill of the year, or what?

MOVEMENT MAY 25TH

Venue: The Coronet, 28 New Kent Road, SE1. **Price:** £12.50-£15. **Time:** 9pm-6am
Web: movement.co.uk

Another monster night from our covermount CD stars. Anyone who matters in d&b will be here.

NOFISHIES-4MISSY JUNE 4TH

Venue: Manjaro, 148 Holloway Road, Islington. **Price:** Free. **Time:** 7.30pm-midnight. **Tel:** 07903-938-375

Not only does it have an excellent name, but this brand new night also provides a home for top-notch electro, house and tech-funk entertainment, with the emphasis on female artists. Er... You go, girls!

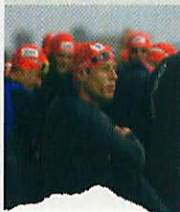
CLUBLAND CHARACTER: TONI TAMBOURINE

"I do triathlons: I generally swim 1.5km in the sea, river or lake, cycle 40km, then run 10km, all in one go and as fast as I can."

"I started this because the buzz is more intense than any clubbing experience, and now I build my physique instead of wrecking it!"

"These days, you'll find me DJing at City Loud at 6am with CJ Mackintosh, and then by 7am I'll be up to my neck in smelly water in the Thames. Awesome!"

Toni Tambourine promotes City Loud at Turnmills



PEG PARTY MAY 31ST

Venue: The Rhythm Factory, Whitechapel Rd
Price: £10 in advance/£12 on door

Time: 9pm-5am. **Tel:** pegparty@yahoo.com
According to voluble promoter Miss Jane, Peg is a night for "amazing housey talent." And with the likes of Bionic Bump Band, Jason Hodges, David Duriez, Jane Fitz and Smudge banging it out at the Rhythm Factory she's probably right.

QUEENS OF NOIZE PRESENTS JUNE 6TH

Venue: Barfly, 49 Chalk Farm Road, Camden. **Price:** £5-£7. **Time:** 10.30pm-3am. **Tel:** 020-7691-4244

A great night from that omnipresent noizey pair, bringing new and unsigned bands to your attention, as well as hosting some famous indie types playing their fave records and getting pissed.

RELEASE YOURSELF JUNE 7TH

Venue: Turnmills, 63b Clerkenwell Road
Price: £15. **Time:** 10pm-6am
Web: turnmills.com

Latin groover Roger Sanchez is back for another of his eagerly awaited marathon sets. Last time was a notch above brilliant, so expect great things during the eight hours he'll be working it behind the decks. Curiously he didn't use the lav once on that trip, apparently. Either he's got a bladder o'steel, or he was weeing in his hat. Go, if only to solve this riddle.

LIME

BROADCAST MAY 27TH-31ST

Price: from £7.50. **Web:** warprecords.com
Warp signings Broadcast visit Glasgow, Manchester, Cambridge, London and Brighton, with support from excellent Stereolab spin-off Imitation Electric Piano.

EMINEM JUNE 21ST-27

Tel: 0870-1-663-663 (Muzik Ticketline)
Eminem's latest tour, with superstar protege 50 Cent in support. Tour dates include Milton Keynes Bowl (June 21st-23rd), Glasgow Hampden Park (24th), Dublin Punchestown Racecourse (26-27th).

KILLA KELA MAY 15TH-29TH

Price: £4-£7. **Time:** Doors from 8pm
Web: ponana.co.uk

One of the world's most awesome human beatboxes hits the road, and front rows across the land will be marvelling at his skills, while dodging the hail of saliva. Dates are May 15th: Oxford; 16th: Cheltenham; 22nd: Reading; and 29th: Norwich.

SOUL II SOUL MAY 15TH

Venue: Concorde2, Madeira Drive. **Price:** £12. **Time:** 8pm. **Web:** concorde2.co.uk
Run, don't walk - the funky dreds are back for a one-off in Brighton.

Death Disco: Be sure to always have well-ironed clothes. And hair



SOUL HEAVEN MAY 31ST

Venue: Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, SE1. **Price:** £20. **Time:** 11pm-8am
Web: ministryofsound.com
MAW are on the decks tonight for a whopping nine hours. You'll want to tell your grandkids you witnessed this one.

SOULSONIC FIFTH BIRTHDAY WEEKENDER JUNE 1-4TH & 15TH

Venue: The Rhythm Factory, 16-18 Whitechapel Road/Notting Hill Arts Club, Notting Hill Gate. **Price:** Free-£10. **Time:** 10pm-5am/4pm-1am. **Tel:** 07957-227-168
If you like getting your booty shook up, it's time to go westside. . . and eastside. Soulsonic's birthday weekend kicks off on June 14th out east, then come Sunday, the crew head to Notting Hill.

TWICE AS NICE PRESENTS PS2 MAY 25TH

Venue: Turnmills, 63b Clerkenwell Road, Farringdon. **Price:** £20 before midnight/£25 after. **Time:** 10pm-6am
Web: twiceasnice.co.uk
Tonight you'll be able to play spanking new PS2 games, as well as hearing all the hottest dubplates rinsed. Sweet.

UNDERWATER MAY 31ST

Venue: The End, West Central Street, WC1
Price: £10-£15. **Time:** 11pm-7am
Tel: 020-7419-9199
It's the launch of the 'Underwater Episode Two' comp, mixed by Darren Emerson and Mutiny, so expect party music, tech-house style! Fat German Timo Maas and skinny Brits Medicine 8 join in the fun.

MANCHESTER

BUGGED OUT! MAY 17TH

Venue: Sankeys Soap, Jersey Street
Price: £11-£13. **Time:** 10pm-4am
Tel: 020-7684-5225
Australia and London's best go head to head. Stand back when The Avalanches' Dexter and Erol Alkan go at it

IBIZA CALLING

Your head will be minced after all the festival frolics, so why not let the Ministry Of Sound sort out this year's essential Ibiza holiday? The flights are out of Gatwick every Wednesday, and there's a variety of accommodation and car hire available. Holidays start from £299. For more info, see ministryofsound.com/holidays or call 020-7836-1414



MUSIC IS BETTER MAY 17TH

Venue: The Attic, Oxford Road
Price: £3.50-£4.50. **Time:** 9pm-2am
Tel: 07947-583-234

A live/DJ mix-up, with the focus firmly on all things electronic. Tonight, Tigerbeat 6's Printed Circuit drop electro live, and Tim Roach (Piccadilly Records) is the guest spinner.

PROJECT FIVE MAY 16TH

Venue: Music Box, Oxford Street. **Price:** £5-£6. **Time:** 10pm-3am. **Web:** projectfive.org
There are Project Five nights all over the country, run in support of the Peace One Day Organisation, which tries to get the whole world to have a ceasefire each year on September 21st. Tonight, Muzik's Ben Wijay joins Rob Smiley and others for some house and tech-house action.

TOP 5: DJ RAVI

DJ Ravi - part of the WB Productions collective, who put on weekly club nights and one-offs in and around Manchester. - chooses the tunes that join the dots between bhangra, hip hop, Bollywood and Asian Underground. . .



DJ Ravi: Burn, Bollywood, burn

RED LIGHT EVERY SATURDAY

Venue: Sankeys Soap, Jersey St. **Price:** £10-£12. **Time:** 10pm-4am. **Tel:** 0161-661-9668
One of the world's finest and most rotund house jocks, Sneak will be making a rare appearance on May 24th, while Erick Morillo guests on June 7th. Can you resist?

SHEFFIELD

LIGHTS DOWN LOW MAY 31ST

Venue: Under The Bridge, 39-41 Snig Hill
Price: £3-£4. **Time:** 10pm-2am
Tel: 0114-266-9433
It's worth trekking right across the country for this disco-house-ragga-hip hop-rare groove knees-up, and many sensible people do. Intimate, sweaty and popular - just like Muzik's cock!

1

Tarli Digital Nachde Panjabi
"It's a dancefloor filler. If everyone's holding back, this is the first record that gets everyone going."

2

Panjabi MC Mundian Te Bach Ke (Arabic Bounce Mix)
"This remix gives a different flavour to this four year-old track. I downloaded it off the internet."

3

Bobby & MC Intensity Inspirations
"A brand new track from local Manchester artists. It's got a fresh summer vibe and it's very cutting edge for the scene here."

4
5

50 Cent In Da Club
"The one that's most requested. People go mad for it!"
Panjabi MC GT Road (Bobby's Remix)
"Another Manchester dubplate. All the MCs love this one!"

Elegance is every Saturday at Rothwells, King St. Bollywood, Seduction is every Monday at Satan's Hollow, Princess Street. See www.apnabeat.co.uk for more info

CLUB SUICIDE MAY 1-4TH

Venue: Rockingham, Harter Street (off Princess Street) **Price:** £4-£5
Time: 9pm-2am. **Tel:** 07909-880-158
Fat Truckers play live and Tony and Ryan DJ at this brilliant disco punk night.

ELECTRIC CHAIR MAY 31ST

Venue: The Music Box, Oxford Street. **Price:** £10. **Time:** 10pm-4am. **Web:** electriks.co.uk
The Unabombers return to rock your world at this classic monthly.

which girl band
member eats chocolate
bars with a knife
and fork?

BEDROOM BEDLAM

THE ULTIMATE
HOME DJ
COMPETITION

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO

WINNER!

Dave Jay

Title: 'Punx And Skinz Unite And Fight' Contact: Davehooligan@yahoo.co.uk

SLEEVE NOTES

Favourite DJs: The Unabombers, The DFA, Coldcut
Clubs: "The scene's way too formulaic to bother with at the moment!"
Producers: James Murphy, Tim Goldsworthy, Arthur Russell, Bill Laswell
Labels: 13 Amp, 99 Records, City Slang, Celluloid, Sub Pop, ZE and Dischord.
Influential tracks:
Was (Not Was) Wheel Me Out (ZE)
Minor Threat Asshole Dub (Dischord)
Radio 4 Struggle (City Slang)
Dinosaur L Go Bang (Sleeping Bag)
The Rapture Out Of The Races (Sub Pop)
Futura 2000 & The Clash Escapades Of Futura 2000 (Celluloid)
Syrup If I Gave You A Party (Syrup Version) (Gomma)

INSERT DISC

Londoner Dave Jay knows that in 2003, the only equation that truly works is house + electro + punk = Muzik Nirvana?

"I made this mix after listening to your disco punk CD," enthuses Dave. "I finally heard something worth getting excited about, so decided to send in the CD and see what happened. The mix is a bit all over the shop, but I've always been interested in the early Eighties new/no wave scene. There's also some old classics that deserve another listen on

there and a couple of other tracks just because they fitted into the mix well!"

Despite his smart mixing and editing, Dave admits that so far, he's "never made it out of the bedroom." But where would he like to go from here?

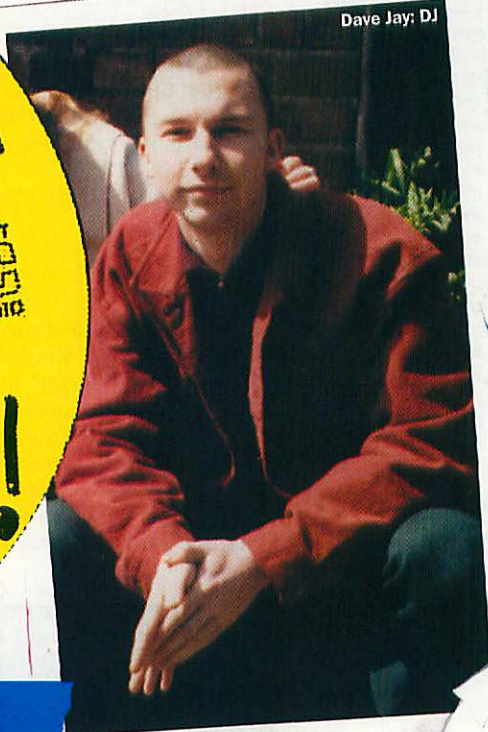
"I like the idea of playing out live, but what would really excite me would be to have the chance to do a really eclectic mix CD, one that would rival classics like Coldcut's 'Journeys By DJ'."

You can never set your sights too high...

WINNING TRACKLISTING

David Axelrod Warning Talk (Part One) (Reprise) **Sequence** Funk U Up (2 Lone Swordsman Remix) (Sugarhill) **Mark Stewart** These Things Happen (On-U Sound) **Funkadelic/Papo Vazquez** Free Yo' Mind/Baila Plena (Gilles Peterson Mix) (Incredible) **Royksopp** Epile (Wall Of Sound) **Alpinestars** Hyper Hyper (Faith And Hope) **Sessomato** Moody (King Unique Remix) (Junior) **Ladyvib** A New Day (Maurice Fulton Remix) (Nuphonic) **Warp 9** Nunk New Wave Funk (Arista)

Dave Jay: DJ



May Runners-up

① **Jamie Franks 'Cohesive'**
Lectropunc' Tel: 07734-923-132



Bang up to date, with Swayzak, Princess Superstar, Metro Area and Tiga all coming on strong. Jamie's favourite producers? DFA, Output and City Rockers. Says it all.

② **Niall Jordan Presents 'All In Good Time'** Tel: 07951-536-855



Deep and moody as you like, Niall finds joy in Annie, Faze Action, Cevin Fisher and Morgan Geist's '24k' - and Harvey is his

favourite DJ. Let's have more like this, please!

③ **Geezer X 'Bumpy Radioactive Love Pixels'**
Tel: 001-415-661-9830



"I'm leaving Alabama for San Francisco in five days," says the intrepid Geezer X, whose two CD mix includes tracks by Aphex Twin, One Dove, Lamb, Octave One and, rather wonderfully, Kate Bush. Nice work, X - call back soon.

④ **Adam Parker 'Gunshot A Blow Mix'** Tel: 0781-611-5206



As the mix title suggests, this CD takes no prisoners. Shy FX, Total Science and DJ Zinc turn on the dark and sock it to you hard and fast. Nice.

How to Enter

Send all 60 minutes plus tapes, minidisks or CDs to Bedroom Bedlam, Muzik, Kings Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. Muzik cannot return any BB entries. Good luck.

Beyond the bedroom: the word from former winners

Simon Stuart (BB winner 2002) reveals the contents of his brain and his crate

Maddest gig ever? "Going back years ago, there was this massive free party in Leeds - sun shining and five floors, each with its own massive killer soundsystem. It started at 6pm Friday and finished some time Sunday afternoon and I pretty much played non-stop for the whole weekend. All the Basics and Orbit freaks came down after the clubs shut on Saturday and the place went nuts!"

Best overseas gig? "I was unsure about playing Serbia last year, but the Exit festival changed all that - 40 thousand maniacs dancing in the open air, on my 23rd birthday, and almost a year to the day of winning BB. A lot of things came together for me that night."

Advice for aspiring spinners? "The most important is to be true to yourself - play tracks that others will love but make sure you love them yourself. Uniqueness is a sellable commodity."

Ultimate dream gig? "An obvious choice I suppose, but Cafe Del Mar with Jose Padilla before heading over to Pacha with

Frankie Knuckles. Both are total heroes of mine and Ibiza is still a magical place - you've just got to dig a bit deeper. Alternatively, to keep it slick and simple, Basics with Yousef rocks - the guy's a legend and I'm fast becoming his stalker!"
What tune would you play to coax Prince onto the dancefloor? "I'd be tempted to play something sneaky like my re-edit of 'New World' off the 'Emancipation' album just to get a reaction (though I'd probably get a lawsuit at the same time). I'm sure, though, he'd be tempted to strut his purple stuff to some Jamie Principle or some really filthy funk."



Simon, dancing like a big girl

ASK TOM



Every month, Professor Tom Middleton strokes his magic beard and answers YOUR questions, no matter how stupid, about DJing and dance music...

Dear Tom,

Loads of people seem to be remixing a track called 'Midas Touch' by Midnight Star (Ashley Beedle and chums). What is it, and why are Eighties soul records such as that Oliver Cheatham one so popular with DJs?

Mal, Wakefield

"From the original 1986 electro boogie album 'Headlines' on Solar, 'Midas Touch' is a dancefloor nugget that was just gagging for an updated version. As to why Eighties grooves are so popular, it's obvious: most of the big DJs grew up dancing and smooching to them! A lot of the so-called new tunes are really just classics re-defined for a younger audience."

Dear Mr Tom

I have a problem: whenever I DJ, no one ever dances. I play house, prog and breaks. What should I do?

Steve, Worthing

"Ask yourself this: does the music you play make you want to dance? Would it make your little brother/sister/partner/parents or gran dance? Do you smile when you're spinning? Do you play to entertain or play for yourself? Communication with your

audience is essential if you want to win them over. Dropping the odd singalong tune or bootleg is always a good bet, and my personal tip for a guaranteed party-starter is Groove Armada's 'Final Shakedown'. Also, be sure to check the charts in this mag for the latest big tunes."

Dear Professor

How do you think MP3, the internet and the home computer revolution will change dance music?

Techno Tim, Belfast

"The revolution has already begun, and it's making the record companies sweat. Kids are making music on their playstations and PCs, uploading the tracks as MP3s and sharing them with the world on-line. Bootlegging is bigger than ever and a new wave of digital DJs are spinning CDs comprised of tracks downloaded for free or created at home. These days you can even mix MP3s like vinyl, using time-coded records that interface with a laptop. In my opinion, the key software companies to check are Native Instruments, who make the Traktor virtual mixing software; Propellerheads (the Reason virtual studio), Emagic

(Logic audio and MIDI recording software) and Ableton (the Live loop-based audio mixing software)."

Hi Professor Middleton,
I think I'm addicted to vinyl. I spend all my money on it and have even robbed records from my mates. What can I do?

James, Essex

"Give 'em back your cheeky little tinker! Vinyl's cool and all that, but your obsession is getting out of hand, son. You should spend a bit more quality time with your missus, and buy her something nice, cos I'll be willing to bet she's got the hump with you. And if you don't give those tunes back, I'll have to send the boys round, you get me?"

Ground control to Professor Tom,

As an ageing old school raver, when do you reckon the next hardcore rave revival will kick in?

Mr Cheeky, Edinburgh

"Fashion and music runs round in ever decreasing circles, constantly re-evaluating another recent era in pop culture. Just look at the trends over the last few years and you'll see what's coming next – it's not difficult. We're currently obsessed with mid to late Eighties electro and new wave, and the cutting edge DJs are already dipping back into early Nineties acid house and techno. That means it won't be long before big stabs, Hoover noises and horns make a comeback. Let's 'ave it!"

If you have a question for Tom, send it to: Ask Tom, Muzik, King's Reach Tower, London SE1 9LS. Or if you're futuristic, e-mail us at muzik@ipcmedia.com

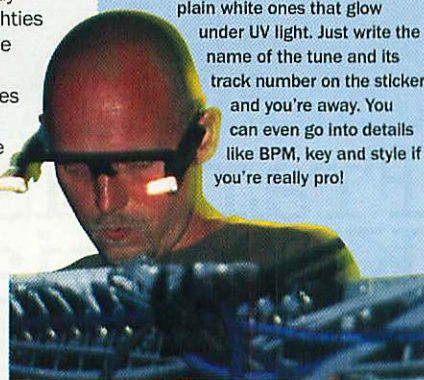
Tom's essential kit of the month

"It took a while, but in the last two years there have been some good record bags and box designs that have finally included a built in, suitcase style, extending handle and wheels. Odyssey were the first company to make these and you could only buy them in the US, but they're now available over here. I've got an awesome metal case with extra compartments and wheels that's also easily blaggable as hand luggage. In my view, it's absolutely essential for convenience and health – it's no wonder us DJs used to be so flippin' moody, when we had to lug around a ton of vinyl by hand. Never again!"



Tom's top tip

"Poor lighting in DJ booths can make finding records a nightmare, but I have a couple of solutions. You can bring a small torch or portable, clip-on lamp along, but an even better solution is to attach a couple of those little key-ring LED flashlights to the sides of your headphones. I have a pair of blue ones on mine that are angled to illuminate everything I look at. Come on headphone manufacturers this is such an obvious idea and yet no one makes them! The other trick is using fluorescent stickers or plain white ones that glow under UV light. Just write the name of the tune and its track number on the sticker and you're away. You can even go into details like BPM, key and style if you're really pro!"



Coming next month: DEMO-LICIOUS

If you're a bedroom producer, Muzik wants to hear from you. We're putting on our Simon Cowell trousers and offering a leg-up to anyone who wants to be the next Felix Da Housecat, Dr Dre, Herbert or Fatboy Slim. See p7 for full details...

Bedroom Bedlam news

What are the past BB winners up to?

Dave Twomey (2002 winner) is now the monthly resident at Spice at Yellow, Tokyo. He's also about to go on tour to play the massive Moonlight beach party in Taiwan.

James Zabelela (2000 winner) has been commissioned to compile an 'eclectic' mix compilation for Hooj Choons. It should be out by the summer.

Mick Mesa's (2001 winner) Hullabaloo night on the April 4th was a huge success. The next

event is Friday May 2nd, with Mutiny, Mick Mesa and Nick McDonald (Resident).

Wayne Fountain (2000 winner) has upcoming gigs in Italy, Russia, Brazil, Lithuania, Slovenia, Norway and Spain. He's also recording tracks – more details soon.

Ben Wiljay's (2003 winner) recent set at Ministry went down a storm, and his house banger 'Taka Taka' has been signed to Drop Music, having rocked Basics.

which top 10 single
earned more money
from the ring tone
than the single?

DESERT ISLAND DISCO

The essential guide to rare vinyl edited by Ralph Moore

Francois Kervorkian:
Horrible beard,
nice remixes



The vinyl hound's guide to...

Francois Kevorkian

Now legendary for both his DJ skills and his work in the studio, Francois K arrived in New York from France in 1975. By 1983 he was holding down residencies at The Paradise Garage, Better Days, Studio 54, Zanzibar and AM:PM, and he returned to the decks in the Nineties to start NYC's infamous Body And Soul sessions.

As in-house producer for Prelude Records he churned out a line of Eighties classics, including Martin Circus' 'Disco Circus' and Sharon Redd's 'Beat The Street', when he

wasn't doing classic remixes like Kraftwerk's 'Tour De France'. He's also worked his re-rub magic on such bizarre/crap figures as Dido, INXS and The Smiths (yes, it's true - there is an FK mix of 'This Charming Man').

After a relatively quiet start to the Nineties, he launched Wave Music in 1995 and gained instant recognition with his 'FK-EP'. Sub-labels Streetwave, Wave Classics and Clicktracks have all since emerged, and FK's reputation as one of dance music's greatest talents remains intact.

Paul Kirwan

Essential FK comps



Prelude

Compiled by Sean P - the man behind the 'Disco Not Disco' series, with Dave Lee - this comp pulls in rare and classic Prelude/FK tracks while avoiding the blindingly obvious. Can be found on eBay for about £25



Classic Remixes

All his defining Eighties re-rubs, including 'Tour De France' and 'Situation'. Pressed as an on/off, semi-bootleg run, you can still find this doublepack in HMV or Koobla records in London occasionally, for around £15



1

£20 MARTIN CIRCUS **Disco Circus** (Prelude 12-inch, 1979)

FK's classic edit cum remix originally appeared as the B-side to 'Before It Gets Dark' and was re-released as the 'Disco Circus Medley' in 1988. A dubby, tripped out dancefloor extravaganza that stretched horizons.



2

£20 THE STRIKERS **Body Music** (Prelude 12-inch, 1981)

Often overshadowed by 'Contagious', FK and Larry Levan's classic, 10-minute-long, special instrumental version is an absolute gem, from its opening ambient synths through to the infectious guitar lick at the tune's heart.



3

£15 BOHANNON **Let's Start The Dance III** (Compleat 12-inch, 1983)

The original was already a disco bomb in its own right and another track with a contagious guitar riff, so FK beefed up the bassline and gave the track an extra ten ounces of fat funk, especially on the instrumental.



4

£20 FRANCOIS KEVORKIAN PRESENTS **JAH WOBBLE, THE EDGE AND HOLGER CZUKAY Snake Charmer** (Island Records mini-album, 1983)

This five-track LP was heavy on percussion and high on experimentation. And yes that is The Edge from U2.



5

£15 TIMEZONE **Wildstyle** (Celluloid 12-inch, 1983)

Featuring Afrika Bambaataa, FK's remixes have old school written all over them with the original vocal mix featuring much scratching, chanting and random samples. Once again, the instrumental strips things down to the basics.



6

£20 ALEXANDER ROBOTNIK **Problemes d'Amour**

(Sire mini LP 1985)

Kervorkian's classic remix appears on Italian synth-pop producer Maurizio Dami's 'Fuzz Dance' mini-album. It was also available as a promo-only 12-inch with an extra track.



7

£20 JAMAICA GIRLS **On the Move** (Sire Records 12-inch, 1986)

Co-produced with Bert Reid. Once again, skip over the extended vocal version and head straight for the instrumental, which has an acappella intro that's been sampled to death by house producers over the years.



8

£12 ABSTRACT TRUTH **Get Another Plan** (Streetwave 12-inch, 1996)

Made with assistance from the sadly underrated Eric Kupper, the 'House Vocal' remix of this is a smooth garage cut that has since been copied by Naked Music and their peers. Also released on Talkin' Loud.



9

£15 CESARIA EVORA **Sangue De Beirona** (Wave 2x12-inch, 1997)

Remixed and produced by FK and Joe Clausell, this is mellifluous proto-Balearica. FK's 'Main Pass 12-inch,' mix would be the perfect accompaniment to a Cafe Del Mar sunset.

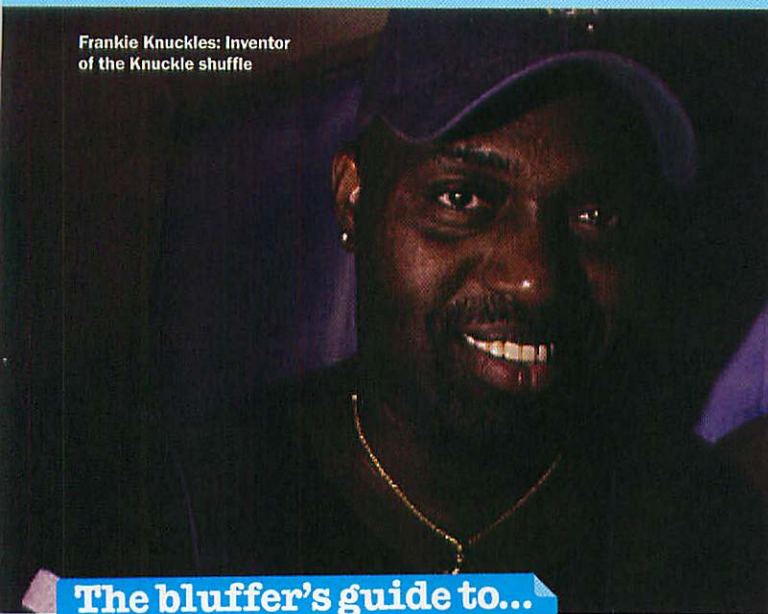


10

£10 MOLOKO **The Time Is Now** (Echo promo 2x12-inch, 2000)

This catchy pop song was given the funky FK vocal treatment. The vocal mix saw the light of day on the official release, but the bonus on this promo double-pack is FK's awesome, ten-and-a-half-minute 'Blissed Out Dub'.

Frankie Knuckles: Inventor of the Knuckle shuffle



The bluffer's guide to...

Classic house

Nuff producers are looking back into house music's archive for their inspiration at the moment. Check out the blatant old schoolisms of Harry Romero & Robert Owens 'Back In The Day' on Subliminal or Envoy's cover of Rickster's 'Nightmoves' on Soma. As a result, we're in nostalgic mood, so we've dug deep into the crates to bring you the definitive top ten, utterly

essential records that made house music the global force it is today.

Rather than covering the records that went on to become huge chart hits (although we've included a top ten of these too – aren't we nice?) our chart is a strictly connoisseur's guide to early house music's finest moments. Some of these are well known. Others are not. All of them are priceless.

Kevin McKay

Essential compilation

Classic House Mastercuts volumes 1,2 &3 (Beechwood)

Of all the myriad house compilations that have been released, these three are likely to be the easiest to find. Each release covers both underground club cuts and tracks that made it on a more commercial level. Ideally, you also want one of 'The House Sound of Chicago' compilations that were released in the early Nineties – but good luck getting hold of any of them!

10 classic house cuts that hit the mainstream

- 1 **Joe Smooth** Promised Land (DJ International) 2 **Farley 'Jackmaster' Funk** Love Can't Turn Around (DJ International) 3 **Sterling Void** It's Gonna Be Alright (DJ International) 4 **Marshall Jefferson** Move Your Body (Trax) 5 **Steve 'Silk' Hurley** Jack Your Body (DJ International) 6 **Ralphie Rosario** U Used To Hold Me (Hot Mix 5) 7 **Ten City** Devotion (Atlantic) 8 **Robert Owens** Tears (Trax) 9 **Mr Fingers** Can U Feel It? (Trax) 10 **Ce Ce Rodgers** Someday (Atlantic)

which celebrity has
a tattoo of themselves
on their arm?



FRANKIE KNUCKLES Your Love (Trax)

It was a close call, but this awesome vocal groove is too good to be anything but number one. 'Your Love', created for the Prince-like vocals of Jamie Principle, has it all – Chicago rhythms, classic house bassline, hypnotic keyboard licks and a vocal to die for.



MR FINGERS Washing Machine (Trax)

There are so many smooth Mr Fingers cuts that we could pick ('Mystery of Love', 'Beyond the Clouds'), but this jagged piece of brilliance beats them all. With little more than a wee Yamaha keyboard and a boom box, Fingers dropped a bassline that warped the world.



REESE & SANTONIO The Sound (KMS)

For single-handedly inventing the dark bass sound of tech-house, Kevin Saunderson is flying high in the top ten. This early cut on KMS came without his trademark Schatrax/Slam-style bass noise but delivered a plinky-plonk rhythm that, once in, never leaves your brain.



PHUTURE Acid Tracks (Trax)

Perhaps not DJ Pierre's best work, but this Marshall Jefferson-produced wonder spawned a generation of copyists who have since attempted to emulate that twisted bass rumble. Proclaimed the Roland 303 the machine of the century.



LI'L LOUIS Video Clash (Dancemania)

While 'French Kiss' is a clearer certainty for filling dancefloors the world over and 'Conversation' is the only dance record featuring a saxophone you need. But he mind chaos of 'Video Clash' is the greatest work of genius in Louis' back catalogue.



TYREE Hardcore Hip House (DJ International)

While 'Acid Over' will forever be Tyree's most renowned cut, this lesson in simplicity, from one of the premier producers of the time, is a firm favourite with globe-trotting disc spinners as varied as Glasgow Underground's DJ Q and the Idjut Boys.



HERCULES Seven Ways To Jack (Trax)

The only artists to feature more than once in the Classic House top ten team up on this release. Marshall Jefferson and Li'l Louis are the duo behind the dark, bumpin' bass and smooth spoken vocals of 'Seven Ways To Jack'. And we can't forget Jack can we?



A GUY CALLED GERALD Voodoo Ray (Rham!)

The only British entry in the top ten (just sneaking in ahead of Bang The Party's 'Bang Bang You're Mine' and Raven Maize's 'Together Forever') is this unforgettable mix of chanted vocal and descending bass from Gerald Simpson. Kick-started the Manchester-led UK dance boom.



JEANETTE THOMAS Shake Your Body (Chicago Connection)

This slice of minimal, dubbed-out bass-house is incredibly scarce, but was recently bootlegged in New York. Chicago Connection is a seminal label which though not as prolific as Trax was its match for quality.



BOBBY KONDORS Nervous Acid (Nu Groove)

It would be impossible to talk about classic house without mentioning this influential imprint. Nu Groove defined New York house and this is arguably the most influential record they released.

IN DEMAND VINYL

The top ten pricey platters at Vinyl Exchange, Manchester

1

£70

INCOGDO
Simply Just A Ventage (Spiritual)
Little known Derrick May (and, apparently, Carl Craig) track on an obscure Dutch label. It's actually a fucked-up re-edit of an old John Rocca song, and was a massive anthem in the early days of Bugged Out!

2

£40

PSYCHE/RHYTHM IS RHYTHM
Crackdown (Remix)/Kao-Tic Harmony (Remix)/Beyond The Dance (Remix) (Buzz)
Very, very rare European-only release of these exclusive remixes of three Carl Craig and Derrick May techno classics. Essential Detroit gear.

3

£30

ORBITAL Orbital (aka 'The Brown Album') (Internal)
A defining moment in British electronica where the brothers Hartnoll showed that a 'techno' LP could work. Includes classic tracks 'Impact', 'Lush' and 'Halcyon'. Now surprisingly hard to find in nice condition.

4

£25

ALEX REECE Pulp Fiction/Chill Pili (Metalheads)
This jungle anthem from 1995 was huge at the time, and has grown in demand again recently. Still sounds *al dente*!

5

£35

GROOVE ROBBERS
FEATURING DJ SHADOW/CHIEF XCEL FEATURING GIFT OF GAB & LATEEF Hardcore (Instrumental) Hip Hop/Fully Charged On Planet X (Soulsides)
Two sides of seriously dope hip hop from 1996, later re-released on Mo' Wax.

6

£25

KING BEE
Back By Dope Demand (Big One)
Massive, floor rockin' hip hop anthem that's actually considerably more in demand from house heads than hip hop kids. The definition of 'end of the night tune' since its 1990 release.

7

£20

THE AWESOME 3
Don't Go (Entity)
We are still constantly asked for any release of this massive, piano-led old school rave anthem. This is the rarest original pressing - so get yer air horn out matey!

8

£20

NUYORICAN SOUL FEATURING JOCELYN BROWN & ROY AYERS
Sweet Tears/I Am The Black Gold Of The Sun (Talkin' Loud)
Two superb cover versions from the Masters At Work, plus 4 Hero's stunning house remix of 'Black Gold...!', which is quite a bonus.

9

£18

LAMONT DOZIER Going Back To My Roots (Warner Brothers)
Original version of this disco classic from way back in 1979. Sampled, covered and copied by everyone from Richie Havens to The FPI Project... but never bettered.

10

£15

LADYCOP THE FUZZ
FEATURING NESREEN
To Be Real (Ladycop)
Huge club anthem that rocks the floor everywhere, from big commercial clubs to your cooler underground venues like Manchester's Electric Chair. This is the ultra-rare original.

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Buried Treasure with Don Letts



TAPPER ZUKIE Man Ah Warrior (Count Shelly, 1973)



"Tapper Zukie was from Kingston, but this was voiced in England. It was his first album and he was 18 at the time. There were only about 500 of them pressed.

"In the mid-Seventies I became friendly with Tapper after meeting him in a Dalston reggae club. At the time I worked in a shop called Acme Attractions, and one day Patti Smith wandered in. Turns out she's a fan, inspired by Tapper's vocal delivery. I introduced the two of them, and Patti was so enamoured with Tapper's sound she re-released this album on her label.

"The original recording sounds like it was

made in Fred Flintstone's studio - it's really rugged, and he's got this weird vocal style which is almost stream of consciousness. As stuff becomes more and more polished and soulless, I appreciate more and more what I call 'naïve art'. This is a fine example." (VG)

'The Mighty Trojan Sound' compiled by Don Letts is out on May 6th on Trojan

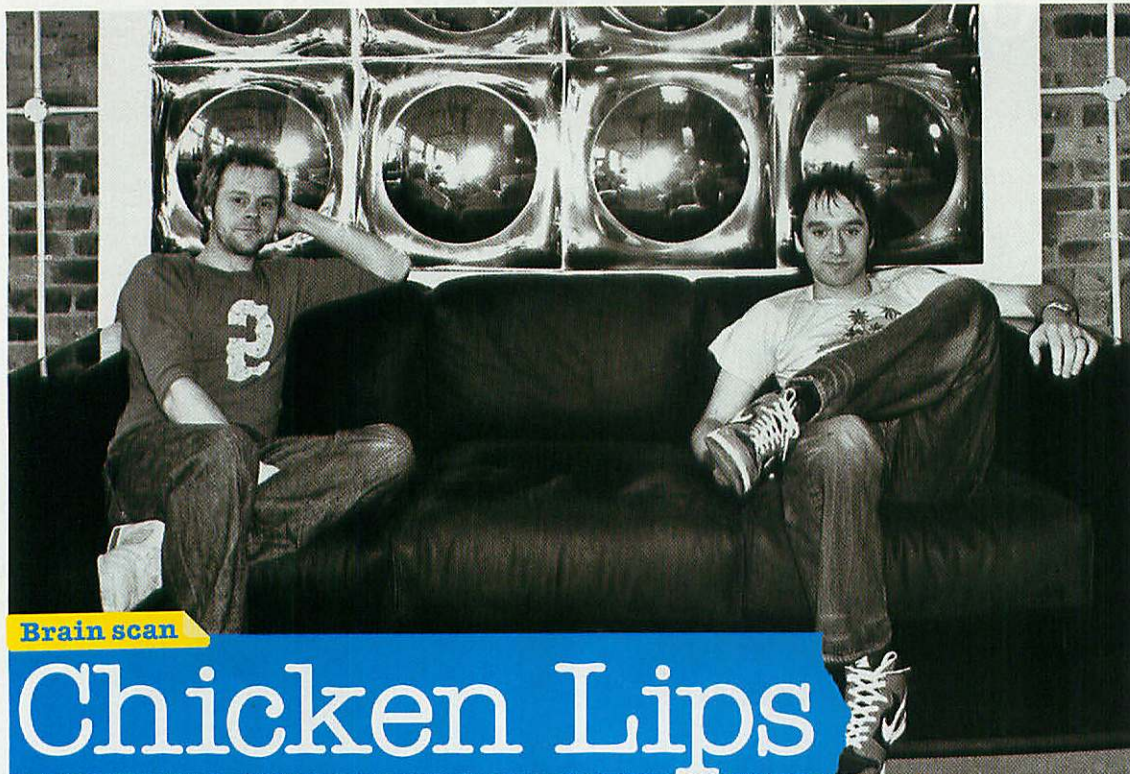
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Brain scan

Chicken Lips

Probing the innermost corners of Andy Meecham and Dean Meredith's cerebellum

First record bought

AM "I think it was one of those Top Of The Pops albums. All I remember is the girl with big knockers on the front cover with tight denim hot pants... fantastic nipples!"

DM "'Gangsters' by the Specials. I was really into that whole 2-Tone scene, the clothes and all that great UK ska."

Guaranteed dancefloor filler

AM "'No Way Back' by Adonis or 'Make It Happen' by Playgroup"

DM "'NERD's 'Lapdancer' (Freeform 5 Mix) went down very nicely in Brussels last weekend."

Record for your wedding

AM "'My Boomerang Won't Come Back'! By that small, fat bloke."

DM "I got married last year and Andy did the wedding set. The first dance record was Stevie

Wonder's 'Always' from 'Songs In The Key Of Life'. A true classic!"

Record for your funeral

AM "Some nice rubber p-funk!"

DM "'Dancing In Outerspace' by Atmosphere. It was the first real club record I heard and was the reason I got into making music."

Record to romance the laydeez

AM "'Sound FX' by the BBC Radiophonic Workshop, side A, band 7."

DM "Ooh, probably some booty shaking funk and soul - 'I Believe In Miracles' or 'Funkin' For Jamaica'."

Perfect Sunday morning platter

AM "A large joint, a large mug of tea and smoked mackerel to follow. Then out for a pint."

DM "Usually nothing because my ears are buzzing from the night before. But when I am up to it then

I'll go for Classic Gold radio while cooking breakfast for my wife."

Heard Madonna's new single

AM "I only ever catch the end bit on MTV. She's got fantastic tits though!"

DM "I Haven't heard it. I know Jacques Lu Cont has been working with her so it should be cool."

Favourite weepy record

AM "Rolf Harris' 'Two Little Boys'. That record made me sad when I was a kid!"

DM "'What's going on' by Marvin Gaye. It says a lot about the world at the moment."

Favourite shit-kicking record

DM "I'm a lover not a fighter but probably 'Kick Out The Jams' by The MC5."

Favourite 'off yer head' record

AM "'Gordon Is A Moron' by Jilted John. Because..."

DM "At the moment it's 'Time Has Come Today' by The Chamber Brothers. Along the way it's had various incarnations, from On-U Sound to Ten City's 'That's The Way Love Is' to MFSB's 'Love Is The Message'."

All-time favourite tunes

AM "John Foxx 'Plaza', Parliament 'Rumpofsteelskin', Tangerine Dream 'Encore', Rhythm Is Rhythm 'The Dance', Lizard 'Sa Ka Na'."

DM "James Brown 'Bodyheat', Small Faces 'All Or Nothing', Galaxy To Galaxy 'High Tech Jazz', Adonis 'No Way Back', Stevie Wonder 'Do I Do'." (RM)

The Chicken Lips And Co remix album, 'Re-Echoed, Re-Extended And Re-Hashed' is out now on Kingsize. 'Chicken Lips Presents Body Music' will follow in June on NRK

Test Pressing Chart

- 1 Massive Attack** Butterfly Caught (Octave One Remix) (Virgin)
- 2 Mint Royale** I Don't Know (Tom Middleton Remix) (Illustrious)
- 3 Double Dee** Shining (Cicada Remix) (Positiva)
- 4 Audio Bullys** Turned Away (Tony Senghore Remix) (Virgin)
- 5 Senior Coconut** Smoke On The Water (King Britt Remix) (New State)
- 6 Junior Jack** E-Samba (Eye Industries)
- 7 Glider** Riding High (Boris Dlugosch Mix) (Multiply)
- 8 Frankie G** Remember (Juicy Music)
- 9 Tony Faline** Feel the Funk (Lee Coombs Mix) (Air)
- 10 Harry 'Choo Choo'** Romero Featuring Robert Owens Back In The Day (Subliminal)

Compiled by Tommy Scott for Amato Distribution



Louie Vega's Miami Top Ten

- 1 Louie Vega Featuring Raul Midon** Cerca De Mi (Vega)
- 2 DJ Gregory Elle** (Faya Combo)
- 3 Kenny Dope** Frenzy (Dope Wax)
- 4 Roy Davis Jr** Marvin Versus Jill (white label)
- 5 George Levine** I Got Somebody New (Sonar Kollektiv)
- 6 Manzel** It's Over Now (MAW Mix) (Dope Brother)
- 7 Marcus Enochson** Feeling Fine (Pseudo Jazz) (MAW)
- 8 Africanism/Liquid People** Don't You Go Away (Yellow Productions)
- 9 Antonio Ocasio** Organic Energy (Kenlou)
- 10 Rimas Divided** United (white label)

The Todd Terry and Josh Wink mixes of 'Tranz/'Body' by MAW Electronic are out now on MAW

Joe Ransom

Fabric's hip hop and breaks don on the slates that are definitely smashing it, grinding, representing and so on



1 Fallacy Big 'N' Bashy (Virgin)

"Another good crossover British club track from Fallacy and crew"

2 Freeway Flipside (Roc-A-Fella)

"A combination of tight, jiggy production from Just Blaze and crisp flows from Freeway"

3 Dead Prez Radio Freq (Columbia)

"Dead Prez go against the grain with this well-produced, upbeat track"

4 Sean Paul Get Busy (Atlantic)

"Sean smashin' the 'Diwali' riddim" (Rawkus)

5 Talib Kweli Get By

"Good, positive summer tune from Kweli - one for the car!"

6 Lil' Kim The Jump Off (Atlantic)

"Timbaland's gritty production makes this track a club banger"

7 Plump DJs Mantra (Fingerlickin')

"This track off the promo EP builds nicely with a deep, old school feel"

8 Precision Cuts The Herta (Smart Breaks)

"Wicked breaks track with a dope funk/hip hop edge"

9 Soul Of Man The Drum (white label)

"Still smashin' the floor!"

10 The Lucky Ones Ol (white label)

"A heavy, progressive breaks tune with an epic breakdown"

Joe Ransom is a resident DJ at Fabric Live, every Friday at Fabric, London



表現の自由

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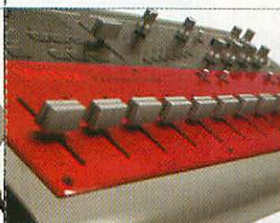
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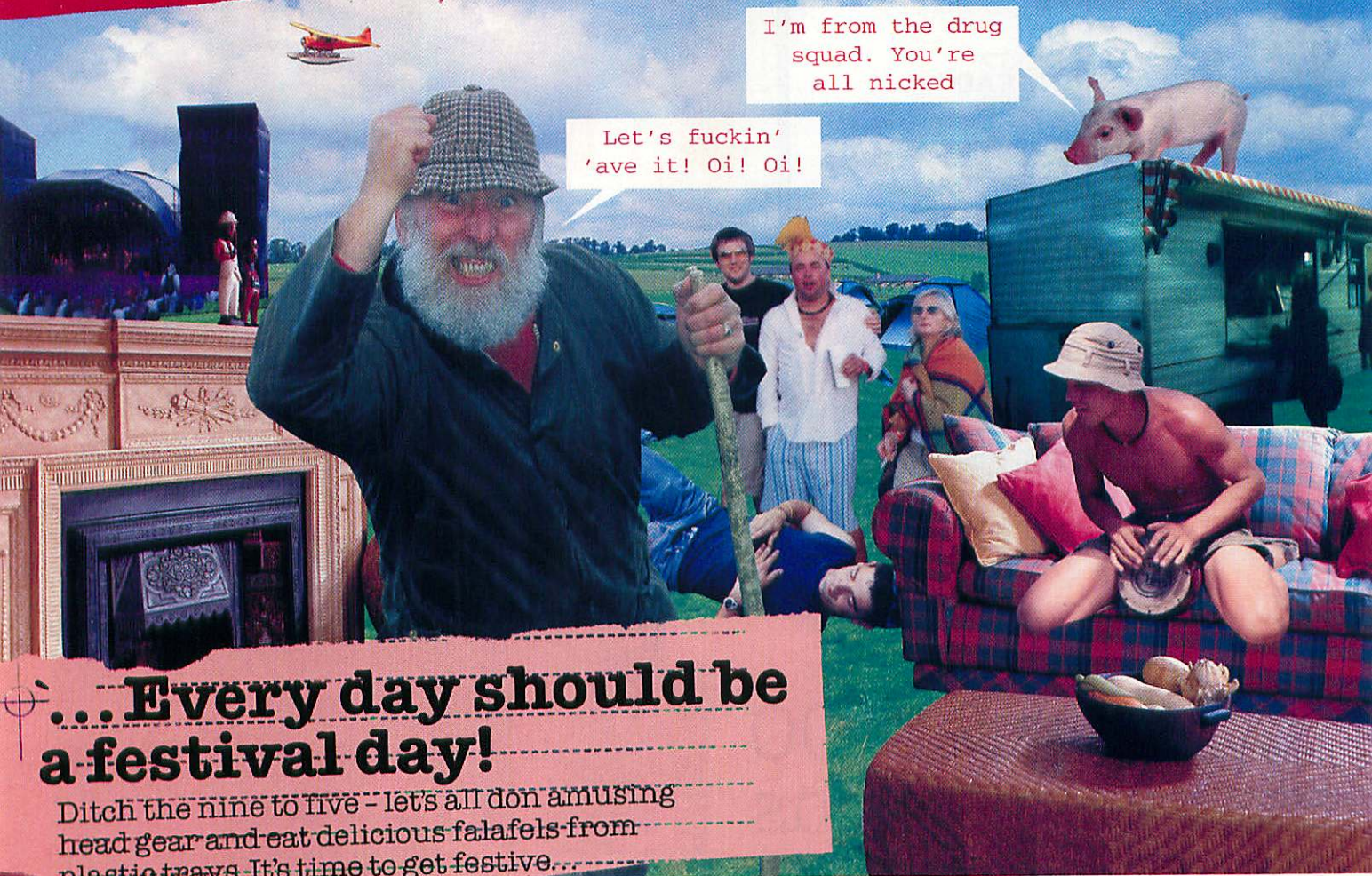
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2 In a world of peaceful and joyous co-existence everyone would be a lot more trusting and therefore considerably easier to rob.

3 There will be no such thing as surly doormen, as of course there will be no doors.

4 You get an extra half an hour in bed in the morning when you are under no pressure to have a wash.

5 Just think of the shot in the arm that it would give to Britain's ailing, multi-billion pound falafel industry.

6 ... Not to mention the joy it will bring to manufacturers and vendors of stilts, bongos, henna tattoos, flaming juggler's torches and those fucking stupid jester's hats.

7 No longer will annoying mums get on your tits by saying "shut the door! You don't live in a field!"

8 The club scene will be improved immeasurably by the sight of drag queens in six-inch heels desperately struggling back to their caravan through a sucking quagmire.

9 Progressive and tribal house DJs will finally be able to play the four-week-long sets that they've always dreamed of.

10 Unwanted flyers will no longer be an unsightly pain in the arse littering our streets - they will instead become a much-needed source of nutrition.

11 Instead of sitting in a pub whinging and looking miserable when it pisses down, we would instead go and writhe around in an enormous sexy mudbath with girls with no tops on, like at Woodstock.

13 If you get the munchies in the middle of the night, you won't have to worry about finding a 24-hour garage. You can just nip into the next field and slaughter a pig.

14 Gun culture will be a thing of the past because all the pistol-packing crims will have been murdered by farmers who 'thought they were a burglar'.

15 Undercover drug squad officers will be even easier to spot on a daily basis. Tip: he's the one wearing the hoodie with the price tag on it and sensible black brogues.

16 Every morning at dawn we will be gently coaxed out of our private chemical hells by God's own chill out tape of twittering birds and bleating lambs. . .

17 ... Which means the Orb will be finally forced into retirement! Woo-hoo!

18 Young ladies struggling to erect their tents will be able to use phrases like "I'm having problems with my flaps" and "I can't get the pole to stay up," thus creating a delightful new world of hilarious, Carry On-style comic possibilities.

19 There would be far less alcoholism if all the beer was warm and cost three fucking quid a fucking can.

20 If we spent our entire lives at a festival, then we wouldn't have to go through the logistical Krypton Factor that constitutes getting to and from a festival and pitching a tent in the first place.

12 Boring townie diseases like lung cancer and ME will be replaced by more exciting life-threatening ailments like myxomatosis and the bubonic plague.



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ARENA 2

**ROGER SANCHEZ/PETE TONG/STEVE LAWLER/LOTTIE/CASSIUS &
STEVE EDWARDS/ROOTY DJ'S (FRANK TOPE & TAYO)/JON CARTER
RUI DA SILVA/RALPH LAWSON/PAUL WOOLFORD/CLIFF LAY/DAVE CHAMBERS**

ARENA 3 PRESENTED BY MOVEMENT

**PHOTEK PRESENTS 'DO OR DIE' FEATURING CHOC TY & CHIARA (WORLD EXCLUSIVE!)
KRUST & DIE PRESENT: 'I KAMANCHI'/DJ MARKY (BRASIL)/BRYAN GEE/PATRICK FORGE
FABIO/FALLACY FEATURING TUBBY-T PERFORMING BIG & BASHY/ANDY C/RODNEY P. & SKITZ
LEMON D & DILLINJA/HYPE/MC TALI (LIVE PA)/ZINC/OLLIE TWIST & JASON/RAY KEITH
ADDITION/RUFFSTUFF/MC GQ/DYNAMITE MC/STAMINA MC/MC MOOSE/MC FOXY
MC DARRISON/MC FUN**

ARENA 4

JEFF MILLS/DAVE CLARKE/CAJMERE/SLAM DJ'S/UMEK/CHRISTIAN SMITH

ARENA 5

**2 MANY DJ'S (SOULWAX)/GRANDMASTER FLASH/DEXTER/UNKLESOUNDS
EROL ALKAN/DJ FOOD/ALI B/JACQUES LU CONT/PEDRO WINTER/PLUS SURPRISE GUEST!**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH TIME OUT LONDON

RADIO 1 OUTDOOR STAGE

**FERGIE/TIMO MAAS/SEB FONTAINE/JUDGE JULES/DAVE PEARCE/NICK FANCIULLI
JON O BIR/PETRAE FOY/JON ASKEW**

BACARDI BBAR

**DERRICK CARTER/LUKE SOLOMON/JUSTIN HARRIS/FREAKS (LIVE)
STELLA ATTAR/DIZ WASHINGTON/KENNY HAWKES/TIEFSCHWARZ
BASIL BLACK II BASIC (LIVE PERCUSSION)**

STRONGBOW ROOMS

LOUIS OSBOURNE/JIM BYERS/MATT DIX/BEN ARNOLD/MARTIN METCALF

**TICKETS £49ADV. 24 HOUR CREDIT CARD HOTLINE: 08701 500 044 (24HRS)
OR BOOK ONLINE @ WWW.MEANFIDDLER.COM & WWW.WELOVEHOMELANDS.COM. ALSO FROM TICKETMASTER IN SELECTED VIRGIN,
TOWER RECORDS AND WAITROSE STORES, PLUS USUAL AGENTS (SUBJECT TO BOOKING FEE). NO BOOKING FEE FOR CASH
PURCHASES FROM ASTORIA BOX OFFICE, CAMDEN TICKETSHOP AND IN ALL MEAN FIDDLER BOX OFFICES. INFO LINE: 020 8963 0940**

