

# the Vinyl Exchange

a newsletter for deejays and vinyl junkies

APRIL/MAY 1997

## Trackheads Anonymous

Thank goodness for trips to New York a day before deadline! Until then I had pretty much nothing for this column (meaning no new music whatsoever to write about), but after yesterday I got plenty. Thank you to all the people that I visited for their hospitality and hookups.

The first record I'm going to talk about is also the best record I have gotten in quite some time. Whenever I think that **Company Flow** cannot top their last release, they go out and do just that. This time they bring along fellow mic destroyers **The Juggaknots** and **J-Treds**, and what ensues is possibly the best posse cut since "Scenario." This project goes under the name the **Indelible MC's** and features two cuts ("The Fire in Which You Burn" and "Collude Intrude") that are both guaranteed to scorch your slip mats. **EL-P** is proving that he is a force to be reckoned with behind the boards as well as on the mic. "The Fire..." has the one of the strangest sounding beats you will ever hear, with some bugged out sitars playing in the background. I wait with baited breath for the **Company Flow** LP on Official/Rawkus.

Next up is the incredible b-boy crew the **Arsonists**. Their new single is on the Serchlite label (an album is coming after this on Fondle 'Em) and features two cuts, "Venom" b/w "Seed." Both cuts are very nice, but I prefer the B-side which is a slow pounding track featuring four MCs: **Q-Unique**, **Jise One**, **Kinetic Energy** and **Freestyle**, all of whom have incredible mic skills. This crew just continues to improve all the time and will definitely be a force for the year of 1997.

Also, if this crew is ever in your area be sure not to miss them—their live show must be seen to be believed.

The next platter makes me extremely happy. The **Juice Crew** legend, **Craig G.** is back with a hot 12" on the Sure Shot label. Since he was one of my favorite MCs from back then (and still is really) it was a given that I would like this record. Craig has a commanding presence on the microphone that not many people today possess. Old fans know that this man is a

truly gifted MC, and now new fans will get the chance to see that as well. Two cuts on this record, "Welcome 2 the Game" b/w "Sing-A-Long"; both are great and are sure to be rocked on mix shows and tapes all around the globe. Good looking to Craig and Sure Shot—this stuff is hot, hot, hot.

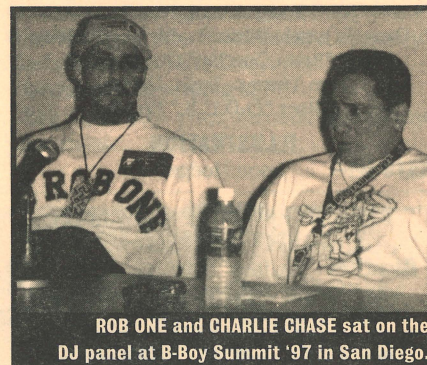
Next up, by the way of the **Organizms**, is **Mr. Complex**. Again a two-song 12", but this time on the Raw Shack label. Underground heads are sure to be familiar with this man and his bugged rhyme flow and patterns. This kid is truly one of the most gifted poets in the New York underground and Raw Shack is lucky to have added him to their already potent roster. When you hear Complex, you will hear anything but typical. His flows have no boundaries on any track, and his vocabulary and word play is incredible. The A-side cut is called "Visualize" and is a story type of track where Complex is telling tales of girls, but he does it in a truly unique manner—it has to be heard, not explained in a review. The B-side is called "Why Don't 'Cha" and features **Pharoahe Monch** of **Organized Konfusion**. Again this cut really needs to be heard, it's just too complex (pun intended) for a review. Both cuts are produced by **DJ Spinna** (from the **Jigmastas**), a hot producer in the NY underground scene.

One word for this record—essential.

Dolo continues their nice track record with the new **Powerule** 12", "Well Connected" b/w "Bright Lights, Big City." Remember what **Public Enemy** said about the B-side? Well that theory holds true again as the B-side track here is a gem. "Bright Lights Big City" is a bouncy track which is a nice contrast from all the really slow, sludgy and dark sounding tracks prevalent in today's hip-hop. It sounds kind of like the **Beatnuts** actually, except these guys are better wielding the mics. The A-Side you ask? Well, let's not talk about that.

Next up is a 12" from the producer/DJ **Shazam X**. It is on the VMax label that brought you **Percee P** and the **Sick Lyrical Damager (SLD)**. The track is called "Respect Costs More Than Money" and features both Percee and the SLD. This cut really surprised me—I was not really expecting much from it since the SLD record didn't do much for me, but I am a big Percee P fan from back in his Big Beat days with **DJ E-Kim**. Of course my man

...continued on page 2



ROB ONE and CHARLIE CHASE sat on the DJ panel at B-Boy Summit '97 in San Diego.

## B-Boy Summit DJ Panel

The DJ Panel was one of several panels put on at the B-Boy Summit, held February 28-March 2, 1997 in San Diego. Panelists were **Beat Junkies J-Rocc**, **Babu**, **Rhettmatic** and **Mr. Choc**, **Cut Chemist**, **King Tech**, **Quest**, **Z-Trip** and the legendary **Charlie Chase** of the **Cold Crush Brothers**. Here's a taste of what went down:

**When did you start DJing and what mixer did you start with?**

**Tech:** 1983; Radio Shack mixer.

**Quest:** A Pyramid mixer with wood sides.

**Z-Trip:** Belt-drive turntables with no pitch control, and a Realistic mixer.

**Rob One:** Belt-drives and a Gemini mixer, 1983.

**Charlie Chase:** I started with my mom's Gerard turntable! In 1977. And belt-drives. Then 1200s came along. I haven't seen anything better than 1200s.

**Babu:** '89-90, 1800s and a Gemini.

**J-Rocc:** My sister's home system, then a Realistic.

**Rhettmatic:** Sansui turntables, about 12 years ago.

**Charlie Chase:** The first 1200 model was without pitch and without feet. The newer model that came out in '80-'81 is the same model today.

**Is KOOL HERC responsible (for starting DJing)?**

**Charlie Chase:** In 1972, Herc had speakers 16 feet up, eight to ten on each side, with an echo chamber, bass...He helped start everything. From there it evolved.

**Regarding artists with no DJ—it's like they don't know that DJs exist. MCs gotta have a DJ. The Cold Crush Brothers had two DJs.**

**Charlie Chase:** It's the creation of the DAT. No DJ—that's not hip-hop.

**Z-Trip:** MCs, press up your vinyl so the

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5/97

**Battle Report**

"Beatsauce," the weekly hip-hop radio show on the University of San Francisco's radio station KUSF 90.3 FM, is putting on a DJ battle. The battle will take place live and on the air during the show and will be decided by listener call-in. Any DJs interested in entering this battle can call the station at 415.751.KUSF during the show, Sundays from 7 to 9 pm or call DJ Raw B at 415.242.9177. "The purpose of the battle isn't really the competition," says Raw B, "but to bring out the art of DJing and give some local DJs exposure." A date hasn't been set yet, but those interested should call as soon as possible.

Congratulations to "Beatsauce" DJs J-Boogie, Raw B and Wisdom on the recent expansion to their new two-hour time slot. Be sure to listen if you're in the area, or if you have an internet connection you can listen to KUSF live via RealAudio at [www-personal.usfca.edu/kusf/netcasting.html](http://www-personal.usfca.edu/kusf/netcasting.html).

—DJ STEF

**Trackheads (cont'd. from page 1)**

Percee comes with the two best verses on this nice uptempo cut, but the SLD gets the Most Improved award. This cut is cool and definitely worthy of your support.

The Jungle Brothers continue their great comeback with a new single, entitled "Brain" on the Gee Street label. Blessing the production on this joint is the Roots, and you can tell as soon as the song starts playing. They have concocted an incredibly smooth and flowing track that sounds like it was done with live musicians (but I'm really not sure). Anyway, this song really proves to me that the Jungle Brothers are officially back in effect. In no way was their last single a fluke. A great track to just kick back and relax to. The J.B.s definitely still got it.

I had a nice little chat with Bobbito, down at his store Footwork™ (which is very cool by the way, stop by and check it out if you are in NYC), about his Fondle 'Em label and upcoming releases. The next record on deck is by the Harlem funny man Lord Sear; after that is the long overdue record from Keige (of Mudbones fame). Keige is an incredible MC with an impeccable reputation on the NY underground open mic scene. I can guarantee that both of these records will be great. They could be out by the time you read this so keep your eyes peeled.

Find of the month: This month, fellow crate digger Steve B. (aka Kooky, aka Cretin) gets the award. He found a "Sesame Street" 12" entitled "Roosevelt Franklin." We all grew up on this show so

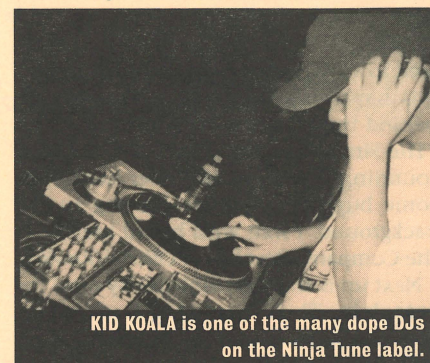
I'm sure you know who that is. The record highlights the adventures of Roosevelt and his cronies, like "A-B-Cito." This is sure to be appearing on future Steve B. mix tapes and radio shows. An absolute steal at \$1.00.

—DANIEL LADD

Daniel Ladd, 61 Esker Lane, North Kingstown, RI 02852; email: [dan@ids.net](mailto:dan@ids.net)

**SF Jungle Review**

Jungle, the popular style in town, huh? The masses heard it: thick, heavy beats flowin' from the decks, it's everywhere. In this city by the bay, drum n' bass continues to morph from strictly underground into retail-radio-mainstream acceptance. I refuse to write my comments about that one! The sound that originally sent crowds off the dance floor complaining now has got 'em out: daily, weekly, monthly. Most every party in town has a few jungle drops mixed within the turntablist's sets. Dropping their beat-knowledge in town this month were The



KID KOALA is one of the many dope DJs on the Ninja Tune label.

Ninja Crew—Kid Koala, DJ Food, Herbaliser and DJ Vadim; Springheel Jack; King Britt; The 119 crew; Bizzy B; E-Sassin; Jason Mouse (who recently moved to SF); The Rockers Hi-Fi with DJ Dick, Double A and local and not so local favorites. Parties this month included Audio Impact, Step2K, Stealth—the Ninja Tunes Party, King Kong, The BetaLounge, The Coco Club, SOLID, evenings at The Top, Double Dutch-Black Flies, Direction, Blow Up, Jungle Love, Culture, The Space Children Party and the first Sunset Party of the season. Mission Rock at China Basin, with the indoor/outdoor on the water vibe, has sponsored some smooth parties so far this spring: Ceridwen, UXB, The Rockers Hi-Fi and Daft Punk. I checked Science in LA (serious jungle bizness), the ear food was mixed by Los Angeles locals R.A.W., Raymond Roker, DJ Jun, E-Sassin and DJ Machete. Back local, I continue to scope the scene. To check it out yourself, (photos, RealAudio, scenester reports, reviews, calendar of events and more), dial up <http://www.junglism.com>. Respect.

—DMARIE



## Tom Thump's "Spring" In Your Step Ten!

Groove Merchant, 687 Haight Street, San Francisco, 415.252.5766

1. Retro - EZ-ROLLERS (Moving Shadow)
2. S'kooled Out - MEKON w/ SCHOOLY D (Wall of Sound)
3. Let Go - BUGS (Ubiquity)
4. Seismology Vol. 1 & 2 - FANATIK (All Good Vinyl)
5. Can I Get It/Hush the Crowd - J-LIVE (Rawshack)
6. People, Places & Things LP - SLIDE FIVE (Ubiquity)
7. Life/Can I Be Free - BIM SHERMAN (Mantra)
8. Temple Ball (10'') - HOAX (Moving Shadow)
9. Dead Cities LP and Mantronik Remix - FUTURE SOUND OF LONDON (Astralwerks)
10. Dub Moods EP - APHRODITE (Aphrodite)

Tom can be heard regularly Fridays at "Liquid" (2925 - 16th St.—Groove Merchant night); Thursdays at "Re-Birth" (VSF) Mondays at "Khadro" (Cat's Grill); (some) Fridays and Saturdays at 1015 Folsom St., all in San Francisco.

### DJ Panel (cont'd. from page 1)

DJs can play it. Independents is where the raw stuff happens.

**Rob One:** DJs make the party but are making less than the door guy. MCs with-out DJs—that has to do with the industry.

**The industry isn't recognizing DJs.**

**Z-Trip:** I bring hip-hop to rave culture because techno is basically hip-hop. Take out techno DJs one by one.

**There are different styles of DJs. A lot of people don't understand DJs. What do you think of CD mixers?**

**Charlie Chase:** I have two. I love hip-hop but I have to use CDs sometimes. I have to make a living, to survive. Keeping up with technology can expand your knowledge of computers.

**Thoughts on DJ battles?**

**Babu:** A lot of people see battles as entertainment. You have to meet us half way. What we're doing now is way more advanced. We use the turntable as an instrument.

**Quest:** I have a three-piece band with a drummer and a bass player (Live Human).

**Rhettmatic:** People don't know how a lot of blood, sweat and tears have gone into this. We're expressing our souls through music.

**Cut Chemist:** The turntable is a legitimate percussion instrument.

**What was your illest experience as a DJ?**

**Rhettmatic:** I did a punk rock party.

They enjoyed it. I sat in with the band.

**Babu:** After the Frisco DMC last year, the Beat Junkies, Invisibl Skratch Piklz and the X-Men got together in a warehouse. There's a secret video tape of that session.

**Charlie Chase:** In '77, I was first comin' up. In Arthur Park in the Bronx. There was jealousy of the sound systems. Three m\*therf\*ckers shot up the whole set! The shit was still playing, so I thought it was blanks. Later I found a .38 slug.

**Rob One:** Playing for Grandmaster Caz, Whipper Whip, Zulu Crew.

**Cut Chemist:** The B-Boy Summit last

year, DJ'ed with Whipper Whip, Donald D, and Kurtis Blow on the mic.

**Charlie Chase:** I first touched turntables in '76, doing little private parties. I was inspired by Flash (I was trying to bust his ass), Afrika Islam, Caz. I was a record boy for Tom & Jerry, a DJ crew. They were disco DJs. Hip-hop was up and coming at that time. It was Bambaataa, Herc and Flash. Bam has 72,000 records!

**Advice to DJs coming up?**

**Rob One:** Buy your records and know your music.

—DJ STEF



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# JEDI MIND TRICKS

"The Amber Probe EP" (Superregular) Contact Steven DiLodovico, 215.829.0680.

My first thought: "another 'Star Wars' reference?" I am gonna turn my lightsaber on the wrong way. But nah-nah-nah, as an original "Star Wars" fan, I can definitely say this is a group worthy of its name, and so is the title track. Right from the beginning, producers STOUPE and IKON (also the MC) drop a nice spacey loop that is quite addictive, reminding me of the sounds NASA officials broadcast in space in hopes of communication. Ikon's lyrics are fitting for the track, coming off with snippets like "we'll dismantle your collective mind."

This platter isn't done with one track though, it comes double-sided and high-density. Packed with two more sonnets aimed towards we alien heads, it fulfills its overall duty with "Communion: The Crop Circle Thesis" and "Books of Blood: The Coming of Tan." Also included are remixes, instrumentals AND remix-instrumentals. This wax is well worth dipping into the cash you've been saving up for some power converters. File this under X-File #3673. For the conspiracy ignoramuses out there, check your phone, it's probably tapped anyway.

—KOOKY

# DJ Z-TRIP & TOM C.

"Monkey Breaks Vol. 1" (White Label) 602.256.8589

Yeah, hip-hop breakbeat records—loop, loop, loop a classic break, add a drum and then throw in a sample from, like, METHOD MAN or PHIFE. (Add horns for acid jazz effect.) Cool! They can work if you put 'em in your mix. In the sea of such records, there are a few that rise to the top, surpass the scenario I just described, and stand out as essentials for the record case. (You know, the one you always take to the club.) "Monkey Breaks Vol. 1" is one of these standout records.

The possibilities for soundscape-creation (that's what we DJs do) are infinite. Good, and great, DJs take their creations into that higher realm, to create original compositions. Z-TRIP and TOM C do that here (even better, I think, than on "Monkey Breaks Vol. Zero," on Primeight Records, which is nice too), while keeping the DJ in mind. This record is an all-purpose tool—play it, mix it, scratch it, cut it, re-sample it, break to it or just listen to the whole thing and bug out. They supply four cuts on each side with hilarious soundbites in-between. Classic beats and samples, yes (I ain't tellin' you what—keep that on the under), but done creatively and again, I emphasize, WITH THE DJ IN MIND. This DJ record deserves DJ support. It even works on the dance floor. Thanks, guys, I like this one.

—SAM HILL

# MR. COMPLEX

"Visualize"/"Why Don't Cha" (Raw Shack) Production: DJ Spinna

MR. COMPLEX's music has been getting a lot of attention in the mix tape circuit, but his new single may finally take him to the next level. The DJ SPINNA-produced tracks put Mr. Complex in a position of sounding elite, a la NAS, and it's nice to hear good ego tracks that sound authentic and not faked. "Visualize" is a funky track that might as well have been from the ERICK SERMON House of Production, but instead its RAMSEY LEWIS-influenced keyboard sample turns this into a track reminiscent of hip-hop from '86-'88, where creativity and the urge to move the butt was as important as a strong lyric. The B-side, "Why Don't Cha," has Mr. Complex talking about his girl and why he is the one to be with. It's hard to tell if he wins out in the end, but knowing Complex he's got it made.

Mr. Complex's flow is a combination of SADAT X and KOOL KEITH, and true to his words, he is very visual with his lyrics. Anyone who is following DJ Spinna's work will want to pick this record up, for the instrumentals alone are worth moving and grooving to. Powerful ish...uh huh!

—JOHN BOOK

# THE DISCIPLES

"Writing Rhymes With A Liquid Pen" (Gotta Pay The Rent/Nikera) Production: Dropsect

By the name alone, this record could easily be mistaken for a long lost doo-wop gem from the 1950s. Instead, THE DISCIPLES are a project created by producer DROPSECT, who has done work with SHABAZZ THE DISCIPLE.

So what makes this record special? It happens to feature members of SUNZ OF MAN as well as Shabazz The Disciple, all of whom drop lyrical words of wisdom on this four minutes of pure heaven. On the musical side, it has the warmth and feel of the best MOBB DEEP track, where the sounds somehow creep slowly into your consciousness before your head starts to nod.

It's nice to hear SUNZ OF MAN out of their usual WU context, and KILLER PRIEST's verse is one that will be loved by the masses. No word as to the reason for this record, but as fans of Sunz Of Man continue to wait for their debut LP, this single is a nice "plop-plop fizz-fizz" for relief.

—JB

# BUDDAH MONK

"Gots Like Come On Thru"/"Nightmare On Zu Street" (Sure Shot) Production: Buddah Monk, Marcus Logan a/k/a Northstar

Fans of the unpredictable OL' DIRTY BASTARD have been anxiously awaiting any kind of music from his good friend BUDDAH MONK. Anyone familiar with the "Illstyle Live" tracks will know that the man defi-

# DJ Serg's Top Ten

Rotation, Mondays @ the Up & Down Club, San Francisco; Amoeba Music, Berkeley

1. Day One - DIGGIN IN THE CRATES (D.I.T.C.)
2. Hip Hop Drunkies - THA ALKAHOLIKS feat. Ol' Dirty Bastard (Loud Records)
3. My World - O.C. (Payday)
4. Fire In Which You Burn - INDELIBLE MC's (Rawkus/Official)
5. Do You Believe? - THE BEATNUTS (Relativity)
6. Taste of Chicago - E.C. & RUBBER ROOM (Molehole Records)
7. Talkin' Bout' Bank - THE WHORIDAS (Southpaw/Delicious Vinyl)
8. New & Improved - THE HERBALISER feat. What What (from Natural Resources) (Ninja Tune)
9. Queens Represent - ROYAL FLUSH (White Label)
10. Welcome 2 the Game - CRAIG G (Sure Shot Recordings)

nately has skills of his own.

After almost a two year wait, Buddah Monk has blessed us with a record of his own. "Gots Like Come On Thru" teams him up with his group, THE BROOKLYN ZOO, and the group proudly shows their love for everything that is WU. MCs ESPIONAGE and DRUNKEN DRAGON take up the track but it is Buddah's verse that demands the most attention.

Buddah handles production duties for "Nightmare On Zu Street," and ironically the groove is a lot more laid back than the A-side he didn't produce.

Buddah Monk shows that he, like the rest of the Wu-fam members, has what it takes to create his own mystique. But it may take another single or two to show off the true talents he holds inside. Impressive. For more information, contact Sure Shot at 212.533.7180.

—JB

# JAMIROQUAI

Travelling Without Moving LP (Sony) Production: Jay Kay, Al Stone, M-Beat

British soul-funk-disco band JAMIROQUAI emerged from the London underground club scene in 1992. With their first release on the Acid Jazz label, their music fell into the "acid jazz" category. Now, five years later, Jamiroquai has successfully outlived the acid jazz genre (as it was) and grown in depth, popularity and funkiness. With mainstream success in Europe and newfound crossover status in the US (with the "Virtual Insanity" video on MTV's regular rotation), vocalist JASON KAY and the band



are as funky as they ever were on the new, double-vinyl "Travelling Without Moving" LP.

Every cut on this album will inspire butt-shaking, whether it's the 90s disco sounds of "Cosmic Girl" or "Travelling Without Moving," the grind-inspiring R&B ballad "Everyday," or the junglized bonus track "Do You Know Where You're Coming From" featuring M-BEAT. Jamiroquai accomplishes the feat of maintaining a disco feel, as in the distinctly disco basslines of "Travelling..." and "Alright" and the disco strings on "Cosmic Girl," while not sounding cheesy at all. Listen closely and you may be reminded of YARBROUGH & PEOPLES' "Don't Stop the Music," VICKI SUE ROBINSON's "Turn the Beat Around" and ROY AYERS' "Freaky Deaky." The DJ element is present in "High Times" with the "Last night..." cuts from ESTHER WILLIAMS' "Last Night Changed It All." WALLIS is back on the didjeridoo in two incredible tracks: "Didjerama" and "Didjital Vibrations"—both dope. The reggae-flavored "Drifting Along" rounds out the selection and there are rumors of a MAD PROFESSOR remix. JK's vocals melt over each track like butter on hot popcorn. Funky flavor with a futuristic feel, for the Brit-funk era and beyond!

—CARMEN JONES

For more 70s-retro funky soul, here are some artists and labels to check for (my personal favorites): Music, Sex & Mathematics - *Main Street People* (Yo Mama, UK 1993), Practice What You Preach - *The Poets of Rhythm* (Bobby Byrd labelmates on Souciety Records, Germany), Joy Is Free - *Think Twice* (Internal Bass Records, 1996), Waiting by the Gates of Eden - *Children of Judah* (Wall of Sound, UK 1995).

—DJ STEF

## GROUP HOME

featuring BRAINSICK MOB "East NY Theory" (White Label)

Wasn't sure if this was a guest spot used as a fake headliner (a la Drastic Measures) but no matter as "East NY Theory" will satisfy any fans of LIL DAP (where's NUTCRACKER?), winging it this time around without the breast-fed beats of DJ PREMIER. While not too high on innovative production, this is still a pretty enjoyable cut. And unlike those kids riding CAPADONNA's name with no skills whatsoever, BRAINSICK MOB hangs proficiently on the lyrical end (sort of). While there shouldn't be any clear-cut rush to possess this 12", underproduction and shitty distribution have the high-end wax junkies on patrol.

—BEAVER X

## RASCO/ENCORE

"The Unassisted" Production: Fanatik, Peanut Butter Wolf/"The Essence" Production: The Architect (both on Stones Throw)

The PEANUT BUTTER WOLF camp and affiliates have been pretty busy. Stones Throw

has popped off two singles: RASCO's "The Unassisted" b/w "Hip Hop Essentials" and ENCORE's "The Essence" b/w "Defined by the Dollar." Both are strong and well worth picking up...the Rasco in particular demands doubles to get your flex on, given how dope the beats are (courtesy of FANATIK). Personally, I'd also go with Encore's B-side, "Defined..." given the nice jazzy track laid out by the ARCHITECT aka the HOMELISS DERILEX's G Luv. (Dope name for a producer by the way—how come someone didn't think of it first?). Both singles are well worth the dolo, don't sleep.

—O-D.U.B.

## KRS-ONE

"Step Into A World (Rapture's Delight)" (Jive) Production: Jesse West

In the era of the teaser promo, KRIS had

## Mix Tape reVIEWS: DJ Mix Master Mike "Unidentified Decomposed Essential"

In many ways, a DJ's mix tape can often lend insight to his/her psyche. It's not often however that a tape can practically take you into a DJ's very essence. This tape is an exception to the rule. As can be expected, this tape displays the usual skill and creativity exemplified on **Mix Master Mike's** other releases. What this tape does in addition is lay out a veritable roadmap to the inner workings of his mind which is what makes this joint so listenable.

From beginning to end, Mike takes the listener through a maze of discordant beats and sounds with the usual smattering of bugged out soundbites from **Bruce Lee** to **Brad Pitt**, not to mention the on-point scratching that a trained ear knows is coming directly from the soul. Equally as fly is his melange of breakbeats that permeate the entire joint. Also dope is the tape's outro with Mike as well as **DJ Shortkut** thanking **Grand-wizard Theodore** for "making up scratching."

Definitely a tape for turntablists everywhere who share the same vision of pushing the art of turntablism to an even higher extreme, but also an important purchase for listeners true to hip-hop music.



enough underground airplay to funnel some serious album sales. Instead, Jive releases what previously seemed to be a three-cut sampler—but in defense, "Rapture's Delight" started to blow up all over the place. A sure lock to force kids to sink the extra dollars for an LP (entitled "I Got Next"), but in what could be the anti-profit margin decision of the year, "Step Into A World" is distributed to retail as a one-cut 12", not even including an acapella for remixing. That's actually my primary complaint because **JESSE WEST's** production (better known for shit like **GENIUS' "Come Do Me"**) gets unbearable really quick—a shame since it's the lyrics that people are tripping off of for the most part. **KEVA's** rendition of the classic **BLONDIE** cut hardly blends with the monotonous old-school loop, not far from your average "R&B" (DE LA definition) joint.

—BEAVER X

## DJ Sinister "Mista Sinista"



Up next is a DJ who needs no introduction. As an integral member of the **X-Men**, **Sinister** is a DJ with outstanding beatmaking skills. This is evident on his latest joint, the self-titled "Mista Sinista." Starting things off on the right foot is one the illest intros heard in some time. After an opening from **Serch**, Sinista cuts up the "prime minister, sinister" reference off of **3rd Bass' "The Gas Face"** to beautiful effect. It goes uphill from there.

The key element to this tape (and his style for that matter) is his ability to seamlessly double up on records and go back and forth on them. This quality definitely puts him ahead of the pack in terms of skill. The fact that he flexes almost throughout the entire tape is also dope. In addition, the butter cuts by **AK Skills**, **Ghostface**, etc. make this tape a must-have for hip-hop junkies down with real turntable skills. Never one to hate, Sinista also lets his fellow X-Men get biz as well making for a well rounded representation from

Mista Sinista...cop it.

(Available at Fat Beats New York, 212. 965.1862.)

—UPRISE



# VINYL

for sale or trade

HIERO vinyl collection. Email rascue@vinylexchange.com for info.

Over the past 45 years I have been an avid collector and have amassed over 100,000 records. Many rarities of which I am interested in parting out, including a large collection of BILL HALEY 33, 45, 78 and others from 50s. Write to mrlee@delanet.com or 28 W. Stephen Dr., Newark, DE 19713.

SEALED COPIES: "I Know You Got Soul," "Eric B. Is Pres.," "I Ain't No Joke," "Paid In Full," "Saturday," "Plug Tunin'," "Buddy," more...\$20 each, shipping included. E-mail comiuvare@ix.netcom.com

Black Rhythm Records is selling/buying vinyl rap, hip-hop, house, streetbeat, disco, soul, R&B. Search service also available. Free catalog available for serious DJs/collectors. PO Box 22, 6740AA, LUNTEREN, NETHERLANDS. Fax 31.318.48.6964. Major credit cards accepted. Visit the Black Rhythm Records web site at <http://www.universal.nl/blackrhythm>

Divine Distribution, underground CANADIAN mail-order service, with releases from Saukrates, Frankenstein, Thrust, Choc-lair, Concrete Mob, etc. For catalog send \$2 to: Divine Styler Magazine, 650 Dupont St. Suite 501, Toronto ON, M6G 1Z2, Canada.

Offering ULTRAMAGNETIC singles "Funky," "Feelin It" and "Poppa Large" for doubles of Common's "Bitch In Yoo," Beatnuts' "Find That," Royal Flush's "Movin On..." and more. Steve Steed, 2645 McBurney Ct., San Diego, CA 92154 or email sosflex@aol.com

Buy, sell, trade. New and used. Hip-hop & breakbeats catalog and want list available. One Shot Records,

Hunters & Collectors WorldWide Search Network 212.567.7044 or e-mail chi69@ix.netcom.com for info. I have mad HIP-HOP VINYL for sale, e-mail me for a list. Also selling Wu-Tang mix tapes. E-mail mistapiz-zo@hiphopsite.com

HIP-HOP LPs and 12-inches from 1984 to 1995. Some old school, R&B, techno, 1980s club/freestyle. Sell or trade. Info: Carlos A. Rojas, 4081 Home Ave. #212, San Diego, CA 92105. Phone 619.262.5397.

CONSUELO'S CORNER at Behind the Post Office, 1510 Haight St., San Francisco. 415.861.2507. Jazz, hip-hop, breakbeats, vinyl treats!

STACKS OF WAX. Jazz, soul, funk, rap, etc... call or fax want list to 415.252.7817.

SOUL, R&B & jazz LPs, buy, sell trade. Visa, MC, Amex. Dane C. LaBarr, P.O. Box 260834, Tampa, FL 33685, USA. Tel/fax 813.882.3929. DCL House of Records, <http://www.gate.net/~dclabarr/homepage.htm> or email dclabarr@gate.net.

# VINYL

wanted

WU-TANG CLAN records wanted! I am currently looking for the following: original "Protect Ya Neck" 12" on Wu-Tang Records; La The Darkman's "As The World Turns" 12" (original, not the bootleg); Method Man's "All I Need"/"Sub-Crazy" (white label promo); and the promo 12" of Trendz Of Culture's "Who Got My Back (Remix)" featuring Method Man. You can write to me at John Book, 2502 W. Opal St., Pasco, WA 99301-3352, or e-mail me at JohnBook@hiphopsite.com

I'm looking for EL CHICANO albums, any of them except *Pyramid Of Love & Friends*, *Cinco*, *Viva El Chicano*. E-mail joep@visionol.net

Wanted: any old 12" and LPs for hip-hop, R&B, preferably '94 and before. Especially PETE ROCK, GANG STARR, COMMON and CHI ALI's "Lemonade" remix. Contact Andrew at mtang@globalserve.net or 905.770.6806.

NEED BDP's *Edu-tainment* on wax. Hit me off at GnuSoul@msn.com

Searching for many slabs of vinyl. E-mail j-scurry@nwnu.edu for list. Please send lists of what you have to me either via e-mail or to j. scurry, 244 E. Pearson, Chicago, IL 60611.

I'm looking for the SOULS' 12" "Never No More," any old DE LA SOUL, GANG STARR, REDMAN, PUBLIC ENEMY and any other fat joints pre-'94. I will pay cash. E-Mail me at Ameks193@aol.com

ANY VINYL WANTED. I'm looking for any & all vinyl. Looking to buy in bulk. E-mail me if you have ANYTHING. LUCKY418@aol.com

WANTED!! Souls' "Never No More" 12" and ANY old De La, Gang Starr, JBs or Kwame 12"s. Contact Jay Dub at 404.223.0247 (phone/fax).

WANTED: LA the Darkman's "As the World Turns" and Mobb Deep's "Still Shinin'" on 12-inch. Contact me at: Gregg Schmidt, 83 Maple Pkwy, Staten Island, NY 10303 or e-mail poohjn@wow.com

WANTED: Old and new HIEROGLYPHICS music—12-inches, LPs, cassettes or CDs. Desperately looking for Casual "Me-O-Mi-O" b/w "Rock On," Souls of Mischief "Never No More" b/w "Make Your Mind Up." 312.722.0210, ask for Wiley. TOP CASH PAID.

LOOKING FOR Native Tongue house remix i.e. Queen Latifah's "Come Into My House," ATCQ's "Luck of Lucien," De La

Soul's "Saturday." Call Miquel, 415.552.6328.

LOOKING FOR these domestics: Del's No Need For Alarm LP, De La Soul's Buhloone Mindstate LP, ATCQ "Mr. Incognito" (unreleased). Call Ritchie at 510.799.6266.

# TAPES

mix tapes for sale

"B-Boy & B-Girl Funk" by Leacy, \$10. 19 Apton Road, Bishops Stortford, Herts, CM23 3SP, England.

FREE MIX TAPES. Send \$1.00 for postage to Four Foot, 3107 W. Colorado Ave #212, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

UNDERGROUND hip-hop mix tapes. No radio-played wack sh\*t. East coast influenced (no disrespect to the west). For a catalog, please send a SASE to: Scratch Off Tha Serial, 369 S. Doheny Dr. #106, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Str8 outta Atlanta, GA. Phat R&B/hip-hop mix tapes. No 10,000 shout-outs, just cutz and scratches, ghetto remixes on 90-min. tapes. Only \$10. 4 more info 1.800.484.8336 code 8273

Unique 90-min. acid jazz, rare groove, jungle and hip-hop mix tapes by DJ TOM SIMONIAN THUMP. 415.282.7052.

# POOLS

DJ services, clubs

Please write or call with any information on any record pools: Kameron Kyser (DJ Bowdyl), 3395 Glenwood, Toledo, OH 43610, 419.242.1444 or 419.486.5904.

# EQUIPMENT

for sale/wanted

If anyone has any turntables to sell, e-mail me with price and brand: bour0017@algonquinc.on.ca

Custom, refinished CABINET SPEAKERS.

Affordable, portable or not. All speakers made for your specific or general or mobile needs. Call Andy 415.449.8434. Let's make a deal.

CERWIN VEGA earthquakes for sale, \$950 incl. cables. Call Albert 510.814.9237.

Looking for an EMU SP1200 sampling drum machine. Will pay TOP DOLLAR\$\$. Call DJ TAZ at 301.203.5724.

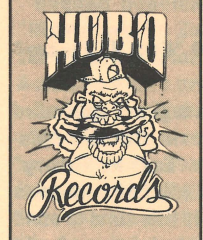
# MISCELLANEOUS

Las Vegas area hip hop producer looking for MCs to work with. Gangsta rappers need not apply. Strictly raw beats, hype metaphors and complex lyrics. E-mail SAGA THE DIVINE SOLDIER at Londaddy@aol.com

# Hobo Junction

ONLINE

From the bowels of Oakland comes the HOBO JUNCTION underground flavor, featuring Saafir, Mr. No-No, Big Nous, Poke Martian, Eye-Cue and more. Read bios and order merchandise online. Dial up www.hobojunction.com.



BREAKBEATS wanted! Alert! DJs, producers and lyricists! Strong Sounds are looking for product for stores, labels, mix shows and distribution. Send tapes or wax to: Strong Sound Records, 6253 Hollywood Blvd. #817, LA, CA 90028, attn: Chris Wild.

18-yr-old Raymond in South Africa would like to correspond and establish friendship with African-American brothers and sisters who are into music and acting.

Write to Raymond Utete/M24, P.O. Mzi-likazi/Mzilikazi, Bulawayo/Zimbabwe, Africa.

# DJs

for hire

James Lewis aka DJ SIKI for parties of all kinds, social events, special occasions. Also for information on mix tapes, videos, t-shirts, call 304.875.3790 or write Box 4, Berwind, WV 24815.

MOBILE DJ. Clubs, private parties, fashion shows, school dances. R&B and hip-hop. Clark Parker, Fog City Entertainment, P.O. Box 591171, San Francisco, CA 94159-1171. 415.560.6800.

# EVENTS

battles, seminars

'DA HYPE '97, DJ/turntablists showcase, coming Saturday, May 31, 1997 at Stanford University. Turntablists: Invisibl Skratch Piklz, International Beat Junkies; MCs: Bored Stiff and Abstract Reality. For info write phanla@hugsel.harvard.edu

June 14-15, 1997 the National Academy of Songwriters and the Musicians Institute present Urban Focus: A conference and journey into the creative and business sides of the music industry. 1655 McCadden Pl., Hollywood, CA. Jazz, hip-hop and gospel markets. Email circlife@aol.com.

ROCK STEADY CREW's 20th Anniversary, July 25-27, 1997 in New York City. Second half ITF USA Championship July 27. www.hip-hop.com or call the ITF hotline at 310.871.1213.

Classified ads are FREE up to 35 words, \$5 per line (four words per line) above that, and run for three issues unless renewed. Just mail, fax or email ad. Ads appear in print as well as on the Vinyl Exchange web site. Please let us know when you make a successful sale or trade!



## Book reVIEW

*Everything You'd Better Know About the Record Industry* by **Kashif** and **Tim Sweeney's Guide to Releasing Independent Records** by **Mark Geller** and **Tim Sweeney**.

**Kashif's Everything You'd Better Know About the Record Industry** (Venice, Calif.: Brooklyn Boy, 1996) is a compelling, sometimes oversimplified bible for recording industry novices and undecorated veterans. Aspiring artists, songwriters, producers and musicians might find plainer but meatier gospel on recording industry savvy in **Tim Sweeney's** and **Mark Geller's Tim Sweeney's Guide to Releasing Independent Records** (Torrance, Calif.: TSA Books, 1996).

Kashif takes a chummy MBA approach to his science-dropping, gained from 24 years experience as an award-winning songwriter and producer (with production credits on multi-platinum hits for **Whitney Houston**, **Kenny G.**, **George Benson**, **Dionne Warwick** and **Evelyn "Champagne" King**). This is one of the few 400-something page primers for \$39.95 that breaks down everything from choosing effective managers and entertainment attorneys to owning your music publishing and knowing how much of a cut to realistically expect when gross record-deal profits start rolling in. And while Kashif's examples of recording budgets and production contracts telegraph a disciplined sense of business acumen required for a record deal, equally important matters get lost in the name-dropping and feel-good messages somewhat stretching out this book. (For example, he scarcely touches public relations as an integral part of promotions, spending more prose condescending about its price tag and not enough on making artists, etc. understand how they need to work with publicists on defining the images they want to project.)

For \$24.95, Sweeney and Geller immediately get to brass tacks by suggesting that an independent do-it-yourself label suc-

cess is best learning recording industry business and attracting a major label A&R's attention. Sweeney's no-frills wisdom comes from years as a consultant-founder of the independent Los Angeles-based artist development firm Tim Sweeney & Associates; Geller, as Calico Records' founder and lead singer for the relatively indie band Huge. Where Kashif muses about exploiting current, new and developing technology—such as CD-ROM, digital radio and interactive television—Sweeney and Geller drop sound science for the ages. The village idiot in the year 2001, working with Jetsons-style technology, could effectively apply Sweeney's and Geller's marketing strategies aimed at radio, print media and concerts. Guide to Releasing Independent

Records abounds with other common sense that might sound old hat but is often ignored by budding artists and producers, such as hiring a skilled engineer to give record releases radio-quality sound.

Sweeney and Geller make up for the absence of charts, diagrams and industry phone numbers in Kashif's book by offering an extra bang for bucks laid down on their prose. Mail in the form at the end with a copy of your CD and promo package, and Sweeney will give you free consulting on both within three weeks from receiving them. On using the Kashif and Sweeney-Geller books as working references, you may never want to lay down another \$200+ for music seminar grandstanding to bore you comatose.

—MARK FITZGERALD ARMSTRONG

## High Plains Drifter Lucky 13

by **Toph One**

1. **TWO LONE SWORDSMEN "The Fifth Mission" LP (Sabres of Paradise)** - Absolute brilliance! Possibly the finest excursion into space funk ever put out by one production team...OUT THERE.
2. **3 WHEELS OUT "Rise Up Children" 12" (Pussy Foot)** - Severely strange beat mutations from the severely strange minds of DJ Thomas and Matty Skylab...
3. **GENE AMMONS "Crazy Mary" from the Free Again LP (Prestige)** - Some swingin' jazz-funk from '72
4. **ILLDEPENDENTS "Cant" EP (demo tape)** - Fat ass straight ahead hip-hop grooves out of Galway, Ireland!
5. **V.A. "Deep Concentration" LP (OM)** - Lovely sampler of turntable artistry circa 1997... sick cuts from Prince Paul, Radar, DJ Swingset & Wally, PB Wolf with the Beat Junkies, etc...
6. **SPEARHEAD "Comin' to Gitcha," "Wayfarin" Stranger and "Gas Gauge" from Chocolate Supahighway (Capitol)** - Streetcorner poetry playin' b-ball in the Panhandle with a sack of weed and some 40s...
7. **KING CURTIS "Memphis Soul Stew" from Live at Fillmore West (Ato)** - With Billy Preston, Cornell Dupree, Jerry Jermott,

Bernard Purdie and the Memphis Horns?! Are you kidding? This just about boils over!

8. **STELLAR TRAX "ArabAsiaDub" (mix tape)** - Hypnotic rhythms and swirling vocals drop you smack in the center of a dusty hash den in Tangiers... more niceness from DJs Ron and Vanka...
9. **LITTLE WING "Thing Two (with Dani)" & "Thing Live (with Scott & Gavin)" from Lightheaded (Hardkiss)** - Sexy electro beats with monkey drums and Prince guitar... yeah, go Bob!
10. **FILA BRAZILLA vs DJ FOOD "I Am a Simple Man" from Stone...Chilled... Groove (S.O.U.L. Vibration)** - just a bitchin' beat with lots of cool shit thrown over and under it... great crowd pleaser... nice triple vinyl.
11. **JODY GALES "You Gotta Push" from Break-down! (Soul Syndicate)** - So simple and understated it just cooks!
12. **KID KOALA live/tape (Ninja Tune)** - The latest prodigy to join the Ninja warriors... You must hear his freak of Charlie Brown - "I got a (gotta) rock!"
- LUCKY 13. LOWRIDER and THERAPY parties** - Killer twice-monthly gay progressive funk/ abstract breakbeat clubs in San Francisco... because music is for ALL the children under the sun... massive respect to DJs Javier, Derek and Lewis for breaking the ground...

## NEW WAX

### BAD BOY ENTERTAINMENT

**LP** *Life After Death* - The Notorious B.I.G. (triple vinyl)

### BIG BEAT/ATLANTIC

**LP** *That's Them* - Artifacts

### BYSTORM/UNIVERSAL

**LP** *Many Facez* - Tracey Lee (Guest appearances by the Notorious B.I.G., Busta Rhymes)

### COLUMBIA

**LP** *Music Evolution* - Buckshot LeFonque  
**Singles** *Music Evolution* - Buckshot LeFonque (Includes

*DJ Premier Version and instrumental.)*

**The Sweetest Thing** - Refugee Camp All-Stars feat. Lauryn Hill ("Love Jones" soundtrack)

### DARGMAN RECORDINGS

**Single** *Power* - Eclipse-427

### DEF JAM

**LP** *Take A Look Over Your Shoulder (Reality)* - Warren G (double vinyl)

### DELICIOUS VINYL/SOUTHPAW RECORDS

**Single** *Talkin' Bout' Bank b/w Taxin'* - The WhoRidas

### D.I.T.C. RECORDS

**Single** *Day One* - Diggin In the Crates (Produced by Diamond.)

### DOLO RECORDS

**Singles** *Not Enuff Time* - The Hillfiguz (Call 212.253.1177 or 212.592.1758.)

### DVB/A&M RECORDS

**Single** *My Love Won't Fade Away* - Zakiya

### EPIC

**Singles** *Blood On the Dance Floor* - Michael Jackson (Includes remix by Wyclef Jean.)

*Love Don't Love You Anymore* - Luther Vandross (Remixes by Tony Moran)

### EPIC STREET/RAZOR SHARP

**Single** *All That I Got is You* - Ghostface Killah (Remix produced by DJ Mighty Mi.)

### GEE STREET

**Single** *Brain* - Jungle Brothers (Produced by the Roots.)

### KEDAR ENTERTAINMENT/UNIVERSAL

**Single** *On & On (Dance Mix)* b/w *Certainly Flipped It...* - Erykah Badu



## NEW WAX

### LIL' JOE RECORDS

**LP** *Bass Hits From Da Bottom* - Various Artists include Poison Clan, Anquette and LeJuan Love

### LOUD RECORDS

**Singles** Hip Hop Drunkies - Tha Alkaholiks feat. Ol' Dirty Bastard  
I'm Not Feeling You (Reggae Remix) - Yvette Michele b/w Lady Saw Freestyle

### MAD STREET RECORDS

**EP** Forget Me Not/The Rain/Project Vet - East Side Hustlas (Call 212.974.0973, ext. 280.)

### MAESTRO RECORDS

**Single** Off Key b/w Cranium Remix feat. Cella Dwellas - Gauge (Distributed by Fat Beats, 212.965.1862.)

### MERCURY RECORDS

**Single** Just A Freak - Crystal Waters feat. Dennis Rodman

### MO' WAX

**Single** Midnight In a Perfect World (includes Gab mix) b/w The Number Song (Cut Chemist Party Mix) - DJ Shadow (For US release only)

### MOLEHOLE RECORDS

**Single** Taste of Chicago - E.C. & Rubberoom b/w Keep the Fame - Chi.-N.Y. Network (Vakill, Percee P, Rhymefest)

### MOTOWN

**Single** Saturday Night - Zhané

### PERSPECTIVE/A&M RECORDS

**Singles** You Don't Have to Hurt No More - Mint Condition (Remixes by M. Doc and Steve "Silk" Hurley)  
Spirit - Sounds of Blackness feat. Craig Mack

### PRIORITY/BLACK MARKET RECORDS

**Single** Only God Knows - D-Flexx (Call 916.455.5441.)

### PRIORITY/DUCK DOWN

**Single** Headz R Reddee Pt. II - Boot Camp Klik (Feat. The Great 8: Buckshot, Tek 'N Steele, Cocoa Brovaz, Heltah Skeltah and Originoo Gunn Clappaz)

### PROFILE

**Singles** Black Nostaljack - Camp Lo  
Crew Love - Tone Hooker feat. O.C. and Jay-Z

### QWEST/WARNER BROS.

**Singles** Who You Wit - Jay-Z

Let Me Know - Keystone  
I Still Love You - Monifah (All music from and inspired by "Sprung.")

### RAWSHACK PRODUCTIONS

**Single** Visualize b/w Why Don't Cha (feat. Pharoahe Monch) - Mr. Complex (Produced by DJ Spinna.)

### RELATIVITY

**Singles** Do You Believe? b/w Give Me Tha Ass - Beatnuts

### SERCHLITE MUSIC

**Single** Venom b/w Seed - Arsonists (For info call Eclipse, 212.673.3883.)

### SERIOUS ENTERTAINMENT/CAPITOL HILL

**EP** Brick House - Saukrates (Includes "Play Dis" feat. Common and "Rollin" feat. Masta Ace & O.C.)

### SONY/WORK

**Single** Virtual Insanity - Jamiroquai (Includes remix by Peace Of Mind [aka Salaam Remi and Edison Electric].)

### STREET LIFE RECORDS

**Single** Homeboyz - The Comradz (Call 310.656.1100)

### SURE SHOT

**Single** Welcome 2 the Game - Craig G

### TAPE KINGZ

**Singles** Stargazing b/w Mixmaster USA - Brainsick  
Enterprize  
Above Water - Uneek

### UPTOWN/UNIVERSAL

**Single** "Big Daddy" Remixes b/w Can You Handle It (feat. Tha Dogg Pound, McGruff and Big Bub) - Heavy D

### VMAX

**Single** Respect Costs More Than Money - Shazam X feat. Percee P and the SLD

### WARNER BROS. RECORDS

**LP** *Soul Food Shack Presents Ol' Skool—Down Home Cookin'* - Various Artists include Charles Wright & the Watts 103rd Street Rhythm Band

### WHITE LABELS

**Single** Poison Pill b/w Give Thanx - Blackhearted Skavangerz (Produced by Biggest Gord from the Gang Starr Foundation, and Jah Dan. Contact Gordon at 718.927. 9489 or 800. SKYPAGE, #375.3130.)

## the Vinyl Exchange

a newsletter for deejays and vinyl junkies

### Inside the April/May '97 issue:

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  - Jungle Review
- 3 • Tom Thump's Super Ten
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- 7 **New Wax**

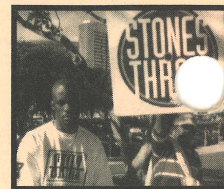


**B-Boy Summit '97  
DJ Panel highlights**

See page 1.

## the Vinyl Exchange

Parlay Graphics  
236 West Portal Avenue #402  
San Francisco, CA 94127-1423



**Rasco is blowin' up!  
See reVIEWS, page 5.**