



Fischerspooner

The Neptunes

2 Many DJs

John Peel

Kebab, geezer?













SORTED!

dy has stolen your CD If you can read this,

AST SA

Sorry ma

Eminem



SATURDAYS 14TH DECEMBER 18TH JANUARY

DAVID MORALES, KENNY DOPE, DAVE SEAMAN, KIDSTUFF, BOBBY & STEVE, SEAMUS HAJI, MAX GRAHAM, MARC HUGHES, GUY ORNADEL, GARETH COOKE, PAUL JACKSON, MARK WILKINSON, SLAMMIN' BOYS, JOHN ASKEW, TULA, LIQUID PEOPLE, MIGUEL PELLITERO, GRAHAM GOLD,

THE BOX DAVID MORALES. MARC HUGHES. MIGUEL PELLITERO. JOH GRACHUGHES. MAINBAR GARETH COOKE. HARJ. BABYBOX DJ LATINTIN. TERRY GEORGE. DJ ROACHMAN. HOSTED BY SINNERS BABY	TS FOUR : FOUR CEEAMAN. K GRAHAM. N ASKEW. HAM GOLD. BAR RETH COOKE DE FUNK. NKEYBOY. P E	SOUL HEAVEN CHRISTMAS PARTY LEBOX KENNY DOPE. JOBBY & STEVE. DIRISSY T. CORE MC ARTY NEL PIERCE PHIL ASHER. ANDY WARD.	DEFECTED THEBOX KIDSTUFF (PAUL JACKSON & MARK WILKINSON) LIQUID PEOPLE. MAINBAR SLAMMIN' BOYS. COPYRIGHT	TRIBALISM THE BOX SEAMUS HAJI. MARC HUGHES. MIGUEL PELLITERO. MARK WESTHENRY. MAINBAR GUY WILLIAMS. HARJ.	FUTURE THEBOX CLIY ORNADEL GRA HAM GOLD. JOHNLASKEW. MAINBAR TULA, GARETH COOKE. STEVE BIRD.
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LEVI	TAL SOULS.	BABYBOX SOUL ROOM: DOUBLE JAY DANNY MILANO, KEEGAN,	GARETH COOKE, SPENCER PARKER. BABYBOX RHYTHM AT WORK, NICK BRIDGES, 3COTT SELLICK, STEVE ELDERFIELD,	GARETH COOKE, JUSTIN BALLARD, BABYBOX MOS RADIO: BRIAN CHEETHAM, BEN TIDY, DAVID HORNSBY, GUY HORNSBY,	ASHLEY ROBERTS. BABYBOX GARY THOMAS. JASON PAYNE, DIPESH PARMER.
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This month...

AUDIO BULLYS p34

Dance music's hottest new stars and 'Real Life' heroes tell us what

WHAT'S ON YOUR

FREE CD?p37

2003 holds for them, then hit us on the head, with a 2x4. Rock!

LALL 2411 PRESENTS A HOUSE IN GARAGE MASH UP

HOOLIGAN

THE SOUND OF 2003

HOUSE

TTE CONTOUR KODE CL

AUDIO EULLYS "SHIT! IT'S ONLY A FORTNIGHT AWAY!" p32

Chill out guy! The agonisingly stormy waters of New Year's Eve will be plain sailing thanks to our Top 25 Recommended Club Guide

REVIEW OF 2002 p38

THE TUNES p40

The albums and comps of the year, the Top 40 singles, plus the best of the booties

THE STARS p46

With The Streets, Sasha, Lemon Jelly, Soulwax and The Neptunes

THE SCANDALS p42

Fischerspooner's really rather remarkable year

"Take a joyride with the hooligan house sound of the Bullys" p34

Every month.





. ENNEN.

Norman Cook reveals his 2003 global Big Beach Boutique plans, meet Underworld's Biggest Fan™, how to have a pop-trance Number One, Q&A with John Peel and Tom Middleton does us a tape

BUCK 65





Artist albums from **Jay-Z, Umek** and **Buck 65**, comps from **Misstress Barbara, V Recordings** and **Playhouse**, plus yet another **New Order** 'Best Of' and specialist shizz in **Trainspotting**



THE REST p89

ClubsBarsLive: The best nights out, from Bristol to Australia. Plus the DJ Manual 2002 equipment round-up, Joey Beltram's rarest vinyl in Desert Island Disco and future DJ talent in Bedroom Bedlam

SUBSCRIBE NOW AND GET A FREE FABRIC CD! P88

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TOM MIDDLETON

1000



"EMINEM IS ON FIRE. A CINEMATIC EVENT."

EMINEM KIM BASINGER BRITTANY MURPHY MEKHI PHIFER 0





What's on the Muzik stereo?



Layo & Bushwacka! Love Story (Remix) (XL)

The piano riff from one of this year's best singles (see p40) glides into the still-essential vocal from KOT's 'Finally'. Like Sandy Rivera's previous hook-up ('Tracey In My Room'), this now-official bootie works like a dream.

Die & Skitz

It's On (Wordplay)

Full Cycle and Wordplay join forces to drop Die's debut foray into UK hip hop. The result is a blistering soundclash, mashing up World Of Dynamite, Rodney P and lush new vocal talent MC Tali.

Common

I Got A Right Ta (Universal)

The hippest rapper in Philly gets the big bollocks Neptunes injection (see p54). But is anyone staring at his crotch? Shit bangs.

Sourcelabs: 16 Classiques De 1995 - 2002

(Source)

This re-issued double album (or triple vinyl for 'spotters) takes you back to the mid-Nineties French electro-disco explosion, with 16 ultra-rare classiques from the likes of Daft Punk, Air, Black Strobe and La Chatte Rouge.

Prince

DENON

Raspberry Beret (Paisley Park)

The most influential man in modern music's top psychedelic pop classic. Still guaranteed to get you into the festive spirit in three minutes flat.

THE MUZIK OFFICE SET-UP

Technics



blueroom

STANTON



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Tribal Gathering Presents

CIAL XMAS PARTIES

Sunday 15th December

(6 HOUR SET)

5pm - 2am £12.50 adv

Friday 20th December

GREG VICKERS

10pm -4am £13 adv /members/NUS

Tribal Sessions meets The Redlight New Years Eve Party - 9pm til you drop!

LUKE UNABOMBER GREG VICKERS KRYSKO AND MANY MORE.

Tickets: £26 before December 15th. £30 thereafter. Purchase tickets early to avoid disappointment. Last New Years Eve at Sankeys sold out ten days in advance.

Tribal Sessions.

Friday 6th December Sander Kleinenberg vs Christian Smith **Greg Vickers**

Friday 13th December Steve Lawler vs **Jon Carter Greg Vickers**

Friday 20th December Tribal All Nighter til 6am Carl Cox Greg Vickers

rerectiont

Saturday 7th December Subliminal Sessions Who Da Funk Krysko

Saturday 14th December Roots Manuva (DJ Set) Cosmos Tom Middleton (DJ Set) Rob Bright + special guest tba

Saturday 21st December Greg Vickers Krysko

Sankeys Soap, Beehive Mill, Jersey Street Manchester Doors: Friday 10pm-3am (except where stated) Saturday 10pm-4am

Academ

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FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER ROOM 1 HYBRID GUS GUS LIVE ALI B

PROTOTYPE RECORDINGS GROOVERIDER

FABIO BAD COMPANY PESHAY J MAJIK L DOUBLE MCs GQ, MOOSE & FLUX

JOHN PEEL AMON TOBIN JOE RANSOM FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER ROOM 1 AUDIO BULLYS SOUND SYSTEM PLUMP DJs SCRATCH PERVERTS STANTON WARRIORS JOE RANSOM

ROOM 2 ANDY C DJ MARKY PHOTEK ADAM F MOVING FUSION ADDICTION MCS DRS, CW & 2SHY

SCRATCH FIRST RATE DJ BIZNIZZ RICHY PITCH MATT SMOOTH ROB MAC FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER FROM 1 WALL OF SOUND PRESENT (sic). XMAS JACQUES LU CONT ASHLEY BEEDLE SCISSOR SISTERS LIVE 2 MANY DJS SOULWAX NICKY SIANO STUDIO 54

GROÖVERIDER FABIO KRUST RAY KEITH STORM HIGH CONTRAST MCs GQ, FLUX & 2SHY

WALL OF SOUND PRESENT THE SYSTEM MARK MOORE THE VISITOR THEMROC FRIDAY 27TH DECEMBER ROOM 1 TRUE PLAYAZ DJ HYPE ZINC PASCAI

DSTITLE PASCAL GROOVERIDER ANDY C BROCKIE WILDCHILD MCs GQ, FATS, RAGE & AD ROOM 2

ROOM 2 BROCKIE NICKY BLACKMARKET DARREN JAY DR S. GACHET SAPPO ASH MCS FLUX, IC3 & FIVE-0

ROGM 3 BRYAN GEE KENNY KEN ELLIS DEE RATPACK PHANTASY MCs MOOSE & RAGE

TUESDAY 31ST DECEMBER NEW YEARS EVE*

CRAIG RICHARDS TERRY FRANCIS HIPP-E & HALO DJ HEATHER ROOM 2 UNKLE HYBRID ALI B JOE RANSOM

BILL BREWSTER MAURICE FULTON ROB DA BANK

9.30PM – 5.00AM / PRICE £12 (£10 NUS). NEW YEARS EVE. 9.00PM - 9.00AM / £35.* FABRIC. 77A CHARTERHOUSE STREET LONDON EC1. INFORMATION: 020 7336 8898. TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM TICKETMASTER 020 7344 4444 AND FROM OUR WEBSITE.FABRICLIVE CD SERIES: 07 JOHN PEEL AVAILABLE 2ND DECEMBER. ART DIRECTION & ILLUSTRATION: LOVE.

VOCALTRAC

'SPECIAL' PRIZE CORNER

There is no specific 'special' prize this month. because we

forgot to get one. However, every lucky correspondent this month will receive some records and other assorted 'goodies', as long as they can be bothered to e-mail in their addresses, Comin' atcha!

UNGRATEFUL DEAD Hello Muzik!

I really do enjoy your magazine! But in the latest issue there's something I enjoy much less: You have mis-spelled the name of one of the drummers in the Grateful Dead.

In 'Do Us A Tape', Carl Craig (or Merl Cragh as I would like to Dear Muzik call him this time) calls Mickey Hart 'Nicky Harp'. That's not nice. Not nice at all. Now, in order to learn how to spell this wonderful drummer's name. you must go out and purchase his much danceable late Nineties album 'Mystery Box'! Kind regards,

Micke Ostlund, 43, Vaxio, Sweden

This is the best letter ever!

MISSY: FIT

Thanks for the excellent Missy article - it was far better than those carried in your low rent so-called rivals, and boy is she looking fine these days! What sort of diet has she gone on? I'd be more than willing to "donk-a-donkdonk" with her "flob-a-lob" - or whatever it is she's going on about in 'Work It'. Andrew Neil, Glasgow

Are you that Andrew Neil off the telly?

MINZIN 9

LETTER OF THE MONTH

1 IT'S SO UNFAIR!

So Ed Rush and Optical are gonna do a house/breaks mix on Radio 1? Oh fuck off please! What the fuck are Radio 1 on about? Not content with poaching DJs from Kiss for years, now - rather than bring in some fresh new blood - they'd rather have some d&b has-beens proclaiming how much they love house. It stinks to high heaven! [Continues in similar vein for 300 years]

I like my choice of music and I don't need Radio 1 arseholes telling me what to listen to or what the next best thing is. . . the cunts. . . Wake up everyone -Radio 1 is not your friend.

Geoff O'Donoghue, by e-mail

If everybody was this committed about dance music, it would be in a much healthier state. Much scarier, too, mind you... Have a free subscription and chill out, guy.

PACHA TRASHER

I ain't gonna give you no anal loving to put my letter in the mag. But, anyway, I'm only 15 [That would make anal loving from you illegal anyway - Ed.] and I thought that Pacha was supposed to be quite a posey club. So why the fuck is School Disco there? Pacha sucks dick! opinions according to a Tom. Confused. London

Maybe it's going to be dead classy, Tom - 'Swiss Finishing School Disco', perhaps, or 'Public School Disco'.

AND ANOTHER THING. . .

Dear Muzik

I've often enjoyed your sarcastic smearing of attentive readers that for some reason write you. But in Issue 91, you were out of order. When that lad criticised your Bedroom Bedlam winners for always playing house/hardcore-raggapdiddy-fatboyfunk with a twist of breaks, then it's because it's bloody true. There are never

any trance champs on the podium anymore!

When another reader draws your attention to the lack of editorial consistency regarding Underworld's 'Beacoup Fish', then he also has a point. You are like George Orwell's Big Brother, changing your desired, modified reality.

Besides this though, your magazine is still sublime! Patrick Znaty, Madrid

Hang on just one moment, Mr 'Znaty'. We agreed with the letter writer who said trance mixes never win BB, and suggested he send one in! And as for this idea of 'editorial consistency', do you know who the only truly consistent people are? The deceased, that's who. We change our opinions around here as often as we change our underwear le, twice a year.

KRAUT OF ORDER Hello!

So, finally Germany is alright to love again, here in Britain, That's fine with me, since I actually am from Cologne. But you are missing out on German sayings! For example, ever heard of 'Door closed, monkey dead'? No? When a final decision has been made where to go next on a Friday night, impress your mates with some traditional German slang.

How about 'Don't start any

Visamatentehn!'? It's the German saying for 'easy now, rude bwoy!' Believe it or not, it was introduced by German grannys to keep the young girls from visiting Napoleon's officers' tent during his Bridges To Moscow tour a few years ago. The French blokes would try to lure lovely ladies for a shag in their tents by saying 'Visitez ma tente, s'il vous plait'. Forget all this 'über', 'zeitgeist' and 'kindergarten' stuff, and find yourself a native German speaker to get the real deal. You never know when it might come in handy. . .

Letters:

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Please include your name and address

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King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street,

Bis denne (meaning 'Cheers'), Patrick Banken, Coventry

Forget what we said earlier -THIS is the best letter ever!



SCHMUTTERLY BUTTERLY

Dear Muzik. I was deeply depressed to see

Damian Harris, Fatboy Slim and John Digweed - three of dance music's most influential men dressed very 'wrongly' on page 40 of your December issue.

Diggers was clad in beer boy clobber, Norm looked like a mature student and while Damian made an effort, the poor chap simply couldn't carry off that designer sweater. It's a fucking disgrace - it's not as if they're short of a bob or two. One more thing - if Erol Alkan is the future, give that girly monkey boy a makeover, sharpish! Regards,

Duncan Kelly, by e-mail

Well Duncan, some might say that they looked like a bunch of 'special school' students on an outing. We couldn't possibly comment though.



Eminem is the king of little shits 2 b honest!

I LOVE EMINEM HE'S A SEXY LITTLE FUCKER. YOU ENGLISH GUYS ARE ALL UGLY FUCKERS. THAT'S WHY U DON'T LIKE HIM

Good swears: cockknocker & muckspunker - ace!

i g8crashed 98crashers 8th birthday. An angel crasher kid took pity n opened da fire exit and took me to club heaven! Loz xx

eminem is okay wat makes him good is dre's beats methinks. peace

South West 9 is the best fu^xcking clubber's film ever DJ Dooch

Kraftwerk supporting Underworld is like The Beatles supporting Dasis. i think.

Note the number at the top of the column and text us when the urge strikes. Or, if like the two young men below you have recently stolen a phone that allows you to take pictures, e-mail them to us!

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ALL EYEZ ON THEM

Hip Hop Immortals Volume One, a labour of love by Mark Suroff, Matthew Dean and Derek Axelrod, is the largest ever hip hop photographic project. The huge hardback has dozens of iconic portraits - from David LaChapelle's Louis Vuitton logo-stamped Lil' Kim and late rap artist Big Pun to these shots of Flava Flav by Jesse Frohman. Other famed snappers include Danny Clinch and Mark Seliger, who puts Ice-T in a cop uniform.

Hip Hop Immortals is published by Immortal Brands, and costs £100. There's also a collector's edition, signed by all the living artists, priced at a blinging £2,500. Start saving your ca\$h money now.

The Hip Hop Immortals exhibition takes place from January 17th at Proud Camden Moss, 10 Greenland Street, London NW1. Call 020-7482-3867 or see www.hiphopimmortals.com or www.proud.co.uk for more information



Flav: "Yeeeeaaaah, **boyeeee!** Pages 9-11 are no joke!"











About as far from the good ship Women-Big-Beat-Their-Men as you can get, 'Humanism' is an absolute belter. Signed to Irish club Shine's new record label, this bass-driven tribal stomper is going down a treat with the DJ in crowd. Nick Warren thinks that it's "bloody good," Tiga "loves the acid", and Laurent Garnier "likes the B-side very much". High praise indeed!



DJ Sneak

Commercial without being crass, 'Fix My Sink' impressed Basement Jaxx so much that they've begged to be allowed to remix it. They're not the track's only fans. "Cool as fuck," say The Inland Knights, while Laurent Garnier put it straight on his radio playlist and Hooj's Red Jerry praised its "nice boompty bits". Sneak's biggest hit since 'You Can't Hide From Your Bud'.













AUDIO BULLYS We Don't Care (Source) Running from garage to dark, breaks driven house, the ABs are 2003's brightest new stars. Ace.

DIRTY FUNKER Future (Spirit Recordings) Stomping Elements-esque houser, complete with a sneaky sample of N.O.R.E's 'Nothing'.

PANJABI MC Mundlan To Bach Ke (Instant Karma) You may already know this as 'That Knightrider Tune'. It'll be inescapable in 2003.

JON CARTER Humanism (Shine) Belfast rocks and so does Mr Carter's latest slate. Check the surging re-rub on the flip, courtesy of Valentino Kanzyani.

HYBRID Gravastar/Celebrity Science (Distinct'ive)

'Gravastar' is a moody, Numan-esque offering, while new school synths dominate the flip. Their best yet.

DJ SNEAK

Fix My Sink (Credence) There's no hiding from this parping Sneak production. Bass bliss for speaker huggers everywhere.

SANDY RIVERA Changes (Defected) Sandy's productions are hotter than July in Ibiza in house music circles at the moment. This is his best outing since the classic 'Finally'.

JUNKIE XL Beauty Never Fades (Road Runner) JXL returns with a histrionic vocal and epic,

cascading chords. A must for all prog fans.

FALLACY & FUSION Stopclock/Jackin' For Beats (Virgin) Cheeky bootleg that 'borrows' beats from Missy, P Diddy, Truth Hurts and The Neptunes.

UNDERWORLD Dinosaur Adventure 3D (Remixes triple-pack) (JBO) Chicken Lips go dark, deep and dull, but Funk D'Void and the original are thrilling.

The Message

LOG ONTO WWW.MUZIK.CO.UK TO GET THE WEEKLY UPDATED CHART



Sandy Rivera

Mean, lean, moody and magnificent, 'Changes' is arguably Rivera's best soulhouse release yet. "Sandy really knows how to construct tunes," says Glasgow Underground's Kevin McKay. "His songs communicate real-life issues, with no cheese or sentimentality. His beats are near-perfect and his sonic understanding makes him a truly great producer."



Junkie XL

With Sasha readily donating his pawprint of approval to 'Beauty', JXL's return release looks set to clean up. Another high-profile fan is Hernan Cattaneo: "It's one of the biggest records in my box," he explains. "Beauty' is a huge song that rocks every crowd worldwide. It's great to see Junkie XL getting the recognition that he deserves."

The Next 5>>

11 Vantage Point Love Like Sleep (Sondos)
 12 Bluez & Bronco Take No More/All My Life (Defunkted)

 13 Gardner & Thomas Turn To Try (Hooj)
 14 Adam F Karma (Kaos)
 15 Gus Gus Dance You Down (Remixes) (Underwater)



PURE SHORES: 2003

Fatboy Slim to take his Big Beach Boutique parties around the globe

After the record-breaking success of his Big Beach Boutique 2 party in Brighton last July, Norman Cook has revealed ambitious plans to stage further events on the world's greatest beaches in 2003.

"Outdoor events work better on beaches than they do in fields," Cook told us. "They're great places to have parties, with the sun going down and the sand under your feet. I've definitely got an affinity with beaches."

Details for Cook's 2003 beach parties are yet to be confirmed, but Rio's Copacabana beach, Sydney's Bondi beach and Miami's South Beach are all on Fatboy's hit-list.

"If I've got my album finished by late spring, we'll go to Europe in the summer and follow the sunshine to the southern hemisphere over Christmas," he said. No support DJs are confirmed as yet.

Cook hopes to kick off the tour next July with another of his hugely successful Brighton beach bashes. This year's Big Beach Boutique 2 event, which was attended by 250,000 people, was marred by the accidental death of 26 year-old Karen Manders. But Cook, who has subsequently received a letter from Manders' parents saying they don't hold him responsible, thinks a ticketed party may quite feasibly take place in 2003. "I think there's a 70 per cent chance of it going ahead," he revealed. "We're having a referendum in the local paper and, if the people of Brighton want this and we get the mandate, we'll go ahead."

Norman's 'Big Beach Boutique 2' album is out now featuring Fatboy Slim and the Midfield General. The Big Beach Boutique 2 DVD is also out now through Eagle Vision



ANDREW WEATHERALL Up in Glasgow, the diminutive techno warrior ignored all requests not to lock his dressing room door. Andy's cries for help were later heard by the club's staff, who had to boot the door in and Andy was nearly late for his set. Tsk. Why couldn't he



DEADLY AVENGER En route to DJ at Fabric with just half an hour to spare, DA spotted five twatted loonies adrift in a petrol station, clueless about how to change their flat tyre. Damon promptly as bunged on the new et, tyre before swiftly e departing. Go, Mending Avenger!

FIVE THINGS YOU MUST DO THIS MONTH:

BUY: A MULTI-MOBILE PHONE CHARGER By DZine. Put in a 9v battery and

charge your Nokia, Samsung, Motorola or Ericsson phone fully, twice! It's got a torch too, which is, er, nice. head to gizmos-uk.com to

get yours. PHONE: SHAZAM A. You know that

mobile phonebased track recognition software? It actually works! Go to shazam.com to register. LAUGH: AT LINE-O-COKE

It's the most hilarlous made-up thing currently doing the rounds on the net. Ha! Ha!



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It's just rubbish. ORDER: A DJ:SER T-SHI Uniform's ultra slick new DJfriendly designs rule. You can check out the full range on the Net at uniform.uk.com



ED POTTON

Am I On Your Mind?



State of the state

CD & 12" includes remixes by Ian Van Dahl, Lustral, D. Ramirez & Resonance Q

SWICH

RECORD OF THE WEEK with Judge Jules, Dave Pearce & Sharp Boys

UNDERWORLD'S BIGGEST FAN

This is Matthew Wells, Underworld's Biggest Fan[™]. He owns nearly 1,000 Underworld goodies, including vinyl, signed photos, T-shirts and one-off promo items. Can you beat that?

SLEEVE NOTES

s: 0

Name? Matthew Wells From? West Sussex First item bought? 'Big Mouth' by Lemon Interupt (an early Underworld alias) in 1992 Best gig? Temptation at Alexandra Palace, New Year's Eve, 1998 Most wanted? "The gold/silver promo of Shakespeare's Sister 'Black Sky' (Underworld mixes) on London" Go to Matt's comprehensive fansite: 'Big Screen Satellite' at...

www.fruitandvegrecords.co.uk/bsshome.htm

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Dinosaui Adenture 3D

A HUNDRED DAYS OFF (JB0) 2002

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as featured in 'trainspotting'

outnow

IUNIOR A

"Limited edition promo of their latest LP in a DVD case with an eight-page information book. The album was originally called **'A Hundred Years** Ansum', I also own a CD-R with that name on it crossed out in black felt tip." Worth: £45 and £60 respectively

OI



ROAD, LÓNDON

JRD JUNIOR fuju

5.08.99

"I reckon I've got at least 70 magazines with Underworld features in them, including their first ever Muzik cover." Worth: £5 each

CONFUSION

(**JBO**) 1996 "A remix of a track from the 'Second Toughest...' album in its Tape To Tape mastering sleeve. It's a onesided, one-off acetate which might, or might not, have been used by Darren **Emerson on his** 'Cream Separates' album. It didn't get a single release." Worth: £250+

DINOSAUE ADVENTURE 3D T-SHIRT

"The name of their next single. They sell these at www.underworldjbo.com. You can make your own designs too." Worth: £15

OH

(FFRR) 1997. "A four track, US-only, promo-only 12-inch, exclusive to the soundtrack of 'A Life Less Ordinary'." Worth: £20

107

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Worth: £10 each

10TAL £10,000

HOW RE IS BUNNY STRIKER' LEE?

The ex-Wailer is a Jamaican legend. On an irie scale of one to ten, he's 11 - so we asked him what a g'wan...

How did you get into the music biz? "I start as a member of the Teenage Dance Party Group and plug tracks from *[leading late-Fifties Kingston sound systems]* Duke Reid's, Beverly's and Coxsonne's, working out of King Tubby's studio."

Does it upset you that Bob Marley is the one reggae artist that 99% of white people have heard of?

"Bob was not great like Derrick Morgan, but they push him. He can't sing like Dennis Brown or Dennis Wilson. He get good promotion because Chris Blackwell have a lot of money to spend on him." **You're widely credited with inventing the 'version'. How did that happen?** "That start with Tubby's sound system where Niney [*The Observer*] used to go on top the records. One time, U-Roy say, 'You come with another version' so we start calling the B-sides 'the version'." **From the 'version' you and Tubby invented dub, didn't you?**

"Dub develop from the version through a guy named Roddy from Spanish Town. We did a lot of work together. Actually, Tubby only ever mix two dub LPs." **You were also responsible for the first series of 'beef' records long before the likes of Nas and Jay Z...** "I-Roy jibe Prince Jazzbo in the studio, saying 'Jazzbo, if you put a dime in your slot, you become a jukebox'. I put it out on me label, then Jazzbo come say, 'Bwoy! I have to make one'. He sing, 'I-Roy you are a boy/ You imitate the great U-Roy'. And then it start off."

Bunny 'Striker' Lee's collection 'The Cool Operator' is out in January on Smugg



Now

Then

Bunnythen and now - that's what 30 years of the munchles will do to you, kids



Disc Demon

This is the Disc Demon NS-DV1000, the world's first mini-system to play not just CD and DVD but both new multi-channel music formats, DVD-Audio and SA-CD. At £1,300, it is pricey now, but we reckon it can only get cheaper. Now what was 'SA-CD' again?

For stockist info, call Pioneer on 01753-789-789 or go to www.pioneer.co.uk

Sinuet

DEEP GROOVE

Our Bedroom Bedlam award winners may be newcomers, but the duo showed their true crazy DJ lifestyle colours at Tribal Gathering. Spending all weekend poncing about like a couple of prize drag queens, they didn't sleep a wink. Straight to bed, the pair of you.



MISSY ELLIOTT

The queen of hip hop proved herself more gung ho than lesser divas when she recently rocked up at Ministry Of Sound. She did a totally unannounced live PA, to an adoring crowd. Well, with her boozefree diet, she needs something to occupy her on a night out.

GOOD SHIT

New Year's Eve Let's have it!

Stage diving All the rage at

All the rage at Circo Loco this summer and at Cream's farewell

Goldie

Homoerotic bonding with Les and Melindaabuse – waddaguy!

Canned sake This Japanese cooking-sherryin-a-transparenttin is the best drink ever!

Crippled Dick Hot Wax sleeve art They're just gorgeous

Discordinated

They dress up! They call the audience 'cunts'! They're like a Brit Fischerspooner! Only good!

BAD SHIT Hip Hoptionary

Yet another slang reference book. Actually, we knew that 'hair-do' means hairstyle already, cheers

London's

2-

gay clubs Trade closes, GAY loses its home, Crash full of straight boys- it's all going disco tits up!

The new series of I'm Alan Partridge If only some of the make-up and canned laughter budget had been spent on gag

writers. . .

Crap vinyl Namometer thick recycled vinyl pressings suck – We want 130 gsm and we want it now!

New Year's Day Ooh, fuck

fuck

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Rm. 1 / Leff Mills Deais Richards Rm. 2 / Faul Daley Terry Francis Oliver Ho Rm. 3 / Arthrob Records: Sam Totolee Sam Totolee Alek Arnout Alex Arnout Diaz Bros.



YOU CAN TRANCE IF YOU WANT TO!

Jüttī Vän Dur Vlīëgte, the Belgian super-producer behind DJ Harald, Schtüm!, Jan Van Man and Happy Club offers you his step-by-step guide to bagging that hit-trance-track-based-on-an-Eighties-pop-classic that you've always coveted



STEP 1: LOVE THE EIGHTIES

Jütti says: "Great! Yes please! Eighties is like the Sixties of the Two Thousands, yes? So many great music I love! Go West – with the man who is his vest wearing! Living In A Box! Spandau Ballet! The Kemp brothers, such very awesome actors also. Ha ha! Although Gary's career goes not so good, I think." STEP 2: CHOOSE YOUR SONG WISELY

Jütti says: "Awesome! Always to be making the best song because the cake cannot be great without the sponge, is true? And also the almonds. Like 'I Wanna Know What Love Is' by Foreigner

 hot! Also 'We Don't Need Another Hero' by Tina Turner - fucking the bollocks!
 Songs for your mother also - like 'Power Of Love'. I have greatest of respects for Mr Huey Lewis and his News."
 STEP 3: TRANCE IT UP

Jütti says: "Now we have our song, please to make it the trance. People many come to me when I am DJ. They say, 'Jütti, wer kann man spünkt die tränzespielplätter?' And I say, 'Gibt mich 20 Holsten Pils unt mii gö spill der beanz'. You know? The trance, he live inside of us, like the heart or kidney." **STEP 4: TAKE IT TO THE CLUBS** Jütti says: "The Belgium, she has best place of trance in all world. Trance Dungeon, that is in Bruges and now is one in Antwerp also - pigging wicked! I play my records and dance and the wearing of colourful shirts." **STEP 5: YOU'VE MADE IT TO**

NUMBER ONE!

Jütti says: "Prestigious! Now you are ready to give birth to the trance, ha ha! Remember old Flemmish saying: Number One is where it's at. Number Two is just shit.

Jütti was speaking to Pete Cashmore

TIDY TRACKS

It's an age-old problem. You're playing your CDs at home and you don't want the one you've taken off to get scratched, but you're too lazy, or pissed, to find the correct case. Sound familiar?

Well now you can say goodbye to putting-CDs-away misery with Discarray! Simply wall-mount it, slap your spare disc onto a button holder and volla! A happy CD and a piece of modern art in one. There are nine types of Discarray to choose from, in a variety of colours, starting at around £24. The perfect gift for not-so-tidy music lovers.

For more info on Discarray, check out www.discarray.com or call 020-8886-6933





NO! IT CAN'T BE!

An occasional series where we print preposterous old photos of DJs



#2 Danny Tenaglia

Well! What a fine fellow, poised so delicately between carefree boyhood and the heavy responsibility of being an internationally renowned DJ. At this moment, Danny had neither had a cap superglued to his head, nor commenced his worship of the great god Ginsters. The brilliant scheme of getting paid to play records until our ears bled hadn't occurred to him at this point either. Extremely natty threads, though, and top marks for the look.

'Danny Tenaglia Choice: A Collection of Classics' will be released on Azuli on February 17th, 2003

PROMOTION

... And the rest. **Vodafone Live!** offer the best sound, colour and 3D visuals ever

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G GHI

here are few of us who can function sanely without our phones. We'd agree that most mobile features are

crucial. Without texting, for instance, life would be a grey, listless existence. So would it, for that matter, without a good range of games. Both useful functions when stuck in an hour long queue in a record shop come 5pm on a Saturday. Why, we've even been known to make the odd 'call' on the things.

But that's where all comparisons between your puny, carbon based, earthling phone and this Vodafone Live! mobile end. Vodafone Live! has so many stunning new features, you'll forget about everything else – even vinyl – for hours.

POLYPHONIC RINGTONE NIRVANA

For too long phone users have suffered the agony of monotone ringtones that sound nothing like the tune they re supposed to represent (and we should know - Muzik's Ralph Moore forced a monotone version of Sasha And Emerson's anthem 'Scorchio' on us for a full six months and we still didn't have a clue what it was). Vodafone, however, have come up with a ringione that handles its notes simultaneously, thus sounding akin to a pain-sized orchestra - no, really! There are also over 1,000 pulyphonic tones to choose from, including hundreds of chart and dance options. Download any tune from 'Children' by Robert Miles to 'One More Time' by Daft Punk, and it II actually sound like the original. Back of the net.



MUZIK 22

ARCADE GAME HEAVEN

■ You'll be in retro computer gaming bliss with Vodafone Live!'s range of cult time-wasters. For just a few quid you can download any of the 50 games (some sports, some puzzles and many of them retro arcade classics) onto your handset and play them whenever and wherever you like. There are quality features like crash-corresponding vibrations, polyphonic sound and 3D animation. Best of all, the arcade games include Space Invaders, Arkanoid, Galaxian and even Bubble Bobble – the biggest craze of 1986, fact fans!







INFORMATION ENLIGHTENMENT

Ovodatone live!

Select

Vodafone Live! actually does so much for you that you won't even miss the friends you've now lost due to extensive Bubble Bobble abuse. The service provides you with club nights, local bar info, sports scores, weather, travel and all the latest news stories from wide-ranging sources. You can buy CDs, DVDs and books at the touch of a button and with the special Find & Seek service, you can even simply type in what you need and Vodafone will find it for you. Useful if you're in need, say, of a pub with a wide-screen TV.

So, what with the above features – plus hundreds of colour images to download, a built-in camera so you can send photos to your similarly kitted mates, and texts at 15p for 500 characters – you can rest assured that, so long as you're carrying your Vodafone Live! mobile you're ready for any eventuality. Well, okay, call it the phone and half a dozen freshly pressed white labels. Now you're ready.

TALENT

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

Stylophonic bring about world peace through house music

Some things are worth waiting for. Stefano Fontana's sweet but clumsily titled, 'If Everybody In The World Loved Everybody In The World', for instance. The Italian 31 year-old may have taken nearly four years to bring us his gorgeous end-of-the-night sweeper, with its 'Misti Blu'-style sample, but the mix package – with dance royalty Kevin Saunderson, King Britt and Rob Mello all turning in top re-rubs – makes it all worthwhile.

Stefano found the vocal on an album by American gospel singer Della Reese, which he'd bought in New York simply for its sleeve,

"There's this beautiful black child on the cover with these big eyes – like he's taken 50 E's."

The track is the first from Stefano's debut album, 'Man Machine Technology', which boasts a wide range of influences from crisp, funky house to hip hop. Also a fan of early Detroit techno, Stylophonic's first love was old school hip hop so he's overjoyed that West Coast rappers Digital Underground contributed to the album: "I needed some vocals so I sent them a tape. A fortnight later, I got their raps. Amazing!"

Stylophonic's delivered an eclectic album with class written all over it. Will everybody in the world love it? They should.

Stylophonic's 'If Everybody. . .' is out January 13th on Prolifica

Italy introduces new road sign to indicate danger of badly dressed men up ahead



LIGHT&MAGIC

The album out now on CD/Double Vinyl.

"...illuminating and spellbinding..." MIXMAG ALBUM OF THE MONTH *****
"Could well be the 21st century New Order" NME ****
"...they've a heart of killer pop beating beneath their Chairman Mao suits..." Q MAGAZINE

"...brutally ace..." MUZIK ****

"Dark, romantic, enigmatic, seductive...this is sublime, subtle, subversive stuff" UNCUT ****

"A sexily pulsating, groovily undulating mutha" TIME OUT
"The best pop act in Britain" JOCKEY SLUT

www.ladytron.com





ARTIST SLEEVE NOTES

Name? Tom Middleton

Who? Half of the Jedi Knights, ditto Global Communication, aka E621, aka Schizophrenia, aka Cosmos... From? Truro, Cornwall (he went to the same school as Roger 'Queen' Taylor)

Age? "Thirty-oneteen" First record bought? The Police's 'Ghost In The Machine'

Record for the afterlife: 'Fantasia On A Theme Of Thomas Tallis' by Ralph Vaughn Williams

Where to play Tom's tape? "When you're feeling a bit cheeky"

TOMITA

Snowflakes Are Dancing (RCA, 1974) "We start this tape of cover versions with Tomita, a classical Japanese cover arranger. These sounds have to be the first things that I remember as a wee boy of five or six. My dad plonked me in the middle of the speakers and said 'Listen to this'. Only Vangelis and Aphex Twin can equal him for electronic craziness."

MONTIFIORI COCKTAIL

Gypsy Woman (Irma America, 1997) "This is made by two brothers – Fredrico and Francesca – with a penchant for exotic lounge music, and showcases their current fixation for crazy covers. You get such a wicked reaction from this at parties – everyone starts singing along, but they also start dancing in a Latin style."

HORACE ANDY

Ain't No Sunshine (Smugg, 1977)

"This is the deepest dub you've ever heard with the most ridiculous snare drum fill ever. This is what it's all about, from the glory days of Jamaican sound system toasting. The backing band is the Black Roots and this particular version is Horace's rendition. An awesome dub track and a great song."

CAROL COOL

Upside Down (Soul Jazz, 1979)

"We all know the disco original, but this version is just brilliant. It's pure reggae vibes but it's also got that disco flavour to it. So you've got disco covered by reggae, which leads us nicely onto a theme tune covered in a disco style..."

MECO

Star Wars Theme (RCA, 1978)

"Meco was the king of kitschy disco covers, he's probably covered every big theme tune going. His version of the Star Wars theme is obviously relevant to me because of the Jedi Knights and it's a great intro tune to announce your presence. I love it a lot but, yes, it is horrible!"

NASHVILLE MANDOLIN ENSEMBLE Where No Mandolin Has Gone Before

(CMH, 1995)

"And now, a soundtrack covered in a country style. This is one of the craziest covers I've ever heard. You wouldn't imagine that the Star Trek theme in a country style would even exist! I found it exploring other sections on one of my trips to HMV or Virgin."

KINGS OF CONVENIENCE Freefalling (Source, 2001)

"This is a particularly wonderful Tom Petty cover. They played it live at the Union Chapel in London as the encore. The whole place stood up and joined in. It's uplifting and nutritional in a soulful way and it leaves you with a big smile on your face."

11CC

Not In Love (Big Chill, 2002)

"An ambient remix by Bruce Bickerton, aka The Lucid Nation, and painstakingly recorded this year – apparently he's layered his voice 30 or 40 times. It's a stunning version. There's an ambience to the original track that really left a mark when I heard it as a kid."

ANANDA SHANKAR Light My Fire (Reprise, 1970)

"Cor, this is another party smarty! Ananda Shankar is one of the jazz sitar players, who arranges loads of tunes to take the sitar into exotic territory. There's definitely a thread with these covers that connects to a quirky aspect of my personality, and what I like to play in sets that aren't 'serious deep house', or whatever."

SPANKY WILSON

Sunshine Of Your Love (Mother, 1972) "This is a great cover of the Cream classic. It just oozes so much attitude and funk energy, and absolutely rocks the dancefloor as well. Her voice is so cool. It's a wellknown cover, but it's a blinding record."



WIN THAT TAPE!

To win the one and

only copy of Tom

Middleton's tape,

and address to The

Tape Is Strong In

This One, Muzik,

King's Reach

Tower, London

SE1 9LS. First

wins the prize.

Winner of Mr.

Roopesh Panoya

Congratulations,

of Kettering,

Northants.

Roopesh!

card out of the hat

send a postcard

with your name

Yellow Submarine (Whoa, 2002) "From Cream to The Beatles with Roots Manuva's clever, dub hop cover version "Yellow Submarine", You det an interacti

Manuva's clever, dub hop cover version of 'Yellow Submarine'. You get an interesting reaction when you play this. He's got a fingerprint, you can tell it's him, but then you tune into what he's singing about and you're like, 'Hold on a minute! That's The Beatles!."

NEWTRAMENT London Bridge is Falling Down (Jive Zomba, 1983)

ROOTS MANUVA

"I really wanted to include something from my hip hop, b-boy past. I remember this was used in an early-Eighties BBC2 documentary about Notting Hill called Bacchanal. It was the first time I saw breakdancing and it was something else."

SENOR COCONUT The Robots (Multicolour, 2000)

"During the same era, I got switched on to Kraftwerk. It was the 'Man Machine' album and I was straight in there. In this tape's crazy covers tradition, we've got Senor Coconut doing 'The Robots' in the cha-chacha style – a particular favourite of mine."

LAMBETH COMMUNITY

Sound Of Silence (Arc, 2000) "I stumbled onto this during a foraging mission to Tower Records' World Music section. Another one of those covers that is just perfect to play at the end of the night."

ULRICH SCHNAUSS

Wherever You Are (More Music; 2002)

"This is a cover of the early-Nineties band Slowdive and it's right up to date because Ulrich Schnauss is currently my favourite artist. The emotion in his music is the most powerful I've felt in music for a long time. This is the heavy stuff."

SQUAREPUSHER

Love Will Tear Us Apart (Warp, 2002)

"I think this is a personal statement and I've got a feeling it could be to do with him watching 24-Hour Party People because, when I watched it, it brought back a lot of memories. I'm just guessing but the timing of it makes sense."

The debut album from Cosmos will be out in April, with a single to follow, on P Records. No titles have been confirmed. Cosmos is touring the UK with Royksopp throughout December

"Frankly, I'm not convinced that this Walkman *is* the smallest on the market" Tom Middleton at his north London studio, November 2002

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TAPING IS KILLING MUSIC

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THE MOST PERSECUTED **RAPPER IN AMERICA**

Why new major hip hop player 50 Cent wears a bulletproof vest

YOUR BEST EVER GUIDE TO 0 CENT'S INJURIES

> Stab wound to the back at the Hit Factory in 2000, following an altercation with Ja Rule. "I don't know if it was a cut or if I backed into something," says 50 Cent. Three stitches required.

Bullet wounds after a drive-by on May 24th 2000, at 11.22am in the Jamaica area of Queens, NYC. A bullet ricocheted off Cent's hand, seven lodged in his thighs and legs, and he could see the hole in his cheek made by the bullet through his jaw in the rear-view mirror.

Ghostface Killah allegedly roughed up Cent as well as dissing him on record, following Cent's track 'How To Rob (An Industry Nigga)'. If the rumours are true, he may conceivably have at some point kneed him in the groin.

50 Cent's also suffered nuff verbal abuse from other rappers, including Big Pun, Jay-Z and Sticky Fingaz and, of course, Ja Rule. But Cent just brings the lyrical pain straight back to them.

Beef - how low can you go? Hip hop's always been about one-upmanship, and some MCs just seem to be on the receiving end more often than others. Sometimes it's because they're on the top of the hip hop heap (Jay-Z's been dissed more times than Joey Deacon). Sometimes it's just because they're fat and rubbish (PM Dawn's Prince Be).

US rap's latest arch antagonist is 26 yearold former boxer Curtis Jackson, aka 50 Cent. He's had more slanging matches than any other current rapper, and he's more than suffered for it as a result. Beefs with Ja Rule have led to him being stabbed, he's been shot while sitting in his car, and he now wears a bulletproof vest 24/7 ("I put it on every morning, right after my underwear").

In the wake of the death of old friend and mentor Jam Master Jay, 50 Cent is having to watch his back even more carefully. "I did have a foul aura around me before music," says Jackson, who did time, in 1994, for coke possession. "But the last three shows I've had, there have been an extra 1,500 people outside the venue. People are now making a comparison from 50 Cent to Biggie Smalls."

Now, having been picked up by Eminem and Dre after a bidding war, 50 Cent's working with Missy and J-Lo, and hoping that Notorious BIG comparisons remain merely success-related. "I got five million dollars worth of life insurance," adds Jackson. "How the fuck you gonna pay that monthly?"

50 Cent's album 'Get Rich Or Die Trying' is out on February 10th on Shady Records/Aftermath



50 CENT'S PRIME REEF

The man himself chooses his favourite hip hop cuss-ups

"I'm about a dollar/Who the fuck is 50 Cent?" Jay-Z versus 50 Cent at Summer Jam, New York 2002

50 Cent: "It's one thing being disrespectful to the point where you should get punched, but he was just being competitive. I came back with a whole song, 'Be A Gentleman'."

"You a fan, a phoney, a fake, a pussy, a Stan/ I still whip your ass, you 36 in a karate class" Nas versus Jay-Z on 'Ether', from 'Stillmatic' 50 Cent: "After everything that went down this was my favourite moment. He did a good job."

"You better recognise nigga I'm straight from the street/ These industry niggaz starting to look like something to eat/ I'll snatch Kim and tell Puff, 'You wanna see her again?'/ Get your ass down to the nearest ATM"

50 Cent versus everybody on 'How To Rob (An Industry Nigga)'

50 Cent: "This was about the thought process when you're broke, like I was, and seeing the biggest artists wearing the biggest diamonds is the jackpot."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Calling all drum & bassheads – west Midlands record label Nu Directions (who work with the likes of J Magik and Blame) is looking for new material to release. Send tracks to: Neil Hutchinson, Nu Directions, PO Box 1668, Wolverhampton, WV3 OAE.



ROB BRIGHT

At Bugged Out! in Edinburgh, resident Rob played a great main room set. He then went on the mother of all benders, and was next sighted the following arvo in a local pub, rabbiting on to invisible people. Eventually, he stormed off to the toilet to get away from them. Odd man.



LIZ SMITH

Our fave Royle Family gran was given a scratch demo by DJ **Skully on the Richard** and Judy show, to promote the 'Not Old, Just Older' award scheme, encouraging OAPs not to let age prevent them from learning new skills. Surely they should have had Tongy doing the demo?



they've knocked up Mr VF's cover for the release of 'Electrical Appliances' absolutely free. Isn't that nice?

A couple of tasty pre-Christmas white label rerubs of Cosmos' 'Take Me With You' will be coming out courtesy of Funk D'Void and The Freelance Hellraiser. These will be followed by abootleg version by Tom Middleton, who's alteady a big fan of Hellraiser's remix.

MUZIK 28



Moving Fusion have it away on their toes after doing a blag. It's airight – no claret got spills

RIPLE FIVE

TALENT



, P.,

Moving Fusion bring you scorching drum & bass from beautiful Essex

In the prolific, bang-it-out world of drum & bass, quality control can sometimes seem as unwelcome as Michael Barrymore at a pool party. Most d&b artists feel the need to whack out at least one single or remix a month to stay on top of the game. Essex boys Moving Fusion, however, have found the opposite approach has served them well. From debut

single 'Turbulence' to last year's piano-driven anthem 'Thunderball', their irregular releases have, without fail, made tsunami-sized waves within the scene.

"We wanted every release to be a statement," says Dan, "so people associate us with big tunes." It was only four years ago that

Dan 'Spar' Sparhan hooked up with partner Jeff Langton in their native Hornchurch. Signing to local hero Andy C's Ram label shortly after, the duo quickly realised they would have to be a little less meticulous if their debut album 'The Start Of Something' was to be heard at all.

"With each track, we'd think, 'This new tune will really set the album on fire'," laughs Jeff, "But we could have gone on like that for

out now on Ram

years. That's why we called the album 'The Start Of Something' - it is ultimately just marking a period in time. Listen to any classic album and you can tell they just went in the studio, got drunk, had a good time and created anthems." We'll drink to that.

MF's 'The Start Of Something' is

JAY BROOKS

THE MUZIK RANDOM QUESTION GENERATOR



The original bad bwoy of Radio 1, and the 43rd greatest Briton ever (official!) is now Fabric's latest DJ star

Er, so why are you doing a compilation for Fabric?

"Well, they asked me to do one, which nobody's ever done before. Obviously I don't do mixing and stuff – I wish I did, but you don't need those skills on the kind of radio I do. I thought, 'It'll be a nice little thing for my children: a few of Daddy's favourite records'." Why did you choose what you did?

"These are the records I play when I do gigs. I usually start with Alan Kennedy's goal for Liverpool against Real Madrid at the Parc Des Princes in Paris because I was there and it was undoubtedly the best moment in my life. I played it at this gig at Sonar and people in Barcelona hate Real Madrid so it went down very well. That was a good afternoon. One fellow was so excited he leapt over a table onto his head and had to leave in an ambulance. When your audience are being taken away by paramedics you think, 'I must be doing something right'."

What do you think of dance music?

"Well, there's an awful lot of it. Where do they all come from? I do tend to like music that – according to certain publications I read – is fantastically uncool. I used to love happy hardcore. Our son Thomas would have happy hardcore pounding out of his room, but I'd just stick my head in saying, 'Tom, this is great! What is it?' There was a key moment when the two older ones were six and eight years-old and they knocked on the door and said, 'Dad, can you turn the music down?'" **Did you really diss Tony Blackburn**

back in the day?

"I used to think he was the Antichrist, but over the years that's changed. His political beliefs are quite disconcerting: very right wing, but he's not a wicked man. I urged my listeners to vote for him in that business in the Outback."

When did you last get mashed?

"I've never been much of a one for taking stimulants, apart from alcohol. I took acid once and thought it was quite nice, but I always say – rather flippantly – that for me it was like going to Stratford-upon-Avon: once you've done it, you don't need to do it again. I'm diabetic and have high blood pressure and I have to take lots of medication, so I don't want to start taking extra stuff that might fuck up the effect. When people ask me about it I always tap my knee and say, 'Shrapnel. Korean war' and they always say, 'Oh, I'm terribly sorry!' I was 1.1 when the Korean war ended." Does Tim Westwood really talk like that all the time?

"He doesn't. His background isn't entirely dissimilar to mine – my dad wasn't a bishop, but we went to public school and stuff. He's quite a nice bloke. I like Mark and Lard and Jo Whiley and Mary Ann Hobbs. The Dreem Teem all seem amiable enough. And Sara Cox, she's really nice. She came over to all the people I was sitting with once and said, 'I'm going to the bar, can I get you anything?' Rather than sitting there and expecting people to get her drinks." **How does it feel to be one of the** '100 Greatest Britons'?

"There was a thing in the paper about a book cataloguing the 100 Most Rascally People in the country, and I'd much rather be in that, frankly. There was one man in the Rascally People thing who used to travel by train, and when they'd pull into a station he would leer out of the window, wearing aneyepatch, and beckon girls into his compartment. If anybody did get into the compartment he would take his temperature anally every five minutes." Are your audience all weirdoes? "What I like is that an amazing amount of my audience are as engaged with the programme as I am. This girl used to write to me from the age of about 15 and I used to write back and she's stayed in touch ever. since. She's just had her third child and she did all of her pregnancy tests in our bathroom. She's a bit of a superstitious cow and, having done the last two in our bathroom, she and her husband drove down from Manchester to do the third one here too. I just think, 'Beat that! How nice is that?'" You once pretended to know the Beatles to catch a break into DJing. Who should I pretend to know to get my foot in the door today?

"Shit, I wouldn't even know. Probably somebody that I've never even heard of. I mean, when I look at the charts now, I think 'Who are these fuckers?'"

EDDY

'FabricLive 07: John Peel' is out now on Fabric Recordings "Tim Westwood's a very nice bloke. He went to public school, like me"



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31 MUZIK

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Your essential guide to the top 25 NYE parties in the UK

FABRIC NYE LONDON

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Venue: Fabric, 77a Charterhouse Street, Farringdon Price: £35 Time: 9pm-9am Tel: 020-7336-8898

Diversity unparalleled, quality assured. With Craig Richards, Terry Francis, Hipp-E & Halo, Rob Da Bank, Maurice Fulton, UNKLE, Hybrid, Ali B and Joe Ransom.

SHINE 2 (BELFAST

Venue: QUBSU, University Rd Price: £25 Time: 9.30pm-late Tel: 08702-410-126 See in 2003 at this superb Belfast club, in 557 CHIBUKU the company of Slam (four decks, three hours), Jon Carter, Silicone Soul, Alan Simms and Simon McDermott.

CREAM 3(BLACKPOOL

Venue: Empress Ballrooms, Winter Gardens Price: £35 Time: 9pm-6am Web: www.cream.com Cream's pedigree will no doubt ensure a

happy Hogmanay. With Mauro Picotto, Sonique, Scott Bond, Stanton Warriors, Justin Robertson and Muzik's Cream resident competition winner Louis Edwards.



Venue: Rehab, Assembly Street Price: £25 Time: 9.30pm-6am Tel: 0113-223-7644 Following their dirty doctors and naughty nurses 11th birthday party, expect similarly bad behaviour tonight. As ever, Captain Beer will be at the helm of the good ship Basics, with DJs including Yousef, Onionz, Ralph Lawson, James Holroyd, Paul Woolford, Tristan Da Cunha and DJ Ease (Nightmares On Wax). Rehab? You'll need it. . .

SHAKE-SHAKE LIVERPOOL

Venue: The Masque, Seel Street Price: £10 in advance Time: 9pm-late Tel: 07974-195-304

It's been a cracking year for Chibuku and their New Year's Eve session should be no exception. Expect house music all night long with Chibi guests and residents spinning for your dancefloor delight including Luke Carr, Wandy, Leo Belchetz, The Beat Monkeys, Dirty Sanchez, Phil Charnock, Tane, Ben Morgan and Phat Phil Cooper.

THE END 6 (PRESENTS NYE LONDON

Venue: The End, 18 West Central Street Price: £35 Time: 9pm-7am Web: www.the-end.co.uk

With Layo & Bushwacka! in one room and Trash's Erol Alkan and Femi B in the other. If Father Christmas didn't bring you what you wanted, this party is sure to deliver.

MINISTRY OF SOUND LONDON

Venue: The Millennium Dome Price: £50 Time: 4pm-7am Tel: 020-7740-8778

The Daddy of NYE parties. Four arenas with 50 DJs playing everything from house to drum & bass, there's also the small matter of the 50,000 revellers expected to attend. Little wonder it's being called "the greatest show on earth".

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FRIENDS AND FAMILY LANCHESTER

Venue: The Bierkeller, Picadilly and The Roadhouse, Newton Street Price: £12/£10 Time: 10pm-3am Tel: 0161-237-1181

Mancunian superstars Grand Central and Fat City unite for a NYE knees-up to remember. Taking place at two venues that ticket-holders can skip, or stumble, between, the line-up, across both venues, will feature the likes of Aim, Martin Brew, Rick Astley's biggest fan DJ Yoda, Darren Laws and The Nudge.

BUGGED OUT! MEETS 9 THE BOUTIQUE LONDON

Venue: Ocean, 270 Mare Street, Hackney Price: £28 Time: 8pm-late Tel: 020-7684-5225

Underground sounds for sneaker beaters, with a superb choice of live acts and DJs including Gonzales (live, and they've given wolfboy a grand piano too), Andrew Weatherall, playing a three-hour set, Radioactive Man (live), Bass Junkies, FC Kahuna, Tom Middleton, Jacques Lu Cont, Andrew Curley, Chris Blue, Raf Daddy and Nathan Detroit.



SUBCULTURE

Venue: Sub Club, 22 Jamaica Street Price: £20 Time: 11pm-5am Tel: 0141-332-9900 New Year's Eve house heaven is guaranteed at the Subbie with Harri and Domenic on the wheels of teflon.

TOGETHER LONDON

Venue: Turnmills, 63b Clerkenwell Road EC1 Price: £25 Time: 8pm-6am Web: www.turnmills.com A combined promotion from The Gallery, Type and City Loud, the impressive set of DJs will include Seb Fontaine, Rocky and Diesel, Red Jerry, Kenny Hawkes, CJ Mackintosh and Mutiny,

TRIBAL SESSION MANCHIESTER

Venue: Sankeys Soap, Jersey Street Price: £30 Time: 10pm-6am Tel: 0161-661-9668 Consistently excellent, Tribal Sessions returns to Sankeys for NYE with Jacques Lu Cont, Krysko and Justin Robertson.

OPTIMO GLASGOW

Venue: Glasgow School Of Art Price: £25 Time: 9pm-6am Tel: 0141-332-6886 Optimo provide a spin on the usual NYE entry ticket – each invite is an exclusive mix CD. Residents Twitch and Wilkes will

be joined by some very special guests.

SHINDIG NEWCASTLE

Venue: 57-59 Melbourne Street, Price: £18 Time: 10pm-3am Tel: 0191-245-3760

You'll get a top Geordie welcome to the New Year at Shindig. Special guest Yousef will be joined by the ever-reliable residents Scott Bradford, Scooby, Mark Armstrong and Craig Dewson.

SHINY DISCO BELLS

a lan

Venue: The Liquid Room, Victoria Street Price: £20 before Xmas; £25 after Time: 11pm-5am Web: www.liquidroom.co.uk US house with a funky twist from Who Da Funk, Jose Nunez, Eric Morillo and Smokey And The Bandit.



MR 64 SCRUFF'S KEEP 7 IT UNREAL 10NDON

Venue: The Forum, 9-17 Highgate Road Price: £25 in advance Time: 9pm-4am Web: www.mrscruff.com Scrufftastic shenanigans with the Charity

Tea Shoppe and the bearded one playing an extra-special seven hour set.

STOMPAPHUNK BRIGHTON

Venue: The Funky Buddha Lounge, Kings Rd Arches Price: £15 Time: 10pm-5am Tel: 01273-725-541

A 'Jackinacidiscotech', they say, with residents Void, Serge Santiago, Tula and Matt Edwards. Too bloody right, we say.

PASSENGER'S NEW YEAR'S EVE KNEES UP LONDON

Venue: Clerkenwell House, 23-27 Hatton Wall Price: £15 Time: 8pm-3am Tel: 07940-343-101

Hip hop and breaks at the last ever Passenger from The Mixologists, Steve Blonde, Shaun Roberts and Joe Ransom.

ONE LOVE JOINS PLAY

Venue: The Ashton Court Mansion, via Kennel Lodge Road Price: £38 Time: 8pm-5am Tel: 07970-843-365 Deepgroove will be headlining alongside Deli G, Mike Shawe and Neil Greenfield.

THE RETREAT

Venue: 144 Upper Street, Islington Price: £20 Time: 9pm-4am Tel: 020-7704-6868 A co-promotion from Better Days and Smokey Beats, with DJs Paul Barkworth and Paul Saint at this intimate venue.

MISS MONEYPENNYS BIRMINGHAM

Venue: Liberty's, Hagley Road, Edgbaston Price: £35 Time: 9.30pm-late Web: miss-moneypennys.com Moneypennys goes to Las Vegas this year, so expect fancy dress, divine decor and glam house, with Jim 'Shaft' Ryan.

ELECTRIC STEW

Venue: Sahara Nights 257-259 Pentonville Road, Kings Cross Price: £25 Time: 9pm-very late Tel: 020-8354-3799 Futuristic party music from Mark Moore, Blackstrobe, Fat Truckers and Mo Morris.

LUSH PORTRUSH

Venue: Kellys Complex, Bushmills Road Price: £20 Time: Spm-3am Spend a luscious New Year with King Unique, John Cecchini and Col Hamilton, It's sold out every year for the past six years.

SMARTIE PARTIE

Venue: The Glasshouse, Mermaid Theatre, Blackfriars Price: £30 Time: 9pm-6am Tel: 020-7680-0415 Glamor and glitz, US house-style. with the Sharp Boys, Carlos Francisco and Cained And Able.

MI NEW YEAR'S EVE

Venue: Revolution, Deansgate Price: £40 on door Time: 8pm-8am Tel: 0161-832-1111 Boasting a capacity of 3,000, with headliners to include Kern Chandler, ATFC and the wonderful DJ Sneak

33 MUZIK

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and the second the second A Real of the The Audio Bullys are making a two-footed lunge for the top 45 THE REPAIR OF A TABLE PARTY PARTY OF ALL ALL ALL ALL ALL with their bass-booming clash of house and garage. Muzik thinks the reign of bland dance music is all over. . . It is now!

re you tired of dance music's same old, same old? Unassuming, E'd-out lyrics, polite beats, nice tunes? If so, then you're going to thank fuck for the hooligan house

sound of the Audio Bullys. With their punky, shouty, bassheavy blend of UKG, house and dub, and lyrical tales of pissed-up nights, scuffles and dodgy weed deals, Tom Dinsdale and Simon Franks are fencing a new breed of house, bringing out the delinquent in everyone. Their first single, 'Real Life', you should know already. It was a booze-fuelled, big night out of a tune – the sound of two neo-casual upstarts hotwiring your car and taking you for the joyride of your life. It's almost a shame they're such nice lads in real life, actually. . .

You can tell by the way they finish each other's sentences that hair-inhis-eyes Tom, 24, and baby-faced Simon, 22, have known each other for ages. The CV goes like this: growing up in the leafy suburbs of south west London, the baby Bullys attended the same school – Tom was in Simon's sister's class and became real friends when Simon had 'grown up a bit'.

PHOTOGRAPHY JAY BROOKS & REX GOWAR

TEXT LAUREN C

23



make an album," says Simon, genuinely mystified at its existence, "there was just this big burst of writing. The first four or five songs we just sort of knocked out when we were messing around."

Making music the way they want, Simon and Tom stick to their roots, still living where they grew up and counting their mates as their biggest inspiration.

"They've been really encouraging," says Tom. "Our mates won't usually say something is good, but they're bigging us up." "They're always there in the back of your head," adds Simon. "You're imagining the bassline that's gonna make all the boys dance."

As well as dance music, their influences include hip hop ("that's where we got the storytelling thing from. We stick to what we know - not Dre's guns and girls. Well, maybe girls," grins Simon) and "all that old stuff" – The Specials and Madness, The Police and Jimi Hendrix.

'When I was a kid, I had a bit

of a thing for Eric Clapton," laughs Tom. "I went to see him when I was about six, got up in my seat and started dancing about. My Mum and Dad ripped the piss for months afterwards."

Having left any fondness for soporific guitar-pensioners in the past, the Bullys are now set to cement their place as the new stars of British dance music. Are they ready for the high life?

"A lot of bands would bite their arm off to be on Top Of The Pops," says Tom. "For me, seeing a sea of people dancing, like when Basement Jaxx did 'Romeo' live, would be more special."

They might cut-up rough on record, but these boys' hearts are in the right place. Here's to 1,000 more big nights out. . .

The Bullys single 'We Don't Care' is out January 6th 2003 on Source. The album 'Ego War' will follow on March 24th

Going out on the garage scene together, they learnt their craft "messing about in mates' studios instead of college." At 17, Tom landed a residency at Milk 'N' 2 Sugars and, at 20, produced a track for jazz-funk legend Roy Avers ("he was a well nice geezer - my mum put him up in the spare room"). After years of talking about a collaboration, the duo then bagged a remix for a DJ Luck and MC Neat track, realised they had something and the Audio Bullys were born.

But today, dance music's freshest stars are knackered. Slumped in a chain pub, they're tucking into some well-deserved grub and discussing a DJing schedule taking them several full petrol tanks round the country. Thumb-twiddling is not an option for the Bullys at the moment. Their star is in the ascendent, with 'Real Life' having been championed by everyone from Andy Weatherall to Sara Cox, who made it her Record Of The Week. Cassius' Philippe Zdar is a huge fan – as, it seems, many in France are. He has compared them to Daft Punk, Prodigy, and Wu-Tang Clan, adding with typical Gallic poeticism "In the uniform world of musique we live in, the singularity of Audio Bullys'

sound is a golden gift. They sound like no-one else.'

The Audio Bullys' upcoming album, 'Ego War', is a genuine house and garage mash-up of driving, catchy basslines, jumpup floorfillers like 'Snake' (their favourite), the 'Screamedelica'esque 'I Go To Your House' and breakbeat-with-a-story 'Way Too Long'. Search hard enough and you'll find samples from Elvis Costello and Joe Cocker plus influences from electro via hip hop to punk and back again. What makes it all gel is the Bullys' 'fuck you' attitude, and their bottomless pit of creativity.

"We didn't even set out to
THE SOUND OF 2003



Audio Bullys *Plugged In'* (with an interpolation of Josh Wink's 'Freak' acappella) "We thought it'd be nice to start with one of our tunes. This is a good way to introduce the old school vibe and set the mood."

David James Always (A Permanent State) "It's really bare, almost minimal. It's got that old school feel too – you can really move to it. There's also this little computer, Kraftwerk-y voice. It reminds me of buzzing in a club."

Inland Knights 'Fresh Feat'

"This has a great, garagey swing to it that I really like, I found it a couple of weeks ago when I went record rummaging. It samples the classic garage tune, 'Diamond Ring', but really subliminally."

Buffalo Bunch

"A bassline groover that's about four years old, It's a prime bit of funky French style and is the kind of music that was a huge influence on us. You can definitely hear it in our sound." Audio Bully Tom Dinsdale gives us the gen on the tracklisting for their Muzik mix CD, from their own prime cuts to back-of-the-crate classics and quirky treasures. . .

Cassius

'Sound Of Violence' (Audio Bullys Energiser Mix)

"We loved the original mix of this but didn't really have any concrete plans with our remix. We just let it happen – stuck it in the computer and this is what came out."

Gaspard

"I love the catchy melody on this. When we went over to play in Holland recently, the guy who was promoting the night gave us this big bunch of records and this was one of them."

Corez And Dr Kucho

'House Park' "They're great and this is one of their really big, bassline tunes. It's also got that special, inexplicable magic that makes it stand out from the crowd."

Audio Bullys

'Real Life' (Hawk's Grimy Dub) "This is a breakbeat remix and should hopefully stop people tagging 'Real Life' as electro. We didn't have a clue about the whole electro scene until some dude in America thought we were part of it!"

9 The Path Presents Galaxy 21

"Rhythm Trackin" "A chunky, driving house tune. It's really dark and intense, probably the darkest point on the mix. It still fits in well. Sorry to get deep, but it's like being in the back of a club on your own, a bit freaked out and feeling the bass everywhere."

"No Soul' (PMT Mix) "I love this tune but I was watching TV the other day and heard it on an advert for some alcopop drink! I've heard obscure stuff used on the telly but I was well shocked with this because it's a white label. Makes the ad good, though,"



Audio Bullys

"This has got a classic feel, but the garage beats bring it up-to-date. We called it 'Miagi' because it's a Miamistyle tune, so we turned 'Miami' into 'Miagi'. There's obviously The Karate Kid reference too."

🗩 Audio Bullys

"An instrumental track of ours. It doesn't quite suit the rest of the CD, so you don't actually get the whole version, but it's just kinda mixed in at various points. Good tune, though."

13 Audio Bullys The Beginning'

"There's a nice, western sort of theme with this track – Si's whistling over the top. It's on the same vibe as 'Real Life'. I think it's kind of spocky."



ACTURES AN AUGUSTON DASSIUS MOUSSET DJ TOUCHE BUFFALO BUNCH

DJ Touche

"This is a tune by one of our mates, DJ Touche. It's got a great disco loop running through it that's just right and not too retro. 'Black Light' is a great track for showing off and Touche cuts up samples really, really well, He's a well talented geezer!"

15 Mousse T

"It's an old B-side of a big tune called 'All I Get'. It fits in really well and we think it's just rough. Basically, it's a totally wicked tune. I don't think that it's something that we'd always play, but I'd keep it on stand-by and play it more as a special track. It's also got that unique Mousse T sound and production to it that we both really like."

16 Hawk

"This is just a kinda weird little thing that we did recently with a lot of analogue sounds and a breakbeat. It hasn't even got a name yet, but there's a song there that we thought would make a nice, slightly different, finish to the mix."

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Looks good, sounds

what was all that

tweet

MUZIK 38

good... feels good too!

about then? Muzik casts its expert eye over the highlights of the year, with The Neptunes, Fischerspooner, Lemon Jelly, The Streets, Sasha oulwax JTORS: DUNCAN BELL, JANE FITZ-GERALD, VICTORIA GOODWI

CONTRIBUTORS: DUNCAIN BELL, JAINE FITZ-GERALD, VICTORIA GOUDWIN, KEVIN MAHER, MALIK MEER, SARAH MONK, RALPH MOORE, TONY NAYLOR







TRUTH HURTS

(Aftermath)

"Thinking of a masterplan. .." Even before rap legend Rakim revived his most famous lines in his cameo appearance, you knew it was all over. No other single in 2002 could match 'Addictive''s ambition and urgency. Dre's trademark beats, singer Truth Hurts' effortless vocals and a stolen, other-worldy Bollywood sample meant it hung around both the US and UK charts for aeons before before rolling on down to Jamaica (where it got turned into the 'Bollywood Riddim') and India (where the sample was spotted and a multi-million dollar lawsuit immediately ensued). Oh well, suppose you can't have it all. (MM) Best Bit: The walling "Kaliyon ka chaman" intro, and the moment Rakim steps up

DJ MARKY & XRS LK (V)



Guitars aren't just for rockers. The Hispanic six-string flourish that underpinned 'LK' is still soaring over a year since

Muzik first heard the record in Rio. Boosted by an infectious chat from XRS and championed by Gilles Peterson, 'LK' went Top 20 and ensured V's Movement night continued its reign as jungle's hippest, hottest sweatbox. Drum & bass was back, baby. Many would argue it never went away. . . (RM) **Best Bit:** That mad guitar at the end

5 FISCHERSPOONER Emerge (FS Studios)





Take one compulsively fibbing former lover of Michael Stipe and one synth-prodding, privacyloving old git. Add

sackfuls of Ministry's dosh, the sort of hype that can convince the public that black is white, and *just* enough talent. Stir well, to produce a shit album with one luminescent moment of synthpop genius, remixed to perfection by Dave Clarke. Stand back as everyone from Nag Nag Nag to The Boutique go apeshit for it. Then laugh heartily as it flops in the charts and Ministry lose loads of money! Ha ha ha ha! (DB) **Best Bit:** The slow-building bass and the thrilling surge of Lizzle Yoder's vocal on the chorus



4 X-PRESS2 Lazy (Junior)

> Diamond geezers and house veterans X-Press 2 dragged art-rock legend David Byrne out of the irrelevance in

which he's been mired since Talking Heads split and sent him straight into the Top Two. Expertly marrying laid back, jovial house to David Byrne's jittery geek-in-love vocals, 'Lazy' not only stormed the charts, it was an end-of-night anthem in clubs across the world. The lads' TOTP appearance was wicked too – Dave chickendancing, X-Press 2 doing absoutely fuck all, with great panache. (JF/DB) **Best Bit:** The Intro – once heard, never forgotten

THE RAPTURE

House of Jealous Lovers (DFA)



Punk-funk nouveau was one of 2002's many micro-trends, and The Rapture were its standard bearers. Their

first single for DFA was the sound of New York punks popping pills and getting a groove on. Like classic ESG punk-funk, with shambolic, Happy Mondays guitars, 'House Of Jealous Lovers' revived air guitar mania on the dancefloors from Pacha in Ibiza to London's 93 Feet East. (MM) **Best Bits:** *The bass, the cowbell and that strung-out voice*

6 LAYO & BUSHWACKA! Love Story (XL)

... And the Tune Most Likely To Spread Itself Around Like The Clap Award goes to Layo & Bushwacka's ubiquitous

Bushwacka's ubiquitous summer hand-raiser 'Love Story'. Originally promoed in 2001, the tune married a bass riff filched from Devo's 'Mongaloid' to Layo & Bushwackal's trademark clean beats, with an added snip of the hardest-working woman in sampling show-biz, Nina Simone. 'Love Story' was huge everywhere from the Space to The End. (JF) **Best Bit:** Dancing like a gibbon to the Nina Simone bit

SHY FX & T POWER Shake UR Body (Positiva)



Walking into a bookies at the end of last year and placing a bet on drum & bass going Top Ten in 2002 would

have got you laughed back out of the building. But junglists young and old knew that the genre's trousers were bulging with talent, and soon everyone would be looking at the drum & bass cock. Shy FX and T Power led the charge, and proved that if you've got a catchy song, super-hype beats and Radio 1's Jo Whiley behind you, anything is possible. (JF) **Best Bit:** That cha-cha-cha Sex And The City plano line

8 UNDERWORLD Two Months Off (V2)





Underworld's tenminute sonic salvo was a thrilling return to form, and their most anthemic moment

since 'Born Slippy' – if the rest of their 'A Hundred Days Off' album had been this good, it would have been a classic. Danny Tenaglia liked this thundering, power chord-powered stomper so much, he begged Muzik to find out whether he could replace Darren Emerson as "the third member of the band." It's an idea, boys. . . (RM) **Best Bit: "You bring light in/You bring light in/You bring light in"** ad infinitum



blackwater

A proper grower. This had been around for ages before it broke through, starting life as an instrumental and

later having Ann Saunderson's gorgeous vocal shoved on top. But 2002 brought new mixes and deservedly wider recognition, with many comparing it to that other slowburning techno masterpiece 'Knights Of The Jaguar'. It also proved you can sing-a-long-a techno, which was a treat in itself. (JF)

Best Bit: The main riff – classic, Inner City-style Hispanic acid house



TWEET Oops (Oh My) (Elektra)



Pure sex on wax. 'Oops' pitted our carnally demanding urban heroine Tweet against clacking

woodblock percussion and - a typical Timbaland leftfield moment this - an eerie, hypnotic vocal loop. Fabolous and Bubba Sparxxx added a male perspective, but this was all about the sisters, those awesome beats, and sex. Great fucking. Fucking great. (DB) Best Bit: When Tweet's vocal first swirls woozily into the mix

TIM DELUXE

It Just Won't Do (Underwater)



With horns and Sam Obernik's ladette-onthe-piss vocals well to the fore, this was a reminder that house

music is meant to be fun. It became an Ibiza anthem, naturally, and put Emerson's Underwater label into the charts and the nation's

consciousness. "A fun, party record that was made from the heart," as Yousef eloquently puts it. (RM) **Best Bit:** Them parping horns





Tom Middleton struck electro gold with this bleepy instrumental. Championed by Lottie and FC Kahuna months

before its eventual release with the addition of a slightly dubious vocal from Roachford, Tom's musical arrangement on this track was as simple as it was masterful. (RM) Best Bit: The quirky double handclaps, which Tom included instead of single handclaps, to see if people would try to clap along with them when they danced. They did





Even though the Neptunes probably made more dosh from knob-twiddling on Nelly's 'Hot In Herre', it

was 'Nothin" that really showed what they were capable of. A backwardslooped sample, full of cod-Middle Eastern promise, a hip hop beat unlike anything that had gone before, and a vicious bassline all added up to make it this summer's biggest rap banger. N.O.R.E's vocal was great, but it was the beats wot won it. (MM) Best Bit: On the remix: "Homeboy, we came to party/Your girl was fucking me. . ."

SUGABABES

Freak Like Me (Island)



jury may be out, but no-one can question the majesty of this

track. The chilly 'I am alien and futuristic' sound of Gary Numan's 'Are Friends Electric?' was perfectly matched by the, if anything, even colder Sugababes - surely the sulkiest girlypopstars ever - for the pop-dance hit of '02. The concept may stink, but the record is orgasmatronic perfection. (DB) Best Bit: When the filter twists off of the 'Are Friends Electric?' riff, after the intro

UR Transition (UR)



After a dancefloorfriendly slice of underground? Mike Banks' legendary Detroit techno outfit

have just the thing, squire. This year's head-mangling offering, 'Transition' flexed wild saxes, odd time-signatures, a spooky, spoken vocal and some funky-ass electronics, making it the track to ask for in 'informed' clubs. A bitch to mix out of, mind. (JF) Best Bit: When it goes all Daft Punky

TIGA & ZYNTHERIUS Sunglasses At Night

(City Rockers)



Fey Canadian DJ Tiga and Finnish deep house producer Jori Hulkonnen got busy on some elderly synths,

bought a ton of eyeliner, pillaged the archive of Canadian snore-rock pig Corey Hart for a tune and rode the crest of the incoming electroclash scene-wave. Well-timed and instantly playable, 'Sunglasses At Night' was the tune that you really ought to have hated, but still sung with gusto. It tore up the terrace at Space, too. (JF) Best Bit: Canadian Tiga's bizarre line in Herr Flick-style, camp German vocals





The bonkers bard of the Windy City yelled 'fuck you!' to lifeless beats and showed everyone how to boompty boomp.

Fresh, lively, with attitude, funk and that all important groove, 'Where U At?' was a poke in the eye for the tech bongo massive, and it sounded fucking great at 3am under the disco ball. (JF) Best Bit: Derrick's politicised, shouty vocal and that ol' boompty boomp

VARIOUS ARTISTS Air EP (Renegade Hardware)



Our favourite bad-tothe-bone jungle (not drum & bass) record of 2002, particularly for Raiden's stunning

'Fallin". Mixing trancey sounds with a strobing break and euphoric female vocal, 'Fallin'' crushed all opposition and sign-posted a new direction for jungle's dark side. (DB)

Best Bit: The 'Papua New Guinea'style, E-rush vocal stab

DJ SHADOW

You Can't Go Home Again (Mo' Wax/Island)



In which Shadow chisels off the concrete boots of B-boy expectation and parties

like a motherfucker. A relentless, ska-like beat propelled 'You Can't Go Home Again' onto the dancefloor, into the charts and into our hearts. It is, as the intro says, "a song about being free". (DB)

Best Bit: That skanking bassline

MORE FIRE CREW Oi! (Go Beat)



Three urchins from east London kept the UKG flame flying as the rest of the scene's leading lights went hip

hop, went shit or went to jail. A perfectly simple, thugged-out anthem with a neanderthal riff underpinning the vocals of the three-man army, 'Oi!' blew up the Stratford Rex and way, way beyond, while More Fire's scowls couldn't hide their rough charm. (DB) Best Bit: "1-1, 2-2/Fussie don't screw/Rat-tat-tat-tat, my tap bust and bless you" - UKG's best delivered threat of the year

And the next 20

- 21 Faicon & Bangaiter Together (Roule)
- 22 Brooks You, Me And Us (Mantis)
- 23 IIs Next Level (Marine Parade)
- **34 The Chemical Brothers** Electronic Battle Weapon 6 (Virgin)
- 25 Sasha Wavy Gravy (BMG)
- DJ Gregory Tropical Soundclash (Defected) 26 27
- Audio Bullys Real Life (Source) 28 Tomaz Vs Filterheadz Sunshine (In-Tec)
- 29 Elephant Man Bad Man A Bad Man (Stone Love)
- 30 Cornelius Point Of View Point (Matador)
- Coloursound Fly With Me (City Rockers) 31
- 32 Nelly Hot In Herre (Universal)
- 33 Aphrodite All Over Me (V2)
- 34 Asa Chang & Junray Hana (Leaf)
- 35 Ms Dynamite It Takes More (Polydor)
- 36 Peshay You Got Me Burning (Cubic) 37 Lenky Diwali (Greensleeves)
- 38 Looseheadz Like This (Prolifica)
- 39 Narcotic Thrust Safe From Harm (FFRR)
- 40 FC Kahuna Machine Says Yes (City Rockers)

Bootlegs of The ye

📕 As soon as Kylie did 'Can't Get Blue Monday Out Of My Head' at The Brits, bootlegs were deader than Elvis. Apart from these five little beauties, that is. . .

1 SOULWAX SMELLS LIKE BOOTY

Mixed Nirvana and 'Bootylicious' from thunder-thighed DC trio Destiny's Child.

2 BASTARD RUNNERS UNTITLED

Blended Pink's 'Get The Party Started' with elderly rockers ELO's 'Don't Let Me Down'.

3 BOLLYWOOD FREAKS LAST NITE BOLLYWOOD

SAVED MY LIFE Bollywood beats with 'Last Night A DJ Saved My Life'.

4 SOULWAX

Push It/No Fun Mixed Salt N Pepa and The Stooges to brilliant effect.

5 UNKNOWN ARTIST **Take Me Harder**

Cosmos' 'Take Me With You' over Daft Punk's 'Harder, Faster. . .'. Dancefloor dynamite-ee-hee.





Casey Spooner pushes the boundaries of acceptability with his outrageous new 'nice sweater and sensible hair' look

> "2002 was non-stop dramajust the way we like it"

MUZIK 42



The Survivors Catching up with greatest failed popstars ever

ove 'em or loathe 'em, you have to admit that Fischerspooner blazed a sensational

trail through 2002. In April, they signed to Ministry Of Sound, for shedloads of dosh. Six months later, the deal collapsed. But not before Fischerspooner had collaborated with Kylie, scandalised Top Of The Pops and found another bunch of record company execs/suckers to bankroll their fabulous plans.

So, let's look back over 2002 with New York's campest as they gird their loins for 2003. . .

So, Casey, how was 2002?

"Non-stop drama, just the way we like it. Then, right when we thought it was all taken care of, [Ministry Of Sound's head] James Palumbo freaks out and closes Ministry." **Highlights?**

"Going from paupers to jet-set superstar trash, meeting David Bowie, working with Kylie, Top Of The Pops. The Meltdown Festival was completely fucked up and fantastic." You looked extraordinary on TOTP, in your Columbo-goes-gayporn get up...

"God! | can't believe it worked. TOTP is like a meat-grinder of entertainment. There's no time to finesse it - just get in, and get out." 'Emerge' didn't blow the charts apart though, did it?

"25 was fine by me, I took the expectation with a pinch of salt. Like Warren Fischer says, 'We have alternative expectations with pop potential'. We're always gonna talk like we're kings of the world, but I don't think 12 year-olds are ready for our sound."

What's pissed you off this year? "I'm pissed off with James

Palumbo. He's such a fool." What's the situation? Have you been dropped?

"Not really dropped. I dunno. The magazine's gone, some of the music arm's closed, and the people we worked with have quit. That's why there's no single or tour. It's frustrating because the staff did a really good job. The ship was lubed-up and ready to go.

"Palumbo's decided he doesn't want to work in the music industry anymore, which is weird, because four months ago, he was ready to take on the majors, and destroy the world. It basically feels like Capitol are going to pick up [Capitol signed FS for the UK just after this interview - Ed.] where Palumbo had a freak out.

You're getting the blame over here for bleeding Ministry dry. **Did you know that?**

"Oh good. It was so easy. It only took four months. I guess Palumbo isn't as aristocratic and wealthy as we thought. He needs to sue his dad again.

"Sounds good, looks good, feels good. . ." is that still a mantra to live by?

"Oh yeah, absolutely. I'm gonna ride that mantra through Europe down to Australia and back to Japan." What's happening with Kylie?

"Warren remixed 'Come Into My World', and I'm going to be doing some TOTP shows with her. Kylie's a pro, it's just incredible to see her 'turn on'. It's a bit overwhelming, though. I feel like I went through a pop baptism. She's everything I pretend to be."

People accuse FS of being cold. Is the soulful edge to your music overlooked?

"Probably, because we have fun with the press. I like stuff with humour and intelligence; stupid things and smart things. There's nothing wrong with all those things co-existing." Shouldn't you say, 'Hey man,

we've got feelings too'? "Oh God, no! I'm not going to get Coldplay on you. It's all entertainment in the end.' Are FS the definition of glamour

or a satire on conventional ideas of glamour?

"Exactly! You answered your own question. I'm setting up a system when I can get away with either. When I look like shit it's a concept, when I look great, I look great. I'm lost in this world of excess, and to keep myself entertained it ends up pretty extreme."

And if people just laugh?

"Every response is valid. It's the best fuckin' comedy show in the world. If I die a rock 'n' roll Lenny Bruce, I'll be completely happy. What next, then? What are FS' plans for 2003?

"The death of electroclash. We're also gearing up for the worldwide Capitol release in February. We're going for the children, so lock your youth away. In December, we're doing a private pop show for 200 people in Miami - we're going to trash this rich art collector's house. Oh, and we're considering some secret shows in Europe, through Gigolo, before New Year.'

Any last thoughts?

"... You know our rule. If there's anything you want to make up so that the article is more interesting, go ahead. The truth is quite dull.'



The Streets



Bets single of 2002: Kelly Osbourne's 'Papa Don't Preach' Remix: Busta Rhymes' 'Pass The Courvoisier' (Neptunes 'Part 2' Remix) (J Records) Album: Ludacris' 'Word Of Mouf' (Def Jam) Coolest moment? Minus 23

degrees in Oslo **Defining news moment:**

The bus driver who asked some kid to pay a bus fare for his hamster Hottest purchase: Brown Air

Max Nikes. Bought in Sydney. Very rare

Best night out: On the bus from Stockholm to Oslo when our crew had a full-on fist fight and the sound engineer ended up with a black eye The person who's most impressed you: [The Roots' Human beatbox extraordinaire] Rahzel at Fabric





6112413 Best Album 2002



THE STREETS Original Pirate Material (Locked On)

It took Mike Skinner, aka The Streets, 40-odd minutes to go from being a slightly monkey-faced bedroom producer to a pop star, gay icon and the voice of the nation's youth. All the 22 year-old Brixton-based Brummie had to do was scribble down what he thought were the best and worst things about being young in Britain 2002, and then gezer-chat about them over some deceptively simple, vaguely garage-ish beats. Simple, no?

But what makes The Streets so effective is that Mike Skinner actually means it. He's had that "Known you all me life/I don't know your name" E moment from 'Weak Become Heroes', and he's dead serious when he says "In 500 years they'll play this song in museums/I'm the bold adventurer/UK's ambassador". If 'Original Pirate Material' dates, it's no bad thing, because this is as of-its-time as you can get. If you're young, living in the UK, going out and caning it, The Streets is the leader of your gang. Whether he's a genuine urban poet, or just the beneficiary of a very happy musical accident won't be revealed until he drops a second album. Right now, The Streets works a treat. (JF) Get Fact! The Streets first band was called Harry And The Krishnas

Goodbye Career Album Of The Year

Topus Work 1999 - Colle

ORBITAL Work 1989-2002 (FFRR)

Dumped by Ffrr, this 14-track compilation was the Hartnoll Brothers' epitaph. Listening to it, one is struck by two inescapable facts. Firstly, that their best work - 'Choice', 'Chime', 'Belfast' et al - is the greatest legacy of the generation of album-making artists who trailed in the wake of the UK acid house boom. Secondly, that the gulf in quality between that and their work of the last few vears would be hilarious, if it weren't so tragic. (DB)

 Get Fact! There have been 'Chime' bootlegs in practically every dance genre, ever

Chill

Album Of The Year



CASSETTEBOY The Parker Tapes

(Barry's Bootlegs)

Saying Jamie Oliver is a cunt is easy, let's face it. Getting him to say it, as Cassetteboy did on their 96-track collection of cut-ups 'The Parker Tapes', is sheer genius. Other highlights included Mills & Boon's new hardcore porn direction, louche old git Leslie Phillips' ambition to "Do Cher, up her bottom" and Sinatra crooning about 9/11 ("I'm dying on a jetplane/I know I won't be back again"). The humour wasn't so much near-the-knuckle as chopping your arms off. (DB)

Get Fact! Sadly, Cassetteboy have now split up

LEMON JELLY Lost Horizons

(XL)

■ In a world of stealth PR and target marketing, it's good to see a shy pair of idealistic art-house doozers doing so well. Lemon Jelly's first, self-titled collection quietly sold over 60,000 copies in the UK alone and their



Hard dance-

MAURO PICOTTO The Others (BXR)

Arguably the most important producer in the world at the moment, Mauro Picotto is the ace in hard dance's pack. Rather than progging out, or catering solely to the hard-of-thinking, he tweaks his sets and his own records with techno. His hybridised sound has been so successful that 'going techno' has since become the direction of choice for a lot of the harder trance jocks. But while 'The Others' works as a full-throttle. heads-down, multibanger, it also has remarkable subtlety. and is far more reminiscent of Jeff Mills than Judge Jules. (JF) Get Fact! Mauro

Picotto once remixed Freddie Mercury

MOBY 18

> MS DYNAMITE A Little Deeper (Polydor) (BIG WITH THE CRITICS)

The BIG

THERE DEFER

MOBY 18 (Mute) (BIG WITH THE PUBLIC)

At the beginning of the year, Ms Dynamite was Sticky's vocalist of choice, while Moby was king of the ad-break. At the end of 2002, Ms Dynamitee-hee has a clutch of awards, and an album that's as likely to be played at Islington dinner parties as in teen girls' bedrooms. Moby? As popular as ever since dropping 'Play Part 2' (sorry, '18'), and feuding in public with Eminem. Both stars have one thing in common though - for all their intelligence, humanity and commercial success, they've both released albums that are artistically disappointing. (JF) Get Fact! Ms

Dynamite's real name is Niomi McLean-Daley. Moby has a barcode tattooed on his neck

latest - 'Lost Horizons' - is heading that way too. One fan was selling a tshirt ticket for their recent gig at 93 Feet East for a cool £215 on E-Bay last month and it was snapped up in minutes. Proof that art and commerce can still meet, once in a while at least. (RM)

Get Fact! Fred Deakin swears by lemon jelly as a top hangover cure



The UK Urban-







OXIDE & NEUTRINO 2 Stepz Ahead (Eastwest)

GENASIDE 2 Return Of The Redline Evangelist (Copasetik)

This is what UK dance is all about teefing ideas from all sorts of different styles, mashing them up and not taking any shit from anyone. G2 made a return that few thought likely after their many 'problems' over the years, while nice young men Ox and Neuts turned in an essential second album. A bit of hip hop, a smidge of jungle, a twist of UKG and a great big chunk of London attitude? Fackin' laahvely. (DB) Get Factl Genaside 2's Kris Bones also writes opera. So he claims, anyway

The Best Big In Japan

Album Of The Year



UNDERWORLD 100 Days Off (JBO)

It may have only hit Number 16 in the UK, but '100 Days Off' sold an amazing 110,000 copies in its first week in Japan. Make no mistake, Rick and Karl are world class superstars, even if most people in the UK don't give a shit anymore. (RM) Get Fact! Karl Hyde has a park in London named after him. Not really



Most Anticipated



SASHA Airdrawndagger (Arista)

Sasha, prog god and studio-shy party beast, bust his ear last year, so he stopped clubbing and started seriously writing, with long time partner Charlie May. The resultant album was atmospheric but almost inevitably disappointing. But with his first album out of the way, who knows what the onetime 'Son Of God' might do next... (JF)

Get Factl Sasha quit smoking this year



Sasha

Best Single of 2002: 'Wish I Didn't Miss You' by Angie Stone (Arista)

Best Remix: JXL Versus Elvis: 'A Little Less Conversation' (BMG) Best Album: [Album of scary kids singing] 'The Langley School Project' (Bar None)

Coolest moment: Finishing my album in Amsterdam in May

Defining news moment: Hearing on the news that I might be able to make a clone of me

Hottest purchase: Finally tracking down a pair of Adidas Z 500s in black and red from some weird website in Japan

Best night out: Space Ibiza with the Beers. Say no more The person who's most

impressed you: Peter Kay

Electro-pop Album Of The Year

LADYTRON Light And Magic (Telstar)

Ladytron pre-dated the whole electroclash hoo-ha, loftily surveyed it during its 14 minutes in the limelight, then returned asking what all the fuss was about. 'Light And Magic' is harder-edged than their debut '604', and the sheer, old-fashioned quality of the 'Tron's songs, and the lacerating insight of slinky vocalists Helen Marnie and Mira Aroyo brutally exposed electroclash's limitations. (DB) Get Fact! Ladytron are named after an ace **Roxy Music song**



MISSY ELLIOTT Under Construction (Eastwest)

There was no huge, 'Freak On'-style single but this hugely enjoyable trip back to the old school is arguably Missy's finest album yet. Binning the bling ting, she paid tribute to original hip hop values and condemned today's thugged-out mentality. Supa-dupa guests Beyonce, T-Boz and Chilli of TLC, and Jay-Z added extra dopeness, while Timbaland added an ear-popping selction of back-in-the-day samples to his next level beats, resulting in one of the freshest records you'll hear this year. (VG) Get Fact! Missy no longer eats ples

The 'Proper' House Albums of The Year



BLAZE Spiritually Speaking (Slip 'N' Slide)

This tasty threesome represented the sounds of housepast, present and future. All three



DERRICK L CARTER Squaredancing in A Round House (Classic) (Source)

> had songs, beats, movement, emotions and funny noises – everything you'd expect from a

great house record. Blaze delivered a sonic summation of their (almost) 20-year history; Derrick Carter bounced with the sound of house now; and Metro Area's retro-futurist grooves highlighted new directions. In 2002, these were all you needed. (JF)

Get Factl Blaze's first album came out on legendary soul label Motown

MINAM

Feel My Pain! Albums Of The Year

PERSONAL

SAGE FRANCIS Personal Journals (Anticon) EMINEM The Eminem Show (interscope)

Talking about your 'issues' is all the rage today. So Eminem raged against fate, and squashed the enemies that his childish whims conjure up. Sage asked whether past hardships should be used as an excuse for self-harm. Two brilliant, self-aware MCs, masters of wordplay and backed by killer beats. One the biggest star in the universe, the other more underground and difficult than the Northern Line, Both proof that hip hop is the 21st Century artform. Get Fact! Sage has a huge beard. Em has a huge bank balance!





Lemon Jelly are gentlemen producers Nick Franglen and Fred Deakin, quintessentially English aesthetes whose take on laid back beats reached a creative peak this year with their album 'Lost Horizons'.

Like all Lemon Jelly releases – which have included everything from interlocking, cut-out CD cases to hand-sewn leather pouches – 'Lost Horizons' caused quite a stir as Fred, a graphic designer who also co-owns London design-agency Airside, continued to fight a rearguard action for good design. Fred's design aesthetic is simple:

"When you go out into the world, there are people screaming messages at you. A large part of our environment is man-made and if it's made badly, we'll feel shit."

With that in mind, we asked Fred to cast his eye over the last 12 months, to come up with his Top Ten Eye-Popping Moments of 2002. If it's good to look at and it's man-made, it's in here.

ANISH KAPOOR'S SCULPTURE AT THE TATE MODERN

What? A ruddy ginormous piece of red, fleshy PVC, housed in the Turbine Hall.

Fred says: "A nice, poncey one to start with. What's really great about this is that Anish Kapoor has obviously designed it with the space specifically in mind. You've got to experience it to understand it, because a photo doesn't really do it justice. It's completely all-enveloping. You just go, 'Yes! Thank fuck someone bothered to do something interesting here'. They wanted to blow your mind, and it succeeds. I find most fine art completely self-indulgent, pretentious crap, completely obsessed with the artist. That, to me, is not what living in a community is about, it should be about relating to people."

PRINT ADS FOR 'FAKING IT'

What? Eye-catching billboards for Channel 4.

Fred says: "Most billboards are unimaginative shit, so when a decent ad pops up, it's very unusual. Basically, this has a really nice flavour to it, very Indian. They're cartoony, verging on the psychedelic, with very strong colours and a really nice illustration style. Someone has approached this in a really intelligent way. It's a good television programme as well, so there's a lot of goodwill there."









THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS

What? Brilliant, whimsical film, with a heavy reliance on type and subtitles.

Fred says: "I love the way they integrated type in this movie. I'm a graphic designer by trade and people assume that sticking a load of type on something is really easy. It's actually really easy to fuck it up and makes it look cheap. When I go and see foreign films I'm amazed at the boring, ugly typefaces you see. It's like, a huge chunk of the film is about reading these words so at least make it look nice."

4 DESIGNER PETE FOWLER'S BLACK SABBATH T-SHIRT

What? A fresh-faced Sabbath, rendered in cartoon form. Fred says (in a smarmy voice): "They're actually available for sale, right now, at

www.airsideshop.com – and you quote me on that if you like. I was in Pete Fowler's studio and he was showing me this doodle on the wall, of the original Black Sabbath line-up. I just looked at it, and said 'Fuck me, that's genius. Let me put it on a T-shirt'. I don't think it's a sendup. It's almost impossible to take the piss out of those hairstyles."

5 QUANTIC'S 'APRICOT MORNING' (TRU THOUGHTS)

What? Neo-psychedelic sleeve by Brighton's Red Design. Fred says: "I like record sleeves that clearly have some relationship with the music, and aren't just throwing money at it. This is a great amalgamation of real world details and strong abstract patterns."

6 TAKASHI MURAKAMI'S KAIKAI KIKI EXHIBITION, THE SERPENTINE

What? Dazzling Japanese cartoon/pop/art. Fred says: "He does these amazing, day-glo smiley faces, kind of Hello Kitty gone completely acid. The Serpentine is really snotty about what they put in there, and he's in there, which is brilliant. It's very pop and very low-brow in a lot of ways. The cultural difference is a great leg up for Japanese art, but there's a different way of

>>



cultural thinking in the East. If a non-Japanese artist did what Murakami is doing, they'd be thrown out of art school. But, because he's Japanese, he can just go 'Fuck it'."

TLAURA LEES EMBROIDERY

What? A clothes designer who specialises in intricately embroidered jackets. Fred says: "Laura Lees stitched all the sleeves on our 'Soft Rock' seven-inches. She makes these amazing jackets based around casinos, the dogs and pubs. It's an unlikely combination – really gritty street culture turned almost into high art. I think we might be trying to get some of these jackets for Lemon Jelly."

8 JASPER GOODALL'S ILLUSTRATIONS

What? Trashy, Seventies discostyle designer's work.

Fred says: "He uses a lot of detail, and can be very painterly. Of all the contemporary illustrators and designers, he's the one who should be in a gallery. He's got the flavour of the nation's youth in 2D. He's really nailed it."

SHYNOLA'S VIDEO FOR LAMBCHOP'S 'IS A WOMAN'

What? London-based design/ production collective's animated video for the US alt.country act Fred says: "It's the journey of a leaf and every frame is beautiful. You could stop it at any point, print it out and stick it on your wall or in an art gallery. This is one of about five Shynola videos that I'd say should be put in the Top Ten videos of all time. They've only made about a dozen in total."

10THE IDLER MAGAZINE

What? The Loafers' Bible Fred says: "It used to be a proper magazine, as it were, and now it comes out twice a year in book form. It isn't just a case of 'Let's squash our magazine to a smaller size', it's a more of a magazine/book hybrid. Nice layout, nice panels and nice illustrations. It feels like Christmas when you find it. Like one of The Beano annuals, it's full of goodies, and you can dip into it. A real toilet book."

Lemon Jelly's single, 'Nice Weather For Ducks', is out now on XL









The Best Remixes Of 2002



2 IZ AND DIZ

Mouth (Pepe Braddock Mix) (Classic) Atmospheric click house from the man responsible for 'Deep Burnt'. The best record Herbert's never done.

4 MISSY ELLIOT

4 My People (Basement Jaxx Mix) (Atlantic) A brilliant, Top Five-trouncing mingling of hooligan house and hip hop. Voted Best Remix at the Muzik Awards.

6 ABRAHAM

Magple (Morgan Geist Mix) (V2) Morgan at his most deliciously delicate, as featured on Muzik's 'Blue Room' covermount CD.

8 JUNIOR JACK

Thrill Me (Junior Jack Mix) (VC) The best adrenaline-driven breakdown of the year made this even better than the original.

10 FELIX DA HOUSECAT Silver Screen Shower Scene (Thin While Duke Mix) (City Rockers) Jacques Lu Cont's mix of Eightiesstyle bass and lush strings was even better than Felix's original.

3 THE STREETS

(Kid Creme Remix) (Defected)

And what a bassline! The garage anthem of the year got a fresh,

Armand-ish re-rub. Very tasty indeed.

SHAKEDOWN

At Night

Weak Become Heroes (Ashley Beedle Mix) (Wall Of Sound) A classic Balearic Beedle moment. The best X-Press 2-related moment of '02?

5 JOSH ONE

Contemplation (King Britt Mb) (1-Off/Prolifica) Have you even heard the original? This classy remix was a masterpiece of hypnotic repetition.

7 SLAM & DOT ALLISON

Visions (Vitalic Remix) (Soma) Techno is alive and well and living in Vitalic's remix cupboard. A warped and wonderful cyber-pop classic.

9 ADAM F FEATURING MOP Stand Clear (Origin Unknown Mix) (Kaos) A Juddering tsunami of sound that typified the fantastic drum & bass filerceness of FabricLive.



Best single of 2002: 'Losing My Edge' by LCD Soundsystem (DFA) Remix: Slam Featuring Dot Allison's 'Visions' (Vitalic Remix) (Soma) Album: [Monumentally heavy rock group] Queens Of The Stone Age's 'Songs For The Deaf' (Interscope) Coolest moment: Having too many DJs (DJ Hell, Tiga, A Touch of Class, Tommie Sunshine and John Selway) on stage playing at the same time with us Defining news moment: Winning lawsuits against some major publishing companies in Belgium Hottest purchase: The haloumi pitta at Tufnell Park kebab shop Best night out: 21st Century Bodyrockers at Cynthia's. And every gig we've done with Erol Alkan The person who's most impressed you: Trevor Jackson What's pissed you off most: Monitors A second second second second of the debutter of the second se

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paranoid



Crafty cut-ups, master mixologists and Balearic bliss



SOULWAX 2 Many DJs (Soulwax)

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An exercise in sweet memory manipulation for any child of the Eighties and a masterfully executed mix, '2 Many DJs' resolutely refused to succumb to seriousness. The product of a duo whose musical sensibility was akin to an attention-deficient child let loose in a second-hand record shop, this disco feverdream of a compilation was kaleidoscopic in scope, and canny in its choice of records. 114 tracks were cleared for use on the album (those left out included 'Ice Ice Baby' and 2 Live Crew's 'Me So Horny' - shame) and they were spliced to perfection. From Dolly Parton to Royksopp, Dreadlock Holiday' to Destiny's Child, '2 Many DJs' redefined the art of compilation making, Superb. (SM)

TOM MIDDLETON Sound Of The Cosmos (Hooj)



Half-man, half-Jedi, all beard, Tom Middleton straddled the

boundaries of house, downtempo Balearic

and breaks with this offering. Skimping neither on quality or quantity, this was proof positive that you can be a jack of all trades and master of the lot. (JF)

LEKTROLUV (N.E.W.S.)



The album that killed electroclash. Why would any hip young person with asymmetrical hair and a taste for

dissidence want to give money to large record labels, when they could have all of the biggest hits ('Emerge', 'Missy Queen' et al) months before they 'officially' came out, plus old classics like I-F's 'Space Invaders Are Smoking Grass', simply by buying - or burning this classic comp? Exactly. (DB)





It's been the second year of the 'chill' invasion of the world. and the number of compilations out there

has reached shelf-crippling proportions.

Groove Armada joined in the fun, nobly pouring all their energy into this (and their mix for Muzik), rather than into their gruesome artist album 'Love Box'. Roy Ayers, Aretha and the Pharcyde all added to one of the smoothest and most sparkling comps ever. (VG)

ROUGH TRADE Electronic 01 (Mute)



Nothing less than an attempt to chronicle the entire history of the artier end of electronic music across two CDs,

'Electronic 01' had musical genius to match its ambition. From the boffins of The Radiophonic Workshop to the blissful dance-pop of Kraftwerk, The Human League and Fischerspooner, to extremists like Pan Sonic and Non, this comp mixed the alien and the familiar to stunning effect. (DB)

SCION

6 Arrange And Process Basic Channel Tracks (Tresor)

A fresh take on the legacy of Basic Channel, Berlin's original dub-techno

beat makers. Scion put their minimalist classics, including the legendary 'Phylyps Track', through a digital mincer, and showed that, even when a tune does nothing but pulse and groove, it can still be absolutely blinding. Catchy title, too. (JF)

CREAM BALEARIC (Cream)

Just like those ubiquitous chill out compilations, Ibiza tagged releases were two-a-penny this year.

Many supposedly Balearic compilations contained music more suited to Slough than Space, but not Cream's baby. An unmixed, triple CD with an almost faultless track-listing, it harked back to a time when Phil Collins and Tears For Fears records rocked Amnesia, and Cafe Del Mar was still the coolest bar in the universe. If you smile when you hear Bassomatic's 'Fascinating Rhythm' or It's Immaterial's 'Driving Away From Home', this is most definitely for you. (RM)

UNA BOMBERS 8 Saturday Night Sunday Morning (Pias)



On the second compilation from the Manc dirty basement soul mafia, The Unabombers

joined the dots between house and pure soul music over 60 jubilant minutes. So Earth, Wind And Fire shimmy up to Loose Ends, and are then shoulder-charged out of the way by young bloods like Shola Ama. The past and present have seldom been melded together more convincingly or with more apparent ease. (RM)

BACK TO MINE NEW ORDER (DMC)



Another compilation that gleefully mixed and matched the best from different genres and different eras, this

was a back to mine you'd want to be at. Mardy Manc gits New Order chucked in everything from obvious classics ('Energy Flash', 'Supa Dupa Fly') to utter weirdness (Roxy Music's love song to a rubber doll, 'In Every Dream Home, A Heartache'). They then capped it all by including Patrick Cowley's re-edit of Donna Summer's 'I Feel Love' - making it available on vinyl for the first time in donkey's years. Cheers lads! (DB)





DJ Zinc cornered the breakbeat garage crossover market with the first volume of 'Bingo Beats', but Zed

Bias took it to the next level with this follow-up. It succeeded where other breaks comps fell into a repetitious quagmire, being rammed with proper, bass-heavy, underground tunes that spat venom but also had enough sonic intricacy to keep you listening. 'Bingo Beats 2' will get your party going even if the only people there are two fat ladies and some, er, snakes alive. (JF)

MUZIK 50

BEGIKS

nade vies e senos yalis anne yalis

TOPAT

naturist





Beards and booties, David Brent and Bodyrockers, house goes dirty and haircuts go daft. This was the year that was...

Schooldisco.com

The UK's most successful club, Schooldisco.com allowed 30 year-old accountants from Pinner to reinvent their inner rebel to 'I'd Rather Jack'. A cheaper form of therapy for the perennially bullied, and a fond farewell to any notions of good taste.

Beards

Plenty of facial fur from the likes of Tom Middleton, Akufen, Dan Kahuna, Damon Gough, Arthur Baker, Jude Law and, of course Osma Bin Laden.

Bootlegging

Continuing the cut-and-paste ethic well into 2002, spearheaded by Erol Alkan, whose ad hoc live bootie bouncing made for rare moments of musical genius. Not forgetting the underground then overground womblings of the Sugababes/Gary Numan 'Freak Like Me' and the barely-legal 'Best Bootlegs Ever' albums. A stroke of genius, wasn't it?

Electroclash

A product of hype over substance? The continued success of clubs such as Glasgow's Optimo, Manchester's Suicide and London's Bodyrockers suggested otherwise. And any scene that gave us a night out called The Cock certainly deserves respect. For this season, at least.

Silly hair

Mr C came on like a seventh sense with a frankly ludicrous, backswept, peroxide, spunk-gelled effort. Special mention also goes to Cliff-Richard-in-waiting Gareth Gates roadkill-style 'do'.



Dirtbagbootyhouse

Take yer eight-minute conga break and stick it. This year, the good ol' housers (Carter, Sneak, Hawkes, Freaks) trod all over prog, made sure it was dead, then unleashed a fury of good time boompty boomp all over Tenaglia's arse. Party time, big time.

Polyphonic ring tones

Our favourite was the one that sounded like a canary in a spin cycle.

24 Hour Party People

Steve Coogan hang-gliding. Mani as a roadie. Howard Devoto unblocking a sink. Mark E Smith as Mark E Smith. We loved it.

The Office

David Brent busts some "Flashdance, fused with MC Hammer shit," writes poetry ("I froze your tears and made a



dagger/And stabbed it in my cock forever") and motivates with a skincrawlingly insincerity. Simply The Best.

Drug of choice

Crack. Or so some (the press/the police/ Whitney) would have us believe.

Normstock II

The unholy trinity of Lord Quentin Of Fatboy, Damien, son of Skint, and the Holy Digweed drew 250,000 to the seaside. We'll probably never see the like again.





mine

Eminem finished? Nah, mate - he's 8 Miles high, and rising...

t's a slow-build movie. There's Eminem in a Detroit autoplant. There's Eminem at night, scribbling rhymes in his room. There's Eminem with his homies. And then, finally, it happens. There's Eminem on stage in a Detroit club, his big break, contest winner, rapping his guts out, jugular pumping, the Karate Kid of hip hop, bringing down the joint in a crowdpleasing climax.

It's this gradual progress to a knockout finale that has taken his film, 8 Mile, to an unprecedented \$50 million box office bonanza weekend, taking Eminem's career further into the obscenely incomprehensible multimedia stratosphere of success.

2002 has proven once again that you just can't keep this peroxide pitbull rapper down. At the beginning of the year, the word was that Eminem was past it. Too immersed in court cases, gun charges and divorce proceedings. Even CNN stiffs asked, on air, whether he'd lost his edge third Album Syndrome, they called it. 'The Marshall Mathers LP' was a triple-platinum sensation that could not be topped. He was a one-trick Vanilla Ice pony. And as for his movie plans, what was he thinking?

The album hit first. 'The Eminem Show'. A monster. Over a million

copies sold per week. And the pitbull, rapping about daughter Hailie, ex-wife Kim and the hypocrisy of white America while taking swipes at Moby, Limp Bizkit and George W. A triumph.

Then came the films. Eminem's performance almost saved Dr Dre's inane suds 'n' ass comedy The Wash. After that, he got together with LA Confidential's Curtis Hanson and came up with 8 Mile. Not the story of his life - oh no - but the tale of a tough Detroit kid who dreams of becoming a famous rapper, enters a local contest and ultimately triumphs, courtesy of his devastating vocal dexterity.

For a while, Eminem fever hit Hollywood. Kim Basinger signed up as The Mom. Brittany Murphy was to be The Love Interest. Rumours flew for a while. And then, just as quickly, interest died. The movie's release date was mercilessly pulled, and insiders whispered the dreaded words, 're-cut' and 're-test'. Had he lost his edge?

8 Mile made \$54.5 million in just three days of release. Next to Hannibal, it was the highest opening for an R-rate film ever. The studio wants a sequel and some have said that it might even take him onto next year's Oscar list. Imagine that. But then stranger things happen, as this year's proved...

KEVIN MAI







RIP

- Jam Master Jay
- Cream @ Nation
- Lisa 'Left Eye' Lopes
 James Stinson of Drexycia
- Strictly Rhythm
- Lonnie Donegan
- George Harrison

RIP careers

Michael Barrymore, John Leslie, Danny Rampling at R1, Winona Ryder

Predictions for 2003

January No activity in clubland as DJs cannot open their doors to leave house, due to enormous piles of NYE dosh

February UK garage world rocked as not a single So Solid member gets arrested

March Sasha announces plans for new album "some time in 2014-15"

April As pop-trance explosion reaches peak, average age of club-goers is down to 12

Fischerspooner's pies and makeup bill, Capitol files for bankruptcy

June-August Hungry for a new thrill, clubbers flock to exciting new summer locales, including Rhyl, Ulan Bator and the disputed Kashmir region

September Confusion reigns as style mags declare new blend of 'Flashdance and MC Hammer shit' to be 'the white-hot sound of now'

October Blazin' Squad top charts with new single 'How The Fuck Did We End Up Doing This Girly Shit?'

■ November Due to a printing error, an American hip hop album comes out that fails to thank God or Allah in the sleevenotes. The streets run red

December Despite Ms Dynamite's best efforts, World War 3 breaks out – so party now, before the bombs drop, muthafuckas!

THE NEPTUNES

Meet the man who made Justin Timberlake cool

n 2002) Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo, aka the Neptunes, were the men you called if you wanted a chart smash that also left your credibility intact or even - as in the case of N*Sync milquetoast Justin Timberlake and fading teen idol Britney Spears - improved it immeasurably. They're bringing the leftfield shizzle to urban music's gazillions of fans, as well as releasing ground-breaking records of their own under the name N*E*R*D (or, er, 'No-one Ever Really Dies'). We caught up with the extremely cosmic Pharrell in Barcelona.

The Super-producers

Nelly, Britney, Jay Z, Beyonce, Justin Timberlake, N*E*R*D – you've had a good year

"I'm very thankful, just seeing so much of life man. God has just been so good to us man. Me and Chad, we're so thankful, I don't have to question what we do." A lot of your beats are incredibly abstract – are you on a mission to fuck up the pop charts?

"Nah man, we're following instinct. We don't go into the studio and say 'let's be weird', although we do try and make music that we've never heard before. I'm proud of everything we've done, but I love other people's music more than my own. I love other people's expressions, other people's perspectives that's what I think makes us cool. I'm into everything from Stereolab to Steppenwolf to Steely Dan to Stevie Wonder. I love music man. Right now I'm loving Cassius, the new Weezer record,

Cassius, the new Weezer record, Coldplay, Chilli Peppers, Zero 7. . . " Stereolab?

"I think Stereolab are incredible – 'Emperor Tomato Ketchup', I got all that shit. They've asked me to do something for them and I think I'm, gonna do it. I love the UK thing – that feeling of being on the other side of the world and everyone knowing the world. The Shepherd's Bush Empire is my favourite venue in the world. Have I picked up any UK speak? Yeah, 'proper'."

What part do drugs play in the Neptunes/ N*E*R*D sound?

"None, actually, it's just life man. My music might sound that way but you know what? I'm rock'n'roll, r&b and all those things that God has allowed me to be a part of, but I'm not a rock star. I've never smoked weed in my life. I have the occasional drink, but no more than three times a year. When I have a drink, after one glass, I'll be wobbling round the room. It gives me a headache – it's like I get a hangover there and then. The effects kinda feel cool but it's not happening for me."

Who will be the Neptunes of '03? "I like Just Blaze. I think Jay Dilla is a genius. I like Hi Tek. But I think Dre is the legend, Premier is a deity and Timbaland is still the king to me. I've been knowing Tim since I was young, we're from the same town." Is there anyone left that you still want to work with?

"Bonnie Raitt. I'm gonna get into country music, cos I think I can do some good stuff there. If fashion can take a lead from country & western then why can't music? As a producer I've gotta be looking for new sounds – that's the only way to stay fresh. We've got a track with an accordion on the next Clipse album – it sounds crazy, but why not? People can laugh, but instruments are instruments and music is music and musicians are musicians. The only categorising that goes on comes from us as ing a series as a series

- people and once we stop doing that, music will be great everywhere, all the time."
- Do you ever worry about being

called a sell-out? "The people who say that are the same ones dancing their asses of in the club to [sings] "Late at night I talk to you/ You won't know the difference when I fuck you". They know it. I'm not selling out, I'm just trying to make good music. I did Justin but I also still did Jay Z, and I'm gonna do Ludacris."

Who wouldn't you work with? "Mickey Mouse and Papa Smurf." How much will it cost us to get a Neptunes remix?

"I would never talk about that, cos wealth is not in your pocket, it's in your mind. It's what's in your heart; what you feel; the knowledge. It's not important to brag about how much money you make per track. There are people starving in this world, so it makes me look stupid. I write songs about peace, so if I'm walking around talking braggadociously about how much money I'm making, it makes me look like a hypocrite." **You've been linked to Britney and**

Beyonce. Did you? Would you?

"I'm so thankful that God has given me this route right here and now. The only I thing I need right now is a wife and I have faith that God will send one. Me and Beyonce are friends and me and Britney are cool. That's Justin's ex-girl, I would never do that. What am I looking for? Someone funny, smart, pretty, and interested in the Learning and Discovery Channels, who likes Rice Crispy treats and breakfast cereal and cartoons. If she can put up with all that then it's a done deal. I would actually leave the music industry for my wife. We could go teach school together, I don't care. . ."

Pharrell, pictured with some of the old banknotes he uses to light his barbecue with



"I'm looking for someone funny and smart who likes Rice Crispy treats and cartoons"



04.01.03 owen clarke &mick b

11.01.03 tee smith (soundzreal trax) joey musphia (refunkt records)

18.01.03 rob perfect gareth cooke (ministry of sound)

25.01.03 ...element mick b &conan manchester (liquidpeople)



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Album Of The Month



JAY-Z The Blueprint 2: The Gift And The Curse

(Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam) THE KING OF NEW YORK RAP RETURNS WITH AN INSPIRED, INCENDIARY SEQUEL TO THE BLUEPRINT

It's tough at the top. Just ask Jay-Z. Less than a year after 'The Blueprint' rearranged the hip hop landscape, the indefatigable rapper feels that, if he's to hang on to his King Of New York crown, he has to come back like this. With a double CD featuring tracks by, arguably, the strongest beatmaking team ever assembled on one rap album; with lacerating lyrical assaults on the numerous pretenders to his throne; with scores to settle and records to set straight. And, on the arrogant yet impassioned opening track, claiming that he rules because the late Notorious BIG told him so. In a dream. Fair enough.

Writing in that track, 'A Dream', about a conversation he had with BIG while sleeping, Jigga laments the trials that life has thrown his way. **Continued on page 58**



Albums

The choruses are sung by Biggie's widow Faith Evans and, just in case we were in any doubt, three songs later and Jay is reworking an old 2Pac song, connecting himself to the other of hip hop's most fabled fallen soldiers.

> Occasionally, across 25 tracks and over 108 minutes, the focus gets lost so, as great as this record is, it isn't quite as good as its predecessor. 'Bitches & Sisters' is a throwback, revisiting Ice Cube's ancient NWA B-side 'A Bitch Is A Bitch', a 21st century attempt to show us that, well, you know, there's a difference between a bitch and a woman. 'Poppin'

Tags' details the joys of shopping, and 'Fuck All Night' is. . . well, you can

probably work that one out for yourself. But the highs are numerous, both musically and lyrically, as Jay-Z continues to contribute to the ongoing soap opera that is early 21st Century New York rap. The title track finds him re-entering the ring to verbally feud with Nas. Producers Just Blaze continues to speed up old soul vocal loops till they squeal, none more appealingly than on 'You Don't Know (Remix)', which features everyone's favourite shouty MCs, MOP. And then there's Jay's admission, in the musically hilarious 'I Did It My Way', that he was, as alleged, the man responsible for stabbing record executive Lance 'Un' Rivera at Q-Tip's album launch party in New York three years ago. "This nigga Un, yo, I scratched him," he shrugs. "It's in the past and I'm glad/Now I'm back to bein' Hova".

He is indeed. But how long he continues to maintain such an intensity of work rate, and how many chips he can keep balancing on those broad shoulders, will determine how long he stays at that lofty pinnacle. Stay tuned. **Angus Batey** ****



Umek

Slovenia, beats and boshing made simple

UMEK Neuro

(Tehnika)

shing, Slovenian techno dor

Imagine Depeche Mode in their Dave's-got-a-few-problems period, when they made intense Gothic moodiness which the Americans couldn't buy enough of. Now imagine that, instead of cleaning up their act and making records that aren't as epic - or as good as in their skag-fuelled hey-day, they'd been suspended in a vat of concentrated European industrial noise and forced to make an album of instrumental music.

Well, you don't have to imagine anymore, for here comes Uros Urnek, the 'fotr' or 'daddy' of Slovenian techno; the Pete Tong of the ex-Eastern Bloc. And he's got his let's-make-a-racket hat on, Useful reference points would be Aphex Twin, Speedy J's 'Public Energy Number 1' period, a dash of Alec Empire and Umek's own Zeta Reticula persona.

Umek can more usually be found filling techno dancefloors and the record box of Judge Jules, but 'Neuro' is an altogether deeper proposition. Lovely plinky tunes are the order of the day here. But plinky tunes of the dark, minor key kind, and hidden under arhythmic drums the size of Texas and crunching noises like a musical car crusher. As a special treat at the end, label bosses Laibach guest for 11 minutes of pure electronic retro indulgence on 'Neuropa Humbug'.

So in short, 'Neuro' is the perfect gift for any robots you may know who are suffering from anger management issues and depression. More seriously, it also bears favourable comparison with the noisy bastards mentioned above. Thomas H Green

* *

Ten Things You Never Knew About...

Slovenia

Li's half the size of Switzerland and nestles between Austria, Croatia, Italy and Hungary. **R** It has a population of 1,965,986.

3 One Slovene Tolar is worth about a third of a penny. It was declared an

4 It was decided un. independent state on June 25th, 1991, following 46 years as part of Yugoslavia.

Mushroom-picking is such a 5 popular national hobby that it had to be restricted to stop species of fungi being wiped out.

6 Evidence that the Slovenians were knocking out tunes way before the rest of us exists in the form of a 45,000 year old flute made from the bone of a cave bear. Led by Umek and Valentino

Y Led by Umen and the Kanzyani, Slovenia has a ridiculously healthy techno club scene which you can find way too much about at www.soundoflj.com

Laibach are the country's most 8 famous 'pop group' - they are best known for their preposterous cover versions including the whole of The Beatles 'Let It Be' album.

Euthanasia, Tadpole, Thorax and Anorak are just some of the ace electronic acts to appear from the Slovene melting pot.

10 Spit-roasted dormouse is a tasty aperitif in some parts of rural Slovenia. Yummy.

Umek: Slovenia's considerably younger and better looking answer to Pete Tong

HEM'KEI

DUM



KEVIN YOST Hypnotic Progressions (I Records) 11 variations on a theme from the pipe-smoking producer

Deep house has always had its prog rock elements (lots of keyboard solos played by white men for interminably long periods of time) and by calling his new album 'Hypnotic Progressions', Kevin Yost would appear to be furthering these tendencies. So all the tracks are called, yup, 'Hypnotic Progressions Parts 1-11' and all of them weave in and out of similar templates in a recognisably Yostian manner, which means plenty of jazzy licks, rolling basslines and tinkly melodies but no hint of, say, a vocal or a song in there. The album thus reads more like a series of sketches, a work in progress, than a fully realised project. **Cal Gibson**



As well as being Vienna's most respected hip hop abstractionist, DJ DSL is also the president of the fanclub of the Austrian football team captain, Toni Polster. Rather disappointingly then from the cliche-loving critic's point of view, '#1' is not 'a game of two halves'. It's actually one rather marvellous and coherent whole. Taking its cues from DJ Krush's excursions before he went all cerebral and onanistic on our asses and ending up somewhere between DJ Yoda's comedy skillz and Shadow's drama, '#1' showcases a prodigious new deck wizard. Back of the net, as Alan Partridge would say. . . Carl Stroud

* * *



Sophistication - it's a hard thing to get right. One minute, Frank Sinatra singing 'The Girl from Ipanema' is the definition of suave, the next it sounds like the cheesiest trash in the world. This collection of super-smooth, lightly jazzy Brazilian rhythms tries to walk the same delicate line, but doesn't quite make it. Rosalie De Souza undoubtedly possesses a rare and beautiful voice. but the light, gentle nature of the tracks and production makes for a slightly throwaway album. It all sounds very nice, but you'll forget it the instant it's turned off. Perfect, however, if you're inviting a load of toffs over for dinner they simply adore this kind of thing. Tim Wild **



NOORDA Noorda (Milano 2000) w-mo jazz from the Italian hill out zon

It ambles in like a Gallic Chris Rea on Prozac. Chilled, jazzy beats and a voice dredged from the deepest ocean. Get past this howler, however, and Noorda offers a well crafted set that wouldn't have sounded out of place on the seminal mid-Nineties trip hop compilation 'Give 'Em Enough Dope'. The languid, drifting ambience of 'Things I Don't Imagine' and chunky groove of 'Jazz Dub #1' are as good as chill out jazz-noir gets. Six years later this all seems an excessively well-trodden territory however, and though Noorda walk the trip hop path with style, they don't actually add anything particularly new to the genre. **Martin James**





Baz may well come to the party with only the finest of family connections, being as she is the sister of Monie Love and Dave Angel, but whereas her siblings have generally toiled on the cooler margins of the music industry, 'Psychedelic Love' is aimed firmly at the crossover market. Imagine if you will Dido sidling sweetly up to a toned down Macy Gray and you're in the right area: there are plenty of strings, syruped onto standard chick-lit lyrics and wrapped up in a sweet-smelling sheen of positivity, but it's way too clean and polished for all but the shiniest of coffee tables. **Cal Gibson** * *



Remember those big, five-colour biros you used to get as a kid - the ones where you press a button and a different colour pen pops up? Stefano 'Stylophonic' Fontana takes that approach on 'Man Music Technology'. Flick through the debut from the Italian, and every time there's something entirely new - and just as colourful - as Fontana flicks between house, breaks, techno and chill out, until he presses all the switches at once and the pen jams. An artist who's willing to sit the thunderous techno of 'All Nite Long' alongside the nursery rhyme shimmer of 'If Everybody In The World. . .' is either a genius or foolhardy. In Stylophonic's case, it's the former. Tom McKeown * * * *

Buck 65: His cap is groovy (because it's made of corduroy).

26 Muzik enters the weird hip hop

world of bat-fancier Buck 65



And not on an indie anymore

The Anticon family are unrelentingly prolific, yourself included. How do you manage it?

"I don't think of the volume of my output as being abnormal. To me, it's strange if someone can only manage to write a dozen songs every two or three years. I write pretty much every day. It would be hard if you had to dream up a whole new universe every time you sat down, I guess. All I have to do is look out the window."

You've recently relocated from Nova Scotia to Paris. What prompted the move?

"I came to Paris chasing the ghost of Henry Miller, I suppose. Also, some of my biggest influences, like Tom Waits and David Lynch always had great success here, while remaining relatively obscure back in the US. That says something to me. And, you know - it's Paris for Christ's sake. The French music scene is pretty intriguing to me."

Duncan Bell

You seem to be a person that gets in deep shit regularly. Do you court trouble or does it come looking for you?

"I think I was born under a bad sign or something. I'm hexed. Man, you don't even know the half of it. It makes life interesting, though. You know, I once woke up with a live bat in my pyjamas. . ."

You once could have been a baseball pro - do you still worry about that?

"I actually ask myself if I made the right choice every day. Baseball is still my first love, honestly. Did I choose the right path? For now, I think I have to resign myself to the whole 'everything happens for a reason' mantra "

What's next for you?

"Music-wise, I just watched 'The Nightmare Before Christmas' and found it very inspiring. So maybe I'll make some music like that, to get people going 'What's this? What's this?"" (NG)

Albums



Pasty-faced quiet lads Big Dada already run tings on a whiteboy, underground hip hop tip, but they're not one-way DJs, and this is their most commercial, buzzing, partyingest record yet. On the second part of Mike Ladd's Majesticons trilogy (you probably don't want to know), smart, tongue-in-cheek, playa lyrics (from the likes of EI-P and Can Ox's Vast Aire) bump up against purely sexual, synth-heavy beats, like somebody dragged Anti-Pop Consortium out of the library and pulled that broomstick out of their collective arse. 'Brains Party' - one of a reasonably small number of hop hop tunes to lyrically reference gay hustlers working for the mob and the Pet Shop Boys - and the indie-dissing 'Majestwest Party' ("You backpackers can keep it underground, I'm a keep it Top 40") in particular are among the best tracks ever to come out on Big Dada. Niceness. **Duncan Bell** ****

ragmentorohan

FRAGMENT ORCHESTRA Fragment Orchestra (Schema) Elegant, sophisticated,

jazzual (etc, etc) manoeuvres, from fashionable Milan

If you've missed their 12-inch output to date, here's an uncomplicated way to catch up with the jazz and world musictinged ezee-ness of Italy's Fragment Orchestra. As hinted by the j*zz and w*rld reference, you get little of the fashionably sleek, laid back melodicness of, say, Lemon Jelly with this lot; more a gently rolling, softly flowing sound, comparable to the Thievery Corporation. However, so long as you're not totally allergic to noodles you'll get something from the immaculately crafted sophisti-cool and occasional med-house elements of tunes like 'Corioca', 'Sunlit' and 'Metropolis.' Andy Crysell



Straight outta the land where the bong trees grow (alright, Leeds), Pea Green Boat are going to make honey and a certain amount of money with 'Two Way Traffic' (Read your Edward Lear, bitches). Rather than serving up nine revisions of the 'Buffalo Stance'-sampling, boom bass moves of their club hit 'Seesaw', the duo have instead looked to mid-Nineties Warp electronica, drum & bass and 'blip hop' to produce a record of considerable depth that might even cross over. A bit. Best track 'Warning Shot', for instance, follows a lengthy introduction that uses beats that glitch but never lose the groove, with a really brilliant, arpeggiated vibraphone outro, reminiscent of Mike Paradinas' 'Phi * 1700 [u/v]'. With 'Seesaw' and seven other tracks that take quite leftfield ideas and make them palatable for the mainstream, 'Two Way Traffic' puts PGB alongside Metro Area on the front rank of those making club music that works just as well at home. Even if, like MA, you wish they wouldn't wear their clinical lack of passion as quite such a badge of honour. Duncan Bell * * *

Snoop



(Oyster) Promising vocalist succumbs to the dark forces of the Lighthouse Family

SHAUN

ESCOFFERY

Shaun Escoffery

With singles 'Space Rider' and 'Days Like This' having been championed by the likes of Trevor Nelson and Louis Vega, big things have been expected of this east London soul boy. The subdued club cuts that open his debut maxi showcase a talented vocalist, peaking with the Ed Case production 'Breaking Away', but this goodness is undone by Escoffery making an ill advised lunge for Middle England's excess pounds. In an age swarming with So Solid soul stars, the bland backing and drippy lyrics ("If I want to cry/ I'm not shy" anyone?) that dominate the second half of the album do this seriously talented singer an injustice. **Kingsley Marshall**



Julian Cope loves them. Andrew Weatherall is a fan. Bobby Gillespie and the Primal Scream boys think they're sonic gods. No, they're not the latest underground psychedelic electro-punk fusioneers, but a group of Seventies German beards! Faust are all about

freeform expression, held together by the rough semblance of recognisable structure. Distorted, discordant guitars hum to the fractured grooves of spasmodic jazz-rock drumming, while occasional vocals come in like the bad trip Beach Boys and go out like Satan on a surfboard. Tapes are manipulated through echo units while all manner of 'found sounds' are contorted, cut up and relocated in the free flowing narcotic engine. The results are probably best enjoyed under the influence of a lysergic cocktail - but astonishing all the same. **Martin James** * * * *



BIG BROVAZ Nu Flow (Sony) "Nu Flow' crew fail to deliver on their debut alloum

Big Brovaz are the latest hopefuls to walk the tricky tightrope between commercial appeal and urban credibility, and their brassy, chart-trouncing 'Nu Flow' single suggested they might be on to something. But sample the rest of the south London sextet's debut and it's clear that the rhymes aren't tuff enough for the street and the hooks aren't sweet enough to trouble the charts on a regular basis. Alternating flimsy machismo with girly inanity, cack-handed efforts like 'Find A Way' and 'Gotta Get' evoke an r&b take on 'Grease' more than anything else. If savvy inner city pop's what you're after, go buy that Sugababes LP instead. **Ed Potton**

*

"The occasional vocals are like Satan on a surfboard"



SNOOP DOGG Paid Tha Cost To Be Tha Boss (Priority/Capitol) Snoop's back in business.

But where's that editing suite?

There's been an underwhelming sense of 'so what?' hovering around every Snoop album release since the heady days when Dr Dre made him a household name. Since his debut 'Doggystyle' he hasn't released a single album there's any point in owning, and he seems destined to remain a talent unfulfilled until he eventually climbs back into the booth with the good Doctor.

At least he goes some way to redeeming his reputation with this set. It appears he's actually been given a budget to spend on producers, rather than his no-name mates who made his recent releases so wearisome. So we have the Midas touch of The Neptunes propelling dancefloor neck-wrecker, lead single and sub-editor's delight 'From Tha Chuuuch To Da Palace', before slowing things down on the more elegiac (not a word you normally expect to be used in conjunction with Snoop) 'Beautiful'. Producers du jour Just Blaze and Hi-Tek bang out a few belters and hip hop hall of famer DJ Premier takes the sound to the East on the thrilling 'The One and Only' and 'Batman & Robin', with Snoop flexing a new bi-coastal attitude,

Throughout, Snoop flits between his usual Jekyll & Hyde of laconic, drawling entertainer turning into cold-hearted playa, the contrasts highlighted by the duelling sentiments of 'Beautiful' and the, er, touching 'I Miss That Bitch'. For all that, at 20 tracks it's a bit flabby. But with a bit of judiclous pruning and a Doctor's appointment, this could have been stratospheric. Regardless, Snoop is back. Andrew Emery

Snoop: From tha chuuuch to da palace to tha vesssstttt shop Panjabi MC

FABRICLIVE. 07 John Peel Released 2nd December





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How traditional north Indian folk music got cool. Again

In January 2003, 'Mundian To Bach Ke' will be re-released after five years of being the worstkept secret in Asian music. If you've been anywhere near a bhangra or an r&b/garage night over the past year. chances are you know it as 'that Knight Rider tune'. The tumbi twangs into life, the dhol drum bounces, the killer Knight Rider bassline booms and the whole club goes insane.

Genre Round-up

The track, originally released by Panjabi MC in 1998, revolutionised the bhangra scene. Bhangra, once decried as naff by non-Punjabis, suddenly got a new lease of life. While the London media salivated over Talvin Singh, this new Asian influence was busy elsewhere. In Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds, bhangra was being mixed up with rap, garage and jungle as producers took great bhangra session vocalists, mixed them with beats and added bad bwoy Asian

MCs. DJ Sanj, Surinder Rattan and the Panjabi MC are leaders of the pack, and their versions of big rap tunes (like Pharaoh Monch's 'Simon Says') are tearing up the UK's dancefloors. If you want to know more, the records below are the best place to start. . .

Recommended sounds

Panjabi MC Legalised (Nachural)

RDB Danger 2 (Untouchables) **Big Brovaz Versus** Panjabi MC (Bootleg)

DJ Sanj Hip Hop Volume One (Envy)

Surinder Rattan From The Mind EP (Kamlee)

Check out Bobby Friction and Nihal Presents... on Radio 1, Friday nights 3-5am and Panjabi Hit Squad on 1Extra



TALIB KWELI Quality (Rawkus/MCA)

Nos Def's quiet kindred spirit struggles manfully to get liggy

No one can argue that Talib Kweli is anything other than a fantastic, and fantastically thoughtful MC. What he perhaps lacks is that little bit of added charisma that makes someone like sometime collaborator Mos Def a star. Here, a brave effort is made at a kind of 'Black On Both Sides' - rock songs, r&b, west coast styles, jiggy shit, it's all thrown in. And it's all well enough done. But the best moments are when he gets straight-up political ('The Proud') or just aims for an MC track ('Guerilla Monsoon Rap'). Some people are maybe just meant to be underground. And there's nothing wrong with that. Will Ashon





"Tongue-in-cheek playa lyrics and purely sexual beats"



The Originators (Junkyard Music) Tiresomely 'bonkers' Latino

(BIGDADA)

It's hard staying completely mad - just ask NYC's The Beatnuts. Once, rappers Junkyard Ju Ju and Psycho Les phreaked with the best of them, making releases like 1997's 'Stone Crazy' clever chaos personified and genuine milestones in hip hop. Now they just seem tired and bored, plugging on aimlessly with this mixed bag of cool-ish basslines, lame beats and average rhymes. Some semblance of excitement kicks in when they up the sting factor on tracks like 'Routine' and 'Bionic'. But mainly, 'The Originators' whiffs of limited horizons and small-time ambition. Andy Crysell * *

Albums

TLC

TLC3D (Arista) Disappointing return of the sassiest Nineties girl group

Truth be told, the signs weren't good for this record even before the tragic death of TLC member Lisa 'Left Eye' Lopes and sadly this is now borne out by a lacklustre finished product, most of which was apparently finished before the singer's death. True, the single 'Girl Talk' is a grower and songs like 'Damaged' and 'In Your Arms Tonight' could be big radio hits but there's nothing that really scales the group's past heights. Where the trio once broke new ground, the collaborations here with omnipresent super-producers Timbaland, Rodney Jerkins and The Neptunes sound like everyone concerned is going through the motions. Ultimately, the lasting testament to TLC will have to be their former glories - and thankfully, there are many of those to choose from. **Tony Farsides**

* * *



COMBINATION Nhu Golden Era (Stereo Deluxe) cond LP from the slick lan lazz-funker

Another artist from bloody Bergen, the Norwegian town which is home to Royksopp, Telle, Annie, Bjorn Torske and way too many others. Don't they have crispbread factories to work in over there? The dude behind Bobby Hughes, Espen Horne, once studied design and it shows, for while this is palatably jazzual and carefully crafted, it's also a sonic essay in style over content. It's lovely enough to lounge about bars to, and no-one's going to object to the gentle Hammond frenzy of 'MC Arthur's Break'. Hell, we'd gently shake our tailfeathers to some of this. But it's all a bit Xeroxed out, a bit Ninja Tune goes lava lamp crazy with The Gentle People. In short, it's very likeable, but it just ain't saying anything new. Thomas H Green

* * *





PUBLIC ENEMY Revolverlution (Koch/Universal) ebels without a clue PE eturn to the fray

Remember how Ali carried on boxing way past his prime, getting pasted and making you wince every time he stepped into the ring? That's what it feels like listening to the once unassailable Public Enemy on this latest release - echoes of their old moves are still there, but they've got pudgy and are sitting ducks for younger pretenders and critics alike. This is a dreadful rag-bag of crap live versions of old classics, terrible, terrible, nu-metalstyle new material, and anything else they could find that might conceivably be used to fill up an album - even old interview snippets and improving messages from Chuck and Flav ("Stay in school and don't do drugs, kids!"). Admittedly, there's a 24-carat wicked, abstract mix of 'Shut 'Em Down', which makes even this shower of shit worth buying if you're a PE fan. But that just makes 'Revolverlution' all the more poignant - it's younger men who have got the musical moves these days, and Chuck and Flav's vocals are only any use when they're 10 years old. Depressing. Duncan Bell







Like Busta Rhymes before him, Ja Rule seemed an unlikely contender for pop superstardom, but here he is now as one of the world's biggest selling stars. Understandably reluctant to change a winning formula, his latest album is very much business as usual with Ja Rule and his cohorts at Murder Inc mixing the rapper's guttural growl with candy-fresh loops and instantly hooky vocal choruses, as on the current single with Bobby Brown, 'Thug Lovin''. Proving that he hasn't lost his edge, Ja extols the virtues of ecstasy on the tune 'Emerica' (do you see what he's done there?), while during his latest duet with Ashanti, 'Mesmerise', he tells us about how much he enjoys fucking girls with their skirts on, Isn't that nice? There's a glut of potential radio friendly hits here, but could the whole Murder Inc formula be about to face that perennial successrelated problem of over exposure? **Tony Farsides** * * *









PROJECTIONS Between Here And Now (Guidance) LA duo sidestep The Viper

d to The Jazz Rooms Instead

Direct reference points for this particular album are rather difficult to ascertain. The press release baffles with its mention of 'Dre-approved beats', since there are none to be heard, while LA duo Simon James and Danny Hastie have, rather awkwardly for easy reviewing purposes, produced an album that sounds like nothing else on Guidance. But, despite all that, this is rather an arresting LP. 'Between Here And Now' is a real slowburner that, because of its hidden musical subtleties gains more impact the more you listen to it. The hooks take a little time to reveal themselves, but when they do surface, they're the size of quite sizeable submarines. At its best - and we're talking the crisp, cello-driven vibe of 'Luminate' and 'Stillness Meets Me' here - the LP has a cool, casual charm that the more discerning will adore. So while hits may be thin on the ground and it may lack the moody magnificence of Guidance stalwarts like A:XUS, those in the know still nod approvingly to this. **Ralph Moore** * * *



ELEPHANT MAN Higher Level (Greensleeves) Dancehall's biggest undertround star delivers

w album

Green-haired 'Energy God' Elephant Man has been making the biggest waves in dancehall of late, but his latest album contains as much of the genre's badness as its mad skills. The likes of 'Run For Your Life' - which you could envisage being a big crossover hit if it wasn't about being stalked - 'Miss Matty Son', 'Party Like This' all bogle up a storm, sitting Elly's gruff, lisping voice over cyberdelic ragga beats, heavily influenced by hip hop. Best of all, the brilliant 'Badman A Badman' alternates syrupy r&b choruses about shooting people with murderous, ragga-tempoed verses about, er, shooting people. But while he's trying to become dancehall's answer to Busta Rhymes, Elly's left behind the more leftfield musical moves that made his first and still best album 'Comin' 4 You!' so great. That slight lack of variety is then compounded brutally by the fact that there are 23 tracks on this album. That's a bit too elephantine for anyone, surely?

Duncan Bell

Diggin' in the crates ... For slates that we rate

KID LOCO A Grand Love Story (Yellow, 1997)

This sumptuous French dish, the work of one Jean-Yves Beauvallet, was originally released on Yellow five years ago, and the intervening years haven't dulled its flavour. According to the droll sleevenotes, this slice of French chilltronica was 'produced with incomparable taste and perception by the still handsome but real stoned Kid Loco' and you won't find any arguments about Jean-Yves taste, handsomeness or perception here – this LP is the epitome of elegance.

At 60 minutes long, 'A Grand Love Story' lives up to its title, sounding as cinematic and lovelorn as it did back in 1997. Like the missing link between



Air and Lemon Jelly, it melds the glamour of a young Brigitte Bardot to the cool pop sensibility of an on-form Saint Etienne on cuts like 'Love Me Sweet' and the crooning 'She's My Lover'. Sadly, for his follow-up album, the Kid went a bit too loco, heading down an ill-advised ragged rock road. Suppose you can't have it all. . (RM)

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Compilations

The Three Big Ones



V Forever, Baby

(V Recordings)

Nearly a decade's worth of drum & bass from a label that's as essential now as it was back in the day

Most labels put out so many 'best of's that you're never sure if it's the best of this month or last month that you're listening to. But this really is The Best – the best part of a decade in the making; the best part of a 1,000 nights in clubs and studios and on pirate radio; the best that Bryan Gee and Jumpin' Jack Frost's V Recordings has to offer.

There's not another label that can document the drum & bass years more comprehensively than V. This was the label that offered Roni Size's earliest releases – colourful explosions of sound like

'Fashion' and 'Jazz Thing'. Then there are fellow Reprazenters Krust, Die and Suv, the former's 'Jazz Note' providing a beautifully manic send-off to the first CD. Disc two is just as hot, with the caustic assault of Ed Rush & Optical's 'Funktion', Dillinja's TNT-packed 'Grimey' and Marky & XRS' brilliant, chart-bothering 'LK'.

There may be other compilations out there containing more big drum & bass hits than this one. You'll be hard pushed to find one that's awash with more d&b spirit, however. 'V Forever' is V furious, V exhilarating and V good. Andy Crysell



40 ORIGINAL SOUL, JAZZ, FUNK AND DISCO TRACKS Sampled by Röyksopp // Groove Armada // Happy Mondays // Beck Fatboy Silm // Moby // Layo & Bushwocka // UNKLE // DJ Shadow Jay Z // Prince // Oakarfold

Sampled 4

(Virgin)

Now where have you heard that before. . .?

The devil may have the best tunes, but its unlikely that even Satan is as adept at pinching other peoples' tunes as the heroes of club culture. The beauty and tragedy is that many remain blissfully ignorant of the larceny in the tunes they love. How many realised Stardust's 'Music' is basically 'Fate'? That 'Blue Lines' contains more examples of inspired burglary than the career of Raffles the gentleman thief? That is where compilations like 'Sampled 4' come in. UNKLE, LL Cool J and Moby (no, really!) have

all found inspiration from the tunes assembled

here, snipping melodies from the Seventies and Eighties and updating them for a new generation with computer technology. Some of the samples are obvious, but many are not. Hardy trainspotters will already know that Oakenfold's 'Starry Eyed Surprise' tips more than a wink to 'Everybody's Talking' by Nillson, but who knew that Prince nicked the horns off of Banbara's 'Shack Up' for 'Get Off'? Like its predecessors, 'Sampled 4' works great as a collection of inspirational tunes, but you may never be able to listen to some of these peeps in the same way again. . . **Ralph Moore**



* * * *

FABRICLIVE. 07 John Peel



John Peel FabricLive 07

(Fabric)

Radio 1's avuncular man at the cutting edge - and Fabric's most unlikely superstar DJ yet - gives the youngsters a lesson

King Of The Airwaves John Peel doesn't usually DJ in clubs, preferring to chat with his lovely wife Sheila over a delicious glass of wine of an evening. But when Fabric asked him to spin at Fabric, he accepted – and brought the house down.

This, his first ever mix CD and the seventh in the FabricLive series, is an excellent summation of four decades of dedication to great and ground breaking music. It's not a mix to please those more impressed by seamless mixing than passion and musical vitality. But from the opening seconds, when the BBC's coverage of Liverpool's winning goal against Real Madrid screams over Asa-Chang and Junray's mellifluous 'Hana' (one of the few bits of 'proper' mixing here), this is genius.

Peel leaps blithely from MC Det to The Fall and from Smith & Selway through The Datsuns, Sinthetix, and Joy Division to Elementz Of Noise and, finally, The Undertones' glorious 'Teenage Kicks'. But all the tracks on this labour of love sit well together, simply because Peelie's disdain for genre boundaries is matched only by his exemplary taste. A joy, an eye-opener and a very hard album to follow. Victoria Goodwin

>>

Compilations

"Agreeable in small doses, rather like heroin"





>>

What's it all about? Playhouse's second comp, this time of other labels' stuff that 'fits their vibe', or something. What's on it? The tasteful likes of Brooks, Anthony 'Shake' Shakir, Soft Pink Truth, and Playgroup, all providing a Sunday afternoon or Tuesday night selection so smooth, you eventually start to wish an MC would come in and shout "Get raw with the fever on the dancefloor!", followed by five minutes of hardcore.

Any cop then? Very deep, soulful, etc, but highly disappointing in comparison to the first 'FWD' comp. Don't forget, kids: like heroin, 'tastefulness' is very agreeable in small doses, but can cause brain death when used to excess. (DB)



PERFECTO COLLECTION 2 (Perfecto)

What's it all about? The Oakenphant takes time out from filching the American dollar from white college kids and appearing on the covers of previously credible American magazines to bring us a round up of the latest Perfecto slates. What's on it? Lots of records that are redeemable only by taking vast quantities of narcotics. Russian nut-jobs PPK pop up with their tranceski smash 'Reload' which is a good an argument as any for cutting off diplomatic ties with the former Communist state. Hernan Cattaneo provides the lengthy 'Satellites', but things don't take a turn for the better until Deep Dish get their hands on Timo's' 'Help Me'. Any cop then? Oakey's soundtracks, artist albums and American tours have obviously relegated Perfecto to the back burner. Must try harder. (CS) * *



What's it all about? What's it usually about with people who hear voices? They're nuts, innit? Happily the loopiness of this Parisian label takes the form of drastic musical mood changes rather than assaulting passers-by with a croquet mallet. What's on it? Kraftwerkian melancholy (Los Chicros) sits next to feedback-laden cut-ups filled with hair-raising screams (Mr Learn) which in turn cuddles Akufenlike glitch-funk (Electromanager), Gallic hip hop (DSL) and Noel Coward crooning ('So Long, Mr Monore' by Newton). Plus plenty of acoustic French folk balladry, and some industrial metal, of course. **Any cop then?** Bizarre, but fascinatingly filled with promise. If variety is the spice of life, this lot are a vindaloo. Pukka, matel **(THG)**



What's it all about? Another attempt to find a new direction in the -

paradoxically - savagely competitive chill out market. One CD is titled 'Fucked Up And Wasted', the other 'Party After The Party' - you get the picture. Also included in GU's bumper package are a CD-Rom of murky imagery and sleeve notes about sex, jazz and schizophrenia. What's on it? Meat Katie, Sparklehorse, Depeche Mode, Jimi Tenor, The Human League and a host of moochers and lurkers from the underground. It goes filmic, lo-fi, swirly, regal, gently funky, a touch electro - all of these and more, with not an ethereal vocal in earshot. Any cop then? A choice mix-up that's slow but heavy, dark but warm, and, importantly, eclectic without ever getting painfully eclectic. (AC) * * * *



What's it all about? Cosmic jazz-fusion vibes, straight on an Afro-futurist tip. What's on it? Dexter Wansell's 'Theme From The Planets', with its ill-advised sax riff and velour production might be better named 'Theme From Excruciating Late Night Chat Show'. But by the time Donald Byrd's 'Perpetual Love', Herbie Hancock's 'Hidden Shadows' and Sun Ra's 'There Are Other Worlds' have worked their magic on you, your brain will be sufficiently limbered up to commence telepathic communication with the inhabitants of Saturn. Or even to deal with assembling that Ikea 'Knackercunst' TV and video stand. Any cop then? Woah! This shit's heavy, man - but not too heavy. In fact, it's a perfect introduction to the exciting but potentially horribly scary/embarrassing world of Seventies electric jazz. (DB) ****



Diggin' through the box ...For comps with big cocks

DJ LOFTGROOVER Speedcore (Harmless Recordings, 1998)

Hardcore may be well and truly revived these days, with the likes of Scott Brown and the world's least disco-dollyesque gay DJ Sharkey pushing a particularly evil variety, but no mainstream comp has ever boshed as hard as 'Speedcore'. With classics like DJ Skinhead's 'Extreme Terror', The Public Enemy-at warp-speed 'Blows To Th' Nose' by Nasenbluten ('nosebleed') and the horrorcore of 'Fly' by Narcanosis, Loftgroover's classic whirls past in a blur of broken bones, breakbeats, bad mixing and 200bpm kicks, leaving house and trance fans cringing like the little bitches they are.

Of course, music this selfconsciously brutal eventually ascends to levels of high camp sturm und drang that can be misinterpreted by the dim. The fuckwits at the Daily Star had a quick listen to the blitzkrieg beats of 'Speedcore', sent a quivering hack to a gabba club in Holland and concluded that a load of shaven-headed continentals in leather trousers dancing very fast and aggressively could mean only one thing - a far right-wing plot, no less (it's well known that all fascists wear leather kecks, after all.) They duly denounced Loftgroover as a nazi-sympathiser and white supremacist. Which came as news to Lofty, who's black. Doh! (DB)



What's it all about? Like the previous ten (!) instalments, this explores the smooth seams between 4/4 funkiness and those hep cats of horn-honking and percussion fiddling, this time with DJ/producer/don of that sort of thing Phil Asher compiling and mixing. What's on it? A fair selection of far-flung talent, including DJ Spinna, Octave One, Peven Everett, Mondo Grosso and the mighty Blaze, whose superbly frisky 'Breathe' closes the comp with style. Any cop then? This hardly points to a bright new future for dance music, but it's sure to be appreciated by slightly greying 'real' house heads. Good for decorating to, as well, probably. (AC)

Compilations



LAWS OF **MOTION 2 Compiled by Ben** Wilcox (Laws Of Motion)

What's it all about? It's a west London ting, as Ben Wilcox culls a selection of housey broken beat numbers to make the denizens of Ladbroke Grove cream their cords over.

What's on it? Scene leaders Modaji get a generous three out of the ten slots. Jon Cutler provides a deep soul re-rub of their 'Into Something'. 'See The Changes' shines even more thanks to an Anthony Nicholson mix and Japanese funkers Jazztronik lively up 'Hipnotic' some. Elsewhere, B B Boogie and Green Fridge broaden 'Laws Of Motion"s palette.

Any cop then? Despite the limited numbers of acts represented here, this is still a canny introduction to an esoteric scene that's currently simmering just under the boil. (CS)



What's It All About? Rainer Truby's longrunning Glucklich series continues to join the dots between classic samba moments and the work of today's mmmmm, jazzual producers. What's On It? Jorge Ben, Os Ipanemas and Luiz Antonio bat for the old school selection while the youngbloods include Wagon Cookin's 'Lua', Nu Tropic's 'Moonlight', Les Gammas and Muro.

Any cop Then? Rainer Truby couldn't come up with a duff compilation if he tried, and the Glucklich series shows no signs of running out of steam whatsoever. Quality. (CG)



ESKIMO PRESENTS **SERIE NOIRE:** Dark Pop & New Beat

What's it all about? Belgium's Eskimo Sound System rummage through the filthy kecks of electronic avant-dance, to show The Kids that electro-pop wasn't the sole preserve of Depeche Mode. Soft Cell and Juan Atkins.

What's on it? Delicious death-pop, electro and Belgian new beat that stays just the right side of goth. But only just. Highlights include Jump's 'Funkatarium', Grauzone's 'Film2', A Split Second's 'Flesh' and John Carpenter's 'The End', from his classic splatter-thriller film, Assault On Precinct 13.

Any cop then? Do Fischerspooner dress funny? This is just the ticket for impressing both electro obsessives and that goth you secretly fancy. (JR) ***



BALANCE 004 Mixed by Phil K

What's it all about? A fourth jaunt into the world of the mix comp for the underground Oz label, nixed by renowned Melbourne DJ/Producer Phil K. What's on it? Everything covered by Phil's wide and varied taste. CD1 is breaks-inspired, with greats such as Medway and Cusick's fantastic 'Fiscal EP' and the sadly overlooked 'Sealers Cove' by Luke Chable. CD2 delves into a more traditional house arena, with tech madness fused with Latino rhythms, peaking with a superb mix of Sinead O'Connor's acapella of 'Phoenix From The Flame' mixed over not one but two tracks! Any cop then? Easily on par with any of the superb Nu Breed compilations, this is some mighty fine club fodder. (P) ***



What's it all about? San Francisco's most popular house DJ. Farina, delves once again into his slo-mo boombip bag for a downtempo delight.

What's on it? Plenty of sly repeated samples from Nina Simone and old selfimprovement albums pepper the likes of Pete Rock, People Under The Stairs, Trankilou's 'Chicago Babe' Spinna's rerub of Tek 9's 'Seven Dayz' and plenty of other instrumentally-inclined hippity hop. Any cop then? Yes star: Mister Farina is one of the USA's finest spinners, and 'Mushroom Jazz 4' is a fine example of his silky programming skills. (CG) ****



What's it all about? On the eve of their fifth birthday, Disorient release their first-ever compilation. Launched by Gav Smith in 1997, their aim was - and is to release fine tunes by Japanese artists in Europe at a more affordable price. Decrease, damn import prices! What's on it? Kaori's nifty samba shuffle through 'Good Life', the stringladen 'A Espera' by Chieko Kinbara, MAW's 'Moody Mix' of 'Dancing In Outer Space', Mr Hermano's paean to dawn, 'Free As The Morning Sun', and a cool little ditty from Dimitri From Paris called 'Toujours L'Amore.' Aah.

Any cop then? This is the sound of smallbut-cool Saturday night tomfoolery, fuelled by small-but-cool record stores. And Japan, obviously. 'Ichi' means 'Chapter One', so this ain't the last you'll be hearing from this lot. . . (RM) ***



What's it all about? Wednesday's 'new faces' night at Berlin's notorious and iconic techno-hole.

What's on it? Far more po-faced Teuton techno than any sensible person requires, thankfully interspersed with moments of icy electro relief such as the Black Sabbath-riffing 'The Red Fader' by Tollstoi, Baeks' 'Reminiscence' or the extra-abrasive 'Unique Summer Electro 2001' by, er, Tollstoi again.

Any cop then? Tollstoi obviously are their books are quite good too, we hear. Other than that, 'Headquarters' is a ruthlessly efficient hunk of DJ multi-vinyl that becomes tiresomely endless on double CD. (THG) * * *



What's it all about? Compilation daddies Hed Kandi return with the third instalment of their more underground release, which is basically rather similar to their well-packaged chart cloggers, but with less well-known records [No. really? - Ed.] and unmixed.

What's on it? Deep house, soulful garage and Mousse T, all wrapped up in extravagant packaging that will sit well on your shelf and attract attention on your coffee table. Goodies like Kaori's 'Good Life' and Jon Cutler and Sarah Anne Webb's 'Down' go down well, but a lot of disc space is taken up by tawdry filler like Amy Helms' 'Own Way Home'. Any cop then? These comps piss out of record shops primarily down to their excellent design characteristics, but 150 minutes of entirely unmixed deep grooves doesn't necessarily make for a very entertaining evening. (CS) * * *



What's it all about? The recently erratic Luke Slater re-releases another boxful of rarities from his Peacefrog glory days. What's on it? Some celestial tech-house ('The Return') and downtempo melancholia ('You Thought', 'The Parting') but mostly the kind of sleek, pistoning techno ('Searchin'', 'Angel Street') that the man used to do so well. Any cop then? Oh yes. If you were left underwhelmed by the crossover pretensions of Slater's 'Alright On Top' opus for Mute, this contoured selection should remind you what he's really capable of. (EP) * * * *



MISSTRESS BARBARA Techno: MB02 (TrustheDJ.com)

What's it all about? Flying enthusiast and saucily-named techno DJ picks some exemplary choices from her undoubtedly roomy box.

What's on it? Calmer tech-house and full-on bangers are mixed together very nicely indeed, with highlights including Adam Beyer and Henrik B's 'Perfect Match', Luke Slater's electro-influenced 'Stars And Heroes' and 'Bangbeater', whose title says it all, from Carl Cox. Any cop then? Techno isn't a complicated business. It thumps; you dance; job done. But some people can make it sound like the most fluid. energetic music in the world, and some can't. Misstress Barbara most definitely can. (TW) ***



What's it all about? South Americanstyle grooves from ultra-chic Paris hangout The Latina Café. One disc for 'El Restaurante', another for 'El Club'. Can anyone provide a translation? What's on it? Universal Principles' 'Latin Stroll', Bobby Hughes Combination's 'Kerma Elastica', Africanism's 'Tourment d'Amour', DJ Gregory's 'Damelo' - it's all terribly respectable stuff, and would probably bite its thumb at you if you dared ask for a sip of its Evian. Any cop then? Sort of. The thing is. flamenco chants, Spanish guitars and downtempo house don't translate too well to a rain-sodden afternoon in Hackney. Of course, if the label would like to send us to Rio for a reappraisal...(JR) * * *



What's it all about? Germany's foremost funkified headz' label Infracom celebrates ten years of leftfield existence by getting back catalogue highlights reinterpreted by some major jazzola playas, including Nathan Haines and Erik Truffaz. What's on it? Hacienda's 'Quiet Nights', Taxi's 'People Come Running', DJ Matt's 'The Way I Swing' and ten others get mashed through the jazz blender and come out all summery and acoustic-y. Nice. Any cop then? It most certainly is if you're into the Terry Callier, American Gypsy, Jon Lucien school of souljazz and, if you're not, then this would be a great place to start. Superb stuff. (CG) ****

>>

e-Issues **RE-RELEASED CLASSICS AND GREATEST HITS**



New Order

NEW ORDER Retro

(London) ds' finest moments

This latest attempt by London to squeeze every last drop of dosh from New Order's back catalogue (sorry, 'bring the music of this much-loved British institution to a new audience') is divided into four CDs: 'Live', 'Club' (remixes), 'Pop' (the hits) and 'Fan' (mostly their earlier work). So, in the same spirit, this review is divided in two - that's metatexturalism, readers!

1) Fan: Where are '586', 'Age Of Consent', 'Vanishing Point' and the superior versions of 'Temptation', 'True Faith' and 'Perfect Kiss' found on Factory's 'Substance' compilation? What about the Peel Sessions

With acid house legend and

Choosing New Order's best remixes - a daunting task?

"Well, my first thought was 'why do I have to do the 'remix' side?' I mean, the originals are so seminal. I wanted to do the 'Pop' or 'Fan' disc! I asked the band if they had any favourite remixes and they said yes they did, but they couldn't remember any of them." Which are your favourites?

"There's lots of 'em that I really love - the mixes by Shep Pettibone, Steve Hurley. . . Mike Pickering. . . I did a bit of a 'Fan' thing with it meself, trying to get rarities - like

versions of 'Truth' and 'Dreams Never End'? Where - in the name of Christ's fat fucking cock - is 'Thieves Like Us'? Mother! And what's the point of the 'Live' and 'Club' selections, when the versions on them are inferior to the originals? Except Shep Pettibone's Ecstatic version of 'Bizarre Love Triangle', obviously. 2) Critic: Oh, alright. . . This contains some of the greatest songs ever written by a brilliant group, who were arguably the most fundamental influence on dance music and the best British singles band of the Eighties. The 'Pop' CD is full of the most joyous sounds this side of Tony Blair's death rattle, while the sad, winter beauty of the 'Fan' disc had this not-notably sentimental hack in tears. Twice, Let's be generous and say that the other two discs are 'a nice bonus', shall we? **Duncan Bell**

'Club' compiler Mike Pickering

* *

the 'Paradise' mix by Robert Racic of Severed Heads, which is ridiculously hard to

get hold of, so it's irresistible to New Order fans." This is the umpteenth New Order 'Best Of. . .'

"Yeah - money grabbing bastards! Haven't they got anything better to do? Write a new album! No, the way I look at it is, it's great to have them back after all the splits and everything. Also there's a whole new generation of kids who don't know the tunes - and let's face it.

23 SKIDOO The Gospel Comes **To New Guinea**

Just Like Everybody Part Two (both Ronin)

Two further re-issues from the martial artsobsessed, Eightles punk-funkers

Not as essential for the connoisseur as last year's 'Seven Songs' and 'Urban Gamelan', 'The Gospel. . .' is nonetheless probably the best entry point for newcomers to the metal banging, punk-funking world of 23 Skidoo. The likes of 'The Gospel' and 'Coup' (a more dancefloor-friendly remix of their classic 'Fuck You GI', and an obvious influence on The Chems' 'Block Rockin' Beats') use funk as a weapon, combining bludgeoning bass with rapier-like guitar, brass and percussion stabs and slashes, and production techniques cadged from the laboratories of King Tubby and Lee Scratch Perry. The later 'Just Like Everybody. . .' replaces the sound of metal being banged with the sound of barrels being scraped, however, and is best avoided, except by completists. Kurt Lesbian

★ ★ ★ 🔺 and ★ 🛧



Cornish nut-jobs release 'legendary' acid house video oundtrack on CD and vinyl for the first time ever

STAKKER

Eurotechno

(Rephlex)

As well as putting out lots of things that sound a bit like label boss Aphex Twin and the odd side or two of Slovakian free improv, Rephlex also like to keep the acid house flame burning with essential re-releases like 808 State's debut 'Newbuild' and now this from Brian Dougan of FSOL. Originally the soundtrack to a video of fractals and rotating, pointy, computer-generated polygons (we dare say - we've not actually seen it), 'Eurotechno' is pure acid house, with basslines derived from techno, Belgian new beat and EBM and boom-tish 909 kicks 'n' hats, with those lovely, squiggly, squiffy TB303 lines bubbling through like air through a bong, then breaking the surface to cause havoc. It's only 25 minutes long (shorter than the latest FSOL single, for starters) and none of it really goes anywhere, but this is worth your cash, because it sounds like nothing you've heard, and yet is also as familiar as an old lover. Acid house will never die - as someone daft once said. Nicholas McConor * * * *

And the rest



MANIC STREET PREACHERS Forever Delayed: The Greatest Hits

near Heavenly socialism. (RM) * * *



Best Of 1990-2000 (Island)



THE STONE ROSES The Very Best Of (Silvertone)

fans of iconic album imagery. (RM) * * * *



IAN BROWN **Remixes Of The** Spheres (Polydor)

the more memorable moments. (RM)

NIRVANA Nirvana (Geffen)



MUZIK 68

Laigning in for in 2002



ANOTHERLATENIGHT Zero 7

AnotherLateNight Tommy Guerrero

AnotherLateNight Groove Armada

AnotherLateNight

NPA-

WHOA



AnotherLateNight

2

INE CONER VERSION

OUT JAN

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the best of 2002

WHITE

JOHN CREAMER &

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SIGNUM

disc two

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SIGNUM

WHAT YA GOT 4 ME?

3 for £10 - available from all independent record stores

BEDROCK BEDROCK EMERALD

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DEFINITION OF

HOUSE

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BXR CRW feat. VERONKA PRECIOUS LIFE



M RECORDS M SO FLY



BEDROCK EVOLUTION feat. JAYNE HANNA WALKING ON FIRE

L'i Stealth Year Honolyne, Templation

STEALTH VIBE RESIDENTS feat. DRAGONFLY TEMPTATION

Hemstock & Jennings featuring John '00' Fleming Genetica EP

NEBULA HEMSTOCK & JENNINGS feat. JOHN '00' FLEMING GENETICA EP

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The Big Singles



EMINEM Lose Yourself

(Interscope)

Fix My Sink

(Credence)

Oscar-contender, Mariah pariah and general allconquering trickster Eminem leaves us another singable calling card that should do his 'world's biggest artist' credentials no end of good. Grabbed from the already huge soundtrack of his US box office-shattering 8 Mile

Boompty-boomp? It's all the

rage down the disco. This is the kind of music that's recently

been making floors shudder under

Bugged Out! to Basics, Fashioned by

young apprentice, 'Fix My Sink' can

the weight of its 4/4 filth from

the elder master Sneak and his

film, this is sure to head straight for the Number One spot and take up residence there for. . . oooh, a week at least. * * *

Chart prediction: 1 Because he's bigger than Robbie Williams and Westlife put together

teach us all a thing or two about

inside a nitrous oxide balloon.

Chart prediction: 35

where house is heading. It's bouncy

house music with its face shoved up

Because it's just a bit too underground to

cross over into the mainstream pop market

DJ SNEAK FEATURING BEAR WHO?



SYNTAX Prav

(Illustrious)

Prog's dead, eh? No, that's tribal prog's funeral we just left. This is 'proper' (excuse us) progressive, bringing a nostalgic tear to our eye as we (try to) remember lost mid-Nineties weekends at Renaissance. This one rumbles, thumps, and then wallops us with vocals, just like they used to do. It's like bongos never happened. * * *

Chart prediction: big at Bedrock Not American power trance, thankfully, so it won't tempt Lasgo fans much



New Jersey dirtbags Who Da Funk? grab Terra Deva's have-larvnx-will-travel talents and slam them onto more of their shiny disco beats. Overlooked first time round, 'Sting Me Red' now gets to coast in the wake of the Top 15 smash that was 'Shiny Disco Balls' and carry on its punk/electro assault. Sexy, feisty and not for messing with.

* * Chart prediction: 20

Because it's big, ballsy and underpinned by a shuddering Moroder b-line



Northern wag Mr Scruff drops another cutie from his 'Trouser Jazz' album this time it's the neo-disco squelch of 'Sweetsmoke'. Upbeat but not really ground breaking, we prefer the hook-up with Quantic on the flip. The sort of tune they'd play on AI's jukebox in Happy Days, if it was still being made. * *

Chart prediction: 75 Because it's not quite as tasty as 'Fish'



A brace of little sparklers from duo of the moment Metro Area's twelves and album, coupled with a saucy bit of nimble NYC bass from the equally on-form DFA. Desperately hip, dreadfully funky and completely the right name to drop in circles of cool. But will it be a hit? Er, no. Unfortunately. ****

Chart prediction: In your dreams ... But give it a year and their nu-disco beats will be all over Britney. We hope. . .

Hip Hit Ju Sneak feat. Bear Who? ix My Sink at the my series of 2" and C- 2-



Rare Shit



SPEEKA Retix/Semi-Con (Speeka 7s)

Two tracks which really do absolutely bugger all, but do it with style. Cut onto limited edition (500 copies only) seven-inch vinyl (the usual home of real downtempo gems), this double-header from Rob Mac and Matt Smooth will not only chill you

out, but lay you down, tuck you in and bring you a nice cup of tea too. Blissful beats that will still sound fresh come the first summer sunset of Ibiza 2003.

* * * * Chart prediction: Obviously not, but it should be worth a few bob in the future



MOBO and Mercury Awards multi-winner Miss Dynamitee-hee unleashes another bomb from her urban arsenal. A highlight from 'A Little Deeper', this is a mid-paced 'ditch the scumbag' song of sisterhood. The charts, at which this r&b scud is aimed, don't stand a chance. But oh, how we long for some new UKG material from the long-foreheaded superstar. * * *

Chart prediction: 5

ANE

Because post-Mercury Music Prize, The Sun readers love her too



DEATH IN VEGAS Scorpio Rising (Concrete)

Grimmer than a post-Chrismas detox, Death In Vegas have nabbed the heroininspired end of dance and shambled with it. This whining brute, the title track from their recent, sinister LP, is voiced by famous dance vocalist Liam Gallagher. Heard of him? It's only going to fill floors at goth funerals, but a bracingly miserable five minutes nonetheless. * *

Chart prediction: 18 Because the power of Oasis is still strong in this one. Oh yes



The unholy alliance of Wyclef Jean and Welsh bro' Tom Jones spawns yet another shit hop, geriatric hip-thrusting 'dance' travesty. This time, Wyclef crash lands some 'raps' on to 'What's New Pussycat?'. It also features this year's worst rhyming couplet in the balls-achingly awful "Make sure you wear your mitten/Or pay child support for your kitten".

Chart prediction: Top 50 Because TJ 'doing' urban is the work of Satan. Get back to basics, boyo!

71 MUZIK



House

TRAINSPOTTING



REVIEWS BY TERRY FARLEY AND KEVIN McKAY

Terry tells us that Faith return on Thursday 26th December at Crash. There, he'll be joined by Stuart Patterson, David Duriez and Daniel Wang. Kevin, meanwhile, says the current record to look out for on his Glasgow Underground label is by the Freakers Orchestra. "It's disco thrills!" he says in a strictly unbiased fashion. . .

VITAL RELEASE

SANDY RIVERA Changes (Ben Watt Lazy Dog Remix) (Defected)

If there is any justice in this world, this superb song by Sandy Rivera should conquer the charts with ease. Sandy, one of house music's greatest songwriters, has created yet another spine-tingling dancefloor wonder and Defected have, in Ben Watt, commissioned a producer who can work magic with this kind of vocal. The original mix is a damn fine, charming record but is unlikely to be felt outside deep house circles (which in this day and

age amounts to little

RJ PROJECT

What Colour Is Love (Hooj) Red Jerry gets back to basics with this cool, tripped-out cover of Terry Callier's 'What Colour Is Love'. Featuring the vocals of Randolph Matthews, my favourite mix is the 'Freddy And Herman' mix which takes the original and turns it into a breaksy late night cut perfect for winding down or warming up. (KM) ****

DJ SNEAK Fix My Sink (Credence)

The big fella from Chicago is back! The beats are as fresh and innovative as ever and Sneak's hypnotic use of the samples is class - very much in that fucked up vein that the Freaks took close to their hearts for the ridiculously funky 'Washing Machine'. A musthave for the trackheads and Sneakists alike. (TF)

IOHNNY

The Truth...

STATE OF THE ARTIST

DANGEROUS

The Foremost Poet speaks



more than the average attendance at a Queen Of The South match). Watt's mix, on the other hand, is jam-packed with the kind of sassy chords and spanking hooks that makes both househeads and housewives alike want to shake their booties. A monster. (KM) * * * * *

MATTSKI **Music from the Streets** (Pure Recordings)

Head straight to 'I Can't Take It' for Mattski's version of DJ Q/Moodyman's low-tech style of bump and grind. Driving, feetpropelling bass, vocals with heavy effects and guitars are all wrapped up in a top rocking beat. Big system stuff. (KM) ***

DJ ALI FEATURING **TIM FULLER** You Don't Know (Village Records)

The A-side is a real garage tune for the purists that will get a few heads nodding and beards stroked. The deep dub on the flip features some great strings, making the track saw. Guaranteed to slay any decent sound system just before sunrise. (TF) ****

VARIOUS ARTISTS **A Knight With Anne** (white label)

Cool for the Soul Heaven crew, this is a pumped-up version of Ms Nesby from the States. Flip it though, for the best re-edit since the Pound Boys and Blaze reworked Angie Stone: Gladys Knight with the anthemic 'Bourgie Bourgie'. The goddess that is Gladys rides the groove with ease as her voice melts your mind. Further blurring the lines between house, garage and soul, this will be big for ages. (TF) ****

FRANCOIS K **FEATURING BARBARA** MENDES

Awakening (Needs Remixes) (Wave, US)

The Needs label deliver arguably their finest moment to date, turning the Brazilian jazz original into a rocking calypso groove that delivers the necessary dancefloor energy while keeping the spirit of the music intact. Classic stuff. (KM) ****

OSCAR G & **RALPH FALCON** Dark Beat (Twisted)

The beats and bassline are both quality Murk but the slightly strange vocals really sell this record, making it much more than just another big room tune. Murk at their best. (TF) ****

NICOLE WILLIS Heed The Sign (Gus Gus

Remix) (Puu/Sahko, Finland) This slow-burning classic is tucked away on the B-side of Willis' latest single 'Siesta'. Producer Jimi Tenor provides an esoteric mix of 303 bass and sweeping strings, then Gus Gus add a beautifully lazy collage of disco guitars and lazy bass. Not peak time material but a long-lasting addition to anyone's box. (KM) ****

YOUR NEW SINGLE IS CALLED

OPEN SEASON'. IS THE TITLE

"The idea of 'Open Season' is

holographic party. Characters are

a starship."

added and deleted as though

Holodeck programme on

we're all in this mad

based on a poem about a

AIMED AT ANYONE IN

PARTICULAR?

TROUBLEMAKERS **Get Misunderstood**

(Remixes) (PIAS) This cut originally appeared on Guidance as part of the 'Doubts and Convictions' LP. Now signed to PIAS, the French funkateers release this single complete with mixes from Hulkonnen, Quantic and LB Thomas. All the mixes are of a standard but it's the 'Zyntherius' mix that is of particular note as Hulkonnen takes the original and warps it into a cool house groove. Typically bright. (KM) ****

MAW ELECTRONIC Tranz/Body (MAW)

This is much more like the Masters At Work we love! Louie's recent soulful output is wonderful for those lazy days but when it comes to 3am, we need more of this. 'Body' is very funky and tribal while 'Tanz' is an electro-flavoured slice of dirty house music. A welcome return to harder things. (TF) ****

KEVIN'S FIVE FOR 2002

1 SCOPER & BUBBA I'M SATISFIED 2 RHYTHM DR & CASSIOWARE SHE **3 RHYTHM PLATE LEAN (ORIGINAL** MIX) (MANTIS) 4 FREDERIC GALLIANO ALLA CASSI MAGNI (DUB) (FCOMM, FRANCE) 5 IZ & DIZ MOUTH (PEPE BRADDOCK

TODD SINES & NATACHA LABELLE Come Closer/I Can't/Skin (Planet E)

This is a wonderful slice of esoteric jazz-flavoured techno from one of the most revered labels within our genre. 'Come Closer' features the fragile, yet haunting vocal of Natacha Labelle which is underpinned by an incredibly subtle, almost Basic Channel-style groove. All in, 'Come Closer' is proper timeless house music that matches machine and soul in a way that is simple to do, but so very hard to get this right. On the flip side, Sines offers up 'Skin', another one of those perfectly hybridised house/techno tracks that just has 'Lost' written all over it. You need this shit. (TF)

* * *

ARE YOU SURPRISED HOW ENDURING 'MOONRAKER' IS?

"Not at all - 'Moonraker' is a good example of just how the underground can preserve some of the greatest songs of our time. WHAT WAS IT LIKE WORKING **ALONGSIDE GEORGE BENSON** AND LAURYN HILL?

"Watching George play in the studio was by far one of the

TERRY FARLEY'S FIVE FOR 2002

1 ANGLE STONE WISH I DIDN'T MISS

2 CAJMERE & WALTER PHILLIPS 3 FOREMOST POETS OPEN SEASON UR TRANSITIONS (UR) 5 DJ GREGORY TROPICAL SOUNDCLASH (FAYA COMBO)

SOLID GROOVE

Soul Provided (white label) Previously known for their tough, bassnotic cuts, this new Solid Groove outing is a very different proposition. Already being supported by the likes of Phil Asher and Patrick Forge, it's a leftfield workout combining funky guitar licks with deep bass tones and beats to create one of the freshest house records around. (KM) ****

CASSELLE & CHRISTOPHER Midnight Sun (John Ciafone Mixes) (Fuju)

Not the kind of record for every floor but still well worth checking. Ciafone takes the original and works it into an intelligent, futuristic and challenging killer. More dark mumbling than Alex Ferguson after a home defeat and funkier than bag full of Afro wigs. Sort of. (KM) ****

AFFICIONADOS **Bad Bitch**

(Missdemeanours) The pairing of the lovely Lottie and the not so lovely Mutiny is an obvious one - so obvious, you wonder why it hasn't happened before. Here, they trawl those classic Spectrum moments for a fab piece of dirty, retro house. Not sure how legal it is, so get a copy now before they vanish. (TF) ****

VICTOR DAVIES Runaway Train (remix) (JCR, Germany)

The Wahoo team of Dixon and George Levin certainly don't disappoint. Tight, skippy beats underpin an easy, organic backing that is perfect for Davies' soft, dulcet tones. File under cool. (KM) ***

greatest experiences of my career. He is also one great pool player! On the other hand, Lauryn's music, at the present time, is serving an internal purpose. The so-called 'Lauryn Hill' the world is familiar with is only the caterpillar version of the butterfly. Welcome to the world of poetry, people."

'Open Season' is out now on Junior


Techno TRAINSPOTTING



REVIEWS BY DAVE MOTHERSOLE & JONAS STONE

Aside from a fine DJ set at Fabric this month, Dave Mothersole has been contending with the fact that his hard drive has collapsed and he had to write his reviews with a pen - how untechno can you get? Jonas Stone, meanwhile, informs us that he will have had the ice-cream surgically removed from his photo by the time you read this column next month. .

VITAL RELEASE

AGORIA La Onzieme Marche (Pias)

When this record was debuted during Laurent Garnier's recent appearance at Fabric, it instantly became the tune of the night. The work of one Sebastion Devaud, this is another example of the sort of Parismeets-Detroit groove that the French have long excelled at only much, much bigger. All intense layers of analogue electronics claustrophobically held back and then spat out through a series of perfectly timed builds and drops, 'Le Onzieme Marche' (try

D BALL

Slack (Ourtime)

bassline, Dave Ball hits all the

combined with subtle use of

dance music at its best. (JS)

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Untitled (Affected Music)

A second twelve of off-key deep

house from this new label. Four

different artists provide a track

not play every track in one set.

they are useful, especially as

attention grabbing fillers. File

somewhere between Mosaic,

Shatrax and Eddie Richards.

Recommended. (DM)

apiece and even though you might



requesting that after six pints) is very high impact stuff. Meanwhile, over on the flip, Devaud switches into even deeper mode for the more contemplative but equally strong, string-led piece 'Anni Mari'. Big room, big time, big tune. Brilliant. (DM)

GAV THE FREEO & **GRANT DELL** With a beautiful mid-tempo groove,

Aftereffect (Freegshow) shimmering keys and a sumptuous Clubland might be in recession, but that doesn't seem to stop new right notes here. Influences from labels cropping up thick and fast. Detroit to Cologne and beyond are This one teams Tribulation's Grant Dell with newcomer Gav The Freed melody to make a truly emotional for some deep, techy gear. It won't dancefloor experience. Nocturnal set the world alight, but the lead track in particular does sound pretty good in the mix. (DM) ***

TWINE Scarred (Remixes) (Surface)

Claude Young Jr is back - with added firepower from Regis, Ian J Richardson and The 65 D Mavericks - for some dark, multilayered sonic abstraction and dirty dancefloor business. Percussive, explosive and sinister as hell, this should leave few standing at the end. Brutal. (JS) * * *

PAUL MAC

Cards On The Table (Primate) Paul's been around for a long time now, but with techno suddenly back in fashion, this Latin-tinged stomper could well become his breakthrough record. It's loud, brash and catchy, and the even more accessible, but equally muscular Ben Sims mix should guarantee lots of A-list support. From The Orbit to Slinky, this is the sound of now. (DM) ****

RADIOACTIVE MAN Wreked (Remixes) (Rotters **Golf Club**)

The last RGC twelve was a big hit with the two-step crowd and this one looks like it will be too. Built around a dark, twisted jump-up b-line, some old school rim shots and a skippy hihat pattern, it's enough to strike fear into the heart of even the hardiest suburban bad boy. Cold. (DM) ****

HAROLD HEATH Time To Slide (Oblong)

Tired of soundalike tech-house tracks that feature samey vocal snippets endlessly repeated every four bars? So am I, which is why this stands out. Newcomer Harold Heath uses an r&b vocal, and actually manages to fit in a full sentence and make it work perfectly with the groove. Good work. (DM) ****

GREGORY SHIFT Exit And Entrance 2 (Persona, USA)

Stewart Walker's excellent Persona has become a bit of a cult label for those searching for electronic music that's club friendly but left of centre. Mixing a range of influences from contemporary click house to old school techno this is a great EP with four very different but equally strong tracks. (DM) ****

PERCY X On A Day (Soma)

4

Tony Scott has been on one helluva roll this year. Here, the feisty Scotsman gets all Detroit-melodicstringy on our arses with a disco b-line for backup and a bit of modern day oomph. So good, it's like 'Flashdance with some MC Hammer shit thrown in' or something. (JS) ****

WINK Superfreak (Remixes) (Ovum, USA)

We weren't that keen on this first time round, but these new versions are another matter entirely. Both mixes feature the wonky analogue hook that made the original so popular, with Dean Coleman twisting them around his big, bassy tribal rhythms before the ever reliable Mr G steps up and works them into his ruff and ready grooves. (DM) ****

JONAS' FIVE FOR 2002

1 UR TRANSITION/INSPIRATION (UR) 2 AKUFEN DECK THE HOUSE (HERBERT MIX) (FORCE INC) 3 MICHAEL MAYER LOVE IS STRONGER THAN PRIDE (KOMPAKT) 4 JAMES RUSKIN CONSPIRACY 5 RENATO COHEN PONTAPE (IN TEC)

AUBREY

Solid Groove 29 (Solid Groove) Another great record from one of techno's real unsung heroes. As with most of his releases, this is not the sort of thing that most of you will pick out while skimming through a huge pile in a record store. But listen to it properly and its magic slowly works on you. Think Carl Craig circa 'Landcruising' with an added sense off-kilter darkness. (DM) ***

MARCO NASTIC Devil In Pants (Recycled Loops)

After Umek and Valentino Kanzayani, the next breakthrough DJ from the former Yugoslavia is Serbia's Marko Nastic. Inevitably perhaps, the influence of his better known peers is evident, but that's of little concern, because what you

DAVE'S FIVE FOR 2002

1 COMMUNITY RECORDINGS MOUNTAIN HEIGHTS (TOTEM, CANADA) 2 ORION MUZIK ORION DUB SERIES VOLUME 3 (FROZEN, ITALY) 3 ANAGRAM A NEW DAWN BREAKS 4 JEFF BENNETT EPISODE 08 E, GERMANY 5 SONIC INSOMNIAC SPACE DUB (NEW RELIGION)

notice most about the three tracks here is the huge amount of energy and enthusiasm they contain. I've said it before and I'll say it again when it comes to Euro-techno, the Balkans do it better! (DM) ****

DEL DINGO

Samiscience/Dusseldorf (F Communications, France) Another track that should be tremendously rewarding to those with a bit of patience. For best results, head straight for the long, hypnotically syncopated grooves and deep, trippy swirls of atonal sound on 'Dusseldorf'. Experimental techno doesn't come much better than this. (DM) ****

SLADE STILES **Ding Bling (Casa Del** Soul, USA)

Denver's Casa Del Soul keep the quality control high with a rather large, percussive tech-house groove by someone called Nathan Slade Chapman. Over on the flip, Haris delivers a remix in a similar style to his recent collaboration with Renato Lopez. Not ground breaking perhaps, but it works a treat. (DM) ****

DIRTY HOSPITAL The Rottenrow EP (Control Tower)

There have been guite a few contenders in the '02, but this has crept in at the close of play and waltzed off with the trophy for best electro record of the year. Melodic, funky and dirtier than a convent's laundry basket, this EP from Rob Otnik and Ghettohead (aka two Glaswegians known as Steven and John) is pure synthetic funk magic. Get hospitalised. (JS) ****

ART OF E PLATTER ERIE NOIR

imo Recordings have just released an album celebrating the history of Belgium new beat, Label manager Dirk de Ruyck explains himself



"We did this compilation because I was 16 years old in the days of new beat - and that's where my obsession with electronic music started. "We used to go to the Bocachio

Club in Ghent and the DJs would be playing 45rpm records at 33+8. It was funny because everyone was talking about something happening, but there

were only about 150 people there who really knew what was going on, even though the place was packed. It had a big influence though - people like techno pioneers Kevin Saunderson and Derrick May were big new beat fans. It was something that was very specific to Belgium and now that we've had all those Eighties compilations, we wanted to show

what the Eighties meant to us. "The whole new beat thing was about something different songs rather than just tracks. For a long time now, people have just been playing beats and I think people are once again ready for something different." (DM)

'Serie Noir' is out on December **16th on Eskimo Recordings**

Progressive TRAINSPOTTING

REVIEWS BY PEZZ

3 Beat's Pezz is upbeat about the future of dance music and over-the-counter culture. Sales haven't altered dramatically in his special shop, he says, they're just spread across a greater range of titles these days. Phew!

VITAL RELEASE

JUNKIE XL **Beauty Never Fades** (Roadrunner)

Tom Holkenborg has an enviable pedigree. Whether he's helping Elvis The Pelvis to a 30th UK Number One, being nominated for Muzik Awards or co-producing Sasha's 'Air Drawn Dagger', every little thing he does is magic. Now, here he is with his first solo project for a while and boy, this thing moves! A prowling, tribal prog monster, this rocks from the outset, but the best bit comes in later, when

Saffron - the punkish lyricist and vocalist from



N-Joi and Republica - pops up with an amazing vocal that defies all the rules of timing, dropping in and out in all the 'wrong' places. Still, it works incredibly well. This 10-minute 'Beauty' certainly lives up to its name.

Loudeast hails from Valencia in Spain and it subtly shows in the traditional Balearic vibe of his

LOUDEAST

deep, chilled melodic grooves. Gpal provide two remixes that are mesmerising and by far the best we have heard from him yet. * * * *

Sonido Profundo (Shinichi)

CASS

Mind Rewind (Sabotage) Post-Fire, Cass is back with a new venture, Sabotage, and its first release is a corker. 'Mind Rewind' is a stunning release that evolves from the tiniest, percussive groove to an awesome finale, taking in loads of fantastic fresh ideas along the way. * * * *

POLE FOLDER & CP Dust (Bedrock)

The 'Club Mix' here is dark, minimal, tribal house oozing with eerie washes, with a Gaelic angel singing softly through the break - awesome! The Fretwell mix on the B-side is a rather great breaks version with more power and edge. House and 'Northern Exposure'-style nu-skool breaks mixes make up the rest of this fantastically original package. * * * *

D FUSE **FEATURING JES Everything With You** (white label)

Originally due for release on the now defunct US V2, this incredible gem is currently homeless. Its simple, well-finished drums and percussion and stunning, perfectly pitched lyrics should hopefully see it picked up soon. ****

MAIN ELEMENT **Take Me Down Remixes** (Silver Planet)

The original was great, the remixes are even better! Lemon8 knocks out an incredible mix of big synths big vocals - a guaranteed Sasha anthem and therefore a guaranteed progressive smash hit! Tek deliver. yep, a techier, deeper mix on the flip. $\star \star \star \star$

QUIVVER Twist & Shout (Remix) (white label)

One of the classic progressive tunes of all time; the record that launched Quivver into the hall of fame, is back, new and improved for 2003. Quivver himself has done the remixes, bringing the sound bang up to

PEZZ'S TEN FOR 2002

SUUSA

1 JOSH GABRIEL WAVE 3 (CHARLIE

AUSTRALIA

- MAY MIX) (NEBULA) 2 SPOOKY BELONG (DEVIANT) 3 EVOLUTION WALKING ON FIRE (BEDROCK)
- 4 ELEMENTS FIRE (KISMET) **5 SLACKER** LOOKY THING (JUKEBOX
- **6 INTERFLOW STORYREEL**
- DJ NUKEM MUSIC PLAY (CYBER)
- 8 BROTHERS OF DUB AFTER TIME
- GRAFFIK A LESSER MAN (RIP) 10 LOVESKY COME BACK TO ME (SUNBURN)

date, but keeping the vibe and the melodic beauty of the original. There are vocal and dub versions for those of you lucky enough to get you mitts on one of the 1,000 copies to be pressed! ****

ASHTRAX

Digital Reason (Deviant) Aaargh! Another double pack with too many good mixes! The original is a melodic breaks number, Ogenki Clinic strip out the melodies for a full-on 4/4 beast of a mix, Ashtrax adds a house mix and finally, the Filterheadz add their own incredible thang to the package. ****

Trance

TRAINSPOTTING



REVIEWS BY LEE FOSTER

This month, Lee has been mercilessly pursuing UK promoters for DJ bookings. Graham Gold, no less, has booked him to spin at Peach early next year, and several other major clubs are also showing serious interest. That's what Lee says, anyway.

VITAL RELEASE

GTR Mistral (Five AM)

Southampton's Gareth Emery first made ears prick up with his remix of The Shrink's 'Nervous Breakdown'. Now well into his stride, he smoothly follows up on Five AM's brain burning 'Flood Control' with a sizzling trancer that's set to become an anthem on wordof-mouth alone. Saucy, sensual female vocals pervade the mix, adding a rich exotic atmosphere. Tight production, carefully

> structured arrangement and an emotive melody



add a highly polished, acoustic edge to the track, making this a must for big sound systems. The label spin proclaims this as 'futuristic and innovative'. Are they right? They're not wrong. * * * * *

NEO & FARINA

Mmmm, there's nothing like a really big, fat remix. A furtive phone call tipped us off that this was one to chase, and a plea to one of the producers, Farina, brought the goods into our sweaty hands. It's all you could hope for - the original is brought bang up to date. A stormer. ****

THE DISCO BROTHERS First Contact (Nukleuz)

Having breached the final frontier of music, the only mission left for the Disco Brothers was a 'First Contact'. Stand by to be beamed up by this pounding slice of futuristic, genremelting technotrance. Ignore your parents; enjoy the 'Deep And Dark' mix, which is indeed deep and dark in a lovely, evil 'stab that bloke in the eyes' kind of way. ****

FIREWALL

Touched (Afterglow) Lange, purveyor of the finest quality trance, makes his debut as Firewall, and leaves quite an impact on German label Afterglow with probably his best production to date. a Teutonic edge with a pulsating remix. Locate some tracks on this label - you won't be disappointed. ****

PURE Broken Wings (Captivating Sounds)

Hopefully, no birds of any kind were injured in the production of this track, but it should certainly ruffle a few dancefloor feathers. The barrage of quality sonics on 'Broken Wings' will leave you reeling. ****

DJ SHOG The Second Dimension (Logport)

Shog's last track 'This Is My Sound' received huge support, and the follow-up is predictably excellent. Johan Gielen provides a remix, making this a 12-inch to fight your friend's rabid pitbull for! ****

DRIFTWOOD Freeloader (Positiva)

Ahh, the glamour and intrigue of a new artist or group; by what shiny new name will we know this combination of musical minds? Oh. But that's not all: Plastic Angel adds they are called Driftwood. How

LEE'S TEN FOR 2002

1 TELESCOPE MELODY (WHITE) 2 KAI TRACID TRANCE & ACID

......

- 3 MARC DAWN EXPANDER (LOGPORT) 4 DJ HINX EL VIENDO (MARTIN
- EYERER REMIX) (ABOVETHESKY.COM) 5 ALEX BARTLETT AMNESIA (DRIZZLY)
- 6 RAPID EYE CIRCA FOREVER (ATCR) 7 NU-NRG DREAMLAND (VANDIT) 8 IL FUTURO IL FUTURO (TUNE INN)
- 9 VOI FEATURING DZENITA FREE
- 10 SVENSON & GIELEN WE KNOW WHAT YOU DID (ID&T)

lovely! This is trance with a trace of funk, and while the 'Vocal Mix' will have many punters frowning, the 'Driftwood' remix is thankfully vocal free. No flotsam here. . . ****

DIVINE INSPIRATION The Way (Data)

This is just the sort of thing that I would like to find in my stocking on Christmas morning, along with loads of designer threads, a jet ski and a holiday to Canada. With seven mixes on offer, it's a bit like getting several Yuletides boshed together -Svenson & Gielen, Green Martian, N-Trance and Friday Night Posse are just some of the stars on 45. ****

Binary Refined (Platipus Euro)



REVIEWS BY NED DENNY

Ned Denny doesn't make drum & bass, but he doesn't think that impairs his reviewing capacities. After all, Jeremy Clarkson doesn't build cars. Actually, perhaps that isn't a very good metaphor, but you get the picture. . .

VITAL RELEASE

VARIOUS ARTISTS Soul:ution (Series One, Part One) (Soul:r)

Some music you just inexplicably fall in love with. Examined in the cold light of day, it might seem entirely ordinary, but there's a certain something there - an aura, whatever you want to call it - that makes your heart sing. That's how it is with Marcus Intalex & ST Files' 'Lover', a track that comes across as the bastard offspring of 'LK' and 'Casino Royale' (and bloodlines don't come much more distinguished than that).

VARIOUS ARTISTS Jazz & Bass Sessions 4 (New Identity)

Another EP with a single stand out track, in this case Influx Datum's 'Vintage', which is a beautifully vocalled, melancholic, darkside-flirting roller that is easily the best thing they've done. The rest of the tracks on offer include Zen's entirely breakless 'Discotech', John B's slightly disappointing 'Summertime' and the atonal percussion shower of DISS's 'Funktion'.

ILS

Music (Mathematics Remix)

New York-based Mathematics are no strangers to this page, having bagged a Vital spot with their 'Jersey Deep'/'It's In The Way' twelve on Defunked, back in September. Called upon to rework the slow-mo, bell-ringing funk of

10 OF THE BEST DJ FRICTION

pain-bringer confesses his

passion for the manly studs

Premiership junglist

of the Dream Team



Pointless to describe and wonderful to behold, nothing else on the first Soul:r EP even comes close, neither Sonic nor D.Kay nor DJ Marky & XRS, but then who's complaining? Not me, I'm busy rewinding 'Lover' for the seventh time this morning. . . * * * * *

'Music', they've turned in a frisky little number with some nice. delayed drops and a bassline that could be straight out of 'Casino Royale'. But aren't those frantic, restless breaks a little on the scrawny side? ****

TEEBEE Venom EP (Subtitles)

We haven't heard from Teebee for a while, but nothing much has changed in his parallel drum & bass universe of nocturnal percussion flickers and metallic. shape-shifting breaks. So, in spite of the fact that there's little in the way of new sounds here, the bass laced, scissor-like drums of 'Into Submission' and the minimalist Tweet bootleg 'So High' still sound uniquely, menacingly brilliant, rather like the Northern Lights transferred on to vinyl.

* * * *

THE INTERROGATOR & JAYCO Warzone (Sudden Def)

and a second and a s

Not that you'd guess it from the amount of knuckle-headed darkside tracks out there, but being a warrior doesn't necessarily preclude a certain amount of sensitivity. As is demonstrated by the stunning 'Warzone', whose tough but laid back, bongo shadowed break is the embodiment of stealth. Not only that, but by keeping the 'Mentasm' hoover-blasts to a bare minimum, these guys make them sound almost as nasty as they did the first time round. If Calibre made dark drum & bass, it would sound like this.

ACETATE & CHRIS RENEGADE The Future (Emotif)

Some of the baddest music of the past year has been that which blended the warm, bass-propelled breaks of liquid funk with the predatory snarl of darkside (check, for example, Sonic & Silver's 'Can U Feel It' and Influx Datum's 'Vintage' from the 2002 Jungle Top 10 on this very page). Here's another one, a punchy little roll-out that's laced through with a killer. double punch combo of pretty, tinkling pianos and some terrorsynth bursts straight out of 'Shadow Boxing'. There are some ice cool, time-stretched breaks too.

TWISTED ANGER FEATURING DANNY C Take It (Dread)

What's all this then? Danny C muscling in on his own Twisted Anger alias and Ray Keith's Dread imprint, that bastion of noxious heats? Times must be a-changing. The first track here is the relentless, boom-powered hardstep of 'Take It', where proceedings are lightened somewhat by dancehall horn-bursts and an elegant, teasing vocal. The highlight, though, is the flipside 'The Latin Thing', which combines a ducking and diving break and glittering guitar loop that puts it right up there with 'The Mexican'. Sunshine with beats. Beautiful. ****

TECHNICAL ITCH The Rinsin' EP (Moving Shadow)

I will always honour Technical Itch for the dark brilliance of his Zardoz-sampling 'Crystal'. His new EP for Moving Shadow, 'The Rinsin' EP', doesn't quite match that classic, but it still makes a pretty heavyweight impact. Witness, for example, the peculiarly languid hardstep of 'Hard Ways', where the breaks leave spectral sound trails in their wake. Or the monstrously deep Amen-violence of 'Whirlwind', which casts new light into one of d&b's oldest and darkest corners. ****

DARK SOLDIER **Ghosts** (Dread)

The second fine release from Dread this month finds Dark Soldier, never the gentlest of souls. in confrontational mood. What lifts 'Ghosts' out of the ordinary are the shifting electronic textures, reminiscent of Rhythim Is Rhythim, that weave throughout the track, not to mention the four different breaks. Overleaf, 'Wonky Dog' gets basic and brutal with a carnivorous, stripped-to-the-bone roll-out. Ammunition for your speakers. * * * *

AQUASKY

Baby It's You (Incident) More filler than killer, Aquasky's 'Baby It's You' has their mid-Nineties slickness but still fails to shine. It's left to Calibre to sort things out with his 'Do Anything' remix, a typically tight melody and beat combo. Proper rhythm magic. * * * *

MARS Satisfaction (Tangent)

A solid, fairly likeable pair of High Contrast-style boomers, all saxlicks, synthetic-sounding drums and basslines that bear you aloft like magic carpets. There's the whisper of a suggestion of style over substance with both tracks though. All the right sounds are there, but with beats that do nothing more than keep time, it can become hard not to nod off before long.

* * *

HARDWARE @ THE END "The crowd know how to party so well. I know I'll always get an honest reaction when I play there." PUERTO RICO "It's like my second home now. There's loads to see and it's so raw and untouched." DREAM TEAM "I watch this religiously on Sky every Sunday. Everyone thinks I'm sad, apart from Swift, who watches it too."

NED'S TEN FOR 2002

1 SONIC & SILVER CAN U FEEL IT?/ T CAME FROM OUTER SPACE SCIENCE FICTION) 2 UNDERCOVER AGENT DUB PLATE CIRCLES (MAJISTRATE REMIX) (JUICE) 3 DJ MARKY & XRS LK (V) 4 TRONIK 100 REACHIN' (RENEGADE HARDWARE) 5 ALPHA OMEGA COUNTDOWN EP (OUTBREAK) 6 GREG PACKER INTO THE GROOVE/ SECRET GARDEN (DEFUNKED) 7 SONIC & SILVER THE HARDER **8 MARCUS INTALEX & ST FILES** 9 INFLUX DATUM VINTAGE 10 STYLES & PHARAOHE MONCH VERSUS AI PRODUCTIONS THE LIFE

MADZOO

D&B REMIX) (WHITE LABEL)

Esfera (Cosmonautics Remix) (SambaLoca, Brazil) Madzoo is the production wizard behind DJ Patife, and this is the first single to be taken from his forthcoming debut album (the Cosmonautics name is another of his own aliases). This doesn't stray from the Brazilian flavours we know and love and you know the deal with the Brazilian thing by now - delicately rolling breaks, caressing vocals and lovingly plucked, subtle guitars. It's nice in the best possible sense of the word, despite being so very, very tasteful as to verge on the cloying. It makes you kind of yearn for a bit

of Amen-type thuggery. ***

GREG PACKER **Disco Magic EP (Tangent)**

This is a disappointing EP from someone who is, in my opinion, one of the best producers around. The man Packer normally puts together some totally wicked rhythms, but the beats on 'Disco Magic' and 'Depend On Me' are hopelessly, and regretfully one-dimensional. I've said it before and I'll say it again that one-armed drummer sucks. Things pick up somewhat on the second disc with the deep bass pulse and hemmed in breaks of 'Now Feel It', but 'What Am I Supposed To Do?' is more easy-to-assemble liquid funk made from an Ikea kit. Yawn. * * *

DECKS "I've had the same set of Technics 1210s for a decade and we've grown extremely close." CHINESE FOOD "I can never eat enough Chinese food." MY SON "The most important thing in my life is my boy Charlie."

'Elements', mixed by DJ Friction, is out on Renegade Hardware in January 2003





REVIEWS BY DR BOB JONES

Dr Bob has just returned from his 31st - yes, 31st - Southport Weekender, where he caught a bout of flu, but ripped it nonetheless. "What a stormer It was, in every sense of the word," the evergreen doctor told us. "This gig just gets better each time!"

VITAL RELEASE

DONNIE The Coloured Section (Giant Step)

We first encountered this young man when 'Do You Know?' blew all of us on the soul underground away last year. It was clear that a major new talent had emerged. Now, almost a year later, at last we are treated to another phenomenal performance from this Atlanta star. He really is so special and such a large breath of pure soulful air. Donnie takes us on a journey that is jammed full of depth, spirituality, life and love found and lost - things



that all of us can identify with. The arrangements, songs and delivery are so easy to grasp, and just one listen will certainly change you for the better, make no mistake. This is future soul, deep, so deep and then some...

* * * * *

EAST WEST **CONNECTION & VACEO** Inside Your Soul (Chilli Funk)

London's finest soul motif delivers another stunning performance with this collaboration between the funky outfit of East West Connection and the deep, soulful beats of young Vaceo. The vocals hit the spot and the words are fresh and meaningful. Pure modern soul that definitely has a place in today's club culture. Open yourself up and just let it in, you won't be disappointed. ****

SPECIALIST ALBUMS

SYLEENA JOHNSON

The Voice - Chapter 2 (Jive) Just as we were getting over the first Chanter from Ms Johnson. the soulful, happy vibes still ringing in our ears, she's returned with a second serving. As with the first this is pure class all the way, meaningful songs with production that updates soul for the 21st century. If she carries on like this, hacks everywhere will be prefixing her name with the word 'diva'. Class - pure class! * * * *

BYRON STINGILY **Sweet Dream (Lonesome** Echo)

This stunning slice of soulful dance first appeared on the 'Silver Ocean' album by Lonesome Echo Productions from Japan. As with most of Byron's deliveries this is pure black excitement all the way. Massive production that swings into a Latino rhythm halfway and is so damn infectious it puts a permanent smile on your face. Gorgeous, happy soul music. . . ****

JEPHTE GUILLAUME

Al Di Yo (Spiritual Life Music)

As the title suggests, this album is

and has its roots firmly embedded

all about really deep black vibes,

in the motherland - Africa. Mr

underground heads for his

and though this may not be

soulful, Afrocentric dance.

* * *

instant enough for those who

don't quite believe, this is pure

pleasure for those of us who love

Guillaume is rightly feted among

mastery of eclectic black rhythms,

DR BOB'S TEN FOR 2002

- 1 DJ OJI & UNA WE LIFT OUR HANDS IN THE SANCTUARY (SANCSOUL) 2 DONNIE THE COLOURED SECTION
- 3 CALM SIMPLE CHORDS (MUSIC CONCEPTION) 4 KENNY CARVAJAL RISE (MUSIC 101) **5 NATHAN HAINES RIGHT BY YOUR** SIDE (CHILLI FUNK) 6 ASAPH WOMACK SHELTER ME
- (EASY STREET) 7 BYRON STINGILY SWEET DREAM
- LONESOME ECHO

8 TC CARLSON TRUTH (EXPANSION) 9 VARIOUS ARTISTS ORGANIC SOUL VOLUME 2 (SOUL BROTHER UK) 10 BLAZE SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING (SLIP 'N' SLIDE)

VARIOUS ARTISTS Soul Togetherness 2002 (Expansion)

The second volume of modern soul goodies to accompany the weekender of the same name. At last, the modern soul scene is moving on from classic tunes recorded ten years ago and showing an appreciation for the talents of today. This is one of those must-have black gems, crammed with all things soulful and more. + + +

Roots & Dancehall

TRAINSPOTTING



REVIEWS BY KEVIN MARTIN

Kevin Martin, aka The Bug, continues to bring about Babylon's downfall, recently sharpening his stepping razor by working with Adrian Sherwood. His latest single, 'Slew Dem', featuring Wayne Lonesome, is out now on Razor X.

VITAL RELEASE

VARIOUS ARTISTS Studio One Story (Soul Jazz)

The accompanying album to Soul Jazz's audio-visual homage to Studio One, is as enchanting as you would imagine. Having gained virtually unlimited access to Coxsone Dodd's hallowed vaults, the groove hungry collective stick with classics to illustrate the eternal radiance of this incredible label. From feelgood skanks to rootical steppers, this collection is certainly familiar, but along with the DVD and book it perfectly



captures a lost era, and confirms the pedigree of Studio One's main musicians - musical pioneers like Mittoo, Ellis, McCook and Drummond. The foundations of modern reggae, no less. Beautiful.

RHYTHM AND SOUND FEATURING LOVE JOY

Best Friend (Burial Mix) Claudette Brown of the Love Joys provides the latest bridging point between past and future for the Berlin duo and Lloyd Barnes. A deep blue lament is hypnotically carried upon an opiated steppa's rhythm, as Moritz & Mark turn tradition inside out, once again. ****

FULL WATTS Each One Teach One (Full Watts)

Friction fiends DJ Scud and i-sound run from the bashment homicide of 'Kill Or Be Killed', into headsteppin' demolition dub - stopping off only to mercilessly slash Jacob Miller on this demonic bastardisation of Jah Shaka, What 'Each One Teach One' lacks in subtlety, it makes up for with insane cacophany. * * *

KEVIN'S TEN FOR 2002

1 BOUNTY KILLER SUFFERAH (VP) 2 RHYTHM & SOUND WITH SHALOM WE BEEN TRODDIN' (BURIAL MIX) 3 KENNY KNOTS WATCH HOW THE PEOPLE DANCE (HONEST JON'S) 4 SUGAR MINOTT WICKED AH GO FEEL IT (WACKIES) 5 SIZZLA ARMED & DANGEROUS (BEAT RUUT) 6 VARIOUS ARTISTS FIREHOUSE **REVOLUTION (PRESSURE SOUNDS)** CAPLETON LOCK UP (IN THE STREETZ) 8 CEDRIC IM BROOKS MUN DUN GO (STUDIO 1/SOUL JAZZ 9 THE LIGHT OF SABA LAMB'S BREAD COLLIE (HONEST JON'S) 10 TOK INTERGALACTIC (IN TIME MUS

SPECIALIST ALBUMS

VARIOUS ARTISTS Bollywood/The Biggest **Dancehall Anthems (both** Greensleeves)

'Bollywood' overflows with bashment brutality, dancehall audacity and a sexual grind to die for. Stealing the glory from Truth Hurts, this kitsch masterpiece brilliantly fuses booty-kicking electro with Indian angels to stunning effect. 'The Biggest Dancehall Anthems' doesn't really contain anything of the sort, but it's a brave stab, and contains the genius moves of the Diwali and Hard Drive rhythms. * * * *

TINO'S BREAKS 6 Halloween Dub (Tino Corp)

Anyone who craves a bass heavy mix of 'Radio Babylon' and tracks that sound like Scientist at his most psychedelic, Jack Dangers and Ben Stokes deliver the goods here. The titles may be high on cheese, but the heavyweight cuts punish the bassbins relentlessly. * * *

VARIOUS ARTISTS Funky Kingston-Dancehall

Grooves 1968-74 (Trojan) A fine riposte to those who caricature reggae as stoned and slouching, this infectiously energetic compilation could launch the dead on the good foot. Like Studio One hosting a sound clash between James Brown and Fela Kuti, this 20-track assortment is ridiculously catchy and champions a rootsy rare groove that is impossible to argue against. * * *

UK Garage

P

REVIEWS BY DOUG COOPER & CHANTELLE FIDDY

Doug Cooper tells us we shouldn't say 'booo!' anymore because that's what the kids at CD:UK now shout. Artists to watch for in 2003 include Wiley and Dizzy, JD and Megaman, and producers Jammer, BigShot, and Johnny Cash. Chantelle Fiddy, meanwhile, is still recovering from a chance meeting with Justin Timberlake...



VITAL RELEASE

BEATFREAKS Boo Dem (Undercover Artists)

■ It's been quite a year for the Beatfreaks, with nearly a release a month and sales of 'Speakerbox' topping the 14,000 mark. Now, as the winter months creep in and the weather comes over oh so grimy, so do they, with the soiled, stained and outright filthy knob flexing and b-line rupturing of 'Boo Dem'. Featuring the same unmistakable, bass-freaking formula as their club

> smashes 'Speakerbox', 'Fire' and 'Bassbox',



'Boo Dem' sees the originators of the rising b-line upping the stakes and showing all the copy cats how it should be done – just watch for the second drop! Without a doubt, dirtier than Santa's little helper. (CF) ★ ★ ★ ★

DOMINO & R KANE Funky Worm (white label)

These two up-and-coming producers follow the success of their remixes for Nesha and Rose Windross with some original material. Full of that resurgent 4/4 flava with some nice sampling work this is one for the Funky Worm crew. Hotter than mulled wine. (**CF**)

WHIZZBIT Jamhot (Dump Valve)

Whizzbit, aka Geeneus of Pay As U Go fame, serves up a bumping instrumental with a (dare we say it) Wileyesque edge, following the trend for lyrically warring MC business - bring it on! With its offbeat, automatic foot skanking rhythms, 'Jamhot' will set both the raves and the airwaves on fire. Gimme the light! (**CF**)

Work It (Remix) (WEA)

Missy's killer dance floor filler 'Work It' gets drilled into UKG shape with some rather familiar, bashment-style b-lines. No boundaries are broken at all, but the raving crew dem now have more reasons to get dirty and wind doubly low. Bo indeed. (CF) * * * *

CHANTELLE'S TEN FOR 2002

1 DIZZEE RASCAL I LOVE YOU (WHITE LABEL) 2 BEATFREAKS SPEAKERBOX VIP/ SPECIAL (UNDERCOVER ARTISTS) 3 BLAZIN' SQUAD STANDARD FLOW DND REMIX (WEIGHTY PLATES) 4 LADY STUSH DOLLAR SIGNS (SOCIAL CIRCLES) 5 TUBBY TALES OF THE HOOD (SOCIAL CIRCLES/GO BEAT)

PAY AS YOU GO

You Can't Bus Mic (acetate) The east Londoners finally follow up debut single 'Champagne Dance' with this rugged underground track produced by Genius and Target. The MCs sound far better here, ditching the sweet vocal hooks for a far rougher chorus. One for the underground. (DC)

DOUG'S TEN FOR 2002

1 MUSICAL MOB PULSE X (WHITE LABEL) 2 MORE FIRE CREW OII (GO BEAT) 3 DIZZY RASCAL I LOVE YOU (WHITE LABEL) 4 MS DYNAMITE RAMP (P) 5 SRD EDGE IN AND OUT (JAIMESON REMIX) (ACETATE)

RASKWAME & MOEZART Riddem 2 (International

Rudeboy Recordings) Wicked instrumental beats from 1 Xtra's DJ Raskwame and his producer partner. Representing the new breed of beats from the underground, this 12-inch is pure grime, with snares that slap you in the face and sub bass to rumble the fattest of systems. (DC)

MJ COLE FEATURING VULA Wondering Why (Talkin' Loud)

The new single from MJ's much anticipated new album (due early 2003) features MJ's trademark twostep beats and jazzy keyboard stabs, with Vula's chillingly beautiful vocals icing the cake. There's also a grimy dub remix for the clubheads. A must for MJ Cole fans (**DC**)

Hard House

TRAINSPOTTING



REVIEWS BY MARK KAVANAGH

Mark Kavanagh is still buzzing from the last ever Trade at Turnmilis. "The atmosphere was turbocharged euphoria for the entire ten hours I was there," he says. "The DJs played Trade anthem after Trade anthem all morning long..."

VITAL RELEASE

BABY DOC & JON THE DENTIST Mantra To The Buddha Remixes (TEC)

'Mantra To The Buddha' is the seminal hard trance classic from the mid-Nineties, an era dominated by German labels like Eye Q, Harthouse, No Respect and Frankfurt Beat, when 'hard' was really hard, and 'trance' really was trance. Those hard trance and nu-NRG sounds were the foundations of what we now call 'hard house'. For 2003, OD404 supply an

emotive, string-drenched new version that will



make you cry, while the funked-up 'Hardfloor Remix' from '96 joins a remix from the DJ who persuaded Truelove to give this the re-issue it deserves. Buy yourself this slice of history while you can.

VARIOUS ARTISTS UK Hard Trance Volume 2 (Honey Pot)

DJ Roosta updates two more Honey Pot classics for 2002's London underground. He adds pizzicato strings, lush melodies and piledriving trance rhythms to Nick Sentience's '1,000 Miles An Hour' and it works a treat. His take on Bunter & Pin-Up's 'What Would We Do?' is also quite playable.

PANTS & CORSET K-Hole (White Label)

The K-hole, that weird, dribbling place with which UK clubbers seem bizarrely enamoured, is paid tribute to by Bournemouth's old skool. Chris B and Paul King take 'Wormhole', one of the two tracks that inspired 'The Dawn', and revamp its majestic rifferama with a slamming new rhythm section.

NIK DENTON

Bonkas (12-inch Thumpers) More from the mixing desk of Paul King, this time with Mancunian Denton in the driving seat. 'Bonkas' is a massive departure for the Thumpers label, rolling on a bubbly

bass with hoovers snarling intermittently until the big, uplifting synth takes over. '2 The Beat' utilises the bass from Hardfloor's mix of 'Yeke Yeke' and adds guitar licks, familiar vox and another big riff.

SPENCER FREELAND The Underground (Short Circuit)

One of the London posse's biggest heroes makes it three out of three for Justin Bourne's fledgling stamp with a devastating shot of 4am dancefloor lunacy. Yorkshire terrier llogik adds a moody, pulsating, twittering, power-trancer that bites yer ass and won't let go.

BK & EJ DOUBELL Butterflies (Nukleuz)

Ben Keen and Emma Jane team up for a fiery little number, where snarling synths and tough trance rhythms underpin dreamy strings and soaring Euro melodies. The chord changes work a treat. On the other side it's techno mash-up time as Angi and Brenda commit the sound of their vanguard Release club to vinyl on 'Face Facts'.

MARK'S TEN FOR 2002

1 BK REVOLUTION (NUKLEUZ) 2 PRIME MOVER BLACK DOGS 3 PHLASH GET A LIFE (REMIXES) 4 TONY DE VIT I DON'T CARE (BK 5 STIMULANT DIS VERSUS MK WORK IT OUT (STIMULANT 6 JUSTIN BOURNE VERSUS DYNAMIC INTERVENTION SAVE OUR **ULANT** 7 KNUCKLEHEADZ UPFRONT (REMIX) (TRIPOLI TRAX 8 JAMES LAWSON ENERGIZE (NUKLEUZ) 9 ALAN PULLEN 1, 2, 3, KICK IT (BABY DOLL) 10 RR FIERCE & DMF ROCK DA OT (RECHARGE)

STEVE BLAKE My Rules (Fevah Trance)

Fresh from his successes on Tripoli Trax with fellow Londoner Phil Reynolds, Fevah resident DJ Steve comes home alone with an infectious bounder awash with quirky stabs and insistent hooks. The main riff is one of those memory-joggers all dancefloors love, giving this nothing less than instant anthem status. And that's before another killer remix from the man like logik. Watch this fly.



REVIEWS BY WILL ASHON

Will Ashon has once again complied his Top Ten hip hop tunes of the year without including anything from Big Dada (which he runs, foo'). Why? He thinks you should buy some of his records instead of what's in his chart. Nuff said.

VITAL RELEASE

MCD Love Thing (Ronin)

Maybe I'm going stupid(er) but it seems like there's a real stylistic split going on within UK hip hop. It appears to be happening between the (predominantly white) 'true skool' (roughly speaking, keep it downtempo and large sample-based) and those who want to connect the music to the current vitality in black music on these shores and reclaim hip hop's future for themselves. With MCD's hardcore political past as Silent Eclipse and his veteran credentials, you might expect him to be in the

FEENOM CIRCLE **Circulation/Masters Too**

(Melatone/7Heads, USA) From the Bay, Feenom have hooked up with Brooklyn's rapidly expanding 7Heads to get their message out. With a jazzy edge, but clipped, skipping beats, the Circle occasionally sound a little uncomfortable locking their meters to the shifting rhythm, but they have good voices and a suitably distinctive approach.

* * *

EL-P Lazerface's Warning (Def Jux, USA)

Another single to promote the 'Fantastic Damage' album, you get a couple of classic EL-P instrumentals here plus a surprisingly straight remix of 'Lazerface'. But the originals are worth the price - one of the best

Welcome to the glorious world of Lewis Parker

former camp. But listen to his work on the lead track with Noel McKoy and Intenz, or on the incredible 180bpm 'Biters' and you can hear a man trying to define a raw, new black British style - and that's political in itself. Good on Ronin and big up MCD it's good to have him back. **食食食食**

and most distinctive producers

and lyricists around.

THE PRESIDENT

Balance (Real Life)

The most bizarre record of the

month, no contest. 'The President'

is, apparently, an American from

Washington DC who has written a

allow the poor old down-trodden

English country gent to hunt foxes.

"I know you heard that song 'Mary

Had A Little Lamb'/And when the

damn." Too right - we were going

to eat it anyway. Surely this is the

work of Chris Morris? No? Well, in

fox came along you didn't give a

ludicrous rap about how we should

that case. . .

* *

CREATIVE CONTROLE WILL'S TEN FOR 2002 **Check The Vision**

(Volta, Ireland) The Dublin crew behind 'Bloodrush' return with more tightly-constructed hip hop built around big loops and hard drums. Messiah J once again shows the driving style of MCing that made their earlier EP so irresistible, plus coming through with some really funny lines on 'I'd Give My Right Arm'. Aggressive, funny and technically on point just how it should be done. * * *

THEE ABSENT Magic Mondays (Cafe)

A taster for the forthcoming Thee Absent album and it's more funny and clever MCing. Daddy Jaes' beats hit the spot time after time my pick is 'The Gym' for the chorus alone, but overall, this is unquestionably top notch. If you like the beats, Jaes is giving away a whole album of them as MP3s at www.caferecordings.co.uk.

DJ FORMAT

B-Boy Code (Genuine) The Brighton-based producer comes through with what can only be described as a nostalgia record. It's nicely done, but, to be honest. it's little more than Radio Two hip hop. That's not to say people won't go mad dancing if you put it on, they may well do. Your dad might even injure himself breaking. ***

VARIOUS ARTISTS Low Life Starters (Low Life)

A tasty appetiser for Low Life's forthcoming 'Main Courses' compilation, this 12-inch features Verb T riding a Harry Love beat on 'Showbitchness' and Chester P doing it all for himself on 'The Wiccaman Theory'. The first is nice enough, but it's Chester who really does the business on this release. The beat slinks out in a way that is deceptively simple, but actually very rhythmically subtle, and holds a groove that is to die for. Over it, Chester drops some more of his own unique blend of psychedelic, dole queue sci-fi shenanigans. Verv good indeed. ****

1 BUSDRIVER GUN CONTROL (TEMPORARY FOREVER) 2 MR LIF LIVE FROM THE PLANTATION (DEF JUX) 3 CEE-LO ONE FOR THE ROAD (LAFACE/ARISTA) 4 EDAN EMCEES SMOKE CRACK REMIX (LEWIS) 5 FALLACY & FUSION (WORDPLAY/VIRGIN) 6 BLAK TWANG SO ROTTON 7 OUTKAST LAND OF A MILLION STWEST 8 CHESTER P THE WICCAMAN THEORY (LOWLIFE) 9 EL-P DEEP SPACE 9MM (DEF JUX) 10 FLEAPIT FLEASTYLE (SFDB)

OFFWHYTE

Complez Destiny EP (Agenda) It's no surprise to hear that Offwhyte is going to appear on the next Molemen compilation he puts the same strong emphasis on the jazz sample. On this EP, it's a vibraphone circling under kitsch female skatting, although 'Special Ops' on the flip certainly takes it somewhere else. Over it, the man pours out wordy lines and, while he doesn't have the greatest of voices, there's potential in abundance. * * *

HEATHER B Live MC (SAI, USA)

Heather B returns with an alphabetical rhyme which sets a few things straight regarding the state of the hip hop industry: "W is what we needed/Less bitches and more women". The beat revolves around a skanking organ which elevates the whole tune and makes sure this is a good return. ***

SKITZ & DIE

It's On (Wordplay/Full Cycle) In effect, a collaboration between Skitz and Die, with Rodney P and World of Dynamite providing the lyrics, 'It's On' is based on a Spaghetti Western theme with slatherings of added bass to get that wobble on nicely. Over, Clipze gives it the full d&b treatment, nicely syncopated steel drums but, unfortunately, 98% of the vocal is lost in transitition. * * *

against you. All the bears, wolves

BEEFEATERS Can Of Worms (SFDB)

It was only a matter of time before producer Secondson and DJ Big Mac poked their heads above the hip hop trenches again. Following the, apparently, highly acrimonious split of Fleapit, the duo have now turned to Lilangryson and reemerged as the Beefeaters with their first release. As you'd probably expect, the beats are in a similar vein to Fleapit's and Lilangryson is an accomplished enough MC to carry it. The sick humour, though, seems a little more forced than before, like it's meant to deliberately shock, which is always the least shocking of all. Still, it's a promising debut and a strong EP with moments of real, down home, hod-carrying humour. ***

SPECIALIST ALBUMS

EXTENDED FAMM **Happy Fuck You Songs** (QN5, USA)

Imagine a world in which underground hip hop doesn't take itself too seriously and instead taps into the old skool tradition of talking shit, cussing too much and sniggering. This is it. Technically great (they can rhyme their asses off) and funny (right down to the cheesiest cover of all time), it's a real breath of fresh air. * * * *

57TH DYNASTY Boro 6 Volume 2 (FasFwd)

With a new Southern tie-up in the bag, 57th continue their hard-fought ascension with this budget mini-album, A mixture of freestyles, remixes and new tracks, it clearly shows just how accomplished the crew have become whilst handily illustrating the strong influence dancehall and bounce rhythms now hold, making earlier comparisons to Wu Tang redundant. Full of confidence. soul and strength, this is where Chapter Two begins. * * * *

EYES AND EARS "Because without them, I simply wouldn't be very good."

- AIR "Without it, you can't breathe.
- WATER "It's the liquid of life.
- FOOD "You need more than just water.
- SHELTER "Otherwise the elements will be

SUN "I wouldn't want to live otherwise."

Sir

Isaac Ne

and dinosaurs.

our bodies.

HANDS "Can't live without them. I'd sooner

lose my legs than my

GRAVITY "It shapes

LOVE "Without it, you're living for nothing. CONFLICT "That's what The Universe is about. Yin

and Yang - it's all about balance."

Lewis Parker's new album 'It's All Happening Now' is out now on Melankolic/Virgin

Breaks TRAINSPOTTING

REVIEWS BY TAYO & DOMINIC B

Tayo spends his time dreaming of a better life in Minneapolis with his diminutive hero Mr Prince Rogers Nelson. In a strictly platonic sense. As ever, he's joined by Dom Stanton, who is still putting the finishing touches to The Warriors' debut album and recovering from an awesome weekend up at Tribal Gathering. . .



VITAL RELEASE Uberzone & Rennte Pilgrem

UBERZONE & RENNIE PILGREM Cous Cous (TCR)

To give the gold star to anyone else this month would just be churlish, for this, the work of two breakbeat heavyweights, is a behemoth of a tune. Rennie Pilgrem has found new vigour through collaborations with the likes of BLIM and Meat Katie, and LA's Uberzone, who has become something of a benchmark for production quality in the breaks world, is another great foil for him. Together they've served

up a tribal breaks

AMB Get Back (Cup of Chi)

A techy break sits under all sorts of studio trickery, allowing different sounds to do their thing over weird vocal samples. The B-side offers two experimental, electro-ish tracks, which are acquired tastes. Still, these guys obviously know their equipment inside and out. An interesting lick. (DB) ***

ILS Music (Remixes) (Marine Parade)

This was previously found on the flipside to the all-conquering 'Next Level', leading some to mutter that it was even better than the A-side. Now, helped by some top drawer remixes, it emerges from the shadows, large style, Marine Parade stablemates Evil 9 rip up the rule book and use it as toilet paper with a fantastic breaks

Cous Cous

monster in 'Black Widow', and now they've gone and done the same again, but better. The 'Royale Mix' has been making an awful mess of a whole host of dancefloors the world over. Do yourself a favour and find out why. A killer release from TCR. (T/DB)

meets-rock remix. With guitars and

everything. It was enough to make

us play air axe behind the decks at

Bugged Out! last week. The True

Mathematics drum & bass mix

SMITHMONGER

Fuckwits In Midiland (TCR)

Bushwacka!'s Plank imprint would

breaks on display here. With more

than a passing nod to the likes of

groove will make perfect sense at

The End or a Wiggle party for the

house and breaks fraternity alike.

'In My Flat' on the flip treads a

more familiar breakbeat furrow

with equal success. Tune. As

nobody says anymore. (T)

Lee Coombs and Nathan Coles,

this rolling break and earnest

Another new TCR artist. The fact

that Smithmonger records for

explain the love of tech-house

also has skills. (T/DB)

SUNSCAPE & **CHRIS DEE** Freaksound (Koma & Bones Remix) (Kubist)

The innumerate trio that is Koma & Bones have been quiet of late, locked away in their bolthole near Bolton, putting the finishing touches to their second album. If this remix is any indication of what's in store then old fans will not be disappointed. The beats are still crunchy, and the slightly progressive edge sometimes in evidence is in full flow here. It's not their best work, but it's enough to keep the anticipation up for the main event next year. (T) ***

MAFIA TONE VERSUS DREADZONE The Warriors (KBLS)

This page is a sucker for dub licks so anything to do with Greg Dread always gets more than a cursory listen. The mood here is brooding with a bassline that stands with its arms folded, giving you the screw face. The smart beats hop from foot to foot like the best-dressed chicken in town, while "warrior" cries and dub guitars complete the feeling that this is the best breakbeat soundclash you've ever been to. More fire! (T) ****

ANIMATORS Scribble (2S2)

Clean drums and driving bass roll this track from the 2 Sinners camp all the way to my box. The Animators find their groove and lock it to the last beat, while attention to detail isn't lacking. A real neak time track. (DB) ****

SHUT UP AND DANCE

Release The Gimp (SUAD) The legendary north London production line that is Shut Up And Dance trundles on and on. Oblivious to the whims and

whines of the music biz, the originators roll out killer cuts at will. A slightly disturbing guitar sample and a very disturbing call to "release the gimp" are enhanced by the usual astounding beats. The menacing swing of 'We Know Where You Live' on the flip recalls Andy C's 'Bodyrock' at 138bpm, Wicked stuff, (T) ****

BOOM CLICK Homegrown (James Zabiela Remix) (Sunday Best)

Rob Da Bank's Sunday Best label steps to the fore with a track that demands your attention. The original is as lazy and soporific as the title suggests (in a good way), but the real boom lick is on the B-side, where boy wonder James Zabiela gives the track a dubwise re-rub. The bass and drums are never going to worry Babylon unduly, but still kick up a quiet storm. (T) ****

DOM B'S FIVE FOR 2002

1 LAYO & BUSHWACKA! LOVE STORY (BREAKS MIX) (XL) 2 MISSY ELLIOTT WORK IT (EASTWEST) 3 BEGINERZ RECKLESS GIRL (UNRELEASED BREAKS REMIX) (BMG) 4 METRO AREA METRO AREA (LP) 5 SHIMMON BADDEST DJI(RAT)

SOLAR

Photosphere (Circular Orbit) We always like the blend of old school electro with fresh breaks that comes from this Brighton based label. Main artist Solar gets all robotic and repetitive for the lino lovers among you, with a funkfuelled analogue synth line to pop to. 'Auroral Activity' is a more darkly atmospheric assault on the senses. A label to look out for. (T) * * *

FILMPALAST Istanbul (Capoeira Twins Remix) (Hope)

The first sighting for a while of the Twins, whose '4x3' tune is still talked fondly of in some circles. Their mix is as you would expect a plucked guitar, a shuffling break, some filmic strings somewhere in the background and away we go.

TAYO'S FIVE FOR 2002

- **1 BILL HAMEL PHAZON PHREOUENCY** (BLIM REMIX) (F111) 2 INFUSION STARWATER MARINE PARADEL 3 ALBINO ALLSTARS RUMBLEWEED (INITIAL RESEARCH REMIX) (MOB)
- 5 MEAT KATIE CUM SHOT (KINGSIZE)

We're not sure who the vocalist is but it's sounds vee good. Neither mind-blowing nor mind numbing, but well executed nonetheless. (T) ***

SOUL OF MAN The Drum (Finger Lickin')

Soul Of Man come correct once again with this bleeping, percussive, tribal breakbeat smacker. No rip-roaring basslines on this track, just an excellent, tight drum workout, which maintains momentum throughout - underground house heads could also get down with this. Subtler, solid breakbeat that can groove is something I'd dearly love to see more of. (DB) ****

WRECKED ANGLE Acid Funk (Akaomemia **Recordings**)

'Acid Funk' is a solid enough chugger but it's Deep Impact's remix of this track that rattles our Jack Daniels bottles. Swinging beats run with a moody baseline over a quirky vocal sample to keep the floor content. The Deep Impact boys have been coming with some good bits of late - ones to watch, maybe. (DB) ****

LEE COOMBS & MEAT KATIE Two Men On A Trip (Finger Lickin')

These two chaps are so similar in sound that it's a surprise it's taken them this long to get onto the same piece if vinyl. The contents, namely chunky crossover breaks/house grooves, certainly aren't a surprise, although nit-pickers might want more dynamism. The real winner is 'The Hum' remix, named after the W9Y/TCR breaks night and lying in wait on the flip. (T) ****





WHAT'S THE CLUBBING SCENE LIKE IN TURKU, FINLAND? Metsatahti: "Poor. There aren't any regular nights, so it's hard to find anything interesting. WHEN DID YOU START OUT? Metsatahti: *1992, when we met at school. Peltonen: "It was more techno in the first place and then we went

ambient until 1997 when we

started making electro as under the name Mr Velcro Fastener." YOU'RE A BIT TASTY LIVE. HOW **DOES THAT WORK?** Metsatahti: "We mix and

programme and arrange the tracks together with a drum machine, sampler and sequencer and no laptops are allowed. Sometimes we have some special guests doing vocals."

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NEXT?

Metsatahti: We've been working with Erlend Oye from the Kings Of Convenience on his album, due out next year. We've been slowly starting work on new tracks of our own too." (CS)

'Electric Appliances' is out now on Air Recordings with a rather tasty Plump DJs mix on the flip





REVIEWS BY TONY FARSIDES

Tony Farsides spends the portion of his life not devoted to hearing upfront urban shiznit amassing gossip from every corner of the globe. This month, he can reveal that Whitney's beau Bobby Brown has just signed to Murder Inc. Whatever next?

VITAL RELEASE

JAY Z FEATURING BEYONCE Bonnie & Clyde 2003 (Roc-A-Fella)

■ Surprise, surprise! Jay Z and Beyonce are now rumoured to be an item just as this duet hits the shops. Hmmm... Hype aside, this follows the current trend for resurrecting late Ninetles hip hop tracks for loops, This time, Machiavelli's 'I Need A Girlfriend' gets a dusting off and provides the track's framework. There was friction when it turned out that Toni Braxton had decided to

use the same loop, but

LIL' MO FEATURING LIL' KIM Ten Commandments (Eastwest)

This is a virtual remake of the DJ Premier-produced classic 'The Ten Crack Commandments', which saw Biggie laying down the rules for success in the crack game. The remake is a clever inversion which rewrites the rules for woman dealing with their men. Lil' Kim, in particular, sounds great.

BUSTA RHYMES Clap Yer Hands (J)

Busta has sounded far more convincing than this. Typical of his recent releases, 'Clap Yer Hands' is an electronic groove with Busta doing his unmistakable thing on top. It's not nearly up to his past standards. Will the pre-Millennium Busta please come back?

this version looks set to easily dominate. Jay Z gets all respectable, rapping about finding a good woman – 'Big Pimpin' this ain't. Beyonce chimes in her inimitable style, at one point riffing on Prince's 'If I Was Your Girlfriend', Very commercial, but very cool too. * * * *

JA RULE FEATURING BOBBY BROWN Thug Love (Murder Inc)

The bad boy of US r&b accompanies Ja Rule on what is sure to be another huge hit. Stevie Wonder's 'Knocks Me Off My Feet' provides the chorus melody whilst Brown's distinctive vocal really powers things along, Ja Rule growls along, like always. It's just a pity that Mr Brown couldn't do a better production job on his wife's recent single.

KELLY ROWLAND

A nice little number, led by a nifty guitar sample and synth loop which Kelly matches with her vocals. Problem is, when you hear certain members of Destiny's Child apart, you can see why the group works so well together. JAHEIM FEATURING THA RAYNE Fabulous (Warner Bros)

This was also a very strong contender for single of the month, being the first release from ghetto crooner Jaheim's second album. Produced by K-Gee and featuring Gee's proteges Tha Rayne on backing vocals, this is a really unique sounding track and consequently quite a difficult one to describe. Led by a haunting piano loop, Jaheim sings with an incomparable flow leading into an irresistible sing-a-long chorus about keeping your self esteem, regardless of your situation. 'Fabulous' is not a club track by any means but it is a genuinely great r&b single. * * * *

K-CI & JO JO It's Me (MCA-Universal)

The ex-Jodeci pair have hooked up with Rodney Jerkins for their debut single. Taken from the latest K-Ci and Jo Jo album, the result of 'It's Me' is simple – it's the first time in a long while that their output hasn't sounded like a cast-off from the Brandy album and is all the better for it. Jerkins lays down a very funky groove and the brothers work it out in style, responding with typically soaring, gospel-inspired vocals. The song isn't really a killer track but, overall, it's still a quality release and worth checking.

R KELLY

R Kelly raises his head above the parapet following the scandals of 2001 with the first single from his forthcoming album. Whilst I'm not suggesting he should start singing nothing but hymns, surely this downtempo track with its first line of "Let me stick my key in your ignition" is an error of judgment, given his recent history. Aside from the fact that he really did this much better previously on 'I Love You Like My Jeep', anyone who has heard a copy of the scrapped 'Loveland' album will know that there's far better R Kelly stuff already in the can and ready to go, rather than releasing this particular offering. * * *

P DIDDY FEATURING BABY

Do That... (Cash Money) Baby, otherwise known as 'Da Number One Stunna', is one of Cash Money's MCs, who P Diddy obviously thinks very highly of. The collaborative result is a dirty party Jam with a chorus cribbed from LL's 'Jingling Baby'. Good for the dancefloor, P Diddy appears to have been enjoying himself so much that he doesn't even object to Baby calling him Puff.

LL COOL J Paradise (Def Jam)

'Luv U Better' sounded better with repeated plays, so it's a shame that LL has played it so safe with the follow up. Does the world really need another track that uses the bassline from Keni Burke's 'Risin' To The Top'? Me thinks not. ★ ★ ★

TONY FARSIDES' TEN FOR 2002

1 TWEET OOPS (OH MY) (ELEKTRA) 2 TRUTH HURTS ADDICITVE (DEATH FROW 3 KHIA MY NECK MY BACK (LICK IT) (EPIC) 4 NORE NOTHIN' (DEF JAM) 5 LIBERTY X JUST A LITTLE BIT (V2) 6 MISSY ELLIOT WORK IT (ELEKTRA) 7 NELLY HOT IN HERRE (UNIVERSAL) 8 N*SYNC & NELLY GIRLFRIEND (JIVE) 9 AMERIE WHY DON'T WE FALL IN LOVE (COLUMBIA) 3 UJA RULE FEATURING ASHANTI ALWAYS ON TIME (MURDER INC)

JAZZYFATNASTEES All Up In My Face (Rykodisc)

A nice release for radio DJs and another loose end for Philly soul afficionados to track down, this female duet have turned in a retro-styled, live instrumental offering that incapsulates succintly and sweetly what they're all about.

702 Star (Motown)

Even the help of The Neptunes on Star' can't lift this above average for long-standing Motown girl group 702. Indeed, if there is a star on this package, it's undoubtedly the B-side, due to Kevin 'Shekspere' Briggs quirky, lyrical production.

But post-Davis Jr, things don't seem to have turned out too bad. His new album 'Studio Confessions' with its laid back and classy, organic feel has been well received by the nu-soul purists, but is also helping to show the diversity of Peven's music.

"A lot of people had me down as doing dance music, but this album is definitely soul, Funnily enough, British people seem

VENUS MALONE Eye On The Prize/One On

One (Groove Attack) This atmospheric double headed slice of early Nineties style hip hop soul comes from Ohio by way of the German label Groove Attack. The beats wouldn't actually sound out of place on a Tribe Called Quest album while the singing has a similarly vintage feel. There's not much to choose between either of the tracks but Fat Jon's remix of 'Eye On The Prize' just nudges it. A bit retrospective feeling but very good nonetheless.

SNOOP DOGG From Da Church To Da Palace (Priority)

The Neptunes seem to have done bit of an Arsenal recently. Having previously looked invincible, they seem to now be suffering from a dip in form. Mind you, a dip in form for The Neptunes isn't overly cause for concern - it's probably still beyond them to make a truly bad record. Because the past month has seen a few productions which fail to match the killer quality they were hitting just a couple of months before, their latest, rocktinged track also serves as a handy case in point. The combination of Snoop Dogg and the good ol' boys from Virginia should be incendiary but 'From Da Church To Da Palace' ultimately fails to rise up to its obvious blockbuster potential. * * *

NAS

Made You Look (Columbia) This is first single from Senor

Escobar's somewhat modestlytitled new album, 'God's Son'. Scoffing aside, Nas may well have been touched by the hand of God because he's managed to perform something of a miracle - breathing life into that most played-out of breakbeats, the Incredible Bongo Band's 'Apache', Adding a new bassline via some clever manipulation, the time-old loop works its magic once more, while Nas performs some Class A rhymes on top. Be warned though, whatever your initial reservations may be, this record will get to you. ****

much more accepting of my diversity. Back home in the States, people are much less musically open-minded. I was always told British people have a reputation for a raw kind of attitude, but I'm more upset with some of my own folks."

'Studio Confessions' and the single 'Testing Me' are out now on Genuine





If soul man Peven's name seems familiar, it's probably because you remember him as the voice on Roy Davis Jr's deep house classic 'Gabriel' from 1996. Just don't mention that to Peven, . .

"I never want to hear that guy's name again. He totally screwed me," says the normally mildlyspoken, llinois-born singer. "He put out stuff using my name, and held back my career for a long time."





REVIEWS BY CHRIS COCO AND PHIL MISON

Chris' new single 'Albatross', will now be out in December, with mixes from King Britt and Hybrid. He's also working on a classical-meetselectronica album with Sacha Puttnam and a new CocoDaSilva single with Rui Da Silva. Phil, meanwhile, is still recovering from playing a brilliant DJ set at this year's Muzik Awards.

VITAL RELEASE

AMILLIONSONS SonBlock EP (white label)

The follow up to the awesome hit single 'Misti Blu' is a four-track EP. The lead track, 'Outta My Head' samples another old female vocal in an up-tempo, back room-friendly style, and would also sound cool on daytime radio. 'Underground Night Music' is an electro number that uses one of those Speak And Spell toys and falls just the wrong side of the invisible cheese line. Things look up again on the flip though. 'Stay Off The Dope', which has been around for a while on a very limited white, is a funky cut-up

that nods its head to old school hip hop and works well in a lounge set. But best of all is 'Fuckfuckfuckfuckfuckfuckfuckfuck', which takes the cool hooks from a pile of Seventies and Eighties easy listening and soft rock tunes and turns them into a 21st Century masterpiece. (CC) * * * *

BOOM CLICK The Post Man (Sunday Best)

A lovely slab of late night acoustica that goes down really well on the Blue Room, It's cheeky and funny and you can dance to it (just). Flip track 'Ska Power' is a lot more mad and effective in a nightclub/ bar situation. (CC) ****

DZIHAN & KAMIEN Stiff Jazz (Couch)

Two tracks from the Austrian duo's recent, slightly too jazzy album get the remix makeover from two of the best in the business Richard Dorfmeister and Rodney Hunter takes the noodly, bouncy 'Stiff Jazz' and turn it into a perfectly smooth, sophisticated and incredibly funky lounge groove. On the flip Howie B does something more experimental and less successful with 'Ford Transit' (CC) ****

J WALK VERSUS ERIC B

Soul Vibration (white label) Another one of those cheeky DJ bootlegs that may be a sneaky ploy to promote the (rather good) new J Walk album. It's basically their best tune with Eric B's rap from 'I Know You Got Soul' sitting comfortably on top. It works like a dream and is a great excuse to dig out both the original tracks. (CC) ****

BIG TWO HUNDRED **Approach And Pass With** Contact (DC)

The A-side here is over 13 minutes worth of loose, dirty, rocky dance music that fits somewhere near the end of a lounge set before the house kicks in. It takes ages to get going but works really well. There's a slightly more electro remix from the Psychonauts on the flip, (CC) ****

Symptom Of Disease (Source) The second promo from the hotly anticipated solo album from Erlend may not be quite as good as the classic 'Ghost Trains', but it's still great. It uses a similar mix of his slight, emotional vocals with a light electro backing to create an electrifying, charged atmosphere. This man is a star. (CC)

ALUCIDNATION EP:02 (Big Chill)

This, as you might have guessed, is the second EP from Big Chill's big hopes Alucidnation. The standout track is '24hr', the simple, practically universal tale of a man who runs out of fags and papers late on a Friday night and has to brave the English urban winter to get some more. The duck-call intro on 'Battersea Park' is rather fine too. (CC)

THE EARLIES **25 Easy Pieces (Names** On Records)

The Earlies are one of those bands that mix indie songwriting skills with experimental electronic production techniques to create truly modern chill out music. This their second single, features a rambling but beautiful song called '25 Easy Pieces' and a smooth and emotional instrumental called 'Long Road (Again)'. Both are excellent, (CC)

DEVICS **Red Morning (Bella Union)**

Real, downtempo music that sounds like a less over-produced version of Goldfrapp. 'Red Morning', with its delicate female vocals, is perfect for a hungover dawn moment. But why did they do 'Sunny'? Isn't that a Boney M song? (CC) ***

PEDRO VERSUS **KATHRYN WILLIAMS Demons In Cases** (Moshi Moshi)

Welcome to the weird world of folktronica, where cutting edge blippy electronic artist Pedro hooks up with top flight folksy, acoustic guitar type Kathryn Williams to create a fine EP. The title track is short and experimental. 'To Lie Here And Not Go Out' is closer to. but more psychedelic than, Kathryn's solo work, while 'Part 2' is much more jittery and angular. A way forward, (CC) * * *

PHIL'S FIVE FOR 2002

1 KHAN FEATURING JULEE CRUISE BYE (PLAYHOUS 2 MANHEAD OOOP (RELISH) 3 BLACKBUSH AFRICA (KIF) 4 JEPHTE GUILLAUME BOURRIQUE 5 ZION LOCKWOOD SOLD STRINGS (JUST A GROOVE)

AWA KLASH Akoba (Wave)

Danny Krivit has produced some excellent re-edits this year, and along with Aretha Franklin and Titanic, this is one of his best. 'Akoba' is pure Afro-funk which Krivit turns into a 12-minute dancefloor winner that should go down well at places like Shrine and Manchester's Afriando. (PM) ****

FLIPSIDE Flipside EP (Loadstar)

More great music from Scandinavia, this time Denmark. This EP is extremely chilled, with all four tracks based around mellow pads, soft beats and gently played guitars, making it perfect for places like the Big Chill. A name to watch out for. (PM) ****

BIAS

Delirious (Canteen) A strange seven-inch that

combines spacey, hippy vocals with laid back hip hop beats. The best cut is the b-side 'Sunrise' which will definitely get a revival next summer. An album's on the way. (CC) * * *

CHRIS' FIVE FOR 2002

1 ERLEND OVE GHOST TRAINS (SOURCE) 2 LAMBCHOP IS A WOMAN (CITY SLANG) 3 ASA-CHANG & JUNRAY HANA (LEAF) 4 THE FLAMING LIPS DO YOU REALISE (WARNER BROS) 5 CRAIG ARMSTRONG WAKE UP IN

EW YORK (MELANCHOLIC) ,

BAKAZOU

Risky Disco (Special Interests) Another alias for prolific production duo of Pete Herbert and Simone Serritella, this is a heavyweight slab of Eighties-influenced Balearic disco with shades of Alexander Robotnick and Metro Area. 'Risky Disco' combines muted horns with heavy beats and looped synths. while the 'Belgian Conga Mix' is a dubby, percussive affair. (PM) ****

DUM DUM PROJECT Jaani Jaan (X:Square)

Taken from the 'Export Quality' maxi, 'Jaani Jaan' is a mid-tempo, Asianinfluenced track featuring rapper Shanti and an Indian singer. There are some more housey remixes, but the original is the one. (PM) ****

CARE IN THE COMMUNITY **Discerning Dance Floor** Volume 2 (CIC)

Amidst everything from the dubby strangeness of Organic Grooves, to the Afro-funk of DJ Angola, the stand out here is a Funky Lowliness remix of 'Bolliger & Gloor', a mid-paced percussive groove with rhythmic guitars and spacey effects. (PM) ****

SPECIALIST ALBUMS

DICTAPHONE m.=Addiction (City **Centre Offices**)

An album of evocative, minimal electronica with a slight jazzy tinge from one of the most reliable labels around, It's great morning-after music, a bit blurry and foggy but vaguely soothing in a rainy, Northern European kind of way. (CC) * * *

WHO THE HELL ARE **BOOM CLICK?** Blue Room favourites who move effortlessly from funky Afro-beats to folky English whimsy

Describing their live sound as "up, ska-influenced funk with Afro-beat clattering," Boom Click are a band that used to be a sound system. There are three of them at the core (Sam Johnson, Rui Teimao and Paul Burnley), but that sometimes expands to 11 (as at their shows at the Big Chill last summer). With a background in putting on mad house and dub parties, they come from the world of dance music but their influences range from Massive Attack to Led Zeppelin, from Fela Kuti to Ralph McTell,

'Ska Power', the B-side of their new single may showcase their funkier side, but Boom Click can also sound beautifully chilled and introspective. 'The Post Man' is a very English song, penned by some-time vocalist Tom in a

moment of clarity after being "awoken by the postman after some rock 'n' roll excess.' Well done that postie, we say. (CC)

'The Post Man' is out now on Sunday Best. Follow-up single 'Homegrown' will be out in January with an album scheduled for early next year





DATERA

Chill out without passing out, with these don gorgons of downtempo

167



ver a decade since The KLF helped define (and label) an unknown genre as 'Chill Out', it continues to go from strength to strength. Thanks, in no small part, to the work of DJs like Muzik's own Mison and Coco and a new

ESTABLISHED: "It was back in 1984,"

This became very successful, so Horst

recalls UK label manager Katherine

Eykelenboom. "Horst Weidenmuller

had a video company that made

computer-generated graphics to techno mixes for a series called X-Mix.

decided to license the music and release it as a mix CD. The final part

of the K7 jigsaw was when Stefan

an A&R man, bringing Kruder and

Dorfmeister with him.'

too, obviously."

singles company."

quality music. Just quality.'

Struver joined in the early Nineties as

MISSION STATEMENT: "That's tricky. I

think, ultimately, to be recognised for

HEROES: "There are many, actually.

From Kruder and Dorfmeister, A Guy

Called Gerald to Mike Ladd. Jazzanova

FIRST BIG TUNE: "There's never been

a definitive big tune as such, but the

'DJ Kicks' series is the one that in the

early days was very much chill out.

the early days, we weren't really a

That brought in the first big sales. In

generation of smooth operators like Royksopp and Zero 7, chill might not trouble the top of the charts but the platinum status of both those bands shows its enduring popularity. Here are the labels that keep the genre cool as an early spring morning. . .

BIGGEST ARTIST ALBUM: "Looking at

things globally, it has to be Rae and

Christian's 'Sleepwalking', Herbert's

'Close The Door' which have been the

Dorfmeister's 'Sessions' album. It was

an album that wasn't marketed at all.

It was purely a word-of-mouth album

that is still selling and it's about four

years old now. Sales in the UK are

very close to gold. It is very much a

dinner party album or an after-club

commercial, although a lot of the

album has been used in TV shows

and adverts. Bizarrely though, I was

watching '999' (BBC programme)

beautiful Kruder and Dorfmeister

music to back all these dreadful

accidents that were happening.' IN THE PIPELINE: "A new album from

from Tiga."

Tosca in February 2003. Plus Spacek,

Mike Ladd and a new 'DJ Kicks' album

once and they were using this

wind down selection. It's not

'Bodily Functions' and Terranova's

KEY COMPILATION: "Kruder and

biggest ones."



NINJA TUNE

Boasting a wealth of ting a innovative artists,

Ninia remain masters of the downtempo, abstract and

revolutionary. Having achieved over a decade of innovative and often ground-breaking releases, founders More and Black show no sign of losing their maverick spirit. KEY RELEASE: Eric B and Rakim 'Paid In Full' (Coldcut's Seven Minutes Of Madness mix)



MO'WAX Formed by an ambitious, musicobsessed teenager

with a £1000 loan from his boss at Honest Jon's, few could have predicted the impact that James Lavelle's label created. Also noted for signing Krush and a certain Josh Davies

KEY RELEASE: DJ Shadow 'Midnight In A Perfect World'

WARP



Resolutely independent, Warp possesses an

unrivalled A&R ear and pioneering musical vision. Home to 'alpha male of electronica' Richard D lames and sinewave surfers Squarepusher and Plaid. **KEY RELEASE:** Sabres Of Paradise



COMPOST Munich-based beatniks who tidily

'Smokebelch'

dispose of the notion that sublime jazz-influenced sounds have to necessarily equate with chinstroking pretension. KEY RELEASE: V/A 'Glucklich Vol One'



Arresting ears and stealing hearts, this

Norwegian label has been responsible for some of the most beguiling, idiosyncratic music of recent years. Fairly apposite for a genre based in the arctic to be chill maestros, although Mikal Telle only launched his label four years ago, his admirable and consistent output already includes Bjorn Torske, Annie and Royksopp. KEY RELEASE: Annie 'The Greatest Hit'







ESTABLISHED: Scruffy label-head Rob da Bank says, "As a club, in 1995 and as a label, in 1997. The club ran for seven and a half years until earlier this year and then I stopped it because it was doing me in physically." MISSION STATEMENT: "Keep it freestyle, probably. That's the kind of word I keep coming back to. I think that is the aim for any of the records that we put out - that they can be anything. On the label we've got Norwegian pop-punk alongside English electro and folky stuff." HEROES: "Harvey, Andy Weatherall, John Peel and Jose Padilla. Harvey and Weatherall were both Sunday Best regulars at different times and their sets totally captured the whole ethos. Harvey just plays whatever the fuck he wants. He doesn't mind about clearing dancefloors or pissing people off and will just crack on." FIRST BIG TUNE: "To be honest, Sunday Best the label is still totally

fledgling. Even though we've been going for quite a while we've only had four or five actual singles out. The first single was probably Bent's 'I Love My Man'. We put the first Bent record out four years ago, just before they got signed to Ministry, which was nice." BIGGEST ARTIST ALBUM: "We've just signed our first band, so it's a totally new dawn for Sunday Best now. They're called Palace Of Pleasure and are a Norwegian leftfield electronic pop - kind of. It's not really Royksopp." KEY COMPILATION: "The last one, 'Sunday Best 3', had one CD of new stuff and one CD of classic stuff everything from Fleetwood Mac to totally new stuff. That kind of sums up the sound - good music to dance to from the last 30 years." IN THE PIPELINE: "We've got an act

signed called Boom Click who are Big Chill favourites. They're a live band who do wicked records too and the single is coming out in December. And there's my Ladyboy project with Mr Dan. It's all of mine and Dan's influences in ten tracks, so it's a bit all over the place!"

SUNDAY BEST

Matthew Herbert



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EXTRA

MELODIC

melodič



ESTABLISHED: "In 1998, but our first release wasn't until June 1999 which was a Pedro EP," recalls label manager David Cooper.

MISSION STATEMENT: "The reason we are called Melodic is that I just like really, really melodic records. I think everyone does in some ways, even Aphex Twin can be very tuneful certainly as much as Coldplay can be. Whenever you hear a great melody, you just can't help yourself. That's what draws you in to any kind of music, really.'

HEROES: "I suppose the Factory label. I actually did my dissertation on them

- I was obsessed by it. When Twisted Nerve came along that was inspiring too - they made me think I could do that. Probably my biggest influence is the Blue Note label.'

FIRST BIG TUNE: "It would have been our fourth release _ Minotaur Shock's 'Motoring Britain'. It reminded me of Chemical Brothers beats with a beautiful acoustic guitar riff over the top. That went down really well and it sold out immediately. We did it in a lovely gatefold sleeve too. It was something I could play out myself when I was DJing too."

BIGGEST ARTIST ALBUM: "Lucky

Pierre 'Hypnogogia', that came out this September and has been selling really, really well, And even Nick Warren, of all DJs, put it as his record of the year. It's dark and mysterious, but somehow quite uplifting and ambient as well."

KEY COMPILATION: "That has to be 'A Room Full Of Tuneful' and it had 12 tracks on it. What was nice about that was that we've come into contact with quite a few people who are really into the label like Andy Weatherall and Andy Votel. To be honest, there was a real temptation to put on these big names who all wanted to be on the compilation, but in the end we just put our core artists on there and tracks from the best demos that we've had throughout the year."

IN THE PIPELINE: "The main thing will probably be Pedro's debut album which will be out next year in March or April time. His production has come on incredibly well - his new stuff has got the depth and wide embrace of DJ Shadow in terms of breaks - with a lot of electronic twists in the style of someone like Squarepusher or Boom Bip, but still very tuneful."

10:10 30



Home to Bullitnuts and Baby Mammoth, this Hull-based independent label produces and releases a fine selection of funk-

infused downtempo excursions. 'The number one sauce for prime cutlets', even if they do say so themselves.

KEY RELEASE: Fila Brazilia 'Mermaids'

BIG CHILL

Bogehin Famed for promoting parties where one is

obliged to deposit any vestiges of attitude at the door, organiser Pete Lawrence has now branched out into label territory. Only a mere stripling at the moment, the handful of releases so far already point to great things in the future.

KEY RELEASE: Alucidnation 'EP:02'

LEAF

LEFF Initially established to release just one Bark

Psychosis 12-inch, but extremely tall label boss Tony Morley soon realised he had a blossoming entity on his hands. Home to the delicate abstractios of Manitoba and Murcof, this tiny independent should be treasured. **KEY RELEASE:** Various Artists 'Invisible Soundtracks: Macro 2'



MEMPHIS INDUSTRIES

Responsible for the sleeper release of 2000 (Blue States 'Nothing

Changes Under The Sun') Ollie and Matt Jacob's label has a core roster of some of the most forward-thinking producers around - check Fort Lauderdale and Broadway Project for further proof. **KEY RELEASE: Blue States** 'Walkabout'

SOURCE

SOURCE

Primarily loved due to early signings Air, Source continue to

provide top electronica for the discerning via Erlend Oye and Kings of Convenience. Strong contenders for the chill crown. KEY RELEASE: Air 'Kelly

Watch The Stars'

ULTIMATE DILEMMA





ESTABLISHED: Label manager Lee Jenson reckons it was: "In 1996 by a guy called Max Lusardo, who's head of A&R at Mushroom Records now, as a label dedicated to pushing the art of street sound."

MISSION STATEMENT: "I suppose it's to sign great records, establish long and full careers and provide music with feeling and longevity, whatever the genre."

HEROES: "The Velvet Underground, as they've inspired so many people and never compromised their sound. So I have to say the Velvets. Definitely." FIRST BIG TUNE: "It was a cover of the Dawn Penn track 'No, No, No,' but it was in French so it went (adopts indescribably painful French accent] 'Non, Non, Non' by a French artist called Melaaz. It just went massive in Europe, She sounded and looked real sexy. It was way back in 1997. It wasn't a typical reggae track, but it was an excellent cover from a really beautiful vocalist.

BIGGEST ARTIST ALBUM: "Zero 7 'Simple Things'. It's gone platinum now, which is pretty cool. As soon as we heard it, we knew it would have massive appeal. Sam and Henry are

just mega, mega talented. They've been up for so many awards for it. In fact, the guys have also just been nominated for The Shortlist [American equivalent of The Mercury Music Prize] alongside The Avalanches, Aphex Twin and N*E*R*D." **KEY COMPILATION:**

"Badmeaningood', selected by Roots Manuva. It initially seems like an off-key group of tracks, but when you listen to the album, it just flows really well and actually works really well. The version of 'Yellow Submarine' on the album was really mental, we did a 12-inch of that, which was really well received too." IN THE PIPELINE: "We're just about to do a real limited run of Speeka dub cuts (Matt and Rob from Scratch). There will be a new Zero 7 album that should be with us some time in May 2003. A debut album from Freeform Five, who were signed to Classic and a debut from Magnet too. Oh, and Zero 7 have just remixed N*E*R*D that 'Provider' track, which is sounding ace. It's a really epic record with horns and strings - real cool. They're just so talented. The next album is going to be great."



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REVIEWS BY TOM MUGRIDGE & DUNCAN BELL

Post-9/11 paranola, another increase in the price of tabs and ITV's refusal to commission Leftfield Fame Academy have ensured a miserable time for Tom and Dunc in the '02, capped by England's tragic Ashes performance. Their wish-list for Xmas? World peace, a new IMac and please, please, no more 'deep, jazz-inflected house' or 'chill out' records.

VITAL RELEASE

TONY CONRAD WITH FAUST

Outside The Dream Syndicate (Table Of The Elements)

Recorded in three days in October 1972, this collaboration between minimalist composer Tony **Conrad and Krautrockers** Faust disappeared into obscurity almost as soon as it was released. 20 years on though, its prescient qualities are as obvious as its aural experiments are stunning. With Conrad's violin setting up a multi-layered harmonic drone and Faust providing a relentless pulsing beat,

DISCORDINATED **Electric Boy (white label)**

They look good! (army fatigues, suits and rubber catsuits all round.) They sound good! (EBM crossed with glam-rock.) And they feel good tool Are they the best thing ever, or are they the new Sheep On Drugs? We don't know - we've suspended our critical faculties because we want to shag the singer. But this sampler is making us cream our already filthy trousers every time we hear it, especially the title track. With its witty sexelectro sound and ace vocal, it's everything we wanted electroclash to be but manifestly wasn't. (DB) ****

HIM

Remix Series #1 (Fat Cat)

On by far the best of the three mixes here, Nobekazu 'Nobby' Takemura turns 'A Verdict Of Science' into a wonder of extended ambience,



it's an exercise in brutal repetition and infinite variation that seems to last forever and to be over before you know it, plotting an ecstatic course towards the next generation's techno dancefloors as well as a whole raft of rarefied musical experiments. A must. (TM) * * * *

chiming and glitching away to itself for what feels like about four hours. Obviously, this sort of thing can be unbearable, but Takemura's epic, episodic mix shoots up pure aural narcosis. Susumu Yokota and Ultra Living turn in mixes that are drab,

drab, drab, though. (DB) * * *

JAN JELINEK **Jan Jelinek Avec The** Exposures (~scape)

Having avoided any glitchy/clicky stuff for quite some time, this EP came as a refreshing reminder that there's still fun to be had with it. Jelinek, Farben, Gramm or whatever he's calling himself this week has always been one of the best of the bunch, and here his dusty dub cocoon ensnares some surprisingly straightforward Proper House beats like listening to Basement Jaxx through a Geiger counter. (TM) ****

JACKIE-0 MOTHERFUCKER Change (Textile)

The best-named band in the whole goddam US of A encompass the cream of their country's musical traditions - everything from swamp blues to Hicksville folk to Sun Ra outerspaceiazz to the ecstatic drones of Tony Conrad. Seeing as there are about 20 of them, based in three different cities, it's all the more surprising that they manage to produce something coherent from this sprawling mass of influences. Yet while there's a distinct tang of moonshine and psychedelics throughout 'Change', in its own unique way it's as focussed as anything by tight-knit furrow-brows like Tortoise or Godspeed YIBE. Extraordinary. (TM) ****

DEVENDRA BANHART

Oh Me Oh My. . . (Young God) This New York squat-dwelling naif with an early T-Rex obsession has made probably the most affecting and intriguing album of the year. Banhart switches between an agonised falsetto and a hushed. Donovan-like warble while accompanying himself on acoustic guitar, mixing poignant, intensely personal lyrics with a fantastic, Brothers Grimm otherworldliness. It's all the more intriguing coming from the label of former Swans man Michael Gira, who once screamed about raping slaves while his band made your eyes bleed. (TM) ****

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Seasonal Greetings (Mobilé) Are you dreaming of a brown Christmas? Here come 13 Xmastinted tunes from the Val Doonican end of the leftfield/electronica spectrum to take the edge off your cold turkey. We'll gloss over Badly Drawn Boy and the perennially awful St Etienne in favour of Low's blissful 'Long Way Around The Sea', Morgan Caney & Kamal Joory's soft-focus schmaltz and of course Erland Oye's Scandi-folk rendition of Wham!'s 'Last Christmas'. Hermann & Kleine provide the soundtrack to fairy lights blurred by sherry-vision, while Hood's wrist-slitter 'Winter Will Set You Back' is a seasonal reminder of those less fortunate than ourselves - why not send them a few pence for singing lessons? It's a wonderful life. . . (TM) * * * *

WEVIE DE CREPON The Age Old Age Of Old Age (Sonig)

Weyie Stonder, under an even stupider name, muse on small ads that rhyme, randy dogs, unfeasibly complex directions and other oddnesseses, over warped easy listening, clicky ambience and thumping hard house beats. Sickly, slightly sinister wackiness - like a mischievous, 'over-tired' 10 year-old who you secretly suspect may grow up to be a murderer - later gives way to more musically 'proper' stuff that's downright disturbing. (DB) ***

DUNC'S FIVE SINGLES FOR 2002

THE BUG WWW (RAZOR X) JAGA JAZZIST GOING DOWN (SMALLTOWN SUPERSOUND THEY CAME FROM THE STARS (I SAW THEM) YOU CAN'T FOOL US (UM) MAX TUNDRA LYSINE (DOMINO) JAMES YORKSTON THE LANG TOUN (DOMINO)

DJ METHODIST

Trepane Yourself (Post Office) His holiness, man like DJ Methodist returns with arguably his best work yet. Although ostensibly working in the field of electronic noise, there's none of the tiresome, willy-waving sonic fascism of the likes of Whitehouse, Merzbow and Russell Haswell here. Rather, Methodist makes a more subtly worrying, occasionally out-and-out thrilling use of lo-fi cacophony. If there's a criticism, it's that he doesn't develop some of his ideas far enough, but even so, this is a must for those interested in the outer limits of electronic music. (DB) ****

TOM'S FIVE ALBUMS FOR 2002

ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE FAMILY DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, DON'T DO WHATEVER YOU DON'T WANT! (EARWORM) CASSETTEBOY THE PARKER TAPES (BARRY'S BOOTLEGS) RHYTHM & SOUND RHYTHM & IND (RHYTHM & SOUND) BOYD RICE PRESENTS MUSIC FOR AVALLOI XINLISUPREME TOMORROW NEVER COMES (FAT CAT)

THE BUG Slew Dem (Razor X) WWW (Mixes) (Razor (Mi)X)

More splatter-ragga from Kevin 'The Bug' Martin, who seems to have been totally reinvigorated by embracing dancehall. Why, even his beard looks more lustrous these days. On 'Slew Dem', Wayne Lonesome's distorted vocals bring the threat-related pain over another crunching Bug riddim, and the more coherent 'Version' is even better. On the mixes of 'WWW', The Mexican once again logs onto his "powerful internet" to have virtual sex with Kid 606 and Tech Level 2. Both mixes, good though they are, would have been better as B-sides to the original release, which leaves them fi dead. Fussie nuh come test, we say. (DB) ****

DJ BROKENWINDOW Parallel Universe #1 (Violent Turd) PLANET MU ALLSTARS

Criminal '02 (Planet Mu) The leftfield massive get on a bootleg/bastard-pop tip. Kid 606's latest protege DJ Brokenwindow offers up Heavy D over New Order's 'Ecstasy' (good effort), Salt N Pepa over Jean-Jacques Perrey (would you like to share the joke with the rest of the class?) and prog-twats Yes over Boards Of Canada (see me). Hardly a new idea, but there are enough interesting mutations to divert it from an evolutionary dead end. 'Criminal '02', meanwhile, sees the usual Mu robots-in-disguise, putting 'Enter Sandman' (steak tartare), 'Do You Really Like It?' (Quarterpounder with cheese) and 'War Pigs' (Superburger Botulism Deluxe) through the digi-grinder alongside Kylie and The Beach Boys. Mincing dubplate pressure, if you will. (TM) * * *



Culturcide are the wayward uncles voices. 'Ebony And Ivory' spoke of of 'bastard pop'. Hailing from Houston, Texas and Inspired by punk, Throbbing Gristle and disgust with the musical mainstream, their 'Tacky Souvenirs. . .' was a savage and thoroughly illegal mauling of the era's most fatuous anthems. Like situationist karaoke singers, they spat their subverted lyrics over the top of each record in piss-taking difficulties. It's ironic that today,

"Peddling smug hippy platitudes. . Stevie and McCartney fit together in perfect whore-money". Best of all was 'We Are The World': "As Michael and Lionel have shown us/The world is just TV/If children are starving, let them drink Pepsi".

'Tacky Souvenirs' inevitably caused Culturcide costly legal the record companies are handing out their marketing budgets to neutered 'bootleggers' who plagiarise in the name of fashion and profit. Culturcide are the spectres at their feast, (TM)

'Tacky Souvenirs Of Pre-Revolutionary America' occasionally crops up on CD on the Grey Matter label

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This month's photographs are from Trash, the country's leading soirée of electro cum rock with a bit of pop mashed in for good measure, all presided over by our own Breakthrough DJ Award-winner, Erol Alkan. Trash, every Monday at The End, West Central Street, London WC1

MUZIK'S GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST NIGHTS AROUND THE UK

Var 15



BELFAST

SHINE

DECEMBER 21ST S BOXING DAY Venue: QUBSU, University Road Price: £8-£12 Time: 9pm-3am Web: www.shine.net

As usual, Shine are pulling out all the stops for another quality Christmas party. Bringing along the tinsel and fairy lights will be Carl Cox, Alan Simms, Lottie, Tim Deluxe, Simon McDermott, DJ Krust, MC Dynamite, DJ Yoda and Nik Muzka. Come Boxing Day, assuming that they're not too sick from second helpings of turkey curry, the almighty Dave Clarke, Phil Kieran, Alan Simms and Simon McDermott will be helping people to sweat their extra Christmas pounds far away.

CARDIFF

GENERIC

DECEMBER 13TH Venue: Club X, Charles Street Price: £7/£10 Time: 10pm-6am Tel: 07715-116-202

Tonight marks the Tidy Christmas Special with Rachel Auburn and Jez and Charlie representing the hard house label, and superb funky disco house out the back for when you're all boshed out.

BIRMINGHAM Godskitchen are

following up October's Futuregods night of fresh DJ talent with - hey! -Futuregods 2. Come January 17th, GK's Neil Moffitt will have sorted through the mountains of tapes he receives each week and hand picked a lucky fev The first event (which only happened because of a last minute DJ cancellation) sold out, showing that dancefloor punters are far more willing to take risks than most promoters give them credit for. Power to the people! Head to

godskitchen.com for more information.

EDINBURGH

TASTE VERSUS LUVELY NEW YEAR'S DAY

Venue: Liquid Room, 9c Victoria Street Price: £15 Time: 10.30pm-5am Tel: 0131-225-4662

Cue up the explosion samples and air raid sirens because this is the big 'un on every self-respecting hedonist's calendar. Weekly Sunday nighter Taste will be going head-on with the slamming Luvely for their annual special – radge behaviour guaranteed.

GLASGOW

COLOURS BOXING DAY

Venue: The Arches, Midland Street Price: £20 Time: 10pm-3am Tel/Web: 0141-565-1000/www.colours.co.uk Exactly the kind of class knees-up we've come to expect from former Muzik Award winner Colours over the years. Tonight, Fonty, the MYNC Project, Jon Mancini, lain 'Boney' Clark and more perform for your entertainment. Absolutely essential and no mistake.

IPRISTOL: INSIDER THIS YEAR'S BEDROOM BEDLAM MUZIK AWARD WINNERS DEEPGROOVE ON THE BEST OF BRISTOL'S CLUBBING SCENE

BEST TO START? "Pre-set, we'll hit some bars. Always starting at the waterfront to take in Bar Room Bar, the E-Shed and The River." BEST CLUB? "One Friday a month, it's all about Fruity Antics, easily Bristol's best club, held at the Thekla. Deep house central and the vibe is ace all night, Even Daddy G from Massive Attack is impressed."

BEST 24-HOUR? "Head out to The Courtyard for your 24-hour drinking!" BEST KEPT SECRET? "Bar Latino's is an underground venue with a beautiful courtyard and lovely, up-for-it punters, For us, the weekend starts on Thursday at Empathy, a small club housed there."

The City Inn, Bristol is currently offering clubbing packages for £120 including two nights accommodation, an evening meal, two breakfasts, discounts at local shops, and VIP tickets into some of the club mentioned above. Phone for reservations on 0117-925-1001





MISH MASH

CHRISTMAS DAY Venue: Sub Club, 22 Jamaica Street Price: £16 Time: 11pm-4am Web/E-mail: www.mishmashmusic.co.uk/ info@mishmashmusic.co.uk

Mish Mash by name, mish mash by nature. Legendary DJ/promoter Oscar is returning to the Subbie for a special one-off with MC Nordin and bhangra bods Bding providing the eclectic ear food. If you're still going strong and hungry for more, Mish Mash will be going head to head with Subculture in the same venue on Boxing Day. No sleep till bedtime!

PRESSURE

DECEMBER 27TH Venue: The Arches, 253 Argyle Street Price: £17 Time: 10.30pm-4am Tel/Web: 0901-022-0300/

www.slamevents.com Scotland's leading house-cum-technocum-electro par-tay comes up trumps yet again with another superb line-up. Tonight sees Dave Clarke and Slam in the techno room, Hipp-E, Onionz, Tony and Master D in the house room and Jim 'Fake' Hutchison, Richard Fearless and Dave Clarke in the electro room. Yes, 'dangerous' Dave, like Phil Collins at Live Aid, is doing two sets. Three cheers for Dave!

SI.AM

DEC 21ST & JAN -4TI-1/25TI-1 Venue: The Arches, 253 Argyle Street Price: £10/£12 Time: 10.30pm-3am Tel: 0901-022-0300

Despite raising the roof every week, it all got a bit much for Slam a while back and they decided to shut up shop. Luckily, they've now found themselves a bit bored, so the two old dears have decided to return for one month. In a manner similar to the late Gene Kelly, we greeted the news by skipping down the cobbled streets with joy. Whoever said January was shite?



SLAM: CLUB CLASSIC, 1996

Jeff Mills The Bells (Axis) Cast your mind back to the autumn of 1996: drum & bass was going through its Good Looking phase, Cream was at its peak and the Tories were still familiar with the notion of power. It was also the tailend of Slam's incredible week-in, week-out shebang at The Arches. Obviously, the club finished on Slam's 'Positive Education' (and how the tears did flow), but it was Jeff Mills' masterpiece of minimalist techno abstraction that was the real anthem.

LIEIEIDS

BASICS EVERY FRIDAY

Venue: Rehab, Assembly Street (behind Corn Exchange) Price: £10-£12 Time: 10pm-6am

Web: www.backtobasics.co.uk

Can Basics' Dave Beer do no wrong? Apart from wearing a gold shell suit to the Muzik Awards, that is. This month, Doc Martin and James Holroyd do the groovy dancing thing in the main room on December 14th with Tummy Touch in the back. Then it's the Inland Knights, Ralph Lawson and Paul Woolford with an Innaspace party in Room Two on December 21st.

LEICIESTIER

CLUB FORMATION DECEMBER 19TH

Venue: Club Rebirth, Abbey Street Price: £4-£7 Time: 10pm-3am Web: www.formationrecords.com A new drum & bass night rinsing up a storm in Leicester. Tonight heralds the mighty Grooverider, DJ SS, APB and Contact in the main room with Plus One and guests doing breaks and hip hop tings upstairs.

LIMERPOOL

CHIBUKU SHAKE SHAKE MEETS CIRCUS BOXING DAY

Venue: The Masque, Seel Street Price: £10 Time: 10pm-late Tel: 07974-195-304

A meeting of musical minds tonight as the brilliant Circus goes a little bit chicken oriental with Chibuku Shake Shake. Prancing about like Legs And Co (but in a totally, like, cool way) will be Mr Scruff, Lottie, Yousef, Onionz, Master D and many more.

CREAM

BOXING DAY Venue: Lomax, Wolstenholme Square Price: £27 Time: 9pm-6am Web: www.cream.co.uk

The infamous, legendary Cream Boxing Day bash is upon us again. The line-up is as long as the queue is sure to be, with the likes of Jon Carter, DJ Montana, K-Klass, Mauro Picotto and Seb Fontaine, plus more to be confirmed, partying hard over all three rooms.

NOCINO.

BUGGED OUT!

DECEMBER 2157 Venue: The End, 18 West Central Street, WC1 Price: £13-£15 Time: 10pm-7am Tel: 020-7684-5225

Now, this is one to tell the grandchildren about. They'll probably be really keen to go. It's quality all the way, with Roots Manuva, Vitalic (live), Jon Carter, Trevor Jackson, Erol Alkan, Daniel Wang, Tayo, Frank Tope, Nathan Detroit and Rob Bright. Christmas suddenly doesn't seem like such a horrendous prospect, does it?

CARL COX PRESENTS GLOBAL (PART 2) BOXING DAY

Venue: Turnmills, 63b Clerkenwell Road, EC1 Price: £15 Time: 10pm-7am Tel: 020-7250-3409

It's not Boxing Day, it's Coxing Day! [You're fired – Ed.]. Our very favouritest DJ in the whole world, Carl Cox, will be playing a monstrous, seven-hour set.

DEEP, DOWN & DIRTY

DECEMBER 22ND Venue: Herbal, 12-14 Kingsland Road, Shoreditch Price: £5 Time: 8pm-2am Tel: 020 7613 4462

Check out Kenny Hawkes (Space/Paper Records) in the main room dropping US house from east and west coasts. TC One will be playing breaks and beats in the bar.

FABRIC LIVE

DECEMBER 13TH Venue: Fabric, 77a Charterhouse Street, Farringdon Price: £12/£10 NUS Time: 9.30pm-5am

Web: www.fabriclondon.com Bass for your face in the place, tonight. In Room One the Audio Bullys, Plump DJs, Scratch Perverts and Stanton Warriors will putting the crowd through its paces. In Two, it's drum & bass nirvana with Photek, Andy C, Adam F, Moving Fusion and Addiction vocalist CW. Finally, in Room Three, the most perfect hip hop club in town do their monthly thing as Scratch and guest DJs get on the wheels of teflon.

evian spa

NEWS: SUNDAY BEST

Sunday Best is back! The boys and girls can now be found on the first Sunday of the month at The Bedford in Balham (77 Bedford Hill, SW12) from 3pm-10.30pm, for a bargain £1.99. On the third Sunday of the month, they're at the Lock Tavern (Chalk Farm Road, 3pm-close, Free). Whether north or south, Sunday is



FAIR GAME

Venue: Market Place, 11 Market Place, W1 Price: £4 Time: Spm-midnight Web: marketplace-london.com It's quality tunes for singletons tonight, at this new night for the lonesome of heart. Johnno, the master of the Erection Section spins 'appropriate' vinyl, which will most likely be smooth Eighties soul classics with the occasional power ballad. Hmmm.

THE GALLERY EVERY FRIDAY

Venue: Turnmills, 63b Clerkenwell Road Price: £8-£15 Time: 10.30pm-7.30am Web: www.turnmills.com

The gallery continues to actively promote diversity, with Fergie and Nick Warren both guesting on Dec 13th. The Gallery's Christmas party on Dec 20th will feature Pete Tong, Tall Paul, Sister Bliss and Lottie (five-hour set), while the 27th will see a free members 'thank you' party (see our January clubbing feature on page 32 for further information).

GLINT DECEMBER 1-4TH

Venue: Turnmills, 63b Clerkenwell Road Price: £10 in advance, more on the door Time: 10pm-7am Web: www.turnmills.com The Chemical Brothers present another of their infrequent, infamous Glint parties, as previewed in the last issue of Muzik. Joining Tom and Ed, who will be working it out in the main room, will be the ever-excellent Nathan Detroit. In Room Two, trusty Manc soulboy Justin Robertson and Moonboots guest, while Room Three will be hosted by Vegetable Vision.

WIN A COPY OF CREAMX10!

We have a copy of the limited edition CreamX10 book, written by former Muzik Editor Ben Turner, to give to one lucky reader. Cream's James Barton told us: "Our tenth anniversary's a milestone and doing this book seemed the best way to celebrate that. I'm overwhelmed by the responses we've had from DJs, clubbers, celebrities, peers and friends for this book, and stunned by how Cream has touched peoples lives. Here's to another ten!"

To win, tell us your best Cream experience and send it on a postcard to: CreamX10 Book Competition, Muzik, King's Reach Tower, London SE1 9LS.

RICT DECEMBER 22ND

Venue: The End, West Central Street, WC1 Price: £7 in advance, more on the door Time: 9pm-4am Tel: 020-7419-9199 If your idea of 'hard house heaven' isn't a load of dead hard house DJs, you'll be in for a treat tonight. Anne Savage, BK, Ed Real, Lee Haslam and more will be applying the bosh spice, with the Sharp Boys and friends working the bar.

SCHOOL DISCO

IEVERY FRIDAY Venue: Pacha, 191 Victoria Street, SW1 Price: £12 Time: 10pm-3am Tel: 0871-717-7475

Uniform is still required before entry is confirmed, but there is no doubting School Disco's success, and they're now trying for a slither of cred with a music policy of more underground, punkier, funkier sounds. No, us neither. Make like Britney and go for the school slut look.

SUBURB'S SWISS WINTER DECEMBER 21ST

Venue: Cargo, Kingsland Viaduct, Rivington Street, EC2 Price: £6-£9 Time: 9pm-3am Web: www.cargo-london.com Suburb's resident DJ is the excellent Swiss producer and DJ Rollercone, who hosts regular guests from the Swiss house scene at this quality soirée.

TRIBALISM

DECEMBER 1-4TH Venue: Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, SE1 Price: £15 Time: 11pm-8am Tel: 020-7378-6528

Vest-fancying Def Mix gym bunny David Morales will be dropping by tonight, joining Miguel Pellitero, Marc Hughes, Gareth Cooke and Harj.

UNDERWATER CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

DECEMBER 2871-1 Venue: The End, West Central Street, WC1 Price: £10 Time: 10pm-7am Web: www.the-end.co.uk Damn fine house and tech-house at this excellent monthly club night. Tonight it's the turn of Darren Emerson, Steve Mac and Mutiny to warm the cockles.

WALL OF SOUND PRESENTS (SIC)

DECEMBER 20TH Venue: Fabric, Charterhouse Street, Farringdon Price: £12/£10 Time: 9.30pm-5am Tel: 020-7336-8898

Studio 54-themed craziness is promised tonight with Jacques Lu Cont, Propellerheads, 2 Many DJs (Soulwax), Grooverider, Fabio, Krust, Storm, High Contrast, Mark Moore, The Visitor and Themroc.



DRUG ALERT

The batch of yellow

MDMA pills going

hem. For just £7! Tello Saturday and

oodbye Monday!

RACE FOR CHARITY

We love doing our bit for charity. Helping the less fortunate and all that – difficult though it is to find people less fortunate than us. . . So when we heard about Race Off The Streets, our cockles were warmed and a smile spread across our face.

Hoping to raise over £10,000 for the excellent charity Centrepoint, who work to house young people at risk, the event involves teams of music industry types racing go-karts on Monday January 20th at The Raceway in Kings Cross. The magnificent Toni Tambourine will be hosting the auction, dressed in his finest tweeds, and the after-party will be at The Cross.



MANCHIESTER

TRIBAL SESSIONS DECEMBER 20TH

Venue: Sankeys Soap, Beehive Mill, Jersey Street Price: £10 Time: 10pm-6am Tel:0161-661-9668 Ooer, Carl Cox is making his Tribal Sessions debut tonight: wonder if the huge Function 1 sound system is scared? Miss this and you're a twat.

NOTTINGHAM

SUNGLASSES AT NIGHT

FORTNIGHTLY THURSDAYS Venue: Junktion 7, above Bar Seven, Canning Circus Price: Free Time: 8pm-Midnight Tel/Web: 0115-970-4662/ sunglasses@ntlworld.com New synth-pop and electro night, with Ed DFX on Dec 12, and a tribute to Kraftwerk with The Equaliser on Jan 9th.

PORTSMOUTH

PC NA NA EVERY NIGHT

Venue: Guildhall Walk Price: Free Time: 11.30am-1am Mon-Thur; 11.30am-2am Fri & Sat Tel: 02392-734-792 One of the newest Po Na Nas, with something for everyone. Open six nights a

week, with acid jazz on Mondays, soul and r&b on Tuesdays and rock classics on Thursdays. Come the weekend, it's hip hop through to funk on Saturdays and then more housey sounds on a Sunday.

SHIEFFIELD

AUTO FIESTIVAL DECEMBER 1-ITH Venue: Magna, Sheffield Road, Templeborough Steelworks, Rotherham Price: £30 Time: 7pm-2am Web: www.auto-festival.com Boasting a diverse line-up to educate and entertain - just like Carol Vorderman! Highlights will include appearances from Fabric's hot new resident John Peel. chart-busters Royksopp, and quiet lads Four Tet. A must for the more leftfieldleaning, experimental thrill seeker.

WINCHESTER

SPIRAL

DECEMBER 277H Venue: The Winchester Guildhall Price: £20 Time: 9pm-3am Tel: 01962-877-977 A new event, taking place in 'stunning venues across the south of England', boasting guests like Judge Jules, HRH Norman Jay MBE and, er, VJ Kriel guesting, it'll be a right proper knees-up.

FASHION POLICE

Winter's here, so put away your canvas Converse trainers this second. Rainy dancefloors = You fucking stink, you tramp. Don't cry. you'll see them next spring.

- Johnno and Peta at a cheesy disco near you, London Dancing and singing, or groaning, through all things pop and fantastic. Destined to be superstars.
- The Avalanches' DJ Dexter at multiple venues around the country Our mix up, mash up hero, from Australia, wherever that is
- The Liars at Sonic Mook Experiment, The Mean Fiddler, London The funkiest, sexiest, tightest dancepunk band in the world
- Thomas H & Tom at their leaving party, the Lock Tavern, London It's their party and they'll play nosebleed gabba if they want to



phonebook, the unkind might say





THE 500 CLUB DECEMBER 15TH

Venue: The Cord, Dorsey Street, Manchester, England Price: Free Time: 4.30-10.30pm Web: sonic.death@virgin.net Run, don't walk, to the fourth monthly instalment of the 500 Club, brought to you by Justin 'The Minister For Sound' Robertson, Richard 'The War Starts At Midnight' Hector-Jones and Rob 'The Guv'nor' Bright. Justin plays soul records with loads of fuzz guitar, Richard drops anything that the MC5 would approve of and Rob smoke a lot

500

TIMES

18C 1550E 1

/ 39

of fags. Look out for the inevitable influx of random celebrities (Skint's **Damian Harris and** Robert Plant from Led Zeppelin were propping up the bar last month). More importantly, make sure that you grab a copy of 'The 500 Times' a limitededition monthly fanzine (only 39 issues printed) that coincides with the club night. This is the coolest thing ever.

FASHION POLICIE

For goodness' sake, it's not a jungle out there. You're not Rambo, the dancefloor is not Vietnam and dresse in camouflage gear, you look like a twat. Combat fatigue is hitting, alright!

DJ FIDGIT'S TOP 5...

Charlie Beuthin's mix CD made our week – an outstanding, mashed-up selection of urban, old school, house, techno and goodness knows what else. It was so top class, we decided to make him fidget a bit with some probing questions...

TOP FLOOR-EMPTIER

"I was playing at a friend's wedding and he asked me to play Capone & Noreaga's 'Superthug'. The helicopter sound at the beginning scared the older folk, the clav got them running and then the chorus came in and just killed the lot of them."

MOST ADORED RECORD

"An original pressing of 'Curtis', Curtis Mayfield's first solo album after he left The Impressions. I remember just shitting myself hard about everything when I first heard it, from the musicianship and the arrangements to Curtis's vocal. If you haven't got it, buy it. If you have, drop everything right now and listen to it just once more."

RAREST RECORD

"One of the most cherished and rarest I've got is a J-Walk/Jurassic 5 bootleg which I managed to track down. The oddest, though, is probably an R&S box set that actually talks."

MOST UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE

"DJing on a fake beach, complete with palm trees, about 100 tons of sand and 1,000 tripping nutters at the NCP at London Bridge. Being swamped by autograph hunters after playing at Hustler's in Northern Ireland was weird too – I felt like fuckin' N-Sync!"

FAVOURITE OLD SCHOOL RECORDS

"For proper old school, you can't beat Barry White's 'Can't Get Enough Of Your Love', The JBs' 'Blow Your Head' and Lords Of The Underground's 'Chief Rocka'."

DJ Fidgit is playing at Mood Indigo on New Year's Eve at Thirst, Greek Street, London



GLOBAL CLUBBING

NYE IN CZ

Every DJ with a half-decent agent is heading Down Under for the new year. If you're not a dag, we suggest you do the same. And while you're there, might we recommend these little beauties, mate?

THE BIG ONE

MOBILE HOME NEW YEAR'S EVE at Wharf 3, Milliers Point, Sydney

With the best view in the city for the famous NYE fireworks, plus Basement Jaxx, Roger Sanchez and 8,000 other revellers. Info: www.mobilehome.com.au

THE LITTLE ONE GOOD VIBRATIONS NEW YEAR'S EVE

at The Chinese Laundry, 1-3 Slip Street, Sydney Breaks don Tayo, who's on a three month Aussie sabbatical, will headline. The lucky sod. Info: +61-(0)2-9299-4777

THE RECOVERY SESSION FIELD DAY 2003 NEW YEAR'S DAY

Field Day 2003 at The Domain, Sydney An enormous line-up, focusing on the best breaks, electro, drum & bass and beats DJs on offer. The line-up includes Felix Da Housecat, the Plump DJs, Freq Nasty, LTJ Bukem, the Scratch Perverts and many more. Info: www.fuzzy.com.au

THE FESTIVAL BIG DAY OUT JANUARY 17TH-FEBRUARY 2ND

at various capital cities This is the big daddy on the Australian festival circuit, a tried-and-tested favourite that sells out weeks in advance. Its popularity could have something to do with the guaranteed sunshine and staggering amount of music on offer. The line-ups over the many stages are enormous, but try to catch Kraftwerk, Luke Slater and Chicks on Speed. Info: www.bigdayout.com







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October 2001



Issue 75 August 2001



Issue 74 July 2001







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Issue 71 April 2001

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70 March 2001



Issue 62 July 2000



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December 2000







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KRAFTWERK

■ Kraftwerk may look these days like they spend all their time being fed pies by a pie-feeding robot of their own invention, but they once dug cycling like John Major digs fucking mingers. If you want to find out why their clockwork-electro celebration of the world's toughest cycle race is now worth £15, turn to page 106



The **DJ** Manual

1. Loud sounds

The lairiest micro hi-fi of the year and arguably the most stylish. The vertical CD slot plays MP3 CDs as well as your usual platters, for ten hours of non-stop music from one disk. Plus the whole kit (body, two speakers) clips together for carrying around, and the mad plastic exterior comes in green, red or metal. What, no paisley? Phillips Emotive Micro: £349

2. Bring tha noize 🖿

The latest in a long line of home PC music-making packages and the best so far, say we. Choose from 4,000 brand-new, royalty-free loops and b-lines, scratch yourself stupid with virtual decks or make your own remixes by importing downloaded MP3s. Our favourite feature? The Rap Box – plug a mic into your PC and record yourself freestylin'. Or farting. Not that we'd do that. Oh no. . . **HipHop eJay 4: £29**

3. Touchy-feely

The Kaoss Pad 2 looks good, feels great, and just wants to be rubbed all over, just like us. Beats can be kicked in, samples scratched up and filter sweeps, er, swept, using just the stroke of a finger. Other features new to the KP2 include BPM-locked effects, recordable pad motion and tough-as-nails construction. And it's small enough to pop under your tongue. Why, thank you, doctor. **Korg KP2: £299**

4. Madill machine

Like Muzik staff in a prevailing wind, this can go for ever. Unlike most normal MP3 players which can only carry a few hours of tunes, this will generate new music to your taste for as long as you like. From a bank of over 550 instruments and sounds, it'll make music on the fly - pick from styles including techno and house. It also works as FM radio and normal MP3 player, plus the Composing Wizard means you can make and copy tunes to PC or via MIDI. MadPlayer: £249.95





5. Big brother, little brother

We loved Pioneer's CDJ-1000, but it ain't exactly the cheapest CD deck around. But help is at hand for the light of wallet – the new CDJ-800 is a couple of hundred notes cheaper and comes loaded with cool new features, such as the Auto Beat Loop function, which creates perfect loops on the fly. Most importantly, Pioneer's legendary scratch-emulation works the same as on its big

bro'. Oh, and one more thing. The CDJ-800's silver. Lovely silver. . .

Pioneer CDJ-800: £550

6. Ring my bell

The biggest mobile story of the year? Getting through 365 days without our phone getting stolen, dropped down a loo or lost in a club. The second biggest story? Polyphonic ringtones, that can handle multiple notes at once. Finally, a Basement Jaxx tune that doesn't sound like a pelican crossing. The T720 is the best polyphonic phone around, with a colour display, classic Atari games and a classy menu system so it's dead easy to use. Motorola T720: around £120 with contract

7. A new build

It's not an update, it's a whole new ting. Steinberg's complete re-write of Cubase delivers spot-on timing, better stability and a nice, curvy graphical interface. Surround sound mixing is included, as are loads of new virtual synths and FX. Old school users beware – you'll need Windows XP or Mac OS X and a ninja death bastard of a computer to run this beautiful beast. **Steinberg Cubase SX: £529**

8. Mind music

This is the first synth to work in the same way your brain does. A 'neural network', based on the connections in your little grey matter makes sounds like nothing else you'll come across. Other features that help justify the sillymoney price: surround sound and a 10GB hard-drive. Hartmann Neuron: £3,500

The DJ Manual

9. Cool cans

These heavy-duty headphones have been cropping up on the heads of some big-name DJs this year. Why? Maybe it's the crystal-clear sound quality that these vinylspinning heroes desire. Or perhaps the comfy cups that snuggle ears like little fur coats. Or maybe it's because they look really fucking flash. . . Sony MDRV700DJ: around £100

10. Knockout deck

Numark's contender for the Best DJ Deck Ever award hits with a triple combo harder than Lennox Lewis. One: it uses digital technology, so you can lock pitch while changing speed. Two: Great pulling power, with big torque. Three: Modular design – the buttons can be moved, to cater for mix and battle modes. Ladies and gentlemen, that's a third-round KO. Numark TTX1: £450

11. Cheap shots

Arcam does higher fidelity kit, but the combination of price, features and sound on their mid-price equipment is unbeatable. You won't find a better, sweeter sound for your speakers without doubling the price of this superb range of separates. Our only gripe? The sound on all three pieces is so clean and pure, it's difficult to get any bass rumble off it. Arcam DiVA A65 amplifier: £369.90, CD62 CD player: £369.90, T61 tuner: £249.90

12. Less costs more

If you're going to pay mad money, you've got to insist on the very best sound and style. The smallest in the Eclipse TD series delivers both. Perfect for computer audio monitoring or as small-room speakers, their ace design eliminates standing waves in the cabinet and vents energy away from the driver. Put simply, that means that they sound really, really clean.

Eclipse TD system: £799.99



STOCKISTS: Arbiter Group (for Hartmann): 020-8970-1909/ www.hartmann-music.com • Arbiter Group (for Steinberg): 020-8970-1909/ www.steinberguk.com • Arcam: 01223-203-203/ www.arcam.co.uk • Eclipse: 020-7328-4499/ www.eclipse-td.co.uk • Empire Interactive (for eJay): 020-8492-1030/ www.ejay.co.uk • Firebox.com (for MadPlayer): 0870-241-4289/ www.firebox.com • Korg: 01908-857-100/ www.kaoss.co.uk • Microsoft: 0870-601-0100/ www.xbox.com/uk/ • Motorola: 08000-151-151/ www.hellomoto.com • Numark: 01252-341-400/ www.numark.com • Phillips: 0870-900-9070/ www.phillips.com • Pioneer: 01753-789-789/ www.djsounds.com • Sony (for FreQuency): uk.playstation.com • Sony (for MDRV700D)): 08705-111-999/ www.sony.co.uk • Tascam: 01923-438-880/ www.tascam.co.uk

The DJ Manual

Yousef's Top Ten

1) FRIES AND BRIDGES Uprock (Robsoul) "Sleazy, French funk from Phil Weeks' hot label' 2) MAJIK J & SOANE Viva En Nio (Paper) "A cool Latin house work out. It's narty time at Paper!" **3) JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE** Like LLove You (Basement Jaxx Mix/Dub) (Jive) "I'm a fan of hoth Timberlake and the Jaxx. This is a completely wild remix, too" 4) MUSIC FOR LUNATICS Who Said That? (MFF) "Fun time, pumped house that's Just strange - I love it!" 5) W.E.D. Drum Tracks (Brique Rouge) "Funky French, tracky tools from Duriez's imprint."

6) PAPO SANCHE Angus Puras (GP Mix) (Vinyl Soul) "Georgie takes this soulful cut up a gear but still holds the vibe together"

7) KING RASCAL Bombaye (Lusive)

"A long drum workout with sick stabs and a carnival feel" 8) MAW Electronic (MAW) "They truly are the masters of the groove"

9) IGLOO # 5 Outer City Etc (Igloo)

"Four more cut-ups from the anonymous Chi Town crew. Say no more. Ahem!" **10) REZA** Alright (Refunkt) "Disco house with heart"

Tést Pressing Chart

1 FAB FOUR FEATURING ROBERT OWENS Last Night A DJ Blew My Mind (Different

Gear Remix) (Illustrious) 2 METRO AREA Dance Reaction (Source) 3 EP2 Dance (Under the Sun) (Vocal Mix) (Champion) 4 GABRIEL & DRESDEN Lament (Saw Recordings) 5 SANDY B Make The World Go Round (2002 Remix) (white label) 6 INFUSION Legacy (Junkle

XL Remix) (Audio Therapy) 7 ROY AVERS Good Vibrations (Onionz Remix) (Madhouse) 8 DIRTY FUNKER Future (Spirit)

9 JASON NEVINS VERSUS ERIC B & RAKIM I Know You Got Soul (Kontor) 10 GUS GUS David (Underwater)

Compiled by Tommy Scott for Amato Distribution



Believe the hypel This nu-disco duo have deservedly enjoyed massive word-of-mouth sales. But what inspires them?

Morgan Geist Bob James

Heads (Tappan Zee) "Rich pieces, each of which explore bunches of ideas. Many times lighthearted, funky and humorous but sometimes also melancholy, sensual,

dramatic, all in the same piece. Weird!" **Nas** Illmatic (Sony/Columbia)

"I've had more experiences with this album in the car, but it's a guaranteed good listen from start to finish wherever you play it. Amazing stories and tough lyrics that are smarter than your dumb, sleepy azz!"

Gwen Guthrie, Sly & Robbie, Wally Badarou, Darryl Thompson, Larry Levan Padlock EP (Garage/Island) "It's 34 minutes long and it's pure butter.

Spare, soulful, synthy and dubby. It's pretty much perfect, until you get sick of it from listening to it non-stop for six days straight." **UB40**

Signing Off (Graduate)

"The most melancholy reggae songs I've ever heard. For rainy days. . ."

Daniel Wang

Disco Compilation (CD-R) "Unmixed selections from the East Village wild child. From Rahni Harris to Raydio, the stuff is top-notch!"

Darshan Jesrani Matt MacQueen

Late Night Dusties (CD-R) "Underground Chicago jock MMQ keeps it smooth and mellow on this mix. I consider it to be my own personal 'quiet storm!"

Curtis Mayfield

Sweet Exorcist (Curtom) "Every component of every song is vital. An education from the master." Isaac Haves

By The Time I Get To Phoenix (Fantasy/Stax) "This is best in the car at night,

preferably on FM radio. 19 minutes with that organ – yikes!" **Kraftwerk**

Trans Europe Express (Capitol) "Delicate and powerful stuff that truly holds up. The video is a must as well!" **Kelley Polar Quartet**

Audition EP (Environ) "Mr Kelley is a rising star. The record has stayed in my box (and on our answering machine) since it was a demo."

'Metro Area' is out now on Source

Carl Cox writes exclusively for Muzik Magazine. Do we feel smug about that? Oh yes...

1 Dave Clarke The Wolf (Skint) "Great to see him back with an

absolute screamer" **2 Unknown** No-One Listens to Techno, Let's Go Eminem (CD-R-)

"Straight out of Frankfurt, this samples Eminem. One of the biggest records in my box"

3 Oliver Lieb Presents Snakemen (Yoshitoshi) "A unique brand of house with a sample of Chic's 'Freak'. A really smart record showing Oliver's funkier side" 4 Umelt Gatex (Magic Music) "Umek's the man of the moment and this has been huge for everyone. It's a techno stormer but Oliver Lieb has really complemented the original" 5 Max WaxIder Samba

Del Costa (Lupp) "I'm still into the tech-house Latin flavour – this still brings the sun into my clubs. It feels good and is another example of a sound that's not going away." 6 Javdee Plastic Dreams (Indian Dream Mix)(CD-R) "This is a new, techno-tinged version and Jaydee has made an amazing journey. I may have to put it out on my label!" 7 Shane Andrews Darkness Falls (Joey Beltram Mix)(STX) "Joey seems to have got into samples and come up with a brand new, twisted, filtered techno sound" 8 Egyptian Empire The

Horn Track (Luke Slater's Khufu Remix) (Missile 53) "I played this when it came out ten years ago. It was the biggest rave track of the era because the horn sounded like bagpipes! This track's still saying something today"

9 Graig Thomas Wired On Sound (AC Recordings) "Thomas is a real underground techno artist and this is his first offering for the UK techno market. I'm still playing two of the four tracks on this EP out" 10 Tomaz & Filterheadz I Love Techno United (As One) (Lupp)

"This sounds quite close to 'Sunshine'. It's dark but sunny at the same time and there's a breakdown to die for"

The DJ Manual Bedroom Bedlam

David Johnson: He may look like an early evictee from Fame Academy, but he knows his dance onlone

EDROOM THE ULTIMATE HOME **DJ COMPETITION** JANUARY

DAVID JOHNSON 'Life Story'

David Johnson has a lot going for him, despite working in one of the dullest professions known to man by day he's a mortgage specialist, whatever that means. On his 'Life Story' mix, he displays an innate sense of musicality far beyond his 23 years, producing a set that's as funky as it's clever. Containing great tunes, immaculate programming and avoiding the use of cliched DJ gimmicks, 'Life Story' is proof positive that intelligence and dancing aren't mutually exclusive.

The first Bedroom Bedlam winner ever to rinse out that click house flavour, Bristolian David certainly knows how to build a set. 'Life Story' builds and builds through a haze of opiated melodies and complex beatmongery, taking in classics like Pepe Braddock's Herbert-esque

remix of 'Mouth', Herbert's remix of Moloko and, er, Herbert's own 'Thinking Of You'. Add to that Isolee's 'Beau Mot Plage', deep house heroes Charles Webster and Hakan Lidbo, and yet more Herbert - in the form of 'Cafe De Flore' - and you're rolling. And there's a concept too. . .

"There's a loose theme," explains David. 'Breathe', 'Mouth', 'Life' - it's all stuff relating to living – and then it ends with 'Love Story'." Er, right.

"This is just one side of me," he continues. "I've started a club night called Kingpin at Bar Latino in Bristol where we play breaks, house and electro - party music, basically. Where do I want to be in a year? Not working in mortgages! DJing and producing good music as Gecko. Ultimately, I'd like to put together a proper album."

WHO IS **DAVID JOHNSON?**

Contact: dj@geckomusic.com 07900-215-965 Favourite DJs: Derrick Carter, The Chemical Brothers, Justin Robertson and Luke Solomon Favourite Producers: Matthew Herbert, Hakan Lidbo and Silicone Soul

Favourite labels: Classic, Loaded, Moody, Accidental, Junior, En-Vision, Finger Lickin' and Igloo Favourite clubs: First club - and still a firm favourite - is east London's Turnmills. He also likes Bugged Out!, Bristol clubs such as Blue Mountain, Blow Pop and The Level and, of course, Kingpin at Bar Latino

DAVID JOHNSON TRACKLIST

Telepopmusik Breathe (Markus Nikolai Remix) (EMI) Iz & Diz Mouth (Pepe Braddock Mix) (Classic) **Charles Webster** Your Life (Peacefrog) **Hakan Lidbo** More Facts (Force Inc) Moloko Sing It Back (Herbert's Tasteful Dub) (Echo) **Matthew Herbert** Thinking Of You (Phono) **Doctor Rockit** Cafe De Flore (Lifelike) Induceve Idiot (Classic) Isolee Beau Mot Plage (Classic) Hakan Lidbo Powerhead (Moody) Royksopp Poor Leno (Silicone Soul Mix) (Wall Of Sound) **Goldfrapp** Utopia (Jori Hulkonnen Mix) (Mute) **Bushwacka!**

Time For Change (Oblong) Layo & Bushwacka!

Love Story (XL)

JANUARY RUNNIERS 'A Mix By: Vex'

BRAGG/GRETE HJORTH-JOHANSEN "I'd really like

DEBBIE

your opinion," says Dutchman Vincent Wijma. Okay, here goes... and assured mix that includes PMT's mix of D*Note's 'Shed



James Holden and Green Velvet. Guaranteed to make you shiver.

Urban Jungle Part 4' The work of a very presentable young man called Mr Cutz (aka

this brilliant.

jungle mix is

Shahzad Shahid), up slot at Fabric. gnarly jump-up And the sound of a future winner. surely the sound probably. Great of a future warmtunes, ace mixing.

'Nuns, Grris, Owse!'

It's a girl! In Bedroom Bedlam! Debsibel is her (perhaps made up) name and house is her game. Her mix features Chris Pi, Mazi and Wiggle's



it's exceptionally suitable for dark basements full of boys - good Nathan Coles and thinking, Debs.



Jurassic 5, DJ Krush and Aim all jostle for attention on the 'A List', a hip hop and - if you will - trip hop-influenced set from a wildhaired bloke called Chuck.



Also includes Mos Def and Faith Evans' 'Brown Sugar'. hook-up. Cool.

MUZIK DJ NEWS

The Animators – aka 2 Sinners' Carl Howard and BB winner Stewart Bennett – have just released their new single 'Scribble'/ 'Fisticuffs', out now on 2S2. DJ Hyper and Meat Katie have mad love for it and it's a must for any breaks fans.

Jay Cunning has also been keeping busy this month. Not content with DJing to a 9,000-strong. crowd for the Satisfaction crew in Spain, Jay's been hard at work on a series of tracks for an early 2003 release, when he'll also be joining a world tour alongside those pesky 2 Sinners and Atomic Hooligan.

Steve Gerrard's 'Acid Funk' single will be out on Academia later this month, under the name Wrecked Angle, James Zabiela has been playing it on acetate for a while now. Steve will also be touring Finland and Sweden at the end of the year. Will Saul's Simple label will launch mid-February, with Will's debut single release for Simple, 'Fast Lane' – definitely one to watch in 2003, Expect big things...

MUZIK DIRECTORY

People Get Real Christmas Party. December 27th at Promise, Foundation, Newcastle. Simon Stuart and Pete Wilson are joined by legend Robert Owens (live).

Simple Sounds. The last Saturday of the month at Marketplace bar, 11 Marketplace, off Oxford Street, London. Join residents Will Saul (Simple) and Fink (Ninja/Simple) for assorted broken beats and pieces. . .

The Gallery. December 13th at Turnmills, London. Alison Marks hosts another Gallery shindig at Turnmills with a whole lotta special guests.

Déepgroove run tings at Muzik Awards 🖌

<u>IB IP I</u>

Deepgroove, are still recovering after scooping the Muzik Award for Best Bedroom Bedlam DJs, sponsored by the BPI. Sam Shentob, a spokesperson for the BPI, commented:

Lee Pattison

and Grayson

"An important part of the BPI's remit is to promote UK music and educate the next generation of British talent – hence our support of Muzik Magazine's Bedroom Bedlam Award and our

involvement with Radio 1 at the 1 Live event. We're always in the thick of the event, helping those who want to get involved in the industry to network. We invited last year's BB winner Steve Gerrard to 1 Live in Birmingham to take part in a dance panel alongside Hacienda DJ Dave Haslam and Radio 1's Judge Jules, and we're right behind this year's winners Deepgroove."

"Since winning the Award, we're now releasing our first single in January, and we've got gigs coming up in Kuala Lumpar, Belgrade, Toyko and Stokholm," said Deepgroove's Lee. "We're over the moon, Brian!" For information on BPI's education

and training programmes, visit www.bpi.co.uk/careers



JAMES ZABIELA (WE FEEL YA)

Hot, continental action with BB's blond bombshell

"I've spent most of this month travelling around Europe. I was back in the UK for two days briefly before I travelled to Norway, where I spun at a wicked party called Monkey Business in Oslo alongside local DJ legend Nils Noa. The gig was in a tiny place called Sikamekanico and the people were just brilliant – not at all the strange, reindeer-eating loons that I had been led to expect!

J-Z: Feeling less than 'too-rye-aye' about 'Come On Eileen'

"Back on home ground, the big news for me this month was confirmation of my debut residency at The Masque club in Liverpool. The night is called Aztec and it's run by Alderaan, so a quality party is assured.

I continued my gigs abroad in Athens and Hungary. When we finally arrived at our destination in Hungary, it turned out to be this mad club/hotel combination, which was absolutely rocking. The next gig involved taking a 14-hour flight to Singapore, for a Halloween party where 'spirits' were, unsurprisingly, rather high [Aha-ha-ha-ha-ha] – Ed.]

"Springing back to the UK, like a dizzy blond yo-yo, I continued my regular appearances up in Derby, at Club Soda. Next year, I'll be taking a residency there with Lee Burridge. Oh, and if anyone knows of any good hotels in Derby please do write in. The

only one I've stayed in has its own resident DJ. I tell you, that fiddle in 'Come On Eileen' really starts to freak you out when you're sleep deprived!

"My last stop was in Prague, where my Roxy residency continued after a long break after damage caused by floods a few months ago. It'll take more than a bit of damp to stop these bouncing Czechs though..."

DECEMBER HOT TEN

1 Dave Robertson Illuminate (Remix) (CD-R) 2 Simon & Levin Gone (CD-R) 3 Pantopica Pluma (Tinta Mix) (Certificate 18 Electronic Project) 4 Fries & Bridges Uprock 3000 (Robsoul) 5 Boom Click Homegrown (Zabiela Remix) (Sunday Best) 6 Cutlab Loud Kissin' (Cutlab Mix) (Big Chief) 7 Chris Rusris Jack the Sample (Aphasia's Metropolitan Power Routage Mix) (CD-R) 8 H Foundation Hear Dis Sound (Siesta Music) 9 Tribal Tech Funkin' Hell (Black

And White Recordings)

10 Moguai U Know Y (Dave Begg Mix) (Hope Recordings)

HOW TO ... ENTER

Your tape/disc should be at least Send all tapes, minidiscs or 74 minutes long. CDs to: Bedroom Bedlam, Muz

Include a full tracklisting with artist, track title and label. Include your daytime telephone number and a photograph with

number and a photograph with your name written on the back.

Send all tapes, minidiscs or CDs to: Bedroom Bedlam, Muzik Magazine, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. Muzik cannot return any BB tapes. If you hear nothing, keep trying – we try to listen to everything!

HOW TO... WIN

Be original.

Develop your own sound. Don't copy the styles of others or spin obvious anthems.

Record your mix LOUD and pay attention to the quality of the sound as well as the tracklisting.

If you want to book a BB DJ for your gig, club or party, contact Paxton Talbot on:

BOOK A DJ

Tel: +44 (0)20-8653-0664 Fax: +44 (0)20-8653-0642 E-mail: info@lilyuk.com The DJ Manual Desert Island Disco edited by RALPH MOORE

IN DEMAND CLASSIC TEN The most sought-after records at Vinyl Exchange, Manchester



PLASTIKMAN SPASTIK (Plus 8)

Richie Hawtin Plastikman) and John Acquaviva for ages and they used to get me certain test pressings of things they were making Mr G remixes) is out now on Ovum

wild - in both house and techno clubs, when you drop it, it goes mad." (CS)

Josh Wink's 'Superfreak' (Blakkat and

The DJ Manual

One of early techno's biggest stars, New Yorker Joey Beltram debuted as Rhythm Interface with 'Hard Freestyle' on Easy Street in 1989. Moving to Nu Groove in 1990, he released two EPs as Code 6 ('Forgotten Moments' and 'CODES') and one as Lost Entity ('Bring That Beat Back').

Indeed, 1990-91 was a prolific period for Beltram, with the classic 'Let it Ride' as Direct (Alibi) being licensed to R&S, which led to the 'Beltram Volume 1' EP on R&S. This turned Beltram into a techno star almost overnight, thanks in part to 'Energy Flash', which changed the direction of techno towards a darker, harder sound. The follow-up, 'Mentasm', as Second Phase (R&S) was just as influential and is rightly credited with launching the distinctive

Hoover sound. He also collaborated with Richie Hawtin on 'Vortex' under the guise of Final Exposure in 1991. Beltram had made it.

Following his excellent EP for Warp in 1994 ('The Caliber EP'), Tresor offered Beltram a new home in 1995. His tough, minimal sound was perfect for the label, and he released the classic 'Game Form' 12-inch and the impressive album 'Places' for them. His next port of call was Novamute. There, in 1996, he released another impressive album under his JB3 monicker, entitled 'Close Grind'. At the same time, **R&S Records released the essential** 'Classics' album, containing all of Beltram's seminal early tracks.

Since 1999, Beltram has mainly recorded for STX, honing a funkier sound, as showcased on the highly recommended 'Arena'.



GUIDE TO.

CODE 6 £10 **Forgotten Moments EP**

The man behind 'Energy Flash' and 'Mentasm'

JOEY BELTRAM

(Nu Groove 12-inch, 1990)

This five-track EP was Beltram's debut for the label. Mostly a deep, sedate affair with only 'Crack Of My Snare' hinting at what was to come. A quality release.



LOST ENTITY £10 Bring The Beat Back EP

(Nu Groove 12-inch, 1990) The sub-bass and spooky voice samples on the title track hint at future darker leanings, but it's the otherworldy tones of 'Annihilate' that really steal the show.



TECHNICAL ONSLAUGHT £10

Eves Of The Mind (Alibi 12-inch, 1991) The 'Reality' side of this superb 12-inch has a wicked, deep acid track on it. On the flip, the 'Dream' side offers more of the same but with a funky breakbeat flowing underneath.



BELTRAM £15

Volume 1 (R&S 12-inch, 1991) 'Energy Flash', the opening track on this classic EP is probably the definitive Beltram tune, with its menacing kick-drum, dark sub-bass and the unmistakable "Ecstasy" refrain. Transmat also licensed the track.



SECOND PHASE £12

Mentasm (R&S 12-inch, 1991) Recently featured in this magazine as one of the Ten Tunes That Rocked The World, 'Mentasm' launched a glut of imitators across Europe. This 12-inch also includes the over-looked killer 'Mind To Mind'.



E-DANCER £15

Grab The Beat (KMS 12-inch, 1992) Beltram's remix of this Kevin Saunderson tune is a fullon slab of slamming acid techno. The A-side, 'Pump The Move', was sampled on the old progressive house classic 'Intoxication' by React To Rhythm.

Charly (US Elektra 12-inch, 1992)

homage', if you will to 'Mentasm'. Beltram repaid the

This track was one of the many tunes that 'paid



-





compliment with a remix that was only available on this US 12-inch.

THE PRODIGY

E15 ORBITAL

£15

Mutations 2 (FFRR 12-inch, 1992) Beltram gave this early UK rave classic a much needed injection of steroids in his own inimitable way. On 'Mutations 1' he also revamped 'Oolaa'. The same twelve contained Ray Keith's rare remix of 'Chime'.

JOEY BELTRAM £10

The Caliber EP (Warp 12-inch, 1994) This EP was regarded by many as a classic return to form after his early Nineties efforts. All four tracks are of his usual high quality and, by now, he was pursuing a more crisp, polished sound.



Flash Cube (Trax 10-inch, 1996) Part of the excellent Trax series of 10-inch re-issues, this was the standout track on the 'Re-releases 1989-91' album which was a poor quality pressing. Hunt it down for the bonus of Adonis' 'No Way Back' on the B-side.

SWAP PILES OF RECORDS FOR PILES **OF CASH**

If you're struggling to get into bed at night due to the ever-growing piles of records on your bedroom floor, it's probably time to have a clear out. As we've mentioned before, eBay (www.ebay.co.uk) is great for making money on unwanted vinyl. Just ask the guy

NET AGAIN

who recently sold a copy of Spooky's 'Gargantuan' LP for £90. But what if you have hundreds of records to sell? Setting up multiple auctions can be time consuming and hardly worth it for common records worth just a couple of quid each. We certainly don't

recommend selling in bulk - a collection of 52 Hooi records recently went for just £77. A good, free alternative is advertising on music-related message boards on the Net, such as housemusic.com or, indeed, muzik.co.uk. Ideally, you should put a list on a website and point people towards that, or offer to send information by e-mail. It is technically speaking spam, but if you're a regular board visitor, there's nothing to stop you repeating a small advert at the end of each of your messages. .

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New Website Coming Soon The new website will be due around beginning of 2003 and will revolutionise the way you buy records. FACT.

Mauritius Somebody Told Me Nachtflug + Somebody Told me [TIR016] Released : (28/10/0 Pete Gawtry Re-Morse Original + Mara Remix [TIR017] Released : (11/11/2002) Pete Gawtry Re-Morse Remixes Hardy Heller Remix + DJ Remy Remix [TIR018] Released : [0] The Visitors Future Movement Original + Greed Remix [TIR019] Tobi W Nihil Nulla Original + Pump [TIR020]

ריק*ר≡*פלייי

Sphere I Love Sound Original + James Niche remix [PROPINIVADO' Released (199/19) Escape Escape Escape + Dacora Romiz [PROPINITO?] Scienced (191/19) Katania Fallout Original + Exo Duc (PROPINITO)] Released (193/04/2001

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20 Reasons Why...

...Snow is better than cocaine

Arctic flakes or disco dandruff - which white stuff's got the right stuff?

People call coke 'snow' but they don't call snow 'coke'. Therefore snow must be cooler.

If you want to roll a load of snow into a ball and hurl it at someone, you don't have to take out a second mortgage to finance the transaction.

And the person you throw it at is likely to fail over and swear a lot, as opposed to saying, "Thanks!" and skipping off to write a really awful screenplay.

Channel 4 will never commission an evening of Daily-Mail-reader-scaring programmes about snow.

5 Frosty the snowman was, according to the song, "a happy happy soul." We can't imagine that Snorty The Cokeman would be quite so friendly.

6 Although he would probably be more talkative.

You can't get the kiddles out of your hair for an hour or so by telling them to "go and mess around with the cocaine."

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B . . . Although, then again. . .

Snow has

given us skiing, wuvely ickle baby polar bears, magical Christmas mornings and the good bits in Die Hard 2. Cocaine has given us orange snot, and a great idea for a dot-com start-up.

10 Snow is not particularly responsible for the continual subjugation and brutalisation of the South American peasantry. It's hot there usually, apart from anything else.

Snow can cause you to forcibly take time off work, whereas cocaine can only cause you to finish your day's work in 20 minutes and then go and enthusiastically tell your boss about a fantastic series of laboursaving ideas you've just had as blood cascades from both your nostrils.

128 When snow is really nice, you don't get some tedious bug-eyed goon spending half an hour telling you just how nice it is and why.

13When you go out to have fun assume that it's not roughly 60% horse laxative and bathroom scouring powder. **14** When you have had too much snow, you can go and sit in front of the fire with a mug of cocoa, as opposed to spending the next three hours sweating and gurning and wondering where you're going to get some more snow from.

15Coke makes your dick shrink. Admittedly, snow does too, but snow doesn't also make you want to fuck like a rabbit.

16Snow makes your nose cold and picky, but crucially – and call us picky, but we think this is quite important – it doesn't make it actually fall off.

7 It is no fun to draw amusing shapes in coke with your piss.

Although obviously that depends on whose coke it is.

19 If there was no snow, there would be no snowboarders, and we normal, right-minded people would have nobody to punch, shoot or set fire to.

Nobody ever had to give a man called Big Tim a blow-job to get more snow.







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