

#### CHELSEA FROM THE ICE BOX'S CHUNKS OF DEEPNESS

The Fuzz 'To Be Real' (Lady Cop) Fat Cow 'Hot Cake' (Fiasco Productions) Floorbangers '#3' (White Label) Mr Funkster 'Housearockin' (Rampant) Leeman 'Gonna be Alright/Dope Disco' (Promo)

#### **D-RAVE'S LINE IN HARD TRANCE ACTION**

K-90 'Phantasm' (Choci's Choons) Etnica 'Microdrive' (Blue Room) Carl Cox 'Yumm Yumm' (Edel) The Prodigy 'Firestarter' (XL Recordings) LSG 'Fontana (Carl Cox Mix)' (Superstition)

#### SAM FROM THE CHILL BAR'S PHAT ASS BREAKBEATS

Kruder & Dorfmeister 'Shakatakadoo Dub' (Ninjatune) DJ Food 'Cosmic Jam' (Ninjatune) Sin 'Where Shall I Turn' (SSR)

Unitone Hi Fi 'Wickedness Increased (Funki Porcini Mix)' (Incoming/Flying In) Propellerhead 'Ron's Theory' (Wall of Sound)

#### MINDBENDER FROM BRAZIL'S DRUM 'N' BASS MINDFUCKERS

D Carter 'The Chant' (II Strong Recordings) The Funky Technicians 'Airtight' (Legend Records) Dara and the Shooter 'Schizophrenia' (Smile Communications) Mirage 'Just For You' (Odyssee) Digital 'Down Under' (Metalheadz)

## G-SPOT FROM REDZONE'S FAVOURITE HOUSE STORMERS

Heaven 'Aqua' (White Label) BT 'Nocturnal Transmission' (Perfecto) Robert Miles 'Children' (Deconstruction) Inner City 'Your Love' (R&S) Alcatraz 'Give Me Luv' (AM:PM)



or years nobody took British hip-hop seriously. Quality-wise, UK product struggled to stand comparison to year after year of Stateside classics. Meanwhile, the UK produced its own media manipulated musical frenzies: acid house, trip-hop, jungle and Britpop all have their fair share of media attention to the neglect of UK hip-hop. This is about to change. With the long awaited, proudly British, Underdog produced Elementalz, the Brotherhood have released the first genuinely good British hip-hop long player. The beats are produced by the Underdog, and are phat as, but infused with that unique, moody UK flavour. The Brotherhood are rappers Shyloc and Spice, and DJ Deckster. I spoke with Deckster one Friday evening about hip-hop, jungle and all things British. He was madly enthusiastic and fiercely protectively of his beloved hip-hop.

There are three of you, all different nationalities, how did you all come together to be making hip-hop?

"It's more like we're from different backgrounds

than nationalities. But I've been making rap music since 85, on independent labels with an MC called Kam, Shyloc did his first track in 89, with the Underdog, and Spice was just dancing and robbing and doing graffiti, and we all hooked up about 92. The Brotherhood has been going a lot longer than that, but the line-up as it is now has been going since 92."

Is there such a thing as the hip-hop way of life?

"Depends how you make it, but yeah, there definitely is. The way I look at it is, the more hip-hop music I can make, the more I can support my family. Spice has always lived hip-hop, he's more the street side of it, while me and Shyloc are the business side. There are different ways of life in hiphop, it's not just robbing an' that."

#### How would you describe the current state of British hip-hop?

"At the moment we're making a lot of noise, there's a few more bands like us. People in England are coming out with their own lyrics. The way we speak is British, we're not really riding on the American tip anymore. We're still fans of American music, but things are getting much better over here now. But I would say from a British point of view, we're not very good at recognising talent in our own country. Especially in London, it's meant to be the second hip-hop capital, but there's no way it is really. If you look at France and Germany, their local artists outsell American artists, they support their own, and I think it's only a matter of time before that happens here."

#### On your album you refer to a lot of British imagery. Was that a conscious decision or did it just come naturally?

"It is a natural thing, but obviously we sat down and thought about what we were talking about. When we speak to each other we're not like: 'Eh yo', wassup man? I'm selling crack and fucking hoes,' we don't do that. We're like: 'Johnny lost a fiver down the dogs last night.' That's how we speak here, so that's how we come across on the album. We've got a worldwide deal to promote British rap, and basically there's no point in promoting English rap by talking about something that's not happening in England."

### You can't write about what you don't know...

"Yeah, exactly, but a lot of people do, and they make a lot of money out of it. I think in England we're a bit too honest. You can make a million bucks in the States rapping about things you just made up, but in England you can't do that 'cause everybody knows your business."

#### Were you all involved in writing and producing the album?

"Oh, yeah, the Underdog and meself come up with the music, and Shyloc and Spice will write some rhymes to match. We all discuss what we want to say... I mean, some days we'd just go to the Underdog's place and do fuck all, we'd just eat pizza, drink beer, smoke a bit of puff and watch old Top of the Pops, and then the next day we'd just be vibing and it would come together. One of the reasons we called the album *Elementalz* was because all our elements, all our backgrounds went into to it."

DJ Pump Action, the original Brotherhood DJ, left the group in friendly circumstances to produce drum 'n' bass as DJ Crystal, and now he's using a rapper. What do you think of his sound?

"Personally I like the person Danny Chapman, but I don't like the way people come and go out of hip-hop. I don't like the way when things aren't really going right in the scene they move on to another scene, and then come back to hip-hop when things are moving again. I've never done



# **Moseley Shoals**

As half of the Paul Weller band, recent support dates with Oasis, a #2 UK album chart debut and a fanatically-crafted ear-licking album "Moseley Shoals" OCEAN COLOUR SCENE are about to rocket into the mainstream of the rock 'n' roll game. OSC have been publicly championed by Noel Gallagher (Oasis) as the band to watch in 1996 and their mentor Paul Weller who plays keyboards on the first single "The Riverboat Song" (Top 20 UK). Q magazine says of the album "Moseley Shoals": "Remarkably consistent, occasionally inspirational... this is exceptional stuff indeed" (4 stars).

# DOUBT Tragic Kingdom

Gwen Stefani is the dauntingly unique vocalist that fronts NO DOUBT. This band is an antidote to aggro posturing and teen-angst-by-numbers. No Doubt draw from a palette of new wave, guitar-rock, ska, dance, reggae and pop. They've opened for Red Hot Chili Peppers, Ziggy Marley and Fishbone. "Just A Girl' is Gwen's tongue-in-cheek litany on the perils of being a girl growing up in California. LIMITED EDITION COLLECTORS ITEM

> The debut album "Sixteen Stone" from British band BUSH has sold over three million copies in the States and recently reached #4 on the Billboard Charts. Including the singles "Everything Zen". "Come Down" and the new track "Glycerine" the album is now packaged with a Limited Edition 4-track Bonus Disc.

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