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7-Mon & Tachini / EP (TensionWorks)

This installation of the newest TensionWorks release includes four massive tracks split between two artists. First up is 7-mon (a.k.a. Tymon of Industrial Strength). This new alias is a big switch in style from the normal madness he's known for. "We Like Us" is the first cut, which starts out as a chunky pumping techno groove with a thick, gooey, grooving bassline that quickly morphs into an epic stormer that would make even Vitalic lose his mind. On par with such classic bangers as "La Rock," this track is unrelenting in its twists and turns. The second track, "Got Milk?" is another slice of chunky tech-electro funk not to be overlooked! Next up is Tachini, hailing from the depths of Europe, dropping two slabs of gritty, thick techno. "Luckystrike" opens up with an immediately recognizable funky groove that rolls along, building its steam and dropping in an atmospheric synth melody that pushes this into

warehouse territory. The EP finishes with "What's the 411 Good 2?," which is nothing short of a moody, quirky, dark warehouse monster.

File under: Dan Physics, Alex English, Disko Dali, Vitalic

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A.P. & Josh Inc. / "Get Down" / "Zero" (Hydraulix)

Written and produced by A.P. from the Fat Collective in Wales, Hydraulix returns with a groovy hypnotic two-tracker that moves and grooves through your mind as well as your body. Both tracks are similar in style and texture. The music offers the listener a journey through underground U.K. techno. This is a heads down, no-nonsense techno banger great for any time of the night

File under: Wah Wah, SUF and Cluster

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Koney / "Loudness War" (Koney)

Italian producer Koney delivers a fast-paced four-track industrial-hardcore EP. This mad digital release is geared up for the head-strong. Mind-blowing high-pitch sounds, clanky percussion, and pounding kick drums along with twisted noise to incite brain damage on the dance floor. A killer.

File under: Radium, N.e Tunes, Laurent Ho

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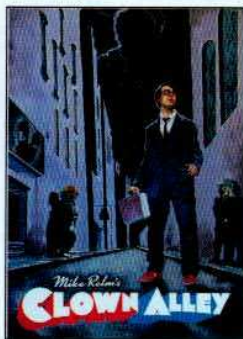
Mindustries / Deus ex Machina EP (Enzyme)

Producer Mindustries will immobilize your ear drums while pushing the limits of the biggest sound system in Europe. It's no surprise his latest industrial banger comes correct. Featuring five tracks, this intense EP is for the most underground listener. With bonus mixes from Nosferatu, Endymion, and The Immobilizers, this EP will find its way onto loads of sweaty decks.

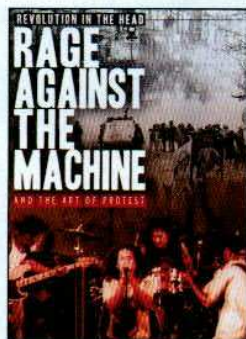
File under: Outside Agency, Nosferatu, Endymion

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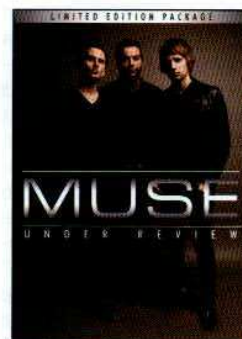
Reviews by Darren Ressler

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Mike Relm's Clown Alley (Radio Fried)

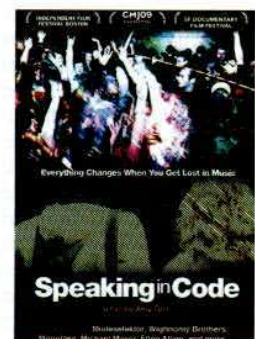
DJ/VJ/producer Mike Relm is an audio-visual insurrectionist who ably cuts up records and video during his lauded live shows. *Clown Alley* is a compilation of live footage from appearances at Coachella and the X Games. Packaged with G- and R-rated discs, Relm's humor is best taken in small doses, like when he posted a fake interview with Larry King (included here) on YouTube. However, over the expanse of this DVD, Relm's drole skits hamper what he's really best at. This is one guy who should let his music do the talking.

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Revolution in the Head: Rage Against the Machine and the Art of Protest (Sexy Intellectual)

Thanks to a grassroots campaign to make Rage Against the Machine's "Killing in the Name" a number-one Christmas record in England, there's been a renewed interest in the iconic '90s band. This documentary investigates RATM's roots and asks a group of talking heads to interpret the band's songs, politics, and history. None of the members are featured, so the second-hand anecdotes and commentary fall just a little short of the mark.

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Muse Under Review (Sexy Intellectual)

An unauthorized look at English prog-punk trio Muse adequately tells the story about how the triumvirate went from unknowns to one of the biggest stadium bands in the world. Interviews with journalists and label execs shed an interesting light on their formation, but the main question—why isn't this band known in the U.S.?—remains the pink elephant in the room. One of their label reps claims his idea to make a Muse song one of the first free, officially-sanctioned downloads leads me to wonder who fact-checked the footage.

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Speaking in Code (sQuare)

What begins as a journey by a married Boston-based couple—David Day and Amy Grill—to figure out why techno isn't popular in the U.S. morphs into a document about the demise of their marriage. Day is an obsessed DJ/writer/promoter who travels all over the world to get his techno fix, and Grill captures over 200 hours of footage. Though they face mounting credit-card debt, they fly to Germany to meet scenesters, like Modoselektor and Wighnomy Brothers, and attend Sonar in Barcelona. They never quite answer the question, but their exploits are compelling.