

Singles

problem is that it's nothing more than that. **Mikey FX**

File under: Bomberman, Crazy 88s, Phrenetic

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Dov / LayerZ / Audiovoid - "Euphoria/Evil Stuff" / "ElectroNom" (Muti)

Electro is great. Long live electro. But it's been a while since we've had electro of this quality with three tunes of varying styles that could all be A-sides on their own. "Euphoria" gets inside your head in the only way electro can with a minimalist approach that's always good and a collection of nasty tech synth sounds all given just enough reverb this tune gets better with each listen. LayerZ brings the Evil Stuff, a tune that fuses electro with dub-step fairly successfully and again, while the production is excellent it feels as if some of the glitch is there just for its own sake, diminishing the quality of the tune a little. "ElectroNom" is arguably the best track on the EP. The bass line is heavy and the melody has an almost Kraftwerk feel a la "Trans Europe Express" ideal for the best of soundsystems. **Mikey FX**

File under: Si Begg, JuJu, Meat Katie

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M.I.Loki / "Get Raw" (Tricksta/UK)

This track has quite an old school feel to

its production with its lack of filter sweeps and crazy effects, which can be so over-used in dance music these days. The bass line is decent and the drums are punchy but it's the main piano riff that has classic written all over it. While the intro is too short, overall it is worth a listen. IIs offers a re-dub here and he doesn't disappoint. It hardly strays much from the original, but it has the same sort of vibe as his requiem remix and would definitely make a good end-of-set tune. **Mikey FX**

File under: IIs, Beber, Tayo

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Toob / "Monkey Drummer" (Lo Recordings/UK)

Jake Williams and Rich Thair have been carving out a great niche for themselves with a lo-fi electronica sound with punk attitude. "Monkey Drummer" has some tough vocals from Jake and wicked live drums from Mr Thair. This shit shows how lame a lot of breaks are these days, Most of them don't even have real breaks in. Raw and uncompromising. **Rennie Pilgrem**

File under: Keith Tenniswood, Leftfield, Two Lone Swordsman

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MKM GBX / "Hold It Down" (Transverse)

Florida's Transverse recordings drop some sickness with this new release. This a heavy tune with a bass line and drum loop

that really brings the filth. Throw in some amen percussion action and a cheeky female vocal and you have a dance floor killer on your hands. If you like it nasty, this one is for you. On the flip, Specimen A and D-Ranged each have their say on how this tune should sound. Specimen A continues in the same vein with some growling bass action and a synth hook sounds straight from the '80s. I don't know how they get away with it, but it works! D-Ranged get his turn on the controls and ups the ante in the only way he knows how. His bass line is pure dirt; while the synth hook feels a little predictable, the production is so crisp and the vocal is used perfectly and makes this the standout track by the tiniest of margins. You could easily play all of these tracks in the same set. **Mikey FX**

File under: Ed209, Rektchords, Screwface

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Blim & Diverted / "Give And Take"

(Track/UK) There's a real East London sound at the moment coming out of Mile End, Blim, Chris Carter, Diverted and Sokolov Sounds etc and two of these have clubbed together for a meaty bass-heavy collaboration. Both sides plough a similar furrow with plenty of distortion, fat beats and filtered riffs. Good driving tech-funk with balls. **Rennie Pilgrem**

File under: Bodysnatchers, Vlad Sokolov, Jhz

DVDs

reviews by Darren Ressler



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Beat Kings: The History of Hip-Hop (Beat Kings) This DVD's strongest asset is its star power. With a mission to educate the masses on the roots of rap music, the creators go directly to the source and interview icons like Marley Marl, DJ Premier, Kanye West, and Swizz Beatz. While the first-hand accounts are often incisive, the main problem lies with the interviewer, who tends to talk over the subjects and offer daft input like, "Yeah, yeah. No doubt." Let's hope they just the camera roll on the sequel...



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Big Audio Dynamite / Live E=MC2 (Cherry Red) On record Mick Jones' post-Clash outfit Big Audio Dynamite melded elements of rock, dub and electronic into a thick, groovy pastiche. This concert from 1992 is simply executed and finds Jones playing B.A.D.'s songs in a spirited, though somewhat flat manner. "The Bottom Line" is perhaps their most rousing number, though a well meaning cover of Prince's "1999" isn't memorable. Featuring only eight songs, this DVD is only for diehard B.A.D fans.



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Metal's Darkside II Vol. 2 (Hypnotic) Best known for her appearance in *World's Biggest Gang Bang 2*, in which she performed a record-breaking 300 sex acts with about 51 men ex-porn queen Jasmin St. Claire attempt to host a *Headbanger's Ball* type program is laughable. For one, she's a horrible interviewer and throws dumb questions to the members of Shadow's Fall, Suffocation and Arch Enemy. And when she talks, she can't seem to keep her head still. Though I would've worshiped her in junior high, she's no Juliya or Jamie Jasta.



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Einstürzende Neubauten / Palast Der Republik (Tinnitus) I never understood the hype around this band. Filmed in November 2004, this DVD shows Neubauten doing their art-industrial schtick, which isn't good or musically interesting. On one number, the band drums on the building's railing to the crowd's delight. Instantly, I was transported to the time I was dragged to see Blue Man Group and remembered wanting to poke my eyes out throughout the show. Keep sharp objects away when watching this DVD.