

File under: Elite Force, JDS, Plumps

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Plump DJs / "Listen to the Baddest"

(Finger Lickin') A Sir Mix-A-Lot line could describe this song best: it's long, strong and down to get the friction on. The latest single from the Plump DJs, "Listen to the Baddest," is a six-minute barrage of sound; a Liberace sample, a Da Brat vocal hook, scratches, and a mean kick drum make it a breakdance song for the 2000s. Think Maggotron on steroids. In the end, however, the track is just that: simple, fun, and fast but ultimately lacking in any real substance and best used sparingly. Though it's been getting play for a while now, including appearing in DJ sets by fellow Finger Licker Krafty Kuts, "Baddest" is

now available as a free download to Finger Lickin' Records 'The Lick' subscribers.

John-Laurent Tronche

File under: Maggotron, The Freestylers circa 1998, Soul of Man

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Merka / "My Spaceship " (Fat/UK)

Chris Carter gets his filthy hands on this and does another of his unique takes on "wonky music." Unlike most of the break-beat people playing at almost electro-house, Chris still has a healthy dose of real drums to liven up the proceedings. He also has a great arsenal of new noises and effects to keep you keen as well. He has found his own sound recently and techno geezers are digging it as well. **Rennie Pilgrem**

File under: Jhz, Andy Page, Diverted

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Vertical Sounds / "Scream" (Def

Box/UK) I know absolutely bugger-all about this label or the artist, but I know the remixers, Move Ya & Steve Lavers. I know they haven't done a duff remix yet, and I know that their production is tip-top. I like their dubby influences and the fact that "Mr. Funk" is never left out in the cold. Move Ya own Know How Records in London, which is probably the finest place for breaks in town, just so you know. They don't let us down here with all of the above, present and correct. **Rennie Pilgrem**
File under: Ali B, Stanton Warriors, Backdraft

DVDs

reviews by Darren Ressler



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Bob Mould / Circle of Friends (MVD Visual) For fans of indie rock hero Bob Mould's impressive body of solo material and work as a member of '80s post-punk icons Hüsker Dü, this concert filmed at the 9:30 Club in Washington, DC (Mould's current hometown) connects the dots between two decades of songwriting perfection. Joined onstage by Brendan Canty (Fugazi), Richard Morel (Morel, Blowoff), and Jason Narducy (Rockets Over Sweden), Mould's vocals and poignant lyrics soar over his crunchy riffs. The camerawork is first-rate, and the often shy Mould comes across as an artist who's comfortable in his own skin. At last!



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Frank N' Dank's European Vacation (Needleworks) Never intended for release, this jerky footage documents Frank N Dank's 2005 European tour with J. Dilla and DJ Rhettmatic. For F&D, it's a public pronouncement of their stupidity as they brag about girls, ganja, and gold chains. It's only watchable because it contains the last footage of J. Dilla, the prolific Detroit MC/hip-hop producer (De La Soul, Janet Jackson, Erykah Badu), who, despite suffering from a rare blood disease, completed the tour. (He died a year later, three days after the release of *Donuts*, at the age of 32.) Confined to a wheelchair, Dilla looked visibly weak and barely able to move on stage, but he rhymed as if he was in perfect health. An example of the power of the human spirit, it's unfortunate Dilla's dignity is tied to such ignorant company.



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Moogfest 2006 Live (MVD Visual) Robert Moog was a Ph.D. in engineering physics who created and marketed the first electronic synths in the '60s. His instruments helped forge the careers of Edgar Winter, Giorgio Moroder, Gary Numan, and many other electronic musicians. To honor Moog (who died in 2005), several musicians decided to organize Moogfest, a now annual event. Filmed at BB King's in NYC, *Moogfest 2006 Live* has an avant-garde performance from DJ Logic and Bernie Worell, a Moogtastic solo number from Roger O'Donnell, and Keith Emersen's rousing rendition of ELP's "Lucky Man." It's a must-have if *Keyboard* is your Bible.



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Dilated Peoples / The Release Party (Expansion Team/ABB) Jason Goldwatch documents the rise of L.A.'s Dilated Peoples, the respected hip-hop trio who toiled in the underground, busted ass to garner a major-label deal, only to have the experience go sour—twice. Goldwatch is a fly on the wall as Rakka Iriscience, Evidence, and DJ Babu struggle with all sorts of drama over the span of 10 years. In the end, the group wiggles out of its contract with Capital and a new window of opportunity—collective and solo—opens for them. Also worthy is the extra footage, a live concert, DP's music videos, and a 7-track bonus CD.