

# head2head

» They do say time is a healer, and we're not suggesting there was ever anything to heal, but, how good is it to see two of the original Basement Boys getting into the studio again to release a mixed, double CD of soulful, uplifting, but deep and driving house music. Step forward Teddy Douglas and DJ Spen, you're both going head2head this month.

## Spen asks Teddy

### Name and age?

Theodore Gregory Douglas and I'm 44 years old.

### What was the first full time job you ever had?

My first full time job was working as a record store salesman at the House of Power.

### At What age did you begin your career as a DJ and what sort of music were you playing when you started?

I started DJing at the age of 18 and I was playing everything from Soft Cell to Sergio Mendes. Also, back then, this was the beginning of the early house movement, with songs like 'Move Your Body' by Marshall Jefferson and artists like Mr Fingers, Liz Torres etc.

### Who inspired you as DJ and why?

I was mostly inspired by the DJs I grew up listening to, hanging at clubs like Better Days, Catacombs, Odells, Zanzibar, The Paradise Garage and the clubhouse shaped my career as a DJ. Tee Scott was the first DJ I heard use the isolators as a DJ tool - 'No Time For Foolin' Around' by Evelyn 'Champagne' King, Wayne Davis had impeccable selection, Tony Humphries could ride two records together so flawlessly that they would become one! Larry Levan - a genius, he really defined what could be considered dance music. Mandrill Harris played three turntables with accapellas and sound EFX, he was way ahead of his time. So this is who I am and this is why I am.

### You are best known for your dance productions. Have you ever produced anything outside of dance music?

Sure, basically all the major label LPs I've produced had different styles of music on them, but the world wants the Basement Boys for the thing that made them successful and that would be dance music.

### You've started a new imprint called Save Your Soul. What inspired that name and what can we expect in the future from the label?

The name was inspired by the scarcity of song orientated, soulful dance music. We also believe that everyone has a soul and not only do we want to move your feet, we also want to touch your soul. Future projects include a new Margaret Grace track called 'God Created Woman' and also a Teddy Douglas CD.

Basement Boys records was/is a big part of dance

### music culture. Will you ever do another production or remix under the Basement Boys name?

You know I am very thankful for the body of work that I have created in my life - it's been a journey. I could not have done it without all the talented musicians, singers, songwriters, producers, engineers, lawyers, accountants etc. But, today it's not about the boys anymore, for the first time ever, it's just about me.

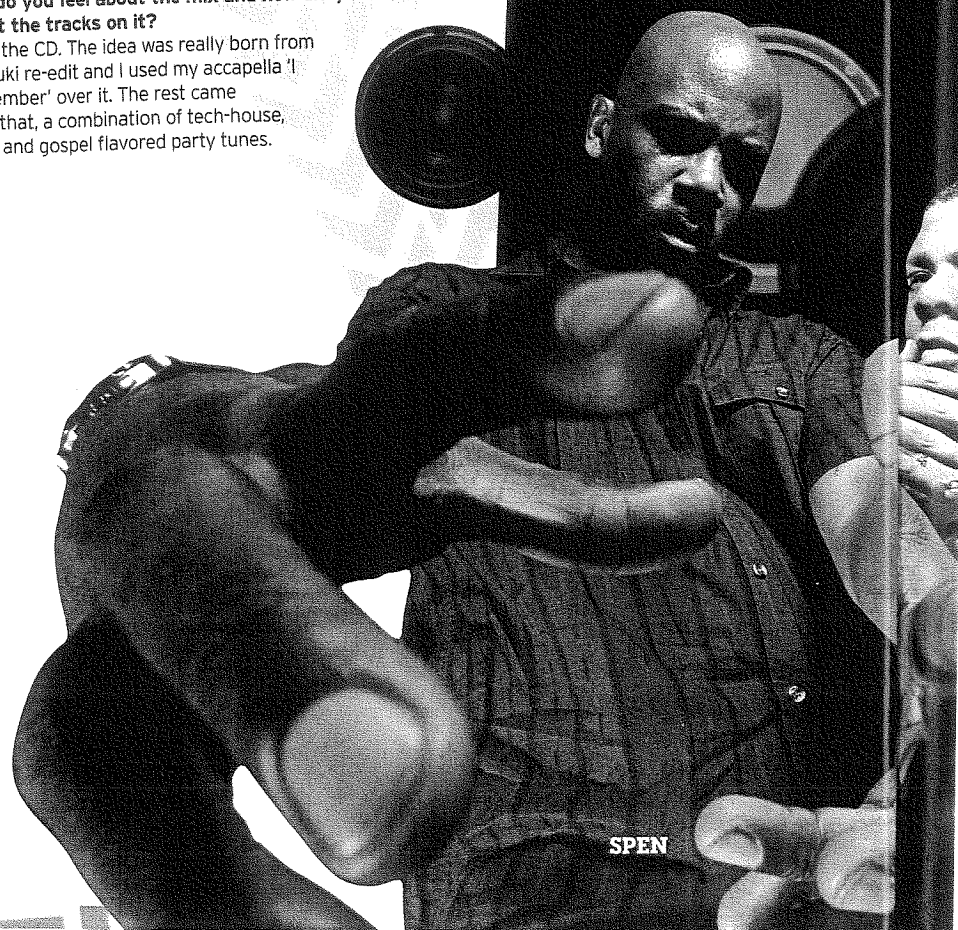
### This King Street 'Mix The Vibe' CD is the first time you've worked closely with me (Spen) on a project in about five years. Did you find it difficult or was it easy? Would you do it again?

Hisa from King St had the idea to reunite us to do this double CD. At first I was a little apprehensive about the idea, but then I decided that it would be a cool thing to do. As far as doing it again...baby steps!

### How do you feel about the mix and how did you select the tracks on it?

I love the CD. The idea was really born from my Yuki re-edit and I used my accapella 'I Remember' over it. The rest came from that, a combination of tech-house, Latin and gospel flavored party tunes.

"We also believe that everyone has a soul and not only do we want to move your feet, we also want to touch your soul." TEDDY



SPEN