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BEATS & RHYMES

HIP HOP REVIEWS

AUG 2007

The Horrendous Acts of Violence

The Horrendous Acts of Violence

By Thomas Quinlan

While Shapeshifter Awol One has just released two new vocal albums (one with Side Road Records producer Factor and the other with "Women Loving Women" collaborators Josh Martinez and Moves), he was able to find some time to produce his own instrumental album under the alias the Horrendous Acts of Violence. This self-titled album is 11 tracks of dark hip-hop in the same vein as Spectre's illbient beats but without the horror movie samples and sounds. Awol takes it to the dance floor on up-tempo tracks "Breakdead" and "Numberonedj," slows it down to a plodding pace on "Tonedead" and "Angelsing," and touches on the middle ground throughout. I can't help but think that most of these instrumentals, while good on their own, would be improved by the addition of an MC. However, the last two tracks would present some problems vocally. For "Whenitallhappened," Awol combines a snail-pace drumbeat, and possibly an accordion, with a guitar solo that never really seems to jive with the rest of the album. He also keeps things slow for "Angelsing," with only a slight use of drums for most of the song, along with plenty of creepy keyboards and vocal effects. Although a little less traditional hip-hop, the album could have done with a few more of these — or maybe even some rappers! Still, the Horrendous Acts of Violence could provide the perfect backdrop for your very own horrorcore raps. (MVD)

SEARCH

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MORE BEATS & RHYMES

AUG 2007

Raheem Jamal - Boombox



If a hip-hop record can truly be viewed as any other in a wider musical context, then the amount of genuine depth and revelation found on the debut set from Boston MC Raheem Jamal is exactly what you should hope for from a distinctive artist. Raheem's album Boombox offers a prime serving of intelligent ...[Read More](#)

Grand Analog - Calligraffiti



Mood Ruff rapper Odario G. Williams has finally found his groove. Along with brother Ofield K. Williams (DJ), and a band that includes Darcy Ataman, Danc Mitchell, Alister Johnson and Arun Chaturvedi, Grand Analog are a pleasant mix of hip-hop, dub, rock and soul that stands somewhere between plan ...[Read More](#)

Belly - The Revolution

Big Shug - Stretchcamp

Bumps - Bumps

Calligraffiti - Grand Analog

D.O. - North Starr

D.O. - North Starr

DJ Mayonnaise - Still Alive

Fabulous - From Nothin' To Somethin'

K Banger - Truth Be Told

Kardinal Offishall & Clinton Sparks - Do The Right Thing

Luu Breeze - The Prince of the Dot Vol. 2

Random - Mega Ran

Sean Ward - I Was Made For This

T.I. - T.I. vs T.I.P.

T-Pain - Epiphany

Various Artists - DukeDaGod Presents Dipset: More Than Music Vol. 2

Various Artists - Snoop Dogg Presents The Big Squeeze

Waajeed - The War LP

The Weird Apples - The Big Crunch

BEATS & RHYMES ARCHIVE

alive with taste

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WHERE I PLAY

AUG 2007

Jesse Zubot



Jesse Zubot's basement studio is wrapped in a chaotic mess of wires, cords and blinking electronic equipment. Piles of preamps and converters litter the shelves. On the walls hang a Dobro, mandolin and a sharp set of antelope horns. Above the glow of a Mac and its affixed mixing board, a window is cut into the wall. [Read More](#)



FRONT FIVE

AUG 2007

Taking A Spin DVD Game



The Bicycles are a lot like the Archies, and not just musically. Toronto's favourite neo-bubblegum band belongs to a bona fide gang that help keep fun ideas flowing. With help from local comics Holly Prazo, Inessa Frantowski and Jared Sales, the Bicycles have released an interactive game — a DVD package... [Read More](#)



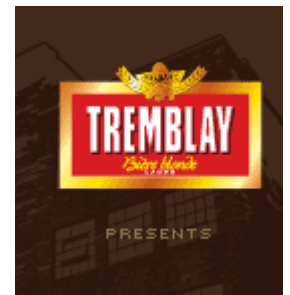
DVD REVIEWS

AUG 2007

Weeds: Season Two



Showtime's pot dealing suburban mom returns emboldened in this second season — and so does this DVD package, flaunting its marijuana mojo over the special features. Just as the series takes Nancy Botwin (a fabulous Mary-Louise Parker) more seriously into the pot business by starting her own gate...Full Review



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