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From the Publisher

DJ shortround

A s p a r k.

1-can't-believe-this m on me n.

1-315 Broadway on Movement weekend, naily?

The filmes rise, a concept energies. Fingers fly

across the keyboard to spread the word. Be event
post, text, favors called-in...success!

A party comes together seamlessly
on Sturdusk, May 22, 2015.

Ten days earlier, we (DKQ magazine) host a night at the Unban Bean Comprey on Thurday nights where producers play their own tracks and share their musclad journey on an amazing Judio Recure Ream sound system. Plays adds, or May 14 our guest Bill Beaver comes with his friend kernly Groce. Jeremy is a happy, hard working, generous fellah with stories to spin and love for the electronic music scane. As we meet, Jeremy pulls down his giant, tear-drop sunglasses and said: "You're Schortound, right?" I love your magazine. I still have the one with Jøremy Ellis on the cover." Considering my leat issue was in 2008, I knew he was in tune. As it turns out, he does a lot of plumbing work for Bert's in Eastern Market and 1315 Broadway, the latter was one of the homes of the legendary Music institute.

1315 Broadway is beased by friend the scene, Bert Dearing. At the moment, it's rarely open. Jeremy found out that the lease for this building would be up soon and may not be renewed. The landscape changes quickly with buildings being purchased, so Jeremy asked Bert if he could use the club to hold one last party over Movement weekend. Who know? It minit become a TG Friend.

Jeremy told me to come by on Saturday to check out his own sound system. I'm thinking "is this gay for real?" People suik the talk a lot here, but that night we were walking the walk. Spinning records at ZAM with Jeremy, his hierath lick and Bill Beaver. Then Jeremy asked if I would promote and book the talent for the Saturday, party during Movement. I said, "You do know that the event is THIS Saturday, right?" The next question, "is there a budget?" He pulls down his shades and says "not really." I said, "Eles do it."

The next day my head was spinning with possible inleus scenarios and ohm-yGodf broughts. I went to MotorCity Wine, the place to be on Sunday nights and as it so happens, former Music Institute recident Allon Miller was there. I told him about the opportunity and he said, "man, I haven't been in that building since we took the sound system out of there." His eyes welfeld up a bit when I saked if he would bless us with a set in his old stomping grounds.

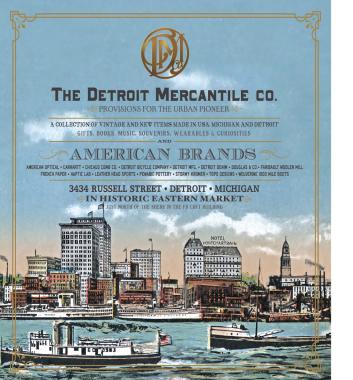
We got Alton to play, Billy Beaver is in and as always, I'll play a bit. Good friend, Cymatic Soles founder and house dancer Gehrik Mohr tells me DJ Noey Lopez is flying in from Texas to come to the festival. The dancers all like him, he's in. Designer Joshua Adams whipped out a filer on a moment's notice and it was on!

It was electric to say the least. As the festival ended and people started filling in, howep played a finantiac set. Sprinkle is some Billy Love freestyle, the dances loved it. I can't thank. Gehrik and Noey enough. Alton, booked to play from IAM to 2AM, played until sam and showed us how much he loved that space with the music he how. Remer holders the event and busiceth his as to

A night to remember came from a spark. Inspiration for this magazine came from a similiar kind of s p a r k. Enjoy & thank you for paying attention! BUY VINYL MP

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detroit electronic quarterly

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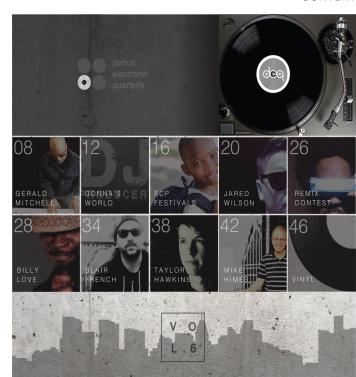
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CONTENT







MATCH PERFECT

Jeans, gym shoes and a baseball cap. Far from the dothing you might imagine one of the most prominent names in Detroit electronic music would wear. And that's what is important to understand about Gerald Mitchell; the possibility hat you won't get what you're expecting, is very real.

Growing up in Detroit, Geralds home was filled with love and music. His mother used to sing a lot while working around the house. "My mother was basically my introduction to music," he says, "She took me to plano lessons. My father actually bought a plano. I took music reading lessons for a while, and then I just stopped because I started playing in church. I went to Minee Brother's School of Music to learn how to play gospel music. So once I figured that out, it was a warps. I was making money."

Not unlike many other artists from this musical metropols, Gerald got his first successful musical experiences performing in the church. His father was a minister, so his entire family was very active in the worship services. Gerald played keyboards, drums, bass and quutar for the choir.

Besides gaining experience in expressing himself musically in front of an audience, his early years in the church also provided him with a firm spiritual base that he says is still vitally important to him today. Guided by that faith and a love for music, Geald began to explore other types of multic. Once one of his older brothers bought a freeder Bhodes, Geald began to experiment with various sounds and electronic tones. "Ny brother bought a freeder Bhodes plane, and that was the first electronic instrument played bedides the Hammond B3 organ when I was in church. We also had an acoustic plane of home. But the Bhodes was an important thing, that's how! started playing in hards. I met a friend named Dwight Hutdon, and he had these synthesizes. I traded my bass for his Minimong, Then I staff the Minimong on top of the Ribodes, and lasted outting both unchair and united engs."

At that time Gerald was very influenced by the music of Prince, The Time, and many other funk and soul groups of the early eighties. He was a part of several different bands during this time, including one with his brothers (Lamborghini), and another with Mike Banks on quiltar (The Merchanixo).

Further influenced by the music they heard on The Electrifying Mojo's legendary radio show and the maintary local dance show, The Scene, Mike and Gerald found themselves experimenting with more synth-inged sounds and electronic elements. He says, "We just started messing around with synthesizes. Then I wan't really techno, techno wasn't that big. Mojo started introducing groups like The 8-52s and stuff, Like right now adoo plays like The 8-52s and stuff, Like right now adoo play used to back in the day. That's how we got introduced to different styles. Mojo played whaterer was new." Once Gerald and Mike teamed up with Rolando, the group Los Hermanos was born. The three of them would spend days and nights eating Chinese food and making tracks. They developed a greatly successful system to perfect their sound. "It's like how things went with Jaquar," he recalls, "Actually I produced most of the music. Rolando was there to edit it, and make sure it was DJ and club ready. He would come back and say like, 'Hey man, you need to change the high hat and bring up the strings." He would tell me and Mike, and we would come home and fix it. See we had a system. It was like a brotherhood had formed. Even though he [Rolando] was on the road more than us, we would still give him ammunition to play. I really loved being a part of that. He actually taught me a lot."

When Rolando left the group, Mike declarate more time to Underground Reisstance and Gerald both a record label and his production company. He views Los Hermanos as a platform to give other artists the chance to phins, sometimes in collaboration with him and other as solo artists. He is currently touring Europe doing both like performances and Olater's.

WE HAD A S Y S T E M IT WAS LIKE A BROTHERHOOD

Gerald has also been concentrating on doing more work and production simply as Gerald Mitchell. One of the projects he has slated to be released soon is with Pierre Anthony on the Gerald Mitchell International label



THE GERALD MITCHELL G E N R E.

Seemingly uncomfortable with having to jam the sound and style of the music he is making into a genre, when asked to place it in a category he responds, "It's the Gerald Mitchell Genre."

do. He has many pieces of unreleased music of varied types. He has plans for numerous projects including both local and international artists. When asked to give advice to up and coming producers, Gerald replies, "Work hard. Keep working hard. Do it everyday - all day. Don't give up. Whatever you're dreaming, if you ain't having nightmares in your dreams you ain't working your dream hard enough."

Beneath the casual and laid back exterior, Gerald Mitchell is a man of strong will, one who has proven that hard work, pays off. His musical success has demonstrated that taking chances and experimenting with something new is always better than playing it safe. Behind the wide-selling releases and world tours, Gerald remains, simply, a man who holds on to a belief in a power greater than himself.

When he is in Detroit, he still plays during local church services. He is keenly aware of how much of a role faithfulness plays in his daily life. To what does he attribute his success to this point? Gerald says, "I just think it's my strong faith and belief in God. I think that's over all." /D.









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PRODUCERS

DONNA'S WORLD by Gardher

DO YOU K N O W DETROIT?

For this inaugural edition of Donna's World Lasked what I thought was a simple question /they informed me otherwise/ of the artists listed.

This was the question

What did you get absolutely right in your music career and what would you do differently?

The following are their responses. See if you can guess who said what! Fill in the artist's number /see list/ on the line:

What I feel I got absolutely right was the idea to start my own bable, Sistrum Recordings. By doing this I am in control of my own music. I do not have to wait on others. The only thing I would have done differently is not sell all my analog gear back in 2004. I ended up buying a lot of it again when I realized I prefered the sound of analog.

Slaying consistent and believing in what I chook to do with my music career. Not allowing a male dominated field of work stop me from schlewing goals. But the best thing that happend is that I inspired and continue to inspire generations of formales to follow their dearn. What I would have done differently is promote myself or get a manager to get more ging somessas. I would have kept DRMC (Detroit Regional Music Conference) on the surface longer.

__lalways listened to everything, listened to song structures and I made a point to keep an open mind which allowed me to develop my own sound. I don't know if I would have done anything different by but still thinking about taking a theory and composition class. The beauty of music is that you are always learning and pushing to explore.

__My answer to the question is simple

I have no regrets

For better or worse I have always followed my own way and tried to maintain my artistic integrity.

___ I think what I did absolutely right in my music career was to believe in myself when no one else did, to keep gushing on even when I had nothing. Realizing that "the music" was more important than anything else when the chips were down is something that I feel got right. What I would have done differently is that I would have signed with Metroplex back in 1987 when I had the rare opportunity while recording in Juan's studio.

___ I got my music values right. My personal connections....I would like to have seen more balance around me when I was in pain.

In the beginning, I wondered how I could stand out in this "male-dominated field". Once I started rolling, there was no turning back. Promoting myself as a strong woman in music was the only way to grow and go. If I had to do it all again, the only difference would be me working harder on promoting all that I do.

The one thing I feel that I got right in my music career was to become a producer as well as a DJ. What I voould have done differently was put out my tracks earlier in my career I My first track I put out was in 1997 on Eddie Fowlkes I belb but I had been producing since 1990. I was a DJ for 15 years before I put out a track (1982-1997) and 3 months after I put out a track (1982-1997) and 5 months after put out at track (1982-1997) and 5 months after I put out at track (1982-1997) and 5 mont The thing lifet I got completely right was work which and how to test people allways tried to help out with any info or help if I was asked by other artists. Never stop building relationships with people. It really can give your career forsperity. The things I would have done differently were simply weeding out those people who neither had the drive nor the love for what I was doing or for the electronic music scene and I should have moved to another country more quickly.

___I think one sentence sums it all up. I think knowing that I would have to find my own voice to be heard. What I would have done differently is not second guess myself as much.

___I believe I was on the right track with my musical taste and with my musical family as well. The one thing I would have done differently was not be so trusting of my partners when it came to my own livelihood! I'm still recovering from that mistake.

In my DJ career the best thing was that I learned my craft before going out professionally. I held a few residencies and respected that idea of being a resident. The worst thing I did was not brand my name well until later in my career. In my production career I started late. If I could, I would have started earlier.

What I did right in my career was to follow my instinct of becoming a DI. When you have communication with yourself, it will guide you in the right direction towards your dreams or goals of life. I wish in 1992 I would have stayed with Carl Coxibooking agency (Ultimate) in London and stayed more focused on what Cox was trying to build instead of hanging out in a lot of different countries.

__l have no regrets about my career and the path that I have taken. I have met so many talented and wonderful people that have made my journey even more special. I wouldn't change a thing! I am honored to have had beautful times with Marcus Belgrave. His legacy is an inspiration for any musician of any style.

___What I got right was buying that first Korg MS10 synthesizer, studying it, playing with it every day and then eventually making my first record



(Alleys of your Mind) with it. What would I change (if I could)? Probably would have given Fantasy records the contract extension they asked for in order to further promote "Clear" and push it to #1 on Billboard too 100 chart.

Miscially, I feel I absolutely got it right by moving back to Detroit from the Chicago to run Metroples. The opperience I gained from it, being around Mike, at Submerge and Carl at Planet E gave me a clear vision on how to run a label. Just being in the area presented a plethora of other opportunities as well. If I could, I wouldn't have stopped taking music lessons. Had I stuck with it, I'm positive I'd be a hotter producer.

Helping others and absolutely nothing

Jam very happy about the decision that I we made to creativate my own label Aesthetic Audio. Articulating your own soundtrack is a beauful thing and for the world to receive it well is externely gratifying. In regard to something that I would have done as bifferently, I got just a going forward I'll need to Indi Creatine new worp. So in a simple control of the con

The will to keep creating and messing with technology when others thought I was kind of crazy or too different and for parting music out myself on beginning. That it made is they difference I strike, I beginning. That it made is they difference I strike, I definitely got that right. I loval bring out Dix when I was doing Inner (if) level. Yould bring out Dix when I was doing Inner (if) level I would bring out Dix when providing Dix I didn't fitted with the loss of the providing Dix I didn't fitted along the providing Dix I didn't think allous It because it was not traditional to have a Dix a member of because I was not traditional to have a Dix a member of lates. I would have held like 3 intraeld.

_I'd say that to far in my music careet, one thing I have done right is not compronsing my sound. With the current wave of electronic music, I feel like a lot of producers make what they know will make them big bucks. They emulate whatever is popular at that time, instead of channeling their own individually individually is what makes each producer special. Differently, I would've been more patient.

__What I got right was the ability to produce and publish my own music independently. What I would have done differently is invest more time and money cultivating my talent and business practices. That's just the short view.

___I surround myself with like minded individuals. I believe some people don't really like music. I try to stay away from those folks. If you get "bitten" by those folks... 28 days later. Nothing would have been done differently except the change in frequency.

__The #1 thing I can think of is breaking out of a DJ collective and going solt. That is the main thing that can hold an arist back. Also, I realized that there was more to DJing than just playing music. I had to produce as well or if of the reverse stuck in a particular market and gent if I had to do it all over agant, it would have started producing sooner, that's my only report.

Jobs size if I got anything gift horethy. I feel belowed that I have a carrier in music doing what I lose I thank God for that. But I would say following my lose for music was right. I get to travel and see the world and meet crazy coal people. Insilized I had there followed IR 300s core in Befini and one in Detroit and a third one still in the original box in those followed in the original box in an ecouche to buy more get. Soil would not have been still in the original box in the originate of the original box in the or

What I think we got right is we were able to develop our own sound that's unique to a and we have not strayed from it through our carees. We also were able to develop our own sityle of live performance (although unintentional) that also gives us a bit more uniqueness. What we got wrong? We spent too many years working on the carees of other artists and date for first the value of working on our own tallerts. Also, we did not focus enough on our own tallerts. Also, we did not focus enough on the marketing of our music and ourselves as artists.

Learning the business, becoming a better producer and taking control of my own destination. Probably nothing because I wouldn't have learned from my mistakes and now I am able to teach my son, who plays 4 different instruments, the music business. __I don't believe there's anything I've gotten absolutely right in my career per se. I follow my intentions as best as I can live. If you only strive to learn and understand more about what peaks your spirit only good things will come to you. The only greet I have is I wish I'd always understood this as a

____ Part 1/ The ability to play all types of music disco, soulful, deep, techy.

Part 2/ Being more dedicated to production

detroited.com/ contest section

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by John Bileebob Williams

MUSIC FESTIVALS

Music festivals are over the top featuring more than just the hottest bands and DJs. Many host a metaphorical and bona fide circus atmosphere. But sometimes you just want to attend an event that stick to lis guns and mission, focusing on the music.

Ten years strong Backpack Music Festival/BPMF/ is an event that feels right, the tunes are so good and the proceeds go to the community's youth.

Originally called the Backpack House Music Picnic, the festival was founded in 2005. Even after the name change, the festival's objective has remained the same, following the creed, "No child should be without the basics to succeed."

John "Jammin" Collins is a local and international DJ, a member of Underground Resistance and the festival's Artistic Director. He has been an integral part of the house and discoscene and witnessed the birth of Detroit electronic music in the 1980s. At that time he was a DJ at Cheeks, a club that played an important role in the Detroit underground dance music scene and was where Jeff Mills is said to have gotten his start.

The festivals aim is to provide free backpacks and school supplies to families that need them. John says,
"We provide backpacks to Peggys Place Women
and Children Shelter, Denby Center, Homes For
Black Children Foster Care Program Adoption
Agency, COTS Coalition of Temporary Shelter, Pride
Area Community Council, University of Michigan
Transplant Center Kids, Camp Michitanki, Bennett
Elementary and Evergeen/ Lahser 7-8 Mile
Community Council and the MSU Community
Music School, Detroit. There are many parents that
cannot afford to provide backpack and supplies for
their children. If a child is to learn, progress and
succeed, these basic needs must be met."

house music community for support. John adds, "Many DJs and artists have donated their time by providing entertainment to the festival."

The artists that have performed represent diverse genres.

At the BPMF you will hear techno, house and other electronic dance music, hip-hop, soul and even poetry. John recalls, "There have been so many memorable acts. Detroit has the best talent in the world- be it techno, house, gospel, jazz, rock, R&B, neo-soul or country. Artists from all of these genes have performed at one of festival events. "Over the years, our lineup has become more diverse. One of the highlights is the Kidz Stage which includes singers, dancers, poets and rappers from the Detroit metro area. This year the festival will reflect that same diversily along with some of Detroits top international and local Dix and artists."

Some artists that have performed at previous Backpack Music Festivals include Britney Stoney, Terrence Parker, Kevin Saunderson, Derrick May, Aaron Carl, Michael Turner, Los Hermanos, Norm Talley, Al Ester, Tom Linder, Rick Wilhite, D3, Malik Alston, Jenny LaFemme and Wayne Williams.

Eddie Fowlkes, Juan Atkins, Jeff Mills, Rob Martinez,

The festival is excited to have WDET's Sunday Session host, Chris Campbell emcee one of the stages. The public radio station has been a huge supporter of the BPMF for many years.

The Backpack Music festival has remained successful due to the large number of volunteers from Detroit, the sububts, around the country and the world. Some of the larger organizations that have helped include the Kresge Foundation, Transmat, Underground Resistance, Metroplex, Hill Realty, Historic Realty, Whole Foods and State Farm.

Putting on an annual event of this magnitude takes tenacity. But John finds time management is the key to keeping his numerous projects in line. "The hardest part of this event is pulling together all of the logistics to make this successful. It takes at least a year to properly plan a fundraiser of this magnitude. We have a very strong planning committee and very dedicated, loyal volunteers. Without our volunteers, our event would not be successful. At the end of the day, we feel extremely proud of our efforts to give back to the community."

AN ANNUAL EVENT OF THE MAGNITUTD TAKES



FOR A CAUSE

John lows what he does, and more importantly, he is estatist to wake up every day. He neceived a kidney transplant 16 months ago after being on dalysis for ten years. With a nenewed outlook on life he says, "My life has changed. I am completely recovered, healthy, and once again able to live a normal life-1 am blessed. Not much burns me out. I try to stay upbeat and focused."

He was appointed to the Detroit Entertainment Commission last year. John speaks highly of Detroit's strong entertainment industry and notes that there is now an "energized group of commissioners that are working towards maintaining and improving the level of entertainment (of all genres) for the residents of the City of Detroit." //BW

Judy Shelton – Director John E. Collins – Artistic Director Website: www.backpackmusicfestival.net For donations: www.scpmichigan.org

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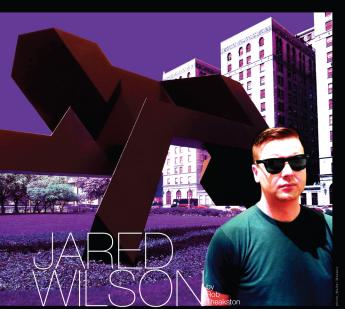
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who don't KNOW

Jared Wilson has been a staple of the underground electronic music scene in form or fashion for

Affectionately known as "BEARD" by all who spent many hours arguing with him on the non-everoperated betto un reseage beauty. Wilson has been on a tear lately with a healthy stream of outstanding acid-informed music on its 7777 imports as well as other labels around the globe. I took a few moments away from grading papers to speak with Mr. Wilson over some Sazeric Fig. Wilson sides a winder commissional.

- HT; So, here we are. Just you and me. You've been busy lately. Normally you're the kind of fellow that would just make an appearance here, a release there. What brought on this level of output?
- JW: After the first couple 7777 releases I started getting more requests to make records and do remixes for other labels. This all made it possible to have a steadier output and be in a position to release as I would like on 7777.
- RT: I know you had marry a label lining up at your door asking for material. What necessitated the need for 7777 Wouldn't it have been just as easy to sign everything and let other people worry about the day-to-day stuff that normally induces ulcers in

JAM. Vall that's not easily true. Before I stanced 77771, couldn't get anyone interested to release my work couldn't get anyone interested to release my work couldn't get anyone interested anyone that the thing was anyone the sease and prefer to make records. After freed the Manner Records came to make records and not so much on releasing other people's music I had a lot of final had songs, some that make up the first two releases on 7777, one of the songs on the record lidd for Down Averuse Beamers Jams, and the UNRSC release.

In his disposed three turns around better and visions better and no new interested. So laised up come money and put out the first 7777 Record. I Signal no would not up with book of usuals record, but it made up selling out and Hardbox used the THIT emits on their "Bales of the Unioppeted 3" CD mix. At that time in been least one record of my own work, so when I was an old least one record of my own work, so when I was an old least one record of my own work, so when I was an old in the work of the mix of the I was a selling of any part would not least part of least day for when no one device was reserved by a dad it myself. Altitup throps on ongs wor and what part to lead do it to both have their point and work of the I would be a selling to the work in the least of the I would be mixed only sound from I have to did contain the least of the I was a selling the mixed out you don't have to worry about all the leconort involved.

Currently light prefer bine everyfring on 7777. There was a fall seek lastly light of home believed for the folder of them I ready have no intent in other lists. It is more for procedural to an intend under Some way with the Contract of 7777. If our tells but smelling out on 7777, If our tells but most be some some with a ready same time, our but of local hand to be on the same commelting. If makes the but of local hand to be on the same commelting. If makes a family to have you do something for 7777. Better our but of local hand to be on the same commelting to 7777. Better our but of local hand the same preference out that of local and promote or returned, in most lying to get everyme to be all and promote or returned. In most lying to get everyme to be all and promote or returned in most lying to get everyme to be all and contract of any promotion in entiring a post on like doors of that arrow wound is a darrow levery uson they.

- RT: Let's rewind here a little bit. Let's talk about your origins. The first time I remember ever hearing your music was through Feed The Machine. Talk a bit about that project/label/consortium and what role it played in your evolution as a musician.
- JWN Feed the Machine was started by my friend Adam Shiley, and his friend Adam Sectod (one half of KIII Memory Cresit), with the first release by Adam securia on Bila. After that release Adam Sectola moved to Chicago and I stepped in to help Adam Shirley run the label. Adam and I were also making a lot of music topoler at the time a Stotolete. The focus for the label was just to release electronic music, we both Illed. We are both fars of all forms of electronic music, and at the time we were really into
- RT: You're particularly finicky with what you listen to. And that's just fine, Beard. But which artists out there are currently making you excited to listen to and online mysic?
- INV. Just mainly been listening to jazz. Hard bop, bop, swing. As far as records I've been playing I've loved all the Land of the Dance 12's. Jerome Hill's Super Rhythm Tax label has been excellent. By fan of Andreas Gehm, pretty much buy every record he has out. The last few from Chris Moss Acid are great. Binnest Tork Orborn fan
- RT: What's coming up on 7777? And don't be ambiguous or I'm going to be much more visceral in my opening paragraph to this interview in the re-edit.
- JW. The second part to "Ghost Mines" has just come out. There will be a third release in the "Ghost Mines" series that has the ambient songs on it, and Brain Titrash. There will be a four-tack release by Downtiver Psychic Divas that is influenced by ninetic house, and nouse, etchnow. But sounding current. After that nothing official but there will be another Downtiver Psychic Divas release. Well be looking over the next month at what will be coming out for the end of weir Gr7777. / RT





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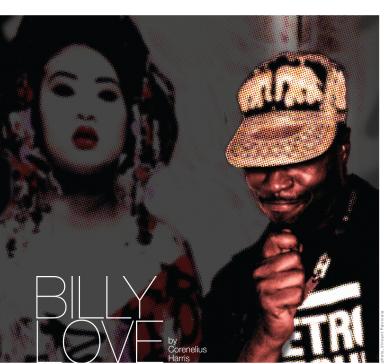
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P A U L RANDOLPH'S ACAPELLAS

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V O L . 6





SPIRIT DETROIT

It's impossible to talk with Bill Beaver without being infected with his energy. A longtime figure in the underground Detroit dance

music scene, his work has mirrored much of what

has happened in that scene. His career has been an ongoing process of reinvention vet music has been the constant throughout. Although Beaver is a Detroit native and music lover

since he was a child, his turning point took place some 300 miles west of his hometown. Beaver worked with the Detroit R&B group Kiara.

which was unsigned at the time and had some local success. But then he made the decision to go to trade school in another state.

"I was going to DeVry in Chicago and I lived on Lovola's campus. My grades had totally... slipped! I lost my job at UPS. I had a nice apartment, couldn't afford it. Everything was transitioning. I went down to the customer desk and saw Frankie Knuckles, I didn't even know Frankie from anything. I went down

there, man, turned my life listening to that

music! I was like, you know what, I can't

believe I'm going through all this, but I'm so

liberated, I was inspired right there!"

ground people that would meet at the dance party."

Beaver was soon back in Detroit in 1987 and, not long afterward, Kiara got a record deal. He started touring with the band, first as a roadie and then as a background singer (he can be seen in the video "Every Little Time"). After the tour he crossed paths with "Mad" Mike Banks, who was putting together the house music vocal group Members of the House. Beaver and his bandmates would have a string of underground hits in the U.S. and in Europe before going their separate ways. Beaver still staved hooked into the underground

called Glimpse. His travels had heightened his urge to shoot and document what was going on. Beaver's father was a photographer himself and had been part of the yearbook staff at his high school. "The bug really hit me when I started meeting

scene and, in 1991,created a photo heavy 'zine

this underground crowd, and I was like, there's too many fascinating people. Everybody is into this underground, progressive culture, and it's different from where I'm from. But certain people were keved into it, some were not," Beaver said.

He saw Glimpse as an extension of his real-world social network. "It was like an extension of my phone book," Beaver said, "I had these friends I thought would be interesting from all these walks of life, compiled it into a book, and I surrounded it around real progressive underthe name Glimpse was deliberate. "I didn't have enough money to give you a look, but I had enough money to give you a glimpse," Beaver said. While many like to reminisce about the past, Beaver does

so with a clear head. He hasn't forgotten the reality of the talk that dogged the scene as well. "People were crying, 'we ain't got nothing here

man, look at all these other cities, they got clubs," " Beaver recalled, "And we were saving this in the '80s. Now that we look back, and it's like, 'Man Detroit was iumpin' we were like Motown!' The guts are still there, people with the soul!"

GIVE YOU A GLIMPSE

constantly comparing Detroit to other cities "Clouds were over Detroit for a long time. But when you look back and you see the work that they've done, and how different artists get light shined on them, I think to look at it like that was from a narrow perspective. People have pioneered and been trendsetting the whole way. And if you don't go through stuff, what can you really talk

Beaver saw that negativity as a function of

about? That's the whole contrast between the

balance of make-believe and what is." /CH



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Vince

DIAL 81

we both started laughing.

I got a call from longtime friend, music producer and visual artist, Blair French, aka DIAL 81.
"Big news, I just got a carl" Big indeed. Lack of public transportation in Detroit is hard on artists and residents, in the Motor City. If you don't have your own car, it really sucks. He calls it the G R E E N L A N T E R N lits a forest green Buick LeSabre straight out of the nineties. He showed it to me with a proud grin like someone who just made their last payment on it. "Check it out. Bench seat in the front. ... Oh and check the license plate. It says "DFW -- Down For W hat ever"

In January, shortly after returning to Detroit,

destination, he told me more about his move to rural Lansing with his girlfriend, and that the car was her grandmother's. As fate would have it, he moved close to veteran producer and DJ, John Beltran (Dado, Delsin, Ubiquity, Transmat). A mutual friend, John Arnold, suggested they meet based on their love for composing movie scores and experimenting in the ambient realm.

Gliding in the Green Lantern toward our lunch

The two of them clicked. The words French used to describe working with Beltran is "candy", and that their friendship was "instant." Timely would be another word. The partnership is a rock of stability after French's break away from hip hop. Beltran recently started Dado Records and brought French on board as an artist and partner. French cites his work on his ambient record, "Through the Blinds" (Dado/Delsin, 2014), as being "personal from head to toe." The album was his meditation through an emotional, transitioning period in his life.

Roots of this break from hip hop can be heard in the

award-winning film score, Detropia (UHF Records,

2012). French took a camping trip to the Upper

Peninsula, where the stars are as clear in the water as in the night sky. Inspired, he came home writing lush, effect-laden and intricate instrumental tracks, which were later heard by the directors of the film. He had just begun experimenting with ambient music, so he was stretched to his creative limits meeting deadlines and satisfying directors. Detropia is a well done documentary on the lives of Detroiters and what they face living in the dity. During the making of this film, French was a study within histories for how control to meet the was as the study within histories for how control to meet the was a study within histories for how control to meet the way here.

Detropia is a well done documentary on the lives of Detroiters and what they face living in the city, During the making of this film, French was a study within himself on how not to treat the human body. He was immersed in the seven-day workweek lifestyle, eating too much Chicken Shack, Hungry Howies, smoking cartons of cigarettes, drinking large amounts of scotch, and dally pots of coffee. There were lots of changes happening, but he found himself receiving acdaim at the Sundance Film Festhal. French wasn't expecting recognition as an ambient producer, let alone a composer. While silently freaking out on a SAM airplane flight on brownies en route to the film festival, he landed safely in Utah with longtime friend Craig Akinson (film producer/director). But the weekend turned into "a big party in the mountains", schmoozing and partying until the sun came up. point, but it was just the opposite. "I turned thirty and watched my world fall apart", French recalled. There was a rash of assorted funerals. His grandmother became ill. French himself became sick, single, and living alone for the first time. Through all of this turmoil, he did not sink. "I took off my arm floaties and manned up."

Stretching out on a limb, he recorded Luminous

edectic taste with a fusion of styles. The music journeys from left field, deep Detroit thumpers (like the title track featuring Paul Randolph), to blistful sounds that float you to the white label center of the record and into the cosmos.

Stasis (M1-Sessions, 2012). The EP showcased his

CARTÓNS OF CIGARETTES DRINK LARGE AMOUNTS OF SCOTCH DAIN Y POTS OF COFFEE

Back at our table at Honest John's, the shorts of Kessler whiskey and Miller High Life (the shot and beer combo known here as a "Hoover") kept coming. We talked more about his country studio (built over the years with funding from commercial and film jobs), and it's connection to the universe. French enjoys the solitude of country life, but trips like this back to Detroit are crucial for his spirit. Business and pleasure become one and the same. Visiting family, late nights with friends, meetings, and studio hang time with local stars are always in

the plan. There's a different cast of characters in his

Detroit world, usually involving Todd Modes and

frequent collaborator Fahrenheit 2040. Both have a significant role in French's musical growth and projects. Upon hearing both play records, and becoming close friends, their performances and interests greatly impacted his musical scope. And as his work flow increased, French needed a name for his LLC. Fat Finger Cosmic leapt immediately to mind. Swollen, "chubby" fingers from beating pads on the MPC nearly to death inspired it. "Push buttons. Touch the stars." he said. That's his motto.

PUSH BUTTONS. TOUCH THE STARS.

During the "Luminous Stasis" sessions, Cosmic Handshakes (the duo of French and Todd Models finished The Delicate Details (M1-Sessions, 2013). The experimental EP includes uptempo and downtempo rhythms, creating an overall soundtrack voyage. There's also his collaboration with, now Chicago resident, singer/songwrier Jamiel Dado. Together they form The Interior Project. In 2008, a series of beautiful folk and rock-based songs were recorded in the living room of Dado's house (the basement was evidently a mess). It is a radically different style from the music he normally produces, but a solid collaboration between friends with more to come this very.

French's keen eyes for talent and creativity are evident in all of his material, but I was his hip hop album Boxcar Portal Csuperior Belly, 2009) where French broke through, finding his production and writing chops. His "collage" form of writing evolved in the making of this album, connecting ideas and phrases that normally wouldn't go together. French said of his lyrics, "To me, it makes sense. I think of how many things can come together, and still make a proper meal. Recipes like krimchi and peanut butter or something." Debe deeply asyou want. Songs like "Eye Browse/Ancestars", "Rocket Legs", "Bearded Wist", am "Gun Face" not not have fur hirsts and the properties of the still be supported to the still be supported to the still be supported to the support of the supported to the support of the supported to the supported to the support of the supported to the support of the supported to the supported to the supported to the support of the supported to the sup

collaborations with other artists, they also contain heavy, skillfully crafted jazz and funk chords. The end result is a head-nodding, booty-shaking, Flynn-filled adventure that showcases his eclectic tastes and skills.

Those skills did not get there overnight. His earliest bout with music was at the age of ten fin the early nineties), when he and a few friends in Clawson, Michigan (about twenty minutes north of Detroit, depending on how fast you drive, would gather and try to play Deep Purgle's "Smoke on the Water". That "got as far as nowhere", French said. But he developed what he called a "weird hunger" to have his voice on a cassette, and have it go all over the world while he was still in one place was the first own of while he was still in one place.

With that vision, he described himself as a driven kid with no rhythm or latent. In middle school, French was heavily influenced by the Hormorore rap scene. Outkast and others were around, but after learning about artists like Esham, Kid Rock, and House of Krazees were local, French realized it was possible to make his own cassette. Inspired to write "bad" rap lyncs, his introduction to Skraze (Level Jumpers) gave access to dog piss speakers and minimal equipment. French remembers shoveling snow for studio time.

The songs were about teenage issues. Back then one of his four-track, metallic blue tapes would cost you five bucks! Topics consisted of his first funeral at his grade school, smoking weed, and getting ladies (even though he was a virgin at that time). There were shows small and large. In ninth grade, French developed a relationship with House of Krazees, and wound up opening for them along with Eminem at St. Andrews Hall. French was very influenced by Eminem's debut album, "Infinite" (Web Entertainment, 1996). The first sold-out show French played was opening with Bourgeois Filth for the ska band Suicide Machines, in his senior year of high school. At this show he met Kid Rock. French recalled Kid Rock saying "good rappin"" to which French thought "I was terrible," but said thanks. He kept recording and studying. French (under the name F.R.EEZE), the R.O.C., and Skrapz, formed the group Level Jumpers. They put Horrorcore to the side and began writing about personal issues. "Battle rap was becoming more popular and I was never really feeling that. didn't want to tell you how bad you were and how great I am", French said. "Let's not sails, about dumb's hit." They made two records, "Simply, Complx' (2001) and "the Red Pyramid" (2002), and eventually parted ways.

After the group's mutual split, French turned to outside production. Experimenting with producers Fahrenheit 2040, Kobolt, and Tenshin 360, gave him the opportunity to explore new writing styles. In the midst of these sessions. Formless Figures was created with French (as Dialtone), Secondhand, Mr. Pickles, and Todd Modes. They released a self-titled full-length CD and his first vinyl in 2004. French followed their release with "A Four Track Mind" (2005), as Dialtone. It was recorded using a four-track recorder, a Boss SP 202, Technics turntables, and a busted microphone. Watching Fahrenheit 2040 chor beats on the fly with the SP 202, and hearing Modes play diverse track selections (like Skylab and Boards of Canada), opened his world to producing music. The rest is history.

want to fall into the same patterns. I am very happ, the way my hip hop days ended. I figured out the formula, the recipe of that and now I'm on to the next thing." From there, we got into the Greer Lantern and visited friends at another stop. There are no regrets as twenty years of making memories and music arrives for him. "You have to constantly check yourself." French said. "Slock te expressing your true self and something will pan out Always." (VP)

As the check came to the table, French looked at me

and said. "All I want is to make music that is persona

and get it to people that enjoy it. That's it... I don't

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NOTICE Y O U R M U S I C

Can't help but notice your music is heavely influenced by Drexciya. The rough arp lines, the John Carpenter sting like string lines.

Simple question where did you grow up?

- THI was born in rural Ohio where lived until less 11 or so before y flemily moved to Yokohama, Japan. We moved to the Detroit salurba when less 16, and he been here ear since. There's a tor to tak about futurism in Detroit techno and there's a lot of change happening in Detroit right now. All can think about his potential and direction, and growing up halfway between conflicts and in a seeming-duspain methopolis with one of the best public transit systems in the world where there's no quin crime.
- KR: How has Detroit as a whole influenced you? It seems integral to your sound.
- TH While I ddn't grow up here and I haven't lived in the city proper (blah-blah terrible driving record from my teen years, and I can't afford the car insurance), the people, the parties and the music culture here has really defined and driven the music that I came of age to, and by extension, the music that I make.

If think a lot of lost my year who lead out in the substrate general a lot of litter as in energies on the Internet Injuring out what they litted and thought was cost at aims length. And that hall be too cultural contract for what they're littering to it was the same for me, Internets littering to Arm to this Internet Mushroom and Jany, Heard in high school, while our only friend with a license drive us around in his late internets school loke. I just worked a filter hand to contract the dook with the muck I was littering to writin the context of the oxy down at the rest of it is the received.

Turning nino the mediationary blook politics of Underlayment Resistant, endering the might profess of the Diesciya undersisten sociate, listering to those the-time phetiotich miles on WGM and the late right clear boxes will fill supposedly were on 15 and 95 Volume 1000 to 1000

It eems like a sentingular coursnot to see a headine-worthy Detoit legord play to a half-empty room of like 20 people, or to see a bornig Suppan DJ date he never heard of packs avenue with a born of middle-god people on a rilkay night. Each then have been a few wonderful bright gots. There was a sold year or how when parties at the Ault Contemporary space were neally good. Serving people my age DJ adrapside actions like Lumit Holo, Convo S. Dez, Kyle Holl B, by Dravel, filias, and MSC to convols that are, you got Totally incustible. Sometimes those nights were packed and consertines they were empt, but they were all special beautiful and the sometimes they were all special beautiful beautiful and all special beautiful beautiful and all special beautiful beautiful by space Totally incustible. Sometimes those nights were packed and consertines they were entry, but they were.

- KR: Have you been to Submerge, home of UR?
- THE: I've been there a couple of times. It's a beautiful place full of beautiful people. At some point someone showed me pictures of what the building looked like before they remodeled it (it was a total wreck), and I think that transition makes that building even more important than it already is.

CONNECT THE DOTS M U S I C TO THE

CITY DOWN AT THE END OF THE EREFWAY

- KR: Who are the artists that influenced you, and the bigger question, why?
- TH. Uf his been incredibly influential in my music, both politically and so many good decards that have core out of that camp. The Develop influence is easily the most obvious in my music. The way that the Dresdya guys were able to build a separate would in term of their music and the narrative tiney, build that echosed the conflicts and stoffe of our world, but even the world in terms of their music and the narrative tiney, build that echosed the conflicts and stoffe of our world, but revorted it with this sense of all others have been been admitted to the store of the world. In the memory that the sense of all of meters and way therefore the world way to mediate the store of the records were ready, really understand. He does those storeings, fundamental with other stores of the best of the forms developed in the least of the one score in the least of the forms and the form of the form of score in the least.



And I can't undestate how much I lose come of the wereb, prothose and bodge records that are wallowing in most of the cates on the floors are wallowing in most of the cates on the floors has seen me DJ in the past year of two, I'm always playing these records in inappropriate places and at but limites, but I feel like here weed basis into driven RBBS songs, are the spiritual predecessors in the ABBS songs, are the spiritual predecessors are characteristics. All seeds are much as Koffover's or Afrika Bambaataa are. But maybe that's just mel isstining too dooley.

STRUGGLE IS IMPORTANT IF I'M NOT STRUGGLING TO MAKE MUSIC IT'S NOT WORTH IT

- KR: Why Detroit? Meaning why do you live here? Why not UK or Berlin?
- TH: I don't have any real desire to go the UK or Berlin, at least for now.

My friend and a faith about Detroit a lot as the My friend and a faith about Detroit a lot as the My friend and a faith and faith and was when friend and faith and faith and faith and faith and 70 hours a week at a terrible job private security 70 hours a week at a terrible job private security forces with fleet of blacked out \$510X, composte chains and druin. Tigers fans, and a heeve yet, chains and druin. Tigers fans, and a heeve section of the section of the section of the school system, semi-regular trash pickup, school system, semi-regular trash pickup, expanding Midwestern suburb. Set lot as a surroundtain and the semi-regular trash pickup expanding Midwestern suburb. Set lot as a problem. And to the service in a surposition was a semi-regular to the city is going to be defined by how people in the city (and outside it) anyight the some between the two cities. When I turned 18, a friend from high school took me to my first party in the city. DJ Bone was playing the backroom of The Works to maybe 25-30 people. This was back when the back room still had this weird, wooden guard tower DJ booth, perched above the dancefloor, and the sound system was all low-end and high-end. At the time I had at least a passing familiarity with techno, but DJ Bone was scratching, cutting and spinning back records, and I remember being totally baffled by whatever the fuck was going on. My friend taught me what fist-pumping was, and there was a kid by himself in the corner in a wife beater and huge leans, voguing his fucking heart out on the floor. It took me a long time to really process and understand everything that was happening that night, but that was the night a lot of things really clicked for me.

- A wonderful, surreal experience. That weird half-empty club with shitty blown out speakers, and a little cadre of dancers letting out our whole lives on that concrete floor, finding their way in a city of lows and highs that's why I'm
- KR: Are you satisfied with your sound? Or are you always pushing it forward, exploring new territories?
- THI I'm never satisfied with my sound! It's always a struggle and journey to find new sounds, ideas and ways of approaching music. But I think that struggle is important. If I'm not struggling to make new music, it's not worth it. Sometimes that means I go through long periods of not finishing things, but it's usually worth it in the end.

- KR: I heard you build your own synths?
- KR: You are a good looking guy, is it hard to make music with all the folks looking at you?
- TH: Kevin, you're making me blush!
- KR: Sterac or Rob Hood?
- TH: Hood
- KR: Mills or Atkins?
 TH: Atkins (especially with Richard Davis)









VINYL

For anyone who's ever worked at a Detroit record store, label, or needed to find the newest of new in vinyl in the area, the names Mike Himes and Record Time are one in the same. I took a few moments to check in on the former record storeowner, and his views on a few other subjects.

RT: So first and most importantly, for those who haven't seen you in a bit, how is life after Record Time treating you? What have you been up to?

MH: Life has been good. I must say I do miss the

music business and the interaction with customers and music heads. After RT closed I became the general manager at Take 2 Authentics in Mt. Clemens, a framing shop that also specializes in sports memorabilia. Then I left there for a bit to work, as an assistant manager with Grace Centers of Hope Thrift Stores. I loved it there but it just wasn't paying the bills. So I returned to Take 2 and am still there the bills. So I returned to Take 2 and am still there

RT: As this publication is geared towards electronic music, let's talk of the fabled temple that was the "Dance Room" in Roseville. When did the idea germinate to open a separate section just for dance music?

now.

WINH: The idea came the minute I walked into what became our second location at 10 Mile and Gratiot in Roseville. I was looking for a bigger space as we had out grown the first spot down the road on 10 Mile. It was an old music shop (instruments) and had a separate room with windows that was used for their organs I think, it was approx 20 x 25 and when I

looked in I knew this would be ideal for our dance music records. The store we were at was selling a lot of dance music and I was constantly interrupting our sound system with dance music that Vanted to hear and let others hear also. The regular employees and many customers did not like this electronic assault on their ears, and were always complaining. So when I saw this room I knew it was ideal.

RT: Ok, let's take a question from techno celebrity Derek Plaslaiko:

"What was it that drew you to wanting to sell Detroit techno? No one would question your love for this music. But, was it that you saw a sales opportunity, and then fell in love with it? Or were there specific records that you just really wanted to sell to the people of Detroit? Either way, what was the original desire you remember having from the beginning?"

IMM: It was truly just a love for the music, never really had any plans to make money off It off rist at least). If ell in love with early rap and electronic dance music, and soon realized that a majority of the stuff liked was made in Detroit. If call the phone numbers 1 got from the labels, and introduce myself and say. "I love your stuff, sell it to me!" This started a relationship with many people. I'd say Cybotron and early Metroplex records were the first that really got me hooked.

It was always the music. If I liked it, I'd support it.

- RT: Was there a sense back then that these records needed an archive or some sort of preservation? How many records did you keep for your personal collection?
- MMH: The only sense I had was that some great stuff was happening right in my backyard, and it should be heard. As a historical thing that should be archived, I only thought that years later after the international impact. My collection at one time was probably the largest Detroit electronic music anyone

ever saw, I had 10 record bins filled in my basement at my collecting peak. 1 got divorced and moved the records in boxes to my apartment at the time, this was 2004. I logged 85-90% of them onto a spreadsheet and then sold them to Serge at Clone in Holland (SAD FACE). I needed the money and space, so they went to a new home. I did keep my favorites though.

- RT: Give me the name of one record you can recall that you just could NOT keep in stock? Where it was gone the minute the box was opened and re-orders were just next to impossible?
- MIH. Actually, the one that comes to mind was that Interactive-Elevator Up. & Down record, an obscure import on 27X records if I recall. We would get mos our imports from Watts in NY and we asked them for it so often that they had it pressed just for us! Funny thing was the song was only about a minute long! EVERY DI seemed to need a few copies. As Detroil records go it was always Cybotron.
- RT: Is there one artist that stands out in your mind, where they were on their way to fame, and you interactions with them didn't change after taking off?
 RMH: I never had any problems with rising stars and
- egos. I heard it from many how this guy or that guy had changed, but rarely did I feel that personally.

AS DETROIT RECORDS GO IT WAS ALWAYS CYBOTRON

There was always a mutual respect factor I had with these guys and they never got too big in my eyes Detroit kept them grounded, for the most part. Kinc of funny how you can be a superstar overseas and an average cat at home, kept them humble.



RT: With record store day clogging up pressing plants for collector vinyl and the resurgence of vinyl sales across the board as a medium, what's your take on the state of record store in 2015? Do you even HAVE one?

MH: I still talk to a few owners, keep an eye

and ear open. After 32 years in the biz it's in my DNA. Records obviously have made a comeback and there are boutique shops oppping up all ower, but the majority of the industry as a whole died. The music did not and never will. Major labels still don't get it! They dilute RSD with too many releases, trying to cash in on Christmas in April and expensive records! Music can be raped, beaten and abused by money, but you can't kill its soul. It's great seeing kids buying records and developing the same attachment my generation did to owning something physical. I'd still be in business if the cards were different. I miss it.

RT: Hypotheticals are definitely a fun game to play. So here's one: If you could have foreseen the decline and eventual resurgence of viryl market, would you have kept the store open knowing what you know now? What would have you done differently to ensure Record Time's stability?

IMM: Just touched on that one, huh?! I could see lit coming, but couldn't get out of my expensive lease without legal issues and rough finances at the time. I have often wondered if the resurgence of the record is the completion of the cycle, the circle of life so to say (I'm sounding like a left Mills concept now). Seriously though, the industry started with the record. Many configurations popped up along the way, and its now back to the record. Is this the end or just the beginning? Hopefully the later. I hope viny! Continues to spread and it!

seems as if it will.

VINYL WILL CONTINUE TO SPREAD

RT: It's been almost four years now since you decided to switch gears into your current endeavors. On Tuesdays, do you ever find yourself getting phantom pains of excitement or panic?

MMH: Not really, for a while I just walked away and ignored it all. I needed a break. The last couple of years of the store were tough on me and I needed to mourn I guess a bit. Now! I'm back to listening to more things and exploring again, music has always been my best friend.

RT: Hypothetical #2: 21 year old Mike Himes runs into you at a coffee shop and tells you about a new record store he's opening. What advice would you give him?

MMH: Go for it, use your heart more than your head and have fun with it. If it's your passion, then do it! Also, don't list everything online, people see that. Price the stuff to make money, but don't go crazy. Oh yeah, and don't put anything out until I see it, LOL.

RT: Whom are you listening to these days?

MH: Anything human and with soul. I still love the older techno and house, don't hear much new stuff. I just don't really have the time to research. I still listen to a lot of 70's funk, iazz and soul.

RT: Last question, what are your all time, top 5
Detroit techno records?

/This is Not FAIR!! Only 5???/



"When we trod this land, we walk for one reason. The reason is to try to help another [person] to think for [themselves]. The music of our hearts is roots music: music whic recalls history, because music about the present, because if you are not conscious of the present, you are like a cabbage in this society; music which tells about the future and the judgement which is to come."



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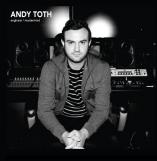


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Produced, recorded & mixed by Blair Fn Publishing Fat Finger Cosmo HM

cs Written + Performed or they Stoney & Blair French

Live recordings of Keys + Drums by Topher Horn



/B1 DIAL.B1 Crushed Milk

c Produced, Programmed, Recorded and Mixed by Blair Fro Publishing Fat Finger Cosmic

COMMUNITY CORPORATION

/B3 GERALD MITCHELL & PIERRE ANTHONY

> /G is Vocader Mix/ Pierre Anthony Publishing SESAC and Detroit Hardware Songs BM

> > ACAPELLAS

remix contest



