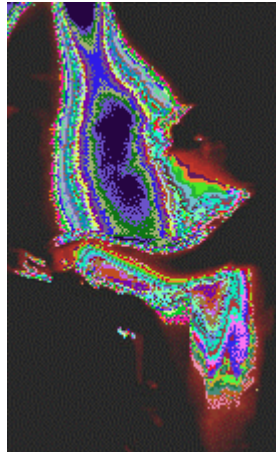


A NEW SENSATION IN THE DUBWISE NATION



Interview with DUBCREATOR by messian dread



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He is a true pioneer on the field of Live Dubbing and a skilled studio Dub Mixer as well. I first heard of him when someone told me about an interview he heard with a dutch band committing themselves to play DUB on stage. My interest was immediatly drawn and a few months later I went to see the Screamin' AbDubs on a reggae festival somewhere in the east of the Netherlands. I was impressed by the sound of the Dub coming from the stage, and when the festival was over, I was lying down on my back enjoying the heavy dub coming through the speakers. I heard someone asking me to buy the CD that was playing at that moment. I was listening to "Beware the Bass", and I had no money with me! It was over two years later I got a second chance, at DUBCREATOR's studio in Amsterdam and recently I had an interview with him.

Introducing: THE DUBCREATOR from Amsterdam.

"I started to listen to reggae because of my brother, who owned a few Bob Marley records. That was back in 1982..... Then I heard some Lee Perry at a certain moment: I put aside the ordinary reggae and started focusing on Dub" I asked him, to name me his first DUB purchase. "I have to think for a while, but my guess is that was LKJ in Dub, just before I discovered Jah Shaka. He was a revelation to me. Oh yes, Prince Jammy - Computerized Dub. At the moment I listen to the Disciples and Mad Professor mixing the Revolutionary Dub Warriors."

Dubbing it live

DC is a passionate man in his musical activities. Recently he founded the DEA (Dub Enjoyment Amsterdam) to do what only few have done: Making DUB music on stage! "The idea started when I was playing keyboard with the Screamin' Abdubs. When we did a gig I always took with me a small console and some effects, reverb and delay. I connected the snare drum and my synths to it and I could do my thing. Then I thought, I wanted a real Dub Band. I thought hard and long and I came with a concept: I wanted to go on stage with a sequencer, a console and a lot of effects! I found a bassist, drummer, percussionist and vocalist to realize this together with me. Actually, the best way to see it, you have to look at it as a live studio session. The P.A. engineer can go drink a beer, because we only have a left and right channel going to the console in the hall." Now for the Netherlands, this is unique and in the world as a whole, it is pretty rare. Now the use of effects on stage is not new, in fact you can see it in the dances where the DJ's are actually becoming like producers a bit. DC says, that his works on stage, is definitely something different: "A DeeJay plays records and we make live music. A Dj is also no musician."

DEA is not DC's only project. Recently (speaking in may 2000) he has been doing some stuff with Dub Chandra, a well known producer/musician from the UK. And he's bringing out solo works as well, created in his studio. What does he like best? "The advancement of doing studio work is that you can take your time, when you're on stage it just HAS to be right in one time. But then, the advancement of live over studio is the spontanity, you'll never know what fill the drummer is going to give this time, and so when I have to put in my echo. And how will de bassist respond to the Echo's?"

Dubbing it in the 21th CENTURY

I asked the Dubcreator about the future of Dub. He sees all kinds of new people who are discovering it in this present times. "Lately I see more hip hoppers in the Dub Party's. And people from the house circuit. I would love to see sound systems that only play the harder stuff like Jah Shaka's and Russ D's Boomshakalaka Sound System. I think, then the scene will be a lot bigger! People are just starting to discover it now, especially the UK Dub Steppers. I mean, that's very dancable! In the older days you only had the one-drop Dubs by King Tubby and so on, which made you sit on the sofa with a big spliff. A lot of people don't know the enormous impact Reggae and Dub has on contemporary music. Just look to hip hop, trip hop, Drum & Bass, Jungle.... All heavily influenced by DUB!"

I read somewhere, somebody asking Sly Dunbar to reccomend contemporary Dub. He did not name one Jamaican artist! (Smiles)"Personally, I do not think Sly Dunbar is a Dub Artist. He's still collecting fruits from the Black Uhuru era. See, on Jamaica these days almost no Dub is being created. It's a dollar thing so it has to be commercial and then you'll get acts like Bountrykiller and Beenieman and the like. For example, I know Rohan Lee and the Recipe, this is Pure Roots but in Yard they're not interested in good roots anymore. But here in Europe, they have a lot of succes. These days, the really good DUB comes from the UK, I would say. Like Dub Syndicate. They're all migrated Jamaicans. Revolutionairy Dub Warriors, a very tight band also from UK. And yes, unfortunatly there are only a few dub bands. The robotniks are also not anymore what they used to be, last time I heard them they were playing "Papa was a Rolling Stone". They're also going commercial. No, I think Dub Syndicate rules!"