

## AUCKLAND

### Simon Grigg's Jack the House Top Five

- 4TH MEASURE MEN**  
'The Need' (US Bold 12")  
MK makes his annual essential record, complete with a dubby Van Halen mix.
- TODD TERRY**  
'A Night In The Life of...' (UK Hard Times dbi LP)  
He might not be god, but he comes damn close with this live set, unique.
- MASTERS AT WORK**  
'Masterworks' (UK Harmless triple LP)  
These guys have defined house in the 90s, which makes this an essential collection for those without the singles.
- MIKE DELGADO**  
'Sunset Park EP' (US Freeze 12")  
Magnificent, moody, atmospheric, deep funk for house purists.
- FRANCES KEVORKIAN**  
'The FK EP' (US Wave 12")  
The original garage pioneer takes us on a dubby, trippy, discofied journey. Single of the month.

## WELLINGTON

### DJ Clinton's Top Five Movements

- FELIX DA HOUSECAT**  
'The Chaos Engine' (Touche)
- SILENT PHAZE**  
'Psychotic Funk' (R + S)
- STREET CORNER SYMPHONY**  
'SCS (51 Hot Mix)' (Open)
- DAVID HOLMES**  
'No Man's Land' (UK Go Disc)
- SPEEDY J**  
'G Spot Remixes' (US Plus 8)

### Goosebump's Organic Sex Grooves For Long Summer Nites

- NIGHTMARES ON WAX**  
Smokers Delight (Warp)
- SMITH AND MIGHTY**  
Bass is Maternal (More Rockers)
- SINGERS AND PLAYERS**  
Golden Greats Vol. 2 (On-U Sound)
- TEMPLEROY**  
Deaf and Dumb (Different Drummer)
- ROCKERS HI FI**  
Rockers to Rockers (Island)

### Conspiracy's Five Future Funk Floor Fillers

- FUNKY PORCINI**  
'King Asabanapal (Dillinga Remix)' (Ninja Cuts)
- DJ FOOD**  
'Fungle Junk' (Ninja Tunes)
- DJ HARMONY**  
'Remixes Part 2' (Moving Shadow)
- ATOMIC DOG**  
'NBK Rebirth' (Unknown)
- WAGON CHRIST**  
'Pull My Strings' (Rising High)

## CHRISTCHURCH

### Slip Matt/Obl Wan's Hard to the Core Top Five

- DJ EDGE**  
'Edge 16' (Edge Recordings)
- ROUGHAGE 5**  
(Time Unlimited Recordings)
- DELTA 9**  
'Hate Tank' (Drop Bass Network)
- MIDWEST HARDCORPS 2**  
(Drop Bass Network)
- VARIOUS**  
Gabber Disco Volume 2 (Shockwave Recordings)



**M**C OJ & Rhythm Slave have been a big part of the New Zealand hip-hop scene (yes there's a scene!) since their humble beginnings as innocent 17 year olds with a love for blunts, beats and spray cans. Nationwide fame came with hits like 'Money Worries' and 'The Marijuana Song'.

Hey Otis...

"Wassup?"

What do you think of your early stuff now?

"Some of it I'll listen to and think: 'Ouch, that's bad, but I've got no shame, we were really young, you know. It's been an evolution to get where we are now.'"

Which is an inner city cafe (suspiciously enough, the same cafe that features on

the front of the *New Groove* acid jazz compilation, hmmm...) But back to the matter at hand.

Who are Joint Force?

"Joint Force is me, Slave and shock DJ DLT. It's weird, a lot of people are still saying: 'Joint who?', but after a couple of singles and videos, people will work it out. Joint Force is like starting again for us, which is cool, with the advantage of having some history."

Joint Force have released the *One Inch Punch* EP, produced by DLT. A big step forward, it's a much harder sound than previous songs as 'OJ & Slave'. The single, 'Static', was a hard hitting, interference drenched media attack. Other tracks include some dreadwise dub and some

Jamaican dancehall flavour.

"We love dancehall, it gives me the warm fuzzies. Give me a blunt, a big system, some Buju Banton, and it just does my head in. Since we love dancehall so much, we thought: 'Why don't we try and do some?'"

So they did. The 'Burntime' remix single is the happy result, featuring some free flowing Caribbean flavour, and some tropical toasting à la Otis. Is that melting vinyl I can smell?

"Yeah, the single will be out on vinyl featuring DLT's smooth instrumentals, limited to 500."

Say no more, I'm down. 'Burntime' is out now.

ANDY



## A Decade of Def Jam

become Russell Simmons' favourite record.

Eventually, through a bit of divine intervention from the big rapper in the sky, Russell and Rick hook up at a club called Danceteria. In order to protect their investments and promote their artists, Rick suggests they start their own label. Each man fronts \$4,000 and Def Jam is born.

'I Need A Beat', by LL Cool J, was the first Def Jam release, featuring LL bragging over Rick's stark production. It was, of course, an immediate smash. Next up on the hit list were the infamous Beastie Boys. Their first big rap hit was 'Rock Hard', which was based around a slamming AC/DC drum beat.

After this initial success, Columbia Records began to take an interest in this new musical phenomenon, and they cut a deal to help market and distribute Def Jam around the world. In late 86, the Beastie Boys debut, *Licensed to Ill*, was released and went AWOL, quickly going triple platinum. Chuck D had to be convinced to join the label, but Public Enemy became a potent political force, and with the platinum *It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back*, claimed a place in rap history with one of the best albums of it's decade.

A major factor in the success of Def Jam was their street knowledge. They were able to successfully manage rap acts as well as market them. They coached their artists on everything from how to talk to the press, to what to record and what to wear — remember Run DMC and Addidas?

By 1987, Def Jam had single-handedly

changed the face of popular music and made millionaires of its founders. The original partnership of Rick Rubin and Russel Simmons had, however, started to sour. Rick had grown bored with rap and wanted to get back into producing more rock acts. Russell was leaning more to the r 'n' b tip, and a compromise seemed unobtainable. In 1988, Rick and Russell dissolved their agreement and Rick moved to LA to form Def American. Russell, meanwhile, together with Lyor Cohen, who had started to manage Rush, reorganised the structure of Def Jam. Lyor came up with the slogan 'Is it good for the logo?', ie. did it fit the Def Jam image? The label regained its focus.

In 1993, Def Jam parted with Columbia and Polygram stepped in. With recent signings such as Warren G, Redman and Method Man, Def Jam are still a potent force in hip-hop as they reach their tenth anniversary. With a milestone like that, it's only appropriate they should mark the occasion with a four CD compilation of 10 years of musical highlights of history in the making. LL Cool J, Public Enemy, The Beastie Boys, Slick Rick, EPMD, Redman, Method Man, Montell Jordan and many more are all present, with some of rap music's finer moments. Not much else to say really, except hold it now hit it and fight for you right to party, 'cause I'm a rebel without a pause, I can't live without my radio, I'm that type of guy who loves an around the way girl to bring tha noize, so fight the power and throw ya gunz, 'cause its black steel in the hour of chaos and mama said knock you out, 'cause this is how we do it, motherfucker. Peace.

ANDY