LOW'down XE dumpTRUCK

Back in '99-2000, I began frequenting Public Enemy's **Enemyboard**, a forum that PE fans have long hit to shoot the breeze about anything under the sun… whether it be the latest Public Enemy release, the current political climate or merely to flame each other about how wack their musical tastes are (I kid). It's a diverse group of people with strong opinions and one in which its members have formed strong bonds. It was on that same forum that I connected with **Chuck D** and subsequently began designing for his label **SLAMjamz** and Public Enemy. Also on that forum is where a group of guys came to know each other and eventually form the world's first virtual rap squad… **The Impossebulls** (If you want to join the conversation, the Enemyboard discussions have moved to Facebook). Among the group's members are long time friends **Tirade** and Public Enemy producer/Film Maker **C-Doc (The Warhammer)**, who make up the core of **LOWdown**. Also in that group you'll find **DJ President Ike**, whose turntable wizardry you'll find laced throughout dumpTRUCK and **Marcus J Gilligan**, who makes a resonating appearance on *"Ten Years Coming (Ninety-Four Drums of Death)"*.

Over the years, as I've built blocSonic, the two worlds haven't crossed much. I haven't promoted blocSonic all that much over at the Enemyboard and the Enemyboard hasn't entered into the equation at blocSonic. I was lucky enough to get Chuck D to make an appearance on Just Plain Ant's album "Rumble, Young Man, Rumble" and ILLUS (also an Enemyboard alumn) has been featured on a couple netBlocs, though that's been it… until 2011 when C-Doc expressed interest in releasing music here! He first made an appearance on Garmisch' "The EPs XE", with his "No Shine Remixx" of their track "Glimmer". Now that connection grows with this XE re-release of LOWdown's **"dumpTRUCK EP"**.

LOWdown is unapologetically early 90s boom bap Hip-Hop, through and through. LOWdown is THUMPIN' beats, it's EMCEEING, it's humor, it's big THUMPIN' beats… oh wait, did I already say that? This Xtended Edition contains the complete original EP along with a host of bonus gems from the LOWdown archives!

Join me in welcoming Tirade, C-Doc, DJ President Ike and Marcus J to the blocSonic fam!
STACHPYLE!

Remember… everything we release is cool to share! Always keep the music moving… share it… blog it… podcast it! If you’re in radio… support independent music and broadcast it!

Peace
Mike Gregoire
Founder/Curator blocSonic.com

LOWdown:
Original School Hip-Hop

Long time comrades Tirade & C-Doc have been creating music and video works for many years. In 1994 they put a name to these curiosities and LOWdown was born. In 2006 they released their debut album on the SLAMjamz label: “groundZERO”. groundZERO is a CD/DVD experience that attempts to recapture the breakbeat, bass-heavy Hip-Hop of the early 1990’s mixed with the duo’s trademark off-kilter humor. They followed the album up with the “dumpTRUCK EP”.

LOWdown is Tirade and C-Doc
Mastering and sequencing by Stu Beetle
Originally released as DEFBEAT Posse/SLAMjamz DBP1004EP

Player

TRACK BY TRUCK: dumpTRUCK

LOWdisc

13 Ten Years Coming (Ninety-Four Drums of Death) (4:30)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Additional vocals by Marcus J Gilligan
Cuts by DJ President Ike
Remixxed by C-Doc
Original version featured on the SLAMjamz Records release “groundZERO” SJR1008CV

C-Doc: After we finished our debut album, “groundZERO”, I immediately set upon doing remixxes for songs from that release. I always appreciated the golden era of hip-hop 12” singles and CD maxi’s where you could get alternate mixes, remixes, and bonus tracks, so I knew that we were going to do that on our own and make these mixes available somewhere.

I did one remixx for “Ten Years Coming” that we released as a free mp3 on the SLAMjamz site, but, although I thought it was cool, I always thought that it never lived up to the original and I wanted another remixx that would really jump off. So I eventually came back to “Ten Years…” and did a mixx that I gave a “Ninety-Four Drums of Death” title, which are these series of mixxes I do that happen to have a certain feel to them.

I’m not even sure how Marcus J came to be on the final mixx. I do know that there is a version of the mixx somewhere that he is not on which, was the original. I may have reached out to him, since he is such a big LOWdown fan, and asked him to join us, a sort of extended Impossebulls reunion. The version with him, without a doubt, is the definitive mixx of the song.

14 dumpTRUCK (3:07)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Cuts by DJ President Ike

C-Doc: One of the funniest, weirdest jokes on Chappelle's show, for me anyway, was the bit where the host of frontline rattles off the list of books that Clayton Bigsby has published, the first of which is titled "Dumptruck". Tirade and I got such a kick out of it that we decided that it would have to be a song (and subsequently titled the EP after it, as well). Even though it has nothing to do with Clayton Bigsby, Chappelle's show, or Frontline, we still give a subtle shout out to its origins in the first hook…

15 PayDay Poets (Part I) (3:47)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Cuts by DJ President Ike

C-Doc: "PayDay Poets" was a concept that Tirade came up with and it was intended to be one of the songs on our LP follow up to "groundZERO", which we started recording, but it got delayed, and it was inadvertently destroyed by a massive hard drive failure, but will one day rise from the ashes into something dope. Anyway, I decided to remixx it and put it on here, but since we hadn't released the original version yet, this version became "Part I". There is a chance that Tirade actually may have the original Sonar files to the original version of this song, so it may live again. We shall see…

16 Watch Your Mouth (Shut Up!) (3:20)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Cuts by Mao Funkshun

C-Doc: Another track recorded for the follow up that got the remixx treatment. Tirade, in fact, did have the multi-tracks for the original version of this song, so it may see the light of day as our next single, a stand alone effort independent of anything else. This version is a stripped down, raw take with a scratch sample from a YouTube video (!!!) as a loop. I can't remember who the DJ was… which is pretty pathetic.

17 Funk Instantaneous (Daniels Hall) (3:23)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Cuts by DJ President Ike
Remixed by Rusty Skelding for Daniels Hall
Original version featured on the SLAMjamz Records Release "groundZERO" SJR1008CV

C-Doc: Rusty Skelding has long been one of the extended members of The Impossebulls and a fan of LOWdown. He's also remixed stuff for us over the years, always with interesting results. I can't remember who reached out to who, but when we got it back, it was nothing like I had expected… and it was dope. Inclusion? Of course. The "Daniels Hall" tag comes from a hip-hop side project that Rusty and Marcus J work on every once in a while. It's named after the hall they lived in during their college years.

18 STACHPYLE! (3:30)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Cuts by DJ President Ike
Remixxed by C-Doc

C-Doc: Buried deep at the end of the chaos that is the final track of "groundZERO" is a little track called "Stockpile!". We shot a video for it and I always dug it. In fact, it was actually going to be the title track of a pre-album EP we wanted to drop but never got around to. I still have the one and only test press of it

somewhere. Anyway, I heard the sample that this remixx is based on in an Ice Cube song and I immediately wanted to put my own spin on it. What better use for it than a remixx, right? "Stockpile!" got the call and "Stachpyle!" was born. I might actually prefer this version to the original now, even though I love them both.

19 Cop A Feel (3:00)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Cuts by DJ President Ike
Original version Recorded for the Motion Picture Rogue Cop

C-Doc: This shit just makes me laugh. Sometime in August or September of 1994, I got off of work late one night and went to Tirade's house. I asked him what he was up to. He said, "nothing." I asked him if he wanted to make a movie. He said, "sure!" I told him I had no idea where to shoot it. He told me about a parking garage in downtown Canton, Ohio, where there would probably be little interference. I got my camera and away we went.

By early 1995, a 40 minute VHS action movie was born called Rogue Cop. Totally over the top and completely ridiculous, it somehow started making the rounds through poorly dubbed copies to people I've never met. but Rogue Cop turned out to be significant for another reason: we put together a soundtrack (on cassette!) of original music including the first ever (finished) LOWdown songs. "Cop A Feel" was one of those songs.

Fast forward to recording sessions for this EP and the still as yet materialized sophomore album and Tirade said to me, "you know, we should re-record 'cop a feel' for the ep." I laughed out loud and then realized what a brilliant idea that actually was. So we did it… and this is it… and it's so much more than the original ever was. Though, that's to be expected, what with technology and all.

20 Know Eye (MunKey Feer) (1:01)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Guitar by Tirade

C-Doc: I think it was just after we re-recorded “Cop A Feel” that I started to whip up this beat in an attempt to carry on the vibe that we had in the room, which was goofy as fuck. I always wanted to do something like De La Soul used to do on their 12” releases, like “Strictly Dan Stuckie” or “Skip to My Loop”. This is a little more in the vein of an actual song, but it’s a ridiculous song. Tirade and I wrote the rhymes after I made the beat and we knocked it out quickly. The title comes from the samples that are in the song, one of which was a sound effect titled “Monkey Fear”. I didn’t just make that up, either.

21 Play Dem Blues (Hidden Promo Track) (1:18)

Vocals by C-Doc
Guitar by Tirade

C-Doc: During those same sessions, Tirade picked up my shitty old guitar and started goofing around. He played bass in a band for a while (and on one of my old solo songs!) so he kind of knew what he was doing (I actually recorded some of his noodling and it ended up on “Know Eye (MunKey Feer)”). He started in on the blues riff and I still had the mic on in the room, so I hit record and started singing (or warbling, whatever you want to call it). When we finished, I hit stop and played it back. It was enough to make us laugh and that was enough to include it on the EP. Though, it eventually only ended up in the pause track on the promo versions of dumpTRUCK that I pressed myself. For the commercial version, the on demand pressing plant that we used never recognized the pause tracks as pause tracks, so it seemed pointless to include it at the time.

22 What's Happenin' (Unlisted Promo Track) (5:58)*

R.I.P. Richard Pryor (1940-2005)

C-Doc: To have a pause track, you need a track to follow the pause that you want to include audio in. So I just grabbed this little bit of dialogue from the late, great Richard Pryor, who is one of my heroes. It's from the same film that the samples I used in the "Watch Your Mouth (Shut Up!)" remixx. It's a film from the 1970's and we actually make a reference to it in the "Stockpile!" music video. Let the guessing begin!

downDISC

23 dumpTRUCK (For Yo Moms) (3:09)

C-Doc: Tirade was working at a CD shop for a while and they used to alternate what they would listen to in the store. Of course, Tirade was going to promote dumpTRUCK, but the first day he put it into rotation, "Cop A Feel" came on with it's abundance of profanity and he had to run across the store to silence it, lest it deflower the virgin ears of all the children casually browsing the racks with their unappreciative parents. So he asked me if I could do a clean version of the EP, not only for the store, but for his young nephews as well, who took an interest in all things LOWdown after they made an appearance in the "Lyrikal Tranzportashun" video.

I'm not adverse to clean edits if they are creative. In fact, I sometimes prefer the clean edits, like "Pronto" by Cru (which is a far better song with the edits, believe it or not) and "The ? Remainz" by Gang Starr. So I decided that for the songs on the EP that were the prime offenders, if you will, I would have to get creative with it.

So "dumpTRUCK" was the first track to get the edit, and I used a combination of back masking and drops to achieve it, my favorite edit being the one where I substituted me saying "shit" with Dick Cheney saying "two". Hilarious, perhaps, only to me.

24 The Essentials (Doc's Essential Mixx) (4:03)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Cuts by DJ President Ike
Remixxed by C-Doc
Original version featured on the SLAMjamz Records release "groundZERO" SJR1008CV

C-Doc: This was the last remixx I did for the groundZERO album. I was thinking of putting it out in various incarnations, once as it's own single, once as a B-side to a "Watch Your Mouth" single, but the only public appearance it made, until now, was as an mp3 on the SLAMjamz site. Now, if I recall correctly, this is not the final final mixx, but it's damn close. The final, I'm afraid, aside from the mp3, was lost to the aforementioned catastrophic hard drive failure that wiped most of my collective music from the past eight years. It just so happened that I had burned this off to CD for perusal in the ride (where I check all of my mixxes) and it survived there until I resurrected it for this compilation.

25 Cop A Feel (Good Cop) (2:52)

C-Doc: One of my all time favorite clean edits, if only because of the ridiculousness of it and the subversive way that I did it. You see, most of the cursing is censored by the sound of a porno actor busting a nut. When I told Tirade what it was he was completely grossed out, but I think it's fucking hilarious, and totally appropriate to boot. I also used this song as an opportunity to back mask words that didn't even need censoring, like one of the times that I said "yeah."

26 Know Eye (MunKey Beet) (:56)

C-Doc: The raw track, without our vocals. You can really hear how complex the beat actually is.

27 dumpTRUCK (Empty) (3:08)

C-Doc: I included this beat as it is one of my favorites in the LOWdown canon. If I recall correctly, there are two drum loops augmented by the drum machine, plus the thunderous 808's knocking. It always felt kinda raw and rugged to me, which was perfect for the absurdity of the concept.

28 STACHPYLE! (Pylestrumental) (3:31)

C-Doc: Again, I love the beat. Like I said, I may actually prefer the remixx to the original. Also, this instrumental allows you to better hear the sample that I chopped for the hook, a particularly proud moment of mine considering its unlikely source (which I'll never divulge… maybe).

29 The DONmega Mixx (6:09)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced, mixed & edited by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
Special thanx to Tah Phrum Duh Bush (tahonline.com)

C-Doc: Long time associate, comrade, collaborator, and super LOWdown fan Tah Phrum Duh Bush asked me if i was interested in doing a remixx for his song "Phlatbush". I, of course, jumped at the chance, and the first time Tah got to hear it was at the record release party for groundZERO in Pittsburgh. He added my contribution to the single (available at flatbushremixes.com) and told me that he was also including sneak previews at the end of the single for artists that he wanted to support. Never one to miss a promotional spot, I whipped up this mixx, a collection of LOWdown past, present, and possible future. the title comes from Ice Cube's alter-ego, which I always thought was somewhere between corny and stupid as fuck (even though I have mad respect for Cube). I went over the time limit with my mixx, but Tah was gracious enough to include it anyway.

30 La Misere (3:20)

Written & performed by Tirade and C-Doc
Produced & mixed by C-Doc (The Warhammer) for Defbeat Posse Productions, ID!✌
From the SLAMjamz Records release "Kombit pou Haiti"

C-Doc: This is, for now (fingers crossed), the most recent LOWdown song that we've recorded. It was created at the request of Chuck D for inclusion on the Hatian tribute digi-album "Kombit pou Haiti". It came together very quickly (the entire album did) and my master files were soon after lost (in that stupid ass hard drive crash… see the trend here?). Luckily, digital A&R maestro Studdah Man had retained the mastered wave file and was able to dig it up for me. So please thank Studdah the next time you see him.

From the "Kombit pou Haiti" liner notes: La Misere is inspired by some actual haitian recordings from the

1950's of voodoo ceremonies. Also featured are some sound bytes of a public domain travelogue film that speaks on some of the island's history.

31 Cop A Feel (Original 1994 4track Remaster) (2:50)

Written & performed by Mr. Large (Tirade) and CMD (C-Doc)
Produced & mixed by CMD for DEFBEAT Posse Productions, ID!✌
Digital transfer & Re-mix by C-Doc
From the DEFBEAT Music Cassette Release "Music from the Motion Picture: Rogue Cop"

C-Doc: From the depths of the archives comes the long unheard original recording from the Rogue Cop soundtrack cassette. I managed to unearth the original 4track tape and transfer each of the four tracks to digital individually. From there I cleaned them each up and reassembled them.

Sure, it still sounds like shit, and our delivery is borderline wack. Of course, it doesn't help that we purposefully recorded our vocals faster so that they would sound lower (I was going through a phase of experimenting with that at the time, which explains the distorted and hilarious rendering of the word "hoe" at the end of the song). You may ask, why is there a space where a third verse should be? Well, dear friends, it is because, at the last minute, my brother Phil (who recorded under the name Father Q, aka FA-Q, aka King Tito, aka The Mic Stalker) decided that he was not going to contribute to the song like he originally said he would. Perhaps it was not gangsta enough for him. Perhaps he was just being lazy like doug. Anyway, whatever the reason, it never occurred to me to re-record my last verse over in that spot, or to have Tirade just write another verse, or anything else that would solve the problem. It was compounded by the fact that I was mixxing down from tape to tape at the time, and any kind of editing was seriously difficult. The result? An empty third verse. Thanks, Phil… see you in hell!

32 To The Dusk (Original 1994 4track Recording) (2:26)

Written & performed by Mr. Large (Tirade) and CMD (C-Doc)

Produced & mixed by CMD for DEFBEAT Posse Productions, ID!✌
From the DEFBEAT Music Cassette Release “Music from the Motion Picture: Rogue Cop”

C-Doc: In the film Rogue Cop, the mixxes of the songs are the instrumentals, because I didn’t have access to a 4track at the time to mixx the songs down. The vocal versions appear on the soundtrack, though, and this track started side B of that tape.

This song typifies the beginning of the LOWdown sound: thick basslines, jazz loops, and dirty drum breaks. The lyrics, admittedly, aren’t that great (they refer back to the film, in case you cared) because we weren’t very accomplished writers at the time (and I’m sure some people feel we still aren’t, but whatever). Needless to say, it’s nice to include this if only to see where we came from, our humblest of beginnings. So here it is, digitized for the future generations of hip-hop funkateers.

33 STACHPYLE! (Music Video)

Directed by David C. Snyder
Produced by David C. Snyder and Joseph L. Howze
Edited by Stu Beetle
Photography by Christopher Michael
Camera Operator Maura DeMeno
Executive Producer Chuck D for SLAMfilms

* Recorded live at The Rex Theatre, Pittsburgh, PA 8-18-05 — You can’t have a LOWdown release without some kind of bonus, so as an added bonus, I added a bonus to the bonus! On some rare occasions, Tirade would sometimes do solo gigs. On August 18, 2005, The Impossebulls were booked to play a gig for our good friend Ben Trick. We booked it in advance, thinking that it would be a no brainer. Then, as the date approached, Marcus J had to back out (I can’t remember why) and I ended up going to Hawaii with Public

Enemy to shoot the first of the many music videos I've directed for them since then. So the only people left to play the gig for Ben was Tirade and DJ Def Chad, with additional support from our friends M. Ported Flows and Grace One (Hymneye). That date, consequently, was the day that our good friend John Keller (R.I.P.) decided to take his own life, so Tirade dedicated the show to him.

Included here are Tirade and Def Chad's renditions of two songs from groundZERO that we rarely performed live: "groundZERO" and "HAUPHUCHINDOPIYAM". Tirade tears through them on the mic and Def Chad adds cuts for support, some dope, live hip-hop for the masses.

LOWdown/The Impossebulls online

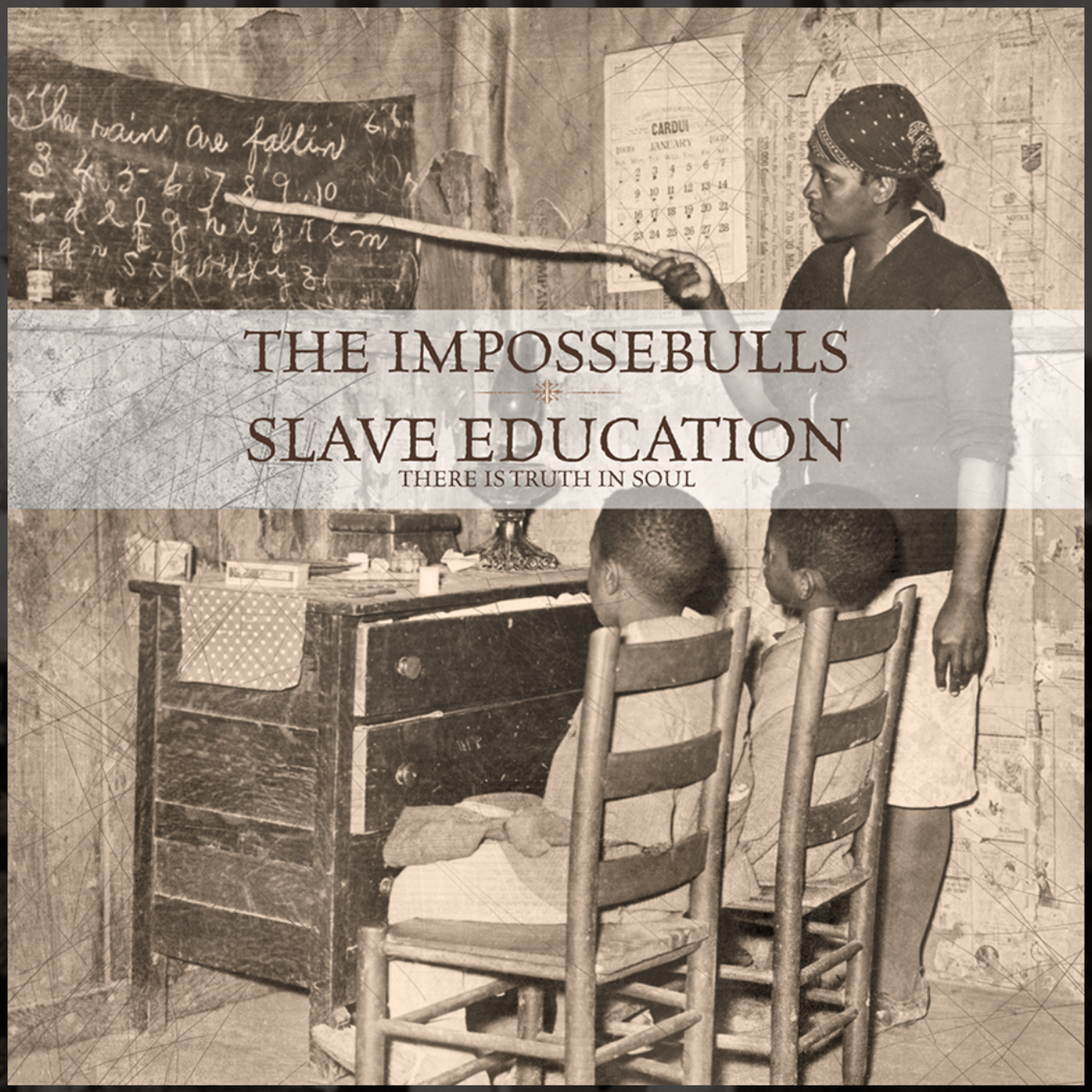
http://impossebulls.com

ALSO AVAILABLE BY **LOWdown**

(click image to visit release page)

ALSO AVAILABLE BY **THE IMPOSSEBULLS**

(click image to visit release page)



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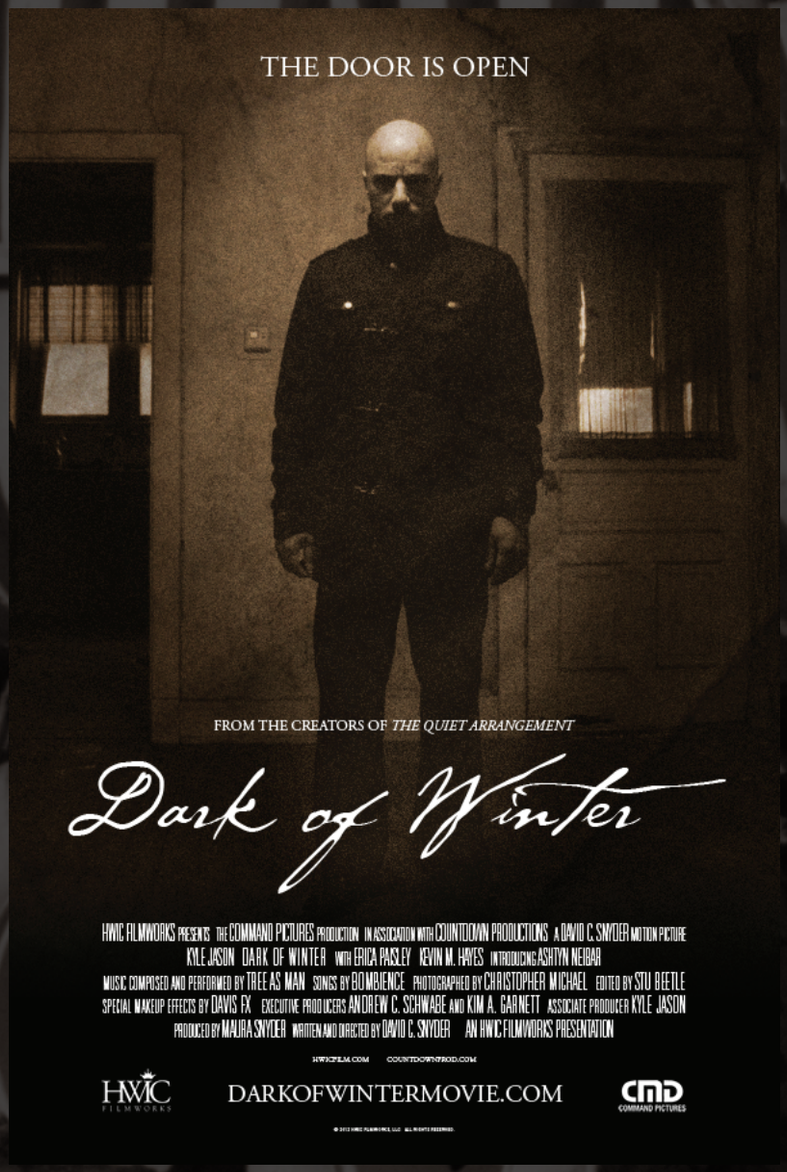
(click image to visit official website)



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A HUGE THANK YOU TO TIRADE & C-DOC...
WELCOME TO BLOCSONIC!

WHEN Y'ALL RECORDING A NEW ALBUM?!? :-)

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