netBloc Vol. 31:

GOODBYE, HELLO

GOODBYE 2010, HELLO 2011.

Ladies & gents... netBloc Volume 31!

2010 has been an incredible year for blocSonic. We've had **Boots Riley** on ETHX' "Boom to Bloom" and **Chuck D** on Just Plain Ant's "Rumble, Young Man, Rumble". We've released our first indie and pop albums with Friends or Whatever's self-titled debut, Garmisch's self-titled blocSonic debut and Liam Stewart's "Sixteen Words". We've re-released three netaudio albums with exclusive bonus content — CM aka Creative's "The Classic Material Completion Package XE", Tha Silent Partner's "Tha Complete Platters Sessions XE" and Just Plain Ant's "Songs About Something XE". Including this one, we've released five more netBloc compilations packed with a wide array of netaudio gems from all over the world! On top of that, we brought the maxi-single to the world of netlabels and netaudio with our 12 maxBloc promotional singles! We're serious about bringing a certain amount of professionalism to the world of netlabels and we're glad to see a host of other netlabels stepping their game up and doing so also. While the mainstream is sleeping, let's all continue to work together and make this netlabel/netaudio scene an enviable source of amazing music!

Although it's been an amazing year, it's time that we say goodbye to 2010 and say hello to 2011! For blocSonic it's looking to be another great one! Here's a quick look at our packed schedule:

Jan. 25th — Joey Ripps (hip-hop)
Feb. 22nd — netBloc Vol. 32
Mar. 15th — Jeremy Macachor (experimental)
Apr. 5th — netBloc Vol. 33
Apr. 26th - Mach FoX (electro-punk)
May 31st — Sobria Ebrietas (experimental)
Jun. 28th — netBloc Vol. 34

Jul. 26th — Just Plain Ant (hip-hop)
Aug. 2nd — netBloc Vol. 35
Aug. 30th — Sleaze (hip-hop)
Sep. 27th — netBloc Vol. 36
Oct. 25th — 13adluck (hip-hop)
Nov. 22nd — netBloc Vol. 37
Dec. 20th — netBloc Vol. 38

Not listed here are the 14 scheduled promotional maxBloc maxi-singles and the as yet un-finalized special releases that we're working on (eg. Xtended Editions and other special releases). Though, do keep an eye out for special announcements of a new Tha Silent Partner project and a Garmisch Xtended Edition!

Thanks to all netBloc participants… you all helped start what we've been building since 2007. Thanks to current and future blocSonic fam — **Just Plain Ant, Formula, Luck & Ripps (Joey Ripps & 13adluck), CM aka Creative, ETHX, Friends or Whatever, Garmisch, Liam Stewart, Jeremy Macachor, Mach FoX, Sobria Ebrietas & Sleaze**; I definitely couldn't have taken blocSonic to the next level without you! There's more to do and you're all welcome to continue to be a part of it!

Finally, most of all, thanks to everyone who regularly makes blocSonic releases a priority and to everyone who is just discovering us now… you've helped make what we do worthwhile. We've got more in store for you, so we hope you'll continue to listen to the art we all make available to you. Of course, all we ask is that you keep the music moving… share it… blog it… podcast it… broadcast it!

Peace
Mike Gregoire
Founder/Curator blocSonic.com

01 NanowaR Of Steel - NanowaR (4:04)
(from the independent release "Into Gay Pride Ride")

NANOWAR
OF STEEL
INTO GAY
PRIDE RIDE

photo courtesy of gracesweeney@hotmail.co.uk

Written by: NanowaR Of Steel
Produced by: Christian Ice
Performed by:
    Guitars: Mohammed Abdul
    Bass: Gatto Panceri 666
    Drums: Uinona Raider
    Vocals: Potowotominimak
Recorded at: Temple Of Noise Studios
Year: 2010
Release URL:
    http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/75948
Artist URL:
    http://www.nanowar.it
License:
    http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/it/

NanowaR

It was back in 2008 when we first featured this incredible Italian metal group. If you heard that track, “Tricycles of Steel”, you discovered what should be a contradiction… serious METAL by a parody metal group. Well this year they’ve returned with a slight name change and a brand new album. Here’s another LOUD, true power taste of the TRUEST metal band in the known universe!

Lyrics

Who has pissed in your umbrella and stole the shoes to Cinderella?
Who has framed Roger Rabbit, and who married Lory bobbit?

Is it Hammerfall? No! Is it Stratovarius? No?

Michail Gorbaciov? No! No no no no no!

It was Nanowar! It was Nanowar!
Nanowar did it, Nanowar did it
Taller than Mario Bros
Using the pink side of the force
Like Dork Vader on Star Wars
Nanowar did it, Nanowar did it
D-Jedis of universe

Who made Ozzy get so fat cooking his hamburger with a bat?
Who suggested Manowar the title of their album Gods Of War?

Is it Gamma Ray? No! Is it Dragonforce? No!
Is it Lunapop? No! No no no no no!

It was Nanowar! It was Nanowar!
Nanowar did it, Nanowar did it
Taller than Mario Bros
Kickin' ass to all the world!
Lickin' ass to all the whores!
Nanowar did it, Nanowar did it
We're the pimps of Universe

Who looks under a nun's skirt finding things not of this earth?
Who has told the Japanese When make photo you say cheese?

Is it Helloween? Is it Sacred Steel?
Is it Ryanair? No! No no no no no!

It was Nanowar! It was Nanowar!
Nanowar did it, Nanowar did it
Uglier than Michael J. Fox
Using the pink side of the force
Like Dork Vader on Star Wars
Nanowar did it, Nanowar did it
D-Jedis of universe

NanowaR Of Steel

NanowaR is the TRUEST metal band in the known universe. No heavy true metal band can be as heavy true and metal as NanowaR is.

Even though propaganda states that NanowaR started their activity in 2003, many archeologists claim to have found undeniable proofs of NanowaR's existence dating back to 2003 B.C., when Ozzy was only three years old.

NanowaR is the only EPIC-POWER-TRUE METAL band who actually killed a dragon. That's for real! It happened in the Gargalord Ancient Valley a couple of weeks ago.

NanowaR had to change their name to Nanowar Of Steel - obviously not in order to spoof Rhapsody Of Fire, but for REAL and TRUE copyright issues.

02 The Insider - The Great Break-off (2:46)

(from the independent release "All's Fair in Love of Wax")

the insider
all's fair in love of wax

Written, produced & performed by: Jonah Dempcy
Recorded at: Action Jackson Studios, 417 26th Ave, Seattle, WA 98144
Year: 2009
Release URLs:
http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/43505
http://freemusicarchive.org/music/The_Insider/Alls_Fair_in_Love_of_Wax
Artist URL:
http://www.revolutionvoid.com
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/

The Great Break-off

Are you a fan of classic hip-hop? Do you dig breaks that were the foundation of what classic hip-hop was built on? If so, this one should make you feel like busting out your B-Boy skills and battle!

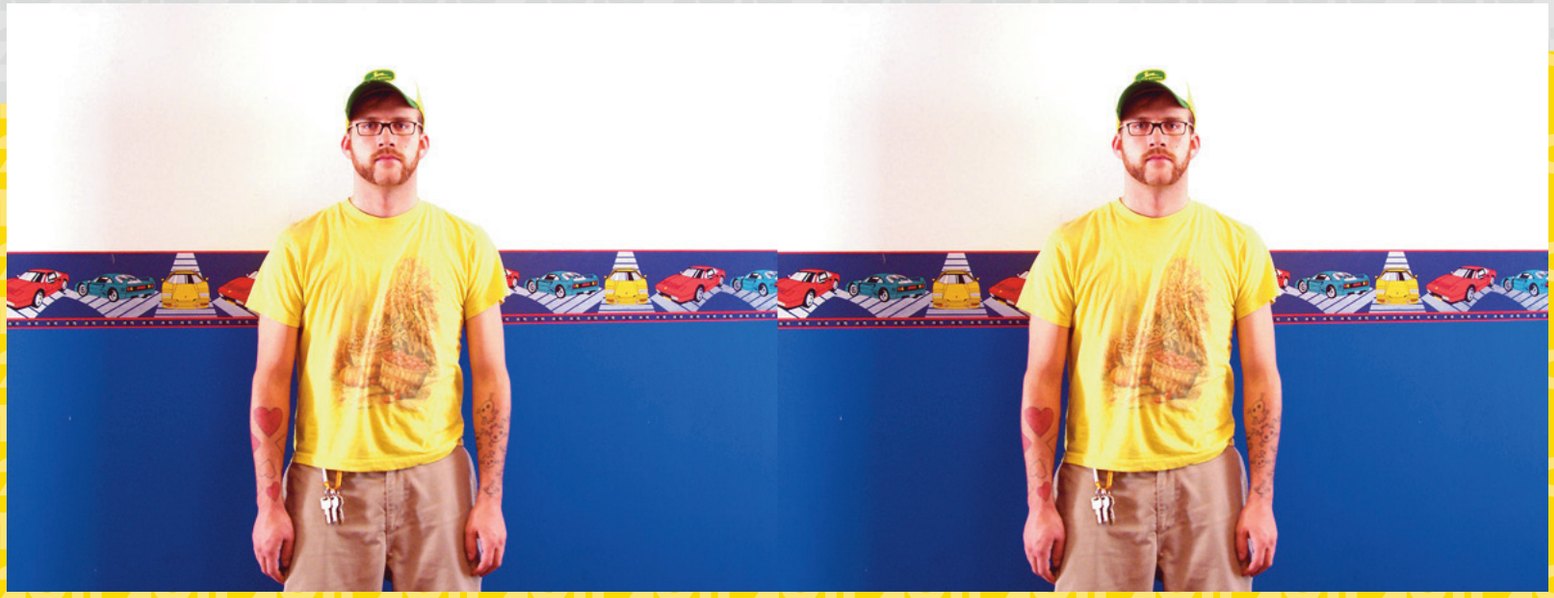
The Insider

The Insider is a hip-hop group founded by electronic jazz musician Jonah Dempcy in 2008. Following in the footsteps of producers like DJ Premier, Flying Lotus and DJ Cam, The Insider releases music more concerned with capturing a vibe than making you think or dance.

03

Coolzey - Enjoy Your Holiday (3:31)

(from the Public School Records release "Coolzey and the Search for the Hip Hop Hearts, Volume I: He's the DJ, I'm the Rapper")



Written by: Coolzey
Produced by: Will Tell and Coolzey
Performed by: Zachary Lint and Will Tell
Recorded at: Flat Black Studios by Luke Tweedy
Year: 2010
Release URLs:
http://freemusicarchive.org/music/Coolzey/Coolzey_and_the_Search_for_the_Hip_Hop_Hearts_-_Volume_I_Hes_the_DJ_Im_the_Rapper/
http://psrecords.net/artists/coolzey/coolzey-%E2%80%93-coolzey-and-the-search-for-the-hip-hop-hearts/
Artist URL:
http://psrecords.net
Netlabel: Public School Records
Netlabel URL:
http://psrecords.net
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/

Enjoy Your Holiday

If this track tells you anything… don't sleep on Iowa. Although he switches his flow up from track to track, here he's straight up delivering something on par with Black Thought of The Roots. Straight up hip-hop for true heads!

Coolzey

Coolzey was borne out of the cornfields of central Iowa in 1976. A boy who for some unexplained reason grew up only being able to listen to roughneck east coast hip hop and Weird Al Yankovic began looping tapes and rhyming into boomboxes in the 80s. After that there was Pavement, the Wu-Tang Clan, mushrooms, sex, and America. This is the rezult.

Public School Records

Good music made by good folks. Wholesome. Milky. Hip hop. Rock. Pop. From Tascam 4-tracks to handheld tape recorders to professional studios… Guitars, MPCs, keyboards, microphones, effects, drums, drum machines… made in bedrooms, recording studios, hotel rooms… made by people from Oakland to Columbus, from Iowa to NYC… music made by people who had to do it… honest… compelled… rejoicing… dealing with pain… getting wasted… having fun… trying to love… Public School Records is not a record label. The artists may or may not have albums out on PSR. In fact, some of the artists might not have any albums out at all. This is a place for the dissemination and celebration of the documentation of some great and/or horrible times that were had by a small handful of Americans through music and art. Zach and Jason made this site. They both have blogs here, and are constantly updating the other content throughout the site as well. The journey starts when you click on the Artists icon just above here. After that it should be self explanatory. Have fun and get happy. That's what we're all trying to do.

04 Dead Poets - Bottles of Reason (2:22)

(from the independent release "The Empty Bottle Project")

DEADPOETS
:THE EMPTY BOTTLE PROJECT
DEADPOETS
:THE EMPTY BOTTLE PROJECT
DEADPOETS
:THE EMPTY BOTTLE PROJECT
DEADPOETS
:THE EMPTY BOTTLE PROJECT

MUSIC IS LIFE
LRG
DEAD POETS
MUSIC IS LIFE
LRG
DEAD POETS

Written by: Tab & Renagade
Produced by: Tab
Performed by: Tab & Renagade
Recorded at: Vo0Do0 Child Studios
Year: 2010
Release URL:
http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/79561
Artist URLs:
http://www.jamendo.com/en/artist/Tab_(2)
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/

Bottles of Reason

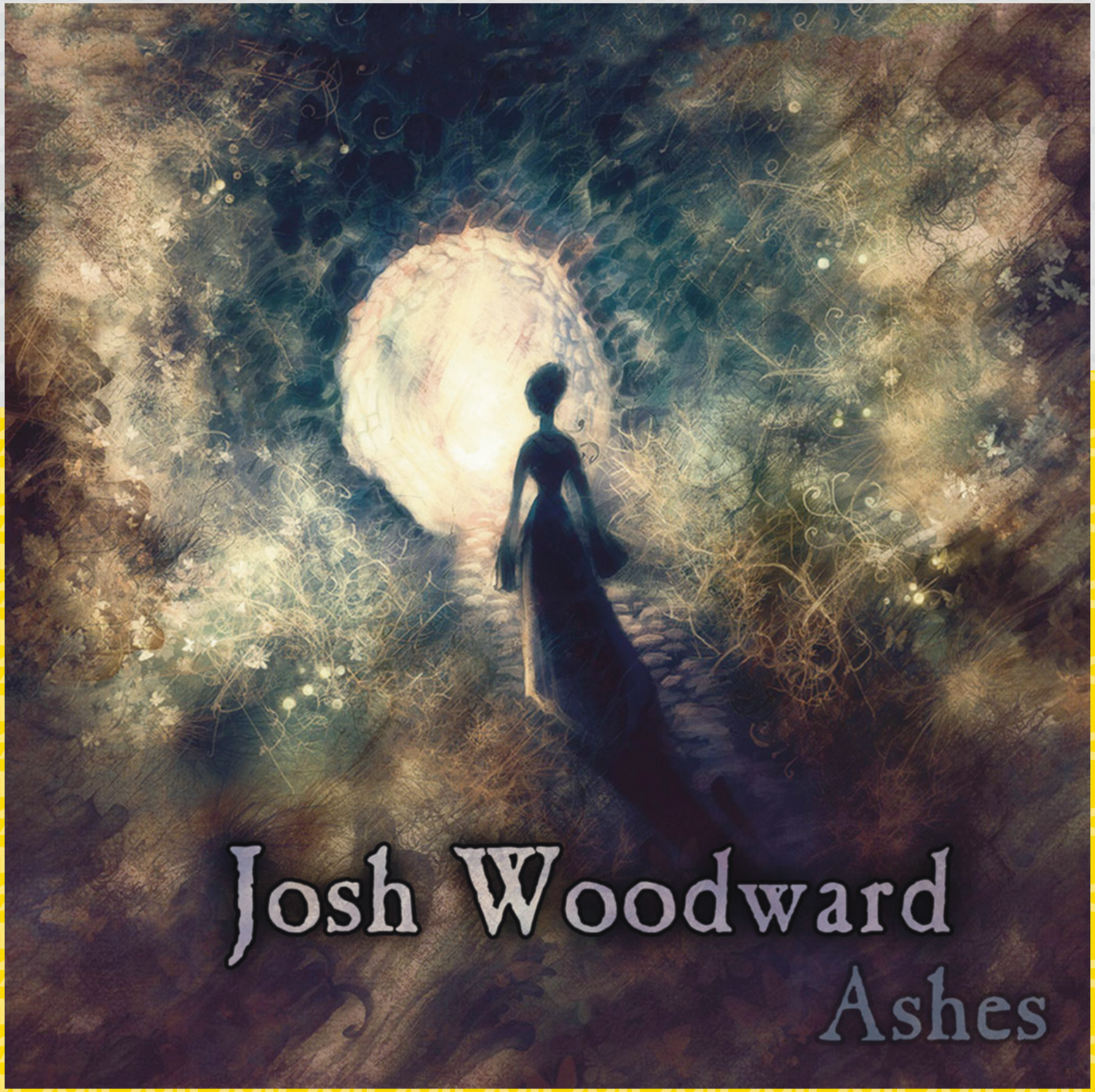
If you've listened to our netBloc series for any amount of time it's a sure thing that you're familiar with NJ producer/emcee Tab who's made quite a few appearances on the series through his various projects. Here's a taste of another of them, "Dead Poets". With "Bottles of Reason" he and Renagade deliver some acoustic tinged, raw hip-hop. More real ish for real heads.

Dead Poets

The Dead Poets are an underground hip-hop ground out of NJ. The group consists of {producer/emcee} Tab and Renagade {emcee}. Dead Poets have been on the NY/NJ underground scene for over three years now and continue to build a buzz. With Renagade getting shine from the battle scene and Tab mixing in elements of live music and different genres, their sound can reach all sorts of audiences. The Poets have been lucky enough to do songs with and share the stage with some legendary hip-hop acts — Mr.DoitAll, Immortal Technique, Masta Ace, Sadat X, Wu-Tang, PaceWon and many others. So far they have release three albums — The Kenny Chang Tapes, To the Grave, and the newest The Empty Bottle Project. With more releases planned in 2011, it should be a wild year for the Dead Poets.

05 Josh Woodward - Cherubs (4:16)

(from the independent release "Ashes")


Josh Woodward
Ashes

GODFREY

Written, produced & performed by: Josh Woodward
Recorded at: Josh's personal studio
Year: 2010
Release URL:
http://www.joshwoodward.com/mod/song/view_album.php?album_id=13
Artist URL:
http://www.joshwoodward.com
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/us/

Cherubs

This year blocSonic favorite Josh Woodward dropped another gem on the netaudio world. His new album "Ashes" is probably his strongest work yet and I could have easily included any number of tracks from it, but decided to go with "Cherubs". A sweet track reflecting on youth and lost love.

Lyrics

Running in the sand
Living on the land
The salty breeze was in our eyes
We stood beneath the dragonflies and danced all night

We polished all the chrome
On our rusty little home
We slept all night in parking lots
We tied our hearts in double knots, so tight
So free, so right

Remember when
We were just cherubs in our tender skin
Waiting patiently for life to begin

Flowing so free
Blowing in the breeze
The songs we sung so long ago
With whiskey and an afterglow, we shined like new

But there along the way
Something seemed to change
As weeks turned into months we knew
As life caught up we slowly grew, apart
And untied our hearts

The summer went away and the skies went gray
We slowly ran out of things to say
The river turned into drought
Our time was fading out

Defeated and alone, we returned back home
Like a bird without a wing who had never flown
Surrendered to, suspended dreams

Remember when
You walked away in the December wind
I felt the stinging on my pale skin
I knew that things would never be the same again

Remember when
The clouds rolled in and then the sunlight dimmed
And what will be, it killed what might have been

Josh Woodward

Josh Woodward seems to have a career death wish. A prolific indie acoustic-rock songwriter, he has released nine albums in the past seven years, but he has chosen to give away all of his music for free. In a world of $18 CDs and lawsuits against file sharing grandmothers, Josh offers 170 songs as free downloads from his websites, and sells CDs on a name-your-own-price basis.

This gamble has paid off well; he's used file sharing to build a viral, worldwide network of fans. After over two-and-a-half million MP3 downloads from his site, he's living proof that the music world is changing. His brand of energetic and passionate delivery with vivid stories, clever wordplay and dark humor may not be for everyone, but the Internet has made it possible to find its audience.

To date, he's released nine albums. His most recent, "Ashes", was released in November 2010. The album represents a distillation of the best of what his music has to offer: intense dark rock, delicate acoustic pieces, with a touch of humor in places. A loose concept album, it turns inward and explores the cycle of life, and questions the role of religion in that cycle. As with all of Josh's music, it's a one-man operation: written, performed, recorded and released with a do-it-yourself, guerilla mentality.

The Internet is the main source of exposure for Josh's music. He's currently posting a live acoustic performance video each week on YouTube, and thousands of videos from other users feature his music. Dozens of podcasts play Josh's music each month from countries as varied as Canada, South Africa, Australia, The Netherlands, Sweden, Japan, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, as well as Adam Curry's "Podshow", broadcast nationally on Sirius

Satellite Radio. He was one of the four most popular artists featured on the front page of iLike.com (with 15 million members) for a week in November 2007. He was also a featured artist for Clear Channel New in Winter 2006, which included extensive online promotion and national radio airplay. He's one of the most downloaded artists on Jamendo, a Creative Commons music site.

The major record labels cry that file sharing will kill music as we know it. We can only hope that they're right, so that the road can be paved for a new generation of anti-rockstars who are in it for the love of music.

06 Entertainment For The Braindead - Run! (Das Kraftfuttermischwerk Remix) (3:55)

(from the Aaahh Records release "Remix is Love")

REMIX
IS
LOVE

Written by: Julia Kotowski
Remixed by: Ronny Kraak aka Das Kraftfuttermischwerk)
Produced by: Ronny Kraak
Performed by:
Julia Kotowski
Ronny Kraak
Recorded at: Julia's and Ronny's home studios
Year: 2010
Release URLs:
http://www.kraftfuttermischwerk.de/blogg/?p=6389
http://www.aaahh-records.net/remix-is-love/
Artist URLs:
http://entertainmentforthebraindead.com
http://www.myspace.com/entertainmentforthebraindead
Netlabel: Aaahh Records
Netlabel URL:
http://www.aaahh-records.net
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/

Run! (Das Kraftfuttermischwerk Remix)

Remix of the terrific original found on EFTB's "Hydrophobia". Das Kraftfuttermischwerk takes the acoustic gem and reworks it into an ominous electro-acoustic netaudio classic.

Lyrics

It is nice to know you, I'm glad that we've met
You've been really kind, and I hope you don't regret it yet
You could have become my brother, you could have become my friend

But I cannot stand such kindness… I'll better bring this to an end

Before I start
Before I start

That rather than to lose it I would have it dumped at sea
You could have become my brother, you could have become my friend
But I would only disappoint you so let's bring this to an end

Before I start to sabotage you
Before I start to watch us drift apart

The me that you know is always sweet and polite
But another part emerges when I'm all alone at night
This one's up to bring you down, yea, this one's willing to destroy
So run for cover, place no trust in me or I'll complicate you, boy

Before I start to sabotage you
Before I start to complicate you
Before I start to sabotage you
Before I start to complicate you

Entertainment For The Braindead

Far away from the massive and unresting sounds of electric guitars and pounding noises of drums, Singer/Songwriter Julia Kotowski creates a small, intimate and especially silent musical sphere that she fills with notes, lyrics und rhythm. She lets these outcomes ripen slowly. Then, sound tracks are being arranged and ranked in longsome nights and home appliances will be misused for special elements. There is a lot of tinkering and pottering, but little sleep. All this takes place at home, in her bedroom, in front of her computer.

Entertainment For The Braindead is based in the German city of Cologne, where Julia was born and where she grew up and, unlike most young people, she does not feel the urge to leave her home. Thus, she lives with her parents. That at some point she will be leaving Cologne is for sure, but before that day, her home city is the source and the playground for her life – Julia does “audio-visual Media-Studies” at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne (KHM). Not only during her studies, but also in her spare time, Julia engages in illustrations and a lot of handicrafts. For her first compilation of songs “Hypersomnia”, for instance, she designed the linocut herself. Like her old compilation, her new little handiwork “Hydrophobia” was recorded with the help of a simple USB-Microphone only. Under the pseudonym “Entertainment for the Braindead”, her second and latest collection of songs, thoughts and cumulative creativity found its way to publication.

To underline her very personal and introverted lyrics musically, Julia has collected, next to her own voice, her acoustic guitar and her ukelele, a whole palette of exceptional instruments, which were found in the kitchen. Thus, peppermills, jars and drawers can be recognized in her songs. But above all these floats her remarkable voice.

Since Julia does not want to constrain herself too much during forthcoming livegigs, she, as a classical one-person-band, will also work with samplers once in a while in the near future. Generally, Julia is very glad that she can finally present her songs live to an audience. In her opinion, music is something that needs to be shared, just like someone who makes mixtapes and hands them on.

Exactly this view on music brought Julia to us, the Netlabels Aaahh-records and Aerotone, on which her second compilation “Hydrophobia” has been published under a Creative Commons Licence, meaning it is freely available to everyone. “After all, music is not produced to earn money with it, but to have fun”, says Julia – and we agree! But if someone does not only want to listen to the music, but would like to own the whole work of art, then he or she can also buy a CD.

Aaahh Records

aaahh records – what is that?

We are a netlabel and we offer you free music.

Ok, question answered, but that was probably a little short. So here comes the long version:

aaahh was born in may 2008 in Bielefeld, grey pearl of Westphalia. We started as a humble netlabel – something we still are, in a way – but everything has grown a little less humble and a little less netlabelish over the past years.

07

Pinkle - Fractals (3:32)

(from the Aaahh Records release "House Plants" aaahh010)

Pinkle
house plants
Pinkle
house plants
Pinkle
house plants
Pinkle
house plants

Written, produced & performed by: Bryn Martin
Recorded at: Bryn's home studio
Year: 2010
Release URL:
http://www.aaahh-records.net/pinkle-house-plants/
Artist URL:
http://pinklemusic.com
Netlabel: Aaahh Records
Netlabel URL:
http://www.aaahh-records.net
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/

Fractals

You might remember Pinkle's excellent "First Comes Rug Burn Then Comes Fire" from "netBloc Vol. 26: N.E.T.A.U.D.I.O". Well he's back with another gem… this time from his new Aaahh Records album "House Plants". "Fractals" would be a straight up addictive indie-pop hit if the mainstream music world gave a damn about music quality. If only we in the netaudio world could develop a centralized, widely accepted charting system.

Lyrics

What happened to my love
It disappeared
I can't get it back
But if I could
I'd give it to you again
I'd give it to you again

It’s been a lonesome way
to the edge of civilization
When you look at the path you wonder
how you got where you are
Where things end they seldom begin
I’m hoping on a better day
When these songs are gone
When everything I’ve done
Doesn’t mean anything to anyone
To anyone

What happened to my love
It disappeared
I can’t get it back
But if I could
I’d give it to you again
I’d give it to you again

I know you’ve been saying
In him everything is a new creation
If it’s true why do I feel old
Peeling off snake skins
Waiting for a new beginning

What happened to my love
It disappeared
I can’t get it back
But if I could
I’d give it to you again

I'd give it to you again

I'd give it to you again

I'd give it to you again

Pinkle

Hailing from America, Bryn Martin aka Pinkle is now living in Switzerland, where he does not only benefit from a pleasant tax system but beyond spent the last couple of years doing his Phd in engineering.

His affection for experiments and puzzling is not only useful for his profession but also a blessing for fans of independent music at the same time. Eager to work out his own individualistic tone, Bryn's songs are mostly guitar-based but mingle with all sorts of other instruments and sounds. Calling it "quirky brew of moog and acoustic melodies overlaid by hush vocals, conjuring comparisons to the initimate voicing of Andrew Bird and the pop hook of Regina Spektor", Bryn leaves us not much left to explain.

On his website Bryn has created a breeding ground and platform for ideas, songs, demos and unifnished things that he is happy to share with audiences as well as full albums, all in all there are more than 200 songs available so far. This music lab animates visitors to state their opinion, download and use the musical material in the way of the creative commons. In total Pinkle's songs have been downloaded more than five million times.

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08 Big Blood - Creepin' Crazy Time (4:33)
(from the dontrustheruin release "Dark Country Magic")

Written, produced & performed by: Big Blood
Recorded at: Big Blood's home studio
Year: 2010
Release URL:
http://freemusicarchive.org/music/Big_Blood/none_given_1524
Artist URLs:
http://dontrusttheruin.blogspot.com
http://www.etsy.com/shop/dontrustheruin
Netlabel:
dontrustheruin
Netlabel URL:
http://dontrusttheruin.blogspot.com
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/

Creepin' Crazy Time

Since I began the netBloc series back in 2007, I've wanted to feature Maine artists. The problem has been that so far, for some reason, Maine artists haven't been receptive to the idea of Creative Commons licensing. With the help of a local friend, perhaps blocSonic can do something about that. Until then, Maine is represented in the Creative Commons world by the eclectic South Portland band and WFMU favorite, Big Blood. The powerful "Creepin' Crazy Time" is easily the star of the fantastic album "Dark Country Magic".

Big Blood

Big Blood, the phantom four piece of Asian Mae, Caleb Mulkerin, Rose Philistine and Colleen Kinsella perform only as a duo. An intimate team, walking blind through each other's songs presenting one of a kind recordings tailor-made to the night's performance.

dontrustheruin

Specializing in low tech/hi tech handmade one of a kind art and music production. We who run this little operation are Big Blood. We write and play music in Maine.

09 Silence Is Full Of Birds - Flowers (3:12)
(from the headphonica release "Evergreens 'N Odditunes" hpcd083)

evergreens 'n odditunes
headphonica

Written, produced & performed by: Tommy Neuwirth
Recorded at: Tommy's home in Weimar
Year: 2010
Release URL:
http://www.headphonica.com/?p=1088
Artist URLs:
http://www.facebook.com/thegreattheswindle
Netlabel: headphonica
Netlabel URL:
http://www.headphonica.com
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/

Flowers

headphonica's "Evergreens 'N Odditunes" is a 3 disc collection of an eclectic array of netaudio goodies. Although there are many many gems to be found on it, personally, Silence Is Full Of Birds' "Flowers" is hands down the one the shines. With it's catchy little hook and organic beat, it's a song that you can easily put on repeat and listen to over and over.

Lyrics

I just wanna sing some
Sing some little something
Something little something
Something without words
1x

(orl reidi)

I just wanna sing some
Sing some little something
Something little something
Something without words
4x

(singing gobbledygook)
1x

(orl reidi)
I just wanna sing some
Sing some little something
Something little something
Something without words
5x

Silence Is Full Of Birds

Born in 1983. Making music since birth as the1983, silence is full of birds and with Clemens Wegener aka The Plastic Jazz Orchestra together as THE! (http://www.facebook.com/thegreattheswindle)

headphonica

Headphonica is a free netlabel.

It is home to some unusual musicians, strange projects, and odd sound experiments. In terms of genres, headphonica is all over the board with electronica, tapemusic, jazz, avant-garde, folk, experimental, noise, hip-hop, and pop, among others.

Headphonica started in 2006 as a project with a rather academic approach to lofi-sounds, wich ought to be recorded via headphones. after publishing this compilation called headphonica, the project started to grow further, developing as a netlabel. The explorative alignment can still be heard in the largest share of the netlabels releases, but the label also had an intense relationship to pop music since the early days. This seeming dichotomy resolves in the perspective of the artists: it’s about acclaiming the already developed on the one hand and yearning for musical freedom on the other.

10 Mik le Désaxé & YuAir - L'oeil qui ne sechait plus (3:50)
(from the independent release "L'envol des elephants")

L'ENVOL
DES
ELEPHANTS
MIK LE DÉSAXÉ / YUAIR

Written by: Mik le Désaxé
Produced by: YuAir
Performed by: Mik le Désaxé & YuAir
Recorded at: Derwa Rekordz Studio
Year: 2010
Release URLs:
http://www.jamendo.com/en/album/77768
http://www.artingpot.com/envoldeselephants
Artist URLs:
http://www.myspace.com/mikdesaxe
http://www.jamendo.com/en/artist/Mik_le_desaxe
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/fr/

L'oeil qui ne sechait plus

If you're a fan of 90's french hip-hop, you'll no doubt be familiar with MC Solaar. This Mik le Désaxé & YuAir track easily reminds me of his sound… though updated with more of a trip-hop flavor. It's one of many great tracks on their album "L'envol des elephants".

Lyrics

Les bombes sont pour moi des gouttes de pluie, la guerre une inondation, les villes qu'elle coule, des cabanes sans fondations/
La misère ne m'atteint plus, été comme hiver, coule ma rivière, qui déborde sur ses joues un matin de plus/
Catastrophe et tracas du quotidien : Tout se mélange
Comme dans une soupe aux malheurs : Tout se mélange

A la main ou pistolet, une vie de moins, une ligne de plus sur les pages des quotidiens/

La terre tremble, mais je ne le sens pas, l’écran me jette un sort, j’y vois toute la journée des corps pour décors/
Les hommes assis sont des ombres que je distingue mal, je me perds dans le rouge et le noir comme l’écrit Stendhal/
Mon oeil fatigué bloque sur le siège du métro, des pieds passent, une main tendue, 10 centimes d’euros/
Je suis celui qui en a trop vu, qui pleure sans s’en rendre compte, moi l’oeil, l’oeil qui ne séchait plus/

Un goût salé dans la bouche,
A l’heure des immondices, mon oeil me fait la cour/
Un goût salé dans la bouche,
Quel est mon plus gros vice? de voir avec amour…

J’espère du fond de la rétine que la roue tourne et que la routine des images absurdes ne soit pas sans retour/
On dit que le bonheur est simple mais ce monde est compliqué, fermer l’oeil c’est abdiquer, être comblé par un dessin c’est dur/
Alors je cherche toujours le bijou d’air pur, scrute le futur en espérant que l’or y soit en nature/
Maudite soit la nuit : elle qui noircit ma vision
Maudit soir le jour : lui qui éclaire si peu l’horizon
Je me suis lassé jusqu’à ce matin ou pas dans mon assiette, je m’ouvris sur un soleil d’or et d’acier/
Les couleurs vives me poussèrent vite à la fenêtre, et ce que je vis, ma tristesse allait faire disparaître/
je ne pus la quitter des yeux, cette divinité au corps voilé, qui allait inspirer mes rêves de nuits d’été/
Depuis j’espère respirer sa vie, elle qui a bu mes larmes,elle qui a pris mes armes,

desembué ma vitre…
Un goût salé dans la bouche,
A l'heure des immondices, mon oeil me fait la cour/
Un goût salé dans la bouche,
Quel est mon plus gros vice? de voir avec amour…

Mik le désaxé & YuAir

Mik le Désaxé and Yuair are two French artists who've worked together for 3 years now. Both artists mix rap, electronic music and French singing. They've released two albums, "Odyssée d'un Désaxé" in 2008 and in October 2010, "L'envol des éléphants".

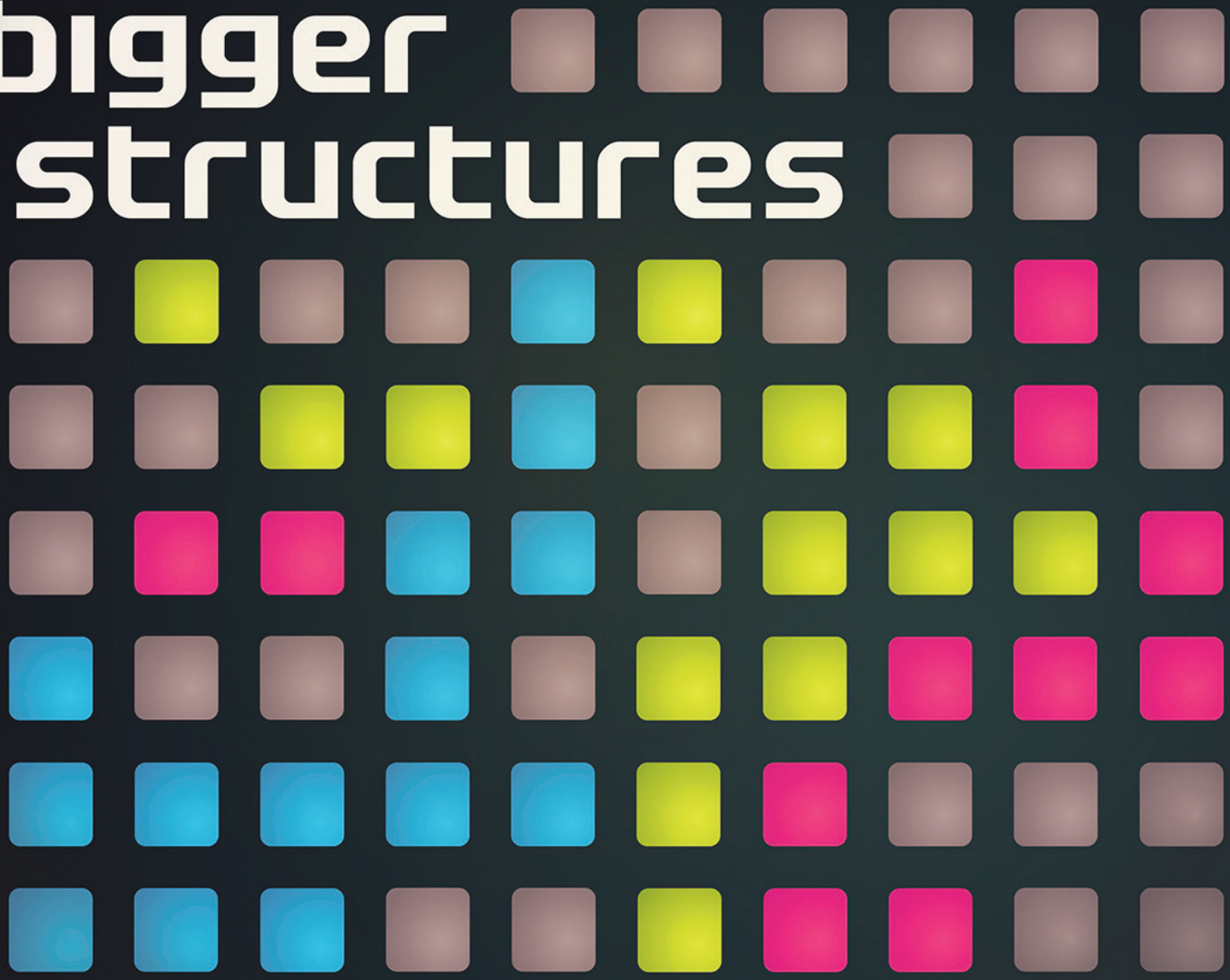
11

Architect 25 - A Craftier Thief (3:24)

(from the independent release "Bigger Structures")

ARCHITECT 25

bigger structures



Written, produced & performed by: Adam J. Stone
Recorded at: Architect 25's home studio, Detroit, USA
Year: 2010
Release URL:
http://www.architect25.com/updates/bigger-structures-released.php
Artist URL:
http://www.architect25.com
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/us/

A Craftier Thief

This is some of that electro hip-hop goodness comin' to you straight out of Detroit. One of four great tracks from Architect 25's release, "Bigger Structures".

Architect 25

Architect 25 is an independent electronic artist and free music advocate based in Detroit, USA. Musical influences include Junior Jack, Röyksopp, Ronald Jenkees and Deadmau5. Musical works are produced in a home studio on a desktop computer using Ableton Live for recording. All releases are freely licensed and available on the artist's website.

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mGee - Movin' (5:17)
(from the independent release "Movin'")

mGee

MOVIN'

Written, produced & performed by: Michael Gregoire
Recorded at: mGee's home studio aka blocSonic HQ
Year: 2010
Release URL:
http://mgee.blocsonic.com/releases/mg0006.html
Artist URL:
http://mgee.blocsonic.com
License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/

Movin'

So I've been fiddling with digital music production since about '98. It started more as a bit of a side hobby that I'd partake in very rarely. Over the past few months I've increasingly found myself drawn to it, so much so that I finally decided to have a go at creating an album. So that's where I'm at now… slowly developing an album that I hope to release through blocSonic sometime in late 2011 or early 2012. To increase my creative output, I've decided to create a track a week and release it via http://mgee.blocsonic.com on what's called "Music Monday" in the twitterverse. "Movin'" is the 6th release in that series. I don't consider my work on par with the incredible talent that's found on this release, but I feel that my music is finally at a place where I can begin sharing with you. I sincerely hope you enjoy it.

mGee

Just some guy from Maine who has the nerve to poison your ears with his sonic meanderings. Being a graphic designer who's designed albums for Public Enemy and many others, he doesn't have as much time as he'd like for music production… be thankful. However, if you do dig his sounds, your taste is impeccable.

Thanks again to all participants…
this couldn't happen without you!

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