



IBEX

Planet E's rising star is gearing up for his highly anticipated EP release (no title as of press time), which is due out sometime this fall. The EP is a prelude to his full-length scheduled for late 2002.

What's the best pick up line that has actually worked on you? Wow, you are absolutely, drop dead ugly.

Do you think dressing up monkey's makes them more intelligent? Duh. I don't know... How do you like my new Kenneth Coles?

Oprah is to Rosie as Ronald McDonald is to? Governor Jesse Ventura.

What's your favorite color and what does it sound like? Smokestack Grey... Hack, hack, cough.

What's the grossest thing a girl has ever done in front of you? Ummmm girls...

If you could have any super-power what would it be and why? Spiderman's... He's my hero.

Say the first thing that comes to your mind when you see these words.

- Red Bull
- Pink elephant
- That time of the month
- Really big towel
- Wonder Woman
- White bread
- Fake Tits
- Big tits
- Cowboy Hats
- Big tits
- Little People
- Big uh...
- Porn
- Enough already
- Outer Space
- Milk
- Tidy Bowl Man
- Cereal
- Miniature Corn
- Flakes

FEATURED SINGLE



ILLY B EATS VOLUME 1

Groove, Bang and Jive Around (Amulet Records)

Here Billy Martin does a little moonlighting from his gig with Medeski, Martin & Wood and the results will please many a beat junkie. *Groove, Bang and Jive Around* pretty much sums-up the theme of the record, with mad drums and percussions jumping across the borders of afrobeat, samba, drum n' bass and funk. You will need two copies since this limited edition 12" is all about the beats and breaks—and what you do with them in your set. Check out Martin's Amulet site for info about a future release where DJs and musicians are invited to send in an original work (using the beats from this record, of course) that may be included on the forthcoming double CD. **4/5** (Jon Wesley)

LABEL PROFILE



STEREO DELUXE

Stereo Deluxe, distributed in the US by Studio K7 was founded in the beginning of 1995 in Nuernberg by Oli Rösch. Over the last five years the 6-man team at SD has developed what has been called a modern urban sound. Developing and breaking new artists since day one, it's no wonder they were nominated in 1999 for the "German Dance Award" in the category of Best Independent Label. The press accolades are easy to understand considering the eclectic artist roster which includes: Boozoo Bajou, Mo' Horizons, Trio Electro, The Strike Boys, Soul N' Soda, Jaffa, The Funky Lowlives, Robbyn Rhodes and Stereo Deluxe DJ Team Majbour & Deluca. Under the stewardship of A&R man Oli Rösch & label mate Denis Enos Stereo Deluxe has released some of the most innovative albums of the new millennium. "We want to give our staff and all our artists the freedom to be innovative without being categorised," says Oli Rösch. Stereo Deluxe releases have been described in the press as intelligent and varied chilled-out club/lounge music. This description only touches on the periphery of the labels agenda, which is really more concerned with redefining sound and breaking down genres within electronic music. The Stereo Deluxe mantra could be "original artistry that refused to capitulate to convention". There are few labels whose logo alone can be the sole basis for a purchase criteria, but if you see a SD release you can be sure of one thing—it won't suck. (Sean Ogden)

D-STROY

The Matador (Matador)
After separating from The Arsonists, he dropped the blazing *Roll Out*, and continues to set fires, this time with *The Matador*. His rapid-fire delivery along with bugged-out lyrics fit perfectly to Usef Dinero's dark and energetic production. *Vitamin D* is destined to turn listeners into burn victims, as the Bushwick (Brooklyn) MC creates a catchy hot track that will have everyone shouting out his name. Summer might be over, but D-Stroy's still bringing the heat. **4/5** (Meddaffore)

MARS ILL

Mona Lisa (Uprok)
A lot of the time, positivity in hip hop gets slept on, due to either the message being too preachy or the messenger being too corny. Here to awaken your mind comes the Atlanta duo of Mars Ill. On *Mona Lisa* DJ Dust crafts a heavy drum kick track to pull you in, while Soul Heir the Manchild combines with Playdough, Jaz, and Lil Sci (Scienz Of Life) on the mic. The end result is the type of music that thugs need to hear and purists fiend for. **4/5** (Meddaffore)

AMEL LARRIEUX AND THE ROOTS

Glitches (The Skin You're In) (Sony/Giant Step)
Taken from the compilation *Red Star Sounds Vol. 1: Soul Searching* (featuring the talents of India Arie, Macy Gray and Jill Scott) *Glitches* features the always smooth, clean sound of The Roots with the one-of-a-kind voice of Amel Larriex. The only shortcoming is the fact that Larriex doesn't have enough mic time; other than that, this one is highly recommended. **4/5** (Jon Wesley)

RISE ASHEN

Torn/Second Wind (Blissom Remixes) (Spot Records)
Torn is mellow and breezy but *Second Wind* is the one that makes 'em move. It's not really downtempo at about 125 bpm, but who cares—it's damn good. It's also imported all the way from Canada and goes good with beer. **4/5** (Jon Wesley)

BEATLESS

Life Mirrors/Love from the Sun (Ubiquity)
Beatless returns with a couple of morsels from their new LP (which drops this month, in case you forgot). The original of *Life Mirrors* is a swinging downbeat number that sweats soul and takes the steel drum to new heights—flawless! Opaque does the remix for the up-tempo sets and on the other side you get a great cover of Roy Ayers' *Love From the Sun*. **5/5** (Jon Wesley)

PANDA ONE

She Knows Not (Counterflow)
I've nicknamed this track 'easy rider' since it's so smooth, lazy and...easy. Panda One has done a great job of seasoning his hip hop with soul and sunny vibes, making *She Knows Not* a nice way to warm-up during the chill of autumn. Also included is a taste of what's to come with *Future Promise*—a dirty track that would make DJ Shadow jealous. Get two. **3/5** (Dextrus)

LIGHT SLEEPERS

No Turn Unstoned (Fenetik Music)
This 4-track release is straight up jazz/funk from the Soma camp. Giles Peterson might call

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SESSO MATTO VS THE IDJUT BOYS

Sessomatto (West End)
Many downbeat nuts may miss out on this since West End is better known for garage/house music. The DJs that dig through the entire store (regardless of category) will find that the Idjut Boys have left their indelible mark on this 1976 classic. Check out the funky edits and dub-influenced production techniques on the Idjut version and the original Jim Stuard Disco Mix, which gives us a 10-minute lesson into disco's everlasting appeal. **5/5** (Jon Wesley)

INTERFEARENCE

Take That Train (Unk mix) (Ubiquity)
This is a great record all around, but the track that really makes it stand out is the Unk mix of *Take That Train*. Just ease in the organ intro and watch the floor erupt when the drums kick in. The super low frequency bass tones, "never change" vocal and swirling keys back up those drums nicely and will make the freestyle moves kick in with ease. **4/5** (Jon Wesley)

MASS INFLUENCE

The Science (Deep Concentration)
Ouch—*The Science* bumps! Mass Influence shows some of what Atlanta has to offer and there seems to be some serious science in sweet ol' Georgia. If you ever go there to play a party or club, bring *A Yo! Atlanta Ya On* with you 'cause it will hype them up and the instrumental works great on its own, so you can't lose. **4/5** (Dextrus)

BABY MAMMOTH

I'll see you/Lazy (Pork Recordings)
Baby Mammoth does it again with their understanding of deep grooves and original sounding vocals. Both sides of this twelve-inch being incredibly gorgeous and well thought out. Mark Blissenden and Andrew Burdell are a force to be reckoned with in the electronic underground scene. **4/5** (Kenoy)

BEBEL GILBERTO

Eyes/Tempo (Ziriguiboom)
An excursion into latin-infected rhythms. Bebel sounds as beautiful as ever. Congos, shakers and kicking 4/4 beats melt together to create a rhythm that's all its on. Faze Action from Nuphonic takes Bele to a higher level. **5/5** (Kenoy)

ZERO 7

Destiny (Ultimate Dilemma)
Soul or nu-soul Zero 7 definitely brightened my day with this incredibly beautiful track. Lush pianos, violins and organic sounding guitars rush in and breath life into this twelve-inch. There's even a Photek mix for all you techy house heads to enjoy. **5/5** (Kenoy)

APHEX TWIN

Cock/Ver 10/54 Cymru Beats (London Sire)
The asshole is back with some much anticipated new material and well...? A smattering of breaks and weirdness that at times is remotely danceable and then, well, it's not. Interesting beat programming as always from this supposed genius. There is a very thin line here between mind blowing and crap, you decide. **2/5** (OO-Negative)

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