WEARBOOK 2019 BEST OF REGGAEVILLE.COM

VZAUCHN DENJANN RISE IN POWER Salada



GENTLEMAN - SEAN PAUL SHAGGY - PATRICE - TARRUS RILEY **STEFFLON DON - SPICE** KY-MANI MARLEY - CHRISTOPHER MARTIN MR EAZI - THIRD WORLD - MAX ROMEO TRETTMANN - SAMPA THE GREAT - SDP FETTES BROT - SAMY DELUXE UNPLUGGED JUJU - LILA IKĖ - SERANI - KATCHAFIRE JAHNERATION - JAH9 - HOLLIE COOK **KELVYN COLT - MEGALOH - OG KEEMO** MIWATA - I-TAWEH - SARA LUGO NKULEE DUBE - MAJAN AND MORE



COSMO



A new year, a new decade, a new beginning: the coupling of the 20s promises to bring success, peace and contentment according to Chinese astrology, as it is the year of the clever rat. Before we rush ahead, though, let us bid farewell to 2019, considering the blessings these last 12 months have bestowed on us and present you our annual **Reggaeville Yearbook**.

On the following pages we'll take you to the highlights of the past year, including the spectacular return of **Buju Banton** to international stages that started in Kingston on March 16th, as well as many other concerts and festivals around the world. Also, we look at the exceptional releases both veterans like the **Inna De Yard** crew, **Steel Pulse** (Mass Manipulation), **Marcia Griffiths** (Timeless) or **Yellowman** (No More War) and younger newcomers such as **Mortimer** (Fight The Fight), **Eva Lazarus** (More Fyah) or **Koffee** (Rapture) contributed.

From this x-amount of musical niceness, we asked you once more to choose your favourite, and we congratulate the winner of our reader's Album Poll: **Stick Figure** secured the most votes with their album **World On Fire**, an album that has also topped the **Reggae Album Billboard Year-End Charts 2019**. For the full results of the poll, see pages 124-125.

When it comes to our own success story, **Reggaeville** is proud to say that we celebrated our 10th anniversary.

Our site went online on July 1st 2009 and has since managed to become one of the world's leading resource for artist's infos, releases, festival/tour dates and, of course, reviews, photos and videos from all corners of the colourful world of Reggae and Dancehall. As if to congratulate us on this jubilee, you made us reach 1 Million subscribers on **YouTube** in 2019, adding up to a total of 400 million views. Thank you for this continued support - make sure you bookmark **REGGAEVILLE.com** to stay up to date in the new year as well!

Apart from all these blessings received during 2019, the global Reggae community experienced sad losses, too, and was bereft of many a human treasure. Among them is **Vaughn Benjamin** aka **Midnite** aka **Akae Beka** who has transitioned on November 4th, leaving behind a void that will be hard, if not impossible to fill. We livicate this edition to his memory, bringing to your attention pictures, album artworks and fellow artist's condolences to honour this great soul who has managed to develop a deep, global consciousness in and through his songs and lyrics.

2019 was a busy, eventful year that will continue to influence the one that just started to unfold. The golden 2020 stands for perfect vision and accomplishment, adding up to the number 4 - it brings a pleasant calm, makes you focus on what matters and supports you in realising your dreams.

Go for it - Happy 2020!

HIGHLIGHTS 2019

Compiled by Gardy & Munchy



I'm always grateful for life on a whole but there are also things or moments I consider significant. One of them being the birth of my first daughter on the 3rd of October 2019. That moment meant everything ... it was also indicative of a woman's strength and vulnerability mixed in the most beautiful unexplainable way ... a true blessing which I give thanks for each and every day. Music is my life and love ... apart from my wife and children! I've learnt how to take things step by step one day at a time. I've gathered a lot personally which also made room for growth, steady slow growth. I'm not perfect - neither do I try to be - but I try my best to do what's right, what feels right. I have my demons and so does everyone ... I've gained, I've lost, I've been confused, anary, sad, depressed, happy, excited, passionate - and one of the things I'm most passionate about is my music which I put my soul into... for anything soul is gold, and anything sold gets old.

Another moment of great significance for 2019 was the release of my first properly done EP with **Overstand Entertainment** called **Fight The Fight**, because I feel like I've been fighting all my life. I feel too that to survive I'll always have to be fighting. I had Winta James by my side musically and otherwise. I've been privileged as well to have a really cool manager, Claire Osman is her name. One of the singles from the EP, "Lightning" hit 3 million views in 4 months in 2019 . the EP debuted on Billboard Reggae Charts at number 3 and number 1 on iTunes Reggae Album Charts - all of which was major for me! A moment that stood out for me would be my performance at Unplugged in Kingston, Jamaica. The reception was golden and humbling - I am grateful for the way people have been connecting with my music! They sang every word! I had no idea people were this in tune with my music and for that I'm grateful. It's been a good vear of growth and I'm happy for all the support I've received. I could go on and on about significant moments in 2019, haha, but I'll stop with the moments I've mentioned. I feel really good inside. I'm not where I wanna be in my heart yet but one day at a time for we grow as we go, and as we grow we will know . Oh and one more thing, my wife and I hit our 5th year of togetherness on the 27th of December 2019!



BUJU BANTON

2019 was filled with a lot of great moments, but traveling to the various parts of the world and connecting with my fans again was a joy for me. I had the opportunity to sing and hear hundreds of thousands sing with me once again. For that I give thanks and look forward to doing it over and over and over again.



What was most important to me in 2019 was when my album **Picture Perfect** got selected for the **Grammy** nominations in the first round. That was a really exciting and important moment for me on Wednesday, September 25th, that was my moment! I produced this album all by myself, so to see my work on that level was breathtaking. We give thanks for the recognition!

YEARBOOK 2019 Highlights

5





WARRIOR SOUND INTERNATIONAL

2019 started with a big bang and the real highlight of the year for me. I finally married my soulmate. We were in a longtime relationship since more than 10 years and now the time was right to take it to a higher level - the best decision of my life. Musically I was impressed by Koffee, Lila Iké, Kabaka Pyramid and Teejay. Those artists never fail to perform and I will always play them in every set I do. Of course, the deejay of the year is the WorldBoss aka Vybz Kartel. The amount of big tunes he is doing from a cell is just insane. The output is unreal. #Gaza. The best concert was the return of Buju Banton to Europe. His show in Germany this summer was pure fire and he still has it all. In 2019 I was also able to improve my clash skills and did something that no sound from Europe ever did before. I was able to win the two biggest sound clashes of the year. The Grandslam of Sound Clash. In July I took down the Reggae Sumfest Global Clash in Montego Bay against some of the greatest selectors in the business. After defeating Ricky Trooper, King Turbo and Yard Beat I ended up in the Tune Fi Tune with Pink Panther which was played in a "Best of 10" format. The final score was 6:1 for Warrior Sound and the trophy was on its way to Germany. Shortly after this victory I was invited to the Clash At Sea on Damian Marley's Welcome To Jamrock Reggae Cruise. In this clash against Tony Matterhorn, Pantha and **Dynamg.** I ended up in the final Tune Fi Tune round with **Dynamg** and scored a 6:0 victory against him. To wrap up 2019 in a few words: One of the best years in my personal life as well as my music career. I am looking forward into 2020 with a smile and I cannot wait to see what the new year has in stock for me.



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believo





MAGAZINE

JANUARY

INTERVIEW MARLEY – THE JAS I AM' INTERVIEW

It has been ten years since the release of his Grammy nominated album Awake but in January 2019 Julian "Juju Royal" Marley finally presents his fans with a new fulllength record entitled As I Am.



2018 is her story as well: Koffee! Featuring our artist of the year in an extensive interview, she tells us about her 2018 and how important it has been for her young career, as well as introducing us to her debut EP Rapture...



VP RECORDS CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

VP Records, the world's largest reggae music company, announces a year-long calendar of activities in celebration of its 40 years in the United States. 2019 will feature a variety of music and cultural events, products...



LAUNCH OF LONG WALK TO FREEDOM TOUR

On March 16, 2019 Buju Banton will return to the stage. His first concert takes place in Kingston, Jamaica at the National Stadium.



INTERVIEW WITH AWA FALL - WORDS OF WISDOM

"I wrote this song with my brother when I was in Senegal, and then I rearranged it with Ashraff30, which is a singer from Senegal, who lives in Italy. Ashraff was also in Senegal when I was there and it was very nice to share..."



RAGING FYAH INTRODUCES NEW SINGER

After lead singer Kumar left Raging Fyah in July 2018, the band kept their promise and honored the confirmed 17-date tour in the US in July/August. Leonardo Carmichael was the lead singer for that tour, but now a new name...

MAGAZINE



BUJU BANTON LAUNCHES FOUNDATION

Never forgetting the poverty of his childhood years. Buju Banton has used his music to serve as a voice for the voiceless, through messages of unity, perseverance and hope.



REGGAEOLOGY - THE INDIAN REGGAE SCENE

A documentary produced by ethnographers and filmmakers, Instrupad in collaboration with Goa Sunsplash, this film depicts the rise of the Indian reggae scene witnessed at the annual reggae festival in India, Goa Sunsplash.



It's 2019! After all those polls and votings for "album of the year 2018", the slates should now be wiped clean for new music and fresh sonic experiences.

REGGAE MONTH IN JAMAICA - FEBRUARY 2019

February is here, and thus time to immerse ourselves into the sweet sights and sounds of the annual Reggae Month once more.



REVIEW: GENTLEMAN'S DUB CLUB - LOST IN SPACE

Damn, have I been waiting for this! Unknowingly, that is. I haven't counted the days until the release, no, but from the very moment I pressed play on their new album Lost In Space...



ALBUM OF THE YEAR 2018: SAMINI - UNTAMED

And the winner is... Samini with Untamed! Samini hails from Ghana. He has released seven albums since 2004, he won Best African Act at the MOBO Awards 2006 and the MTV Africa Music Award as Best Performer 2009.

VIDEO PREMIERES





BLACK UHURU - WAR CRIME

TEACHA DEE FEAT. PERFECT GIDDIMANI & YOUNG SHANTY



RESCUE



KINGSTON ALL STARS



KING MAS - MILITANT STEP



TURBULENCE - YOU'RE GONE









THIS A SOUND

RELEASES



ALBOROSIE & ROOTS RADICS











FATIS - TAPES IN THE OVEN













PHOTOS



YELLOWMAN & PAPA MICHIGAN @ REBEL SALUTE 2019



Photos by Steve James

JAMAICA'S PREMIER MUSIC FESTIVAL

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A DownSound Entertainment Production

YEARBOOK 2019 February

MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY



ETANA'S GRAMMY APPEARANCE - A HIT WITH THE PRESS

Reggae's reigning queen, Etana is the first Jamaican female nominee to be apart of the Grammy's live red carpet telecast. According to major global media outlets, she represented well for her country and genre.



The compelling 12 tracks on Wah Gwaan?! - a Jamaican

The compelling 12 tracks on Wah Gwaan?! - a Jamaican patois greeting meaning 'what's goin' on?' - are a revelation of an accomplished and multi-talented musical star.



ALBUM REVIEW: BLVK H3R0 - IMMORTAL STEPPA

Listening to this album, I wondered, for the first time ever, if its review belongs on a Reggae Site, to be honest. Where most other releases have a straight approach and an easily discernible pattern of Roots, Rockers, Rocksteady...



BEST MOMENTS... ONE LOVE CALI REGGAE FEST

The sold out One Love Cali Reggae Fest 2019 at the Queen Mary floated into the twilight zone on day one with ultimately Eric Rachmany accidentally droppeding his guitar mid song during Rebelution's headlining set...



GRAMMY AWARD GOES TO STING & SHAGGY

The Grammy Award winner in the category BEST REG-GAE ALBUM are Sting & Shaggy with 44/876. Congratulations! Shaggy accepted the Award live on stage. His partner in crime Sting was absent.



ALBUM REVIEW: KING MAS - CROWN

With Kora and Griot, Crown immerses us in African Royalty from the first notes. The third studio album of Boston-born artist King Mas is the first full-length release by his label Bantu Nation Movement,...

YEARBOOK 2019 February

13

MAGAZINE



SAMINI - THE UNTAMED INTERVIEW

Winning Reggaeville's Album of the Year Poll 2018 with his album Untamed, Emmanuel Andrews aka Samini surprised many, as his name is not on everybody's lips yet.



OKU ONUORA INTERVIEW

Of all the many stories of triumph over adversity in Jamaican music, pioneering dub poet Oku Onuora's is by far the most extraordinary. His more dramatic-than-fiction life, as a revolutionary...



TROJAN JAMAICA - BMG LAUNCHES NEW LABEL

BMG is delighted to announce the launch of Trojan Jamaica, a new frontline label working directly with BMG to bring newly produced, Jamaican-made music to the world.

FEATURING FREDDIE MCGREGOR, GENTLEMAN & LA TIFA

PUBLIK REPORT

BLIK-REPOR



VIDEO PREMIERES



FOR YOU

KUSH MCANUFF - ROCK STONE





DEF BENSKI

YEARBOOK 2019 February

RELEASES





DERAJAH

















BLACK BIRD RIDDIM





PHOTOS



CHERINE ANDERSON & ROBBIE SHAKESPEARE IN LOS ANGELES, CA @ DUB CLUB



GROUNDATION @ ONE LOVE CALI REGGAE FEST

Photos by Jan Salzman









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Photos by Steve James & Marox















Raymond Wright STRIKLY REAL

- 1. My Lord
- 2. Woman
- 3. Meet Again
- 4. Make Dem Come
- 5. My Brother feat. PieroDread
- 6. Everytime
- 7. Cornerstone
- 8. Crosses
- 9. Jah if You Let Him feat. Lion D
- 10. Fliction
- 11. Keeping You feat. Ale Soresini
- 12. Change My Name
- 13. 2Gedda

BOOK YOUR SHOW raymanagement03@gmail.com

VIBES POINT





YEARBOOK 2019 March

MAGAZINE

MARCH

INTERVIEW INTERVIEW

As a producer, selector and MC he was part of the highly successful sound system Black Chiney and together with Diplo and Jillionaire he is Major Lazer. Despite the fame and the hype, as well as the workload...



RIP WINSTON "BO-PEE" BOWEN

Another sad loss to the music world: Winston Bowen, affectionately called and better known as Bo-Pee, died of a heart attack early Tuesday morning in his Jamaican home at age 62



This singer has really surprised the world. While, less than two years ago, hardly anybody knew the school-girl who had just uploaded a home-recorded tribute to Usain Bolt, Mikayla Simpson aka Koffee is now a Columbia-signed...



REPORT - STEPPING HIGH FESTIVAL 2019

Since 2004, the annual festival gathers farmers, manufacturers and visitors involved in the multi-faceted Ganja trade - and artists, of course. Illegal and thus underground until 2015, the festival gained momentum after....



UK-LEGEND RANKING ROGER PASSED AWAY

Mourning the untimely passing of Ranking Roger, band members, music colleagues and fans worldwide had to say good-bye to this highly talented man on March 26th.



MARCUS GAD - THE ,ENTER A SPACE' INTERVIEW

A thousand miles east of Australia, there is this little island state called New Caledonia. Situated in the peaceful vastness of the Pacific Ocean, it offers palm trees, sunshine, waves - and plenty of time for undistracted reflection.

MAGAZINE



BANTON DISTANCES HIMSELF FROM BOOM BYE BYE!

Last saturday Buju Banton kicked off his Long Walk To Freedom Tour in Kingston, Jamaica with an epic performance at the National Stadium in front of a sold out crowd of 35,000+ people.



Reggaeville was invited to meet the Raggamuffin foundation artist in his home studio in Portmore, an invitation we more than willingly followed.



ON THE ROAD WITH LEE SCRATCH PERRY

Lee 'Scratch' Perry is currently on a (yet another!) 26-date tour of Europe. On the Irish leg of the tour, Reggaeville had the pleasure of accompanying him from gig-to-gig on his cross-country treks.



NEW BUJU BANTON SINGLE FEATURING HIS SONS

A new single by Buju Banton is out today: False Pretense feat. Markus & Jahazeil. It's labeled as the "first single from Buju Banton since his release...", but the press release doesn't give details, if Buju voiced his part recently.



SNWMF 2019 CANCELLED!

Bad news reached us out of the SNWMF camp. The 2019 edition has been cancelled, but they only take a year off to be back in full power in 2020.



REVIEW: DA FUCHAMAN - FREEDOM FIGHTER

Right now, Da Fuchaman is among UK's most productive reggae artists. Since 2014, countless singles, two EPs and four studio albums have been published.

VIDEO PREMIERES



ASHRAFF 30 - SENSE OF LIFE



THORPIDO - RAWPA CRAWPA

BABA RAS - REAL VEGETARIAN

VIDEO PREMIE

REGGAEVILLE CON





TRYING TO MAKE ENDS MEET



SWEET LOVE



BINGHI BLAZE - ONE TRUE FRIEND

OLIVIA FLOWERS - WHAT YOU WANT



TYDAL KAMAU - MINDS TO WORK





COUNT TO TEN

YEARBOOK 2019 March

RELEASES





HEMPRESS SATIVA



ROCKY DAWUNI



GAPPY RANKS



AKAE BEKA

















PHOTOS



EVERTON BLENDER @ 9 MILE MUSIC FESTIVAL



LEE SCRATCH PERRY IN IRELAND



PATO BANTON, STEPHEN MARLEY & ANTOINETTE ROOTSDAWTAH IN GARDEN GROVE, CA Photos by Natasha Jasperson, Gerry McMahon & Jan Salzman



MORTIMER



FIGHT THE FIGHT EP

SPRAGGA BENZ



CHILIAGON

SEVANA



NOBODY MAN (SINGLE)

JESSE ROYAL FT. PROTOJE



LIONORDER (SINGLE) GENTLEMAN'S DUB CLUB FT. BITTY MCLEAN



100% (SINGLE)

PROTOJE FT. AGENT SASCO And Lila iké



NOT ANOTHER WORD (SINGLE)

THE EXPANDERS FT. SLIGHTLY STOOPID



SWEET AND SLOW (SINGLE)

LILA IKÉ



WHERE I'M COMING FROM (SINGLE)

THE GREEN



BLACK & WHITE

FOR MORE RELEASES AND INFO, CHECK EASYSTAR.COM

BUJU BANTON IN JAMAICA 3/16/2019



REGGAE'S MAESTRO HAS RETURNED

For ten years I wondered if I would ever see Buju Banton perform live again. The wait has been nearly intolerable. As an unapologetic music lover, reggae is the genre I identify most closely with as the rhythms are the drumbeat...



CHAIRS @ LONG WALK TO FREEDOM CONCERT

After numerous meetings to address the heightened concerned of no chairs being allowed inside the National Stadium on Saturday March 16th, the organizers have received word from authority to allow the use of chairs.



BUJU BANTON ON TOUR

On March 16, 2019 Buju Banton will return to the stage. His first concert takes place in Kingston, Jamaica at the National Stadium. Several other shows across the Caribbean are confirmed and also famous SummerJam Festival



The stadium with a capacity of 35,000 will be packed with fans from all over the world to celebrate the return of Buju Banton! A few hundred bleacher tickets are left, but there will be NO tickets at the gate!



OFFICIAL PARTIES & LIVE STREAM

In anticipation of Buju Banton's return to the live stage on March 16, 2019 the most asked question by his fans worldwide is: WILL IT BE STREAMED LIVE ?



LONG WALK TO FREEDOM TOUR LAUNCH

Tonight the media is invited to the official launch of the Long Walk To Freedom Tour. The media event takes place in Kingston at the Spanish Court Hotel. It was announced, that Buju Banton will not be in attendance.

PHOTOS



BUJU BANTON LONG WALK TO SESSION







BUJU BANTON - LONG WALK TO FREEDOM IN KINGSTON, JAMAICA @ NATIONAL STADIUM SPECIAL GUESTS: BERES HAMMOND, MARCIA GRIFFITHS, GRAMPS MORGAN & WAYNE WONDER

Photos by Steve James & Munchy

MAGAZINE

APRIL



Acoustic reggae supergroup Inna De Yard just released their second ensemble album since their 2017 reunion. It's the self-titled soundtrack to a new Inna De Yard documentary by English director Peter Webber...



LT. STITCHIE INTERVIEW

An abundance of natural talent, intellect and gumption have spared Stitchie the usual pitfalls and clichés of a dancehall star's trajectory,...



ALBUM REVIEW: INNA DE YARD

What an absolutely stunning and emotional piece of art! It took only one run-through to leave me deeply touched by the voices and messages put forth on the new Inna De Yard album.



BUJU BANTON @ WTJRC 2019

The 2019 edition of Damian Marley's Welcome To Jamrock Reggae Cruise is sold out since last December, but only today the line-up was announced. And yes... BUJU BANTON is on it!



ONENESS RECORDS - LIONESS ORDER RIDDIM

The Lioness Order compilation enters with a quality of stealth, power and grace that is characteristic of the queens of the pride. The heavy roots rock rhythm, produced by Oneness Records,...



EP REVIEW: THE WISE BLOODS - CONVERGENCE

With all that great music released by established Reggae artists, re-mixes or cover-versions of veterans who have passed away and cross-overs from the pop-mainstream, it's not easy for newcomers in the genre to make their...

YEARBOOK 2019 April

29

MAGAZINE



JAH CORE & DAMIAN MARLET TEAM OF FOR SINGLE

Jah Cure will release his next single Marijuana featuring Damian ,Junior Gong' Marley on VP Records, just in time for 4/20. In addition to the songs release, the Marijuana video will premiere...



INTERVIEW - SYLVAN MORRIS AT STUDIO 1

Compared to most forms of music, reggae can take a lion's share of the credit for elevating the studio engineer to the status of artist or musician. And few engineers in Jamaica can claim to have worked on so many top....



ABUM REVIEW: THE FINAL BATTLE

Some years ago, two popular Irish musicians combined to compile an album entitled 'There's Life in the Old Dog Yet'. The title came to mind again when this cracking release from a host of reggae's 'oldies but goldies'...



MICHAEL PALMER • K VIBES • JAH PILOT KING MAS • YABEZ • NOEL ALPHONSO

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VIDEO PREMIERES





RSNY - JOURNEY

RANDY VALENTINE, EESAH & RUNKUS



RLESSEL

GINJAH







BLAZE MOB - JAH PROVIDE A WAY



I KONG FEAT. I MARTELL & VETERAN



AZA LINEAGE

YEARBOOK 2019 April

RELEASES



JAH IZREHL









GENERAL A GENERAL RIDDIM











JOGGC OVA War

JOGGO



PHOTOS



DERRICK MORGAN IN LOS ANGELES, CA @ DUB CLUB



YOUNG HAWK & DYNAMQ @ WAR INA EAST



Photos by Jan Salzman, Marox & Natasha Jasperson



A GUARANTEE TO CELEBRATE GERMANY'S NO 1













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CONCERT REVIEW HAMBURG

ALC:



ALBOROSIE IN AMSTERDAM



CHRISTOPHER MARTIN IN BERLIN



INTERVIEW MARCUS GAD







MARCUS GAD IN MUNICH

REVELATION X CONCERTS

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E THE INDIGGNATION

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riddim





YEARBOOK 2019 May

MAGAZINE

MAY



BEST MOMENTS... CALIFORNIA ROOTS 2019

California Roots celebrated 10 years with another memorable three days of eclectic music from all over the world. It was indeed a global affair....



JAHMIEL REPRESENTS JAMAICA @ CRICKET ANTHEM

Big tings a gwaan for Jahmiel! Read all details in the Uber press release. Cricket World Cup 2019, one of the most awaited sporting events of the year is just around the corner...



WAH GWAAN?! SHAGGY RELEASES NEW ALBUM

Shaggy will debut the album's latest single You featuring the 19-year-old Canadian singer-songwriter Alexander Stewart with a performance on The Late Late Show with James Corden on CBS.



BUJU BANTON ON NEW DJ KHALED ALBUM

Back in December 2018, just a few days after Buju Banton returned to Jamaica, DJ Khaled came to Kingston to work on his new album Father of Asahd. Khaled linked up with Buju Banton, Sizzla and Mavado.



Founded in 2018 by drummer and producer Alex "Drummie" Domhoever, and his partner, media designer and journalist Ursula "Munchy" Münch, this new label wants to go beyond production...



REVIEW: JEMERE MORGAN - SELF CONFIDENCE

Six years ago, on a freezing cold January night in Hamburg, I've first seen this artist perform live alongside his father, Gramps Morgan. Jemere was only 17 at the time, but already a promising talent, a talent that manifested...
MAGAZINE



Last month, Jamaican-born British reggae pioneer Dandy Livingstone released They Call Us Legends - his first single in 40 years.



On May 28, his 89th birthday, Edward Philip George Seaga, the fifth Prime Minister of Jamaica and former leader of the Jamaica Labour Party has passed away.



5 QUESTIONS WITH RITA MARLEY

35 years after the debut of Bob Marley and the Wailers' Legend comes a long overdue career retrospective, The Best of Rita Marley: Lioness of Reggae, honoring the recordings of the esteemed singer and songwriter...



REVIEW: LEE SCRATCH PERRY - RAINFORD

Question: What would do if you came home to find that your house guest had buried your expensive television set in the garden? Answer: Forgive him.



Walshy Fire has used his platform as a member of Major Lazer and as a producer and international DJ to gather artists from Africa and the Caribbean for ABENG, a first-

of-its-kind album bridging the two regions,...



REVIEW: STEEL PULSE - MASS MANIPULATION

When Steel Pulse first arrived on the scene, they caused quite a stir. Formed in 1975, their debut single Kibudu-Mansetta-Abuku (1976) and album Handsworth Revolution (1978),...

VIDEO PREMIERES





RAFIKI - EMANCIPATE



BANDA SENDEROS - MALA VENA



FYAKIN - CONCRETE JUNGLE



JAH BOUKS - REGGAE REVOLUTION



DUANE STEPHENSON & LUTAN FYAH



EMPRESS SATIVA



NO MONEY NO LOVE



BROTHER'S KEEPER

YEARBOOK 2019 May

RELEASES







JESSIE ROYAL & PROTOJE











EMETERIANS









PHOTOS





SUPER CAT IN MIAMI, FL @ BEST OF THE BEST



Photos by Cevan Coore, Steve James & Jan Salzman



THE DEST OF BLG MOUTAIN









Click images to listen to these favorite Big Mountain singles on Spotify. Also available on Apple Music, Google Play, Deezer, Pandora and YouTube Music.

For booking, contact us at booking@bigmountainband.com



HIGHLIGHTS 2019

Compiled by Munchy & Gardy



Personally, I've been through a lot of change in 2019, which creates in me a new faculty of interpretation. I've watched the rapid change in the world and the speeding movements in music and I've come to the full knowledge that only change is real. I've met upon some beautiful people along the way, especially my friends in West Africa. What I see today is that the continent of Africa is on a rapid rise on all levels! Locally, my country Jamaica is the same blessed land the world admires, and this year we have won the Miss World Pageant and it gives us joy. We all are proud of who we Jamaicans are. even more today. Apart from the normal day-to-day problems we face, Jamaica is still blessed. My music has grown with me and my fans, who give me the impetus to carry on. My latest album Longest Livah has given me a lot of opening in terms of shows and appearances across the world. I'm having a good feeling for what I achieved in 2019, and with my new management team I see we have a far way to go.



2019 was a year full of so many highlights. Collaborating with **H.E.R.** on our single **Slow Down** was a standout moment that will last well into 2020 with the release of the brand new video.

Performing **That's Not True** with my uncle Damian aboard the **Welcome To Jamrock Cruise** was another blessing that I won't soon forget. The ultimate joy was the opportunity to give something back to the people. We used the **Inner Circle 50th Anniversary Reggae Jam** concert to shine a light on the **Ghetto Youths Foundation Pic Love** campaign, and drive some much needed funds to anti-bullying programs in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Performing **Refugee** at the United Nations to commemorate the 30th anniversary of World Children's Day is a highlight of not only the last year, but my entire life. I give thanks for the unique experiences and amazing people I've met along the way. More love and more life in 2020!



2019 I would call my "year of resurgence" as I had taken a small break from the public eyes to fo-

cus more on the business aspect of music. Now I am back with my own record label and a brand new EP called Bare Thoughts from which all of the songs released (with music videos) made an impact in the Dancehall space and plunged my name back onto the scene. Songs that stood out most for me from this project are When I'm Gone which was the lead single, then Internet which literally broke the internet as people had me as a brave/crazy risk taker yet "creative" individual as I lyrically tackle issues affecting our young women today. In 2019 my song called **Oh Devil** that I was featured on by LA based Rock Band Electric Guest hit over 40 million streams on Spotify and is still arowina.

Overall it has been a great year for me, arguably the best year of my career thus far as my music has been knocking on the ear drums of the people I really wanted it to from the beginning.



The year was 1973, we had a vision to start a new band and compose, write original music in a new genre... Reggae.

And to think 45 years later we are still here, making music and have a new LP at that.

Our first tour off the rock in 1975 was opening for the King of Reggae **Bob Marley** and now look the circle of life, **Bob**'s youngest son **Damian "Jr Gong" Marley** produced our new album **More Work To Be Done** which is nominated for the 2020 Grammy. Looking back at 2019 **Third World** traveled to 23 different countries on 4 different continents, so as you can see, there is still "More Work To Be Done" and are grateful and honored to still share our vision into 2020 with you.

We give thanks for sharing our journey with us and as track 11 says on the new LP, "Hear Us Out" there is still "More Work To Be Done".

JAHMIEL

For 2019 one of the many highlights I would have to say is the release of my debut album **Great Man**. Always knew I would put out a body of work for my fans but the response and feedback I received was tremendous. It was a great feeling and a special moment in my music career.



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MAGAZINE

JUNE



INTERVIEW WITH THE NO-MADDZ

While their number of band members decreased to a duo, the team surrounding the No-Maddz has expanded. For their upcoming album Heaven On Earth they took background vocalists, a number of prestigious...



INTERVIEW WITH PETER WEBBER - INNA DE YARD

Musically, Jamaica punches above its weight in proportion to its population. And likewise, films about Jamaican music - from The Harder They Come, to Rockers, to Babylon - have made an international impact



INTERVIEW WITH MARCIA GRIFFITHS

Ground-breaking female singer Marcia Griffiths celebrates her 55th year in music in 2019. She's commemorating the anniversary with a tribute album to the label where she first started as a child star: Studio 1.



REGGAEVILLE 1 MILLION YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS

Just 18 months after we celebrated 500,000 subscribers on YouTube, the Reggaeville YouTube channel has now reached another impressive milestone: 1 MILLION subscribers!



BUJU BANTON @ SUPREME COLLECTION 2019

The American skateboarding shop and clothing brand Supreme has announced a collaboration with Buju Banton... This spring, Supreme has worked with Buju Banton...



Summer is the time of sun, heat, music, outdoors and beaches! Taking this truism literal, the Dub connoisseurs of Echo Beach slap out a string of releases right now that cater to the ears of both novices and veterans

YEARBOOK 2019 June

MAGAZINE



After the first artist announcement last month, which was followed by a very quick cancellation of Sizzla's appearance, the official website informs today...



GLOBAL SOUNDCLASH @ REGGAE SUMFEST 2019

Jamaica's rich music and culture which have impacted and infused itself throughout the world also produced the soundclash, which is one of the many musical standouts which originated in the country that birthed reggae



ALBUM REVIEW: GREEEN - SMARAGD

The emerald, a green gem stone, is said to represent youth in the age of man, symbolizing hope and the future, renewal and growth. It is thus the perfect match for artist GreeeN...



FRENCHIE - THE MAXIMUM SOUND INTERVIEW

Maximum Sound, the UK-based Dancehall label that turned 25 in 2018, has put out so many riddims, that Frenchie, the man behind the music, has completely lost count.



CHRONIXX - DREAD & TERRIBLE PROJECT 5 YEARS

This Friday (June 28), Jamaican reggae star Chronixx releases the deluxe edition of his seminal project, Dread & Terrible (via Soul Circle/Seed Distribution) on its five-year anniversary.



ALBUM REVIEW: BANDA SENDEROS - OASE

Oooh, new beginnings are so exciting! How a band/ producer/ artist starts a song has, at least for me, a tremendous influence on the way I perceive their music. In the case of Banda Senderos, their new album Oase drops...

VIDEO PREMIERES



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SHANIQUE MARIE - OUR SITTEN



GINJAH - DRAWING BOARD



CHEVAUGHN - KARAMEL INDIGO





DON'T ASK ME WHY







CALI P X TEKA - CONGO NATTY

YEARBOOK 2019 June

RELEASES



THE MOVEMENT



PEPPER





THROUGH THE ROOTS









PRESSURE BUSSPIPE







BARRINGTON LEVY & SHAGGY



I GRADES

PHOTOS



KOFFEE IN DORTMUND, GERMANY @ JUNKYARD



DAMIAN MARLEY IN BLOEMENDAAL, THE NETHERLANDS



INNA DE YARD IN AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS @ MELKWEG Photos by Eljer & Celine Diels





2020 GRAMMY NOMINATED ALBUM





TRACK LISTING

- 1. YIMMASGAN
- 2. THIRD WORLD KEEPS TURNING
- 3. LOVING YOU IS EASY
- 4. PEOPLE OF A DIFFERENT COLOR FT PRESSURE BUSSPIPE
- 5. NA NA NA FT CHRONIXX
- 6. FEEL GOOD FT BUSY SIGNAL
- 7. ISLAND DREAMS FT TESSANNE CHIN & TARRUS RILEY
- 8. SHEEP IN MEADOWS
- 9. YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE FT DAMIAN 'JR GONG' MARLEY
- 10. MORE WORK TO BE DONE
- 11. HEAR US OUT

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A LIGHT HAS LEFT OUR WORLD!

While every death causes consternation and sadness among loved ones, some are more of a shock to us than others. Especially when it comes as unexpected as the passing of **Vaughn Benjamin**, founder, singer and songwriter of the legendary **Midnite** (which re-formed as **Akae Beka** in 2015).

Born and raised on the calm shores of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, this exceptionally gifted man and his brother **Ron Benjamin** founded in 1989 what was to become one of the most influential modern Roots Reggae bands: **Midnite**. Following the release of their debut album **Unpolished** in 1997, and especially **Ras Mek Peace** in 1999, the artist's clever use of words, deep insights into human and spiritual matters as well as the melodious flow of his fellow musicians soon cemented their reputation, and a growing fanbase followed their rise and celebrated their meditative live performances.

It is hard to come to terms with the reality that **Vaughn Benjamin** passed away on November 4th 2019, and we seek comforted in the knowledge that his opus remains. His words of consciousness, up-liftment, concern and hope will forever be a pillar of truth and faith in the turmoils of our modern world.

MDNIFe



On the following pages, we commemorate this outstanding person who inspired so many: with most touching words of gratitude and appreciation by fellow artists, producers and companions, as well as a collection of photos, flyers and album covers, we pay hommage to one of the most impactful Reggae lyricists of our times.

Thank you for the teachings, Vaughn - continue to shine in Zion!



On the for standing



ANDREW MOON BAIN - LUSTRE KINGS PRODUCTIONS

Andrew Moon Bain with Akae Beka in Los Angeles, CA - November 2018

PHOTO BY JAN SALZMAN

Chant Jah. I loved this brother... can't lie. The realest Rebel Souljah.

The man threw me a lifeline when I was discouraged by 'the Reggae scene', fake people and general music industry BS. He encouraged, inspired and motivated I to continue glorifying the King through works and maintain my faith... "It's not about the hype". Those conversations birthed the album **Infinite Quality**, almost 15 years ago. That project solidified my musical family, trajectory and output, to this day. A bright beacon and lighthouse for Rasta people the world over. My heart goes out to his family, youths, to all band members, old and new. Producers, musicians, visual & musical artists, collaborators, dear friends and fans. It's like, we are all connected by a vast river, flowing around us, with a million gemstones left on the banks to overturn.

Trod easy Vaughn Benjamin.

Your one in a billion lyah... Real Lion Heart, a true King Spirit.











53

ARKAINGELLE



Arkaingelle & Vaughn in Woodland, CA 2017

Beloved — what a shock to di system to rise and find out dat we have lost anedda great from amongst us.

Vaughn Benjamin aka Midnite...taken to zion at the appointed time... a mentor and friend, a light, a beacon, our conversations was muzik...Vaughn inspired I and so many others... before he lost his strength in this physical realm... his works a testament to his Faith in the Divine Nature of Quadamawe Haile Selassie I.

Akae Beka, the Oath, Quadamawe Haile Selassie I revealed to da Holy ones, has been established by the instrumentality of the Holy Michael... that InI may overstand that secret name and thus remember the oath... Selah





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DARC FOUNDATION



From L-R: Ras Prof-I (2015 awardee), Dr. Ikyori Swaby (2017 keynote speaker), Sis Joan M Henry-Whyte (2017 awardee), Ras Mikey Dan (2017), Ras David Hinds of Steel Pulse (2015 awardee), Sis Makeda Cheatom (2017), Sis Carol (2015), Nana Farika Berhane (2017), Ras Denroy Morgan (2017), Dr B (DARC Chairman), Mrs. Allan Cole & Yolanda Cole (Allan "Skill" Cole's Daughter, 2017), Mama Tradition (2017), Akae Beka (2017) Sis Fanaye (2015). PHOTOS BY MARLON "AJAMU" MYRIE

DARC Foundation herein extends our deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Vaughn Benjamin**, the lyricist and lead chanter for **Midnite**.

Being fed-up with waiting on eulogies and obituaries before we say thank you to those whom we love, the **DARC Foundation** established the annual **Ethiophile Banquet and RasTafari Meritorious Awards**.

It was on November 5, 2017 that the DARC Foundation lionized Vaughn Benjamin aka Akae Beka by recognizing him for his selfless service that soared above and beyond. Little did we know in a mere two years to the day after receiving this Haile Selassie I Lifetime Achievement Award, Ras Akae Beka would transition into the realm of ancestry.

Words fall short when one tries to describe Akae

Beka. He was one in a million, a sage. He was a breath of fresh air in a world filled with hypocrites and parasites. His honest commitment to spirituality will continue to serve as a beacon of hope - not just for RasTafari but for those working for true democracy, freedom of piety and faith, and minority rights and peace all over the world.

It is almost impossible to find people like **Akae Beka**. It seems like there is but a few like him left in RasTafari/Reggae today. In a society full of people who are always looking over their shoulders, **Akae Beka** was stern and courageous beyond measure. In a society full of people who are too concerned about what folks will think of them, **Akae Beka** was different: he only cared about his principles and the glory of RasTafari.

With his distinctive chants that appeal to both traditional RasTafari and authentic music lovers



Vaughn Benjamin - Acceptance Speech

alike **Ras Beka** rejuvenated the genre, helping to catapult it from a tired license brand to an ifficial behemoth.

"He who humbles himself shall be exalted" this cliché fits **Ras Akae Beka** to the tee therefore we must exult this brother to the highest.

lloved; Your solemn and sweet chants will live immortally.

Akae Beka's final overture to the DARC Foundation on 10.27.19 - "Blessed I. Jah prosper your endeavor. Keep hold up Excellency". "Rastafari".

Rest in power! But above all else, RISE IN ETER-NAL GLORY...



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Ethiophile Banquet and Rastafari Meritorious Awards



Vaughn Benjamin & David Hinds (Steel Pulse)

Fiqir ena Selam



DARC FOUNDATION Ethiophile Banquet and Rastafari Meritorious Awards 2017

PHOTOS BY MARLON "AJAMU" MYRIE

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STEVEN JACOBO - TRIBAL SEEDS



Tribal Seeds & Vaughn Benjamin 2007

The first time my brother and I saw or heard of **Midnite** was at the 2001 **Bob Marley Festival** in San Diego. We got there early, thankfully, and we heard some hard roots music and sound echoing throughout the arena so we went to go see who was playing. That's when we saw them for the first time. As we were listening to the set, I think we were both just kind of tripping out on their style, of how hard roots and slow it was. Then when we saw **Vaughn Benjamin** do his rapping/chanting acapella before dropping into the songs "Merciless" and "Bushman", we were hooked and mesmerized because we had never seen reggae music performed like that before, and we grew up listening and watching Reggae shows.

Soon after, I asked my dad if I could go buy the **Unpolished** album and as we played it in the car, my dad became a fan, too. We went to their next San Diego show after that. I brought the CD and a sharpie marker with me just in case we got to meet them. After they killed their set, we went to the merch table and the merch lady saw me holding the CD and the marker and asked me if we wanted to meet them. I was stunned and didn't expect it but we said yes. So she walked us backstage and introduced us to **Vaughn** and **Ron Benjamin**.



Steven & Tony-Ray with Vaughn Benjamin 2001

Vaughn asked me how I heard about his music and nervously I said, "from the radio" because at the time, Makeda Dread used to play their music on her radio show. She was there too and seemed to like my answer but in actuality, we just happened to catch their set from when they first played in San Diego and had been hooked ever since. We got a picture with him and thanked him, and I was very happy about it.

Midnite was one of the main reasons why my brother and I decided to start our band and I'm still heavily influenced by their music, lyrics, and style. I'm just thankful I was able to see them live in my lifetime. Doing a song (**Representing** in 2014) with **Vaughn Benjamin** was one of my (personal) greatest achievements as a musician.

MAKEDA DREAD - WORLDBEAT CENTER



Makeda Dread & Vaughn Benjamin 2017

Beloveds, this photo came up on my Facebook memory. He is so mystic. Here I and I were in New York receiving our award from the **DARC Foundation** for our contributions to the Rastafarl Reggae community. He was so funny when he was hugging me, he said, "Don't worry **Makeda**, I'm not going to mess up your makeup". We sat at the same table and enjoyed the evening together.

We've been together for 20 years. I'm heartbroken, yesterday I was in mourning. How fortunate I and all of you are to know this modern day Prophet. He came to me early that morning when they broke the news to me, I was crying hysterically, and he told me not to cry because he was more powerful on the other side and he would guide me through all the trials and tribulations that I was going through. He told me to keep moving with the **WorldBeat Center** for the community and that **WorldBeat Center** was a powerful force to unite all people.

We saw him twice this year (2019), once in May and then he wanted to come back in September. We are a humble cultural center and we can usually budget a concert every other month and in September we already had the **Mighty Diamonds** scheduled but when **Vaughn** asks anything I always do it. He knows I'm always here for him. Each time he forwards we always stay up all night and reason until 6am in the morning. **WorldBeat Center** is truly his home to do what he wants. He was my Melenik, the son of Queen Makeda. He would advise me about life and about jealousy and resentment. He would break it down and tell me to keep going forward no matter what. I'm a lot older than him but he was my teacher. He was aware of people, good and bad. He worked with them all. I'm going to miss the late-night reasoning sessions. All y'all remember that? He had no problem staying up and we were all falling asleep hanging in there. He was always available after his shows for his audience. He knew he lived his life for I and I.

I had three beautiful beings that came into my life after they transitioned. One was my mother giving me instructions when she passed. The second was **Bob Marley**, I was in trouble and he guided me. And with humble gratitude, this time **Vaughn** came to guide me. Oh I forgot to tell you the last thing he said. It was like **Harriet Tubman**, I can't believe it, "I'm going to make a better place for us".

Brothers and sisters Reggae music is our Underground Railroad. So many people have given up their lives for this music to give you awareness and consciousness. The artists are our conductors in the Underground Railroad and it's up to us to choose liberation and the liberation is from envy, resentment, and division. In an interview with me. Vaughn talked about everything being interconnected. We exist because of each other, Ubuntu. If you see your brothers and sisters that need help, go out of your way to help them. There's too much division in our movement. We all make mistakes so forgive. love and serve. His Imperial Majesty said we have to be members of a new race. Listen to Akae Beka's "Members of a new race". Keep your meditation and your prayers. I'm very blessed to still be here and you never know when the Most High will take me too. We all have to be ready and value the veterans of Reggae music while they are living and keep the roots and culture in Jah music.

Axe Jah Rastafarl

JAH9



Jah9 & Vaughn Benjamin in Miami, FL 2018

This man right here!!! I beloved of JAH!!!

No words for my gratitude to have shared time, space, stage and paper with one of the most extraordinary cultural icons of my generation... a beacon of light, a truly beautiful man... my brother **Vaughn Benjamin**... now with the Ancestors...



#TheAkaeBeka 🥪 🔆 #Exemplary #Kindred

GREEN LION CREW



Vaughn was one of the most prolific and influential reggae artists of our time. His work with **Midnite** created it's own sub genre and inspired a generation of artists. It was truly a dream of ours to work with him ever since we first heard his music. There's so many amazing lyrics in just the four songs we did together. His output was staggering. If you spend time deciphering his lyrics you will continue to learn new things.



CHRONIXX



Thank you elder soul...for the 1500 insights the I gave us.

I and I have learned so much from your resonance. You are one of the kindest souls I ever connect with in the earth. What is death and judgement to a soul that found mastery and mystery in life!

#VoicesOfTheRemnancy there is no closer proximity to eternity.

Vaughn Benjamin, Chronixx & Ron Benjamin @ Reggae Geel 2014





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MIDNITE - THE EARLY YEARS 1998 & 1999

Photos contributed by Toni Anne Straws, wife of former Midnite bassist Joseph Straws Jr.

BUKOM CAFE WASHINGTON, DC - SEPTEMBER 1998



SEPTEMBER 1998





PRESS PHOTO



PHOTO SHOOTING - JUNE 1999

BUKOM CAFE WASHINGTON, DC - SEPTEMBER 1998

NAMIBIA - JANUARY 1998

PHOTO BY MADELINE McCRAY

Vaughn Benjamin pens lyrics for "Don't Lose Sleep" 2017 Fred. not . the set 1. 1931 Sien, y. Mal cann ORA Be cause, (, evi), Doets . Heb, Great, Kadaman Der ther, Be Thow envious. Germe we'. Kheddul. of the . word ders , of in egot of Naile . Seface ie. I. 0 \$1 phas, and The . Beta Blessed. one. VR. when. o zybe abyst. I.brate ye. are persecular. yoj. From . The . a Kablic Righteougness. sake the references; That scriptural. archives, to. Reitante. Toundations. Relate. Coliath. Ila, Dont, come , secta Had a machismo. a , Brakedo. ina the Nouse of bear, all. That. was - well over , weight . Numans, Frael a Small Stone ofly the Front of 80 Hie. Hefmet, Gate . a. Neal. a. Vii. Horis. words. in .a. Mie taken o state of mind. Yes in the mane, of the Lord. Das. Davido . Marth

INDUBIOUS



Skip & Evan of Indubious with Vaughn Benjamin after the recording of "Don't Lose Sleep" 2017

Who among us could step into the name **Akae Beka**, referenced in 68: 19-24 in The book of Enoch? A name given to **Archangel Michael** himself, a secret name that binds the heavens for ever? Only a being of discipline and benevolence could take such a name and keep its covenant. As **Vaughn Michael Benjamin** took this name, he took it knowing full well of Spirit's promise and inborn potentiality that we all have this intrinsic capability - and lived his life calling us forward to know JAH, and what we all must step into.

There are some Ones that enter into your life experience and there is a distinct and palpable knowing that you will never be the same. His Honorable **Vaughn Benjamin, The Akae Beka/Midnite** is that man for us. A true King Spirit Elder in our lives, his existence in tangible form has taught us much more than 26 letters formed into language could possible do justice.

Never have we sat with any fleshly creature with such an advanced knowledge and intellectual prowess, fueled innately from a centered heart of love and brilliance. As he would postulate and prognosticate knowledge of Divine order, angelic realms and heart resonance, on levels transcending average human comprehension, one could not help but feel they have met the eyes of a master. Topics ranging from relational nature, astrophysics, the quantum field, Cymatics, Ancient Kemet in modern application, sequence and con-sequence of our choices from such a subtle-yet-fierce firm stance in pure love, non-judgement and patience.

His body of work speaks for itself at 70+ albums, each song containing more cognition and focused vibration, than that of anything we've ever felt. His grace and elegance was unparalleled. Vaughn, you changed us forever. We are eternally grateful for your gift. It will not be forgotten, only multiplied. Indubious honors you, and as you pass the torch to so many Ones. You have our Word we will carry our portion of that flame. May Jah Ras Tafari carry you into HIM Holy Tabernacle.

From a Heart of Love, Indubious

YARED TEKESTE - UPPSALA REGGAE FESTIVAL



Yared & Vaughn Benjamin - August 2010

It is hard to find words that can comfort the loss of Brother **Vaughn Benjamin**, a pure hearted spiritual icon and genuine beacon of light, who meant so much to the world of Reggae.

Vaughn has left this earth far too soon and still had so much left to give, however his spirit will long remain in the form of the imprint he has left. Brother Vaughn Benjamin was a man who lived as he preached and was one, if not the most, conscious artist I have ever met and have had the privilege of working with.

The influence that **Akae Beka** and **Midnite** have had on the Reggae scene over the last 15 years will be hard to substitute. **Vaughn Benjamin** mesmerized listeners with his angelic voice and gave comfort, encouragement, and words of resilience to the needing. His legacy lives forever in his music. Condolences to his loved ones.

We at **Uppsala Reggae Festival** had in August 2010, the pleasure of hosting **Midnite** for almost a week before the festival (The picture was taken in my home in Uppsala.) And I personally had the outmost pleasure of having to know **Vaughn** on one to one basis during their stay, and had some memorable discussions and joyful moments that will be cherished forever.

Rest in Eternal Peace Vaughn!



Midnite in Sweden @ Uppsala Reggae Festival - August 2010







APRIL 8 ASTRA BERLIN (GER) APRIL 9 BACKSTAGE MUNICH (GER) APRIL 10 FABRIK HAMBURG (GER) APRIL 10 FABRIK HAMBURG (GER) APRIL 11 F2W DORTMUND (GER) APRIL 12 MELKWEG AMSTERDAM (NL) APRIL 15 ALA APOLO BARCELONA (ES) APRIL 16 SALA APOLO BARCELONA (ES) APRIL 16 SALA MON MADRID (ES) APRIL 16 SALA MON MADRID (ES) APRIL 18 L'USINE ISTRES (FR) APRIL 21 DOORNROOSJE NUMEGEN (NL) APRIL 22 CABARET SAUVAGE PARIS (FR) APRIL 23 CABARET SAUVAGE PARIS (FR) APRIL 23 CABARET SAUVAGE PARIS (FR) APRIL 24 L'USINE GENÈVE (CH) APRIL 25 ROTE FABRIK AKTIONSHALLE ZURICH (CH) APRIL 26 HET DEPOT LOUVAIN (BE) AUGUST 7 RUHR REGGAE SUMMER FESTIVAL MÜLHEIM A.D. RUHR (GER)

luunda

9 OLAND ROOTS FESTIVAL OLAND ISLAND (SE)
 JULY 9 OLAND ROOTS FESTIVAL DLAND ISLAND (SE)
 NÖV 5 HET DEPOT LOUVAIN (DEFL)

 JULY 11 EN URWIRE DU SUN EU (FR)
 NOV 6 ESHNE CULVITIRE LEPHILPE CALAIS (FR)

 JULY 16 DLT RIVIERENHOF ANTWERPEN (BEL)
 NOV 7 BAM METZ (FR)

 JULY 16 DLT RIVIERENHOF ANTWERPEN (BEL)
 NOV 7 BAM METZ (FR)

 JULY 16 DLT RIVIERENHOF ANTWERPEN (BEL)
 NOV 10 TLE 7 MAGNYLE HONGRE (FR)

 JULY 16 AFRIKA RARDEN VIENNA (AT)
 NOV 10 TLE 7 MAGNYLE FARSANE (FR)

 JULY 21 GERCULD MARDINGE BULSANU (VENNA (AT)
 NOV 10 TLE 7 MAGNYLE FARSANE (FR)

 JULY 22 GERCULD MARDING BULSANU (VENNA (AT)
 NOV 12 BULKIN RAMONVILE STARANE (FR)

 JULY 23 FERTIVAL SUMMER VIENNA (AT)
 NOV 12 BULKIN RAMONVILE STARANE (FR)

 JULY 24 FERTIVAL SUMMER VIENNA (AT)
 NOV 12 BULKIN RAMONVILE STARANE (FR)

 JULY 25 FERTIVAL SUMMER VIENNA (AT)
 NOV 15 REISSAN (FR)

 JULY 25 FERTIVAL BULSANE ST FRANCY (FR)
 NOV 15 REISSAN FRIBOURG (CH)

 AUBUST 1 NONADE REDGAE FEST FRANCY (FR)
 NOV 15 REISSAN FRIBOURG (CH)

 AUBUST 1 NONADE REDGAE FEST FRANCY (FR)
 NOV 20 CHATEAU HOUSING ANTERASSE (FR)

 AUBUST 1 SUHHR REEGAE FEST FRANCY (FR)
 NOV 21 ESPACE MARGNESE (FR)

 AUBUST 1 SUHHR REEGAE FEST FRANCY (FR)
 NOV 21 ESPACE MARGNESE (FR)

 AUGUST 1 SUHR REEGAE FEST FRANCY (FR)
 NOV 21 ESPACE MARGNESE (FR)

NEW ALBUM LIVE : SPRING 2020 AUGUST 14 NO LOGO BZH ST-MALO (FR) AUGUST 14 NO LOGO BZH SI-MALO (FR) NOV 3 EZW DORTNUND (GER) NOV 4 CENTRALSTATION DARMSTADT (GER) NOV 5 HET DEPOT LOUVAIN (BEL) NOV 5 CENTRE CUITURE E PHILPE CALAIS (FR) NOV 7 BAM METZ (FR) NOV 7 DAM METZ (FR) NOV 7 DE LET MAGNY-LE-HONGRE (FR) NOV 11 CHELA AGEN (FR) NOV 12 EIKINI RAMONVILE ST-AGNE (FR) NOV 13 ROCHER DE PAIMER CENON (FR) NOV 13 ROCHER DE PAIMER CENON (FR) NOV 13 CHATEAU ROLDE ANNEMASSE (FR) NOV 20 CHATEAU ROLDE ANNEMASSE (FR) NOV 20 CHATEAU ROLDE ANNEMASSE (FR)

CLINTON BOOGIE BROWN BAND

JULY 23 F N SELESTAT (FR) JULY 23 FESTIVAL SUMMER VIBRATION S JULY 25 FESTIVAL DE NÉOULES NÉOULE AUGUST 14 NO LOGO BZH ST-MALO (FR) AUGUST 16 NO LOGO FRAISANS (FR) ES NÉOULES (FR)

NEW ALBUMS COMING IN 2020 :

PROTOJE, GROUNDATION, DANAKIL, YANISS ODUA, CHEZIDEK, MARCUS GAD, **BLAKKAMOORE!**

LAST ALBUMS OUT IN 2019 :

MAX ROMEO, CLINTON FEARON ...

ALL THE SHOWS AND FESHEST NEWS : WWW,BACORECORDS.FR • MERCHANDISING, CD, VINYL : <u>HTTPS://BACOSHOP.FR</u> FACEBOOK/BACORECORDS TWITTER/BACORECORDS YOUTUBE/BACORECORDS

HIGHER BOUND PRODUCTIONS



Ryan "Ishence" Willard & Vaughn Benjamin 2016



Vaughn Benjamin & King Djoser

FACEBOOK MEME



Higher Bound Studio - Hail The King Session 2018

We've been here before, and we shall return again, and forever we shall be ... Vaughn Benjamin & King Djoser: I sent Vaughn this picture of Djoser years ago and he was so astonished at the resemblance. He ended up putting it on his first page of the book he was writing. We often talked about how traits from our ancestors come out through our DNA. We could be the spitting image and have the same traits just like our great, great, great, great, great grandfather attained. Ancient Lineage this man here. Akae Beka, I love you my brother! You've showed me so much love and taught me more about life than anyone else. I'm so grateful for all our experiences together. I cherish them all! You are one of my best friends forever! Jah Rastafari know! Watch over us! More to come...









JAHCOUSTIX

MUSIC: Jahcoustix & Syrix LYRICS: Jahcoustix & Benjamin Vaughn

To have a purpose and see it clear. To work to make it real up here. To rise renew from wear and tear. Like harvest in season with bloom welfare.

What makes someone leave home. What makes someone leave. What makes someone leave home. No opportunities.

WHAT MAKES SOMEONE LEAVE FEAT. VAUGHN "AKAE BEKA" BENJAMIN

What makes a man leave. What makes a family run. What makes someone feel home. In the world of today. A bright mind shattered and cracked. The falling bricks of humiliation. Don't repeat it over and over wasting generations.

What makes someone leave home

Jah love to all the world you hear. To make an earth as heaven here. To toll with joy, yes work with care. To see good attributes appear. Of suffering to be aware. Of how to love and how to share. And be not over righteous here. The beginning of wisdom is the lord to fear.

What makes someone leave home ...

Jahcoustix feat. Vaughn Benjamin - What Makes Someone Leave [2016]

I met Vaughn Benjamin at Uppsala Reggae

Festival in 2010. I knew his music before but the live performance completely blew me away. We met again a couple of times over the years and when I reached out to him, asking him wether he would be open for a guest feature on my song What Makes Someone Leave, he was up for it and dropped some beautiful lines on the track. It was a dream come true. The last time I saw him perform was at Yaam (Berlin) in 2017. His sudden passing shocked me to the bone! It was too early for his loved ones and all of us, who so highly appreciated his music and the vibrant live performances. Wherever he now is, in this new transition he surely has another important mission to fulfill. Walk in Peace, **Akae Beka**.







PUMA PTAH - THE ARCHIVES, THIEVERY CORPORATION

Cover Artwork: Kenyatta Hill feat. Akae Beka & Puma Ptah - Police Man [2016] designed by Maria Papaefstathiou

There were many local Reggae artists to listen to in the VI. It was something to be proud of especially having a unique sound in my opinion, and in the opinion of many others I've come to find out. There was nothing as unique as hearing Vaughn's flow, lyrics, and Ron's harmonies on top of their rhythms. As I started to conduct myself in a more mature manner in result of being inspired by the Rastafari movement during high school after a run of irresponsible behavior, I owe a lot to the music of Midnite. It was again unique, lyrically consistent, and there was so much of it to decipher amongst friends who were also on a path to a more beneficial lifestyle, to find a better community and or a community period. Vaughn's writing lead me to socialize with people all over St.Thomas, and reconnected me with family in St.Croix. It provided a way to connect with people who I was once enemies with. and started international relationships. The music

he helped to create was in a sense social media for me. I met Vaughn on several occasions on solo travels, while traveling with Thievery Corporation, and actually only one time in VI as were both performing at Agriculture Fest in Bordeaux in St. Thomas. I respect that he has been able to keep his mystique while being so present musically for so long. Something very difficult to achieve today even if desired as an artist. Today it's an honor to be able to listen to my voice alongside his and Kenyatta Hill on "Police Man" a remake of a Joseph Hill song thanks to the **Honest Music** family. From my teenage years to adulthood, from his creations with Midnite to his transition to Akae Beka, I'm forever grateful to Vaughn for what and who he has brought into my life.

Rest In Power.
JOSH HEINRICHS



Josh Heinrichs at Midnite show in St. Louis, MO @ Club Viva 2002

I woke up this morning to find out one of Reggae's greatest singers songwriters and vocalists has passed away...

Vaughn Benjamin and his brother changed my life in 2002 when I first heard the Ras Mek Peace album and then when I got to see them live at Club Viva in St.Louis. I remember leaving the show thinking that is what I wanna do! Write conscious lyrics and make beautiful riddims. 17 years later nothing has changed THANK YOU Vaughn Benjamin for inspiring a new generation of consciousness! Just like Bob Marley, your words, message and music will live on forever brother!











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ANTHONY

LUTAN FYAH



Lutan Fyah & Vaughn Benjamin @ Dubwise Miami 2016

PHOTOS BY KOLYA BARNEZ

In a life full of complexities and challenges, its crucial to have a support system consisiting of real brothers and friends. My brethren was just that to <u>me and to many more people in this earth.</u> His presence alone blessed the people around him and his message I will continue to spread through my music. Your journey to Zion continues in full splendor! We love you and I will see you soon Lion.



LAURENT "TIPPY I" ALFRED - I GRADE RECORDS



Tippy I with Vaughn Benjamin at Dub in the Rainforest 6 - March 9, 2014

PHOTO BY DAVID BERG

The global impact of **Vaughn Benjamin**'s works were fruits of **Vaughn**'s own teachers, elders, family, band-mates and friends in St. Croix, USVI, the land that the original people called Ay Ay. And he paid this forward in abundance through his time spent, his shows, his generosity, his teachings and the positive attention brought to our small islands from his works. I pray that St. Croix and the entire Virgin Islands remain generationally thankful for **Vaughn Benjamin**. The teachings of His Majesty remind us that a wise spirit aligned in the vessel of one who takes on personal discipline to a high degree is the essence of leadership. Give thanks for leading the way **Vaughn**.



EBNA MAKONNEN - RASTAR RECORDS



My Brother I Brethren Vaughn Benjamin

Words can't express how InI truly feel.

Time was not long enough even though it surpasses all things for nothing is permanent. I have been around this man from 2004 until now touring and producing some of his albums. We had hundreds of reasonings for the betterment of our people's future. For the 15 years I've known **Vaughn** I have always done the cooking when he's around InI, until a few days ago he offered to cook for I, my brother and himself.

We talked we laughed we ate and listen to some of the new albums we are working on releasing shortly, my brethren was HAPPY and SAD at the same time we shed TEARS of SORROW and JOY just to be able to reason over the ups and downs of this journey we embark on for the love of Rastafari. The food he made us was so simple and cooked swiftly but felt so good to I soul. I taught to myself is this goodbye my good friend or you just wanted InI to know your cooking skillz was UP since im always the cook when we were in the studios working on **Rastar Records/Akae Beka** projects. Well it was goodbye and the last meal we had togather.

To those who listen to his music he was not an ENTERTAINER. VAUGHN BENJAMIN is one of... if not Reggae's most prolific figure the industry had ever seen but most chose to play Dumb, Deaf n Blind to his works here on earth. I truly miss you my Brother, thanks for all you shared and taught InI to be mindful of my true friend until we meet again.

JAMES GAILLARD - LAKAY PHOTOGRAPHY



Vaughn Benjamin with James Gaillard

PHOTO BY OMAR B

Until we meet again brother Vaughn

I remember in Kingston for **Midnite in Kingston** you said to me: "Wah you doing with the camera is a very important ting you know, you documenting the movement" from that day that's what I done.

I give thanks to Jah for giving me the opportunity to capture the images as you deliver the powerful teachings to the people which will be heard for many generations to come. Transition with power **Vaughn Benjamin**.

> BOOMRUSH PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Until we meet again.

Love is the Mainstay.

NEW ALBUM OUT 27.03.2020

TOUR DATES AND INFORMATION ON WWW.TRIXSTAR.DE

PARIS, FRANCE 2012 - PHOTO BY MICHAEL BUNEL

DAVID HINDS - STEEL PULSE



Vaughn Benjamin receives the Haile Selassie Lifetime Achievement Award PHOTO BY MARLON "AJAMU" MYRIE

A MIDNITE CONDOLENCE: I know we are all finding it hard to believe that one of the most genuine soldiers of the Rastafarian musical fortress, **Vaughn Benjamin**, is no longer here in flesh with us. This was definitely a shock to my system, because it is exactly two years ago to the day, upon hearing this sad news, that I presented Vaughn a **Life Time Achievement Award**, on behalf of the **DARC FOUNDATION**, in New York, (Nov 5th, 2017).

It was in the mid 90s while on tour in St Croix, I was introduced to a group of Rastafarians, rehearsing in a broken-down looking building. Rolling a spliff between breaks was a skinny framed individual; just sprouting dreadlocks, spitting serious words of fire in the songs. This Rasta was **Vaughn Benjamin**. It was there and then that he made it clear to me, that his band was coming to "Chant Down Babylon" in a way that none us already existing reggae musicians, have ever done before. **Ras Vaughn Benjamin** aka **Akae Beka** kept his word.

Such disappointing news to have been delivered to us all, when it has become evident that in order for us to keep the flames of protest burning within the music, **Vaughn Benjamin** had been an integral part of the process.

Our heart and prayers go out to the Virgin Islands, the devoted fans, the family, brothers **Ron** and **Abja**. On all fronts; there will definitely be a void...

May the light of Midnite, Rest In Power





YEARBOOK 2019 July

MAGAZINE

JULY



FESTIVAL REPORT - SUMMERJAM 2019

A Way Of Life is this year's motto of Cologne's longrunning festival, a headline chosen because it's "more important than ever to align with a positive, versatile and tolerant lifestyle"...



REVIEW: BUJU BANTON @ SUMMERJAM 2019

How to put this in words? How to describe something that goes far beyond logic thinking or cognitive perception? Imagine eating your favourite home-made diner after returning from a long absence...



INTERVIEW YELLOWMAN

If ever there was a living legend, it's this man: Winston Foster aka Yellowman! Obviously, he found a way to transform every blow life deals him into a burst of creativity.



BEST MOMENTS... BABABOOM FESTIVAL 2019

In 1967, harmony group the Jamaicans won the island's annual festival contest, with their rocksteady hit Bababoom. Little did they know that, five decades later, the song would be the name of an equally warm...



More than 70,000 Bob Marley items are currently available on Ebay. Everything you can think of: T-Shirts, Records, Posters... just to name a few. Available at low prices or for a lot of money.



THIRD WORLD ANNOUNCE NEW ALBUM

In celebration of Third World's 45th anniversary of making music history together, they recently announced the release of their new album More Work To Be Done.

MAGAZINE



FESTIVAL REPORT - OSTRÓDA REGGAE FESTIVAL

The 19th edition of the Ostróda Reggae Festival is in session! Again, the organizers have carefully chosen a diversity of artists that will spread good vibes full of messages for the next few days ...



MORGAN HERITAGE ANNOUNCE NEW ALBUM

Gramps, Peetah and Mr Mojo are the holy trinity comprising the iconic reggae based, Grammy-winning family band Morgan Heritage. Their brand new album, Loyalty, was created across several continents...



REPORT: ZIGGY MARLEY, TOOTS & THE MAYTALS

No doubt a mid-summer appearance by Ziggy Marley at the Pacific Amphitheatre in Costa Mesa, California would draw a crowd. Indeed it did...



REVIEW: YELLOWMAN - NO MORE WAR

First things first: we are talking about a legend here, a legend who contributed to the foundation of a whole genre. Just like Bob Marley carried Reggae into the world, Winston Foster aka Yellowman introduced Dancehall...



ALBUM REVIEW: RED GOLD GREEN & BLUE

Over the years there have been numerous - often successful - attempts at getting reggae artists to cover songs from other genres in a reggae fashion. However, there have been far fewer attempts at getting these artists...



ALBUM REVIEW: MUNGO'S HI FI & EVA LAZARUS

With some releases, you simply know that they are fire, even before you press play. In the case of More Fyah, this knowledge is not only transmitted by the title alone, but by a combination of a promising artist, renowned producers...

VIDEO PREMIERES



RED FOX FEAT. AGENT SASCO



BESCENTA - GIVE THANKS & PRAISE

RASSI HARDKNOCKS FEAT. MICAH SHEMAIAH



MORE THAN GREAT





GENERAL TCHEFARY & KUMAR



DON TIPPA - WHATCHOUT FI THEM





ATTILA - HOLIDAY



GEORGE PALMER





RELEASES











REGGAE GOLD 2019



IVA TERRA











PHOTOS



SAMORA IN ZOETERMEER, THE NETHERLANDS @ RASTAPLAS FESTIVAL



Photos by Celine Diels, Steve James & Eljer



CHUCK FENDA IN MÜLHEIM A.D. RUHR, GERMANY @ RUHR REGGAE SUMMER



D WHITE LION



/KIIHJANO
/KIIHJANO
/KIIHJANO

PRESS PHOTO TO LISTEN



BIG UP TEAM REGGAEVILLE!



TEAM REGGAEVILLE: BJÖRN, ANGUS, MUNCHY, GARDY, MAROX, CELINE, RUNE... just a few names from our huge team of photographers and writers. Check the full team @ REGGAEVILLE.com



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18 HOW THE WORLD A RUN

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- LOVE SPONGE 19
- 20 DRIVER
- 21 MURDERER
- 23RD PSALM 22
- ENCORE
- - 23 MAGIC CITY
 - 24 AFRICAN PRIDE
- HILLS & VALLEYS DANCEHALL MEDLEY
- UNTOLD STORIES MIGHTY DREAT

- BUJU BANTON -

INTRO

DESTINY

EASY ROAD

- BETTER MUST COME
- CRY NO MORE
- 10 WANNA BE LOVED
- 11 WHO SAY 12 PULL UP THE VIBES
- 13 MOVIE STAR
- BROWNING 14
- 15 MR. NINE
- 16 NO RESPECT

BUJU BANTON BACKSTAGE @ SUMMERJAM Donovan Germain, Protoje, Buju Banton, Koffee, Munchy, Errol & Shane Brown, Andrew Murphy

OFESTIVALS

OTOS BY JULIAN SCHMIC

ENPER DE ST

Tracharte

FESTIVILLE 2019 REGGAEVILLE FESTIVAL GUIDE

INTIERVILEWS JAH GURE MAX ROMEO YELLOWMAN THE NO-MADDZ MARCIA GRIFFITHS SENTINEL SOUND PETER WEBBER GREEEN

SUMMER 2019 90 FESTIVALS

MAGAZINE

AUGUST



BEST MOMENTS... REGGAE GEEL 2019

By all accounts, the 40th anniversary of Reggae Geel last year was a contender for the most memorable event of summer 2018. Yet for their 41st, Europe's oldest reggae festival returned bearing a line-up that stood out...



REVIEW: BUGLE - PICTURE PERFECT

Nine months in the making, the youngest brainchild of Roy Thompson aka Bugle has seen the light of day a few weeks ago - about time we take a closer look at Picture Perfect!



INTERVIEW WITH JAH CURE - LIFE IS REAL

Jah Cure has been at the forefront of Jamaican Reggae music for 22 years due to his incredible talent and relentless work ethic.



FESTIVAL REPORT - REGGAE JAM 2019

With warm sunshine, picturesque white clouds, a fresh breeze and an occasional refreshing drizzle, the small northern city of Bersenbrück welcomes us for the 26th edition of the one and only Reggae Jam.



On the north coast of Jamaica, about a 15 minute car ride east of Port Antonio, lies the beautiful town of San San, where among beautiful resorts, the Geejam Hotel is the one most close to paradise.



SHERIETA RELEASES DEBUT EP

From the halls of the prestigious Edna Manley College to the international forefront working with such icons as the legendary Marcia Griffiths, GRAMMY winning artists Damian "Jr Gong" Marley and Beenie Man as well...

MAGAZINE



With festival fever peaking annually in August, the big question was whether to go or not to go to No Logo in Saint-Malo, Brittany, France...



REVIEW: THIRD WORLD - MORE WORK TO BE DONE

After over four decades as one of the preeminent Jamaican bands, Third World returns with a prevailing prescription: there is still "more work to be done." Enlisting the help of Damian and Stephen Marley, as executive producers...



ALBUM REVIEW: STICK FIGURE - WORLD ON FIRE

Who set the world on fire? Good question, provocatively posed in the title track of Stick Figure's new album World On Fire. Let's postpone the answer for now and figure out the who and what of the music first.



DAMIAN MARLEY @ MAUNA KEA TELESCOPE PROTESTS

On July 28, after headlining local festivals on Maui and Oahu, Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley visited the Big Island of Hawaii to stand in solidarity and lend his support to the protesters standing to "Protect Mauna Kea"...



REVIEW: MAXI PRIEST - IT ALL COMES BACK TO LOVE

Remember Wild World in 1988? Remember Close To You in 1990? It was these two songs which, more than any others before or after, established Max Alfred Elliott aka Maxi Priest as one of the hottest British Reggae singers...



ALBUM REVIEW: JAH CURE - ROYAL SOLDIER

"I'm on the verge of making history, ain't nobody stopping we, we're on the move right now!" With these words, Siccaturie Alcock aka Jah Cure introduces his new album Royal Soldier. After his last album The Cure...

VIDEO PREMIERES



YEARBOOK 2019 August

RELEASES



















SILKKI WONDA





INDUBIOUS





PHOTOS



BIG YOUTH IN ESSEN, GERMANY @ DON'T PANIC



Photos by Eljer, Steve James & Celine Diels



RD DIST.

REEMAH IN DORDRECHT, THE NETHERLANDS @ BIBELOT

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DOWN IN JAMAICA HOYEARS OF VPRECORDS

fi 94-track, 4xCD, 412-inch single, 4x7-inch single deluxe box set with 24-page booklet and art cards detailing the hits, the rarities, and the history of the world's largest reggae label.

Featuring 101 different artists, including Gregory Isaacs, Dennis Brown, Linval Thompson, Junior Reid, Yellowman, The Heptones, Tenor Saw, Frankie Paul, Barrington Levy, Freddie McGregor, Ini Kamoze, Half Pint, Cocoa Tea, Baju Banton, Garnet Silk, Beenie Man, Sanchez, Capleton, Morgan Heritage, Beres Hammond, Lady Saw, Elephant Man, Sean Paul, Sizzla, Luciano, Jah Cure, Tarras Riley, Shaggy, Romain Virgo, Basy Signal, Alborosie, Mavado, Raging Fyah, Christopher Martin, Spice, Shenseea, Vybz Kartel, Estelle, Jah9 & Chronixx.



MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER



LINVAL THOMPSON STILL MOVING STRONG

Few artists have embodied reggae music's fundamentals like singer and producer Linval Thompson. His mellow, mellifluous, almost mocking voice, set to heavy drum-andbass, created a vibe that stands out among many...



ALBUM REVIEW: CLINTON FEARON - HISTORY SAY

Not that anyone should need reminding, but Clinton Fearon simply isn't capable of recording and releasing a mishit! Whilst his latest release – a self-produced 12th album compiled between Seattle and Jamaica...



The release of Lutan Fyah's newest album, Longest Livah, marks the 20th year of the reggae singer's incredible music career, and the title seems to hint that we shouldn't expect him to guit anytime soon.



INTERVIEW WITH MAXI PRIEST

When talking about artists who managed to heave Reggae out of its nascent cradle isle and shaped it into the globally appreci-loved genre it is today, this man's name cannot be left out: Max Alfred Elliott aka Maxi Priest.



DAVID RODIGAN @ DUBWISE JAMAICA 2019

Kaya Herb House - Kingston is set to host the 2019 edition Dubwise Jamaica — one of the most anticipated events in the city's dub reggae music scene at their new location at 82 Lady Musgrave Road, Kingston.



ALBUM REVIEW: DUB INC - MILLIONS

Holding the flag high for francophone Reggae, Dub Inc have contributed innovative music and electrifying performances throughout the 20odd years of their existence. Aurélien "Komlan" Zohou.

FEATURING

F.

MORGAN HERITAGE / ANTHONY B / CLAY RICHIE STEPHENS / GAPPY RANKS / MACKA B RUNKUS & ROYAL BLU / PERFECT GIDDIMANI MARLA BROWN / EXCO LEVI / KELISSA / CALI P SKARRA MUCCI & YANISS ODUA / CALEB HART

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VIDEO PREMIERES



MELLOW MARK - STAY HUMBLE



ZAMUNDA - SEE YOU AGAIN

LUCIANO



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TRAVIS ROOTS FEAT. JULIAN MARLEY & CAPLETON



UPLIFT



REGGAEVILLE.COM



MYKAL ROSE - DUNG A YAAD

WICKED DUB DIVISION



ZULU BOB & LUTAN FYAH



RELEASES





AKAE BEKA









LENKY MARSDEN, SLY & ROBBIE















PHOTOS



ANDREW MURPHY, POTROCK & JAHCOUSTIX IN GERMANY @ POTROCK'S BIRTHDAY BASH



CAPLETON & JOHNNY OSBOURNE IN LOS ANGELES, CA @ JERK Photos by Eljer, Jan Salzman & HoRo



MARCUS GAD IN HAMM, GERMANY @ REGGAE SUMMER NIGHT

DUBINC NEW ALBUM MILLIONS **OUT NOW ! DUB-INC.COM**



HIGHLIGHTS 2019

Compiled by Munchy & Gardy



We've had so many highlights for 2019 that we're extremely grateful for. From launching the Morgan Heritage Foundation with the **Tomorrow's Leaders Festival** in June in Nairobi, Kenya to releasing our latest album Loyalty in August. It has all been a big blessing. While on the Loyalty World Tour. which continues until 2021. we have seen the importance of understanding the meaning of Loyalty. Loyalty first to yourself, followed by your family, then humanity and above all the almighty creator. Without our fans and the media we're nothing and we'd like to take this time to thank you all for being the most Loyal Royal supporters of our music, legacy and Rastafarian/Jamaican/African culture. ONE LOVE



STICK FIGURE (SCOTT WOODRUFF) The release of World On Fire, an album four years in the making and the culmination of thousands of hours in the studio, was definitely our highlight in 2019. Also. our first time headlining the legendary Red Rocks Amphitheater with a lot of our favorite bands plaving on the bill was a moment that is hard to put into words. The love and support that the fans showed us last year was incredible. The people singing loudly, especially on our first headlining shows in Europe, the number of toys thrown on stage by fans for Cocoa The **Tour Dog**, the number of holiday cards we received in the past few weeks, and the extent to which we've seen the Stick Figure Family grow these past few years... it's been amazing, and we're excited for 2020.



The success of **Toast** (Koffee) has been my highlight. The song continues to grow and grow and touch people worldwide.



MARCUS GAD

My highlight of 2019 was writing my upcoming album with **Zion I Kings**. They have been a positive influence for me in the past, so it is an honour to create music with them!

A special moment I really enjoyed was opening for Alborosie in Marseille, France. The crowd was on fire and had a really welcoming. lively energy. I always feel really moved when people come and share their personal experiences, joys or struggles, and how the music has helped them overcome the toughest times in life. It's always a blessing to know how far the music can travel through the world, and in the human heart! And of course I was very glad to be back home in the South Pacific where I can recharge my energy.

YEARBOOK 2019 Highlights



On a professional level, my highlight in 2019 was releasing my album Success on my personal label **Bright Star**, distributed by **Jet Star**.

Also, recording **Bad Bad Chaka** reloaded, revoicing that song with my son **Marvelous** - nothing can pass that. Big up!

My personal highlight in 2019 was the manifestation of **Chaka Demus** as a producer, working with the young and the elder. A special moment was when I went to Panama to perform for the first time and heard the people sing my tracks word for word, that was amazing.



JAZ ELISE

The gift of music is a blessing. Being able to share that with people from different parts of the globe and different walks of life is even more of a reason to be grateful. Releasing Fresh & Clean and Rock And Groove this year was a labor of love and being able to do what I love, sharing myself through my music is the greatest gift from the almighty - next to life. This is a beautiful time we are in now, there are no limits on who can do music and how we can do it. Women such as myself have been empowered to speak our truth and sing from our soul. Blessings for 2020. Live, love and share in good vibrations.



PERFECT GIDDIMANI In 2019, my label Giddimani Records, with the help of some amazing talents, was able to produce over 32 songs which developed into four Riddim selections and two singles.

I'm really happy and overwhelmed by the growth and respect that the label has achieved!

A special moment was when **Perky**, my daughter, was entering into her new school.

What moved me most is family. Strong family ties bring the best vibes, cuz!

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Julian Schmidt julian@reggaeville.com

YEARBOOK EDITORS

Björn Fehrensen, Gardy Stein, Ursula 'Munchy' Münch

VAUGHN BENJAMIN COVER

Drawing by SOLITADIA

EDITORIAL & TRIBUTE INTRO Gardy Stein

AUTHORS

Angus Taylor, Brad Metzger, Christian Moll, Dan Dabber, Gardy Stein, Gerry McMahon, Larson Sutton, Steve Topple, Ursula 'Munchy' Münch

PHOTO/VIDEOGRAPHERS

Alex Domhoever, Björn Fehrensen, Celine Diels, Cevan Coore, China Hopsen, David I. Muir, Eijer, Gerry McMahon, HoRo, Jan Salzman, Maximilian ,Marox' Hagdorn, Michael Bunel, Morris Świderski, Natasha Jasperson, Rune Fleiter, Steve James, Tom Searcy, Ursula ,Munchy' Münch, Veronique Skelsey YEARBOOK 2019

ART DIRECTOR Peter Pusch

ADVERTISING Julian Schmidt & Marox advertising@reggaeville.com

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YEARBOOK 2019 October

MAGAZINE



Jamaican singer-songwriter Bob Marley has been honoured with an English Heritage blue on October 1, 2019, joining the likes of Jimi Hendrix, John Lennon, George Frideric Handel and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.



WAILERS RECEIVE BLUE PLAQUE IN LONDON

The Wailers were recently honoured with a plaque in London. The Nubian Jak Community Trust (NJCT) One Love Community plaque was unveiled by record producer Trevor Horn.



PETER TOSH 75TH EARTHSTRONG

The details for the annual Peter Tosh Music Festival have been announced. The celebration kicks off with the 3rd Annual Peter Tosh Gala Awards (by invitation only) on October 17, 2019.



EEK-A-MOUSE RELEASES CONTROVERSIAL VIDEO

The most recent video by Eek-A-Mouse is indeed a controversial one. The tune is called Controversial Song and was already released in early August by Big Bout Ya Records outta Belgium.

TOOTS AND THE MAYTARS SIGN TO TROJAN JAMAICA



TOOTS AND THE MAYTALS SIGN TO TROJAN JAMAICA

Trojan Jamaica, the new record label co-founded by musician-producers Zak Starkey and Sharna "Sshh" Liguz, is proud to announce the signing of legendary Jamaican music act Toots & The Maytals.



VP RECORDS CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

Down In Jamaica: 40 Years of VP Records is a 98-track, deluxe, multiformat box set with a great large-sized 24 page full colour booklet detailing the hits, the rarities, and the history of the world's largest reggae label.

OCTOBER

MAGAZINE



KRANIUM STRIKES GOLD

During a milestone moment at Sound Chat Radio Live, Dancehall star Kranium received his RIAA Gold certification plaque for his 2015 single Nobody Has to Know before a packed audience of fans and media alike.



CONCERT REVIEW: THE SKINTS IN HAMBURG

Ready to go for a swim? No, I don't mean taking a walk in the rather wet Northern autumn. On tour for their current album Swimming Lessons, The Skints stopped at Hamburg's ancient music-pool Indra.



SENTINEL SOUND RETURNS TO JAPAN 2019

Sentinel Sound will be back in Japan. "On October 4th, we start our third Japan-tour in three years. Flying to the Far East to represent our sound has always been very exciting for us, but this year, it's going to be extra special.



1000 SIDES OF SPRAGGA BENZ - INTERVIEW

Carlton Errington Grant might not ring a bell instantly, but Spragga Benz certainly does. His name rose to fame in the mid-nineties, when Dancehall took a firm hold on audiences worldwide. With hits like Girls Hooray...



REVIEW: SOLO BANTON - OLD RAGGAMUFFIN

No lie, it's a challenging task to listen to a full album of Solo Banton for review. 12 tracks in a row, despite their individual brilliance, are a vocally monotone ride, as Solo's trademark voice isn't that of a virtuoso singer...



REVIEW: BUSY SIGNAL - PARTS OF THE PUZZLE

The strategy for albums coming out of Jamaica has become nearly universal in recent years, with every artist mixing a variety of different genres into their projects in one way or another, in an apparent attempt to woo a global...

VIDEO PREMIERES



BI.BA & BALIK - PYROMANIAC



MYSTICAL FAYA & MARCUS GAD

JAHCOUSTIX FEAT. RAS MUHAMAD & TÓKE



CHUCK FENDA



LION D - SYSTEM FAILURE



SOLO BANTON - OLD RAGGAMUFFIN



JAH FROZEN - FIRE PON ROME




YEARBOOK 2019 October

RELEASES



RICHIE SPICE







SHAKESPEAR D-DONDADDA





LUCIANO | TAMIKA FT. GENTLEMAN LUTAN FYAH | BUSHMAN | WARRIOR KING RUNKUS (CHRISTOS DC | KAMAU IMHOTEP VANESSA BONGO | DROOP LION ETNA KONTRABANDE

WORLD A REGGAE RIDDIM 2019













PHOTOS



TREESHA & THE EVOLUTION IN BIELEFELD, GERMANY @ MOVIE



Photos by Rune Fleiter, HoRo & Marox



Coconut Dream - The 2019 Breakthrough Album From Brooklyn Reggae Singer-Songwriter Louis Atlas



Available Now Everywhere

"display[s] the infectious washes of color associated with roots reggae, the way it should be played." -Celebmix

find Coconut Dream at hyperurl.co/coconutdream

find Louis at louisatlas.com

NOVEMBER



GREGORY ISAACS - GABICCI COLLECTION 2020

The Gregory Isaacs Foundation officially launches the Gregory Isaacs Vintage Collection by legendary clothing brand Gabicci. This marks Gabicci's first ever collection for a Jamaican artist. The launch takes place in London...



BUJU BANTON SIGNS WITH JAY-2'S RUC NATION

Today marks the release of Buju Banton's first solo music video in 10 years. The single Steppa was released back in July and the brand new music video is out now.



BITTER SWEET NOMINATION FOR JULIAN MARLEY

Triumph and Tragedy mark significant chapters in a persons life. Economic status, race or creed doesn't exclude one of loss. For Julian Marley, 2019 has ran the gamut of emotions, and tested his faith beyond boundaries.



The 62nd Annual Grammy Awards nominees have been revealed. Five releases made it to the final round, which

winners will be awarded in 2020.



INTERVIEW - SCIENTIST ANSWERS BACK

Dub music could be defined crudely as reggae without vocals: or voices reduced to haunting snatches of repurposed phrases. King Tubby, the engineer who first popularised dub in Jamaica in the 1970s...



EP REVIEW: MORTIMER - FIGHT THE FIGH1

Every so often an artist comes along whose voice and musicality takes your breath away. One such performer has just released a new EP. So, Mortimer: consider my breath taken.



A light has left our world! While every death causes consternation and sadness among loved ones, some are more of a shock to us than others. Especially when it comes as unexpected as the passing of Vaughn Benjamin.



GHETTO YOUTHS FOUNDATION PIC LOVE CAMPAIGN

Stephen, Damian, and Julian Marley present the Ghetto Youths Foundation Limited Edition PIC LOVE Jewelry Collection with proceeds benefiting anti-bullying programs for young people.



EP REVIEW: LION D - BORN IN CAPTIVITY

What has this young man been up to for the last few years? After the release of his wonderful album Heartical Soul in 2015, I kind of lost track of the artist David Andrew Ferri aka David Lion aka Lion D. A guick glance...



INTERVIEW WITH PRESSURE BUSSPIPE & TIPPY I

With his brand new album Rebel With A Cause singer Pressure Busspipe releases another wholesome Roots Rock Reggae experience that fuses contemporary sound and production with conscious, spiritual and awakening ...



RANKING ANN INTERVIEW

In the late 70s Ann Swinton started out as a female DJ in London's Dancehall scene. With songs like Liberated Woman and Dangerous MC Ranking Ann became known as the "Feminist DJ" in a male dominated field.



The combination with American rapper Gunna is titled W. Within 48 hours the video reached the 1 Million views milestone on YouTube and it doesn't look like it will slow down anytime soon.

VIDEO PREMIERES





FANTAN MOJAH & UNSTOPPABLE FYAH



AKEEM GARRISON - RUN FROM



LT. STITCHIE - WARRIOR







DÉJÀ VU



SPECIAL MIND

KHALILAH ROSE



RELEASES





















AFRICA RISE UP RIDDIM





PHOTOS



SISTER CAROL & JIM MARSHALL IN LOS ANGELES, CA @ DUB CLUB



LILA IKÉ IN WUPPERTAL, GERMANY @ U-CLUB Photos by Jan Salzman, Eljer, Steve James & Marox

YEARBOOK 2019 November



BUJU BANTON POP-UP SHOP IN MIAMI, FL



IRIE CREW @ AMSTERDAM SOUNDCLASH



Duane Stephenson & Lutan Fyah | Mark Wonder Shanique Marie | Jerone | Schwarzpaul Mackeehan | Kello | Akeem Garrison

including the hit single "Empress Sativa" by Duane Stephenson and Lutan Fyah

OUT NOW ON ALL DIGITAL PLATFORM\$



DECEMBER



Here is the latest installment by Playing For Change's Song Around The World concept and it's a massive combination. SOUL REBEL performed by Bunny Wailer with Bushman and Manu Chao.



ZIGGY MARLEY - FRIDAY'S ON

Ziggy Marley's new single Friday's On is a direct reference to the Fridays For Future movement, an initiative by Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg which started in August 2018.



WTJRC 2019 SELL OFF & 2020 SOLD OUT

The Welcome To Jamrock Reggae Cruise, founded by Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, wrapped its 6th excursion across the Caribbean Sea this past Sat. Dec. 14, 2019 and has announced that 2020 is completely sold out.



Quite the honor, the "Far East Rulaz" were hand picked by Japan's Prime Minister Shinzō Abe to attend and perform at an exclusive, invite only dinner



It may be nearly Christmas, but Kranium's latest full album is determined to not let you forget summer 2019. He's back with a bang, and this time the sparks of creativity are literally smouldering.



REVIEW: ROCK & GROOVE RIDDIM

The much-anticipated Rock & Groove Riddim from Protoje's In.Digg.Nation Collective has just dropped. Worth the wait? Hell yes.



David "Ram Jam" Rodigan, broadcasting icon, sound killer, life-long reggae lobbyist, journalist, collector & curator and, let's not forget, since 2012 also an MBE (a Member of the Order of the British Empire),...



DEVIN DI DAKTA MAKES MARK WITH NEW VIDEO

When Jamaican Dancehall artist Devin Di Dakta released his brand new EP Bare Thoughts at the beginning of December, his new music surprised many, as he showed his deep and thoughtful side with impressive tracks...



ALBUM REVIEW: GREEN LION CREW - BE STILL

Be Still. A title that is as simple as it is powerful, causing me to stop in my tracks, take a deep breath and, just for a moment, allow thoughts and actions to become completely still - the perfect prerequisite to listen to the release.



Cleveland "Clevie" Browne is best known as one half of legendary Jamaican production duo Steely & Clevie. He and his partner, keyboardist Steely, enthusiastically embraced reggae and dancehall's digital era.



SHABBA RANKS CROWNS U-ROY KING IN QUEENS

There wasn't a dry eye amongst scores of music lovers during the 10th Anniversary of "Reeewind" on Friday, November 29 in Queens, New York. Overcome with emotions, the audience witnessed Shabba Ranks...



REVIEW: RAYMOND WRIGHT - STRIKLY REAL

It's a brave artist who attempts to cross the divides between Roots, Gospel, Soul and Dancehall all in one album. But Raymond Wright may have just pulled it off with his new record Strikly Real.

VIDEO PREMIERES





CHELSEA STEWART

NATTALI RIZE





YT FEAT. NTK - COMMON SENSE



KIIHJANO - WARRIOR



THE GATES OF HELL





A#KEEM - WINNER



RAS CANNABIS - BUN A SPLIFF

YEARBOOK 2019 December

RELEASES







CHRONIXX











HEADPHONEMUSIC









PHOTOS



JULIAN ROGERS, TOOTS HIBBERT & OLIVIA "BABSY" GRANGE @ JAMAICA OBSERVER ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS



Photos by Steve James, David I Muir & Jan Salzman



STEEL PULSE IN SOLANA BEACH, CA @ BELLY UP



ALBUM OF THE YEAR 2019



#1 STICK FIGURE - WORLD ON FIRE



#2 CULTURA PROFÉTICA - SOBREVOLANDO



#5 JULIAN MARLEY AS I AM



#6 IYA TERRA COMING TO LIGHT



#7 STEEL PULSE MASS MANIPULATION



#11 GENTLEMAN'S DUB CLUB LOST IN SPACE



#12 RAS TEO & REUBEN ADDIS - SHOW I THE DUB



#13 BROUSSAÏ UNE SEULE ADRESSE



#14 AWA FALL WORDS OF WISDOM



LION PAW

#21 COLLIE BUDDZ - HYBRID #22 BLEND MISHKIN & ROOTS EVOLUTION - WILDFIRE #23 PEPPER - LOCAL MOTION #24 INNA DE Yard - Inna de Yard #25 Gardna - Good Time not a long time #26 Cali P & teka - Vizion I #27 Jah Device - Ray of Light #28 Third World - More Work to be done #29 Busy Signal - Parts of the Puzzle #30 Brother Culture - Supanova

VOTED BY 2000 REGISTERED USERS @ REGGAEVILLE.com



#31 MAX ROMEO - WORDS FROM THE BRAVE #32 INDUBIOUS - BELEAF #33 HIRIE - DREAMER #34 SIZZLA - VICTORY #35 Rocky Dawuni - Beats of Zion #36 Bugle - Picture Perfect #37 RAS teo meets lone Ark - ten thousand lions #38 Omar Perry - Living in the Jungle #39 Marcus Gad & Tamal - Enter A space EP #40 Marx Gallo - Hard to Catch

N MUNCHY?!? Y ÷ Ľ

Episode #50 @ SummerJam Festival with Koffee!





KOFFEE



BLVK H3RO



WFFKFS



TAJ WEEKES - BIG PHARMA (ACOUSTIC)







TAJ WEEKES - SON OF A BITCH (ACOUSTIC)

YEARBOOK - FREE PDF DOWNLOAD @REGGAEVILLE.com/YARD/YEARBOOK



















REST IN PEACE







RIP RANKING ROGER FEBRUARY 21, 1963 MARCH 26, 2019 RANKING ROGER

CAROL BRUNO CASTRO BROWN DELROY O'GILVIE DERRICK "JONNY" HENRY GLEN BROWN JAH STITCH JASHWHA MOSES K.C. WHITE LOUIE RANKIN NEVILLE "BOBO" INGRAM PAT KELLY RAS FIRE



RAS NALDO STEPHAN SCHULMEISTER TOKO TASI ZIGGY SOUL



EDWARD SEAGA IN TIVOLI GARDENS, KINGSTON 2014

PHOTOS BY URSULA "MUNCHY" MÜNCH

