

Stephen Marley and more! Raggamuffins' hotline: 310-515-3322

Soul Rebels at SOMA- Boulder, Colorado

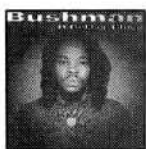
Boulder's SOMA, 1915 Broadway, www.soma lounge.com and Ujama News will promote Soul Rebels, Sundays at SOMA showcasing Live Reggae and AfroPop-World-Beat talent. Up and Coming Guest for Soul Rebels Sundays: Dec 16, 2001: Boubacar Diebate & Dially Kounda. Dec 23, : Lion Souljahs Band and Dec 30, : Simba. Look for Djate, Wailer B and more national acts in January. **BLESSED HOLIDAYS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM UJAMA NEWS !!!**

CD REVIEWS



Beenie Man - YOUTH QUAKE (Artists Only)

An outstanding collection of singles and special treats from this prolific dancehall King. Timely and timeless, with just two tracks that feature guests: "Reggae Music" with Mega Banton and the great yet rarely heard from Admiral Tibbet and "Leave Dem" with Yellowman. Musicians include Steellie & Cleevie, Dwight Pinkney and Chris Meredith. The opening track "Selassie" rocks and rides the riddim. Foreign....ain't no "Bed A Roses" he cries out from the knowledge of those who know and should learn. The close of the CD features two tracks - "Mek Use A Life" and "Unu Fi Follow We" from Beenie in a higher register before his voice changed... when he was a Beenie "Teenie." -JK



Bushman - A BETTER PLACE (Artists Only)

Whoa....the Rasta is a personification of sophistication. And if this record is any indication he's got the power for the next generation. Original phrasing and melodic complexity with enough variety and depth in the rhythms to make it fit together like a puzzle. Vocal comparisons and maximum respect to Luciano aside, this brother has soul, style and skills. His own multi-track harmonies and back-up vocals sweeten righteous song structure. A rich hip-hop riddim crafted for the conscious "Gangsta Life"...features a string portion of the Godfather film theme music on the intro. Recorded at StingRay "Big House" Studio in London. To summarize, the great song: "Fill My Cup" has a soaring vocal with a swaying chant devoted to Jah's love that proclaims: "Fill me up and let me overflow....let me overflow with joy"-'Nuff said!-JK



Full Force - STILL STANDING (TVT Records)

This hip-hop/vocal group has returned with a creative combination of new tracks that they are featured on as vocalists, original classic performances of theirs from times past and several that they contribute as solely producers for a total of 19 songs. "I Just Wanna Be With U" features the group teaming up with N'Sync and Da Brat, "Float On With Us", a cover of the original Floaters tune, the CD contains an extended mix with Method Man, Ginuwine, Gerald Levert and Montell Jordan. "The Good the Bad and the Thugly" is a joint with Raekwon and Scarface.. "Alice I Want You Just For Me" that oldie but goodie is in there along with "Unselfish Lover" . "Roxanne Roxanne" by UTFO and "I Wonder If I Take You Home" by Lisa Lisa and Cult Jam which are part of the mix of tracks they produced for others. A jam packed 19 track release with classic production and style.-JK



Gigi - GIGI (Palm Pictures)

This is one of those records that is so good you look at the CD player and see what track it is on and think'great its only half over'. Ethiopian singer Ejigayaeh "Gigi" Shibabaw makes meaningful songs, all sung in the Amharic language and performed in the traditional Ethiopian soprano lilting style. Enchanting, lengthy notes sung on a gorgeous rhythmic music bed created by producer Bill Laswell express lyrics with translations that speak of love: "Tasty like a roasted nut, can't stop with just a handful" on "Menedegna" meaning "Always on the Road...one who is not inclined to settle." "Abay" is an ode to the country of her birth it translates to the word for the River Nile:....with the translation "Ageless grace endless beauty, perennial for eternity, for centuries past From genesis since Adam first appeared. It's flowed from Eden's spring." Guest musicians include keyboardist Herbie Hancock, and saxophonists Wayne Shorter and Pharoah Sanders. -JK



David "Solid" Gould - ADONAI IN DUB (Tzadik)

The bassie for John Brown's Body & dub master brings his Jewish Roots and Dub to a wonderful experimental CD. Combining traditional Jewish songs and Noise dub, the transfusion of sound is almost overpowering

with super dubby vocal portions. There are touches of Jewish melodies found on Siman dub . Satan-like vocals on "Adonai Dub" bring out a dark side while most of the CD uplifts . Horn-driven melodies are a first testament to this "Etz Chayim Hee Dub". This is a great mix and of old and new technology like original King Tubby and Channel 1 Studios. The first US artist to truly capture the art of Dub, really captivating.-GS



Norris Man - BETTER YOUR SOUL (Jah Scout)

"Better Your Soul is to synchronize your heart and mind with love"Alongside PERSIS-TENCE, Norris Man explains in his sophomore album how critical it is to better one's soul. Unleashed are 17 crucial tracks flavored by strong dancehall rhythms, loveful R&B vibes, and heartfelt hip hop grooves. Experience messages of love, life, faith, and liberation. Highlighted collaborations include Ranking Scroo of Crucial Youth Productions and superb background vocals by Cecile.-JB



QShan Dia - JOURNEY (J&D)

"Save me from the hands of the violent man and the wicked" sings this artist. Dynamic newcomer, QShan Dia is currently touring to promote his excellent album . Gaining appeal amongst the masses, QShan Dia sings of "Jahovah", "Warfare" and the "The Poor's Cry" on this 12-track debut release. With a voice reminiscent of Luciano, each track deserves full attention, including the solid collaborations with Richie Spice and Yami Bolo. -JB



Wailer B - ABAJONI (Wailer B Productions)

Fantastic recording effort by this Boulder-based singer and St. Thomas native. Youths features a funk/rock driving intro and breakdown into the skank. The artist's roots in the soca shine bright on "Hold On" with its soulful-like guitar effects back the chorus "Hold on Iya Man, Rasta Man, African....no matter what a gwan" . Full of integrity, like a live session recording. All original songs with live drums by Brett Thomas, and irie guitar riffs by Ash Kirby, Paul Armstrong ties up the skank on the keys and Chris Wright holds down the brightest bass-lines.