



Autopsia & Achar
 Silently The Wolves Are Watching/Porcile
 7" vinyl, Illuminating-Technologies.Com

MIXMAG Dubstep Tunes, Joe Muggs

vocal mix. There's no mystery here, it's simply rotten.

LUC RINGEISEN

Ying Yang SAFARI ELECTRONIQUE
 Minimal house; strong remixes

French producer Arnaud Le Texier, who operates out of London, must be buzzing. His Safari Electronique label has grown in stature of late with releases and remixes by producers like Johnny D, Anthony Collins and Seth Troxler. This latest EP comes from VinylClub's Luc Ringeisen, bolstered by remixes from Mainz hot stuff Robert Dietz and Arnaud himself. The original is stripped-down minimal house with lashings of percussion throughout, whereas Arnaud ups the ante a notch or two with a banging houser that centres around its peaks and troughs as the beats bang out. Finally, it's Dietz who gains maximum props as he again impresses with tough, tribalistic percussion, making this a superior release.

JOHN DIGWEED

Aquatic BEDROCK
 Diggers fails to dazzle

Given the Humate remixes and Timo's release it's been quite a nostalgic month here on the house music page. The trend continues with a new single from of prog master John Digweed on his own Bedrock label, which is still operating 10 years after he first released his own 'Heaven Scent'. 'Aquatic' was produced alongside his trusted studio friend Nick Muir but sadly, unlike his recent, half-decent 'Gridlock', it's a pretty linear and dour techy progger that fails to captivate. Southampton's Alan Fitzpatrick doesn't add any new dimensions to the original with his remix, so it's all rather less than inspiring.

ALI NASSER

Omni EP SUPERNATURE
 Dishy tech-house moments

When they're not touring the world extensively or working on their tans in their current base of Barcelona, Anthony Middleton and Luca Saporito (aka DJ/production duo Audiofly) are carefully curating their Supernature imprint. And following on from last year's smart Boris Horel single, they take it up a gear with the 'Omni EP' from young Romanian producer Ali Nasser, complete with remixes from Frankfurt's Afrilounge and Tsuba boss

Kevin Griffiths. 'Omni Care Se Duce' is chunky and techy with a booming kick and edgy pads; it maintains the techy vibe and adds some lush hooks, while Kevin's mix is a more minimal affair but still with a tacky kick and moody bleeps. There's even another track from Ali, the drum-driven 'Get Down The Funk', making this the label's strongest EP yet.

TOM DEMAC

Prima Donna MURMUR
 Stylish minimal tech-house

While everyone raves about the quality house beats by young producers coming out of places like Amsterdam and Frankfurt of late, we've got labels like Geddes' Murmur and producers like Tom Demac to prove that us Brits can still more than hold our own. Wales' Tom Demac, who first came to prominence on Four:Twenty last year, returns to London label Murmur with his second EP, supported by a remix from Seoul. 'Prima Donna' blends intricate and stripped-down tech-house beats and kick variations with delicate, deep riffs; it all peaks when the riffs roll, a vocal sample drops and the drums crash in. Paris newcomer Seoul goes down the percussive route with lots of layers and rolling drums, while also making slight use of the vocal, and there's even a digital-only track, 'It Ends Lower', for the cheapskates who don't buy vinyl.

BEN WATT

Guinea Pig (remixes) BUZZIN' FLY
 Germans on duty for canny remixes

Buzzin' Fly incorporates the assistance of the German contingent for a fresh take on his last single, 'Guinea Pig', and it's a typically wise move from the shrewd label boss Watt. Hamburg's master of all things weird in the world of house, DJ Koze, takes care of the 'Vocal Variation', dropping the vocal and jangly keys in and out over soft, minimal beats and rattly percussions. Even better. Get Physical's MANDY unite with Smallboy to tackle the 'Musical Variation' to create an airy, intelligent tech-house excursion, rampant with melodies, that's the best thing they've done in a long, long time.

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DUBSTEP TUNES



Starkey pulls a model

TUNE OF THE MONTH

STARKEY

Starkbass: A Continuous Mix by DJ Starkey LOBASS

Massive smash-up of wonk, crunk and ravestep

In one fell swoop, Philadelphia's Starkey has scotched three doubters' complaints: 1) That upbeat/tear-out dubstep is somehow dumb; 2) That the newest wonky/aquacrunk sounds are stylistically confused and not dancefloor-friendly; and 3) That dubstep has nowhere new to go. This DJ mix is pure dancefloor fire from beginning to end, starting riotously with crunk synths and shouts, going waaaaay deep and dark, then returning to party hard again at the end – without losing its sharp wit, its focus or its sense of the endless possibilities of current global bass music. A triumph!

ROB SPARX

Fixed Up EP DUBTING
 Sheer class from Leicester

Scream, Reso, TRG and Sukh Knight are all supporters of Rob Sparx's tunes – and this vinyl album sampler shows why. The jungle sounds and ecstatic, almost trance chords of 'Fixed Up', the ultra-cool vibe of 'Liquid Soul' and the righteous heaviness of 'Messiah Dub' show his faultless technical production skills, but pack an emotional punch too.

LD

Traumatic Times/Woodblock HYPERDUB
 Glossy, housey vibes

Another technically brilliant producer (unsurprisingly, as he is in-house engineer for legendary cutting studios Transition), LD is working deep house and UK funky influences lately. These two tunes contrast sharply – 'Traumatic Times' is lush and embracing, while 'Woodblock' is edgy and slightly frantic, with buzzing synths and detuned bleeps, but they are unified by distinctively rolling beats.

FUSED FORCES

What's Going Down/Chest Infection

Deep, heavy a "Everybody see try to hide it" – and rolling jung "What's Going D instantly recog the stark simpli it, and the flip, a Loeffah produ is-more appro massive subst carry the track a dancefloor.

BLACK SUN EMPIRE

The Invasion/Dyneema

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AUTOPSIA

Silently The Wolves Are Watching

ILLUMINATING TECHNOLOGIES
 Chilling Czech atmospheres

The lead track from Prague-based classical/electronic collective Autopsia has darting, discordant horror-soundtrack strings and free jazz drums grounded by big subs; on the flip 'Porcile' is a more electronic slab of dark ambient for fans of Cloaks or early Vex'd. Not for everyone, but very powerful.