

DJ QUICKIE

ANGEL ALANIS



Chicago native and recent La La Land transplant Angel Alanis needs little introduction. His discog reads like a career criminal's wrap sheet—long and impressive. Currently, he's working on DJ Colette's artist album (she's his better half), along with his own long player (to be released via his imprint A Squared Muzik). Word has it he's expanding his traditional hard-tinged sound to include a little house and some weird sound bits. He's also at the table with Nettwerk about releasing a mix compilation for the month of July. For more info and up-to-date release info go to www.angelalanis.com

If you could have any one super-power, what would it be and why? The ability to stop time... I could get more work done, and walk around pulling peoples pants down.

What's the best way to say hello? Walk up, smile, and say hello.

What would you do with a free \$100 bill? Take a friend to a nudie bar.

Tell us something about yourself that most people don't know. Some people think that Angel Alanis is my stage name or that I am a woman. I've actually been to parties where people come up to me and say, "Hey, we thought you were a girl".

What's your favorite cocktail? Cuervo. And the occasional sissy drink.

What don't you leave home without? My pants.

What's the best pick up line that has actually worked on you? I don't really have any pick up lines. And I'm an ugly bitch...

What's the most embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you while playing? I got wasted, did the hokey poky and I turned myself around. THEN picked up the wrong needle.

How many records do you own? I have no idea...around 20,000. I have records at my mom's house, a public storage facility, and all over my house. Too many.

What would your porn name be? Baby Laramie. This name couldn't get me into porn. NO WAY!

Can "IT" ever go on too long? Possibly. Depends what you mean by "IT".

If you were in a rock band, would you play the "axe" or "skins"? The skins... I like to hit the skins.

When you get on an airplane, do you turn left or right? Right, to beat up the guy that cut me off on the ramp. Then left.

Personal mantra: It used to be "Time to make the doughnuts". Don't ask me why! Now it's "Where's the beef?"

Complete this sentence:

It's Sunday afternoon, the bills are paid and: I'm in the studio, the Simpson's are on, and I am trying to kill the 20th beer.

Single Reviews. By the BPM Music Crew.

FEATURED SINGLE



DEAN RODELL

Perceptive Natura (Compound)

When the dancefloor requires the pounding of a severe ill-tempered percussive monster, then reach for the vinyl pharmacy that is Germany. Known for unremittingly brutal soundscapes and brilliantly engineered productions, Compound has gained a solid reputation. This EP shuttles the label's direction into the future as Mr. Rodell infuses hauntingly phantasmal tribal enchantments into a deeply set stereo perspective. Thickly laid distortion promotes anxiety atop the well distinguished yet heavily layered mix. Complex drum fills reign throughout, as a heavily compressed low-end receives a meticulous filter cleansing. Few extended breaks accompany this crunchy piece of thick wax, while the progression continues to drive ahead in a steady, forthcoming manner. Beware however, this release has been known to frighten glow stick waving, Vicks inhaling, tent pant-wearing, plastic jewelry-weaving Snuggle Bear rave kids. **5/5** (Praxis)

LABEL PROFILE

background records

BACKGROUND RECORDS

Andy Vaz, the owner and managing director of the minimal techno label Background is a leading figure in the underground house and techno scene in Dusseldorf, Germany. Initially, Andy's interest in music laid in early American hip hop acts like Boogie Down Productions, Doug E. Fresh, and Eric B. & Rakim. But after a few trips to Detroit in the early 1990's and meetings with the likes of Juan Atkins and the UR posse, everything changed. For the next few years Andy spent his time experiencing Detroit and Chicago based techno and house music. Not long after that in 1996, Andy launched Background Music as a platform for his newly found love. "My idea was to launch a label that would support minimal music in all its various forms and functions. It was also important that the label would be an international label representing the movement on a global level." According to Vaz, "The label has thus far been focusing on the EP/vinyl releases but we will soon venture into albums on both vinyl and CDs." Some of Background's upcoming projects include singles and an album from Vaz himself, the fourth installment of *Futuristic Experiments* featuring tracks and mixes from Akufen, Sutekh, Dean DeCosta, Geoff White, Submania, Rhythm Maker, Jeff Milligan, and Todd Sines among others, and a full-length artist album from London based producer Portable. (Rick Salzer)

For the full profile check out: www.dmixed.com

OSCAR MULERO

Learning To Be A Machine (Warm Up)

Spanish spinner and producer Oscar Mulero (or is it Orwell Mulero?) gives rise to some dystopian techno on *Learning to be a Machine*. "Beyond Pit Lane" has solid kick drums and percussion, but the ghosts-of-humanity style effects make this one very creepy cut. On the B-side, "The Refueler" also haunts with ominous mechanical hums. And finally, "Robert Pain," with its music box melody, acts as a creepy counterpoint to it all. **4/5** (Yuri Wuensch)

CHRIS LIBERATOR & DARC MARC

Untitled (Maximum Minimum)

London's acid godfather surfaces once again to join forces with Pure Noise's label head and install an LP reminiscent of both artists' previous work. The mix drives rapidly ahead with a dominant percussive edge, while the rather tame 303 loops instill positive ear-gasmic energy. Another solid release for this UK duo, although the cut lacks that 180-gram weight you may expect from across the pond. **3/5** (Praxis)

THERMOBEE & ANT

Sweeper/Sonic (Bang On)

The production at Kinetic Studios must never end, since this techno duet continues to pump out release after release—almost two cuts a month. Classic ANT workings are found here, as a reminiscent trance progression holds down this progressive techno funk fort. Full of 909s and resonating synth melodies, this 12" is geared towards the event's peak moment. **4/5** (Praxis)

SUREFOOT

Pressure Steps (Mirror)

Spreading out thick layers of decadent techno, this artist twiddles away relentless silk-like funk that is sure to leave a memorable impression. A standard format rhythm section secures the groove, as an aggressive rolling bassline lures the listener in. Lots of pitch tricks throughout the mix, but the magic lies in the deep bass patch tones. **3/5** (Praxis)

DARC MARC & MATT CRAVEN

The Bystander (Pure Noise)

From the label's chief operator comes a foreign imprint full of domestic hip hop zest. A little more docile than the previous installations, but the cymbals sizzle and shimmer atop a somewhat hostile tribal assortment. Dominant and colossal, the kick pounds on to satisfy that need for techno brawn. **3/5** (Praxis)

CHRIS LEIBING

The Biggest 10" I Have Ever Seen (RMXS) (CLR)

I knew it wouldn't be long before famed DJ Rush had a whack at a remix of this classic track, and without question the reworking has gained quality restitution. Hard and swanky, the tune contains a balanced allotment of tasteful distortion, blissful reverse cymbals and filtered-down, saturated vocal twists. Come for the original, stay for the remix. **4/5** (Praxis)

ARIL BRIKHA

Departure In Time (Transmat)

Aril Brikha follows up his full-length with an LP containing previously unreleased music. Rolling basslines clear the path for a calypso-style groove that sports a funky atmosphere and delicate keys that complement the

abstract kick programming. Flip for a more standard tech-house, mass-crowd-minded episode. **3/5** (Praxis)

THE ADVENT

Sooner Or Later (Tortured Records)

The Cisco kid is back at it once again, this time with a slightly alternative agenda. Tension-building, emotion-evoking chords hold the foundation stable while the classic, distorted, over-driven Advent ride fulfills your unremitting techno craving. **4/5** (Praxis)

GAETANO PARISIO

Suprema EP (Conform)

Quality assurance is Parisio's essential attribute. Delivering an immense sound, this mix embraces a percussion section composed of polyrhythmic synth drums and a perpetual, hard low end. A dreamy yet taunting synth drone lies beneath the surface tension to ensure that the audio canvas has ample depth. Great for a hard Midwest set, although creepy enough to lurk throughout the world's underground. **4/5** (Praxis)

ADAM JAY VS. MIKE PARKER

Counteractions (Azure Records)

The third release from this Indianapolis-based label hits the decks with just as much stimulus as its funk-laden predecessors. Carl Cox and DJ Dan come to mind on this banger, tech-house installment especially effective in a bump 'n' grind-oriented house club. Just enough slam, interwoven with fundamental filter builds, sets a platform for sensual turntable romance. **3/5** (Praxis)

MARK GREEN PRES MG

Die Maschimen Laufen (Stigmata RMX) (Solar)

As German techno continues to define the hostile trend of pleasurable hard noise, this title serves a healthy portion of contentment for your 1200s to groove to. Layered thick with residual percussive melodies, the progression endures the straight eighth feel for which our beloved Mr. Leibing is renowned. Although it encompasses dark hues, the attitude here remains optimistic. A meat-and-potatoes techno release. **4/5** (Praxis)

MATEO MURPHY

Bringing It Back EP (Turbo Recordings)

It's amazing what a good producer can do with a few sounds. On *Bringing It Back*, Murphy leads off with some nice 80s electro synth bells, then shifts into a searing acid line, interspersing only one or two percussive lines throughout the whole progression. "Jack to Jack" is a great floor filler with a bouncy kick drum and progressive drum layers. Good stuff. **4/5** (Steve-O)

PAN AMERICAN

Renzo (Vertical Form)

Chicago's Mark Nelson, renown for his work as guitarist and vocalist with drone/post-rock outfit Labradford, appears once again as Pan American; This time for top UK electronic imprint Vertical Form. *Renzo* kicks off with "Running Dog (Reborn)," a crispy, ultra deep tune filled with pulsing atmospheric splashes of spring reverb, and hypnotic bass movements. After a short ambient interlude with "Toy Triggers," the B side comes alive with the warm and fuzzy static of *Renzo*; Backed with thick sub-bass, panning echos and melancholic keys. If you like your Basic Channel and Rhythm and Sound with a side of Deep Chord, then *Renzo* is just what you've been looking for. **5/5** (Dean DeCosta)