



Bachelors of Science

INTERNAL AFFAIRS: TRACK BY TRACK

Mr Monteiro talks us through the tunes on the new LP...

Saburuko & Brother – In Control

"This tune was featured on Marcus Intalex's Solution radio show. It's got a lovely laid back vibe and choice vox."

Mutt – Open Wide

"Mutt had finished his 'Treading Water' LP on Inside and this is one of the tunes from it. It's pure Mutt – rolling with great samples. A real sparkler of a tune."

Saburuko & Will Miles & Kjell – Centreline

"This one is one of Saburuko's best works yet, however the credit is shared three ways. It starts off nice but ends up in a twisted acid time bomb at the end. Quite a description yes, but you'll have to just check it yourself."

Bungle – Would You Do It All Again?

"Okay this is the odd one out, I hold up my

hands! Bungle isn't affiliated with Horizons so technically he is an external affair but this tune was so good I had to put it on. When you hear it I'm sure you will agree with me, and that vocal is uplifting as fuck."

Brooklyn – Someone (Naibu remix)

"Naibu's remixes of Brooklyn's tune has got so many plaudits, classy is the word. We just put out Naibu's EP on Horizons [HZN030]

and he did 'Secrecy' with Hydro as part of our 'Dreamthief' compilation so expect much more to come from Naibu on Horizons."

Bachelors of Science – The Beautiful Life

"Bachelors of Science had finished their album and I think they hadn't wound down so they made a more couple of tunes and this is one of them. It is beautiful and so it should be with a name like that."

Saburuko aka Russell Knight was another 2006 find for Horizons. "I get so many demos from new producers but Saburuko, wow, his blew me away. Of course it helped that Marcus Intalex and Doc Scott were playing his tunes but the music itself was stand out, it had real soul." Neil was so impressed that he gave Saburuko his first ever solo release. The 'Boro Park' EP was a brave move that paid off with Intalex saying of it: "Debut releases don't come better than this." Since then a host of tracks including 'Clinto's Basement', 'A Darker Side', 'Solstice', 'Titanium' and 'Holding Back' have built up anticipation for his soon come debut LP.

Neil's newest recruit though is 22-year-old Sinistarr. The young gun was snapped up for Inside this year. "I was pretty proactive. When the XRS deal ended I was looking for someone else, there were some names that I was trying to get on board and Sinistarr was one of them. He's young and he's at college, so there's time on his side to find his sound. He's got a couple of releases in the pipeline on Creative Source and also Integral as well as a 12" for us. He's getting better and better all the time. I am really keen to put out his best work so we aren't in any hurry, he is working on some really tasty bits and a few great collaborations but that's all in the future."

This triptych of talent aside, the Horizons stable boasts more than its fair share of impressive names with releases on the discography from

Visionary, Heist, XRS, Duo Infernale, Survival, Apex and Alix Perez not to mention Bungle, Mutt and Brooklyn. Together they've helped shape Horizons distinctive sound. "Horizons is melodic and deep but also we'll turn around and slap you in the face a couple of times and do something completely different. I put out music I am feeling, our three artists tell their own story and then we'll get guests on the labels. Plus I hand pick 12"s that I've just got to have."

Neil brought the whole vision together recently with Horizons' first compilation LP 'Dream Thief'. The first CD features fresh tunes while the second CD is something of a best of. "For me it's the complete package. It has a mix of exciting artists and the music has real depth as well as tunes that can really kill the dancefloor. Survival with 'Silencer' is my favourite on there. The album is called it 'Dream Thief' because it had a twist on our usual dreamy melodic tunes."

And now hot on its heels comes the new album 'Internal Affairs', which is a purely in-house compilation, hence the title: "After four years this is where our artists land. As a whole album it's really what we stand for, we put a lot of time and effort into our artists and with these tunes I don't think there is a weak link. I always judge our releases on whether I, tight bastard that I am, would fork out for it. If the answer is no then I tweak it until it's right. And this is right."

Neil has also kept busy providing us with one of our covetable cover CDs (look out for it on our first issue of 2009 out late February) and by lining up a host of 12"s including Mutt's latest ('Off The Cuff' / 'Over') and Sinistarr's first ('My Thoughts Exactly' / 'Park Avenue'), Saburuko's debut album and that second long player from Bachelors of Science. There are also releases in the works from Loxy, Naibu and Survival: "We've got lots on, I really need to slow down! I want to emphasise quality and, especially with Inside, we can get the tunes out there hot from the studio."

There's one forthcoming single though that brings Neil right back to his roots – to those days of sweaty clubbing and the first thrill of finding drum & bass. Get ready for 'New Music' / 'Chatty Mouth' by the one and only Digital. "I seriously idolise the guy. I remember picking up 'Phantom Force' in a crappy second hand record store in Colchester as a white label promo. I thought all my Christmases had come at once, that plate was worn thin," he grins. "I got in touch Digital through DNB Online and we've spoken ever since so now it's nice we have a 12" ready from him as he doesn't usually go outside his own labels."

Seems like in 2009 you too better keep your eye on Horizons: www.horizonsmusic.co.uk