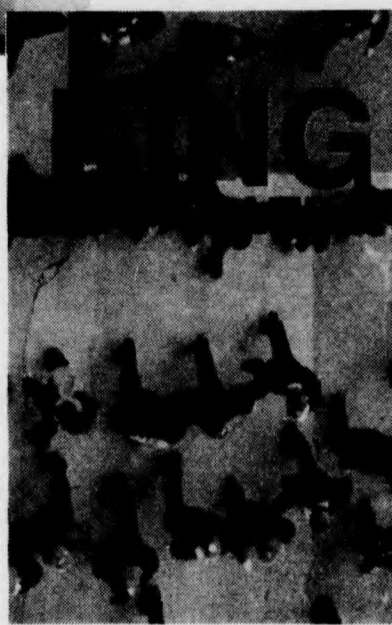
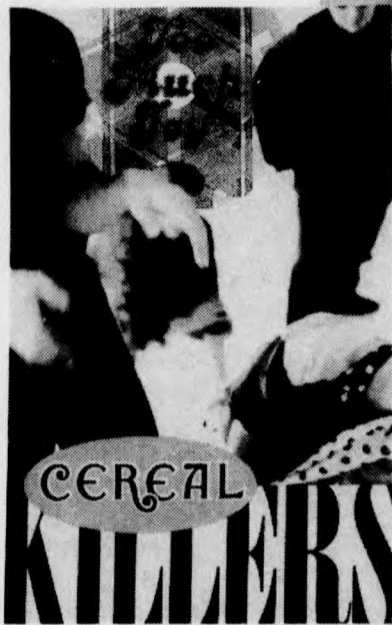




The goofs have landed! Above: The Barenaked Ladies respond to being banned from City Hall. Too Much Joy and King Apparatus are other goofs to watch out for.



Album looks at the illegitimate son of late eighties acid house

by Prasad Bidaye

MUSIC

various artists
The Best of Techno, Vol 1
Profile Records

Based around the recent warehouse scene, *The Best of Techno Vol 1* samples underground dance music from Germany, the UK, Japan, the United States and Canada. House music is often dismissed as just another trend for unconscious clubgoers; but an objective listener will find an unexpected sense of experimentation and innovation on this album.

Techno is the illegitimate son of Kraftwerk and late 80s acid house. Groups like LFO, Tricky Disco and Sweet Exorcist characterized techno last year, but this compilation proves that it is more than just bleeps and heavy bass.

The first track, Zone's "Eternal #2," is the standard club track for the nineties; on top of a makeover of James Brown's "Funky Drummer," it uses samples from Kraftwerk's "Home-Computer" and Eric B's "Let The Rhythm Hit 'Em," and flies around with an assortment of moog effects.

"Self Hypnosis," by Nexus 21, is a chilled but magnificent track whose neural melody alone demonstrates the potential for spontaneity in this genre.

F.U., by Canada's Fuse, is a trash number, with an industrial bassline and abrasive rhythm. The song's in-

tensity is only matched by the techno-classic "Technarcy." With the volume turned up, it creates the perfect environment for a hallucination, or for that matter, even hallucinogenics.

Nothing here is as sophisticated as 808 State or The Orb, but these few tracks are about as good as it gets. Most are redundant, proving the stereotypes of dance music (almost) right.

"Voodoo Child" is over-engineered, with samples by KLF, Hendrix, Todd Terry, and Afrika Bambaata. Program 2's "More Energy" is guilty (along with Quadrophonia and LA Style) for ripping off the bassline from KLF's "What Time Is Love?" and triggering it to death. The same also happens on GTO's "Listen To The Rhythm Flow."

The Best of Techno Vol 1 is not recommended for all fans of dance music. Unless the aforementioned names sound the least bit familiar, stick to C+C Music Factory and Crystal Waters. Otherwise, I'm sure this album would be valuable to anyone intrigued with the underground dance subculture.

This article is too goofy to read!

Ira Nayman

Music has always had its goofs — the musical equivalent of nerds, bands that nobody would admit to listening to, even though everybody thought they were fun, if kind of...you know, goofy.

Goof rock is distinguished by its high decibel level, lack of commitment to musical quality and a peculiar take on the world: it is essentially garage rock with a sense of humour. And, although few pop fans would admit to noticing, lately, there has been a veritable goof renaissance.

The Barenaked Ladies, for instance, have gotten a lot of publicity and airplay lately. This owes, as much as anything, to being banned from Toronto's City Hall on the grounds that goofs are not limited to the music industry.

Barenaked songs like "(Be My) Yoko Ono" and "Brian Wilson" are classic goof takes, although I find the Ladies too obsessed with the media. Rumour has it the band is going to expand its repertoire; if their reverent

MUSIC

Too Much Joy
Cereal Killers
Giant/Warner Brothers
King Apparatus
King Apparatus
Raw Energy Records

remake of Bruce Cockburn's "Lovers in a Dangerous Time" is any indication, they're planning on renouncing goofdom.

No problem. LA band Too Much Joy could easily step in and fill the void. Two chords...snappy tempos...funny lyrics — Too Much Joy has the mark of the goof upon them.

"Long Haired Guys From England" is a rip-off of the goof classic "Instant Club Hit/You'll Dance to Anything" by The Dead Milkmen, the closest thing goof rock has to a legend. Otherwise, their first album, *Cereal Killers*, is lots of fun.

Too Much Joy wraps its goofiness in an intellectual gloss. Thus, you get a four syllable word (benevolent) in

an ode to liquid excess ("King of Beers"). I have to admit, though, "William Holden Caulfield," the title if not the actual song, makes the entire album worthwhile.

London (Ontario)'s King Apparatus is also filling a hole, the one left by the absence of West Coast goofs Doug and the Slugs. Lead singer Mitch Girio even sounds like Doug Bennett, although he hasn't shown the same need to slag Toronto. Yet.

"Death Car on the Freeway" echoes "Death Cab for Cutie," by British invasion goofs The Bonzo Dog Doodah Band. Songs like "Searching for the New Guitar Hero" and King Apparatus' first single, "Made for TV," show the goof's preoccupation with the media, while "Non-stop Drinking" is a typical goof paean to adolescent excess.

The album version of "Made for TV" is overorchestrated, without the raw feel of the radio version. At times, I found it hard to tell the 17 goof ska songs on the album apart; but I bet they're great to dance to. And goofs love to dance.

Just watch out for your feet.



Power 105.5fm
Shoe-Gazin' Top 17!

- Lush For Love EP 4AD / Polygram
- Fudge Tunnel Hate Songs in E Minor Earache / Relativity
- Various Artists Last Call Zulu (C)
- Soundtrack Juice MCA
- Various Artists FreeJack Morgan Creek
- Nomeansno 0+2=1 Alternative Tentacles (C)
- DHI Machine Altar Transmission Fringe (C)
- Public Enemy Shut Em Down EP Def Jam / Sony
- Primus Seas of Cheese EP Warner
- UMC's Fruits of our Nature Wild Pitch
- Bob Wiseman ... Presented By Lake Michigan Soda Warner (C)
- The Mighty Mighty Bosstone.....Where'd You Go. EP Taang!
- Borrowed Men No Hail Mary's EP Fiction OD
- Malhavoc Punishments Epidemoc (C)
- King Apparatus.....King Apparatus Raw Energy (C)
- Eric B. and Rakim Juice EP MCA
- Black Sheep..... Wolf in Sheep's Clothing Polygram

Chart Compiled by no one in particular. C means Can Con. (Bryan Adams is a knob. He has no right to call bands like DHI and Nomeansno mediocre. Try listening to your own music Bry.) CHRY presents My Bloody Valentine March 9th at the Opera House!!! Go and be amazed.

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