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TophOne's mix CD Live Loud & Dirty is available at

It's all fun and games until the taxicabs start gunning for ya, and once you taste chrome and hit that hard concrete, it's a whole 'nother ballgame, lemme tell ya. Once again, the well-laid plans of mice and Toph have been thwarted by an inattentive out-of-town driver. Now I fester at home while my playmates frolic in the sun. (This only adds to my theory that all non-natives in San Francisco should be politely loaded onto a barge, taken out into the Bay, and ceremoniously sunk into the mud off Point Richmond.) So here I write, in the weird hazy sunlight of a very crisp Vicodin high. Call me MC Platinum Pelvis—lone wolf of the dunes and high bluffs of South Ocean Beach. Hear my roar! I call for "Soup!" and "Porn!" and "Little Entenmann's donuts!" Onward...

**1. LOUIS LOGIC "CAPTAIN LOU EL-WINO"** (FatBeats/US/12) This one's a ready-made summertime classic, spilling sangria on your sneakers at a block party in '88. Definitely rock two copies of the instrumental before dropping Lou's verses.

## 2. TA'RAACH "YEAH" B/W "HEAVEN" (Tres/US/12)

Formerly known as Detroit's Lacks and now residing in L.A., Ta'Raach has created a pair of sublime gems for his new home and label. "Heaven" lives up to its name and will bless my sets for years to come.

### 3. CUT CHEMIST FEAT. EDAN & MR. LIF "STORM"

(Warner Bros./US/12) If he wasn't already there, Cut is now officially on the same shelf as Double D & Steinski, MARRS, and "Beat Bop." A big, industrial-sized helping of super-space funk to shock the place.

# 4. PHONOGENIC "FIDDLER ON THE FLOOR" & SHAKEDOWN "FANTASY"

(Phonogenic Audio/FIN/12) & (Panorama/FRA/12) When I celebrate freedom this summer, I'm going to do so by reasserting

my right to play fruity European electro-tech really loud. Get me a strobelight! The haircuts are coming! The haircuts are coming!

# **5. STRANGE FRUIT PROJECT "SOUL CLAP"** (0m/US/12) 9th Wonder shines bright on the subdued and Primo-esque "Special." A perfect, soulful hook wraps the raps in a warm blanket of sound.

Expect great things from Om hip-hop in the coming months.

#### 6. V/A "IRON CHEFS" (Daly City/US/12EP)

Beat phreakery from the Bay Area and beyond featuring Daedelus, Mophono, Mikah 9, and plenty more. Standouts are Mochipet & Ray Barbee's beautiful "Forwards Back," Mitsakos' deep and brooding "Compasso," and Eustachian's schizophrenic "Dotted Chess." Find lots more on the Baby Godzilla compilation and keep an ear on that Mochipet character—his shit is DOPE.

**7. INDUCE "CYCLE"** (WonderSound/US/12EP) The a-side alone of this Japanese-only release can hold its own with "Jazz Thing" or anything on the *Mushroom Jazz* comps, but flip that fucker over and you're in another world—some next-level pantheon of lush emotions and soaring views.

# 8. BEKAY FEAT. ODB "WHERE BROOKLYN AT?"

(Coalmine/US/12) Several factors at work here: Bekay, a young, strong voice of note; ODB on one of his last records; hot production by Konman; future releases from Coalmine featuring DJ Revolution, Masta Ace, Rasco, The Alchemist, and Kool G. Rap.

# 9. SUTRO "HOW THINGS TRANSPIRE"

(Wanderlust Music/US/12EP) "Lounge" is such a stupid term. If I could walk into an airport bar and hear Sutro playing, I just might start flying more often! Basically, this band is what Sade listens to backstage at her own concerts—sexy, liquid, cinematic soul that just happens to have enormous commercial potential.

# 10. AOKI TAKAMASA "D-HOLOC" (OP.Disc/JPN/12)

To me, this is Highway 1 music—subtle, driving repetition that melts into the surrounding bluffs and sea. But somehow, I also have this great vision of Derrick Carter bouncing around in the DJ booth like a damn Muppet.

# 11. EVOLVING DOORS "VEGAS" (Loveslap/US/12)

What would summer be without some raunchy sex music? Thank the Lord for hot, bouncing electro that'll move any crowd.

# 12. DJ JESTER THE FILIPINO FIST "SECRET LOVE"

(Exponential/US/CD) All you 20-year-old laptop "DJs" take note: Just because two songs *can* go together does not mean they *should* go together. Fools think they clever when they layer a couple "obscure" tracks from the '70s or '80s on top of each other, but without the knowledge of irony and context, it's most often just dumb. DJ Jester here knows what's up. He's a Wino, for God's sake—we live to mix Wang Chung into Cypress Hill and make the ladies shake their butts!

#### LUCKY 13. GURP CITY (crew & label/Bay Area)

Leaving a filthy trail of empty 40-ouncers and tagged-up bathrooms from Chico to Daly City, the Gurp City bandits rally 'round the flag of classic Bay Area hip-hop with a big, guttural call of "Urrrie!" Game Tight Electro, The Becky Sagers, Sacred Hoop, DJ Marz, TopR, Conceit, Z-Man, and a slew of associated derelicts are all down, but right now all ears are on Eddie K's *Gurpology* 101,"blowing up scrapers around the way.