

THE SCENE

by chris cox, entertainment editor

Spring Break is almost here!!! Boy is it going to be nice to sleep in for once. The Scene is going to do it's best to send a correspondant to the L.A. area (I wonder who that might be?). Of course the purpose for this trip will be to keep you, my valued readers, informed on the current happenings in the dance music Scene via attending various clubs. Naturally, this trip will be of a strictly business nature and absolutely no personal pleasure will be derived from it (ha,ha,ha!).

One of my goals with writing this column has been to educate everyone of happenings in the area of dance music. To do this I have been doing my best to aquire some of the newest and most progressive dance music from around the country (and sometimes even abroad). What is great is the fact that some great dance music is actually created right here in our quaint little citadel of Las Vegas. Local artist Dino, the gentleman that brought us *Summergirls* last year (and still receiving much play in clubs and on radio) has released a new record. On Mainframe Records, his song *Nighttime Lovekind* looks like it could be another local hit.

Utilizing his melodic vocal style, some samples from *Summergirls*, and the production assistance of local D.J.'s Frankie, Rob, and Hypo Scott, Dino has manag-

ed to put together another great dance track. With this in mind, it leaves one to wonder exactly when he is going to jump into the limelight of other major dance markets. Until then, though, I'm sure that many Las Vegans will be appreciative of his music and wish him the best of luck.

Also on the local Scene is a new release from local singer/actress/stripier/poster girl Bambi Jr. Teaming up with Mr. Freeze they have released a tune entitled *Let Us Entertain You* on Jackie Jack Records. About the only good thing I can say about this record is that Bambi wears a very tight outfit on the cover. It is a rap record (We must admit, that's very original and challenging- please note the tone of sarcasm), and the rapping is terrible, both in delivery and content. There are attempts at some imaginative production work, but the quality of sound (whether it is due to lame equipment or the minds behind said equipment) is generally terrible.

Moving to the national Scene, we find a great new record by Noel. *Like A Child*, on 4th and Broadway Records, has excellent production, great vocals, and a killer drum track. This is destined to be a hit as a follow-up to *Silent Morning*, his release from last year.

The New York sound has invaded my office recent-

ly, and this stuff is great! Most noticable are two tracks on Criminal Records (my thanks go to Apache in N.Y. for turning me on to these- hope you like the Tee.) The first is *Tighten Up* by Wally Jump Jr. and the Criminal Element Orchestra. This tune uses the music from Janet Jackson's *When I Think of You* and a wide array of percussion and production effects. This is burning up the clubs in the Big Apple, and it is doing well with my experiences with it in this town. The other tune on Criminal is *Miracles Explode* by Tina B. Very dancable, very East Coast, and therefore, very cool. There are a few other releases on Criminal Records that I will be going into in the next couple of weeks, so listen up, there is some hot stuff happening.

Mentioning Tina B. brings to mind the new release by Stevie B. *Dreamin of You* (on LMR Records) is a fantastic cut for the high energy club Scene. Once again production and rythm are the key elements in making thi a strong dance tune that is sure to catch on in this market.

Boy, is this week long winded or what? I have stacks and stacks of material that I will be shedding through, so remember to open your mind and ears to the sounds. You'll feel much better, have fun!!!

Big Wow

speaking with him, and I music?
was just this obnoxious kid Mark-Yeah, his father was
running circles around Buck Owens.
him. John-No, he's not.
H.B.-Was your father into H.B.-Gina, you used to be

the program director for KUNV's Rock Ave., has this helped in maybe knowing the business side a little better?

Gina-Yes, I went to a music seminar that gave me a better idea of how to get signed. Plus the contacts you meet along the way don't forget you as easily.

H.B.-Mark, you're an asst. mgr. at Tower Records, any feedback from that standpoint?

Mark-It's just a day job-- No, actually it helps you to see just how phony and corrupt the music business is. It's so trendy, it's terrible.

H.B.-Now you're saying trendy in a negative way, what's so bad about being "trendy".

Mark-This is what I mean by "trendy", (Belch) Like Madonna, she comes out and does her thing, and now there's fifteen other singers who sound or look like Madonna. That isn't her fault, its the business making a buck. Even bands like R.E.M. are getting cloned.

H.B.-Do you worry about falling into that?

Gina-We're still beginning; we're still looking for our own sound.

H.B.-It seems for a lot of acts these days, the IN

thing is to be politically or socially aware. Would you describe yourselves that way?

Mark-Some of the things I write could be interpreted as socially aware. But we also write silly stuff too, like *She's My Girl*.

H.B.-Okay, you say sill, does that mean you don't take it seriously, or does it mean you're blowing it off.

Mark-I take the music seriously; if we like it we play it. It sounds pretentious to come out and say

"oh, we're political", but its hard not to reflect it in this particular artform. I don't profess to know a lot about songwriting, I just write what I feel at the time. Actually, I'm not the world's fastest

songwriter...I'm third fastest. "Count Me Out" came from a great riff and what I was thinking at the time.

"Sitting on top of the world that you made, Thinking you can make the sunshine in the shade"

H.B.-And what did that mean?

Mark-I don't know, it rhymed. Made...Shade, I could have said "glade" if I was

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writing about air freshener. As it was I was saying "Count me out of all this stupidity that our world leaders have put upon us. That's it! I'm Joe Strummer"

H.B.-Looking to reach a specific audience?

Mark-The breathing kind; anything to get a response, whether its clapping or throwing a beer bottle. That girl the other night that yelled, a lot of bands would have taken offense, but we just look at it as at least she didn't fall asleep. It's true we don't run around with our hair spiked or heavy black eyeliner, but if someone else does and they like what we do, we have no problem with that.

Besides we know Gina's the hottest drummer since the Velvet Underground's Mo Tucker.

H.B.-Any future plans?

Gina-Studio work, demos; I still have a few strings with record companies ...we'll see.

Mark-Just to get through gigs would be enough, its always so nerve-wracking, but more like nervous energy-I love to play.

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