

LA VILLA ALEGRE CON LOS BEATNUTS

A.K.A. PALANTE SIEMPRE PALANTE



by Roosevelt Franklin (a.k.a. Vieques)

Que haces mi gente? No sabes que Roosevelt Franklin representando para la Raza? El escritor suavemente tiene mucho amor para the ghetto y la lucha, entiendes mendes? Es lo mismo con los Beatnuts. Para mas anos, han sido haciendo la musica clasica representando this thing of ours. Siempre hablan acerca de Dre, Timbaland, Premier and Swiss Beats, pero nadies lo hace como ellos. Su Sonora unica es colorido y muy divertido like graffiti de los 70's en el metro de NYC.

LES: We're producers, that's our main thing. When you pick up a Beatnuts joint, y'know, you're either a producer, a beat head, you like to dig or you like that original sound, some nice party shit. That's our crowd right there, y'know? The DJ's, fuckin' producers, and MC's that wanna hear beats. That's what a lotta n!\$&z get twisted. They be like "ohh, them n!\$&z don't be rhyming all that". Yea, but we fuckin' write our own shit. Ain't nobody else writing our shit.

JUUU: There ain't a whole lotta people that

listen to real hip-hop. Hip-Hop is new to a lotta n!\$&z. N!\$&z that listen to our shit are 18 years old, 17 year old kids that don't really know about the history of shit. There's a whole generation that's not really into what the shit is really about. This shit comes

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from the beats, like vinyl, beat scientists, n!\$&z that just be writing shit about what's going on in the street. Now n!\$&z is talking 'bout money and jewelry and all that shit. Busy Bee used to do that shit back in the day, but that's Busy Bee. It wasn't like everybody was doing that shit. Now it's like n!\$&z be copying whatever's on the radio. N!\$&z don't got they're own style no more. Hip-Hop is about having your own style. Every group is different, every group brings something different. Now you gotta buncha Jay-Z clones.

En el album nuevo, Take It or Squeeze It, los Intoxicated Demons de Corona, Queens prendelo con DJ Tony Toca, conseguin dinero con Fatman Scoop y bust shots con homeboy Al Tariq. En el cancion nuevo "No Escapin' This" con Greg Nice, ellos rapan los liricos revolucionario.

JUUU: That's the misconception. N!\$&z think that just cuz we be drunk all the time partying that we don't know what the fuck is going on around us. I'm from the streets. I get harassed by police more than anybody that you could possibly imagine. Right around where I live, on the corner of my house; that shit is disgusting that I'm paying the mortgage and I can't even stand on the corner of my block without these n!\$&z telling me to take a walk or, y'know, I gotta move it up the block.

Un concierto reciente en Nueva York van a hacer a la Roxy con Run DMC fuera cancelado sin aviso. La razon por la que es un misterioso. Algunos hablan que racism

fue implicado.

JUUU: That shit is bogus to me, cuz first of all, we've performed at the Roxy before. If I'm not mistaken, n!\$&z is saying that it's because of us they cancelled the show, it's not because of Run DMC. They saying cuz we attract a violent audience or whatever. I think that shit is bullshit. If you ask me, it was something else. N!\$&z know it be party time whenever the Beatnuts come.

LES: Come to a Beatnuts show, it's a house party. Everybody gets love.

JUUU: There ain't never been an episode in New York. The only time there was some shit that happened in New York was when my man got killed and that was in Flushing, New York. That shit was way after the show was already over. That shit ain't have nothing to do with the show.

LES: We just did a show at the Tunnel. That shit was jam packed. No violence, nothing. N!\$&z need to report that shit. "Ohhh, Beatnuts just had a concert last night. Everything was beautiful. They ripped it down."

JUUU: N!\$&z need to fix they mouth, cuz if they think I won't see them n!\$&z in the street...

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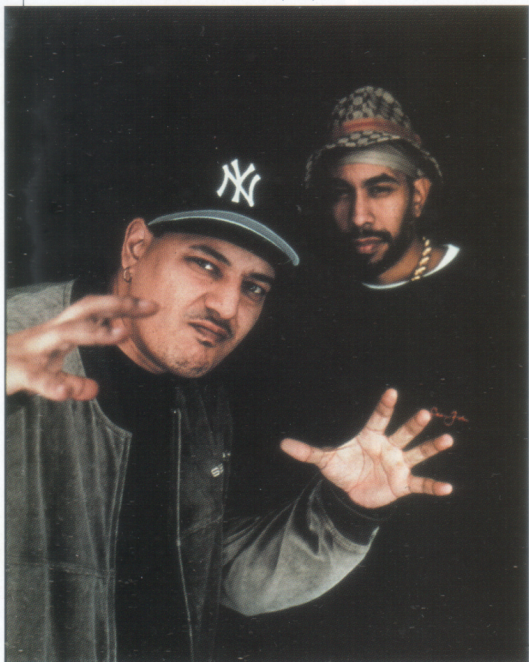
Tienen emociones mas fuerte acerca de Hip-Hop y donde estan hoy.

LES: We come from that era where it's real, breakdancing and all that, when it was fresh, y'know? That's what we bringing to this era.

JUUU: I think it's wack that you got one fuckin' DJ in New York calling the shots, talking 'bout what record is hot and what's not. I think that shit is wack. I think the whole state of Hip-Hop right now is wack.

LES: I think, right now, the radio is wack in New York. I go to L.A. and see so much (else going on).

JUUU: Not only that, man, you got all these n!\$&z in L.A., man, (like) fuck this n!\$&a



(at Hot97) . Fuck that n!\$&a. Everybody all around the country going by what the fuck he play. Who the fuck is that n!\$&a, man?

LES: His shit is corny, man. He don't know shit.

JUUU: That n!\$&a don't know shit to me. N!\$&z be biting they tongue, man. Fuck that n!\$&a.

LES: We DJ's right here. I could rock a party with old school and new school all night long. That n!\$&a can't do shit like that, man. That n!\$&'s corny.

JUUU: That shit is crazy. I'm sayin', though, why all the DJ's around the country going by what the fuck he play. Who the fuck is he? It's like n!\$&z don't got they own fucking brain, man. N!\$&z is pussy. That's why I don't even like talking to n!\$&z, man. N!\$&z is pussy. Back in the days, that shit wasn't like that. N!\$&z be fixing their mouth to say all kinds of crazy shit now (cuz) n!\$&z don't get slapped up. Back in the days, man, you couldn't do that shit.

YRB: If you could be the DJ on Hot 97, how would you fix things. What would you play?

JUUU: First of all, how much money the labels gave me and all that shit wouldn't have no impact on the records that I play cuz I'm a radio DJ. That shit got everything fucked up. Now you got the record labels giving the DJ a record deal? If n!\$&z think that shit don't got nothing to do with it ... They monopolizing everything, yaknowhutimsayin'? If you a fucking DJ on a radio station and I just gave you a fucking record deal for 500 fucking thousand dollars, guess what label's records you're gonna be spinning every time they drop a new album? That shit ain't no mystery that n!\$&z was playing a whole buncha Loud records when he had his deal with Loud. It ain't no mystery he playing all the Redman and all the other shit when Def Jam gave him a deal. That shit ain't no mystery.

LES: You gotta keep it like Red Alert said, yo, that n!\$&z about the music. He ain't into the politics. If it's hot, it's hot. It don't matter who the fuck, he's just gonna play it cuz it's hot.

JUUU: The wrong people got too much power, yaknowhutimsayin'? It's like too much power is held by these fucking people who shouldn't have it or is doing the



wrong thing with this shit. And this shit is our shit, yaknowhutimsayin'?

LES: If you gonna be a DJ, man, your job is to hit n!\$&z in the head with the exclusive brand new never heard joints. I listen to DJs nowadays , every night, the same 4 joints back to back. All day long they'll keep playing the same 4 joints. You a DJ, you supposed to play some beats, yo. Play some shit that I'mma be like "Ohhh, what the fuck is that, what's that shit right there? Ohhh, that new Cappadonna or some crazy shit." You a DJ. You supposed to teach the fuckin' people, open them up to new sounds and new shit. You not doing that. You not opening me up. Whatever.

photos by Ian Sami Hajar

