

MEDIA RELEASE

Feb 4th, 2009

RAPAPORT (Album launch), TRUE VIBENATION (Sampler launch), REVERSE POLARITIES & SKETCH THE RHYME

Annandale Hotel

Thurs 19th February 2009 at 8pm

GOING IT ALONE, TOGETHER: *Rapaport and True Vibenation share the stage to launch some fresh, home-grown hip hop*

Three of Sydney's most exciting independent hip hop crews will come together to launch **Rapaport's** debut album, *Laughing On The Inside*, and the **True Vibenation Sampler** at the Annandale Hotel on Thursday, 19 February. Freestyle lyricist **Rapaport** and old school style twins **True Vibenation** will be joined by energetic rappers **Reverse Polarities** for a night of proudly local beats and rhymes.

Both headlining acts will be bringing a fresh musical approach to their live show, with **Rapaport** performing in front of a live band, and **True Vibenation** MCs playing saxophone and trumpet during their set. Soul singer **Billie Rose**, recently crowned 'Miss Rock Australia', will also feature in the **Rapaport** and **Reverse Polarities** sets. The night will culminate with all three crews joining forces to perform a number of songs together with the live band.

Opening the night will be *Sketch the Rhyme*, a multi-media/visual arts show created by **Rapaport** that incorporates freestyle rapping and speed drawing into exciting games. Six artists draw on paper which is filmed live and projected onto a large screen. The rappers freestyle about what is being drawn through a number of improvised games influenced by Pictionary, Mr Squiggle, graffiti art and animation. Rappers include members of **Thundamentals**, **Rapaport** and **Reverse Polarities**. (Check out video at www.myspace.com/sketchtherhyme)

This event showcases Sydney's next wave of quality rappers and producers, and is a celebration of two great new independently funded, home-grown hip hop releases. To promote the show, all three crews are offering the following songs from their upcoming releases for **free download**...

Rapaport – 'Mess Me Round', 'Humming the Blues' and 'Dope MC' from:

www.rapaport.com.au

True Vibenation – 'Check it Out' from: www.myspace.com/themessageaustralia

Reverse Polarities – 'Sunglasses' from: www.myspace.com/reversepolarities

Date: 19th February, 2009

Time: 8pm

Venue: Annandale Hotel (Cnr. Parramatta Rd & Nelson St, Annandale)

Price: \$12 on the door

Bookings: Through the venue – 02 9550 1078 / www.annandalehotel.com

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Debut album release **Rapaport – *Laughing on the Inside***

Sydney-based MC / producer **Rapaport** is set to release his debut album, ***Laughing on the Inside***, a collection of ten diverse and uncompromising tracks that range from dark, heavy grime to soulful sing-a-long hooks, with a splash of 90s synth pop. This eclectic album is held together by **Rapaport's** easy flow and idiosyncratic brand of witty lyricism, with support from charismatic rapper **P Smurf** and his sister, soul singer **Billie Rose**. The first single from ***Laughing on the Inside***, '**Show 'em that you care**', received national rotation on Triple J Radio for 9 weeks in early 2008.

As NSW Scribble Jam champion and Runner Up of the 2006 Australian Scribble Jam MC battle competition, **Rapaport** was recently featured in the ABC TV documentary, ***Aussie Battlers***, trading rhymes with his grandmother over the dinner table and demonstrating his distinctive, self-effacing style. This hard-working twenty-five-year-old has also made a name for himself as frontman of theatrical live band, **The Phonies**, and as creator of ***Sketch The Rhyme***, a new multimedia visual art and freestyle show developed for the 2008 Underbelly Festival.

Laughing on the Inside features original beats produced by **Rapaport**, **Chris Irvine** (**Suburban Dark**, **The Phonies**) and dubstep duo **Claws and Fangs**, and is sure to bring on a wry smile while pushing the ever-expanding boundaries of Australian hip hop.

Further Media Information

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The True Vibration Sampler

'Truly old school in the vein of The Pharcyde, these twin brothers delivered the most polished and funky hip-hop set I've ever seen from a non-international act. What really struck me was the fact they were playing with nothing but two mics and a DJ, true old school.' – Musicfeeds.com.au

The **True Vibration Sampler** is a collection of five tracks from two of Sydney's most captivating MCs, Zimbabwean-born twins **Verbaleyes** and **Native Wit**. The multi-skilled brothers also produced the beats, played the instruments, recorded and mixed the songs.

Verbaleyes and **Native Wit** deliver a positive message through sophisticated rhymes, a relaxed sense of humour and an infectious funky rhythm. While both twins have their own unique style and delivery on the mic, the tonal similarity of their voices creates rich textures and a natural synchronicity when harmonised. Accompanied by soulful live instrumentation and with broad musical influences ranging from Stevie Wonder to De La Soul to Outkast, the **True Vibration Sampler** switches from smooth, jazzy vibes to synth-based grooves, almost like early 90s hip hop with a funky reggae swagger.

True Vibration's flowing, energetic live show has so far mesmerised diverse audiences from Newcastle's Sound Summit to the Royal Easter Show. Their monthly residency with DJ Migz, **On The Real** at King's Cross' World Bar, has attracted a robust following beyond the standard Sydney hip hop scene.

True Vibration are also a community-focused group running hip hop workshops around New South Wales as part of the 'Love Bites' program to educate high school students on domestic violence and sexual assault as well as the positive aspects of hip hop culture.

Further Media Information

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