

BEST OF THE 90'S: HIP-HOP EDITION

by Marc Macdonald

Wu-Tang Clan - Enter The Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)

Hip hop's best group cd ever comes curtsey of the eight (now nine) man collective from Staten Island. 36 Chambers which doesn't carry a weak song, beat or rhyme, started the empire that has since brought countless solo projects and extended groups as well as a clothing line, comic book series, beauty salon and soon to come a fighting style video.

Snoop Doggy Dogg - Doggystyle

1993's Doggystyle hip hop's best solo album ever released was the product of Death Row Records at its height. Snoop's solo debut used The Chronic's successful formula but took it to tha next level. Tha G-funk sound of Dre's funky beats added to Snoop's hard and smooth rhymes along with the help of Kurupt, Daz, Warren G, Nate Dogg, Rage,

RBX and D.O.C. made it an instant classic.

Lost Boyz - Legal Drug Money

Legal Drug Money was an album that was slept on by many but still loved by countless hip hop headz. Tha Lost Boyz, fronted by Mr. Cheeks and assisted by recently deceased Freky Tah came through on every track. Songs such as "Renee", "Music Makes Me High" and "Lifestyles of the Rich and Shameless" made it one of tha decade's best.

DMX - It's Dark And Hell Is Hot

With growls, barks and hardcore raps DMX brought back the energy to the East Coast and hip hop that many thought was lacking for a few years. Dark Man X used limited guest spots and hardlife reality rhymes combined with hard and eerie beats to blow up on his solo debut.

Outkast -

Aquemini

Atlanta's "Dungeon Kings" Outkast flipped tha script again for their third album Aquemini. With a zodiac theme and bumpin songs like "Rosa Parks" and "Slump" Dre and Big Boi put together a solid ablum that earned them the prestigious 5 Misc from Source Magazine.

Dr. Dre - The Chronic Dre's post N.W.A.,

Grammy nominated, solo debut opus the Chronic brought many firsts to tha rap world. It was Deathrow's, as well Snoop's and most of the other Deathrow Inmates, first record and brought tha respect to tha West Coast that it deserved.

Public Enemy - He Got Game (sound-track)

P.E. provided a hype soundtrack to accompany a wicket movie and show they can hit da shots. Chuck D's attacks on the politics of basketball and Flava Flav's crazy ass rhymes

proved that Public Enemy still got game.

Maestro - Built To Last

Canada's best known MC returned in tha 98 wit Built To Last. Maestro proved that he still gots it and managed to bring hard rhymes as well as party jams, throw in some newer artists and make it all fit together. Although Canada's new breed of MC's are currently makin noise, Wes showed with this album that he can reinvent himself and still keep it bagin as well as real.

Naughty By Nature - Nature's Finest (Naughty By Nature's Greatest Hits)

Although Naughty By Nature's four albums of the 90's are or will all be considered classics, one album with all their hits can't be ignored. The Illtown crew made numerous hip hop anthems and those combined with remixes and harder to

find Naughty tracks make this one of da 90's best albums.

2Pac - All Eyes On Me
Tupac's arrival on Death Row didn't help settle the East/West feud and may have even contributed to his death but it also left us with some of Pac's best work. The two disks do carry some weak songs but the thug songs collaborations, commercial songs, and poetic thoughtful songs carry this album.

Method Man/ Redman - Blackout

Blackout wasn't dropped until the last year of this decade but it was the result of years of teamwork. The duo of Red and Meth always flowed well together and made great songs but some weren't sure if they could do if for an entire album. Blackout proves without a doubt that Shakwon and Reggie together equals nothing but flawless hip hop

Guilty Parties:

brayneel
walker
haines
christie
o'connor
macdonald
muir
murphy

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