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Zine #4 - 81 - Rappers

Joe, Sun 18 May 2008

Rappers

by Joe from E.B.F.

I wanna talk a little bit about the music scene, especially the so-called RAPPERS. Real popular rappers are : Kurtis Blow (the real king); Grandmaster Flash (with the Furious Five or Melle Melle); Eric B. & Rakim. Nearly 80% of the rappers are black people. The rap comes from black people of the USA. The most important thing they do is (of course making muzak) rapping. They rap (or rapp) with their voice, what means that they blow letters with their mouth. That may contain some sort of lyrics. They always tell stories with their vocals (I mean real stories-not those boring love songs of pop-stars). A good rapper uses special effects, too. For that they sample the muzak with or to their keyboards. They often are DJs and scratch (which means taking and play a record and wave it around on the record player). Often they really sing songs (more or less successfully) or add singed songs to their vocals. The business is hard, but in our short-living commercial business there are (especially in the actual past) a lot of new groups coming : L. Keay, New Kids on the Block, Technotronic (but here it is already very difficult to draw frontiers between the so-called technopop). All of the last groups are different from the real rappers named at the beginning : these people are only mixer (better equipped DJs; Bomb the Bass e.g.) I think real rappers are really interesting (especially Kurtis Blow and GMF) because they are comparable with computer freaks (mean real groups, NO lamers). On most of their albums there are greetings and cool sentences, or thanx. Rappers are really proud on themselves (like good groups on the computer : Hi Quartex !) they tell their names in most of their songs. K-k-k-kurtis Bloooooow. And they give cool attributes to their names, like I AM THE KING ON THE SCENE or BEST RAPPER ON THE SCENE. And the names of their songs (like some demo names) are funny, too : Magic Carpet, etc... Often their texts are dirty... AND rappers (mixer-DJs, too) do steal effects (samples) from other more or less popular and good songs or words of popular persons (Kurtis BLOW : "I am Richard Nixon") Crackers steal anyway. Lamers are thieves, too. One of the first mixers, that were popular, was P. Hardcastle with his top hit "19". Then came PUMP UP THE Volume from MARRS. Real rappers (no mixers) are only popular in insider circles. Often if you ask s.o. for those guys they answer "I don't know...". And in the local disco they don't play such songs (a bit popular as a pseudo dance song is "THE BREAKS" one of Kurtis' first songs. Rappers use computers, too (especially drum-computers).

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