

# Stealing(?) From the Best

The DJ CD mix is an analogue to a vanity press or a home brewed beer: the words and alcohol come from common sources, it's the choice of words and small batches produced that make the venture unique.

An opportunity to review a CD of other artists' songs mixed

Disco is not dead, it just smells funny.

A perfect example of this olfactory oddness is an incarnation of AC/DC's *Back in Black* as an extreme up-tempo dance mix.

The addition of an AC/DC song gave me pause as I had thought I had heard quite enough of that



## DISCOURSE

with Bill Polonsky

together by a DJ for use on a dance floor interests me in the same way as the aforementioned book or brew would.

These CDs aren't generally for mass consumption. Certain limitations, specifically copyright issues invoking a multi headed Hydra of law ready to penalize and crush the infringer with the subtleness of a bulldozer in a china shop: the artists' husk lies drying in the wind.

DJ-mixed CDs are a representation of what they do on the job. Adding elements of this and that they create a stew of sound to keep the terpsichorean in motion.

This CD mix, *Live, at the Cap* by dj saint eminent, is an interesting blend of music that I would not normally listen to.

My love of popular dance music begins and ends with my maxim:

song to last me an eternity.

Presented here in its full glory, dj saint eminent's mix gives this old warhorse a kick in the pants with a transplanted beat.

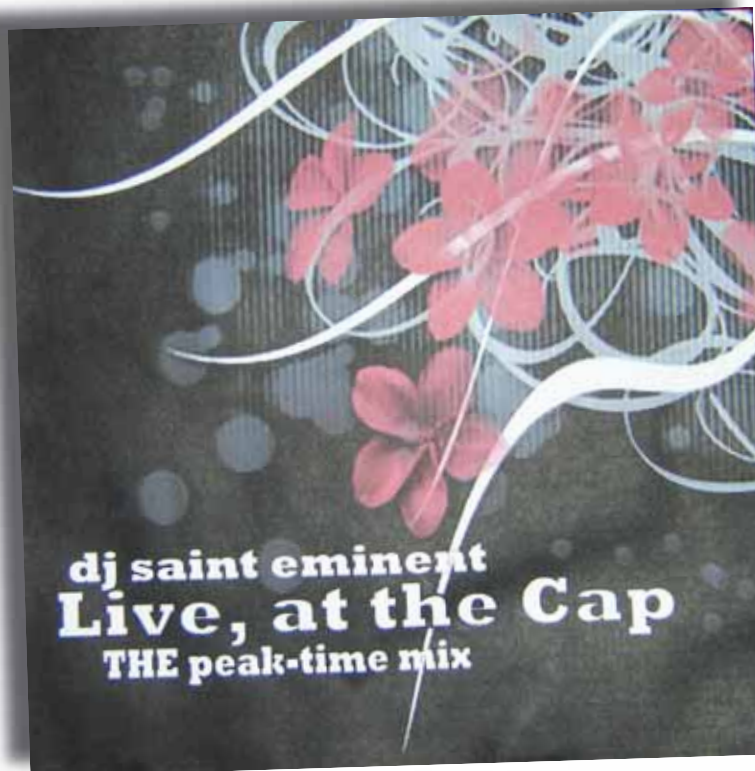
Hearing Led Zeppelin's Robert Plant wailing over a dance beat is another unexpected resurrection that kept my ears glued to this CD.

As with all the material on this album, familiar themes and refrains flow in and out of the mix.

From another track we hear a familiar beat of The Eurythmics in another a mix of *Rappers Delight* and *Another One Bites The Dust*.

The mixes on this CD are a good representation of a phenomenon in music close to my heart called, "Mash Up".

Mash Up, for the uninitiated, is a highly controlled audio train



*Live, at the Cap is a rendering of what dj saint eminent does for a living.*

wreck that melds two or more beats, songs or snippets of lyrics to create a wholly new song.

This is the principle of harmonic overtones taken to a new level. Consider two notes sung giving a phantom third sound; well, fusing together diverse elements works in a similar fashion.

This again brings up the spectre of copyright and its bothersome incarnations. This subject is too large to get into discussion with this review.

My job, made simple, is to look at the end result and give an hon-

est opinion to whether the artist has made good on the source material and entertained his audience to some degree.

I'll reveal my cards on the subject and forward a credo I subscribe to:

"Copyright Infringement is Your Best Entertainment Value".

*Bill Polonsky can be found infringing in the digital world at [www.strangethingsdone.com](http://www.strangethingsdone.com).*

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