

DJ FRESH ONE

How long have you been spinning? How'd you get started?

I have been DJ'ing for almost 9 years now. I was always interested in doing it, and once I bought my first set of turntables, I was hooked. That happened my senior year of high school, right after I met Chris Cutz (a fellow SGM artist). I remember bringing the entire setup home, clearing out my desk and putting the turntables on it. I'm pretty sure my parents didn't understand what I was going to do with them. I do remember my dad asking me when he got home from work "what do you need two of them for?" From that day forward it was on.

Where are you from? How are you connected to San Diego?

I was born and raised in San Diego so I would say I'm very connected to the city. But sometimes I take San Diego for granted. It can be really laid back here; I guess I've developed an East Coast grind growing up in the West.

Who are some of your influences? Musically or otherwise?

Everything inspires me: traveling, people, situations, etc. Musically though, I'm pretty picky. Anything by J Dilla always piques my interest. But, I enjoy everything: Hip Hop, Trip Hop, Disco, Rare Grooves, House. Even some Electro made its way into my crates in the last year or so.

How would you describe your sound?

My sound is party rocking style. I play whatever feels good and gets the crowd going. It's really difficult for me to describe my sound; I speak through the music and am horrible with words.

What's the story behind your name?

Originally everyone called me Freddie Fresh, as dubbed by Chris Cutz and Matt Spencer (owner of DJ Here Productions). But, there were already a few other DJ's named Freddy Fresh, so I started using Fresh One was on production credits. Later, I was in the studio with the legendary CL Smooth and he told me that Fresh One was more "millennium." From that day forward I used that name for everything.

What have you been up to recently? Got your brag on.

I have been DJ'ing all over the place—from San Diego to Miami, Aspen and recently Las Vegas. I have also been working on the new Sleeping Giant Podcast. It's actually really dope and I encourage everyone to check it out at www.giantsarise.com. I have a few new projects coming out this year as well as some custom production work that I am trying to get back into. To get on the list for any of my events or download my mix tapes for free please visit me at freshone.giantsarise.com.

What's it like behind the scenes at shows? You a rockstar or what?

Behind the scenes is being in the DJ booth. Sure there's many perks to this job but it's not what everyone thinks. While everyone is drinking and partying where is the DJ? He's working. Don't think we're not watching what's going on in the crowd, though. We see everything.

Describe a funny or crazy moment you've had at an event ...

I think almost every night I see at least one funny or crazy thing. The craziest thing I've ever seen was when I saw a girl smash a full glass into a guys face, shattering and cutting him up. Blood squirted everywhere. It was not nice. Let's just say I've never seen anything like that before.

If there was one thing you could change about the scene or DJ culture what would it be?

If I had to change one thing it would probably be to show people that there's more to music than just what's on the radio. I try to do that every time I DJ, but I'm only one guy and it's hard to make a difference that way. If more DJ's played more of the music they liked, even if it's old, versus what's at the top of the charts San Diego would be a very different music scene. Other than that I think everything in the music scene here is better than ever. It's easier for independent artists to make money without the need for the so-called "majors" (major labels) due to the advances of home recording and the Internet and DJ'ing is at an all-time high. What could be better than that?

What's next for Fresh One? Plugs? Shoutouts?

Stay on the lookout for future podcasts, mixtapes and most importantly my own stuff. I am currently getting back into the studio after a long hiatus. Also, be on the lookout for Miki Vale's new project. I will have a lot of engineering and mixing credits on that and it's going to be real hot! I would like to give a shout outs to Sleeping Giant Music, L-R-G Clothing Company and all my friends and family that help keep me grounded. I love you guys!

