

DJ SCOOTER

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

Spinning for 10+ years. I always loved music, especially golden age 90s hip hop and jazz. loved to watch the DJs in high school spin but I was into football at the time and couldn't afford the equipment. Went I went to college in Kansas, no one was playing the music I liked to listen to. So I started just playing music at the house I lived at on cd players (not dj ones just 2 regular portable cd players) When I graduated I went to visit my girlfriend in NYC and started to really watch the djs there and just really loved the way they would control the crowd. Went I returned back to San Diego and received my first pay check I bought a pair of Gemmini Turntables and just played with them til I figured it out.

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

I'm from Santa Cruz C.A. in the bay Area but have lived in San Diego since around 3rd or 4th grade. Really love San Diego. No matter where i travel I love coming home to chill here.

Who are some of your influences? Musically or otherwise?

As a dj I was influenced by Kid Capri, Funkmaster Flex, Jazzy Jeff and many other east coast djs. Loved the way they would make the club a wild ass party and the emphasis was on creating the craziest vibe possible not on the celebs in the house or other bullshit.

How would you describe your sound?

It really depends on what I doing. When I play by myself I try to suprise, excite and freak out a crowd. Give them a bunch of classics they can sing along to then flip the classic a different way or hit two real hype songs in a row then hit them with the new hot song. I go through as many genres of music I think I can get away with. Basically I try to be the best party dj I can. I want people with their hands in the air screaming for the entire time I'm on the decks. Anything less and I'm disappointed in myself. When I'm with my partner Lavelle Dupree spinning just house music, I try to bring some familiar sample or a crazy scratch or anything for the crowd to latch onto.

What's the story behind your name?

I've been named Scooter since before I could walk. When I was a baby my mom used to put me in a walker (little seat with wheels on the bottom) so I could roll around the house. Well I guess I was too smart for the walker because I would just get close to the walls and then kick and glide around the room or "scoot" around if you will. So my parents used to say "There goes our little Scooter". So basically that became my name and I didnt even know my real name til much later. Everyone still calls me Scooter including all my family. Don't really consider it a Dj name.

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

I think the biggest thing I have done recently is invested as part owner in a restaurant right on the beach in Pacific Beach called Firehouse (www.firehousepb.com). Two story Ocean view and great food. All the staff and all my partners busted their collective asses to create a super dope restaurant bar. Check it out if your ever in San Diego. (free plug :) Yeah!! On the musical tip. Damn, Let me see. Put out 3 new songs with Lavelle "Dirty Music" Peak Hour Music "J.A.F.H.T" also On Peak Hour and a remix of Mike. Be (L.A. hipster supreme) Crusade which is killing it in the club right now. Lavelle and I have been to Denver, Vegas (multiple times at every pool party there ia), Utah, China, Korea, Detroit, Miami, Chicago, Mexico, Denver, San francisco,

The Groove cruise... there is more but thats all I can remeber. i've been playing on the solo tip most Wed. at Confidential in San Diego (my personal musical therapy session) for the longest running Old School hip hop night in the city promoted by my boys at Djhere.com. Also have done Hard Rook Pool, Fluid in San Fran, Harry os in Utah, Push Lounge in St Pete Floria, Playboy mansion in L.A., Sutra Lounge in O.C., Wish lounge in Dallas and Light in San Antonio texas, ROKbar in Oklahoma (fun times), and of course Stingere, Ivy, and The Firehouse in San Diego. I'm sure I'm missing a few spots so don't be mad if I forgotcha :)

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

Not in my home town of course. I don't think that most people have any idea of where I'm at most times. When Lavelle and I goto certain markets and especially out of the country things can get kinda crazy. Lots of autographs and giant posters. It's cool. Always makes me feel kinda weird. I'm a simple guy.

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

We play an event called the Fantasy and Fetish ball in vegas every year. One year during our set they had these guys and girls dressed like Demons and Vampires with giant hooks attached into their skin flying 30 feet above us while we djed and we were already about 20 feet off the ground. Super nutz! Or when we were in Korea the lighting show was so crazy i felt like I was hallucinating. Look up Scooter and Lavelle on youtube.com to see what I'm talking about. Crazy! Oh...this one time in Oklahoma at ROKbar the spot got so packed that vice showed up to arrest the owners but they ran through the club and jumped in the back of a pedicab and fled the scene. Two grown men in the back on the pedi cab screaming for the guy the pedal faster. hahahahaha. Funny shit.

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

There's tons of things I could bitch about but I try to stay positive and just kill it the best i can. I Don't want to concentrate on the negative aspects. I Would rather keep my game strong and keep doing what i love.

What's next for Scooter? Plugs? Shoutouts?

Next on the travel tip is Mexico again, China again, Canada, Dominican Republic for out or state stuff. Keep doing my residencies I love. New remixs for Donald Glaude and Dj Dan and a few more solo tracks. Really big shot out to all the staff and djs on my new management for my solo stuff <http://myspace.com/Undisputedartists>. Checkout the new hotness!! Also big shot out to Sleeping giant www.giantsarise.com for there support. Also Troy at Bluemoonproductions.org for managing Lavelle and I. Huge shot out to my partner Lavelle for starting me on this wierd house music trip and making it so I never get bored with music. nOf course to all the peeps who come out and support me. I'll keep being a nut as long as you guys keep coming out to watch :) ahhhh!! Also to all the local djs in all the cities i play for being cool. Fortune Music thanks for putting out my tracks. Huge monstrous shot out to Albie and Jonas at LRG Clothing for keeping me in fresh clothes (i truly don't know what i would do without you). Most important most sincere love to my wife Lek for not only buying me my first pair of technics 1200s but always being in my corner. Love you baby. I couldn't do it without you. See you all at hte club!! Peace!!

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