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Interview with George Acosta

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"Traveling to different places and countries every week, playing for so many people-it makes me want to play more intimate stuff," he explains. "I used to play harder. Now I'm into the more melodic stuff. I guess when you grow into this scene you want to play records that mean something." George proves he's a trance DJ that can move onto something bigger and better. "Whenever I play anywhere, I feel like I am at home, I look down to the dance floor and I see my people, they understand me, they understand what is happening as I spin my records." It's a journey that happens week after week, and George is their guide.

USTM: Hi George, it's really great to see American Trance DJs like yourself doing it big for the scene here. Please tell us how and when you got into the electronic dance music scene, and how you settled into trance music as your preferred choice.

GEORGE ACOSTA: I began my career as a DJ at the young age of 15 by spinning at high school parties. I then began to do my own parties which then led me to spinning at many clubs at some of the very popular hot spots of South Beach. While spinning at these many different clubs on the beach, I met a German promoter by the name of Wolfgang. By this time, I had already transitioned from being a hip hop DJ to a techno DJ to finally a House DJ. And to make a long story short, Wolfgang asked me to play at one of his many parties in Germany. After that experience, I switched genres once again and only focused on Trance music. These days, however, I am breaking out of the trance only and focusing more on a progressive house sound.



USTM: In 2007 you were voted America's Best DJ by the readers of DJ Times Magazine, received a Grammy nomination for a remix you did for Fabolos, and also became a member of the 'Remix and Producer's Grammy Committee.' Do you remember this like it was yesterday? What was your reaction?

GEORGE ACOSTA: Being honored with the title of America's Best DJ showed me that with hard work and dedication, anything is possible. As a child, I always dreamed of making it big, being on top and being the best at my craft. For me, winning that title was truly a blessing and to be honest, to be nominated along with some of America's finest was an honor in and of itself. Now to be nominated for a Grammy was a dream. To be even considered a nominee was a great accomplishment for me. You can be sure my work here is not done and I will not rest until I actually become nominated again and win a GRAMMY®.

USTM: Your bio states that you originated from Cuba. At what age did you leave Cuba? Have you ever gone back? Have you considered DJing at any clubs in Cuba?

GEORGE ACOSTA: I left Cuba at the age of seven. I will always have a love for my birth country. Since I left at such a young age, the United States is what I primarily know and it's the place that has given me the freedom I have and all the opportunities I have experienced. I do however have some childhood memories of Cuba, some good, some bad, of course. But most importantly, I am thankful to my parents for making the hard decision and the sacrifice of leaving everything behind in Cuba to start a new and better life here in the United States of America. I have never been back to Cuba, but one day hopefully I would love to visit a free Cuba and see the island I was born in. I would love to go back to my roots. As far as going back to DJ at any clubs in Cuba, to be honest I never thought about it, but it would be cool to work there once Cuba regains its freedom.

USTM: You started DJing at local raves when you were just a teen. How was that experience? Do you recall any special moments?

GEORGE ACOSTA: I have great memories and a good experience from spinning at raves back in the day. I believe the first rave I spun as was many years ago in Homestead, Florida. If you are familiar to Homestead, you will know that it's home to many farms and of course many farm animals! [laughs] The first rave I played at had lots of lights and lots of different sounds. It was nothing I'd experienced before. At all these different raves, I met many cool people, most of them promoters, that ended up taking me from these raves parties to a weekly spot at many South Beach clubs. Talking a little about raves and parties in my past, the one rave that stands out in my mind and one that I would love to go back in time for is definitely the Love Parade. What an amazing experience it was for me!



USTM: Your new artist album is titled *Visions Behind Expressions*. How did you settle on that title? Most of your tracks on *Visions behind*

Expressions are with vocalist Fisher. How did you guys meet?

GEORGE ACOSTA: The title of my album, *Visions behind Expressions*, came to be from sitting down one day and talking with my manager. We were trying to come up with different ideas for names to give the new album. Through that conversation, we came up with *Visions Behind Expressions*, because the album is basically my thoughts and my emotions through the many songs on the album.

USTM: Are you planning on doing any special celebrating for the 350th episode of your radio show "Lost World?"

GEORGE ACOSTA: I believe that trance in America has evolved into a more progressive sound. Slowly, it has transformed from that hard-hitting bass to a more vocal, house influenced style. As a result of this change, I now have transitions over to a more progressive house sound myself. Currently we are working on having a block party here in my hometown of Miami, Florida. We are going to have guest DJs, concentrating on the DJs I am currently collaborating with, as well as those that I have worked with in the past. The 350th episode makes a major milestone in my career. This show started off many years ago in at a local Miami FM radio station with no idea of what the future had in store. Honestly, I had no clue my show would have escalated to where it is now and I owe it all and I am thankful to the fans that have supported me and my show, the Lost World, throughout all these years.

USTM: Thanks for taking the time out to do this interview with us. Is there anything else you'd like to share with USTM, our readers and your fans?

GEORGE ACOSTA: Please don't forget to check out my new album, *Visions Behind Expressions* due on April 4th, 2011 on Black Hole Recordings. Also, under my label, AcoMusic, there will be four new releases beginning the second quarter of the year. In addition to all that, I have lots of remixes in the works with Dean Newton, Richard Durand and Robbie Rivera. I'm also currently bringing under the AcoMusic family an amazing new talent named Niseem. You will be seeing some of my future work with him. Finally, I'm working on expanding my show, the Lost World, currently broadcast on Sirius XM Radio on Electric Area, to other countries around the world.

For more information, visit www.blackholerecordings.com.

Pre-order George Acosta's new album, Vision Behind Expressions, on Amazon



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