

FOUR ROSES RECORDING PRESENT

## ***MOTO CITY DRUM ENSEMBLE***

**Influenced by Soul, Funk, Techno, Boogie and House - creating a certain sound of future**

### **Infos & Sounds:**

**[www.motorcitydrumensemble.com](http://www.motorcitydrumensemble.com)**

**[www.myspace.com/motorcitydrumensemble](http://www.myspace.com/motorcitydrumensemble)**

At the tender age of 6, Danilo Plessow's path in music started with playing drums. With his engagement in a school bigband he found his love for jazz – and from 11 years of age on he started working on his own music using a computer and samples. Being influenced by Jazz, Soul, Funk, Hip-hop and House music, the first results were already released 5 years later on Stuttgart's Pulver Records. Together with Joachim Tobias, Danilo had formed the House/Broken Beat project "Inverse Cinematics": Seven 12" Records, one LP and many remixes and compilation appearances followed. The project was and still is a favourite of some of the world's most influential leftfield DJs such as Gilles Peterson, Rainer Trüby (with whom Danilo just started a collaboration), Michael Rütten or Benji B. After several other collaborations and solo projects in the Nu-jazz vein (Hipster Wonkaz with P. Valentino for Ubiquity Records or solo as Aphro Pzyko for Raw Fusion), Danilo went back to his House music roots with the "Motor City Drum Ensemble".

Taking influences from soul, disco and Detroit/Chicago 90's house, the new moniker soon became his best known: He released five 12" in 2008, and especially his "RawCuts" series made him a shooting star in the deep house scene, highlighted by the internet's house/techno bible "Resident Advisor" for whom he did a mixtape that is soon regarded as one of the best mixes of this influential podcast. In times when even big labels struggle to sell 500 copies, MCDE'S "Raw Cuts" series, released on his own label "MCDE" (run together with P. Valentino) sold a few thousands each, and his other own label "Four Roses Recordings" has been doing very good as well.

2009 started with a 12" for one of UK's biggest house labels, 20:20 Vision, and Danilo now hits the road on a regular again to show some of his DJ skills, which have brought him all over Europe, the US and Russia already. In February, Beatport's team of music experts has put him ahead of the up and coming Deep House artists worldwide in 2009.

Therefore better watch out, this boy's on a mission!

Motor City Drum Ensemble is the house/techno moniker of Stuttgart's Danilo Plessow (Inverse Cinematics) who is also running the new Four Roses label. His deep and techy 3 track EP for Compost's Black label reflects his love for the classic "deep deep house" / Detroit techno era. Very few production units in the world have made their reputation growing as fast as the Inverse Cinematics duo of Danilo Plessow & Joachim Tobias. Their distinctive sound signature blending house, chopped up breaks and jazz aesthetics has already damaged many dancefloors worldwide and propelled them into the limited circle of the most wanted remixers.

Danilo Plessow is always finding time to work on some new material on his own. Besides solo releases on Pulver he also recorded tracks under the guises Hipster Wonkaz and Aphro Pzyko for Pablo Valentino's Faces label and Mad Mats Raw Fusion imprint. Motor City Drum Ensemble concentrates on Danilo's electronic side. Before he started to go more leftfield/broken-beat-ish with

his Inverse Cinematics project, he already was heavily influenced by the likes of Larry Heard, Chez Damier, UR, Moodymann, Mike Huckaby. Labels like Soul City, KMS, Prescription, Harmonie Park and "deep deep house" in general have always been a big part in his DJ sets. His second MCDE release "Breath Control" is scheduled for his own label "Four Roses" and already got big feedback from all around the globe: Mike Huckaby, JUS-ED, Dixon, Âme, Tu Rong, 20:20 Vision, Delsin Records and many others are praising "Breath Control". But Danilo is giving you only a second to catch breath before he follows up with this incredible three track EP on Compost Black Label... this one is a real tekky corker!

## **Resident Advisor – Raw Cuts 5/6 - Review**

It's been nearly nine months since Danilo Plessow released a record in his Raw Cuts series, but the young producer hasn't been resting on his laurels. There's been an EP for 2020Vision, one for Four Roses, an excellent remix of DJ Sprinkles' "Grand Central, Pt I" and even a well-received podcast for this here website along the way. As nice as all that is, though, the Raw Cuts are what drew my attention to Plessow, and I've been anxious to see if his newest 12-inch would be infectious as the previous installment. I shouldn't have worried.

"Raw Cuts #5" continues with the template that made "Raw Cuts #3" and "#4" so special: Plessow stakes out a quick-hitting funky organ lick over a soul sample, leading up to a satisfying climax every 8 or 16 bars when he lets loose with some long chords. Add a scratchy guitar, a diva saying something that I still haven't been able to exactly pick out 25 listens in and you've got yourself a deadly effective dance floor tool.

If "#5" is the uptempo party anthem, "#6" is the slow burner. In many ways, its lengthy build-up recalls Plessow's non-Raw Cuts productions under the MCDE name. Hovering underneath the chiming keys and steady beat, there's a lovely drone that slides along almost imperceptibly that adds a wavering sense of menace to the track. Things pick up when the de rigeur anonymous diva makes her way into the track, but it never gets much past this solid, driving groove. In the hands of the right DJ, though, this should be all they need to build into something beautiful.

Todd L. Burns

## **Quotes about Four Roses releases and MCDE**

### **Prins Thomas (Norway)**

"love the sounds of "prescriptions", need a wet suit and and diving goggles to play this :)"

### **Kristian Beyer (Âme, Innervisions)**

"Habt ihr wieder schoen gemacht"

### **Savas Pascalidis (International DeeJay Gigolo)**

"hey. nice stuff."

### **Ali Tillet (Warm, London)**

"Prescriptions is the one!!...another killer track...will definitely play this out"

### **Alex Attias (Planet E)**

"thank you for this lovely ep. two lovely happy deep house tunes that will fit perfectly in my radio sets and also dj sets. full support Alex"

### **Santiago Salazar (Los Hermanos, Detroit)**

"Thank you for sending these to me. Pure deepness right here. They really sound like some original productions."

**Len Faki (Berghain, Ostgut)**

"Entspannung für die Seele!"

**Toby Tobias (Rekids)**

"nice one dude. like the sound of both"

**Kiki (Bpitch Control)**

"its great, thanks i..ve only found out about your label right now and also, the 002 seems to be a bomb!"

**Efdemin (Dial Records)**

"FUELTA ist grossartig"

**Santiago Salazar (Los Hermanos/Ican/Rush Hour/Detroit)**

"Sun Sequence" is the perfect dj tool track with it's long build-up leaving plenty of space for the playful dj to mixx it properly. "Feel the Love" is a deep, dark track that I will be playing out. Both tracks work good and will get plenty rotation from the Los Hermanos crew."

**Peter Kruder(G-Stone/Vienna)**

"Sun Sequence is a deep bomb... will play this!"

**Alex Attias (Planet E/Lausanne)**

"Absolutely lovely. Lovin this. Will play and support"

**Franck Roger (Real Tone/Earthrumental/Paris)**

"Good one. Will play both tracks"

**Chris Duckenfield (Swag)**

"Have been smashing the new Raw Cuts tracks everywhere to fantastic response and also digging the more electronic stuff, Excellent work : j"

**SIMBAD (Raw Fusion / London)**

"Iuvin both tracks, perfect for my dancefloors & bad ass 4/4 shhh, soundin dope loud, full support!!"

**KARL INJEX (Rude Movements / NYC)**

'As implied by the title, these dancefloor weapons are RAW, touching on the essence of Detroit with dirty drums, ruff basslines and that signature hand-cut feel pioneered by the likes of KDJ, Theo Parrish and crew..'

**TOM TRAGO (Kindred Spirits / Amsterdam)**

`Say yeah, So crazy nice ill play it twice!! This is what i need in my life, quality future disco, with a nice twinke of detroit sparks. Merci beaucoup Faces Records crew!`

**MAD MATS (Raw Fusion / Stockholm)**

'This shit totally blew me away, real Detroit house at its best'