

**MONEY SHOT!**

**Mutated Forms**  
**Ready When You Are EP**  
Grid

★★★★★

A tight box of tricks. 'Centuries' cleverly forges a goatie-bearded trumpet sample with a subtle 'Apache' bongo flutter and the most slobbering bass rotation of the issue. Juxtaposition jewel. 'Ready When You Are' brings dark chords, until a slow-motion seaweed-covered bass-monster emerges from the depths. Blunt blade. 'Lucid Dreaming' is another with low frequencies that leave an impression, with wooden, blood-soaked lathe-smoothed twists. A filthy, half-speed experimental ditty ends this journey. Cone-creasing quality.



**Subfocus**

**Could This Be Real (Mixes)/ Triple X**  
Ram

★★★★★

The second single from a huge LP, following happy robot single 'Rock It'. Ram had a great 2009, I hope 2010 is even better. Those that fondly remember Adam F's 'Original Jungle Sound' will feel right at home with this remix: similar rush-hour drums partner smoothly with lush grand piano rave progressions and vocals singing the title. Fellow LP track 'Triple X' has teeth-clenching keys running incessantly through a polished break and warped bass circles.

**DJ Fresh/Roni Size**

**All Dat Jazz (Mosquito Remix)/ Windrush (Heist Remix)**  
Planet V

★★★★★

Memories of stalwart label V Recordings' golden moments. 'All Dat Jazz' is ripped up and splattered with mud here; the amiable lyrics and acoustic guitar licks remain, but the beats and bass are a frenetic, hyperactive wonder, as a Red Bull-fuelled 'Sniper' break and femur-snapping high energy keys splatter brains on the sidewalk. Flip for jump-up don Heist's floor-pressurising, mix-compatible presentation. Stamping spoilt child bass and delicious dub d&b. Reminiscent of Krust's 'Warhead'.

**Dbridge**

**Inner Disbelief/5th Floor**  
Exit

★★★★★

Hugely classy, distinctly avant-garde producer ups his game with an incisive, widely appealing take and progression on the "aggressively beautiful" field

within drum & bass that he excels in. 'Inner Disbelief' tastefully includes a laidback, but surreally emotional male vocal — simultaneously dreamy and wide awake at the same time. It combines processed, dream state-echoed midnight pianos, a hypnotic beat and droning, warm fuzzy bass slides. Warm bread straight out of the oven.

**DJ Primecuts feat Dynamite MC**

**Warning (Remixes)**  
D Style

★★★★★

No-nonsense remix. Wastes no time in smashing down police barriers to go straight for the proverbial jugular of the corrupt politician. Gut-wrenching, vein-tautening keys cut through a lively beat, made all the more merry by a variety of bass stabs, pounds, skids and folds. Stalwart MC Dynamite lyrically and selectively spits over this frenetic skipper, a sure-bet to be enjoyed on the floor. Full lyric, grime-style booms and roots reggae influences on the original.

**ASC**

**Porcelain/Focus Inwards**  
Non Plus+

★★★★★

Through Instra:Mental and Dbridge's involvement, Non Plus+ is rapidly rising, demanding attention from 'clever' d&b aficionados, those that know it's not all about smashing it to wasted teenagers with fast beats and heart-thumping vibes. 'Porcelain' brings a perceptively slow beat with interesting twists, turns and cool use of cathedral echo splendour. With deep slides of subs, interest is maintained through subtle pads and tribal-style slow vox. High volume brings this into its own. Fathoms-deep.

**Basher**

**Airtime/Biometrix**  
Frequency

★★★★★

The more traditionally floor-orientated arm of Ram Records hits us with a further head-butting release, and you've just got to hear the bass hammer on 'Airtime' that reminds me of Ram Trilogy at their best, almost like 'Mind Overload' on crystal meth! Opens with an intelligently-snipped break that has you swaying and confused, then when the half-grind, gritty bass unfolds the dance, you are musically possessed by a demon of low frequency.

**Lenzman**

**Bittersweet (feat Riya)/Rags To Riches**  
SGN Ltd

★★★★★

Nothing to fault, the ingredients are all there, but may be a little too much of 'more of the same' for those holding d&b membership for a number of years. Staircase-sprinting Amen flutter drums with hints of 'Think' break vox combine with a vibrating musical sub bass and delicious, saccharine coconut-ice r&b-style female vocals. A piece that fresh-faced liquid lovers will adore and granted, certainly gees you up and makes the old hands want to rise!

**Survival/Mute & Mako**

**Traveller/Connexion (The Sect Remix)**  
Utopia

★★★★★

Subtly mental in a stoned sativa style. The icing layers on this hash cake are hazy Melodica organ riffs that add emphasis, while preaching vocal echoes rise. High-grade hallucinogenic dub.

## QUICKIES

**Phobia & Jubei**  
**Cooper's Dream/The Fugitive**  
Coded

★★★★★

Those wanting another helping after the above Non Plus+ release, seek some aural solace in this. Viral two step drumming, growling lizard bass and cavernous dark echoes.

**Pleasure/Heist**  
**December/Moonshine**  
Co-Lab

★★★★★

Bold brass licks and kettle drums strangle frenetic tapping beats until build-ups crumble to a nuclear assault of engulfing electro bass.

**Raiden**

**La Luna/LHC**  
Renegade Hardware

★★★★★

Coming once again with some quality tech, Renegade Hardware is a scene

leader in its field. Wincing tribal drums partner with a speaker-slating cyborg snake bass.

**Pleasure/Majistrate & Nicol**  
**Asylum/Untouchables**  
Nam Musik

★★★★★

Crazily active percussion gets you going then descriptive horror narration, tongue-in-cheek spooky wails and throbbing bass do the rest.

**Sappo/Connecta**  
**Virtual Reality (Dawn Raid Remix)/Bastard Son**  
Advisory

★★★★★

Comic book frivolity. Cheeky Amen snips are a certain foot tapper, while insolent key stab bass and precocious speech snippets raise energy levels to sprinting status.



## D-KAY BRIGAND

- SIMPLIFICATION** 'Dancefloor' Dub  
"Talented Brazilian with a minimal hypnotic workout."
- CONCORD DAWN FEAT RIKKI MORRIS** 'Forever' Dub  
"Stunning vocals and awesome production."
- SPY** 'Camouflage' 31  
"Every track seems to be good from this guy."
- TACTILE & FOCUS** 'The Mountain' Good Looking  
"Feel-good vibes written all over it."
- DBRIDGE** 'Inner Disbelief' Exit  
"Deeper than Stephen Hawkins."
- D-KAY & INTOXICATED** 'The Thinner Edge' Brigand  
"This one's gold. Even for me!"
- D-KAY & KASRA** 'Untitled' Dub  
"Roots reggae vocals carried by nasty bass."
- CALIBRE** 'Let Me Hold You' Signature  
"Calibre is a true Jedi."
- ML:ST FEAT DRS** 'Clockwork' Soul:R  
"Great vocal stuff from two legendary d&b headz."
- TOTAL SCIENCE** 'Skinz' Critical  
"Jump-up with a smirk!"

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