

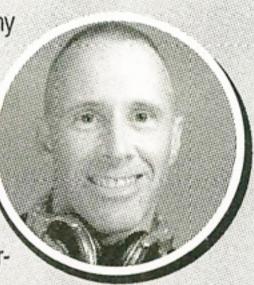
music master

Taking a Musical Trip

BY DJ MARK BISSON

when I am listening to new music is to determine what the song is about. That way, when I am playing for a group of people, I am familiar with the story behind each song that I am playing. A DJ's goal is to tell a story or take listeners on a journey with the music that he or she is playing. To echo DJ legend Larry Levan, each successive song played must make sense in relation to the other.

Susan Morabito, my favorite veteran DJ, was recently advertising her party for Black Party weekend in New York City as a complete journey. Even though I wasn't able to attend, I did com-



DJ Mark Bisson

municate with her regarding the changes she has observed over the years in regard to DJs, parties and nightclubs. We both agree that the whole aspect of a musical journey is to become lost in our community. The complete journey involves different types of music during the course of the evening or party. Warmup music, which is lighter and often melodic, would be played first, with the intensity slowly building to peak hour with higher energy and intensity, winding down into sleaze-sexy, with a slower tempo-and ending with morning music, uplifting and beautiful. This style of playing was created in the '70s and '80s in venues like The Loft, The Gallery, Flamingo, Paradise Garage, The Warehouse and The Saint by DJs like David Mancuso, Nicky Siano and Larry Levan.

The GLBT community has had a major influence over the years in the creation of dance music and the template of what makes a great party or nightclub experience. It is up to our generation, and generations to come, to honor those pioneers who have gone before us by carrying on their legacy.



music reviews

Main Stage Musicians to Rock L.A. Pride

BY JENNIFER CORDAY



THE DOLLYROTS • BECAUSE I'M AWESOME

This female-fronted pop/punk rock band features Kelly Ogdin up front on bass and vocals, Luis Cabezas on guitars and Chris Black on drums. The Dollyrots are signed to Blackheart Records, Joan Jett's label, and are a damn good time! It's turn-it-up-and-crank-it rock and roll in the vein of The Ramones, The Muffs, The Donnas (minus a lot of girls named Donna) and even a little Bikini Kill. *Because I'm Awesome* is awesome, with nonstop driving bass lines (Kelly claims to play so hard that there's blood on all her basses!) and a hooky sing-along chorus. "Brand New Key" is a cover of the Melanie classic, with a punk-rock twist that is brilliantly produced. Every song is great fun, with no time to rest. With songs like "My Best Friend's Hot" and "Kick Me To The Curb," how can you not have fun? Catch them Sunday, June 10 at 8 p.m. on the L.A. Pride main stage.



BITTER: SWEET • THE MATING GAME

They call it Pop Electronica Triphop, and whatever it is, it's groovy-funky and intoxicatingly cool! This record creates a nice loungy backdrop for your next martini bar party—or after-hours date in the sack. It's very romantic. Shana Halligan's smooth sexy voice dances across Kiran Shahani's trippy tapestry of sounds to create a perfect marriage of melody and music. Don't be surprised if you hear heavy breathing, Afro-Cuban beats, a harp, a clarinet, bells, whistles and a myriad of unrecognizable sounds. It's deliciously fresh and ear-awakening. Catch them Sunday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m. on the main stage at L.A. Pride.



JOSIE COTTON • MOVIE DISASTER MUSIC

Movie Disaster Music has 11 tracks of indie electronic poppunk rock that are incredibly artistic and unique without losing their sensibility and pop structure. Distorted vocals, screams, voices and other weirdness are refreshingly off—center, while choruses open up with hooky singable melodies. "Creeps" is a guitar-driven rocker, while "Rabbit Hole" is danceable electronic. "Bridget in the Sun" has a P J Harvey groove, and "Looking For Elvis" has Josie in a barnyard hoedown with real punk-rock spirit! Check out Josie's gay anthem, "Johnny, Are You Queer," on the next John Waters compilation CD, or catch her live on the Main Stage at L.A. Pride on Saturday, June 9 at 8:25 p.m.