

Kante's Int'l Hit Uses Tribal Chants And Bellows

MORE, MORE, MORE: With the album "Akwaba Beach" comes French/African artist **Mory Kante** and his international hit "Ye Ke Ye Ke" (Polydor). This pulsating dance number pumps an infectious rhythm accented by tribal chants and bellows, making for an unconventional yet easily workable delight for dance floors. There are four mixes included here; our faves are those handled by **Martyn Young of M/A/R/R/S** fame, which manage to deliver a harder punch than the others... Next up is the latest offering from the **Todd Terry Project**, which is a fine new remix of "Weekend" (Fresh, 212-724-1440), made famous by **Class Action and Phreek**. This version simmers in its contemporary setting and is more than ready for extensive play once again. It's backed by a standard Terry melange called "Just Wanna Dance"... It sure would be nice if programmers played something from **Ziggy Marley & the Melody Makers**. The album "Conscious Party" is well on its way to platinum, and club support has been spotty. The new mix of "Tumblin' Down" (Virgin) has the potential to change all that. In its aggressive **Hank Shocklee, Eric Sadler & Keith Boxley** postproduction and mix, the song sports more than its fair share of the **Tom Tom Club's** "Genius Of Love" samples and rhythm snatches, which, not too surprisingly, work very well... **Noel** has returned with "Out Of Time" (4th & B'Way, 212-995-7800), which displays a heavy freestyle rhythm à la "Running." A house-inspired mix is also included. The single was postproduced and mixed by **Robert Clivilles & David Cole**, who, as the **Brat**



Party Peeples. Performing at the Nippon 24-hour "Love Saves The Earth" charity telethon, held on the grounds of the United Nations in New York, was Mercury recording artist **Nia Peeples**, who sang selections from her album "Nothin' But Trouble." (Photo: Chuck Pulin)

Pack, have finally unleashed "So Many Ways (Do It Properly II)" (Vendetta), which brings a **Todd Terry** feel to the underground classic in a host of new mixes.

HOT SHOTS: Talented songwriter ("Most Of All," "Open Your Heart") and producer (**Giant Steps, Nick Kamen**) **Gardner Cole** makes a strong debut as a solo artist with "Live It Up" (Warner Bros.). The pop-inflected track has the instrumental and vocal hook of a potential hit. Postproduction and mixes, handled by **Keith Cohen & Steve Beltran**, kick. We prefer the "Club Mix" and "Dub" versions best... What should already be gracing your turntables is "I Can't Wait" (Columbia) from **Deniece Williams**, a song that doesn't try to be anything other than what it is—a terrific pop tune. Williams sounds great in the sincere postproduction and mix by **Bruce Forest & Frank Heller**.

L'L BEATS & LITTLER PIECES: Coming out on Virgin Music Video is "Savage," a visual album from **Eurythmics** featuring all the selections from the album of the same name. The 45-minute video blends conceptual footage with live energy. Its list price is \$16.98... Formerly of **Culture Club**, **Mickey Craig** is readying a solo project... The address of Mute Records' new U.S. operation, which we printed in the Sept. 17 column, should have read Second Floor, 136 W. 18 St., New York, N.Y. 10011... At the end of October, Capitol will put out **Minnie Riperton's** classic "Perfect Angel" album on CD... **Jennifer Holliday** has signed with Arista Records... Atlantic is releasing an album from Belgian technofaves **Telex**, titled "Looney Tunes"... The Third Annual Dimensions Of Dallas Music Industry Seminar is slated for Sept. 29-Oct. 2. The event will be held at the Ambassador Plaza Hotel there. For more information, call 214-828-4735 or 214-826-6832... A&M is compiling a **Human League** greatest-hits album for release later this year. We've heard that "Love Is All That Matters" (which appeared on the group's **Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis**-produced album, "Crash") has been newly remixed by the dynamic duo for release in the U.K.... The forthcoming **Pet Shop Boys** EMI album, "Introspective," is scheduled for release the second week of October. The lead-off track, "Domino Dancing," was produced with **Lewis Martinee**. Producer **Trevor Horn** worked on the cuts "Left To My Own Devices" and "It's Alright." Included as well is a new remix of "Always On My Mind" and some B sides... There have been rumors of a possible **Alexander O'Neal** Christmas album for this year's holiday season.

BEHIND THE WHEELS: Moody techno-outfit **Skinny Puppy** has returned with "Censor" (Capitol), which previews its forthcoming package, "Vivi Sect VI." The single's deadly hook carries the band's traditional aggravating delivery within its grooves. Also give a listen to the more down-tempo flip, "Yes He Ran"... **Camouflage** makes its debut with the very Depeche Mode-sounding "The Great Commandment" (Atlantic). This synth-pop track was postproduced and mixed by **Gary Hellman**.

ON THE HIGH TIP: Making an impressive comeback on the rap scene is the **Real Roxanne** with "Respect" (Select, 212-777-3130). You can guess what classic soul riff is lifted, but with **Hitman Howie Tee's** production, it's done effectively. **Jam Master Jay & the L.A. Posse** produced



by Bill Coleman

her latest effort. This simple and very likable R&B track was remixed by **Taavi Mote**... Postproduced by **Paul Simpson & Dave Shaw** is "Wonderful" by **Rick James** (Warner Bros.), which for the most part smooths out the original with an R&B/house texture... Our favorite track from "The Real Chuckeeboo," titled "Mr. Bachelor" (MCA), serves as the latest offering from **Loose Ends**. The sinewy bass line and mid-tempo rhythm are arresting, while the chorus chant reels you in.

The **Gyrlz** "If It's Games You're Playing" (Capitol) is another of those R&B techno numbers produced by the omnipresent **Kyle West**. This talented trio may get its due with this one, which features a repetitive and infectious lyric hook. Earlier this year we had the privilege of hearing the rootsier original mix of this one—sure would be nice if it surfaced somewhere along the way... **Gwen Guthrie's** "Rockin' Chair" (Warner Bros.) is far in subject matter from the safe-sex theme of "Can't Love You Tonight," but the new mixes by **Larry Levan & Steven Stanley** don't do the album version justice. Gone is the gritty, prominence of the bass groove, and the new Latin percussion and piano didn't mesh well with us... For all of you funkateers out there, check out **Bootsy Collins's** "Party On Plastic" (Columbia), a down-tempo cut that fits in with Collins' "Bootzilla"-era material. A more than welcome and needed return... Also out

the flip, "Her Bad Self," which rocks a bit harder with its "Pick Up The Pieces" rhythmic base... **Kid'N Play** has been pumping an old soul-derived track on its new one, titled "Gittin' Funky" (Select)... **De La Soul** with "Jennifer" (Tommy Boy, 212-722-2211) is brilliant. This rap threesome is not only innovative in rhymes but also in its eccentric musical approach: kind of like the **B-52's** of rap. Besides the '50s-sounding title track, don't miss the more conventional "Potholes In My Lawn" and "Skip To My Loop"... **Marley Marl's** album "In Control-Volume 1" (Cold Chillin'/Warner) has been dropped, and it is a killer. "We Write The Songs," which features **Biz Markie & Heavy D.**, is our favorite. It has a lazy shuffle and the rappers' on-the-money delivery—don't miss it. Also of interest are "The Symphony," which features **Master Ace, Craig G., Kool G. Rap, and Big Daddy Kane**; "Duck Alert," featuring **Craig G.**; and "Wack Itt," featuring **Roxanne Shante**... **Rob Base & D.J. E-Z Rock** have unleashed their album "It Takes Two" (Profile, 212-529-2600). There's nothing as immediately catchy as the classic title track, but do take notice of "Don't Sleep On It" and "Joy & Pain."

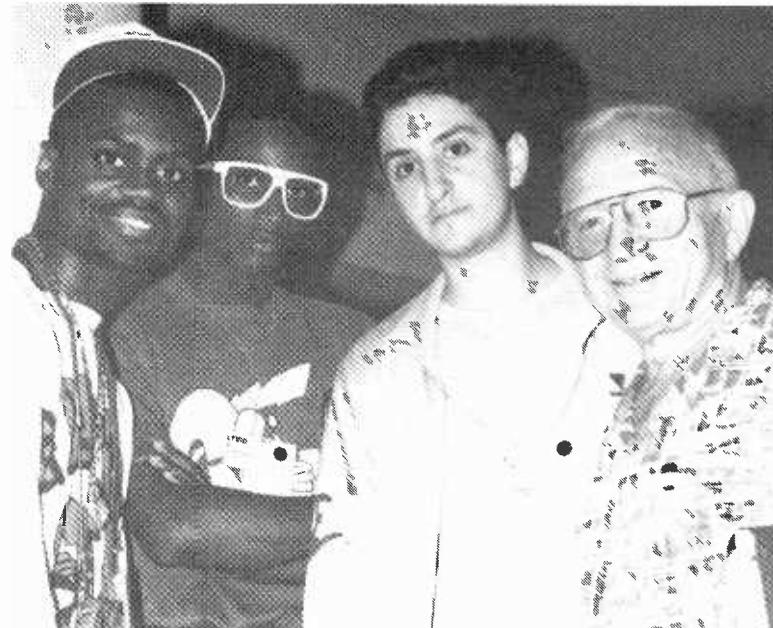
Rhyme Syndicate's "Comin' Through" (Warner Bros.) is a good taster of what the West Coast-based posse has to offer. Our faves from the 10-cut album are the smokin' "While You've Been Waiting" by **Nat The Cat**, "Bustin' Loose" by **Spinmasters**, "I Need A Rolex" by **Toddy Tee**, and the title cut from **Ice-T**. T's own album, "Power" (Sire), is also out now. "Girls L.G.B.N.A.F.," "High Rollers," "Radio Suckers," and the title cut are our faves... Another highlight of the week is "Step Up Front" (First Priority) by **Positive K**, which kicks with its "Ironside" synth riff... Also of interest are "Don't Scandalize Mine" (Coslit, 516-565-4616) by **Sugar Bear**; "K-Mac Saved My Life," and "War" from the **EP 4 Play +1** (Harbor Light); "Wake Up" (Wild Pitch, 212-687-1817) by **Latee**; "Cisco Jam" (Scarface, 415-586-3524) by **A.T.C.**; "For The Lover In You" (Select) by **True Mathematics**; and the new album "Young, Gifted & Black" (Strong City/Uni) by **Don Baron**.

HOT ON A THANG: Something that surprised us was how much **Stevie Wonder's** "My Eyes Don't Cry" (Motown) really pumps in its new remix by **Timmy Regisford**. The comfortable vocal and groove will hopefully reignite attention on the wonderful "Characters" project... Also on the Motown label is **Stacy Lattisaw's** "Call Me," a favorite cut from

are "Tell Me It's Not Too Late" (Virgin) by **Lia**; "Dial My Heart" (Motown) by the **Boys**; "My Heart" (Atlantic) by **Troop**; "Someone's In Love" (RCA) by **Five Star**; and "It's Just The Way That You Love Me" (Virgin) by **Paula Abdul**.

FANTASTIC VOYAGE: What many will find more accessible to program than his "Airhead" is the new one from **Thomas Dolby**, called "Hot Sauce" (EMI). The single bridges a tasty salsa feel with a contemporary R&B/dance groove in mixes by **Richard Burgess**. Included on its flip is the once-hard-to-find "Get Out Of My Mix," which serves a funky myriad of Dolby's early hits... **kc Flightt** makes his major label debut with "She's Sexxy" (RCA), a narrative house piece that includes the hit "Let's Get Jazzy" on its flip... "Get Real" (Island) is former **Frankie Goes To Hollywood** member **Paul Rutherford's** workable foray into the acid house genre, with help from producers **ABC**.

Hot dance producers L.A. Reid & Babyface talk how they scored their string of hits for now-major artists... see page 27



The Old & New School. Rapping up a storm at a recent gathering are super "produca" **Hurby Luv Bug, Lyvio G & P-Fine** of **G-Fine Records**, and **Sleeping Bag's** one and only **Juggy Gayles**, the label's CEO. (Photo: Dina Mastrodimos)

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