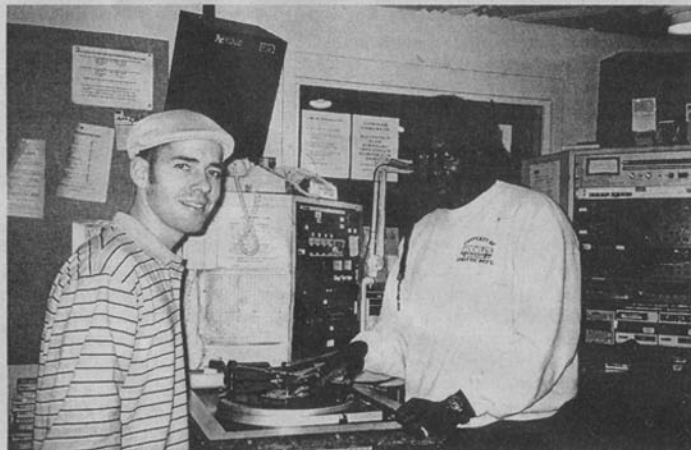




rave reviews

-By Mary Ishimoto Morris



the audio infusion

Give it up for three unsung heroes of the dance music movement! Week in, week out, year after year, Cool DJ Willie, DJ Patrick Scientific and Jus-Spin have kept it real filling the Saturday night airwaves with everything electronic on their live show "The Audio Infusion," from 12 - 5 a.m. on member-supported WEEA Morgan State University Radio, 88.9 FM.

A strong 75,000 watts carry dance music north to the Pennsylvania border, south to Silver Spring, east to Salisbury, and west to Frederick. Given the minority status of the genre, how cool to have a dance music radio show nestled within an eclectic format that includes jazz, gospel, hip-hop, world beat and talk shows, broadcasting from comfortable, modern on-campus studios. There are plans for an Internet feed which would make all the shows available around the world.

The Audio Infusion was founded by Cool DJ Willie in 2000. "He is very committed," says Patrick. "He has the most interesting collection. I always like going through his records and being like, 'Wow, what is *this*?'"

DJ Patrick Scientific aka Patrick O'Neil Person, 33, of Baltimore, graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and Morgan State School of Engineering. He got into DJing a few years ago by messing around with a friend's records and finding that he enjoyed it. While promoting for a music label, he met Willie and asked if he could be part of the show, to which Willie replied, "Great!"

Jus-Spin aka Justin Scruggs, 25, of Columbia, MD, graduated from Atholton High School and has a degree in computer science from Johns Hopkins. He works as a graphic artist and web designer. He fell in love with dance music in 1993 when he was 14 or 15, sneaking into Rise and Fever. A DJ for six years, among his inspirations are Feelgood, Scott Henry and Dieselboy. Three-and-a-half years ago, Jus-Spin was a regular listener calling up DJ Willie every week to find out what records were being played. After becoming friends, Willie invited Jus-Spin on the show and he soon became a resident.

According to Patrick, the night goes something like this: "At midnight we get a lot of older people, 30 and over, who like house music. Willie's usually on at 1 o'clock and he plays a lot of different types of stuff, down tempo, lounge, trip-hop. At 2 o'clock, Jus-Spin's on, and he plays his house and other genres. 3 o'clock is when I usually start spinning drum 'n' bass. 4 o'clock is when people who are still up need to mellow out and we tend to play music like that. The crowd changes from hour to hour to hour. We know the people who call and when they call.

"Each show is very different depending on who is going to be here - if we're having some people take over the show and spin the whole night,

or if we're going to do interviews, or if no one's coming, if we need to bring turntables." "We have the freedom to do what we want," adds Jus-Spin, "we're not restricted to playlists."

Audio Infusion's many past guests include DJ Who, Donny Burlin, LoveGrove, Tzech, Joe Kopasek, Simetra, J-Me, Joey Migraine, DJ Sun, DJ Wish, MC Cy Young, Kev Brown from A Touch of Jazz, Soul Cats (Neal Conway, Aaron Edmonson), DJ Clark who helps on live broadcasts, and Soulgiver with Kelly Connelly of Music Monthly.

"It's great when we get calls," says Jus-Spin, "like, 'I listen to WEEA every day. Just want you to know you guys have a great show.' I've also had calls from children as old as 12 years old, and I'll say, 'What are you guys still doing awake? You need to go to sleep!' And I've had calls from senior citizens. It's really great that we have such a large age range." Says Patrick, "My favorite call was when we were playing house music, and a lady says, 'You know something? My husband's asleep, my kids are asleep, I've had a long week, and you're taking me where I need to be.'"

"My goals for the show," says Patrick, "are to grow to the point where when labels want to break electronic music, they know that in Baltimore, it's got to come on our station because we're going to get it out there. I also want this show to be a springboard for people. I want to see someone from our show be on MTV. Granted that might not be the greatest thing, but I want the possibility to be there. We all are developing relationships with artists and labels and bringing them to the show."

This just in: Joanne Hilburn and Kate Landers have joined The Audio Infusion as on-air personalities who will alternate helping out in the day-to-day operations of the show.

To DJ's wanting to play the show, Patrick says, "Go to the website for information on how to contact us and how to send us music. If you send music, make sure it's clean, no exceptions. All CD's are the property of the station and our show once you send it."

"We're up for anything. I see the wheels turning. The light's at the end of the tunnel and I see movement towards it," says Patrick.



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