

# Trip-Hop Replaces Hip-Hop

By James Conroy

If Hip-Hop's dead like everyone's saying, you'd think Tricky would wallow in its past glory. But as he says in "Christiansands" from his sophomore effort *Pre-Millennium Tension*, "I'll master your language/ In the meantime I'll create my own." And that language? Trip-Hop.

With *Maxinquaye*, Tricky's debut album, as his birth into this genre, *Pre-Millennium Tension* is his coming of age. No longer satisfied with letting the sultry vocals of singer/girlfriend Martine Topley-Bird express his thoughts (as he did through most of *Maxinquaye*), Tricky (Adrian Thaws) uses his own smooth-as-a-tractor-engine voice. But as we all know, with growth comes problems and Tricky is no different. "The older I get," he explains in "Sex Drive," "The more confused I am."

It just may be, however, that what Tricky considers confusion is really equilibrium. Like other rappers, Tricky is in touch with his masculine side, but he also crosses what seems to be an unexplored boundary for other hip-hopppers, his own feminine side.

Topley-Bird becomes his female voice, making him more androgynous than David Bowie, Brian Eno, or Prince could ever be.

This is best witnessed in "Makes Me Wanna Die." Topley-Bird's heavenly voice becomes the primary focus as the song progresses, but a closer listen reveals Tricky whispering the lyrics into her ear.

This is not to say Topley-Bird has no merit of her own; quite the contrary. She takes a page out of Laryn Hill's book, using her wonderful singing voice in songs like "Makes Me Wanna Die." But, she can also show off her skills as a rapper. In "Bad Dream," Topley-Bird pulls off her 2Pac impression, rapping gangsta style, and in the cover of Eric B. and Rakim's "Lyrics of Fury," she brings back the feeling of old-school rap. Unlike Hill, Topley-Bird shows she can flourish as both a rapper and a singer.

Rapper, singer, songwriter, producer? It's hard to define Tricky. But, one thing is for sure, he's as disturbed as any hip-hop artist today, only he's willing to open up his mind...and let you take a peek.

## A New Obscene Classic

By Rob Coyle

What do you get when you cross *Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids* with *Beavis and Butthead*? You get Stan, Kyle, Eric, and Kenny, "four lovable scamps" who live in the a politically incorrect town called *South Park*.

*South Park* was created by Trey Parker and Matt Stone in the basement of Parker's mother's house in 1995. The two filmmakers were given \$2000 by a Fox executive to create a short video that could be used as a Christmas card. The characters were made from construction paper and the dialogue was improvised. The five-minute animated short cost \$750 to make, and Parker and Stone pocketed the rest. The video, "The Spirit of Christmas," was soon being passed around the country via the Internet. Comedy Central got a hold of it and gave the duo a budget of \$1.5 million to create a show based off of the animated short.

They called it *South Park*, the name of the shopping mall world in "Christmas," and the rest is history.

*South Park* is crude, profane, offensive, and down-right disgusting at times. It is also hilarious and topical, hitting some nerves about current major issues. Although its cartoon format might fool you, this show is not for young kids (hence its 10pm time-slot and TV-MA rating). In one thirty-minute episode, the show finds ways to offend just about all of its viewing audience, which is a refreshing change from the normal politically correct sitcoms of today.

*South Park* will resume its weekly schedule on October 29 at 10pm with a new episode entitled "Pinkeye". For those who don't get cable, all of the shows are available on the Internet as well. Just look up *South Park* in your favorite search engine and follow the directions for downloading material off the web.

## City Culture for the Clueless

By Cynthia Moore

A famous historian from the 18th century once noted, after a visit to Philadelphia, that it was "closed". Later this man, Ben Franklin, came to call the City of Brotherly Love home. Today many people look at the town as a historic city, just 90 miles southwest of New York, and about 40 miles northeast of Washington, D.C., but for those of us who live in and around the city, we know there is more to do than visit Independence Hall. There are theaters, galleries, and many interesting eateries in town that have a flavor which is uniquely Philadelphia.

For example, if one is interested in theater that won't cost a week's salary, there is Philadelphia's Arts Bank, located on the new Avenue of the Arts at South Street. Not only is it possible to see a show for about \$15, but you can also walk a half a block west and get an inexpensive Caribbean

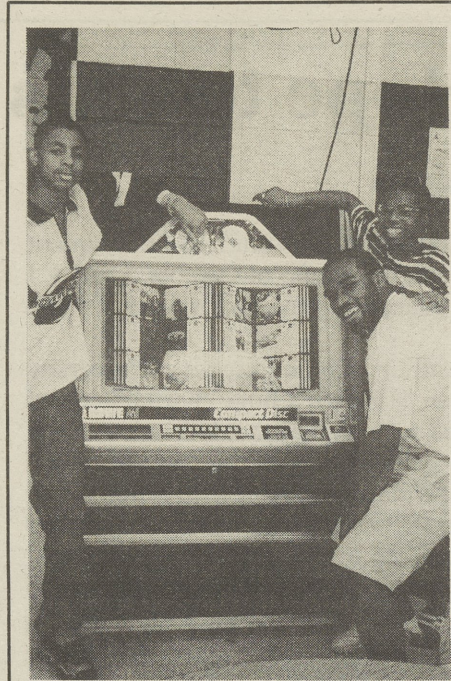
meal at the Jamaican Jerk Hut.

Farther down on South Street is the TLA (Theater of Living Arts), between 3rd and 4th on South. Many alternative music groups perform there. Also, the area is excellent for the number of bars and restaurants in

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a seven block radius. At Third and Catherine streets there is a lively Greek Restaurant called Dmitri's. While looking over the menu, you may watch the chef cook and prepare the food. This allows you to see what looks good.

As for movies, Philadelphia has two excellent theaters, where award winning movies are shown. Ritz



Delco students pose with the new juke box in the cafeteria.

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## Boos and Kits This Halloween

By Justin Hrebiniak

With October here, Halloween is not that far away. And there are different events on campus to coincide with the holiday.

First, the bookstore has some events. On Friday, October 31, free food—doughnuts, cookies, along with refreshments will be served at the bookstore from 9:30 a.m. till closing. Also, there will be contests all week, like one which will involve guessing the numbers of pieces of candy in a large jar. The one who is able to correctly guess the number of pieces wins the jar of candy as well as an item from the bookstore.

Second, the SGA is sponsoring a Freak Week and Freak Fest Thursday and Friday Oct 30 and 31. A bake sale will also be held on Oct 28 and 30 by the Service Corps. The cafeteria is also getting involved in the Halloween festivities. It is sponsoring a "Halloween Bash". Included on the menu are items like "Bat Wings", "Skeleton Ribs", and "Monster's Brain".

For other interesting things be there on the 31st. The cost is 3.95, and anyone dressed in costume gets a free gift.



## Hollywood Invades Campus with Acting Workshops

By Erin Lulevitch

Hollywood has arrived in Philadelphia. It started with the Rocky series, continued with Brad Pitt in *Twelve Monkeys* and currently thrives on with Oprah Winfrey in *Beloved*.

Now Penn State Delco is dabbling with the art form by "offering a free series of acting workshops to all students," courtesy of the Departments of English and Theater Arts on campus.

Conducting the workshops will be Dr. Patricia Robinson, professional director and faculty member at Delco. Her long list of credentials include film

work that has appeared on public TV, as well as award-winning stage plays and public service announcements.

The reason behind the workshops is to "redress a generation of people, who in the last 25 years have not been taught more than just acting," explains Dr. Robinson. These workshops also aim to help students build confidence and become more articulate.

On Wednesday, October 15, two informational meetings will be held. Everyone who attends either of these meetings will be invited to attend the Acting Workshops to be held over a course of five Sundays in November on campus. The first meeting will take place in room 216 Main from 11:30am-1:20pm. The second will be held in room 207 Main from 6pm-8pm. Expect to participate in an informal group or individual reading.

The workshops will culminate in performance of a nineteenth or twentieth-century play, yet to be decided. The production, set for April, may then move on to collegiate or professional competition.

Artistic and creative students can also cultivate their skills in stage crew work by attending the October 15 meeting and filling out a form indicating their interests. Their names will then go on a list for future courses of free instruction and production work.

Student interest in these workshops will aid Delco in building a stronger theatrical program on campus, one that could potentially lead to the construction of an on-site auditorium and a program that could rival other area schools, such as Temple.

Theaters at the Bourse (on 4th street, between Market and Chestnut) and Ritz 5 (at 2nd and Walnut) are culture at a price a college student can appreciate. A nice restaurant for seafood is right around the corner to both of these places on Chestnut Street between second and third, called Philadelphia Fish & Co. The menu borders on expensive, but the food is very tasty.

Also, every first Friday of the month the art galleries in Olde City stay open to around 9 p.m. Some ammeter artwork is shown in the downstairs at the night club Black Banana, at Third and Race streets. There is always free food and wine on every block, but just in case you are still hungry, there is Dinardo's Famous Crab Restaurant just a half block west of B&B.

If all else fails, and none of the above places peak your interest, don't panic—New York is still just a two hour drive away.