

FADER

180 **NEW YORK 2STEP**

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By this time next year, 2step could be the sound of New York City, the club inferno with enough variety to keep the heads interested and enough danceability to get the girls in the door. 2step tracks incorporate house, breaks, R&B, hip-hop and dancehall, allowing DJs to spin all these disparate elements around it's axis. The result is some of the most wide-ranging and exciting DJ sets heard in New York's clubs in a long time.

This new sound comes at a time when NYC club goers are looking for a fresh but mature scene to take part in. It attracts junglists who have grown up and grown tired of a music that stopped being fun, post-ravers a little older and with their pants a little tighter, downtown fashionable types finally realizing that Jigga stopped being cutting edge a couple years ago, plus hip-hop, house and R&B fans who dig 2step for referencing the past but still feeling like the next shit. It's the music most likely to recapture house music's multicultural, pansexual, all city glory days.

The diversity of both the audiences and the musical backgrounds of the crews pictured on these pages is the main reason the New York scene is so markedly different from the style that originated in the UK's urban centers. Missing is the UK garage vibe built on a ghetto fabulous model of champagne and ice. Here the floss and posturing is replaced with grittier grooves and enthusiastic crowds in small clubs, lounges and one-off loft parties that are the only options left after Giuliani's club crack-down.

There is excitement and anxiety—each of the crews know that 2step has the potential to take over New York. They all still make and distribute their own fliers, promote their own parties, attend each other's events, press up their own records and go to Breakbeat Science to pick up new wax. It's a determined DIY network ready to grab the city by its knickers and give a big pull.



+BREAKBEAT SCIENCE

CREW: Sean Shooter, DB, Dara, Reid Speed (overleaf)

PARTIES: Having been booted out of their weekly slot at West 8th, the BBS crew are in search of a new space. "There are few places in New York that fit a good soundsystem, have a liquor license and a cabaret license and want to give underground music a weekend slot."

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT: Revered as America's greatest drum & bass institution, Breakbeat Science's forward-thinking vision has embraced 2step and nu skool breaks, placing them beside jungle for their shared devotion to breakbeats. Their parties, such as this past summer's Fifth Anniversary at PS 1, feature 2step alongside the sound that put them on the musical map.

MAKING MOVES: Launching a 2step subsidiary of Breakbeat Science Recordings, positioning themselves at the center of America's 2step scene through a weekly email newsletter and supplying DJs through their LES shop and online store.

CONTACT: www.breakbeatsscience.com