Smurf - Terror with a blue streak

Smurf, English Terror dj, wears his funny pants quite often as you shall read in this exclusive interview with Partyflock. He's so small you can barely see him when he's behind the decks but he always produces a set that no other terror dj in the scene produces. Blue in the face because of his drinking habits or because of his smurf suit? He doesn't care much as you will read in this interview.

Ok, Glenn. Thanks for having me here in Newcastle on your expenses, especially for an interview on Partyflock. The hotel and minibar are both very nice. It was very nice of you to give me a tour of the city in a blue Smurf-suit.

Ha ha, but next time please don't drink too much so you throw up on Papa Smurf's new slippers again.



Are you aware of the fact

that there has been a DJ named Smurf in the US of A for many years before you started and that he makes Hip Hop music and owns his own record label?

I think I may know that but I think I also forgot that. Maybe you should go to the US arse A and interview him and let him know that there is a Smurf in the UK that will bite his ankles!

Did you know that he's quite popular, and why aren't you as popular as that Hip Hop-DJ?

Because the only thing I can scratch is my blue willy after a night out in the Blue Light District of Smurfsterdam.

I've read that you started playing records before the '90's had even started, you're quite old than!

I'm not that old; I am only 23 because I have been counting backwards for 10 years. When I was in my final years at school in the late 1980's I was into hip hop music – Public Enemy, Run DMC, LL cool J etc. I was fascinated with all the scratching and turntable tricks the DJ's were doing and wanted to do that. When I got my first turntables I realised my hands were too small to perform scratching tricks so I tried different things that my hands could do.

Have you always played this style of music and when/why did you decide to play Terror?

I have always liked music that was different to what was popular. My earliest memory's of this is from 1980 when I was 8 years old. I can remember one day thinking that every song that I heard was to do with love. Then I heard a band called Adam & The Ants and there songs and music was totally different to anything I had heard. I didn't really understand what the lyrics meant but I knew they didn't always sing about love. I followed them and heard their 'AntRap' track, which was like Hip Hop mixed with pop. I liked that 'fast talking' kind of sound and by the mid 1980's I



was into electro hip hop and break dancing while all my friends were still into UK electro-pop bands such as Erasure & The Pet Shop Boys. They all thought I was strange and I liked it! Then came along more controversial rap bands like Public Enemy and I liked how they swore! I used to listen to a radio show on Friday nights in the UK called Jeff Young's Big Beat as he used to play a lot of hip hop. He started to introduce house music and then acid house. I was fascinated by the mad high pitched squelching noises and used to sit on my own at school with acid house music on my

walkman and my friends thought I was getting even more weirdy weirdy and I liked that even more! This eventually morphed into Belgium/German/Dutch early rave and I liked how the music was getting harder & harder with each release. I started playing at a few small party's in houses and bars put I was always a little bit too hard for some people. In 1992/93 the early hardcore (or gabba) as we called it hit the UK and I was hooked on those big kick drums and then started buying the hardest fastest tracks there was. I done a mix tape in 1994 and handed it into Bass Generator who ran the Judgement Day events in Newcastle at the time and he said he hadn't heard anything like it for such a young person. He booked me for Judgement Day in 1994 playing alongside Lenny Dee (my all-time here and I was very very nervous!). The set was recorded and sold 100's of copies all around the UK. Since then, I got booked for the hardest party's around the UK.

When you listen to your music, you can hear a lot of 'funny' songs and samples. While other Terror-DJ's only play 'aggressive' tracks. Why the difference?

I like to play music that reflects my personality, so I play silly songs I like to play something mixed in with terror/speedcore that people usually wouldn't hear. For instance, when I first played Schnappie, I played the intro and people were standing around looking confused, then all of a sudden I brought in a 250 BPM kick drum from another record and played the, both together and the place went so crazy! Everyone had a smile on there face while they stomped holes in the ground with there feet and that is a nice thing to see. I think that was at Hellbound. Another example is at Masters of Hardcore when I played a guitar speedcore track and then brought in 'My Humps' by Black Eyed Peas. No one expected that and I got about 500 messages on Partyflock asking me what that track was! I think it's nice to here the softest records mixed with the hardest tracks.

What's the story about GGM?

How the Geordie Gabba Mafia started. A 'Geordie' is nickname for someone from Newcastle, just like 'scouse' is from Liverpool, 'Cockney' from London and 'wanker', 'dick', 'scum', 'bogface' is someone from Sunderland.

Way back in the UK in mid 90's (when 'gabba' music as we call it or 'early hardcore' as the Dutch call it), some guys from Newcastle made some T-shirts & stickers with the GGM logo and 'Member of the Geordie gabba Mafia' slogan. These were UEP, Rob S & a lad called Dan. As time went on, UEP made a couple of speedcore tracks and

got them released on UK label Screwface, I made a couple of tracks and together with UEP we had 3 tracks released on another UK label ran by DJ Freak called Hard Of Hearing. These tracks were put out as 'Geordie Gabba Mafia', which then consisted of Me, UEP & Rob S (Dan didn't do anything and slowly disappeared). Rob S was a resident DJ at Judgement Day alongside me & UEP. Since then, we (Me & UEP) had had releases on Germany label Suburban Trash (The Killout series). Rob S gave up dj-ing and we recruited Armaged:DON to replace him. The 3 of us then had a big release on another German label called Strike which was entitled Newcastle (UK) v Newcastle (Australia) and featured 3 artists from the Bloody Fist Crew.

1 track on the EP, 'Fuck Me Geordie', (by me, heh) became a big hit and since then, the EP has been repressed 3 times! Unfortunately I haven't had much time to make many more tracks but all that is changing and you can expect 2 record labels coming soon, GGM RAW which will feature terror/speedcore from GGM artists and guests, and also a 'Smurfcore' label which will be limited edition blue 10" vinyls featuring fun terror tracks, similar to what you here me play when I mix a pop record in with another track.

Why did you decide to 'present' yourself as DJ Smurf and even more important why not another kind of cartoon figure?

When I was into Hip Hop I called myself GP Tips (GP is my initials and it's a play on PG Tips, which are Tea bags). Then 1 day in 1990 I was at a market with my parents and in a long traffic jam. The Smurf Song came on the radio and I thought it was a nice jolly song and thought it would be so funny if a DJ



played this as his first track as nobody would expect to hear that at a rave party. That's when I decided on Smurf and also I am small, blue, have a big beer belly and a white head.

What do you think of the Dutch crowd at a party you may perform? And what's different from a crowd in the United Kingdom for instance?

The obvious difference is the number of party's and the size of the party's. In the UK it is very difficult to get a venue for a hardcore party. A terror party will only attract about 50 – 150 visitors but things are getting better. A lot more of the very big happy hardcore organisations now have a harder area for terror & speedcore and they are starting to book more international artists. The party people in England used to be very fussy about what they heard, especially the people into terror & speedcore - They don't want to hear (Dutch style) hardcore in the same area as terror (called hardcore techno in the UK). The Scottish people are crazy and they just go out to party and have a good time, which is what it is all about. Too many people like to complain, as that is much easier than saying something is good.

Everyone in Holland has been great to me and I like to say hello to as many people as I can. Everyone is really friendly and very appreciative of what I do as they can see I'm having a good time when I play my music which makes them have a good

time as well. A lot have the same party spirit as the Scottish and everyone in the world should just go out and have a good time. Leave all your problems and political statements at home. Have some beers, dance, look at half naked girls/men and just enjoy themselves.

Which one is your favourite Smurf?

Smurfette of course! And her twin sisters, yum yum yum!!

Are there any plans to make an album filled with tracks from just you or together with any other Smurfs?

2 record labels are on there way – GGMRAW which will feature tracks for the other members of the GGM as well as guests. There will also be a Smurfcore label, which will be limited 10" blue vinyl with typical Smurfcore fun tracks! I will also make an LP with tracks ...

UnexSmurf - DJ Smurf Will Drink Your Beer
Smurfland Terror Corps -Smurf is a Bum Grabber
Smurphyte - Beercracking
Smurf Elstak - Smurfette Eats Chips In Bed
The Smurfreak - 1000 Beers
Smurfkick - Machine Gun Arse Fart Thru A Fire Extinguisher
Canadian Smurfcore Resistance - Blue Cockrot
Smurfy Dee - Fuckin Smurfstile
Smurfish - Smurfette's Funbags
Angersmurfs - Flash Your Tits
Smurfs Aloud - Im Just A Blue Machine
Kylie Mismurf - Smurfin Around my Bum Hole
Jennifer Lo Smurf - Stick Your BB (Blue Badboy) in my BB (Belly Button)
Smurfina Aguleria - Dirty Blue Twat



Any other juicy news worth mentioning?

On my travels playing at parties around the world, many artists would ask what the scene is like in the UK and if I can help getting them bookings. As 9I think) I am a friendly guy and have an open mind about music, respecting what each artist is doing no matter what there style is, I made friends with lots of artist in a large area of styles. As its very difficult to get a decent venue for a party in the UK, my

friend Boony from Scotland and I got our list of contacts, friends & artists together and formed Exposure DJs. This is to try and make it easier for artists to get bookings in the UK. Because the scene is small in the UK, we don't charge a booking fee and all artists are non-exclusive. We are doing this because we want the hardcore scene in the UK to grow bigger & better. During the last year we have brought artists to the UK/Scotland for the first time including Angerfist, Endymion, D-Passion, Peaky Pounder, Day-Mar, Noisekick, The Speedfreak, Stormtrooper, Sonic Overkill, Claudio Lancinhouse, The Wishmaster, Plague and have also arranged many bookings for artists such as Lenny Dee, Human Resource, Unexist, Ramirez, Paul Elstak & Digital

Boy. All have had a great time in the UK and we make sure they are well looked after. Check out the website http://www.Exposure-djs.org (it is still under construction).

The party Smurfland is coming up in the end of October, what can we expect?

The most fun filled party of the year! The aim of the Smurfland party's is just for everyone with an open mind to music to come out and have a good time. It's been great to see people coming with blue faces and girls dressed as Smurfette's. Good old Cuup has done a good job organising the party and this year a lot more money is being spent on decoration, so expect lots of fun thins which will help create a nice party atmosphere.

Also, for this party, I am bringing the resident DJ's from my Judgement Day party's in the UK – Obsession & UEP. The latest GGM Superstar, Rigamortis will be playing his first ever live set outside of the UK which I promise will be very good indeed. Adventurous Adam from BMH Squad makes his Dutch debut too. He has had released on Industrial Strength & Bastard Loud, this will also be special. I will be performing a back 2 back set with The Speedfreak. My all-time favourite producer and something we have both talked about for a long time! I'm very excited about that. I will also be playing an early rave set with my old friend The Rapist. Angerfist will perform a special DJ set and Bass D will play another excellent early hardcore set. Lunatic & Miss Hysteria will get the party started and Angernoizer & Bonehead keep the speedcore fans happy at the end. So, there is lots of musical variety for open minded party people!

When someone outside the scene talks about 'Terror', the often don't talk about a fast and loud style of music, but mostly about terrorism. What do you think about the name 'Terror' for this kind of music?

I think the name is a bit weird, especially with all the mad terrorism happening around the world now. In the UK it is known as hardcore techno, hardcore gabba, or gabba. I prefer the term 'gabba' as it's derived from



'gabber'. When early hardcore hit the UK, we all called it 'gabber' and when it got harder, we called it 'gabba'. Much like how 'tekno' is a harder form of 'techno' in France. IN the UK, 'hardcore' is referred to as 'new style gabber', but I would say it was 'gabber'. 'UK Hardcore' in the UK is all that happy hardcore singing crap!

Is it true that the record label that 'produced' the Smurfs, once sent you a letter, demanding you should not use the name Smurf anymore?

Haha, that's a good one! In this business you here lots of silly rumours and stories. It is best to ignore these until you here it from the person it is about. A friend once over heard some young kids on a bus saying "Do you know DJ Smurf, he's mad, he

takes cocaine every day". I have heard many other crazy rumours about me, some may be true, some may be not, you decide:

- -UK newspapers reported that a girl from a famous pop band was having a relationship with me.
- -I got send to prison because I was hiding inside another famous pop stars toilet, trying to look at her bum when she had a poo.
- -I was once DJ'ing as Smurfette and someone hid my clothes. I was walking for a taxi and the Police stopped me and thought I was a hooker.
- -Once I was staying at my girlfriends parents house, I was so drunk, when I got back to the house, I climbed into bed next to her father and started rubbing his beard and lips thinking it was her foofoo.
- -I got questioned by the FBI as I send a letter to a famous Hollywood singer/actress asking if I could have her used tampax. I send her another letter asking if I could drink beer from her belly button (navel).
- -One time when I was drunk I was Dj'd naked and was using my willy on the cross fader. I fell backwards and fell off the back of the stage and got stuck in a hole with my legs in the air.

What is your relation to black pepper Vodka?

Ha ha, I am yet to experience this drink! I was booked for Hardcore Gladiators in Peppermill last December and George from Rige had a bottle for me, but unfortunately I couldn't make it because of all the bad snow. Bring me a bottle to Smurfenland!

Are there any other music styles you like to listen to except the music we know you like?

I like all forms of electronic music. In the car I listen to hardcore, industrial, oldskool, early hardcore, techno, Kylie, pop mashups & Slipknot!

If we visit your profile on Partyflock, we can see a lot of pictures dressing up and acting a bit weird. Would you like to comment on those pictures?

Weird? What weirdness is there? I am the most normal person I know! At least that's what the voices in my head tell me!