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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

INTERVIEW: GETTING TO KNOW KNIGHT RIDERZ

Kim Reyes • NOV 5, 2013

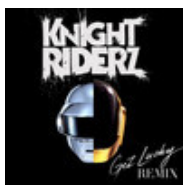
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With the release of the EP *Fall in Love*, Knight Riderz (<http://www.djz.com/tag/knight-riderz>) is definitely an artist to keep an eye out for. The producer from Edmonton, Canada has come a long way from his early days of making music in the mid 2000s when he started playing around with Acid Pro and Reason. Although he didn't really know what he was doing, he found enjoyment in the hobby and wanted to pursue it.

After switching over from Reason to Ableton a few years later, the Canadian producer began to take production more seriously. Knight Riderz (<https://www.facebook.com/KnightRiderzOfficial>), who grew up listening to hip hop, found his start producing drum and bass music. "I liked drum and bass because it was like fast hip hop to me, especially when there was an MC over top," says Knight Riderz.

The biggest standout inspiration for Knight Riderz was The Glitch Mob (<http://www.djz.com/tag/the-glitch-mob>), the Los Angeles-based electronic music trio — "When The Glitch Mob (<http://www.theglitchmob.com/>) first came through, it was everything I loved about my newly found obsession for electronic dance music, and the music I grew up listening to."



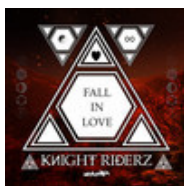
Knight Riderz
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz>)

Daft Punk - Get Lucky (Knight Riderz Bootleg Remix)
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz/daft-punk-get-lucky-knight>)

While Knight Riderz (https://twitter.com/KnightRiderz_) also credits artists like Kanye West (<http://www.kanyewest.com/>) and Tipper (<http://www.tippermusic.net/>) as inspirations, being able to work with Starkey (<http://www.djz.com/tag/starkey>) was a defining moment in his career. As a big fan of Starkey's (<https://soundcloud.com/starkbot>) music, Knight Riderz (<https://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz>) decided to forward his music to the Philadelphia producer because he felt like his work had a similar vibe. From then on, the producer has received much support from Seclusiasis (<http://www.seclusiasis.com/>), the record label owned by Starkey (<http://starkey-music.com/>) and Dev79 (<https://soundcloud.com/dev79>) — "It's just been a great relationship both work-wise and homies-wise since then."

Having previously released the EPs *Million Miles* and *For Real* on Seclusiasis (<https://soundcloud.com/seclusiasis>), Knight Riderz's EP *Fall in Love*, out in stores on Nov 5, is his latest offering for the label. He notes that the production style for the EP's title track followed a different process. "Usually I'm in the studio solo and just grinding away. This was written with Katherine Bessette aka Kahtja (<http://www.beatport.com/artist/kahtja/360756>) present almost the entire time."

Joining them in the studio was another friend of Knight Riderz known as Acid Wash, who helped write the lyrics. "We had the body of the track and melody for the vocals, but no words yet," says Knight Riderz. "Ryan said, 'I keep hearing 'Can you taste...', which, as the song went on, became 'Can you taste my love, can you get enough'."



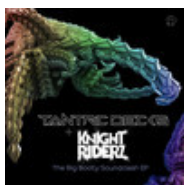
Knight Riderz
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz>)

Fall In Love feat. Kahtja
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz/fall-in-love-feat-kahtja>)

Although the process of writing "Fall in Love" was lengthy in comparison to his other tracks, Knight Riderz felt that it was well worth it. After its Beatport (<http://www.beatport.com/artist/knight-riderz/138242>) release in late October, "Fall in Love" managed to scale the Top 100 Glitch Hop list -- an accomplishment Knight Riderz feels great about, even if he doesn't label his music as such.

"I don't feel like it's a 'glitch hop' track in the slightest," says Knight Riderz. "Sure, I've released primarily what has been dubbed 'glitch hop', but ultimately this is a much different sound."

Knight Riderz would instead classify the track as "neo R&B, or some other equally lame term eluding to the fact that it has R&B vibes with bass and can go over well in a casual chill session, or to a raging dance floor."



Knight Riderz
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz>)

Tantric Decks & Knight Riderz -
Soundclash - Preview (Ou ...
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz/tantric-decks-knight-riderz>)

The release of *Fall in Love* has been the cherry on top of an exciting year for Knight Riderz, with performances at festivals like Shambhala (<http://www.shambhalamusicfestival.com/>), The Bounce Festival (<http://thebouncefestival.com/>), and Kaleidoscope (<http://kaleidoscopemusicfestival.com/>). The producer was also able to find time to collaborate with friends all across the world, and notes that his work-in-progress track with Fort Knox 5 (<https://soundcloud.com/fortknoxfive>) and Love & Light (<https://soundcloud.com/love-and-light>) is a favorite of his. "We spent about six to eight hours just hammering out a song that has a very strong feeling of all of us on the track, and I play it in almost every set right now."

The producer has been busy recording tracks as well, and has worked with a lot of amazing vocalists over the last year. "I have almost enough songs for a full-length, mixtape-style release of all different MCs and vocalists on my productions," says Knight Riderz. "It may come out this way at some point, but I'm not one-hundred percent sure right now."



Knight Riderz
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz>)

King Fantastic - G Sharp (Knight Riderz Remix)
(<http://soundcloud.com/knight-riderz/king-fantastic-g-sharp-knight>)

0.00 | 4.31

While Knight Riderz dreams of working with Cashmere Cat (<http://www.djz.com/tag/cashmere-cat>) ("definitely my favorite producer of the moment") and rappers like Danny Brown, Problem, and Juicy J, he also admits that he'd love to work with twerk star Miley Cyrus (<http://djz.com/tag/miley-cyrus>).

As we wait for the next release from the budding producer, he notes that he has remixes and releases on the way for Seclusiasis, Adapted (<http://www.adaptedrecords.com/>), Muti (<http://www.mutimusic.com/>), and Simplify (<http://simplifyrecordings.com/>). With his career progression thus far, Knight Riderz is thankful for all the support and love he's received from fans.

"I love you all! Thanks for the bottom of my heart for the support, I'm out here doing this and its because of you all. Forever grateful."

Be sure to show your support for Knight Riderz by purchasing *Fall in Love* on Beatport (<http://www.beatport.com/release/fall-in-love/1164080>) or in stores today.

previous
◀ **BASECAMP - "EMMANUEL"**
(HAYDEN JAMES REMIX)
(<http://www.djz.com/news/basecamp-emmanuel-hayden-james-remix>)

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