

DJ PHIL SMART www.junkbeats.com



Undoubtedly one of Australia's most prominent and respected underground DJs, Phil Smart has always been one step ahead and another step sideways. He has a reputation for breaking new sounds, playing a wide range of styles from deep house and techno to breaks and electro, as well as head music and bar room sets. Voted Australian DJ Of The Year at the National Dance Music Awards in 2000 and appearing twice in DJ Magazine's list of the world's Top 100 DJs, it is Phil's passion for music that gives him his unique edge.

With his father a music professor and mother a composer, it seemed genetically predetermined that music would play an important part in Phil's life. Growing up, he tried every instrument he could get his hands on and like all good Aussie kids, was fed

a staple diet of indie, punk, surfing and skateboarding. As a teenager, it was exposure to electronic music and clubs that set a new course, inspiring Phil to save up for his first pair of turntables.

While studying at university in 1988, Phil began to DJ on a regular basis. He soon graduated from student nights to the finest clubs and parties around Australia, a mile long list that includes Love, Sabotage, Tweekin, Happy Valley, Sublime and Home, as well as festivals like Good Vibrations, Vibes On A Summer's Day, Field Day and the Big Day Out. It is an indication of his musical versatility that Phil has been chosen to play alongside visiting DJs as diverse as Sasha, John Digweed, Carl Cox, Adam Freeland, Sven Vath, Derrick Carter and Jose Padilla.

Travelling with record boxes in tow, Phil is one of the new breed of DJs taking Australia into the international dance music arena. Making regular trips overseas he has played across America, Canada and Mexico for people like Funky Teknotribe, Spundaes and Basics, while European clubs include Bedrock, Club UK and E-Werk.

Along with DJ Sugar Ray, Phil is responsible for staging some of Sydney's legendary events, such as Sabotage and The Project, and enjoyed a long-standing residency at Tweekin, the Sydney clubbing institution voted Best Club Night at the 2000 Dance Music Awards and described by DJ Magazine as "coming under the very short list of proper clubs around the world".

His list of extra-curricular activities is just as impressive. He co-founded the respected Think and Thunk labels and has released original material and remixes under various guises, including Earthlink, Altitude and Headland. He's also found time along the way to write for music press, present radio shows, program music for fashion week shows and run a record shop. Phil is currently working with the Junkbeats collective in Byron Bay, producing and releasing more new music.