

DE DUB POETS

VSP 010 E.P. 45 RPM

CHUCKIE PROPHECY

im wuk
innah wan smelly
sweaty
stinkin'/dutty FAC'TRY
innah de daytime
nighttime
earlymorningtime
fuh very likkle likkle money
but come de WEEKENDTIME
BACKSIDE: IM FLASHY FLASHY FLASHY

see im poppin style innah im CADILLAC
watch im pull innah de station
fuh some GAS/O/LINE
watch im as he tips im FEATHERED/FEDORA/HAT:
ayyyyyy Jack: fill she up...
wid a dollars' worth of GAS/O/LINE
watch im as he digs innah de pockets
of im THREE/PIECE/GAB/ER/DINE
an shift innah im CHICAGO/GANGSTER/LEAN

im cussin like hell
dat MONDAY will come AGAIN
an interrupt im WEEKEND/PARTY
CONSOLING/PARTLY
DANCING/HAUGHTI

LY time
in dis here
COLD/COLD/COLD NORTHERN CLIME

TIME WILL COME AROUND
WHEN CHUCKIE'S DISGRUNTLED FROWNS
WILL SEND SKYSCRAPERS/ON/FIRE
TUMBLING DOWN

DOWN
DOWN

DOWN DOWN DOWN
DOWN DOWN DOWN DOWN
DOWN DOWN DOWN DOWN DOWN
DOWN DOWN DOWN TO THE GROUND
IN THESE HERE NORTHERN BABYLON/TOWNS

RIDDIM AN' HARDTIMES

An' Him chucks on some riddim
'an yu hear him say
riddim an' hardtimes
riddim an' hardtimes

Music a prance
Dance ina head
Drumbeat a roll
Hot like lead

Mojah Rasta gone dread
Natt up Natt up
irie
Red red

Riddim a pounce wid a purpose
Truths an' Rights
Mek mi hear yu

Drum
Drum Drum
Drum beat
Heart beat
Pulse beat
Drum

Roots wid a Reggae resistance
Riddim
Noh dub them call it

An' Him chucks on some riddim
an' yu hear him say
Riddim an' Hardtimes
Riddim an' Hardtimes

Dem a pounce out the music
crave out the sounds
Hard hard hard
hard like lead



Lillian Allen, Clifton Joseph and Devon Haughton have been performing their poetry separately and collectively in and around Toronto since the late 70's in clubs, on street corners, at political and community events, universities and festivals.

With the respective publication of their books: *Rhythm An' Hardtimes* (1982), *Metropolitan Blues* (1983), and *Roots n' Culture* (1983), and the renewed interest in poetry as performance, they have stimulated many — including the "poetry-is-not-for-me-person on the street."

Their work hovers in the twilight, where music meets poetry in an expanding form called DUB Poetry. Its roots are the African/Black oral tradition and the realities of oppressed peoples — particularly dispersed Africans in the metropole's of the West. Its rhythm's parallel their struggles and aspirations; it infuses Reggae (and other Black rhythms) within the structure of the poems and often — as in this presentation — is performed to a pulse beat reggae track.

"It sid down pon the ground/dance/prance/and sing"

Enjoy,
De Dub Poets

An' it bus im in im belly
an it bus im in im belly
an a Albert Johnson
Albert Johnson Albert Johnson dead
dead dead

But this ya country hard eh?
Ah wey wi come ya fa?
Dread times
Jah signs

Drum beat
drum beat
Riddim an' hardtimes
riddim an' hardtimes

MI CAAN'T BELIEVE IT

I woz walking down de road
de oda day
a reach de intasecshan
of Bloor an Bay

I site some yout man
pon de line
lookin really kool
an really fine

Ah tek one step forward
no step backward
I sae wats appennin
dey said its a ustlin
I sae but why de bustlin
an dey said Its ah prosti
prosti
prosti
prostitushan prostitushan

Fifty dollar byde our
aftaward yuh tek ah showa
back pon de line
an yuh feelin really fine

An yuh fi really check it out
really really check it out
an yuh fi really check it out.

Ninety eight per cent
of de youts of today
drap out a school
cause dem coudnt find noh way
fi live up to de standard of society
so many drap out fi face up reality
reality
reality
reality

an yuh fi really check it out
really really check it out
sae one day dey shal defeat de shitstym
yout unemployment
its a yout exploitin.

1. CHUCKIE PROPHECY
Clifton Joseph (Verse-to-Vinyl, CAPAC)
2. RIDDIM AN' HARDTIMES
Lillian Allen (Verse-to-Vinyl, CAPAC)
3. MI CAAN'T BELIEVE IT
Devon Haughton (Verse-to-Vinyl, CAPAC)
4. UNITY SONG
Allen/Joseph/Haughton (Verse-to-Vinyl, CAPAC)

All music composed by the musicians and *De Dub Poets*. Iauwata (keyboards), Mojah (guitar, harp), Xola/Chico (bass), Quammie (percussion) of *Truths and Rights*; and Wadi (drums) of *Le Dub Sac*. Executive Producer: Janet Martin. Producer and Recording Engineer: Clive Robertson. Recorded and mixed at Voicespondence Recording, Toronto. Mixdown: Quammie (1.2.3.) and Clive Robertson (4.). Mastering: The Laquer Channel, Toronto. Cover drawing: Kwesi Ahmed. Back photo: Ric Amis. Typesetting: Rebel Type. Sleeve Production: Clive Robertson and Graphic Alliance. Project assistance: The Canada Council. Correspondence: De Dub Poets, Verse-to-Vinyl, P.O. Box 301, Toronto, Canada M6E 4Z3

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