



The Vinyl Word

By Marcus Aurelius / Contributing reporter



What goes on in the mind of Mochipet?

Photo courtesy of Urban Nomad

American Taiwanese Mochipet (birth name David Wang), who played at Spring Scream for the first time this year, will perform at Brickyard tonight and the Urban Nomad 2012 Grand Opening party tomorrow.

"This is my first time playing music in Taiwan and I've had a great time. I had some computer glitches during my set, but Spring Scream was a blast and I saw a lot of awesome bands I have never even heard of before from Taiwan and the rest of Asia. I had no idea this kind of festival even happened in Taiwan," he said in an e-mail interview with the Taipei Times.

While he may have never played music here before, Mochipet's Taiwanese roots run deep. "My father worked for the Taiwan Air Force," Mochipet said. "He had to support his three brothers and my grandmother when he was only 16 because my grandfather passed away early."

Over the years, Mochipet's father instilled in him the values of being logical and pragmatic. "He had to be a very persistent and hard worker," Mochipet said. "My mother, on the other hand, is more of a free-spirited risk-taker and she instilled this in me. These are both very different but important qualities. I think this is what gives me the balance in my music and my life."

When he was a youngster, Mochipet's grandmother would make small animals out of mochi (糯米糰), pounded sticky rice snacks. She called these animals mochi-pets because they were fun to play with and could be eaten. Although he didn't think mochi-pets were very interesting at the time, Mochipet eventually started using the name.

"Mochipet is the alias I use for all my electronic music production," he said. "I adopted it as my moniker when I started making electronic music because of how malleable and changeable I wanted my music to be."

Since he began producing his own tracks, Mochipet's sound has evolved.

"I started out making IDM and experimental sounds and moved on to hardcore and

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breakcore," he said. "I learned techno from Berlin's Ellen Allien and Modeselektor and hip-hop from collaborations with Hieroglyphics and Myka9 of Freestyle Fellowship and Prefuse73. Recently I have been heading in the dance music direction mainly producing [US] west coast bass music and dubstep. I have also been working quite a bit lately on mash-ups with collaborations with artists such as DJ Z-Trip."

Mochipet has had a song covered by a 20-piece orchestra, which played it in Carnegie Hall, as well as a song featured in the video game NBA 2K9.

"I am currently trying to take Mochipet beyond just electronic dance music into more of a full-on production stage show with live instrumentation," he said. "My first priority after returning to the States is to finish my full-length record, Rawr Means I Love You."

What can people expect from the two Mochipet shows this weekend?

"Nonstop good times I hope," he said.

■ Mochipet will play tonight at Brickyard, B1, 507 Jhongshan 2nd Rd, Cianjin Dist, Greater Kaohsiung (507 B1). Admission is NT\$300 for gents and NT\$150 for ladies. There's an open bar from 10pm to 11pm and two-for-one mixed drinks from 11pm to midnight. Students with a valid ID get in for NT\$50 before midnight.

■ Mochipet plays tomorrow at the Urban Nomad 2012 Grand Opening party tomorrow from 8pm to 3am at Building 3 East A (3 A), Huashan 1914 Creative Park (1914), 1, Bade Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (3 A). Admission is NT\$700 at the door. Advance tickets, which cost NT\$600, can be purchased through IndievoX at www.indievoX.com/urbannomadfilmfest/event-post/7952.

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