

Japanese Hip-Hop and *Genba* Globalization

Lecture 5: Oct. 7, 2003

Keeping it real

Dabo: Hitman (2002)

Uzi: (2002)

See <http://www.universal-music.co.jp/defjam/microsite/dabo.html>

"Imitation"

"Doesn't respect
hip-hop's origins"

What is hip-hop?

- 4 elements
 - breakdance
 - DJ
 - rap
 - graffiti

Language

Yo, check it!

Yo チェキッ!

要チェキッ!

↑
yô = "necessary"

侍

"samurai"

Compare: B-Fresh,
East End X Yuri and Rhymester

Utamaru:

- Hip-hop is a culture of the "first person singular."
- Whether music or graffiti, everyone's yelling "I'm this!"

Rhymester (2001) *Uwasa no Shinsô*:

See:

http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Arch/KS/RHYMESTER/m_disco.html

Politics

- Misplaced "pride" in Japan is actually "blindness"
- Youth in Japan must "do homework" or "fail"
- Sony refuses to release original version criticising Emperor Hirohito

The Weight of an Era

Miyoshi Zenzou (2000) *Tekken Gaiden*

Nightclubs as *Genba*

現場

“actual place”

Shinjuku contradictions

M S Cru from *Blast* (2003)

See: http://www.libra-ltd.net/msc/ms_frameset.html

Genba and Cultural Politics

- "*honba*" original place
 - New York City
 - "real culture" of place
- "*genba*" actual place
 - clubs = scene in action
 - "actual culture" not of place but of politics

Rhymester (1999) *Respect*

See:

http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Arch/KS/RHYMESTER/m_disco.html

honba / genba / "complex"

“Besides this “genba,” there’s not “honba
And no point listening to old geezers”

King Giddra

Sora kara no chikara (1995)
("The Power from the Sky")

See

<http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Info/kg/>

from L to R:

K Dub Shine

DJ Oasis

Zebra

K Dub Shine

“It’s always civilians who are sacrificed, even so, Bush sleeps in his bed tonight.”

See: http://www.sonymusic.co.jp/Music/Arch/SR/KDubShine/m_disco.html

New Voices

Fans at "B-Boy Park 2001," Yoyogi Park, Tokyo