



From the bunkers of Berlin to the beaches of Puerto Rico, XLRSR takes time out to report on four essential events for the electronic music fiend.

FESTIVALS: NIGHT AND DAY

At escape R, Cobra Killers, Azucena and Géisa enter the club.

DOPE BY DEFINITION Ireland's second annual **Dublin Electronic Arts Festival (DEAF)**, held October 17-27, 2003, once again Nighttided Dublin's huge talent pool, and brought in well-known international electronic acts. While the city played host to a multitude of events over a 10-day period, the showcase gigs were held at an industrial labyrinth known as the Guinness Storehouse. Over two nights and five floors, the Storehouse played host to live PAs and DJ performances, as well as cutting-edge visuals curated by Pixelcorps and Del9. Planet Mu's *Ambulance*, *Spilloop*, *Floid*, *Decal* from the *Rotters Golf Club*, *The Bug*, *Lowtak* and *Robert Hood* previewed new material, while DJ sets by *Technasia*, *Photek* and *Detroit's DJ Bone* kept the thousands gathered satisfied. The *Firehouse Skank* room provided serious sound system action with a gaggle of MCs and DJs busting reggae dancehall, dub and leftfield flavors. The most inspiring part about the festival had to be the overwhelming support for local acts, which was repaid in full with wicked live performances all around. *Gerald "GIRK" Kelleher*

www.deafireland.com



DEAF Guests

MARK OF DISTINCTION Over the past decade, the global dance music scene has traced many paths to Berlin as Europe's secret capital. Despite brutal economic times, Berlin still supports a web of prolific nightlife scenes—from nu-jazz to indie experimental to techno to dancehall—along with a complex network of record shops and labels. For the past three years, members of the *Ocean Club* artist collective *Thomas Fehlmann*, *Gudrun Gut* and *Daniel Meico* have celebrated the city's indie label scene with their annual **marke B** festival, the largest of which happened November 7 and 8, 2003 at Berlin's multilevel *WMMF/Café Moskau* club. Generously funded by the *Berlin Senate's* department for economics, labor and women's issues, *marke B 03* featured live sets by favorites like *Five Deez*, *Cobra Killers* and *Monolake*, and newbies like the acoustic *Guther* and neo-dubblers *Bus* featuring *Glasgow MC Soom-T*; DJ sets by label reps from *Epitch Control*, *Shitkatapult*, *IK7* and others; and a sprawling label gallery with booths showcasing the city's diverse range, from stalwarts like *breakbeat crew Dangerous Drums* and minimalists —scape, to nu-house label *Diamonds & Pearls* and breakout electronica imprint *Laboratory Instinct*. If you wanna know what the future looks like, this fest is the place—no city loves its record labels like Berlin. *Ron Meacham*

www.markeb.de



MC Soom-T at marke B