

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Traveler '06

After a three year absence, **Six Degrees Records** revives its popular annual *Traveler* compilation series to once again showcase the year's best in global grooves. This latest musical dispatch features a variety of Six Degrees favorites like **Cheb i Sabbah**, **Karsh Kale** and **Issa Bagayogo** rubbing elbows with newcomers **Shrift**, **Bombay Dub Orchestra** and **Niyaz**. *Traveler '06* is a collection packed with exclusive tracks and remixes not available anywhere else. Well known remixers include **Junkie XL**, **Banco de Gaia**, **Temple of Sound** and **Da Lata**.

Track Listing

1. **Niyaz- Dilruba (Junkie XL Remix)**

Vas vocalist **Azam Ali** and **Axiom of Choice's** multi-instrumentalist **Loga Ramin Torkian** have joined forces to create a globe-spanning sound that they call "world music for the 21st century." Known collectively as **Niyaz**, the group's first eponymous release is a hypnotic, ecstatic, and eminently danceable album that represents the best of both traditional world music and electronic music. For these artists, **Niyaz** represents a real departure from their usual avenues of artistic expression. Their first joint album weaves together ten beautiful, mystical poems written by some of the greatest Sufi poets of all time, with music accessible to a contemporary audience. *Traveler '06's* opening track "Dilruba" receives a beautiful dance-floor make-over from one of the best electronic producers working today, Netherlands based producer **Junkie XL**.

2. **Cheb i Sabbah- Esh 'Dani, Alash Mshit (Summer in Algiers Remix -Temple of Sound vs. Cheb i Sabbah)**

On *La Kahena*, Algerian-born Cheb i Sabbah returns to his North African roots, collaborating with some of the most distinctive female singers from the Maghreb. Recording in studios in Marrakesh, San Francisco, New York and New Delhi, Sabbah has added his own "dj Science" or modern aural magic to these performances creating a truly original and groundbreaking project. One of the best received global releases of the year, *La Kahena* has garnered worldwide acclaim including a much-deserved nomination for the **BBC Radio's annual World Music Awards** in the category of "Club Global." This exclusive version of "Esh 'Dani, Alash Mshit" is taken into new sonic terrain courtesy of Global fusioners **Temple of Sound**.

3. **MIDlval PunditZ- Ali (Banco de Gaia Remix)**

Since their Six Degrees Records debut in 2002, the MIDlval PunditZ—the first Indian electronica band to hit the international scene—has ushered in a new era of possibilities for the sound of contemporary India. Their unique and expansive artistic vision marries the soulful elegance of South Asia's extraordinarily rich traditional and classical music heritage with the exuberance and limitless potential of modern Western electronic music. A remix trade with label mate Banco de Gaia resulted in this exciting new mix of the track "Ali", the original version of which can be found on the PunditZ second release, *MIDlval Times*.

4. **Dierdre- Firefly (Waxhopper's New Skool Remix)**

After a decade of collaboration with the ambitious, far-reaching world music ensemble **Ekova**, *One* marks Dierdre's emergence as an artist making her first solo creative statement. With her former band, Dierdre had come to worldwide renown for her imaginative, wordless vocal flights of fancy, set against music that combined old-world textures with new-world technology, bridging the gaps between ancient and modern, East and West. With *One*, Dierdre moves into deeper electronic territory finding new soundscapes to frame her unmistakable voice. Producer and remixer Waxhopper adds funky electro breaks to this exclusive version of "Firefly" which won him first prize in **Acid Planet's** Dierdre remix competition.

5. **Issa Bagayogo- Touba (Kabanjak Remix)**

Malian singer/songwriter Issa Bagayogo is keenly aware of the rich tradition of his homeland; in addition to his velvety-smooth vocals, he plays the traditional 6-string lute called the kamélé n' goni'. Bagayogo is also a thoroughly modern musician centered in the genre the locals call Afro-electro. On his third release *Tassoumakan*, Bagayogo combines his roots-based, acoustic textures with the sounds of dub and electronic dance music. The result is one of the most distinctive and personal blends of traditional West African music and modern electronica you will find, in or out of Africa. German-based producer and member of the Switchstance label posse, Kabanjak provided this remix of "Touba" which takes the track into electronic dance-hall territory.

6. **Karsh Kale- Manifest (Yossi Fine's Excentric Remix)**

Karsh Kale has honed his music and producing skills in collaborations with **Herbie Hancock**, **Sting**, **System of a Down's Serj Tankian**, Moroccan master **Hassan Hakmoun**, Senegalese superstar **Baaba Maal**, and Ethiopian pop singer **Gigi**. He's a charter member of the super group **Tabla Beat Science**, playing and collaborating with **Zakir Hussain**, **Ustad Sultan Khan** and **Bill Laswell**. Kale taught himself to play the tabla, the tuned pair of hand drums used in Indian music, by listening to Zakir Hussain. On **Broken English**, Karsh balances his Indian heritage with rock and roll, hip-hop and atmospheric pop for his most diverse release to date. On his latest CD, Kale works with a talented cast of collaborators including **MC Napolean Solo** on "Manifest." Dub bass master and **Excentric Sound System** leader, **Yossi Fine** helped mix *Broken English* and provided us with this exclusive remix of the album's powerful opening track.

7. **Shrift- As Far As I Can See (Da Lata Remix)**

The aptly titled *Lost in a Moment* is Shrift's first album, but it's hardly a debut for the group's two members, vocalist and songwriter **Nina Miranda** and multi-texturalist/producer **Dennis Wheatley**. Miranda is a charter member of the celebrated British group **Smoke City**, which has scored European hits with its unique blend of bossa nova, trip hop, jazz, reggae and funk. Miranda has lent her unique voice and words to projects by such world music luminaries as **Bebel Gilberto**, **Nitin Sawhney**, **Daniel Jobim**, **Jah Wobble** and **Da Lata**. Her singing style was formed by a variety of influences, most obviously the divided childhood she spent shuttling between homes in Britain and Brazil. Wheatley is best known for his work with **Atlas**, a British electro band with a history of taking existing elements (Brazilian singers, string quartets, **Randy Newman's** "Baltimore") and whipping them up into delectably, danceably new ethno-electro mixtures. Brazilian Nu-Groove pioneers **Dalata** bring us this exclusive re-rub of "As Far As I Can See" bringing new "samba swing" to this lovely track.

8. **Bossacucanova- Eu Quiero Um Samba**

DJ Marcelinho DaLua, bassist **Márcio Menescal** and keyboardist **Alexandre Moreira** burst onto the international dance music scene in 1999 with **Revisited Classics**, a collection of both new and old bossa nova songs given new life and vigor through the application of funky breakbeats, skillful turntablism, electronic manipulation and adventurous mixology. Bossacucanova's approach to Euro-Brazilian fusion is unusually respectful of their home country's traditions, putting the bossa first and the electronica second. **Uma Batida Diferente** is Bossacucanova's third album for Ziriguiboom/Six Degrees Records and it's their most satisfying and fully integrated effort yet. "Eu Quiero Um Samba" is a previously unreleased track from that CD's sessions.

9. **The Real Tuesday Weld- I Love the Rain (Acid Rain Mix)**

This modern-day electronic cabaret singer-songwriter, whose given name is **Stephen Coates**, has crafted a unique new sound, informed by **Al Bowlly**, **Serge Gainsbourg**, **Ennio Morricone** as well as modern electronica. On his second Six Degrees Records release, **The Return of the Clerkenwell Kid**, The Real Tuesday Weld brings us to a place where warmth and light chase away the grey English skies. A place where melody and swing never went out of style. This charming new mix of "I Love the Rain" was created by Stephen Coates.

10. **Bombay Dub Orchestra Mumtaz (The Ornament of the Palace Mix)**

The Bombay Dub Orchestra is the brainchild of two English musicians, **Garry Hughes (Bjork, Art of Noise, Sly & Robbie)** and orchestrator **Andrew T. Mackay**, who wanted to make the ultimate chill-out album by using an Indian orchestra and soloists. By combining the beautiful sounds of ambient electronica with a **28 piece Bollywood orchestra** the two have crafted a new kind of lush, symphonic "chill" music. Garry and Andrew created this remix of "Mumtaz" exclusively for *Traveler '06*.

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