

Q&A with DKR – Mon 10/04/2006

(Feel free to transcribe from this Q&A for any articles on the group You wish to write.)

Q1 *Hey guys, glad to finally catch up with You. **What's good?***

Life, life. Thank You for the continued support. We're really feeling the cooperative spirit all citizens have been showing out on road, plus welcome all new citizens.

Q2 *Seen, seen. So for the benefit of those reading about Y'all for the first time, could You guys **explain the meaning behind this citizen concept and chat...***

Well, being honest, it's nothing too deep. DKR is about a nation beyond physical or man made borders. People become citizens by conscious choice. If You choose to live outside of imposed divisions, DKR can be a step on Your journey back to Unity. Citizens are all who support or interact with this pursuit.

Q3 *Cool. This could **sound very complicated to a 'layman'...** Don't You think this could leave You guys pretty **misunderstood in day to day terms?***

Well, I'll break it down like this; among the enslaved, not all slaves realize they're slaves. Secondly, not all slaves who do know they're slaves appreciate how their state of enslavement actually impacts their state of being. Furthermore, among those who do understand their slave state, some continue to live in denial or acceptance of this condition. Then You have those slaves who actually embrace and accept their enslaved condition, reveling in it even, taking full advantage of any space they can get within this state. Along with these, there are those who, upon understanding their enslaved state, find it hard to continue as before under the burden of this knowledge. Now within this group, some will continue to grudgingly labor, but under the burden of this dissent. Then there are those who are endeavoring to seek their freedom, and often, that of those around them... BUT beyond these, there is another group. These are those that have attained freedom. But not freedom that is given by the master or proclaimed... But true freedom, freedom that can only be found by seeking on the deeper mental and conscience levels. These are they who realize that, even the line of slave and master is an illusion, as both are equal manifestations of the same conscience.

Right...

So DKR is just one face within the community of those who are striving to embrace this unity beyond physical differences. Living to embrace our full potential, in our being part of the same conscience.

Q4 *Ah, cool, cool. Clearer! So **how did the music begin for you? What factors made You pursue music as a career?***

Well to be honest, music isn't really a career for us. Its just one of the many avenues we use to express ourselves. I mean in general, we don't ascribe to the concept of a 'career,' anyway. We are all beings of such diverse potential that to narrow each's focus to just one ability, would weaken the Republic's collective strength. Alienating people from their multiple abilities and teaching them the illusion of specialized narrow 'careers,' is actually a tool that's helping those who are actually united in their purpose, maintain the division that's keeping us dependent on their system.

Q5 *I'm starting to understand Your theme of Unity over division. I would assume this **characterizes Your musical and writing style? Is this the recurring theme running through Your music?***

Give thanks, for sure, unity is a key theme. Its cos there's real irony in our current existence. We're all common conscience, of the same source... yet we continue to live subject to the illusion of differences. United we fall, divided we stand... We all came from the same land. Thus as an extension, our theme is this common source, (whatever each calls it,) and encouraging a thirst to grow closer to it, achieving our potential to be like it.

Q6 *So what and who are your musical influences?*

Well, we grew up on a lot of hiphop, but especially liked the hiphop that was about giving back. We were fortunate enough to have access to hiphop in which MCs were talking about things that challenged us to go away and educate ourselves. We appreciated the side to hiphop that was about self-improvement beyond cashing cheques. Many of us started out in different parts of the world, where the music that ended up reaching our ears was usually that which had some universal relevance, (before it was Universally marketed!) So from loving the breaks our brothers in the States were sampling off other music style forms, like funk, jazz, blues... we grew to explore these other forms in their own right... beyond the loops. And so following intuition, we were able to trace the music back all the way to its source, to where it all began... And hey, what do You know, it was back with us! So now we are influenced by us, They.

Q7 *You brothers are deep! Lol! You must get bare girls with all this kind of chat! (Laughter) But on the real, how have people **received** Y'all and Your music **so far**?*

Well on the real so far, everything has been bless. I mean, to be honest our approach to music is way simpler than our approach to interviews. (Laughter) We perform and record the music to 'give,' something, to share. So any perceivable self-indulgence is only as far as it is our labour to try articulate what we want to express, in as simple and accessible a way as possible.

Q7 *Seen, so a message. **How does the concept of entertaining factor into this?***

Come see us live, in motion. I mean to in order to divert attention to what we are attempting to share means we aim to entertain. To make people dance or move to our music is to have them mirror and share in the expression. We definitely want that.

Q8 *Wow, there're a lot of things You've said which raise issues I've never given much thought to previously. I've heard **Rhythm & Prose**, and personally I think it's up there among projects that though having a hiphop leaning, seem to aspire to something more. I'm not into all the joints, but around the office, we tend to agree there's something for everyone on there.*

Give thanks, give thanks.

*Revolutionary Psalms is my joint! But yea, **what did Y'all set out to achieve with the Rhythm & Prose project?***

Rhythm and Prose represents a certain stage in our devolution back to source, cos we are always growing and gaining understanding. So that the record is a snapshot of the state of the Republic at the time it was put down, (circa 05/2003) We were just trying to capture the growth we were beginning to open up to, and share it in one other way. Since then, we've stayed moving closer to unity, with the past there to give context to our choices.

Q9 *Wow, so the record is timeless yo! Plus it's actually a coherent 'album,' and even if there were some elements that didn't suit my usual preferences, I came away with a lot of respect for joint. So well done. Moving on, we all know the Rap/Hiphop, in fact music in general, **market is real saturated** right now. What makes **You** think You will **stand out** within all this?*

Blessings. Thanks to the Source, who creates and allows us to reCreate. But yeah, to Your question, by virtue of the fact that we are not rappers... We are not really in this market You speak of, in the sense that we don't really aim to SELL our music... We actually seek the SUPPORT of citizens in growing the movement. Come see us live, walk with us. Break bread.

*Q10 One thing though, seeing that most of You lot currently reside in the **UK**, or since the project seems to have been recorded here, **what's with** You lot's **accents**!?*
*(Laughter) I mean, not being stereotypical or anything but... **yankee***

(Lol) Well man, to be honest that's a minor. And anyone paying close attention to everything proceeding in this convo will know what time it is. Accent, just like language itself, is only another product of conditioning. We grew up all over the world, learning various native languages, at the expense of our actual universal language, i.e. our telepathic ability. At some stage, many of us have been inculturated into speaking this prevalent, colonial language, English. So ultimately, the way we each speak it is really just a factor of which master forced it upon us. And of course, for some time now, America has been the biggest exporter of English culture. Obviously, You need to find Your own voice within whatever medium so as to properly, 'rep where You're from...' Well on the real, we are from the common source, part of infinite conscience... spiritual beings with extra-dimensional abilities. Most citizens actually speak several of the 'languages' and 'accents' of this 3D, 5 sense illusion. And ultimately, we are trying to speak to the world, not just a corner of territorially concerned fellow MCs. So if we let the illusion of language, let alone accent, inhibit us from sharing in something well...

Q11 Lol. True true. I mean it's always funny when I ask people what they think a proper African English accent should sound like. That's an oxymoron in itself!
*(Lol!) Plus people over here tend to think Africa is just this one big homogenous place. So are there **any artists** out there **You guys can be compared to**?*

To be honest, there are so many people out there expressing love, unity. Most of them are invisible outside the grassroots where they move, planting seeds of real change

*Q12 Okay. I mean **do You guys have day jobs**!?*

Well speaking for myself, my day job is to toil the soil of my reality; planting seeds of what I think I know. Turning to my source with hope while knowledge dies beneath my view; then weeding around the wisdom that becomes apparent in its place; I reap this bounty, now having seeds of wisdom to plant and to help feed the masses... i.e. we live this!

*Q13 Lol! DKR... What about **people in the industry** You've worked with in the **past**? **Interesting past experiences in the business that are worth mentioning**?*

The learning curve that brought us to now left few stones unturned. We flirted with the industry, You know that stage were You're dying to sign Yourself into the voluntary enslavement that is the conventional record deal... Fortunately, for us, this was on the way to a full appreciation of the importance of being independent of the industry. So to arbitrarily drop names would be going backwards along this evolutionary line. But off course, all thanks to those with whom we have and continue to grow. We are...

*Q14 Mmm, I hear You. So just to double check, **fame & fortune in the music industry** are obviously not at all **important to DKR**!?*

This depends on how You perceive fortune... People don't realize that You do become what You fight... I mean really, we aint here to fight the system or whatever! See when You fight the system; it's pointless, cos You engage it on terms that ensure any energy You expend in this direction, is ultimately harnessed back by this same system, furthering its purposes. Which is the irony of people who sell revolution. We want people to participate in a message, not buy it. For real, we are not here to fight the power; We're just sharing the knowledge that there is an alternative to division. The fact that, 'the power,' will be powerless if we start deciding to put others before self. Spread love. And if we get this love back, then yo, we will be fortunate indeed

*Q15 Well on that note, I'd like to **thank You** all for Your time. I don't think we've left any stone unturned!*

Give thanks and blessings, and acknowledgement to a common denominator in many of us citizens' journey back to source; the entity commonly referred to as JC. DK stand up