

(coup d'état)

pt 03 / the next chapter
emerging international sounds



A soldier in the middle of the jungle stumbles into a clearing. The sight before him is as curious as a Mad Hatters Tea Party.

There are people everywhere, dressed in modern and traditional garb from all over the world, speaking many languages. You hear French, German, Arabic, the odd snatch of English and Spanish plus a few more which are unrecognisable. Acoustic guitars seem to be naturally working side-by-side with state of the art techno artillery.

The music which emanates from the group is utterly intriguing – a tall drinkable and danceable cocktail of world music soul and electronic beats. Welcome to Coup d'état – a musical takeover from which there is no escape, only surrender!

Part 3 – The Next Chapter of the Coup d'état series offers another double disc experience to tweak and serenade your ears.

For openers bask in the smooth ode to Paris by French multi-instrumentalist folk-pop it-girl Yael Naim before delightedly scratching your head at the beguiling other world folk of Moriarty's Oshkosh Band. Ben Harper pops up on Boa Sorte with Vanessa DaMata who channels a beautifully honeyed voice which chimes like Bebel Gilberto.

A duo called The Do are one of the coolest finds on this compilation. The short Unissasi Laulelet sounds like it used the kitchen pots and pans as a group of pitch-perfect women harmonize over the top. It's a perfect foil for what comes next – Nigerian singer Asa (pronounced Asha) who offers one of her songs in English, Fire On The Mountain. Bubbling with hope it tells a simple but powerful porch-style observation story gently channelling the spirit of Bob Marley and Joan Armatrading.

Musician, DJ and remixer David Walters' "Coubite" Mesi Bondye shifts direction and incorporates his love for electronic beats, acoustic folk, hip-hop and strong Afro-Caribbean influences but with softer, more soulful results. French-Vietnamese DJ Onra's Relax In Mui Ne is a perfect way to close the first album plinking gracefully like music from the Vietnamese countryside heard over a crackling radio.

On Disc 02 Lautlos is the opening track by !DelaDap featuring Berlin's 17 Hippies. Originally formed in Prague, they are true to their name which is Romanian for "give me the beat" as they energetically chase their gypsy roots while being fronted by two angelic female Czech singers.

Le Tone is French electro which has gone subtly Bollywood on Paris-Delhi while Mali singer Mamani Keita's Mali Denou is pure sunshine and will naturally extract a smile.

Further into this disc, you won't be able to ignore the joyful klezmer, gypsy disco anthems, Turkish delight and the celebratory snake-charming.

Riding the wave of the resurgence in Balkan music across Europe, Balkan-German DJ Shantel has been part of the welcoming committee with tracks like Disko Partizani, which harnesses the anarchic and uplifting energy of gypsy music, combining it with the reliable pulse of electro. Dunkelbunt features the Amsterdam Klezmer Band on the horn happy instrumental La Revedere which even includes whinnying horses while Buscemi vs Kocani Orkestar's Alone At My Wedding feels anything but bereft. Just as happy is Forro In The Dark with special guest former Talking Head David Byrne on Asa Branca.

Rachid Taha makes his take on The Clash's Rock The Casbah (Rock El Casbah) rather sexy when it's given the Arabic rock treatment and is combined with his temperature-raising rolled consonants. Like much of his other work, it's more raw and visceral than his French-Algerian counterparts as his punkish and rebellious roots shine. Hot on his heels is the Instituto Mexicana Del Sonida with its rapid-fire rap lyrics on the groovy El Microfono.

Now, your instructions are simple: whether you play all the songs in order or simply give over to imagination and shuffle, it's time to let yourself be taken over and surrender to the rhythm, dance and the fun.

No, you won't need fatigues, hiking boots or a parachute, just a sense of adventure.

With the new subjects now officially and blissfully subdued, this Coup d'état has been a success. Over and out. - Ara Jansen



For additional information, please contact
Jean-Francois Ponthieux
03 9014 0207
jf.ponthieux@filtermusic.com.au

