

DJ SPINCYCLE

DEEP, DARK, DUBBY TECHNO, HOUSE, AND FUNK

(India)

DJ SPINCYCLE, is Amarrass Records co-founder, music producer, recording engineer and radio jockey Ankur Malhotra. An avid musicologist, he explores, engages, and connects with musical traditions from around the world. Decades of crate-digging esoteric records from around the world meld with a love for global grooves and the club sounds of Detroit, Chicago, Berlin and beyond infusing his DJ sets with deep, dark, dubby techno, house, and funk. Always vinyl, always groovy! Featuring two turntables and a mixer, delicious wax and layers of sound - music to make you dance.

Ankur's first forays behind the decks began in the early 2000's, also when he adopted the moniker 'DJ Spincycle' for his popular New Year's Eve parties. DJ Spincycle has since performed at various clubs, street parties and festivals around the US Midwest and in India including Madison Children's Museum 'Adult Swim' parties, Techno Tuesdays@The Frequency, Fela Kuti launch/afrobeat party at High Noon Saloon, DJ residencies at The Fountain and Dobhan, La Fete de Marquette 2011, Middleton block party, and Spaight St. Rib Fest in Madison; and at Lodi, The Toddy Shop, TCs, Manajsa and Escape Festival in New Delhi.

The evolution in sound continues with his latest project, featuring a live collaboration with the folk-roots trio Barmer Boys. The 'Barmer Boys + DJ Spincycle' dub-meets-roots project fuses Barmer Boys' folk percussion instruments such as the morchang (Jewsharp), bhaping (plucked single string drum), dholak (double headed hand drum) and vocals with turntables, digital effects and filters to create a contemporary, cutting-edge dance-floor sound. DJ SPINCYCLE and BARMER BOYS made their international debut on their Canadian tour in July 2015 at the Winnipeg Folk Festival and Harbourfront Centre in Toronto!

An active member of Madison's eclectic and vibrant arts community, Ankur is an ardent promoter of music events in the neighborhood. He founded Madison Music Review in 2007 to promote the local music scene, and in 2011 established two of Madison's eclectic street music festivals – Musique Electronique @La Fete de Marquette and Willy St. Beats @Willy Street Fair. 2015 marks the fifth year for these all-inclusive, multi-cultural events that have featured artists such as Kid Koala, Stacey Pullen, Francois K, Derrick Carter, Mark Farina, Charanjit Singh, John Acquaviva, Paul Johnson, Luke Solomon, Poirier and MC Zulu and more. Ankur is a DJ at WORT 89.9FM on 'The Friday Buzz' and 'The Pan Africa Show'. He spends his time between the US and India discovering and producing music, DJ'ing and touring with artists from around the globe.

Available for festivals, club nights, special events and private parties/weddings: Typical bookings have featured 3 hour+ vinyl sets themed around genres, special events, birthdays including Blues Nights, Jazz and Rare Groove, Funk/Soul Jams and Classic



Booking:

Ankur Malhotra +1-608 334-0583 - a@amarrass.com

EUROPE: Second to the Left / Marisa Segala +45-25 61 82 82 - m@secondtotheleft.com

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STREAMING

AMARRASS RECORDS - MADISON, UNITED STATES
https://soundcloud.com/amarrass_records

DJ SPINCYCLE, KRAFTWERK MIT BUG SONG MIX
<https://soundcloud.com/tonemsn/bugs-guest-mix>

BOLLYVINYL MIX - DJ SPINCYCLE (AMARRASS DJ)
<https://www.mixcloud.com/spincycle1200/bollyvinylmix-dj-spincycle-amarrass-dj/>

ORGANIC GREEN EGGS AND HAM - DJ SPINCYCLE
<https://soundcloud.com/spincycle1200/organic-green-eggs-and-ham-dj>

HEADPHONE'LESS'MIX #3 (SUNDAY OVER EASY) - DJ SPINCYCLE
<https://soundcloud.com/spincycle1200/headphonelessmix-3-sunday-over>

PLAYED AT

Among others at:

WINNIPEG FOLK FESTIVAL, Canada (2015)
HARBOURFRONT CENTRE, Toronto (Canada)
AMARRASS DESERT MUSIC FESTIVAL, New Delhi, India (2011)
MADISON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM 'Adult Swim' parties, USA
TECHNO TUESDAYS@The Frequency,
FELA KUTI LAUNCH/AFROBEAT PARTY at High Noon Saloon,
THE FOUNTAIN (DJ residencies)
DOBHAN (DJ residencies)
LA FETE DE MARQUETTE 2011, Madison (USA)
MIDDLETON BLOCK PARTY
SPAIGHT ST. RIB FEST, Madison (USA)
Lodi, New Delhi (India)
The Toddy Shop
TCs, New Delhi, (India)
Manajsa, New Delhi, (India)
Escape Festival, New Delhi (India)

VIDEOS

Barmer Boys + DJSPINCYCLE - Express
(at Winnipeg Folk Festival 2015)
Barmer Boys + DJSPINCYCLE - Express (Live at Winnipeg Folk Festival 2015). www.amarrass.com - A live rework of a track by KINK
< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=319UAb-jmyw> >

RANAJI - BARMER BOYS + DJSPINCYCLE
(LIVE AT WINNIPEG FOLK FESTIVAL)
Ranaji - Barmer Boys + DJSpincycle (Live at Winnipeg Folk Festival), Big Blue @ Night, July 11, 2015. Amarrass Records. www.amarrass.com Barmer Boys are: Rais Khan (percussion), Manga Khan (vocals, harmonium), Tarif Khan (dholak). DJ Spincycle is Ankur Malhotra (turntable, drum machine, filters)
< https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifl-cB_hgGU >

PADOSAN LE GAYI RE - BARMER BOYS + DJ SPINCYCLE
Padosan Le Gayi Re (Roomal) - a folk meets techno experiment with Barmer Boys
< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3BYvc6ZXFU> >

HUM BHI JAANEY (live)
Hum Bhi Jaaney, performed by Barmer Boys on day two of the Amarrass Desert Music Festival on December 2, 2012 in New Delhi, India.
< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCouhmgNEAg> >

ALLAH HOO - BARMER BOYS + DJ SPINCYCLE
Allah Hoo (allah who?) - BARMER BOYS + DJ SPINCYCLE.
Recorded live at Amarrass Nights @ Lodi, March 15, 2014 in New Delhi, India.
< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jh3SHOXczVQ> >

KURJA - BARMER BOYS + DJ SPINCYCLE
Kurja (bird) - Barmer Boys and DJ Spincycle at the terrace sessions with Amarrass Records, March 2014. Kurja is the name for a migratory bird (crane) found in the region. Barmer Boys are Manga 'Mangey' Khan (vocals, harmonium), Raik Khan (khartaal), Magada Khan (dholak); DJ Spincycle is Ankur Malhotra (turntables, digital sampler, electronics)
< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-AHabozp4x4> >

UNEXPECTED JOURNEY - DJ SPINCYCLE
vinyl mix: Darkey's Wail (Riley Puckett) from IMAGINATION ANTHEM vol 6. on Tompkins Square Records v/s Lama Temple (Rod Modell) Promo single, Millions of Moments v/s field recording of Goa Express by DJ SPINCYCLE // audio/video: Ankur Malhotra
< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ud5vg7sdlg8> >

"AUTO PILOT" (VINYL MINI-MIX) - DJ SPINCYCLE
DJ Spincycle is Ankur Malhotra (Amarrass Records, Madison Music Review, AnEyeful.com)... a vinyl-only mini-mix. Enjoy!
< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfjD8ukQxYA> >

PRESS PICTURES

<https://app.box.com/s/avug55bqiybh6g2a16avbnvixcj60ku>



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HIGH RESOLUTION PRESS PICTURES ON:

<https://app.box.com/s/avug55bqiybh6g2a16avbnvixcj60ku>

QUICKFIRE

Behind the people behind the music

Dom Flemons

The American songster who is teaming up with English guitarist Martin Simpson



WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?

Some New Orleans jazz – Kid Thomas, Percy Humphrey, George Lewis. Amazing stuff! I am also really going nuts for Wilmoth Houdini, a calypso singer from the late 20s.

YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE ALBUMS?

Texas Worried Blues by Henry 'Ragtime Texas' Thomas. That record changed my whole way of understanding old-time American music. If it doesn't move me, it goes in the garbage. There is too much music out there to get bogged down by something that doesn't move you.

MUSICIAN YOU MOST ADMIRE?

Musicians who are grounded in what they do and do it with a passion. When I listen to someone like Lightnin' Hopkins, I am fully convinced that he has the situation under control and knows what he is doing.

FAVOURITE NEW ARTIST(S)?

Pokey LaFarge, Jerron 'Blind Boy' Paxton, Stone Mountain Wobblers, Eli 'Paperboy' Reed, Danny 'Slapjazz' Barber and Boo Hanks.

FIRST ALBUM YOU EVER BOUGHT?

Dookie by Green Day. I saw the group on MTV when I was kid and 'Basket Case' made my head explode – I haven't been the same since.

YOUR CLAIM TO FAME?

I play an instrument called the quills, which are like the panpipes. I learned to play from Mike Seeger but with Mike's passing, I am the only living African-American quills player in the country that I know of.

✦ **DATES** *Flemons teams up with Martin Simpson for several shows and will perform at WOMAD. See Gig Guide*

Ankur Malhotra

The founder of the Indian folk music label, Amarrass Records



WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?

Grant Lee Buffalo's *Fuzzy*; Painted Caves' self-titled release; The Sea and Cake's *The Fawn*; John Lee Hooker's *Blues on Fire*; Indian Ocean's *A Musical Voyage With No Frontiers*, and Cornershop's *The Hot for May Sound*.

YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE ALBUMS?

Neil Young's *On the Beach*; JJ Cale's *Troubadour* and Yo La Tengo's *And Then Nothing Turned Itself Inside Out*. The music is transcendental and evokes all sorts of emotions from melancholy, longing, darkness, and wanderlust to a sense of space and place.

MUSICIAN YOU MOST ADMIRE?

David Byrne with his group Talking Heads. The attention to detail, wit and intellect, and his experimentation with found sounds and music from various regions of the globe, to create music for the sheer 'joy and fun of it'!

FAVOURITE NEW ARTIST(S)?

I have been digging the sound of Peter Cat Recording Co, based out of New Delhi. The group have a trippy, psychedelic sound that's been described as a mix of orchestral folk-rock, Gypsy jazz, swing and cabaret music influenced by Bollywood funk from the 60s and 70s and 50s American film music.

FIRST ALBUM YOU EVER BOUGHT?

In the mid-80s on a family vacation I begged my parents to let me buy Boney M's *Greatest Hits* – a bootleg, dubbed cassette tape.

YOUR HIDDEN TALENT?

Photography – mostly live, but also abstract urban environments, nature and travel.

✦ **ALBUMS** *Amarrass Records' At Home releases are reviewed in this issue, p74*

Anna Phoebe

London-based violinist making her debut *Songlines Encounters* appearance



WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?

Tinariwen's *Emmaar*. When I listen to this I could either be on the highway driving through Arizona or driving in Jordan from Amman down to the Dead Sea.

YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE ALBUMS?

Paul Simon's *Graceland* and The Pogues' *If I Should Fall from Grace with God* – both remind me of my childhood. More recently, Catrin Finch & Seckou Keita's *Clychau Dibon*, which has a special place in my heart.

MUSICIAN YOU MOST ADMIRE?

Ian Anderson of Jethro Tull, who has become a mentor. His attention to detail, dedication to his craft and his inventiveness are second to none. The late Jon Lord (of Deep Purple). I feel lucky to have known and toured with him. His musicianship and soul have had a profound effect on me.

FIRST ALBUM YOU EVER BOUGHT?

This is embarrassing and I really should lie: it was MC Hammer's *Too Legit to Quit*.

YOUR HIDDEN TALENT?

I won a sumo-wrestling contest in Newquay when I was 21. It was in a pub and we had to wear fat suits. I like to think it was the fierce combination of Irish/Greek/German blood that saw me win. Lesson is: never underestimate the skinny girl.

IF YOU WEREN'T A MUSICIAN, WHAT WOULD YOU BE?

A politician. I studied social policy at the LSE and wanted to work in Westminster.

✦ **ALBUM** *Anna Phoebe's new album, Between the Shadow and the Soul, will be released in September*