



photos by dan23.com

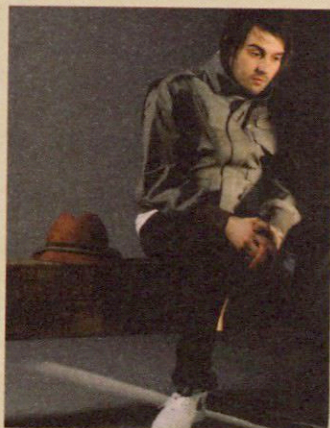
MITCHY BWOY KICKS OFF THE 'CONTRE TEMPS' FESTIVAL, STRASBOURG (IN FRANCE!)

Jam packed with music lovers and art/design enthusiasts, Mitchy Bwoy's show at the Espace Insight gallery was the first event of the 3rd annual **Contre Temps** festival. The festival will host many events throughout June including performances from Mr Scruff, Quantic, Alice Russell, Afronaut, Faces records and many others. Situated in various venues around the beautiful city of Strasbourg, this is a festival with a deep cultural feeling. Digital Soul music mixed with 16th century architecture creates just the right atmosphere for such a forward thinking event. If you missed it this time around you should check for the next one. Musically diverse, passionate punters & idyllic surroundings (not to mention the food), get connected.

more info - www.contre-temps.net
www.espace-insight.org
 also check - www.dan23.com



THE RETURN OF BROWNWOOD: BEN WESTBEECH



One man band Ben Westbeech launched Gilles Peterson's brand new label, Brownswood recordings, with his debut single 'So Good Today', a record which has subsequently made it's way into record boxes, DJ charts & radio stations all over the world.

He's classically trained in cello, voice and piano, and his music integrates those elements with hip hop influences, sampling techniques and a wide foray of other styles.

"There were lots of things that inspired me. Where I was, who I was with, who I wanted to be with, my past and my present. It's been going on for three years. I started it when I moved to Bristol." He goes on to say "I make hip hop and drum and bass as well as my solo stuff so I'm always working with different people. I enjoy making different types of music."

While living in Bristol he hooked up with DJ Die and Clipz

(Full Cycle) who he started working on a hip-hop album with. He has also collaborated with a number of MCs, mainly Bugs, Sirplus, Dynamite & MC D. I asked what impact this has had on him.

"I have really knowledgeable people around me who've shown me the right way to do things."

Looking ahead he'd love to collaborate with Roy Ayers, Quincy Jones, 4 Hero, Mr Scruff, The Roots, Madlib and Portishead. He's currently putting together a full live show. Catch him this summer at Lovebox Weekender in London, The Big Chill, Theatre de la Mer in Montpellier and Across The Tracks in Leeds.

His debut LP 'Welcome To The Best Years Of Your Life' is out on Brownswood Recordings in January 2007.

NEXT: a Primer on Urban Painting

Pablo Aravena's documentary is an intimate exploration, a meditation on the global impact of the graffiti-based visual arts. A labour of love, built on an original soundtrack featuring Sixtoo, Moonstarr, Scott C., Quantic and DJ Nuts, this film explores the culture in nine different countries including USA, Canada, France, Holland, Germany, England, Spain, Japan and Brazil. Through a combination of verite moments and insightful interviews with painters, writers, designers, documentarians and others operating within the movement, Pablo's film succeeds in conveying the dynamism and creative brilliance at work amongst this community. Watch for screenings in the UK and elsewhere via www.nextthemovie.com

