

A short time later, I left my coffee on the table, untouched, as I drove back to that intersection, trying to seek redemption, to no avail. Who's the ugly one now?

David L Brenda
Eugene

DISSING ROOTS

For two weeks now I have read articles in *EW* disparaging "emo-rap" and "dictionary-rap" (music, 2/24) writing off the form as too esoteric and dissing the fans as uneducated in the hip-hop world and disrespectful of the roots. I feel this is a irresponsible and inaccurate generalization.

It sounds like the biggest knock against this new breed is that they are too complicated? Too experimental? Too Miles Davis-going-fusion or Bob Dylan-plugging-in? To

dismiss Subtle's Kerouacian lyrics as "elitist, irreverent nonsense" makes me wonder how many other great bands have received similar comments from close-minded critics.

Speaking of elitist, I see the so-called "newbies" embracing their history a lot more than I see older hip hop heads embracing or even acknowledging the future of the music they claim to support.

Seems like most mainstream rappers are spending more time on their clothing lines than their music, and then there is Black Eyed Peas adding Mouseketeers to the group and changing lyrics for their record label.

To criticize Doseone for rapping about his penis is ironic when the next week Jay-Z is praised, he who penned countless odes, anthems and tributes to his little Z. The same Jay-Z who also raps (from "Lucky Me") "How can

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Ka'apana

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Hard Cell

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- 05.25 Audra McDonald (Hult)



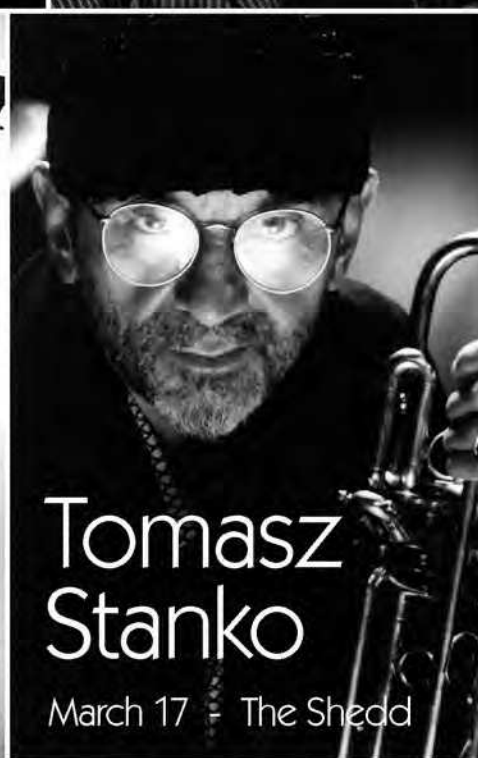
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