

iPARTY PLAYLISTS

The top tunes that are rocking the iParty scene



iLike's top ten...

- 1 Spandau Ballet To Cut A Long Story Short
- 2 Justice vs Simian Never Be Alone
- 3 Kylie Minogue Slow (Chemical Brothers Mix)
- 4 Kings Of Leon Molly's Chamber
- 5 Nena 99 Luft Balloons
- 6 Felix Da Housecat Rocket Ride
- 7 Franz Ferdinand Take Me Out
- 8 DJ Shadow Six Days (Soulwax Mix)
- 9 SL2 On A Ragga Tip
- 10 Cheryl Lynn Vs Kool Keith Got 2 B Large



Andrew Andrew's iParty top tunes

- 1 Perry Como Papa Loves Mambo
- 2 Luniz I Got 5 On It
- 3 Supergrass Alright
- 4 Cy Coleman Rich Man's Frug
- 5 The Exciters Tell Him
- 6 The Streets You're Fit But You Know It
- 7 Nina Hagen I'm A Believer
- 8 The Flaming Lips She Don't Use Jelly
- 9 Lizzy Mercier Descloux Fire
- 10 Jimmy Edgar Urban Outtake



noWax's ten of the best

- 1 Chemical Brothers The Golden Path
- 2 Stardust Music Sounds Better With You
- 3 Gwen McCrae All This Love That I'm Giving
- 4 James Brown The Payback Mix
- 5 Les Rhyth Digital What's that Sound
- 6 The Smiths What Difference Does it Make
- 7 Tears For Fears Mad World
- 8 Justin Timberlake Rock Your Body
- 9 Martha And The Muffins Echo Beach
- 10 Joan Jet I love Rock and Roll



iPod-inspired night. "It's called iLike, and we've held it at a place called Havanas a few times. We've also done a one-off special at the world-famous Boutique, playing all night in the bar," explains James Kendall.

The idea for iLike was a joint venture between music journalist James and his partner, Taz. "Taz had the idea for an iPod night then I came up with the format. We have people playing in pairs back to back. So one person plays a track, then the next one picks something to match; it's about improvisation."

iLike gives DJs half an hour to play off each other. "The iPod works brilliantly like this. Because I've got around six-and-a-half thousand tracks on mine, if someone plays a classic rock track I'll be able to find something to match that. If we used CDs or vinyl you'd get caught out and wouldn't be able to follow."

In common with the other nights, though, the emphasis is on fun and keeping people involved. "On average, we'll have about eight DJs; they bring their mates for support and they really get into it, jumping up and down. The more stupid the records, the better."

The music

The first rule of MP3Jing is: there are no rules. You can play what you like. Raj has kept noWax that way deliberately. "We like to keep it as open as possible, there's no point trying to dictate musical policy, most of the time it's a relaxed affair with very eclectic music."

James and Taz have a similar policy, this makes the night what it is: "I like the scrappiness, the bad mixes and the fact that sometimes you'll even hear idents from where people have recorded stuff off the radio." The mixes might be a bit rosey sometimes, but the feeling is what counts for James: "Every track that gets played has a lot of passion behind it. That's something I think DJs can become numb to as they play the same records day in day out."

The Apple factor

Before the advent of the iPod, the idea of MP3Js being in any way 'cool' would have only attracted derision. But there's something about Apple merchandise that always



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manages to transcend that, and James agrees: "MP3s had a bad rep before the iPod came out. They were like minidisks but with lower quality. All of a sudden the sound quality doesn't seem to matter quite as much."



Its not even as if these events are attracting a bunch of geeks who just want to stare at the hardware, James laughs. "I wouldn't mind if a few more geeks came along, it's quite a cool crowd, but then Apple always attracts creative people."



The future

One thing is agreed; the iPod isn't about to oust the Technics 1210 from its iconic status, James explains: "The iPod's a nice diversion but, ultimately, there are a couple of problems. In a

club, where it's all about the music, the quality of MP3s isn't as good as it could be. Also, there's no pitch control so people can't match beats between tracks." There is an upside to all this, of course: people can't get obsessed with Djing, but, ultimately, it's a limiting factor.

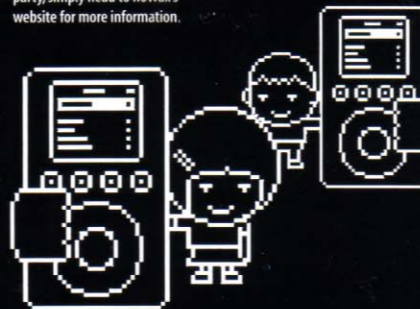
noWax

Bring your iPod / MP3 player
Want to DJ?
Take a ticket
Wait your turn
Play your tunes
Do the crowd love you?

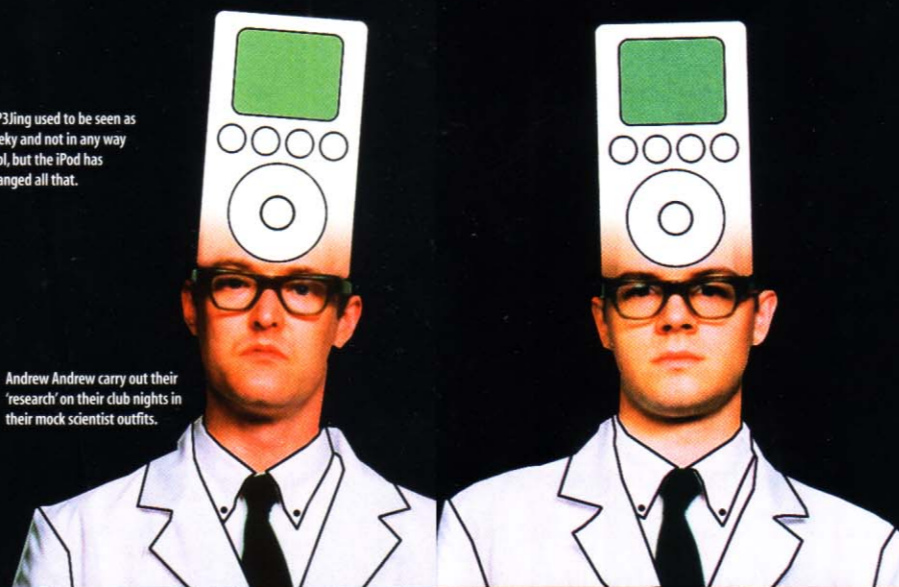
Thursday 22 April 2004
Central / 72-74 Tib Street / Manchester
8pm - 1am / Free entry

nowax.co.uk
senseworldwide.net

If you want to run your own iPod party, simply head to noWax's website for more information.



noWax's Raj has the solution: "I've been wanting Apple to develop mixing software on the iPod from day one, but I don't think it's in the company's game plan. I think it looks at it as an overall consumer product rather than a niche thing. It should develop a DJ version, maybe." Even Andrew Andrew agrees it's unlikely Apple will wade in on the side of the fledgling MP3J: "It's a small market right now and there are other more DJ-friendly programs out there."



Andrew Andrew carry out their 'research' on their club nights in their mock scientist outfits.

THE KIT | What you'll need to host your own iParty

1 Two iPods
From £249. www.apple.com/uk

2 A mixer
Essential for fading between tracks and controlling levels, Vestax can't be beaten in this department. We like the PCV-275. £289 from www.decks.co.uk

3 Speakers
If you're hiring a bar, this will often come with its own PA system. If not, you can't go wrong with a set of these from JBL. Built specifically for pubs and clubs, the JBL SR-X family of speaker are portable and offer great sound. www.jbl.com. Prices start from £800

4 Amp
Again, this will usually be on-site in bars or clubs but, should you need one of your own, this solid effort from Alesis should be able to cope with most set-ups. The RA500 is available for £232 from www.djempire.co.uk

5 Cables
Of course, you'll need to hook everything up. Belkin produce a good range of audio cables. For you iPod to mixer you'll need twin phono to 3.5mm headphone jack. £10 a pair, www.belkin.co.uk

6 Headphones
Finally, what self-respecting DJ would be seen in public without a set of cans with which to monitor his or her next selection? £100, www.sennheiser.co.uk



They're powerful, they're portable and they produce great sound that's ideal for throwing your own iPod party.



The iPod - the hub of MP3Jing.

Every DJ needs a mixer, and this one from Vestax can't be beaten.



When picking your headphones, Sennheiser is the place to look.

If you need your own amp, Alesis is the specialist in DJing hardware and the RA500 gets our vote.

Until this little problem is fixed, the MP3J will remain an underground phenomenon. Raj has been thinking about the whole thing: "There are some DJs doing sets with iPods. I think Ritchie Hawtin did one a few months back, but it's still a novelty. It will become more mainstream when the MP3 player manufacturers start to see the potential and introduce the technology." Fairly predictably, Apple was unavailable for comment, but if it has an eye for a marketing coup, then this should be something to think about. ●

