

TRANCER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY



- 35 In-Scene Country Profiles
- History, Activists, Parties, Contacts
- Trance Culture Embraces Alternative Culture



An annual project by

mushroom
magazine



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alternative electronic culture



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TRANCER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY 2007

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Freaks and fairies, friends and family, **CONGRATULATIONS!** You are now in the possession of one of the world's most sought after publications. Made from 100% real paper and written in the blood, sweat and tears of contributors from around the world, we are proud to present you with the 4th edition of the **Trancer's Guide to the Galaxy**.

Not quite 12 months have passed since the last guide came out, but yet we have managed to round up reports for 35 countries and packed them into 80 pages of colourful, informative content. Thanks to wider distribution, increased publicity and the kind support of our sponsors, this year's guide is 25% bigger than in previous years. However we still haven't managed to cover all countries we would have liked to and apologies to all those who've been left out.

The project has seen some changes since 2006, both internally and externally. Claus Baldauf and Cynthia Grieff, both onboard since the start, have now left, while Dan, Katja, Sören and Krzys have joined the family. We've also introduced a new TTG directory that has been created to improve content accuracy and general awareness of who's doing what where.

We invite anyone taking an active part in the Trance scene to go to www.trancersguide.com/ directory to find out more.

We are continually looking for ways to improve the project and would love to hear from anyone that has any ideas, especially ways of including more countries. If you have any thoughts and/ or would like to contribute articles for next year's edition, or are interested in booking advertising space, then please get in touch by sending an email to ttg@trancersguide.com. The sooner you let us know, the more we can arrange before the next guide, so please don't leave it too late!

Although most of the sales team and production crew are based in Hamburg between the offices of mushroom magazine and Chaishop.com, this publication wouldn't be possible without the articles and photos from more than 80 international correspondents. Nor would it be possible without all the crews, artists (musical and visual) and party people who make the scene the amazingly vibrant one it is. Thank you all, we hope you enjoy our contribution.

**Take care of others,
The Trancer's Guide crew**

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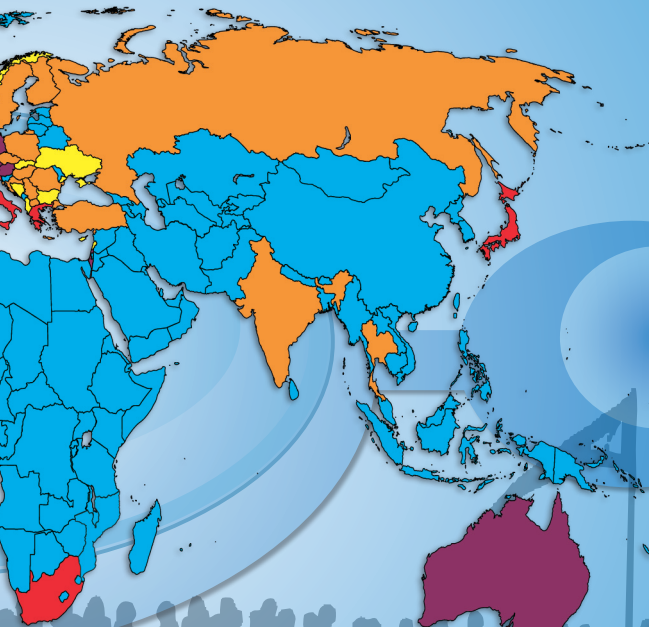
TRANCE ACTION MAP 2007















www.trancersguide.com/tranceaction

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Trance Culture embraces Alternative Culture

www.trancersguide.com/tranceculture

2007 saw two extraordinary trance festivals take place: during the total solar eclipse in March, more than 5000 people gathered in southern Turkey for Soulclipse festival. Then, in August, Boom Festival beckoned 25,000 visitors to a remote lake in central Portugal. Both festivals summoned an amazing blend of beautiful and open-minded people who came together to spend a week with nature, music and travelers from all over the world. They offered a great international line-up, wonderful locations, etc – but what made them special was that not only trancer's came!

In Turkey there were the »eclipse chasers« – freaks that are in a constant pursuit of the dark side of the sun. They won't miss an eclipse, no matter where it happens. Some of them like to mingle with other freaks while the sun darkens and therefore Soulclipse was a perfect place to be.

In Portugal it was the diversity of the festival that attracted people who would not consider themselves trancers. Permaculture plants, acoustic music, lectures, workshops, ecological infrastructure, a newspaper, a radio station and the massive chillout were features unusual for most trance parties. The banner under which all these people united read »We are one!«.

»In 2006 we are bringing the different ideas of the past Boom's together into a real alternative lifestyle – not only thinking about the cultural alternative or the bodywork alternative but also thinking about your daily life«, comments Diogo of Boom Festival.

»How you gonna live tomorrow, how you gonna take a shower, how you gonna plant your food and

how you gonna be self-sufficient. This is the motto and the future of the festival itself, to trigger the conscious of the visitors. To bring new concepts into peoples minds and showing them practically how they work.«

We also witnessed electro and techno being introduced to many trance parties, either on a second stage or at a specific hour. I was amazed to hear electro tracks on Boom Festival's main dancefloor, which is famous for it's hard psychedelic sounds. As well as at the big festivals, many trance club parties have started to include new sounds in their line-up and many famous trance producers and DJs have started side projects which play different types of electronic music. Some of them have stopped playing trance completely in favour of a new style. X-Dream from Germany produces techno these days, the Israeli BLT started his progressive act called Perfect Stranger and Sonkite from Sweden release minimal techno under the name Minilogue – to name just a few. Labels did the same: either they started sub labels like Beef Records (Tribal Vision from Czech Republic) and Prestige (Iboga from Denmark)



or they simply extended their label's range like HOMmega (Israel) and Solstice (Japan).

»We were really big into trance music for the first three albums and we still dig into it but also we're really open for a lot of other things and this is what you hear in the music we are doing«, says Jan of X-Dream. »What we do is to find *our* new experience, always. Of course we're influenced by whatever happens around us in the music but then we try to do *our* new thing.«

Another development is the ongoing commercialisation of the scene, which is often linked to the original alternative ideas being diluted. Japan and Brazil are extremes here and while their trance scenes were/are growing extremely quickly, trance has become a product. Other countries like the UK, Australia or South Africa have a long and profound trance history and thus manage to »sell out« less quickly. As always, freshly tranced countries like Turkey, Colombia and Ireland are not touched by commercialisation as the scenes are still small and underground.

The various global trance scenes are changing. They are opening up to other scenes, people and musical genres. It's every one of us that needs to set directions now!

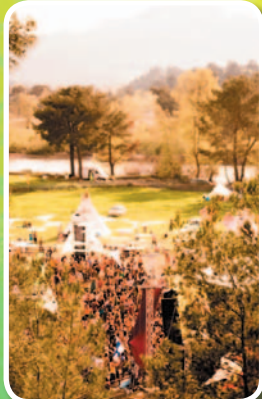
Although trance music is the label of our scene it's not the only thing that keeps us

together. Values of an alternative (formerly hippie-esque) lifestyle, the interest in looking beyond the obvious, the love of nature and the urge to break out of our system (at least part-time) are characteristics found within many of us. It's not the music that we need to protect - it's our values.

We're living in a world that is more and more synchronised. Globalisation optimises the global economy by eliminating individuality, quality and love. The price is the only thing that counts.

Alternative values can help to stay happy and content in our materialistic world. If carried by many and brought to their normal life and surroundings these values might even have a positive impact towards our societies and our planet.

Trance culture can be a host to alternative values, music and lifestyle. Let us open our heart and mind to embrace alternative culture as a whole. Let's welcome alternative music, thoughts, projects and people to our parties and give them the space to express themselves. Let's show the world that our culture is not exclusive nor shy and that it can flourish within our societies. Let's dance for peace, understanding, contentment and our planet.



TEXT
Sam @ chaishop.com (photo opposite)
 Co-Founder Chaishop.com & Trancer's Guide to the Galaxy.

»*do the change that you'd like to see in this world*« - Gandhi





Psychedelic Revolution in **ARGENTINA**

www.trancersguide.com/argentina

The Argentinian scene started in 1994 with a beach party in Mar de las Pampas, generating a psychedelic revolution still spreading throughout the country today. Since then, a lot of psy freaks have appeared, showing that Latin America is becoming an ideal shelter for this global movement.

Buenos Aires is the center of our scene and the last 12 years have seen several generations of organisers, artists and DJs appear. At first parties were occasional events and it was common to put on free events in parks downtown. As the scene grew, many parties moved indoors, although recently outdoor parties have started to become popular again. Currently the scene is in turmoil, as the main organisers tend to hold more commercial events and the smaller ones are struggling to keep the original vibe alive.

The main organisers are Psy-X, who focus on Psy and host big names such as Infected Mushroom, and Rave Parties Corp who usually mix different kinds of trance. Los Monos del Espacio organise smaller events with a more spiritual and cultural concept, inviting local artists and involving dif-

ferent tribes such as Reggae artists and jugglers. Dancing Buddhas also organise parties hosting a lot of new local artists as well as international guests.

Regarding local artists, Megalopsy and z1P's side project Frantic Noise is the most well known having toured Europe and Mexico in 2006. They also run Dark Prisma records, on which they released Frantic Noise's debut album. We also have Jonas from Transition Records preparing the joint album of Heterogenesis - a collaboration between Pragmatix and Cosmos Vibrations. Both labels have several releases on schedule for 2007. Also on the Progressive side, Serpiente de Humo, has surprised the dance floors with very groovy, minimal beats. Regarding DJs, we have names like Pandemonix and Fethe representing the dark side and Avisman and Serz on the lighter side. Well established DJs such as Pandey, Niko and Moksha are also still spinning.

In terms of larger events, we have the Moonbow Festival in El Bolson, Patagonia which has very good production, all kinds of workshops and is held in a beautiful location next to the mountains.

The scene in Argentina has a lot of potential and whilst it grows in numbers through

commercial parties, a core minority have appeared offering cutting edge music and parties. This proves the variety and the will of our people, showing that with hard work and time we can build a true psychedelic trance culture in Argentina.

FACTS

- Argentina has jungles, deserts, sea, mountains and forests.
- English is not widely spoken within Argentina, but Buenos Aires is well prepared for tourism. A good place to stay and hang out is Recoleta, near the Retiro central station.
- Staying in Argentina is very cheap if you use euros or dollars.
- Smoking marijuana is tolerated but other substances are not tolerated at all. Police do not bother tourists, but it is wise to not taunt them.

LINKS

- www.psytrance.com.ar
- www.darkprisma.com.ar
- www.psy-x.com
- www.ravepartiescorp.com
- www.megalopsy.com.ar
- www.franticnoise.com.ar

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TEXT Filter

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psychedelic warrior, artist, dj,
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»pouring dimensions in audible format«



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www.trancersguide.com/australia

LINKS

- www.oztrance.com
- www.australians.net
- www.theultimatetrancetrek.com
- www.rainbowserpent.net
- www.exoduslifestival.com
- www.maitreyafestival.com
- www.tribeadelic.com
- www.superfreakfestival.com
- www.zenonrecords.com
- www.open-records-net
- www.electrictowerpole.com
- www.subterranean.org
- www.ozdoof.com
- www.psydjs.com

For many people, Australia is a faraway land that they know very little about other than what they have seen on TV. What most people don't know is that beyond the colourful people, amazing scenery, nature and beautiful climate lie some of the best trance events in the world!

Trance has Australia pretty much covered, with most major population centers hosting a trance scene of sorts. From the more traditional and well-known centers of Melbourne, Sydney, Byron Bay/NNWSW and Brisbane, right through to the tropical North in Cairns and the far West in Perth - there are thriving scenes which all offer different kinds of locations, vibes and party experiences.

There is no dominant style of music at Australian parties- there is generally a good mixture of full-on, progressive, chill, electrotek, house and other styles, ensuring all musical tastes are catered for. Recently, local music has been coming into its own, with many artists in high demand on a global scale and a definite developing "Australian" sound.

Apart from the more well-known names like SunControlSpecies, Sensient, Space Tribe, Mr Peculiar and Fractal Glider, who have toured extensively throughout the globe, fresh artists such as Tetrameth, Shadow FX, Autonomech, Jigsaw, One Tasty Morsel, Psy-boriginal, Hefty Output and Pondscum are

forcing people to stand up and take notice of Australian music.

They are complimented by a strong contingent of DJs Australia-wide as well as a large base of local labels including Zenon, EPP, Gi'wa, Open, UP Records, Tribeadelic and Illuminati Records.

The climate in Australia makes for parties all year round; because of the size of the place, you can literally travel around the country without a break in the parties for even a single weekend! Most of the action occurs in the summer months in the Southern part of the country; from November to March there are some serious parties and festivals happening in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and around the Byron Bay area.

Cairns would be an exception to this rule, with its warm winter temperatures and pumping outdoor scene keeping Australia busy while most of the other states are in hibernation for the cold.

The 2006/2007 summer is easily one of the biggest yet for Australia - the sheer volume of festivals this summer is amazing, with a diver-



photos webgrrrl (3)



sity of acts from all corners of the globe second-to-none.

While we may have seen the last of the Earthcore gigs in 2006, 2007 already saw the 10th anniversary of the institution that is Rainbow Serpent Festival, quite possibly one of the best festivals in the world today. Renowned by artists, DJs and festival-goers alike, Rainbow Serpent has managed to retain (and expand on) the special vibe that so many bigger festivals seem to have lost along the way.

Other summer festivals include Tribeadelic NYE, Matrieya Festival in February, SuperFreak, Exodus and Earth Freq in Byron Bay and closing the season up - Akasha festival in late February.

The Australian community is kept well informed by popular websites like www.oztrance.com and www.australians.net, both of which will help you find any nearby events.

Another site worth checking out is www.ozdoof.com with stunning pictures of festivals and parties from around the country.

As you can see, Australia has firmly established itself on the global trance stage, with a scene and vibe that is distinctly its own and a freshness not seen in many other scenes around the world. The Australian people are very welcoming and will endeavor to make sure any visitors to the country are well looked after and party hard! We hope to see you down here soon; there is a whole lot more going on than you think!



TEXT

Jesse Kuch aka Suspekt

Co-owner/DJ for Open
Records Australia
www.myspace.com/openrecordsaustralia



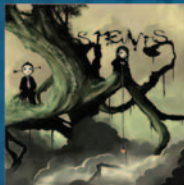
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Psy-xplosion in AUSTRIA

www.trancersguide.com/austria

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FACTS

- Austria has an incredible, vivid Psy scene with numerous festivals and parties. Party folk are friendly and open-minded.
- Police raids at parties are rare and although drugs are illegal, smoking pot is usually tolerated at parties.

SHOPS

- **HANF IN**
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LINKS

- www.apocalyptic.at
- www.aurinshop.at
- www.derlustigeastronaut.at
- www.finalfantasy-productions.com
- www.klangbewusstsein.at
- www.lebeliebelache.com
- www.malawi.at
- www.mystery-world.org
- www.otherland.at
- www.goanet.at
- www.psy604.com
- www.psyevents.at
- www.psyshots.org

Austria experienced a real boom in the psy scene in 2006, mainly due to the big summer festivals that opened the scene to the wider community. Labels, producers and organisers have grown so intensively that it's hard to get a full overview of the scene, even for real insiders.

2006 was the year when many DJs started out as or revealed themselves to be music producers or started up new labels. After Taliesin, P.S. Otherworld and Kybalion we also have Kajola, Chaostherapy and many others joining the list and there are plenty of new DJ stars like Magenius on the rise too. What's more, Austria has never seen such a shrooming of new organisers and indoor locations, mainly in and around Vienna - which is still the centre of the country's psy scene.

Unfortunately, after a tragic death at last years Sonnenklang, Austria's biggest festival, next year's event has yet to be confirmed. If it does take place, then it will be the 5th anniversary this year, although there's a good chance it'll be different to what it was before. However the big Starseeds Festival of Lebeliebelache and Spirit Base Festival of Goaran will be taking place and other highlights will be the traditional free party on May 1st, the



TEXT

Tom Rom

Tomrom24@chello.at
www.psyevents.at/tomrom, mushroom Austria, TTG, promo, media, Goa-newsletter

«Never forget your responsibility to the cosmic community of Gaia»

5 day Funnymoon Festival hosted by the Cosmixed Society in July and the new 5 day party R-evolution over the summer solstice.

In 2007, the main regular indoor events in Vienna will be Drachenflug, Apocalyptic Ritual and the new Cosmic Space Disco. Moon. Dancer has sadly finished his career as a party organiser, but you'll still find other organisers like Fairytale in Weberknecht, Testify in Subzero, the great Sunday Chazelt in Flex, the new Camera Club of Xela and Digital Kiss' Goandi. In Salzburg you have Otherland with the Unite Parade and many other events like those of the young Syntax Sense crew and the 24/7-label-parities, while the region of Tirol owes most of its parties to the renowned Mystery World and several others. The list goes on with Klanbewusstsein in upper Austria, Sunshine Explosion in lower Austria and Alchemy in Styria. Supporting our musical events we have the famous Psy VJs Basti and Geko from Psynema, the funny astronaut, Fade X and Sikanda.



photo Malex

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Still Booming in **BELGIUM**

www.trancersguide.com/belgium



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Music-wise, the Belgian scene is blossoming more than ever. Bitkit is soon to release his debut album on Kairoo Records, and neo-oldschool label Suntrip Records has just released a new compilation. On the more contemporary side of full-on, Digicult's DJ Nemesis released a new compilation on Dacru Records whilst Belgian live acts Lani, Ephedrix and Whicked Hayo are becoming increasingly well known on the international scene with regular appearances abroad.

After the witch-hunt 2 years ago, police attention seems to have finally died down. However parties often end earlier than they used to just so that organisers can get hold of a decent, legal location. Throwing an open air party is even harder and we currently have only one big Psy festival left, Rhakti Dei, which is why you're likely to meet Belgian people at every large European festival.

While big productions with 1000+ people are less common, the total number of parties is on the rise! Belgium is a small country, but sometimes we have as many as 5 in one weekend. Organisations like Back-to-basics and Kairoo bring us the big full-on names while Femina Mandragora does the same for the dark side. Smaller, but longer lasting party crews include Smiley Tribe, Dacru, Madhatter and Eargasm (psy and prog), Mystical Druids and Psylence (dark) and Lysergic Asylum (suomi). And after a long absence, old timers »Merry Melodies« are set to make a comeback

in 2007 with some huge events that should boost the Belgian scene even further.

At a lot of these parties the preferred style is oldschool goa trance. Ironically, oldschool parties are mainly popular with the younger crowd, who weren't even around when this music first came out. Most of the remaining veterans now appreciate more progressive styles of trance. Because of this, more and more promoters are booking bigger progressive acts again and Purple Snow are one of the organisations leading the way. Supporting them we have deco-artists like Lunatrix, Xibalz and Paradox to make sure our parties remain colourful & amazing. Check out Psygarden.be for deco & party galleries!

Should you come to Belgium, then Antwerp, Ghent & Hasselt are the places to be. Sadly there is no longer a strictly psy-club, however a definite hot-spot is the Kairoo record shop in Antwerp, where you can pick-up music & flyers or just get ready for the weekend at the Thursday late night specials.



TEXT

Tox

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Graphic designer, writer & photographer for Psygarden.be

»It's better to regret something you've done, than something you haven't done!«

FACTS

- 10 million ppl, half speak Dutch, half French.
- 95% of psy-scene is in the Flemish part
- Everybody speaks really good English
- Parties for all budgets: 5-25 € entrance
- Belgium is famous for many kinds of beer (1-2 € @ parties)
- Travel info can be found on: www.use-it.be.

LINKS

- www.psygarden.be
- www.psychedelic.be/forum
- www.rhaktidei.be
- www.dacru.be
- www.purplesnow.net
- www.suntriprecords.com
- www.lani.be

CONTACTS

- Eskimo@dacru.be
- Rik@psygarden.be

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Dialects of Infinity in **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

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FACTS

- Population: 3.5 million
- The Mediterranean and Alpine influences meet and create a mosaic of different climate
- Very low prices
- Everybody speak English &/or German
- Everything is negotiable!)
- Artists: Arronax, Ajnspric, Effective Thief
- DJs: Wedran, Taurus Gemini, Ketraum, Scarab, Effective Thief, Skocho, D-Wolf, Damzah, Tin, Kos, Psyborg, Moai, Kunoichi, Zike, Mr.Green

LINKS

- www.trip.co.ba
- www.inner-sunrise.co.rs
- www.myspace.com/arronax
- www.bhtourism.ba

CONTACTS

- taurus.gemini.072@gmail.com
- wedran@epn.ba
- arronaxtrance@gmail.com

Bosnia and Herzegovina is the heart shaped country that lies in the middle of Southeast Europe. It is here that eastern and western civilizations met, sometimes clashed, but more often enriched and re-inforced each other throughout its long and fascinating history.

One can't remember who planted the first trancedeed, but we continue to enjoy its fruits to this day. The first parties to play goa trance were organised by DJ Alma from Tuzla back in the late '90s when the techno hype was spreading everywhere. At virtually the same time, there were small trance activities going on in Sarajevo (Country's capital) and Zenica which remain the country's hottest psy spots.

The first radio show to feature psytrance, TripToNite started broadcasting around the year 2000. Hosted by DJ Wedran from Sarajevo, it remains on air up to the present day. As to who's holding events, the Triptonite crew throws a few parties in Sarajevo every year with an annual mini open-air called »The Gathering« in the summer and smaller club events in the winter. Then there's the Transistance crew who were responsible for the first »Smetoving« mini-festival this summer that broke the one-night barrier on the mountains near Zenica, lasting legally for two nights and three days. This was also the celebration of our first psy portal trip.co.ba which became a meeting place for all trance

lovers inside our heart-shaped land. The city of Banjaluka holds Inner Sunrise crew, 5 DJs that fully cover the trance spectrum for this part of the country.

When considering the scene in terms of sonic creations, we see our biggest hope hidden within the 7 letters of Arronax, a trance-head who produces some really nice blends of oldschool goa tunes and neo full-on kicks. Or if you're interested in seeing things as well hearing hymns then you should check out Maya & Sale - our most active deco artists, or Ketraum - the oldskool seawolf. In sunny Mostar you might even catch up with our silver-screen captain, VJ Moai.

People are becoming more open to psytrance and it's gaining more and more attention. Despite the fact that we self finance the whole thing and still don't have a thriving scene or any big international names, we are witnessing a smooth birth of something we've been waiting for for such a long time and we simply love the shape it's taking :).

TEXT

Wedran II
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DJ, promotor & party organiser, graphic designer
»Rise above the plague of dogmas and witness the skies of true freedom«



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Oscar Castañeda from Chaishop

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FACTS

- Brazil is the world's 5th largest nation, the 8th largest economy and 1st in contradictions. Black and white (plus yellow, Indians and hybrids too), jungle and concrete, beach and mountain, carnival fantasy and hard life. That's Brazil. Here, the real and surreal coexist in 190 million hearts and minds.
- Almost a continent, this giant basically means South America minus the Andes.
- Traveling by car or bus is not recommended due to bad road conditions. You can find good prices for flights.
- The current left-wing government is lessening the social inequality and improving the economic situation.
- The drug policies are slowly changing too (lighter on users and heavier on dealers).
- Carnival is the Brazilian people's apotheosis.
- Catholic, afro and even psychonautic beliefs keep the faith in Brazil

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- S.East: janczur@thefullonproject.com.br

The Brazilian trance community is developing rapidly in this multi-racial country where music and dance are everywhere. Exotic landscapes, surreal temporary autonomous zones and freak party-animals make it one of the strongest trance scenes in the world. Here, trance pumps hard from Oiapoque to Chui. Bring your smile but keep an eye open: you're in the jungle.

Brazil as a nation was born on a Bahia beach. The Brazilian trance scene as a (sub)culture was born on the same shores, under the same deep blue sky and heavenly landscapes, 500 years after the Portuguese first arrived. During the golden age, the Arraial d'Ajuda – Trancoso axis, South of Bahia state, gathered aliens, freaks and natives for surreal endless summers under coconut trees, loaded with mad, free open-air parties, a green community spirit and ultraviolet vibrations. With more parties than grains of sand, Trancoso has been the Brazilian Goa since the early '90s, blossom-

ing the psychedelic trance culture throughout Brazil.

When you think Brazil, think gigantic. Every year after the summer season in Trancoso, the aliens returned home and triggered their own trance scenes in major Brazilian cities. Psytrance has now spread all across Brazil, with big, very professionally organised festivals, lots of outdoor parties, friendly, beautiful people, a solid nightclub agen-



da and a high demand for DJs, live artists and deco teams. This all combines to create the perfect environment for an intense sound/ culture interchange.

There's heavy tectonic trance activity all around Brazil, however the epicenter is São Paulo. This grey hue pumps trance all year long, Monday to Monday with clubby vibes during the week and big weekend gatherings like XXXperience, Tribe, Kaballah and the Solaris festival. Brasília and Goiânia stomp on at the inner core, hosting some dope live acts and DJs and the festivals Transcendence and Tranceformation.

Seismic activity is also registered in Belo Horizonte. Pioneered by DJ Celso along Ciano, it is home to the Cachoeira Alta festival. Along the coast, there are sonic earthquakes in Rio with DJs Fluorezenzo and Matora, Minimal Criminal with global live acts, Wild Artists crew, big parties like Euphoria, as well as some problems with authorities. In Vitória: DJs Kali, Santiago and E-lise and Casa da Índia, Soul Vibes and Ecologic crews. In the South, the ground shakes in

Curitiba, arranged by Sothis and Tribaltech with DJs Rodrigo CPU and live acts like Oxyd, Swe Dagon and Spectral Skunk, along with an e-music academy (AIMEC). The vibration continues in Porto Alegre, Florianópolis and Joinville. Up to the North, there is underground sonic activity above Trancoso (DJ JP and summer parties), where sun shines and the scene stares into new horizons. Universo Paralello takes place on New Year's Eve in Bahia. Salvador, an old and afro-mystical city, resonates alien soundscapes with Soononmoon crew and ten others. Going up, respect to the Aracaju scene (Eletromotrixx) along Recife (After Dreams and Liquid Sky crews; DJs Pateta and Vorax), Natal (DJ Brown), Fortaleza, Teresina, São Luís and Belém.

To keep going, the Brazilian trance scene should look within. In the coming years, the good harvest depends on opening our senses to the rich ground. To seed positive attitude and realise our mixed nature means gathering more original psychedelic sounds and developing the culture in the future.

LINKS

- www.baladaplanet.com.br
- www.raves.com.br
- www.trance.com.br
- www.pyste.com.br
- www.raveon.com.br
- www.emusicbrasil.com
- www.zuvuya.net
- www.disturb.com.br (e-forum)
- www.plurali.org (e-forum)



TEXT

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DJ, psychonaut and
Soononmoon party promoter

»Orange!«



photos emusicbrasil.com (5)





Supernatural Psy in CANADA

www.trancersguide.com/canada



photos M. Boisvert, M. Lefebvre



FACTS

- Vast diverse environment with all four seasons
- Convenient yet moderately expensive travel
- Hedonistic supplies are easy to find

LINKS

- www.shambhalmusicfestival.com
- www.eclipsfestival.com
- www.motionnotion.com
- www.tribalharmonix.org
- www.psyfreaks.ca
- www.crystalandspace.com
- www.interchill.com
- www.nativestaterecords.com
- www.area709.com

CONTACTS

- Eastcoast: cafrine@techsafari.ca
- Westcoast: naasko@interchill.com

Big sky fuses with waking minds and an eclectic trance culture is evolving with new forms of expression. Winter gatherings host a warm fire of visionary art, performances and late night sweaty beats. Summer festivals celebrate grand wilderness, social freedoms and Life.

There are several festivals held every year, the most famous of which is the Eclipse festival in Montréal. Organised by Quebec crew, Tech Safari, this year's lineup featured international artists like Wizzy Noise and DJs from all over the country. Other larger events include Pacific Illumination's »Shambhala-Portal Stage« in Nelson, British Columbia, Harvest in Toronto, Goa Transmission's »Karma« in Vancouver, Katalyst's »Motion Notion« in Edmonton and Diversity on Texada Island.

As well as the bigger events, the main promoters keeping the scene ignited are Phonolite, Ganesha, Black Light Activists, 7th Harmonic, Shakti, Metamystix, Area 709, Seed of Life, Organix, Deliria and Beats without Borders. We also have visionary artists creating psy-inductive environments like SPARK, Delah-Vu, Deliria, Myth Makers, Ekstasis Dance, Luke Brown and Crystal and Spore.

2006 has seen several Canadian producers

release albums. These include Nuclear Ram-jet's »Mission to Sedna« on Space Port, Adham Shaikh's »Collectivity« on Sonic Turtle, Anahata's »The Unmade Sound« from the Etheogenic Label Group and Shen's »Outlines« on Native State. Interchill have also released a couple of compilations, namely Neerav's »Gathering the Tribe« and Naasko's »Arcana«.

When visiting Canada, there are loads of places you can go to find fellow trancers.

Consistent club nights include Amaze on at SPAG in Montréal and Organix at Club 23 in Vancouver. Shanti Baba in Toronto, Weeds Café in Calgary, Psychonaut in Montréal and Highlife Records in Vancouver are also great shops to get info from. Canada is a innovative and juicy mecca of psy-bundance; come be entranced by pristine mindscapes and visions of the global village.



TEXT

Gypsy Slippers
portal@shambhalmusicfestival.com
Pacific Illumination
Nomadic Media

Motion Notion Open-Air Festival
 July 12-15
 Western Canada



www.motionnotion.com

Where dreams come true: **COLOMBIA**

www.trancersguide.com/colombia



Being one of the most magical and mysterious countries in South America, with an uncountable number of different incredible landscapes and a huge variety of indigenous tribes, Colombia quickly becomes the perfect destination for universal travellers.

Psychedelic trance is still relatively unknown amongst the local people. It wasn't until the year 2000 that the German traveller and DJ, Moctezuma started to introduce the psy culture, setting up a second dance floor at communal, electronic music parties and introducing all the magical elements that the psychedelic scene has to offer from

music and hallucinogenic fluro deco, to chai and colourful clothing.

During a trip to Tayrona Park on the Caribbean coast in 2002, an ideal setting was found - a private paradise bay, the perfect bed in which to sow the seeds for the first edition of the 10 day psychedelic festival: EUPHORIA2012.

Since then, many people have become infected and started participating actively in the national scene as DJ's, producers and party organisers. During the last 4 years, there have been many different events with small, underground and familiar parties reaching more and more people, whilst being supported by international artists like Trevor Pixie, Krisae, Dala, Kasso, Johanna and Aphid Moon.

Today Colombia counts on a solid base of different collectives like Euphoria2012, Trancefusion, Psyplex, Psymbiotik, Biotribe. These are supported by a growing number of artists such as A.K.R.A.V., Android, Avatar, Avi, Crystal, Ciskmar Sun, Cosmic K, Deus, D'MoDe, German, Hackool, Lunatune, Mad Max, Moctezuma, Overhuman Project, Photon, Spirax and 3rd Planet.

The upcoming events in 2007 will feature an even wider range of important international artists and we hope that this helps attract not only local people but foreign visitors to come and live out their dreams. See you soon :)

FACTS

- Amazing landscapes across different climate zones, offering something for everybody.
- Hospitable, open minded and beautiful people.
- Hallucinogenic and healing botanics.
- Different styles of psychedelic trance from ambient and progressive through melodic to full-on and dark.

LINKS

- www.euphoria2012.com
- www.trancefusion.org
- www.psyplex.org
- www.psylogic.com

CONTACTS

- trancefusion_colombia@yahoo.com
- info@psyplex.org
- akrav@psychologic.com



TEXT and PHOTO
Moctezuma
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@euphoria2012.com
Party organiser, artist,
DJ, Light warrior,
vegetarian, pacifist

»Peace, love and light«



Changing times in the **CZECH REPUBLIC**

www.trancersguide.com/czech

FACTS

- Be sure to visit the capital Prague, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe
- Pretty cheap country, especially alcohol prices are incredibly low compared to Western countries
- The currency is Czech Koruna (no euros yet!)
- Although drugs are illegal, smoking weed is more or less tolerated and you should not have any problems with joint in clubs.

LINKS

- www.psytrance.cz
- www.mimo.cz
- www.myspace.com/romanrai
- www.tribalvision.cz
- www.oxygenrecords.cz
- www.surfacectension.cz
- www.mysticalwaves.com
- mutantstar.psytrance.cz
- fluorobotanics.psytrance.cz

CONTACTS

- info@psytrance.cz
- slater@chaishop.com

The Czech Republic has all it needs to become an ideal destination for **trance freaks**. A convenient, central European position, cheap prices and liberal laws make it an attractive place for partying, yet it still remains hidden from the eyes of many international **Psy fans**.

The beginnings of the Czech trance scene can be traced back to the late '90s, however it had to wait until the year 2000 for its introduction to the wider community. A group called Hedonix organised a series of parties that managed to attract a large crowd and present this new phenomenon to electronic music fans from across the different styles. Soon we had a chance to hear some of the big international DJs and live acts and the core of the Czech psy community was formed.

Nowadays the local trance scene suffers from stagnation. The promoters have a hard time attracting new party people and the number and size of the pure psytrance events is decreasing. Most of the parties during the winter season are organised either by a few Prague based psy teams like Zero Point, Mystical Waves and Trancelעד Family, or the crews from the city of Ostrava in the East.

On the other hand, we have seen big progress in the artist area. Legendary psytrance live act Mutant Star has finally released its

debut album and Roman Rai is enjoying great international success with his smooth, progressive tunes and is preparing material for his debut CD. Other local acts performing regularly are Fractal, Gondar and Hypnotekk to name a just few.

The Czech Republic has also two professional music labels – Tribal Vision Records (progressive) and Oxygen Records (morning full-on). Also worth mentioning are VI & design group, Mimo TV and some of the finest deco teams around (Fluorobotanics, Cybofunk, Elemental, VKC...).

Unlike in Western countries, the progressive branch is pretty much separate and largely considered to be a part of the club scene. What we might refer to as the full-on/dark psy scene isn't really expanding at the moment and seems to be waiting for some new inspiration. This could happen next summer when the open-air events, which with their underground and family-like atmosphere have always been a local speciality, attract visitors and new ideas to the country – czech them out!

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www.dj Slater.net



Quality not quantity in **DENMARK**

www.trancersguide.com/denmark



Despite its small size, the Northern European country Denmark has played a big part in the development of the psytrance music. It was one of the first countries to get infected with trance music at the beginning of the '90s, and early acts like Koxbox/ Psychopod/ The Overlords, Elysium, Orion, Orichalcum and Bypass Unit/ ColorBox undoubtedly helped shape the sound we know today.

Today Danish artists and labels are still to be found at the forefront of the psytrance scene with music falling mainly into the sub-genres of progressive and psychedelic (dark psy), although there are exceptions like Genetic Spin who has moved to full-on. Emok and Banel's Iboga Records is still one of the world's leading progressive label and among some of their local resident artists we find Phony Orphants, Behind Blue Eyes, Reefer Decree, Frogacult, NASA and Beat Bizarre. Other Danish progressive acts include Bufo, Tribalistic Society, Comadose, Navajo and Pythagoras. Parvati Records on the other hand is one of the key players in the development of the dark psy sound, with Danish acts like Grapes Of Wrath, Meteloids and Jahbo on their roster. Other Danish Psychedelic acts worth mentioning are Mussy

Moody, Alrune and AnnoyingNinjas.

Contrary to the music being made, the party-scene is mainly full-on. In Copenhagen, most of the parties are held at a venue called Bryggen, which is open almost every Friday and Saturday, but venues like Amager Bio, Halvandet and Bazookaclub also hold regular events. Party organisers Eclipse, Audiobahn, Vibration Records, Tribal Gathering and Raveplanet are usually the ones behind the island's festivities.

On the mainland, Jutland (Jylland), the parties are more widespread, but generally focused around the two biggest cities Århus and Ålborg. Here, Electrobeat.dk, Scientific Sequence, Psysociety, NoiZy WiZardZ, Logarithm and Electronic Dimension are the main party crews.

In Jutland we also find the 2 Danish open-air festivals, Middle Earth (organised by Scientific Sequence) and SEMF, both of which have been held annually since 2004 and both of which run for 3 days and attract quite strong line-ups consisting of both Danish and international headliners. There are also several one night open-air parties during the summer, again mainly concentrated around Copenhagen, Århus and Ålborg.

The future of the Danish party-scene is

FACTS

- Population: 5.4 million people
- Currency: Kroner.
- Danes are generally very good at English
- Summer is May to September

LINKS

- www.electrobeat.dk
- www.trancetunnel.dk
- www.iboga.dk
- www.parvati-records.com
- www.scientific-sequence.com

CONTACTS

- vamo@scientific-sequence.com

pretty hard to predict. There is no doubt that the biggest parties are getting increasingly commercial and narrow-minded music-wise, but if you look beyond the most flashy parties, there's still something to be found for most tastes in the psytrance spectrum.



TEXT

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>>Have a good time, all the time <<



WWW.PARVATI-RECORDS.COM

Echoes of old Albion in **ENGLAND**

www.trancersguide.com/england

Psytrance seems to have thrived lately under the prolonged Indian summer as new chapters in the long English rave history continue to unfold. Parties are weekly in abundance and although mostly in clubs, the legendary squat party scene continues to evolve true to the underground spirit of the movement.

From warehouses and abandoned factories to beaches and the beautiful English countryside, party venues vary depending on the time of the year. Although Glade Festival is the biggest outdoor event to play psy, there are countless smaller gatherings infesting the forests every summer playing a variety of genres – from dark n twisted full-on to progressive or minimal.

Of the many branches that this multidimensional psychedelic tree has around the country, the roots can often be traced to somewhere around the vicinity of Camden Town. With several markets catering for all your freakish needs and a people from all over the world, Camden is a trip in itself. Shops like Startessa, Cyberdog and Hexagon offer a range of psychedelic clothing and accessories while the jugglers amongst you will find all you need at Oddballs. However, amongst the most useful of Camden's many psychedelic shops and stalls is Access All Areas. With the main office located above Oddballs and an up-to-date

flyer stand in the market, Amin and his team are always happy to help in anyway they can.

Regular party organisers in London are Synergy Project, Antiworld, Dream Temple, Implosion, Chichime, Whirly-gig and Roots with many more contributing the occasional event. The scene is constantly evolving with new promoters starting all the time and progressive psy gradually developing a solid presence.

Bristol, with the largest scene outside of London, is home to the legendary Tribe Of Frog, Planet Shroom, Freefall Monkey and Hoi Pol Loi and not too far away you'll find Toadstool in Gloucester.

Just south of London in Brighton there's Party Possible and should you ever find yourself buzzing around the itself city, Brighton based Ajuca Records throws regular parties at the «Volks» club. Other party organisers keeping the groove going in «London by the sea» include Digital Elf and Wonkay.

Finally, «up North», Leeds has Cabbage and Sheffield has Planet Zogg, both mixing trance and techno with psytrance. Bradford houses Kulu, you'll find Sunrise in Manchester and Alien Resonance in Liverpool. Northern promoters also got together this year to put on a trance festival in Lancashire called Shamania, which, although smaller than they had hoped, was still a very good party with a lovely vibe, nice people and good music.

FACTS

- www.accessallareas.org
- www.tranceculture.com
- www.psy-forum.co.uk
- www.antiworld.net
- www.tribeofrog.co.uk
- celticpsytrance.proboards41.com

CONTACT

- info@accessallareas.org

There's also activity on the northern side of the wall in the neighbouring country of Scotland, with Timelord2012, Indigotous and Planet Monkey all doing their part to spread the Psy sound.

So, whatever your style, feel welcome to indulge in the pleasures of one of the most vibrant, multicultural and diversely creative countries in the world.



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Journalist, jack-of-all-trades
Supported by
Amin



photos Robin Anal (2)

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A Rising Star: **FINLAND**

www.trancersguide.com/finland

LINKS

- www.elixiria.fi
- www.exogenic.com
- www.koneisto.com
- www.konemetsa.net
- www.nextbigthing.fi
- www.travel.fi
- www.valtioneuvosto.fi
- www.helsinki.fi

It's been nearly 20 years since the early acid house days in the late '80s when I first saw people partying to electronic dance music at the summer cottage parties. The music was blasting out of tapes brought over from Goa, but it wasn't until 1993 when the Finnish rave scene was in full swing that trance came along. Over the years it evolved into Finnish »suomisoundi« and the new millennium has introduced a whole new psy culture to Finland.

In the '60s, Canadian media philosopher, Marshall

McLuhan said »Today's young people live mythically and deeply«. We can say the same for the younger generations in Finland, shaping the way in the 21st century. New artists creatively combine different genres and break new boundaries in an environment where machines are used alongside traditional instruments.

However there is no new without the old and the oldschool Finnish psytrance acts like Squaremate and Texas Faggott are still there. DJ Genki is also back in business and DJ Soma is the main man within the ambient scene. 2006 has seen a wide variety of parties and artists performing all over the country with new names like Puoskari, Calamar Audio, Intriga, Luomuhappo, James Reipas and Dreadlock Tales and new girl power from Miazu and Mamooosika. Finnish party posse's include Exogenic, Elixiria, People Of The Butterflies and Wider Visions as well as a few smaller underground party organisers. Working with them we have deco groups like Elämäkukka and Mielienkieli and VJ and light teams like Hahmo, Hailisen Lasse and Harharyhmä.

The main psytrance record label in Finland is Exogenic Records, which has grown into the Exogenic Group. There will be new albums coming from Haltya, Kiwa, Highpersonic Whomen and our hillbilly cowboys Texas Faggott, while Space Boogie's first

compilation, Funland Boogie Files, came out in November.

Finnish trancers take an active part in the global scene and in 2006, numerous Finnish acts played at Soulclipse and at Boom and Haltya and Highpersonic Whomen went gigging in Brasil. In exchange we welcomed foreign artists and attracted new crowds from both East and West, especially from Russia. Acts like S.U.N Project and Electric Universe performed live with X.P. Voodoo and Ticon playing at the Konemetsä open-air festival - a hot summer weekend with thousands of happy people. The autumn had nice, smaller parties with domestic and foreign lineups, while the winter saw Salakavala's album release party, DJ Tsuyoshi rocking Helsinki and Elixiria's Star Messenger party at New Year's.

The circle has closed. The time is ripe for a fresh new start and Elixiria has launched it's own psy magazine - Scandinavia's first. Elixiria.fi is also our main trance website. Psy is stronger than ever in Finland and we look forward to welcoming you to the land of Suomisoundi and rising stars.

TEXT

Markku "Cosmo" Salmi
markku.salmi@welho.com
 Editor-in-chief for Elixiria Magazine



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www.trancersguide.com/france

FACTS

- 60 million ppl, 10 million in Paris
- 70% of the scene is in Paris
- Sun or rain, anything is possible
- Parties for all budgets: 10-25 € - trance
- All other travel info can be found on www.tourisme.fr

SHOPS

- WWW.TRANESHOP.COM
Psychedelic Goa shop
CDs, fluoro-wear and more

2006 was the year of change for France. Amazing festivals, great parties and numerous releases on both local and foreign labels mean the future looks bright for French psy.

Paris is the full-on capital and although the winds have changed and massive commercial parties with 2000 people are less common, organisers like Gaia Concept and Trance Body Express still organise big events around the public holidays. 2006 also saw new events like Trance Embarquement's progressive sessions on a boat on the Seine, Liquidelic Garden by Psy Spirit Family, focused more on psy music and underground parties and Shiva Project who organised a very nice party in the Cabaret Sauvage last October. As well as the main events themselves, Paris also has several pre-party ven-

ues for trancers to warm up in. It has become almost ritual for the Psy community to meet up from anytime after 7pm in places like the Detone Bar with the Hippie Crew or at Bato-far's »O my God, it's Thursday« with a variety of sounds including progressive and psychedelic being played. Delone from Neotek recently opened a bar and now organises these »aperitifs trance« sessions every week.

There is plenty going on outside Paris though, with passionate organisers like Electrohlm in Le Mans and Om Sweet Om in Toulouse hosting regular psy nights and new and existing festival organisers putting on events at home and abroad. Dragonhunters held their Freaky Dragon Festival 2006 in Spain, the 3rd Hadra Festival was once again set to stunning Alpine scenery and Aqua Veda are planning the follow up to their warmly wel-

comed Arcadia Festival next year. For the last 3 years, Mandala Records and Om Sweet Om have also organised the Medieval Fantasy Festival in a castle built in the 9th century.

Throughout history, France has always provided an inspiring environment for artists and psy is certainly no exception. As well as veteran producers like Absolum, Talamasca and the largely acoustic live act, Hi-light Tribe, we are proud to have many up-and-coming artists too. Phatmatix released his first solo album »Sorcery« on Yabai Records and Datakult had his debut on Nabi Records with Brazilian duo »Psytrance is dead«. One of the more original releases, was that of Principles of Flight's album »Night time lullabies«. Presented as a fairy tale, the CD comes with a booklet that contains a story that's meant to be read whilst listening to the



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MAHOC03
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For licensing/booking dj/live acts & demo:
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album. Other new artists include Dejan, Sky Fiction and Smosh. Of course there are also great DJs like Natas, Greg, Naya, Quaker, L'Elf and DJanes like Miss Tick keeping the crowds stomping and making our events even more magical, we have **dco** artists and VJs like Arkan, Terratone, Punkadelik and Nico.psyart. We are also proud to have VJ/ DJ Kaa currently living with us in France. Originally a pioneer of the Lebanese scene, he now uses his many talents to beautify both real and virtual world spaces.

Presenting our music to the outside world are labels like Nabi Records, Mind Control Records, Mahogany Records, Sonic Motion Records and Anygmatic. We'd also like to mention Pete the Moon, a new label created by DJ Man. A major player in the French trance scene for more than 10 years, he mysteriously disappeared last October. However, his crew keep on working to realise his dream and have released »I want your kick« by United Spirits, aka DJ Man and »Lost in

the sound« by Jaws Underground. Another interesting label catering for the trance market is Turbo Trance, but it's not only music they serve. Together with French fashion company Pygmees they have launched a new line in alternative fashion, soon to be renamed »Turbo Wear«.

France is also home to PsytranceTV, an internet and cable television channel devoted to psychedelic trance, where'll you'll find psy videos, live sets from international artists and features reviews and interviews relating to producers and their current releases.

2006 has been so much better than 2005, and it seems that 2007 will be the year for all those up-and-coming talents and organisations that we're so proud of to show the world: No, psytrance is not dead... and we'll continue fighting to keep it alive! ;)

LINKS

- www.hadra.net
- www.trance-goia.com
- www.gaiaconcept.com
- www.dragon-hunters.net
- www.neotek.fr
- www.aqua-veda.com
- www.phatmatix.com
- www.nabi-records.com
- www.fatformat-records.com
- www.mandalarecords.org
- www.hilight-tribe.com
- www.psytrancetv.org
- www.electrohm.com
- www.omsweetom.fr
- www.turbotrancewear.com
- www.epidemictrancecorporation.com

TEXT

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and
Miss Tick

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Psychedelic comedown in **GERMANY**

www.trancersguide.com/germany

30

FACTS

- Germany is home to over 80 million inhabitants, however, the population is falling.
- The »Goa High-way« (A24) between Hamburg and Berlin has festivals almost every weekend over the summer
- Northern Germany is much more liberal than the South

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Germany, historical grail of techno and trance, is currently having difficulties facing up to the great reputation it has developed over the years. Despite having plenty of experienced artists, veteran organisers and some amazing indoor and outdoor locations, something seems to be missing.

Due to political and economical circumstances, partygoers have less money than in the past meaning they haven't got as much for the open-air season and the many different parties. And so, while the Fusion festival, blessed with excellent weather, reached record numbers and turned over more than a million euros, the smaller, more underground festivals faced financial difficulties and for a few it proved to be the final blow.

The Voov Experience, with its somewhat depressing weather, had to compete with the neatly coinciding Boom Festival in Portugal which led to a dampened atmosphere and unusually familiar crowd. It has since been announced that Antaro, one

of the Voov's main promoter's, will be retiring to Thailand to start a »guesthouse community«. The organisation will however continue with Scotty and will be called Vuuv in the future.

On the other hand, this year's Antaris and Waldfriedens wonderful Wonderland were unpretentious and had good atmospheres, while one of this summer's highlights had to be Tshitiraka. Stephan and Sirko Woetankowski aka Montagu & Golkonda aka Symphonix had a well arranged musical line-up and despite financial difficulties they created one of the season's best festivals. The brothers are also doing well as DJs and a live



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act and are putting a lot of energy into their label Blue Tunes.

Another happy tale is that of Spintwist Records, an equally progressive label that, after starting with more house-like artist such as Sync, Vaishiyas and the Hamburg lads, has now welcomed more and more international acts like Aerospace aka Guy Shanti, on board. There is a lot happening in the German progressive scene at the moment and the group made of Mapusa, Fabio Fusco and Angelical have put some quite diverse, yet always successful, projects together. Then

there is El Zisco, real name Francisco Oryarc Zavala who is best known for his sets on the progressive floors at the big German festivals. Originally from Chile, he has been based in Hamburg for ages and produces brilliant music across all the progressive genres between progressive house, tribaltechno, breaks, tech-house and progressive trance.

He's currently working on a fantastically varied album



photo by Jörn Meisterjahn

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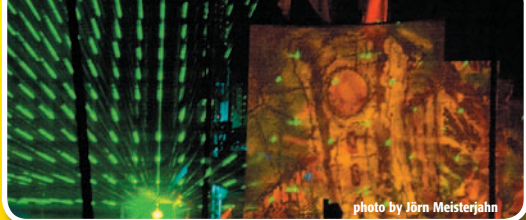


photo by Jörn Meisterjahn

for the Israeli label, Dance'n'Dust. Definitely give it a listen.

While D-Nox and Beckers are enjoying more attention internationally than locally, Hendrik Twardzik, aka Neelix, is without a doubt the current home favourite with his special, energetic, progressive style. The announcement that there would be a limited edition CD of his for the first 300 guests led to a rush at the Somnambul party in Hamburg's Hühnerposten in November. After albums on the smaller labels Mental-Arts and Sinn-Tec, Neelix will now release his third »official« album on YSE/ Millennium. Other 2007 releases on this label in 2007 include Daydin's debut and the new Psytrain

album from ex-Cubase architect, Wolfgang Kundrus.

There are also some really good full-on projects in Germany such as Galaktica, a project from Alex Dorkin, aka NOK, that should also gain international recognition soon. A new, yet still extremely impressive artist is Andreas Otto, aka Magoon from Hamburg who recently released his debut on Millennium too.

Hamburg, the classic trance stronghold in Northern Germany and home to mushroom magazine and Chaishop.com, is currently having difficulties due to poor communication and egotism between organisers, something that was all the more obvious

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- www.chaishop.com
- www.tshittraka.com
- www.vuuv2007.com
- www.liquid-crystal-music.de
- www.antis-project.de
- www.wald-frieden.de

CONTACTS

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- info@mushroom-magazine.com

over Christmas and the new year. There are various crews doing parties throughout the year, the most regular of which though is the Thursday night Zappellounge.

However in Munich, the opposite seems to be the case and Artists United, Macrocosmos and SchmoX Family party together in various locations. As far as events in the Ruhr district are concerned, most are courtesy of the former VibeZ magazine Editor, André Hensen. After spending the last few years focusing on his massive New Year's party »Odyssey« in one of Berlin's more fascinating venues »Tacheles«, legendary promoter Ralph Hirsch will be launching a new series of nights with the Kesselhaus and various promoters from Berlin. Three parties are planned for February, March and April so far and, assuming all goes well, three more will follow in the autumn.

Trance has certainly seen happier times, but according to DJ Sangeet, the music is better than ever. What works, works really well, there's certainly no room for lovelessness, mediocrity and nonreflective traditionalism in psychedelic Germany. But then again, we never wanted it in this scene anyway...



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TEXT
Kai

Kai@mushroom-media.com
DJ, journalist and lover of fine wine and horses



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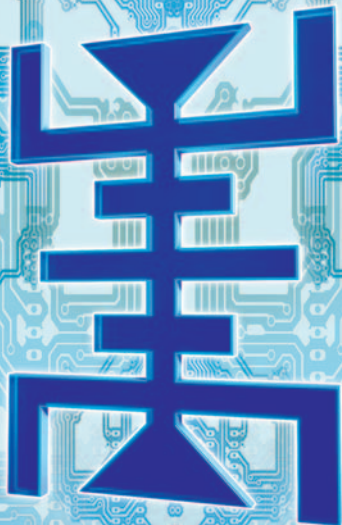
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2007 reasons to trance in GREECE

www.trancersguide.com/greece

The variety of new releases, new artists, labels and events expanded rapidly in Greece during 2006 giving a promising outlook for the future. We were also blessed with an amazing open-air experience in the form of Butterfly 2006 and are looking forward to a new Island of Fire in 2007.

LINKS

- www.bassline.gr
- www.candyflip-records.com
- www.cosmicleaf.com
- www.danceradio.gr
- www.exposure-productions.net
- www.harmonia-records.com
- www.itathens.com
- www.joystick-music.gr
- www.medusa-records.com
- www.moonsun-records.com
- www.noizeconspiracy.com
- www.psychedelic.gr
- www.unicorn-music.net

CONTACTS

- sideliner@unicorn-music.net
- itrecs.otenet.gr

SHOPS

- DISCOBOLE
Char. Trikoupi 17, 10678 Athens
www.discobole.gr

Event promoters like Eternal Motion, Free Frequency, Moonsun, Natural High, Neverland, Plasmatica and Space Frequency continue to offer us a range of party experiences, with international line-ups playing alongside local acts and DJs. As for the natural born chillers, they get weekly doses every Sunday from 16:00 in Athens with »Nova Natura« at Bank Café - El Venizelou in Salonica and at »Digital Utopia« at Aldebaran Bar in Ntepo.

Regarding music production, 2006 not only saw the release of the latest album from Greek legends Wizzy Noise, but also the development of many promising new labels. Moonsun records, Medusa records, Mental Cruelty, Night Oracle and Slik'it (Candyflip's sublabel) all appeared on the scene, proving that Greece is becoming a hot place for producers. Our online radio shows, Bassline and DanceRadio.gr, have grown steadily with Bassline streaming mostly psychedelic, progressive and chill-out and Dance Radio streaming house, progressive & electro.

Held at a beautiful location in Nikiforos Drama over the last weekend of August 2006, the Neverland team invited the global psy community to butterfly festival showing that Greece is still a great place to party. Featuring an international line-up alongside Greek acts like Palyrria and DJs like Alex, Didis and Nexon, they managed to host a memorable debut.

Another summer gathering worth mentioning was that of Unicorn Music and Cosmicleaf Records inside the old fortress of Karababa at Chalkis. Held on the 2nd of September, it was the first time that an electronic music event took place inside a historical monument in Greece, giving us hope for more events in similar locations in the future.

And for all those planning their European summers, we're delighted to be able to make this early announcement: Tell A Vision and It Record Shop are organising the »Island of Fire Festival 2007« on Lemnos island. This open-air festival will take place on the 27, 28 and 29 July 2007 with international guests (Aba Structure, Aes Dana, System 7, Uni and more) as well as support from local artists like D.Batistatos, Side Liner and Percussion Bullet. So plan ahead and prepare yourselves for a hot electronic summer in Greece and until the next time, lets spread good music around and be happy!



TEXT
Nick (aka Side Liner)
headbot@unicorn-music.net
Label Manager for Cosmicleaf Records & Unicorn Music

»Music is the language of our soul«



photos Nick, Plasmatica



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Magic moments in **HUNGARY**

www.trancersguide.com/hungary

38

It's becoming evident that Hungary has the recipe for outgrowing itself from a small European spot to one of our beloved planet's psychedelic heavens. For 3 years in a row now we have welcomed the world's trance communities to our beauti-

ful country of hills and lakes, where nothing seems impossible and where freedom gets a new definition. Who would have predicted this course in psy evolution? We believed in it, but never thought it would be this great.

It wasn't long ago when Oleg, Jirzj and Virag were spinning tracks on a small system somewhere deep in the woods along the Danube. »Crowds« of up to 50 people dancing and smiling around the campfire in such euphoria that cannot be described in words. It was the beginning of something great. Music occasionally brought to the country was always looked at as the greatest gift from another world. We dreamt about visiting festivals in far away lands and wished that we could have our own artists that made typical Hungarian psytrance. It was a long hard road, but here we are in 2006 and more and more of our dreams are coming true.

Hungary saw its biggest breakthroughs in 2006. O.Z.O.R.A festival finally reached out to the world and the world responded. Around 4000 people came to see the place where anything is possible, where magical dreams become full blown reality and where the only rules are to have fun and look out for each other. With a wide selection of quality psytrance artists, who have always made an impact on the trance scene, O.Z.O.R.A.

had one of the most balanced line-ups of all the summer festivals.

For a long time veteran Kalumet was one of the few real live acts that reached the international scene. Until now! In 2006 Psybaba records released its now very successful »Hungry 4 Hungary« album, with its selection of new Hungarian talents that set a new standard in Hungarian music production. Praise from around the world has confirmed that this album is something special and we are proud that it was made here!

As for the future? A new online community called PsyLife has been started by a group of national artist and journalists with the intention of promoting the Hungarian scene and there is no stopping us with the return of O.Z.O.R.A 2007, with a line-up and ideas already promising an even more amazing festival than last year. Also, Hungary's other favourite festival, No Man's Land, seems to be making a comeback after a year's rest, which will certainly be another special event to look forward to.

FACTS

- Drug laws have slackened recently, but please be aware - possession and use are still illegal.
- Hungary & especially Budapest, is full of lovely, small underground pubs & clubs that Trance travelers should visit.

LINKS

- www.goa.hu
- www.pumpui.com
- www.ozorafest.hu
- www.trixx.hu
- www.psylife.net

CONTACTS

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TEXT

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organiser of Avatar and
O.Z.O.R.A.



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The birthplace of Psytrance: **INDIA**

www.trancersguide.com/india

Not all that long ago, trance music in India was only enjoyed by Westerners. Now you can find Indian trancers in big cities like Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Bombay, Kolkata and of course Goa - seeking out trance vibes and adopting the music, lifestyle, and culture of the global trance scene.

India is booming and so is the entertainment industry, enticing DJs and artists from all over the world to come and play. There are promises of fun-filled trance parties, especially with commercial clubs jumping on the trance bandwagon, but clamping down on the party scene continues, with police closing most venues from 11.30pm to 1.30am depending on where you are in the country. Outdoor parties are kept to small intimate gatherings for fear of organisers or DJs being hauled to prison, sound systems being seized and huge sums of money being demanded by the authorities for their return.

There has also been much media attention focused on stamping out the seemingly corrupting drug influence of trance music and parties. Sensationalistic and mostly untrue, trance music continues to make headlines in India with negative associations of hard drugs, sex, alcohol and indecent behaviour.

There was much hype around the highly anticipated 5 day Moon dust Festival in Jaipur, Rajasthan in November, with much speculation as to whether it would actually take place.

Magically, the festival attracted 2000 trancers, mainly from India, and lasted 3 days until it was busted due to bad media coverage and the Rajasthan government has now launched an official inquiry into the event.

Goa is the mother of trance music, but the party season (usually from November until March) has been getting shorter over the last few years. Thankfully, there are still places to dance in Anjuna, the new venue »West End« in Saligao and the odd all night outdoor party like Bamboo Forest. Goa is still a haven for trance culture and lifestyle, with many trancers setting up stalls at the flea market in Anjuna.

This year saw the suspension of the Indian section on the Isratrance forum due to misuse from the Indian members as well as the abrupt stopping of India's only dedicated electronic music magazine, »Essense«. Questions arise on whether we are a community anymore, and with an increase in progressive trance being played in clubs, is this the new trance sound that's going to evolve?

The old trancers who experienced the golden age of trance may feel like the old India is rapidly disappearing. Now it's a commercial concept rather than a community, an abundance of sales rather than spirit. However, the first time trancer will still find a scene with parties, clubs, people and a chance to experience the magic of India.

LINKS

- www.mastimusic.com
- www.beyondlogic.net
- www.thirdeye-records.com
- www.templetwisters.com
- www.footstompinrecords.com
- www.psynapse.in
- www.raveindia.com

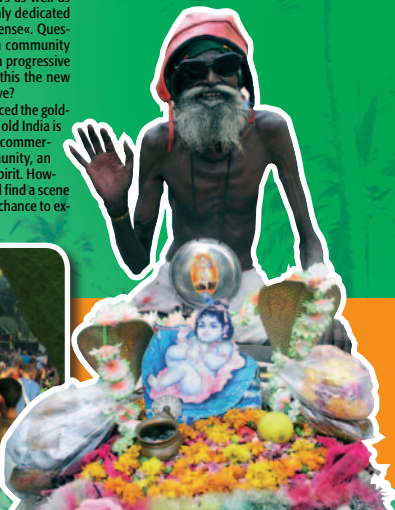


TEXT

Ma Faiza
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».....music is magic.....«



photos Ma Faiza



The meaning of Life for Trance in IRELAND

www.trancersguide.com/ireland



Relatively new on the trance map, Ireland now boasts 2 main psytrance festivals and quality parties in the North and South of this beautiful island.

The psytrance scene in Ireland is mainly indoor and concentrated in Dublin in the South and Belfast in the North. The established promoters are pushing up the quality rather than the quantity to make this community, which is currently full of good vibes and powerful energy, not just bigger in terms of members, but in spirit as well.

1999 saw Ireland's first regular full-on psytrance club which adopted the Celtic title »Druids Circle« and it was pure passion that brought James Monro & Cosmosis to the Emerald Isle. Unfortunately this was followed by a couple of years where it was almost impossible to find any psy parties, but at the end of 2002, collectives Bloop City in the North and MoonEmotions in the South both started to make themselves heard.

Since then, Neutronyx has been the most regular party collective with decorators Atom. glow + Tubal & Co being booked to dress up more than just psy events. They hold regular weekly dubnights in Dublin city featuring international DJs and live acts alongside national talents. psytrance can be also found at the bimonthly multi-room gathering called »Planet Underground« where psy beats share the venue with techno, drum & bass, chill-out and reggae.

Other collectives have sprung up since and we now have crews like Belfast based collective, Dream Tunnel, a project dedicated to underground parties with a middle finger held up high to entertainment laws in Ireland and S.P.U.D., who hold club events in Dublin. There are also others putting on raves around Galway or Cork from time to time, expanding the scene away from the main cities.

Big Irish Festivals like Jiggs n Riggs Festival and Planet Love festival have hosted a psytrance stage in the past, but in 2006, Ireland hosted its first proper psy festivals: Life Festival, the first ever psytrance only festival in Ireland, and Tetris Safari, both hosting a blend of cutting edge acts and DJs from around the globe and as well as local talents.

Local live acts are in the »work in progress« stage with Pleadian Renegade, who made tracks with Bushman and Shanti, about to launch his first album. Of course we're also grateful to have great DJs like Druid, Gav Phrazer, Fungusok and international DJ Zefer (Neutronyx - Yage records). Ireland is also home to the dark psy internet radio called »Triplax« which broadcasts live mixes and sessions from parties 24/7, which can be very helpful as all public shows and performances have to end by 3am.

For now, the scene is growing very nicely and keeping its magic, so the future is looking very bright for the Irish trance.

FACTS

- Officially, the island is split between the Republic of Ireland (South) and Northern Ireland, which is part of the UK.

LINKS

- www.neutronyx.com
- www.life-festival.com
- www.moonemotions.com
- www.thegreenmonster.org
- www.dreamtunnel.com
- www.triplax.com

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»LIFE is a party...the party is LIFE «





Pushing the boundaries of Psy in **ISRAEL**

www.trancersguide.com/israel

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LINKS

- www.isratrance.com
- www.avatar-music.com
- www.bne.co.il
- www.chemical-crew.tv
- www.hommega.com
- www.mushyrecords.com
- www.zaikadelic.com
- www.106fm.co.il

SHOPS

- **KREMBO**
Shenkin st 18, Tel Aviv
www.kremboshop.com



pared to the past when we used to concentrate mostly on full-on, with labels such as Hommega and BNE/YOYO broadening their horizons. We have some laid back tunes offered by Aleph Zero records whilst others delve deeper into the underground layers of the scene with new labels such as Mushy Records, Psy Shark Records and Zaikadelic Records. This year also saw a progressive uprising amongst the older tribe members with the development of labels such as Domo from the Ear Peaks group. We also have VP records run by DJ Zombi and DJ Avi Nini who are trying to open trance to the electro funky side.

During the summer there are plenty of parties to choose between from big commercial parties with a few thousand people to underground parties with several hundreds or even a few dozen guests. If you want to go to a progressive party then we have the Beat Culture crew, Lapland crew and of course the 3rd Empire parties who held their first Progressive festival this year called T.A.Z (Temporary Autonomous Zone) in the desert. If you feel like some full-on you can go to TFN or the veterans Moksha prof. Closer to the darker side you will be able to find Doof parties organised by the Doof label people, who hold an annual 3 day festival each Passover on a lake with lots of BBQ.

The most popular genre amongst young people in Israel is trance. We have a long tradition of parties, started in the early '90s by young people who finished their army duty and went to Goa. Israeli trance made its mark from the very beginning exporting artists like Infected Mushroom, Astral Projection, Oforia, Space Cat and many more.

The commercialisation of the scene has been led by artists like Skazi who have become local celebrities after appearing on Israeli TV and advertising brands like Pepsi Max. However, there is also a growth in the diversity of labels and genres in Israel com-



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If you're looking for the suomi and old goa style then you should look out for Amanita, Pszyon, Ping Pong or Rataxes crew's.

One of the main online meeting places where artists, labels, party organisers and people who are involved with the Israeli trance scene can meet together is the international forum www.isratrance.com, that will be celebrating its 10th anniversary this year.

This year a lot of pubs, especially in Tel Aviv, have started to open up trance nights, in the summer every Monday in the Sakaya with changing DJ's from the local and global scene under the stars and a cool breeze from the sea. We also have regular Trance nights in clubs like the Maxim in Tel Aviv every Thursday with progressive tunes led by DJ Zombi and the resident DJ Nadav Agami or the in Luna Club in Haifa, also on Thurs-

day's with DJ Indeeph. We don't have a lot of parties in winter as Israeli trancers prefer to party with nature and not in a closed place like a club.

Trance music is well represented on student radio stations across Israel with shows like »Matantrance« on Kol Hanegev 106.4fm in the South, »Hafiro« and »Hypnoza« on Kol Hakampus 106fm in Tel Aviv and »Trance On Air« at local center radio station 99ESC in the Netanya area.

The main problem for visitors in Israel is finding out and getting to good parties. Israel doesn't have any public transportation during the weekends (Friday evening until Saturday evening) and you will often need to find a vehicle that can withstand very rough terrain to get to a party. Another obstacle is of course the police; like every other country, making a party without permission leads

to a chance of getting busted. We still have free parties that we call Hat Parties but the prices have risen in the past few years. Of course, one cannot ignore the higher prices for booking a DJ or an artist or the massive expenses of decent security, which is very much encouraged here. However Israel, as a very advanced scene in the evolution of Trance, offers a wide range of parties and sounds and a whole lot of pure KARAHANA for all you freaks!



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The road is open for Psy in **ITALY**

www.trancersguide.com/italy

It was more than 12 years ago when the first Italian psy parties took place. Small gatherings between friends, attracted by the new music and fluorescent colours that some had seen on their travels to Goa, Thailand and Switzerland; they couldn't have known then that it would develop into the important part of the world scene it is today.

Bologna and Milan have been the most active places since the start with Bologna crews mainly organising forest parties in the neighbouring Apennine region and Milan hosting a variety of club events. However the scene has started to take root in other places and, especially in the North, the stage is expanding with more interest in events playing dark electronic music. Parties are organised by a numerous different promoters and now play a range of psy from full-on to progressive. More events are hosting international artists and festivals like Sonica help attract a multinational crowd. 2007 will see the 3rd Sonica festival take place from the 3rd to 6th of August and a new festival, Crystal Moon, is planned for the following weekend.

There are numerous crews currently putting on parties including Crystal Vision, Dragydrop, Mk, Technoexperience, Looney Moon, GoaSpirit, SoundSplatters, Trancemission and Psygnauti. At the larger events, locations are totally transformed

by one or more of our various deco teams such as Neurosis, MoonFlowers, Paramatma Family, Fasù and Atlantic Tribe.

There are also plenty of producers in Italy and alongside famous names like Loopus in Fabula, Pineal, Pulsar and Gaitech we have a wave of newcomers including Psycho Punk, Gaitech, Sismic, Unreal State and Plasmoon stepping up to take us forward. Helping our artists distinguish themselves for the quality of their productions are labels like Neurobiotic, Magma, Crystal Vision, Fabula, Pixan, Middle Inpsyde, Solarsiv.

Local trancers can find most information on the local psytrance portal, Electronic Brain, which publicises the larger, more interesting events and acts as a virtual meeting point. More and more youngsters are participating in the scene and you'll still find the true spirit lives on in our parties today.

Though some youngsters are still looking for the true spirit of a party, it seems we're on the right road for the scene to keep on developing. Year after year the scene grows more and more. The future of psy in Italy looks positive from every aspect; internationally recognised labels, beautiful festivals, talented artists and a huge potential for more of everything in the future certainly make Italy one of the more exciting places to be. Hence I think we can safely say: THE ROAD IS OPEN for Italy

LINKS

- www.beatspace.com
- www.crystalvision.it
- www.electronic-brain.it
- www.goaspirit.it
- www.indicamusic.com
- www.looney-moon.com
- www.magmarecords.it
- www.neurobiotic.com
- www.psyconauti.org
- www.sonica2006.com
- www.trancemission.it
- www.velenostaff.com
- www.trilobes.com
- www.fabularecords.com
- www.psyomtribe.com
- www.pixan.net
- www.technoexperience.com
- www.inpsyde-media.com

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photos electronic-brain.it (2)

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BUFO "Bug Eyes" CD



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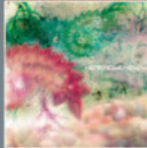
ORGANIC RECORDS



www.organicrecords.net

OODD's third album delivers a uniquely refreshing dist of funk, humour and compelling dance floor psychedelia.

HETEROGENESIS "Revoluciones maquinicas" CD



DARK PRISMA RECORDS



www.darkprisma.com.ar

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www.yagerrecords.com

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Psychedelic Sunrise in **JAPAN**

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FACTS

- Like everywhere in Japan, expect long queues at parties... try and avoid the midnight rush.
- Drug policies in Japan are quite restrictive. Be careful and inconspicuous.
- Parties are very safe and security is ubiquitous, but they can get very crowded.
- Trance is thought of as a luxury in Japan and consequently priced as such... However, you definitely get what you pay for!

Japan. An island best known for its blend of tradition, spirituality, and technology, has wholeheartedly embraced a deluge of foreign music, culture and style. Psychedelic trance music can be seen as a consummate melding of these three aspects, and as such has found a home here in the Land of the Rising Sun.

The musical phenomenon known as psychedelic trance

was lovingly conveyed to this famously xenophobic island in about 1993 by a small group of visionary pioneers looking to re-create the experiences they were exposed to during their overseas exploits. Confident that this unique musical expression would find an audience, the early architects carved out their own niches.

Organisations like Equinox, Vision Quest, and Solstice Music began holding regular events in and around the Tokyo area, exposing the Japanese people to a sound that they had never heard before. Memorable events like the SMF2002 and early LiquidRoom parties created a fan base that has continued to evolve throughout the years. Although some of the pioneering spirits have fallen by the wayside, others remain and gave the fledgling scene a kind of legitimacy that allowed other young organisations, labels and artists to gain a foothold. Eventually, the Japanese trance scene evolved into the vibrant multi-verse that it is now.

Known globally as one of the hot spots on any musician's world tour, Japan

has gained the respect of artists by offering a consistently professional and positive environment in which to strut their stuff. An unrivaled attention to detail in all aspects, from deco to sound, is the key to the success of the scene. Party organisations to watch for are newcomers Fineplay, Yabai, and Mother Productions and veteran organization Vision Quest and heavy-weight promoter Solstice Music. Recently, the Psy scene has begun to fan out, like a Japanese »sensu« from the greater Tokyo area into the rest of the country. Event producers like Blissdom in Kansai, Radix in Nagoya, Suns in Sapporo and Amaitayus in Fukuoka uphold the original philosophies of innovation, quality of production and safety that help the scene maintain it's soul in an environment of commercialism and exploitation.

Expect to be pleasantly surprised when you come to Japan, it's truly not all kimonos, fireworks and sushi these days. There is a vibrant and exciting psytrance scene lying just under the surface, still underground in spirit but with excellent venues, professional sound, and a safe environment for you to let loose in.

TEXT

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»Have a good time, All the time!...«



photos Zach (2) & BuzzT (2)



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::: FAR EAST RELEASES :::

The undiscovered Eden of **MACE DONIA**

www.francersguide.com/macedonia



Hello and welcome to Macedonia. The beautiful land with snowy mountains, crystal clear lakes, friendly people and the home of one of the wildest trance scenes in the World.

Macedonia is one of the best kept secrets in the trance community. Every week since 1998, there has been at least one party. This might sound strange to any other trance infected country in the world, but when you look at the fact that Macedonia has a population of 2 million people, this makes all the difference. The scene started 10 years ago when DJ Bushava Azbuka and the organisation, Trance Experience started small parties in clubs in the capital, Skopje. Since then, trance has become one of the mainstream genres in Macedonia, or at least, as mainstream as people want it to be. Every »big« name in the trance community has been to Macedonia and has left begging for more. From HUGE raves with over 1000 people, to small, freaky, forest parties at beautiful lo-

cations, the Macedonian scene shows its diversity. From progressive, full-on and dark, you can pick your »poison« and enjoy the parties hosted by several trance organisations: Digital Dance, Transforma, Glowing flame records crew, ICFS, and Bhooteswara records crew to name just a few. Besides having great parties, Macedonia also has an unbelievable potential in the way of artists and DJs. Some of them like Blisargon Demogorgon, Atriohm, Imaginary Sight, Yudhishtira, Gorump Peyya, Psychoz, Dreamweb are among the elite artists from this part of Europe. The Macedonian dark psy sound is easily recognisable: powerful, dark and atmospheric.

There are a few labels in Macedonia: Glowing Flame (owned by DJ Marko / Imaginary sight), Xilium (also owned by DJ Marko) and Bhooteswara records (Owned by DJ Montezuma/ Blisargon Demogorgon). To add to this are several DJs with local residencies as well as performances abroad like

FACTS

- Drug policy is strict, if you get caught, you could be prosecuted.
- Friendly people, who are always eager to help.
- VERY low standard of living, almost half as low as Germany.

Bushava Azbuka, Vanja, Marko, Montezuma, Ilija, Navigator, Satellite and the new and upcoming force of Jisz, Yovie, Max-I-Mux, Cosmic, Diane Babys, Numenon and many more. We'd also like to mention one of the worlds best VJ's, Gora, who although currently living in Australia, was born and grew up in Macedonia. We also have one of the best Deco's artists around, AFAdrenalin, a man who has used his backdrops from Macedonia to Japan.

So if you're into trance, you will really enjoy Macedonia. To get more info just visit the trance Cafe's Pablo and Cakra where you can find the current flyers. Macedonia is definitely the place for every trance head.



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Psychedelic wave of Trance over MEXICO

www.trancersguide.com/mexico



53

The Mexican trance scene has grown rapidly in the last few years; we now have about 15 parties every week around the country, and most of them with top international names. There is so much trance in the country; every week, Friday and Saturday night fever. We now have the second largest trance scene in Latin America after Brazil and we hope it keeps expanding.

The best places for parties in the country are Mexico City and Guadalajara with professional productions featuring great line-ups and locations with some of the promoters moving to the beach during the holidays to organise new year's parties or the Semana Santa parties at Easter time.

In the full-on scene, we have Maia records, with their famous festival 'Time and Space' and from Guadalajara we have Massive Trance who are well known for their equinox festivals which always have huge international line-ups. The Beat on the Beach Festival, held in May by Basic Music, has moved from Puerto Vallarta to Acapulco. In Guadalajara we also have Wagner Productions, well known for their fantastic sound system.

There is also a good mix of full-on nights as well as trippy and fresh morning progressive trance. We have the Trance-iT Festival, and in Guadalajara the X-Fusion parties, while for morning progressive, we have

Deliria Productions. If you come to México you must come to their parties, I never miss them! They have a great sound system, they find really magical locations, and always have the best deco which is recognised world wide; as well as decorating festivals in México, they decorate festivals like Boom in Europe too.

We must also mention a new label that is organising great parties in the country, Ibo-ga Mexico, which is run by DJ Vedant - who's doing a great job. There's also Sounds of Earth, directed by the well known DJ Vazik, with parties in club Play that are great fun :).

We also have stunning visual artists, such as Syncro Maya and Chakra Corona, as well as new talents in music like Ski-Fi and Transcension. In the chill-out scene we have Blue Lunar Monkey and the new project of Ecliptic, Lunar Sound, as well as many more up-and-coming talents.

The big problem that we have here in Mexico are the new producers who start hosting parties without being properly prepared. We all know it's not easy and that there are a lot of responsibilities and we're always glad to have more and more parties, but please check the webpage of the promoters before you decide to participate in or go to a party.

So, as you can see, trance in Mexico is growing all the time. Great festivals, friendly parties and hundreds of new locations wait-



ing to be uncovered and enjoyed makes it the perfect destination for dancers and DJs alike.



TEXT

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FACTS

- Population: 105 million people
- The world's leading Spanish psy- publication, Trance-iT, is based in Mexico City.
- Hottest months are April - July

LINKS

- www.trance-it.org
- www.deliria.org
- www.ibogamexico.com
- www.maia.com.mx
- www.proyectogdl.com
- www.massivetrance.com.mx
- www.basic-music.com



photos Trance-It (2)



Day Dreaming in *THE NETHERLANDS*

www.trancersguide.com/netherlands

Although regular Dance music is very popular in the Netherlands and we deliver some of the greatest international artists, psychedelic trance has never become as popular as in neighbouring countries like the UK or Germany. Of

course Holland is also widely known as the land of »legal« psychoactive delicacies, like marijuana, hashish and magic mushrooms, but our music culture is actually pretty straightforward. For this reason the Dutch psytrance scene has remained largely underground since its beginning in the early nineties.

Luckily, you can find enjoyable parties almost every weekend somewhere in Holland. For most of the year, everybody moves to the regular indoor locations as our weather is usually very wet and windy. These parties vary between small clubs, bars and an occasional squatted industrial building. Most of the parties take place around the cities of Amsterdam, The Hague, Groningen and Leiden and are usually quite small, rarely attracting more than 750 people.

Some of the annual events around the Amsterdam area like Earthdance, Namasté, and the Ruigoord gatherings do manage to draw larger crowds and can be considered to be the biggest events we have over here.

However numbers won't say anything about Dutch parties. Since the scene has always been quite small, there is a great family feeling amongst the people and the artists. Many of them have known each other for years already. Especially around the capital the party heads have a very international background as the cities inhabitants come from all over the world.

The tribes who organise good parties on a frequent basis are Alien Vibes, Cosmic Combination, Prog as a Frog, Shut Up and Dance, Sekret Lab and Trance Mafia.

During the summertime, smaller outdoor parties are held almost weekly, as-

FACTS

- Population 16.5 million
- Nearly everyone speaks very good English

LINKS

- www.goatrance.nl
- www.goatrance.net
- www.earthdance.nl
- www.chaishop.nl
- www.aknatronix.com



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suming that there is a positive weather forecast of course. Many of them are quite spontaneous, organised by groups of friends, and have no commercial intent. Most of these parties are completely illegal, so the police are the biggest risk factor regarding outdoor parties, which always adds a bit of extra excitement ;). Depending on if there are any complaints from the neighbours, there is usually some space for negotiation with the police. These spontaneous gatherings can take up to an entire weekend, sometimes relocating to several nearby locations during the course of the weekend.

After some quieter years for many of the DJs and musicians over here, the leading international festivals and record labels seem to have finally picked up the latest wave of Dutch talent, catapulting them in to the global fast lane. Each with their own distinctive sound, trying to get recognised in the overly crowded international market; finally we can see some progress and we can expect more Dutch names to establish themselves in the near future.

Traditionally, Dutch entrance fees are low, however this is reflected in the party's budget and that's why it's seldom possible to get loads of big names in the lineup. Fortunately the quality of most national DJs is good, so permanent brain and ear damage can easily be avoided. The Dutch taste in psytrance is mostly groovy full-on and strong progressive, although the latest minimal and electro sound is gaining popularity.

Darker and more experimental music is not played very often as the atmosphere is mostly a very happy one with most parties in Holland being very friendly and relaxed; the main reason for visiting a party being dancing and socialising all night.

The most popular websites for information on the Dutch trance scene are Goa-trance.nl and Goatrance.net. Here you can find almost all upcoming events, info about artists, chat with the in-crowd, see the photos, videos and listen to mixes and new tracks. Or just talk about the weather, another beloved Dutch tradition.

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Kia Ora Whanau from **NEW ZEALAND**

www.trancersguide.com/newzealand

Flly 24 hours from Europe, 14 from America and 5.5 from Australia and you hit the two islands of New Zealand, home to 4 million people and 50 million sheep! Stunning scenery, temperate climates and an abundance of large open spaces lead people to think that New Zealand has a vibrant psy community, but the reality is somewhat different.

Although it has matured a lot in the past 5 years, the scene is growing up slowly. However, more and more people are returning home after being abroad to realise that New Zealand needs more psytrance. Many are giving a go at producing their own music, giving it a unique New Zealand sound and putting on parties to share it with others.

Whether indoors or outdoors, the only people you see at our parties are there for the music. Although not as glamorous as in many countries, parties aren't plagued by the problems the larger scenes around the world seem to face. Less publicity and fewer drugs mean that parties attract a smaller yet more dedicated following, creating a friendly, inviting atmosphere for all to enjoy.

Auckland has the largest population base in New Zealand and has seen more action of late with indoor parties provided

by Blue Sphere productions (Liam from Enzyme recs UK) and Phat Productions hosted by Big Dave whilst the Rural Remix Crew and friends are catering for the local outdoor scene.

Wellington, the cultural capital, is home to Cosmic Conspiracy Records, New Zealand's only psy label. Headed by American DJ Wizzdumb, it has put New Zealand on the progressive map with quality releases and great parties, both in Wellington and the Golden Bay area. For those after a touch more grunt, Full-On are pushing pure psychedelic trance and after 5 years they show no signs of abating.

The South Island's main area for psy, the Golden Bay area, is »the« place for psy parties in NZ and is renowned for its hippy culture and alternative lifestyle. The Innocent Bystanders are leading the way with powerful psychedelic trance being blasted up the Cobb Valley while Psyd show productions are heading up the progressive side of things. The Stardust Collective are on a new mission and their events will be more of a mixture of electronica and dub than pure psytrance. Christchurch has Psyck Vision who are starting to make a name for themselves with increasingly frequent events.

FACTS

- Illicit drugs are available, but not as easily and in the quantities seen elsewhere around the world. Oh, they definitely aren't cheap either....
- Expect to find the right kind of people and parties happening frequently over the summer months (November to March).
- Marijuana is illegal, but grows really well here. Discretion is advised.
- Summer sun is very, very harsh! 30 mins and your fried... So please use Sun Screen.
- We are tidy Kiwi's. Leave no trace.

LINKS

- www.phatproductions.net
- www.cosmicconspiracy.co.nz
- www.aliennation.co.nz
- www.canaanuprising.co.nz
- www.psy-tearora.com
- www.parihaka.com

CONTACTS

- South Island: dawnbeaver@gmail.com
- North Island: ristafunk@gmail.com



TEXT

Fangus
fullom@paradise.net.nz
Underground psychedelic warrior, DJ, party organiser
»You seen my warrior outfit...?«



photos Dr. Bazz



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FACTS

- Population: 38,000,000
- Average party price: 4 euros
- Price of the beer in a club: 2.2 euros
- Hundreds of varieties of vodka
- Drugs are illegal

LINKS

- www.auralplanet.com
- www.darklife-records.info
- www.hallabana.org
- www.kinooko.prv.pl
- www.moondalia.art.pl
- www.pancer.eu
- www.pointzerorecords.com
- www.psytrance.pl
- www.sundial.pl
- www.lightsphere.de

Psychedelic trance is still very much an underground music in Poland, but with more psy artists appearing each year, you can still have a great time at parties. Soon we will be famous for more than just beautiful women, our great mathematicians, chemists and the last Pope...

Everything began in Warsaw in 1995, when Tromesa started to make tunes and the first Polish compilation from Poland was released: DJ Dreddy's »DJ Choice vol. 1« with tunes from Tromesa, Astral Projection, Etnica, etc. After this, a new era began and DJs such as Sesiz, Bongo, Panza and Gobit started to organise goa trance parties in Warsaw and then, thanks to DJs Atan and Elf, other cities were infected as well.

In Poland you can find all kinds of events from acid techno to psytrance, from hip hop to drum & bass, catering for anything from 90 to 900 people. Party folk are always very friendly, love to chat with international visitors and will gladly help them with sightseeing. The main Polish trance hotspots are currently Gdansk/Gdynia and Warsaw, where parties with international DJs are regularly organised by Hallabana, Toga Dansverg, Pancer Productions and S.C.C. You can also find nice, smaller parties in Poznan and Krakow organised by Uridium, Spiral Active and Pulsar Tranceformation. We are also fortunate to have outstanding UV deco artists such as Raia, Neila and Busiu and VJ's like Zambari, Masta-

baniak and IK to make our parties all the more colourful.

In the past, we had some amazing Aspect of Valor open-air festivals, held in Warsaw by the Vistula river in a great fortress built in 1852. However now you can enjoy an exciting atmosphere at the annual Moondala festival by the sea near Gdansk. This is a good opportunity to meet people from all over the country and beyond, enjoy great music and get a tan ;).

Poland has also seen an explosion in terms of artists and producers with releases on international labels and increasingly regular appearances abroad. Our main ambient producers are Aural Planet and Sundial, but other styles of psy are covered by artists like Lightsphere, Kino Oko, Panza, Z-Piorunochron and oldschool legends Bigwigs who'll be releasing »National Heroes Of Sonic Pasmateria« in February 2007. We also have Dark Life Records, a new Polish label focusing on dark psy that has had releases with artists such as Terminator, Sungirl and Multi Evil.



TEXT
Panza
marcin@pancer.eu
Promoter and founder
of Pancer Prod., label DJ
and marketing manager
for PointZero records

»Give love and receive Love«



photos psytrance.pl (2)



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Visions from **PORTUGAL**

www.trancersguide.com/portugal

62

Since 1994 psytrance has been evolving in Portugal, but like everywhere else in music and ideas there's a key word in the country right now: **mutation**.

What is trance and psychedelic culture? The answer will encompass thousands of definitions, despite our recognition of certain aspects like nature, international crowds, summer festivals and colours...

Portugal has many definitions of trance and its lifestyles too. You may find the freaky approach, the suburban enthusiasts or the new age communities. Another contingent are the music lovers and you also get the party rockers, who just go for banging experiences.

This spectrum shows how wide this movement has become in society since the first psy party in 1994. The instigators were Good Mood, organisers of Boom Festival, the major Portuguese gathering for trance and visionary culture.

In 2006, the major change from previous years was the explosion in music production. Menog, currently Portugal's best-known producer, is a regular name both at home and abroad. N3xu5 is another producer; w h o went



photos Monno & Aida, Bart A.B.E



TEXT

This is the dog of **Artur Soares da Silva**, journalist, and the author of this text
shlooptix@yahoo.co.uk

from dark to a more EBM, melodic style and has now released an album »Silent Noise« on the new label Sin Records that he launched with dark psy. Acts like Quantum Leap, Paranormal Attack, Khopat and Audialize are leaders of the Portuguese sound, which has a melodic edge, even if you mix it with dark elements.

On the downtempo side, veterans Chillout-zone.org released »Ambient Planet 2« with a hi-fi selection of ambient tunes. From the city of Oporto, duo Chilled C Quence made their debut with the album »Magic Senses«.

Tjak is another band that has developed its own profile and Oxalá released »From Another World«, the best ever ethno ambient record from Portugal on Nazca Music.

Crystal Matrix and their sub-label Digital Oracle are a key example of how music has mutated. Known for their full-on productions, they've expanded into new concepts and parties. Today they can hold a party with Eskimo or Infected Mushroom one week and then put on a club night with Martinez Tiefschwarz the next. This is a symptom of the change in music and tastes.

It's on the boundaries, where different styles of music intersect, where you will find the most up-to-date crowd in Portugal. Some of them are still into trance but they are no longer fundamentalists of the scene. Music is mutating and those with limited vision have missed the train into the new century...

FACTS

- Portuguese is the 5th most spoken language in the world.
- Fado is considered the national music of Portugal. It is a mix of African, Brazilian and Portuguese influences.
- 3 wonders from Portuguese: Azores Islands, Sintara and Lisbon
- 1143: The country of Portugal is born.

LINKS

- www.visitportugal.com
- www.boomfestival.org
- www.crystal-matrix.org
- www.swingagency.com
- www.quarkagency.com
- www.slow-records.com
- www.sinrecords.com
- www.quest4goa.com
- www.happy-minds.com
- www.nazcamusic.com
- www.octopus-productions.com





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Shamanic revival in **RUSSIA**

www.trancersguide.com/russia

Although the northern wind brought our huge country a cold winter, urban party goers mimic shamanic dancers and know what BPM to use to raise their body temperatures. The deep, tribal sounds of Psy infiltrates people's mind and strikes a dormant chord in the unknown territories of Russia.

Artists like Psysbird were the first to share Trance music with the rest of the population and the scene has grown rapidly since. Based mainly in and around Moscow and St. Petersburg, the trance movement has helped our younger generations embrace the basis of the psychedelic culture.

In the northern capital St. Petersburg, the main name to look out for is Anvoood from eye sp, whose stunning deco provided a magical environment to Freak-out pro's highly anticipated G o a

Gil party last summer. Famous artists like DJ Myst and DJ Orange regularly present a lot of new and interesting music and Samadhi is becoming increasingly popular in the global trance scene, while newcomers like Red help us believe in a bright future. St. Petersburg borders with Finland and the two communities mix regularly.

This winter, Moscow started holding trance parties playing different styles of music and promo labels like Synthetic Dreams, Artfreaktion and Reaktor Sound System are famous for inviting well-known international stars to play here. You can also visit other parties like those of Technikal Freaks and Insomnia Records, with its special atmosphere and magical sound. Some of Moscow's most regular headliners include CpC and Psykovsky and the world known masters of hypnosis: KinDzaDza, whose new album will be out this spring. Amongst the young generation we have Dissociative, Fearkiller, Kraft, Furious, Paper Squad, Pantomiman, G-Light, Mindex and others.

LINKS

- www.psychedelic.ru
- www.aeroboard.ru
- www.osom-music.com
- www.tranceshop.ru
- www.intrance.ru
- www.newmusic.ru
- www.insomnia-records.ru
- www.kindza.net
- www.eyesp-design.spb.ru

Russia is one of the biggest countries in the world and there really is a lot of undiscovered talent. The Russian psy community understands that politics and international borders can't stop us from uniting. Psytrance is the way of understanding the origins of the universes secrets!



TEXT
Darya Kuznetsova
(DJane Kaliflower)
kaliflower@mail.ru
DJane, writer



photos psychedelic.ru (2)

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Growing up with Psytrance in **SOUTH AFRICA**

www.trancersguide.com/southafrica

FACTS

- Population: 43 million people
- Top holiday destination – exchange rate once again favours euros.
- Best time for good parties and weather is December to end of March
- Random police searches (whilst not common) are legal so be careful.

TRANCE-FRIENDLY HANG-OUTS

- Call – A-Pizza, Sea Point
- Stones, Claremont
- Labyrinth, Green Point
- Zula Sound Bar, CT
- Rafiki's, CT, CBD
- Lola's – Long Street, CT, CBD

The psytrance movement in South Africa seems to have finally grown up and become a part of the worldwide evolution of trance that is taking place right now. What was once an underground scene that most people never knew existed has now become bigger and more popular than any other dance style in Cape Town (Africa's trance mecca). House clubs and funky bars now have regular trance nights each week and as well as being a very cosmopolitan city, Cape Town is regularly rated as one of the top five holiday destinations on the planet. If you have ever experienced an African sunset you will know why!

A documentary called »10 Years of Psychedelic Freedom« is being made for release mid 2007. The DVD is about the first ten years of trance in South Africa and the producers say that their intention is to remind everybody how important this scene has been to all of us. It includes interview with many promoters, DJ's, artists (both music & graphics etc) and of course the trancers of South Africa and killer footage.

Because most party-goers are young, trance is very full-on. Many parties only play full-on whilst more experienced promoters like Vortex start and end with progressive, although they must also play mainly full-on to get a big crowd. There are only 2 or 3 known progressive producers in South Africa and a small handful of progressive DJs whereas

there are over 20 well known full-on producers and lots and lots of young full-on DJs.

Many of the 'new-breed' of punters have only been going to the parties since they have become more commercial (the last 2-3 years) so some of the old-skool 'headz' feel that the original psychedelic essence of the parties is eroding away. The positive side is the scene is now strong enough for an outdoor party every weekend from September (Spring) until late April (Mid-Autumn) making the outdoor season eight months long! Admirably promoters seldom throw parties on the same weekend so the scene stays positive and sustainable.

Summer 2006/7 has also seen top promoters like Vortex and Nano Records introduce other genres to their events. Nano are still our biggest export with several top name internationals such as Tristan, AMD and Aphid Moon all signed to them. They also have top South African artists, Protoculture and The Commercial Hippies on their books as well as exciting new talent, Headroom.

Timecode and Nexus-Media are also doing very well and are prominent at most parties with exciting new artists such as Slug, Multistate and Tickets and the renowned Shift and Artifakt.

Afrogalactic Records are doing the best job at locally developing young producers with regular jam sessions and young, exciting talents being unearthed at their studios. They



photos Vortex(2)

also have some promising new acts in the form of Alice D and On.

There are three top VJ's: Freddie (exclusive-ly for Vortex), Image Master Blink (Freerange) and Blaize who does shows at all the events. The new promoters tend to neglect the artistic side of the party a bit, however Vortex, Groovy Troopers, Alien Safari and Freerange all put a lot of effort into this. Carin Dickson is our top décor artist and works exclusively for Vortex and Red Eye in South Africa. She also did the Voov murals in 2006, looks set to do it again in 2007 and is recognised as one of the top UV artists worldwide.

Unfortunately there is not enough being done to keep psytrance in South Africa linked to alternative lifestyles and the parties are sadly lacking in freaks. South Africa is a little out of the way for many travelers which is a pity because you can easily come spend

three months living here quite cheaply and enjoy rocking trance parties and a good quality lifestyle. However the response from those visiting our shores is nearly always the same. They are amazed at how good the vibes are here, how friendly the people can be and at how many producers there are living in Cape Town. Oh, and by the fantastic weather, big blue sky, wonderful scenery and gorgeous girls and boys!



TEXT

Dave Mac

davemac@eject.co.za
DJ, Co-owner and Editor of BPM Magazine and co-produces Psytrance under the names DMMT and solo projects as Dave Mac.

LINKS

- www.3am.co.za
- www.monkeysfist.co.za
- www.psyfreedom.co.za
- www.afrogalactic.com
- www.nanorecords.co.uk
- www.nexus-media.co.za
- www.timecode.co.za
- www.vortexsa.co.za
- www.aliensafari.net
- www.freerange.co.za
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Sun, siesta and psychedelic fiestas in **SPAIN**

www.trancersguide.com/spain

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With no major festivals over the summer and the club scene showing little growth, many might ask «Is trance dead in Spain?» No!! New blood is coming from the younger generations while the elders take a rest.

In Barcelona, Sindar collective with DJ Fiuzz at the controls have been hosting great indoor parties as well as the best New Year's Eve festival in years. Then we have

Muskaria-Trykomadelik and the LUNATIK crew with parties in Casal del Guinardó and weekly sessions @ La Bohème. Lazy Trancers throw parties and some progressive sessions in Club La Fira and Virusnet Café celebrated its 5th anniversary with a little outdoor party in 2006.

In Madrid, the Sinergia collective has several parties as well as a small open-air. Further collective celebrated 10 years in trance with a big party

near Madrid and Mythology still put on some small raves.

Selenium@Ya'sta Club remains alive with its weekly sessions and in the Valencia-Alicante area, Tribe of Frog continue their magical parties. Ganesha Space Garden organised some raves with Delisyd and Kantala Sound System and Psylove also had a little activity.

Otherwise, La Pura Vida held parties on the tiny enchanted island of La Gomera and in the South of the country, Psyclobie Sound, Green Planet and United Tribes continue to serve a small core of trancers.

The island of Ibiza keeps on attracting international artists to its shores and Ibidelyc Crew hold lots of different events across the island. Together with 3D Vision records they are conducting a new experiment in sound with their ambient label and will be releasing the first CD shortly. Other labels include Materia Records, Spain's first full-on label, CPU's Nutek Records and Spun Records who's new chill out division, Nice Dreams Music have just released their first compilation «Multiple Organisms».



TEXT

Sergio Diez
sergio@yastclub.net
Ya'sta Club Promoter and 60's Psy-Rock DJ

«Life's too short to drink a bad wine»



FACTS

- Population: 40 million
- Four official languages: Castellán (Spanish), Basque, Catalan, Galician.
- Sun, snow, beaches, Fiesta and great food.

LINKS

- www.psyconnection.com
- www.yastclub.net
- www.virusnetcafe.com
- www.materiarecords.com
- www.sinergia.sytes.net
- www.muskaria.com
- www.sindarpsy.org
- www.thefrogz.org
- www.outoftimepeople.net

photos Tribe of Frog (2)



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Go berserk with the Vikings in **SWEDEN**

www.francersguide.com/sweden



Sweden is a country where everything is just fine. We may only have 9 million inhabitants, but we are one of the largest music exporters in the world.

It's quite difficult to hold legal events as it all comes down to permission and how to handle the police. Still there are quite a few underground parties put on by dedicated trance freaks, as well as a few big club events. If you're here during the summer, check out the open-air parties, most of which take place in our enchanted forests.

There have been many attempts to organise trance festivals, but almost all of them ended up being cancelled. They do however play some

psy at Arvika Festival which has 15-20.000 visitors every year. We've also had and still have many respected labels, producers and DJs based around Sweden.

East: Today, big events are held by organisations like Monday Bar Crew, Tribalism, Lekstuga and Socially Hazardous. The city Örebro is famous for its open-air parties and this led to the launch of Stone Age Records who are releasing »Örebro Freak Factory 4« this year. Another label from the »old generation« is Creon Records while Hypnotica Records and Devils Mind Records, who've had some releases with local talents like Wizack Twizack, are representing the »new generation«.

On the »West Coast«, the scene is mostly based in Sweden's second largest city: Göteborg. Talented live acts, DJs and labels such as Atmos, S>Range, Human Blue, Anti, Bakke and Morg all call the city home, however sadly, Spiral Trax, a cornerstone of progressive trance for almost 10 years, had to close down last year.

Flexible hold some fun and funky parties with satisfaction guaranteed. Laugh and Dance Records are a new label who are about to have their first release in 200 and Cannibal Syndrome Records had their first release last year.

There are many open-air events here in the summer time. Trolltyg is one annual gathering worth a visit and there is also Freaky Forest put on by Heavy Mental Production.

FACTS

- Temperatures are warmer from June-August, and cold from Nov-April.
- Almost everyone speaks good English.
- For a couple of weeks every summer you can experience a midnight sun where the sun never sets up in the North of Sweden.
- All drugs are strictly controlled and most are illegal.

LINKS

- www.swedish-mushroom.com
- www.psydb.net
- www.badboll.nu
- www.heavymentalrecords.com
- www.laughanddance.se
- www.mpdqx.com
- www.flexible.to
- www.mondaybar.com

South: Malmö is proud to have respected acts like Son Kite, Ticon and Vibrasphere who have conquered the globe with their ground-breaking Scandinavian sounds and Peter Didital, Nanda, Tegma, Shaman, Progresia and Etnoscore are based here too.

There are a few smaller open-airs during the hotter months of the year and good club events. Helsingborg has the Tranceporter crew with regular parties all year round.



photos swedish-mushroom.com (2) & Sandra Rappell (1)



TEXT

Katja Toorpainen
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Helitown Chicks
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- » Chaishop Hosting » Internet Hosting Provider » www.chaishop-media.com/offers/hosting.htm
- » Chaishop Music News » Weekly Audio Show » www.chaishop.com/musicnews
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Top of the range parties in **SWITZERLAND**

www.trancersguide.com/switzerland

FACTS

- Festivals take place in the warm (sometimes hot) summer, but there are even small outdoor parties in the winter snow.
- Living expenses are high in Switzerland. This also applies to costs for drinks and food at festivals however party admissions itself is reasonable
- The Mysticalforum is the countries biggest psyforum including a discussion section about Swiss parties with »regular« German, English, French and Italian postings.
- Swisspsy is a unified platform for all three parts of the country with party agendas and news.



»And the beat goes straight on and on« may be an appropriate phrase to describe Switzerland's trance history which started in local parts of the country in the early nineties and has been spread out in to every corner of the country.

The German part of Switzerland has the most active scene, followed by the Swiss French, and finally the Italian section. The styles of trance varies within these parts. For big events with melodic full-on and sophisticated progressive trance, check out the Swiss German part. For more twisted night sounds, the Swiss French part will offer you the gateway to insanity. The Swiss Italians like it more underground and dark.

The number of promoters, increasing up until the last two years, now seems to have stabilised. Some organisations have stopped their activities while others have merged to create stronger collectives. The most important organisations include names like FrakaSound, Kokopelli, Rumpelpitz, and DMT.

The realisation of ideas by constructive minds resulted in many unique & thrilling outdoor and indoor experiences. »Mental soup«, the countries pioneer dark psy festival took place in the Swiss-Italian Mountains and FrakaSound's »A Fairy tale«, an indoor held in an eye-teasing romantic chateau, became a legend.

The canton Grisons (Graubünden) turned out to offer brilliant unspoilt spots for festivals in the mountains. Four of the interna-

tional outdoor events took place there, including Atmosphere Festival, the highest European outdoor Psytrance event at nearly 2100m above sea level.

A handful of quality Swiss labels are gaining worldwide recognition by releasing outstanding music, such as Peak or Kumquat. They take care of talented local artists like Electrypnose or Andre Absolut. Swiss artists can be found frequently in the party line-ups all over the world.

Generally at a very high production level, Swiss music ideas found their way in to every psychedelic music genre, often released on well established music labels - like Liquid Soul's debut album that was released on Iboga in September. With DJ Martin they run Ear-sugar, grooving the crowd with highly addictive live acts. Freakulizer has a new album in progress and founded his new electro side-project Khaizn. More on the twisted side are Yab Yum (Peak) and Digitalist (Dropout & Devilsmind Rec.). Other up-and-coming Swiss artists include Rumble Pack, Midimal, Mason Celler and Orgon Flow.

Switzerland also offers some of the finest DJs, technically very skilful and with the instinct to rumble any floor, e.g. QED, Müstik, Nygma, Jackomo and Fidimohnius.

Switzerland has a very active musical scene, though many more cultural elements can be discovered, at parties as well as in larger cities. Those of you who like to buy clothes, CDs, or psychedelic souvenirs, keep your eyes

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open for nomad merchants traveling around the festivals. Popular shops include the Natraj Stand (clothes), the Sam Smiler Stand (CDs) or the Klangwerk Psy-Cafe. In major cities check out Secret Nature (Thun), Avarox (Bern), Dj-Corner (Lucerne) and Aladdin (Lausanne). They have a diverse selection of goods and will help you find flyers for the any planned events.

However one thing remains constant wherever you party: The party freaks are one of the best crowds on this planet; smiling happy, freaky-dressed people. This has made many international artists fall in love with this scene.

Now you've got enough info and hopefully want to explore the Swiss scene by yourself. Further details concerning parties, artists and scene news can be found on top up-to-date websites. Let us guide you through the Swiss psychescene with its unique locations, special freaks and high quality events - check it out party people...



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LINKS

- www.swisspsy.ch
- www.mysticalforum.ch
- www.frakasound.com
- www.psyberpunk.ch
- www.geodesik.ch
- www.klangarena.org
- www.liquidsoul.ch
- www.interzone.ch
- www.nandan.ch

SHOPS

- **SECRET NATURE**
Ob. Hauptgasse 11, Thun
www.secret-nature.ch
- **SPACESHIRT.CH**
Psy-art shirts and more
www.spaceshirt.ch

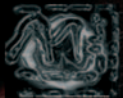


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FACTS

• Drugs are unwanted and punishment is harsh in Thailand.

LINKS

- www.greenspiritkrabi.com
- www.psychonauticmindlab.com
- www.halfmoonfestival.com
- www.djcentre-th.com
- fullmoonparty-thailand.com

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The land of smiles, with its beautiful and benevolent nature, makes it easy to feel at home and is an extremely comfortable place to be. The friendliness of the people, great food and nature has been attracting those in search of paradise for many years.

Psytrance was brought to Thailand from travelers that stopped over on their way to Goa and soon backpackers started flocking to Koh Phangan, the Island of »The Beach«. What began more than 20 years ago with two speakers and a tape deck as a goodbye party for a Westerner during a full moon, has since become South East Asia's party island.

Today, Koh Phangan plays host to most of the country's psy parties; the most famous of these being the Fullmoon parties held along Had Rin beach. One of the longest running sound systems is that at Tommies bar where DJ Jr, known for his harder tunes, is still the original resident and is joined by DJ Denny from Hong Kong and international guest DJs.

After the Fullmoon parties, the biggest event is the semimonthly Halfmoon party featuring excellent resident DJs Jao, Pat, Psyfrog and Note alongside an ever-changing line-up of international guests.

Then there is the Blackmoon party organised by DJ Leung and held directly on

the beach. DJ Sabai Sabai, well known in Europe for his festival performances, is a resident here and alongside DJ Koi and DJ Johnny provides a memorable evening of psychedelic sounds and surf.

The Pirates Bar in Shri Thanu is another venue set in a perfect location on the beach that is reached by crossing a wooden bridge. DJ PsyKp and guests deliver pumping progressive and wicked psychedelic trance.

If you want to celebrate psy with an enthusiastic crowd, then the strictly psychedelic Shiva Moon parties are a good place to go, where you'll find residents DJ Satwah, DJ Katsumi, Sanuk and DJane Venus Vibes joined by friends from afar.

If that still isn't enough to choose from then there are still the Ban Sabai Day Parties with their nicely decorated location by the beach belonging to DJs Leung and Johnny.

Unfortunately the country's capital Bangkok recently lost its leading psy spot, the Ooze Bar. However it is still home to the DJ Centre which is not only a booking agency for DJs Nin, Minoom and Goa Gum, but a great place to get equipment too.

And for those in Thailand over New Year's Eve, the Greenspirit Festival is without a doubt the country's best known New Year's party. Protected by the shade of a rubber tree plantation in the idyllic setting of Krabi, this International gathering promises to be one of those events that everyone who's there will remember.



TEXT

Captain Nemo

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Dancer, DJ, producer, live act, visual artist, writer and philosopher

»May all beings be happy!«

Souls of the ancient **Turkey**

www.trancersguide.com/turkey



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»We walked a little, yet travelled too far; have crossed overhill and plains apart; and when we looked back, indeed; The road left behind, was no bigger than a barley seed...« So begin the ancient Turkish fairy tales. The first trance dance experience on these lands was probably held in Catalhoyuk around 6500 BC!

The first sprouts of psytrance appeared around the mid '90s with small indoor and outdoor gatherings and by 2001, pioneers of the scene were throwing legendary parties such as LOVE, Isik Mountain Parties, Love Sun Dance and Ida Experience. In 2005, Intelligent Monkey opened the first psy club in Istanbul which hosted several international artists until it was closed later in the same year. Meanwhile, Electric Blue was making psy-radioshows on a regular basis.

However, Soulclipse 2006 was a turning point for everyone. With 200 artists and

12,000 participants, this massive event left Turkey literally »eclipsed«. The already expanding psytrance scene gained immense momentum and commercial events and frequency of the parties increased. 2006 saw great free outdoor events such as God On Acid I – II, Perseid Gathering, and two street parties in the heart of Istanbul titled Pysytreet and Magic Lamp.

Today the local scene is catered for by DJs such as Kodomo, Mute, Tao-Sen, Pysyari, Moonchild, Sona, Virtualien, Fantasma, Murat, Djhan, Chillom, Pysytombi, Zen-G and Undereto Project, some of whom make the occasional international appearance too and Turkish producers like Lucid Picnic, Mindsphere and Trauma are releasing their tunes through international labels. We also have Mute producing a psy-radioshow called Cosmic Pillow on Acik Radio 94.9. Children of Mu and Adam&Alien are the two leading deco teams. Mushamba is known for their deco-chai and party organisations. And Habehabe Tribe keeps the Goa spirit alive with its free outdoor parties, or rather... purities.

We know that change is the essence of existence; that we cannot live on memories of the old days. So let's hope that the commercial expansion will encourage promoters to put on magnificent events and help tribes to enhance their existing skills whilst the magic is kept alive on secret shores, in fairy-tale forests and across history drenched hills.

FACTS

- Istanbul is the capital of culture and nightlife in Turkey. However, you'll need a guide to discover it's secrets. You can find friendly freaks at www.psyturk.com.
- The southern parts are warmer. Very nice from March to September.
- »Midnight Express« is a lie, but drugs are illegal. Turkey is a country famous for its nature and natural products though :))!
- Turkey is still very cheap, both to eat and to stay.

LINKS

- www.artificialeyes.tv
- www.bugday.org
- www.j-fest.com
- www.lotusartfactory.com
- www.abstre-av.net
- www.psyturk.com

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Land of the free gatherings: **USA**

www.trancersguide.com/usa

A growing body of evidence suggests that the origin of the name America was not the Italian explorer Amerigo as most believe. A new etymological theory reveals that «America» came from the Mayan word *América*, literally translated as the «Land of the Plumed Serpents».

The psychedelic spirit is picking up steam in the birthplace of Goa Gil, hippy culture, rock & roll, and the Internet. «2012: The Return of Quetzalcoatl» author Daniel Pinchbeck is getting press as the new psychedelic guru. «The times have been darkening recently because of President Bush's idiocy, and some are realizing the potential of psychedelics to wake up humanity,» says Alex Grey, the psy artist, a friend of Pinchbeck's. «As we come closer to a kind of apocalyptic culture, psychedelics give us an opportunity to look through a lens into our own mind and reflect where we want to steer our future.»

Against this backdrop, psytrance now thrives in the middle of the country including the birthplace of house and techno, Chicago. With this bridge between coasts, little bubbles of trance are popping up in many new places.

Musically, the scene has been growing with new artists and new labels being created to meet the demand of the now growing world-

wide market. US artists like Chromatone, Penta, Mubali, Random, Mindstorm, Ocelot, The Nommos, Bodhisattva 13:20 are all finding a lot of support globally and back home, new acts like Amanda, Arahata, Alien Mental, Xyla, Sanayama, Helios and Meta.

In Los Angeles, Psytripe continue to hold it down for la familia and several members are now producing music. Mindfull is the new dark psy contingent and held several gath-

ings in the desert. Green Sector host events all over the place as well as at home on the ranch. They also transported their crew to the 2nd annual Symbiosis Gathering to provide support for the event. This is the progression of psytrance in America; bringing together organisers from populated Trance centers to create multi-day, multi-genre, multi-verse experiences.



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Northern Cali continues to expand and diversify. Many small events going on simultaneously with 100- 400 folks on a nearly weekly basis. Crews include: Geomagnetic.tv/Phoenix Family, G.O.A. Play/Symbiosis Crew, Raw Heaven, Tantra, Drop Out, Psybooty, Outpost 23, Secret Psychedelia, and Synchrozone.

In Seattle, Infinite Connections has been doing a series of Iosis Art Parties that have featured some of the world's top progressive psy acts while Environmental Structures focuses on the darker sounds. In Portland, Apollo's Lute's former members, N.E.T., Catharsis Crew, Synergy Productions, Sidetrakkt & others have organized events in the past.

In Texas, the vast expanse of the lone star state reveals wonderful locations for intense stomping such as wooded ranches deep in the heartland or desolate beaches along the gulf coast. The future looks bright for bushcountry as crews, DJs & artists are evolving faster than you can say »bring, em on.« Overmindworks trances in the Arizona desert.

The Midwest resonated with Chilluminati, Psymbolic, Trance Psyndicate, Divine Balance, Oxygen Rec, DB Sonic Healing Initiative and Entheon Village. Iowa had Subconscious Collective's »MAGE 3« and MindOutsyde. Missouri's Mindlicker dome graced the midwest »InterFuse« burn. GoaHead and Cosmic Traveler rocked Ohio.

The East Coast entered its 10th year in 2006. Reality Engine does Alex Grey's events at the Chapel of Sacred Mirrors (COSM). Aladdin Project hosted Goa Gil and 55 Lex, 28th Day, 6362 Metaforce, TDC, Burning Lotus, A.M. Bionik Universe, DMT, PSI, Adam/lan/Jowe, Konvocation, Gaian Mind, Psyorfa and Tsunami are all local players. North Carolina's Touch Samadhi crew had their Powow and Florida and Atlanta are starting to heat up, with Psy rooms now at most raves.

Finally, the greatest show on Earth, Burning Man in the Nevada desert, celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2006.

LINKS

- www.tranceam.org
- www.psymbolic.com

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