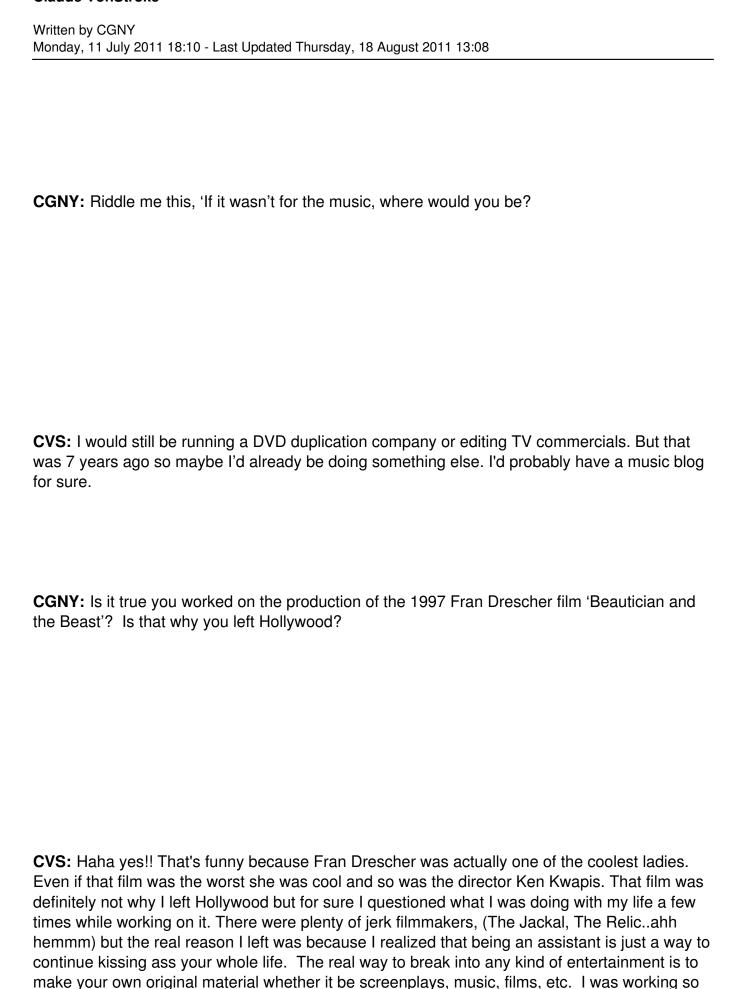
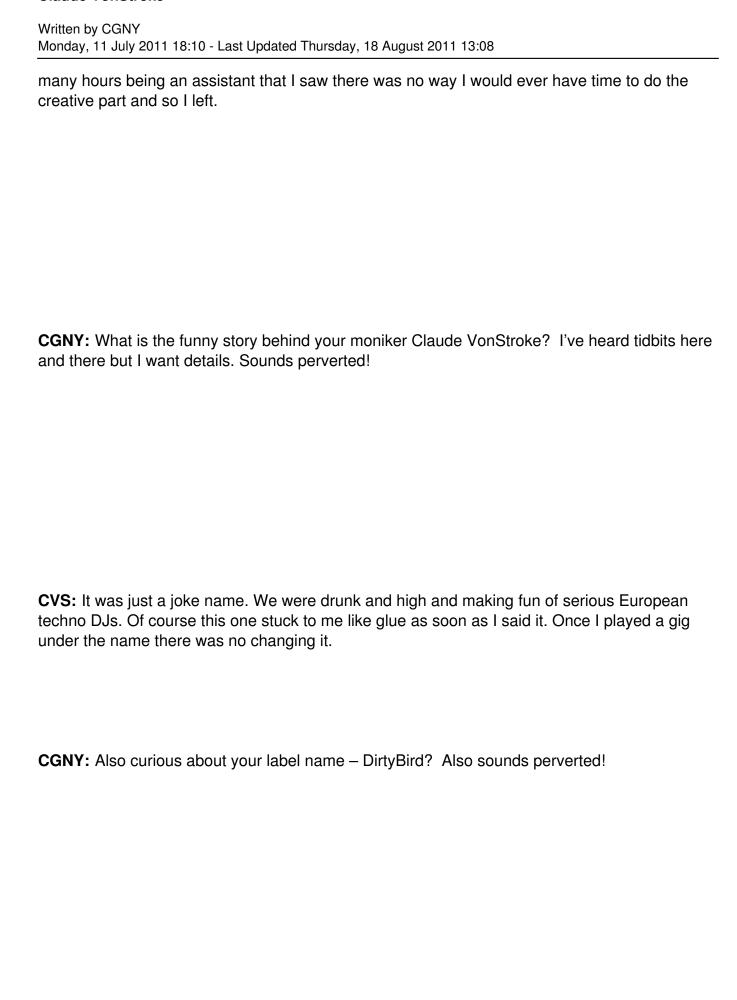


CVS...not the name of your local NYC pharmacy! Yet there is some good chemistry going on behind Mr. Claude VonStrokes decks. Djing for Verbotens party at XV1 on July 30th, and with his new dirtybird release of "MAKEOVERS" on July 27th, CGNY caught up the SF native ahead of his gig.





Written by CGNY Monday, 11 July 2011 18:10 - Last Updated Thursday, 18 August 2011 13:08

**CVS:** The funny part is that we didn't even think of what this meant in the UK, it just sounded funny to us and it was about 10 times better than the original name "Rook Records." I had been drawing a bird character since I was a little kid and the name fit the drawing so we rolled with it.

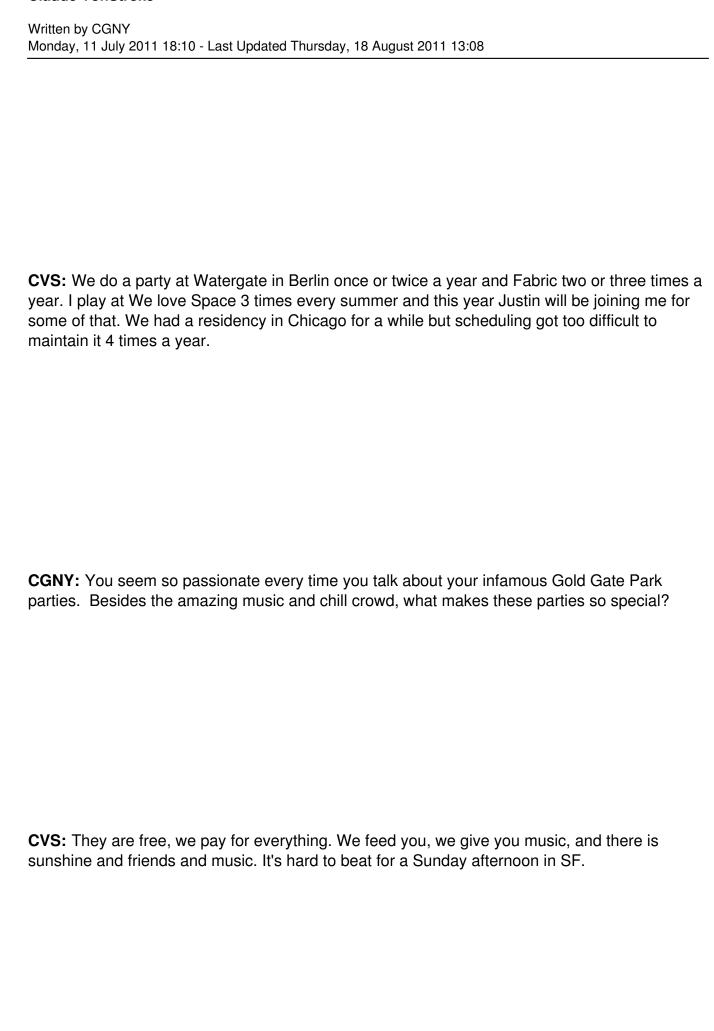
**CGNY:** What are some of your favorite US cities to tour? Favorite countries?

**CVS:** I love San Francisco the most. That's why I never leave. It would be so much easier to live in Berlin or London but its SF that rules my world. I fit in here the best. My favorite cities to tour are very random... Paris, Leeds, Bristol, Lyon, Chicago, Detroit, etc.

**CGNY:** What crowd has surprised you the most and why?

**CVS:** Recently in Malmo Sweden I wasn't expecting it to be so insane. When I walked in everyone looked very well behaved and reserved. There weren't even that many people there. By the time I was done it seemed like people were coming out of the woodwork; the entire stage was full, everyone was freaking out, going full force, shouting and jumping - completely losing their minds. Awesome.

**CGNY:** Does DirtyBird have any other residencies outside of San Francisco?



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**CGNY:** I know these parties are unannounced, but this NYC gal is planning a trip to San Francisco this year to visit family. I would love to plan a trip around one of those parties. If I promise to keep it to myself, would please have mercy on me and share that schedule?

**CVS:** It's not possible. Actually this is "the year it got too big." We have to start from scratch again because over 2000 people just showed up out of nowhere to the last one and you can't just have 2000+ show up to a BBQ in this city without some trouble from the park rangers and the government. So now we have to find a new field and build a new way to get the right permits. If that many people are going to show up it's a much bigger production than the family picnic vibe it used to have.

**CGNY:** What is your favorite record store in the world? What makes it your favorite?

**CVS:** My favorite record store is probably Justin Martin's hard drive. I get soo happy when he makes a new track because I know I will rinse it and it will kill everywhere I play it. As for a physical shop, my shop was always Tweekin in SF on Haight but now it has a new name and new owners and I haven't been in there. It's more indy rock now.

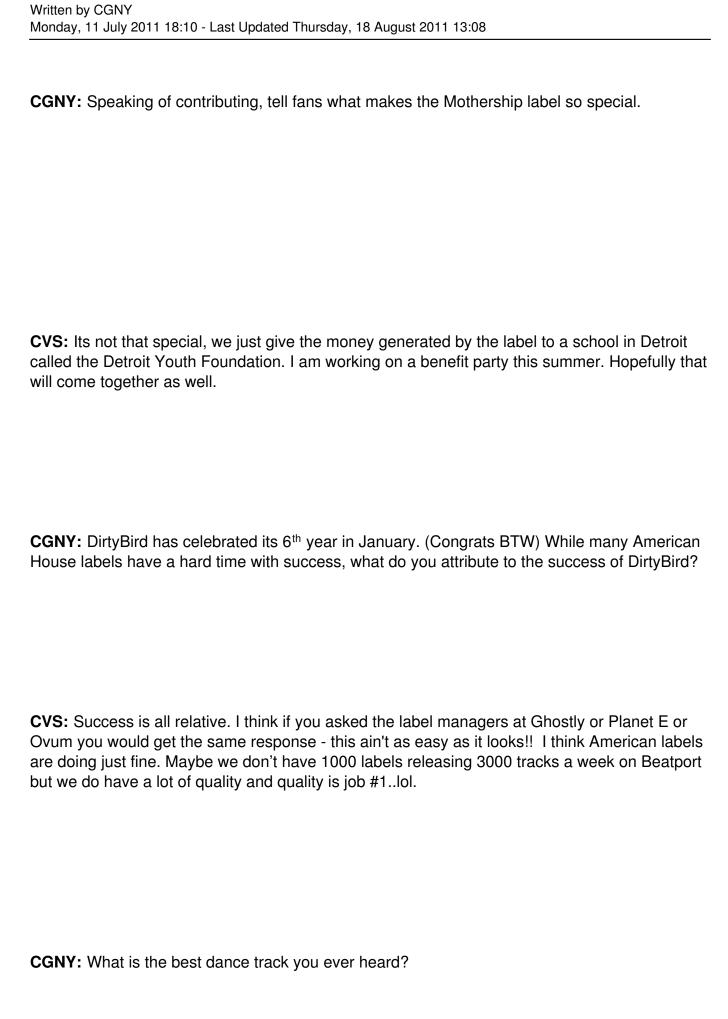
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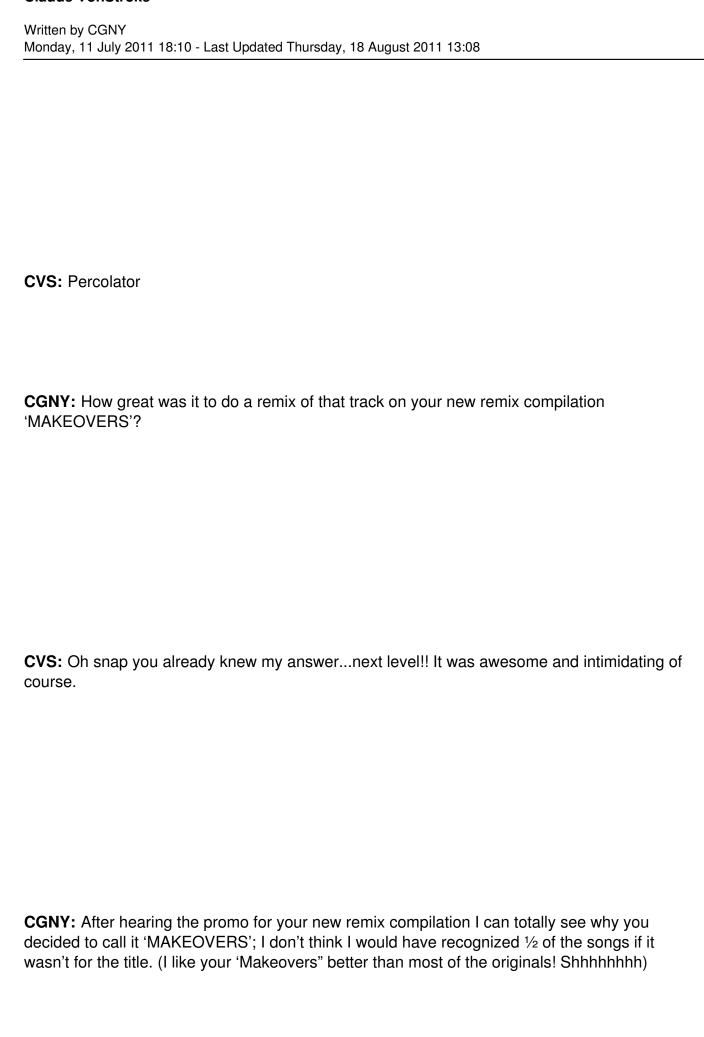
**CGNY:** As a dedicated fan, I could expect anything from House to Electro to Drum and Bass etc from you. How difficult is it to decide how to play at a party? What is the secret? Do you easily read a crowd or does location decide how you play?

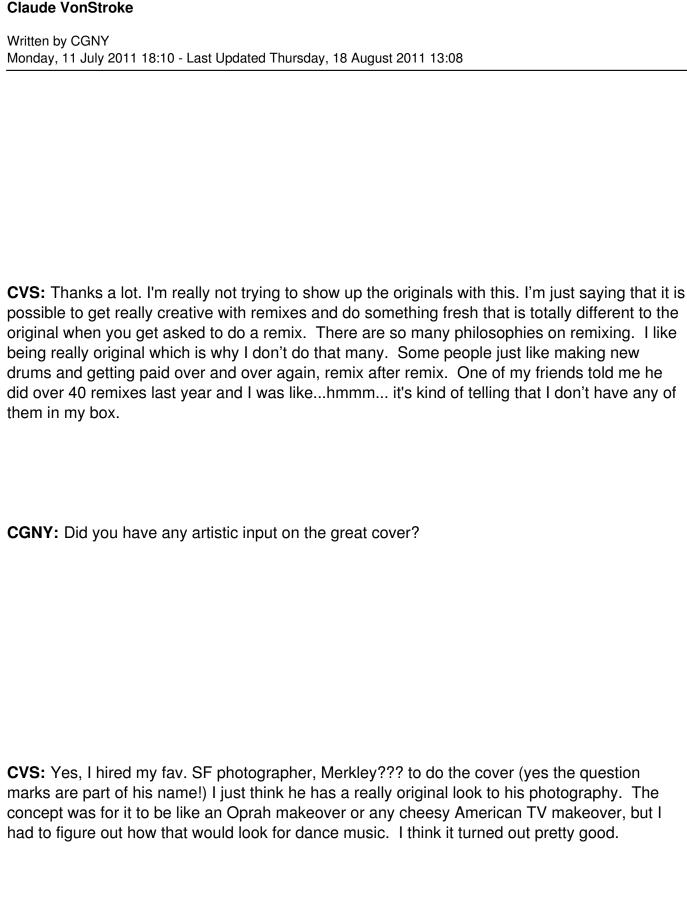
CVS: All I know is that at one point I found myself early on about 5 or 6 years ago in Panorama bar trying to play what I thought they wanted to hear and I finally said to myself "fuck this shit, why am I doing this?" As soon as I got past that moment I feel like I really understood myself a lot better. No one is booking me to hear a housey house disco set or a German techno set. They are booking me to hear a Claude VonStroke set so to answer the question, yes I read the crowd as best I can but at the same time I also say screw you all I'm playing some bass lines whether they are in fashion or not.

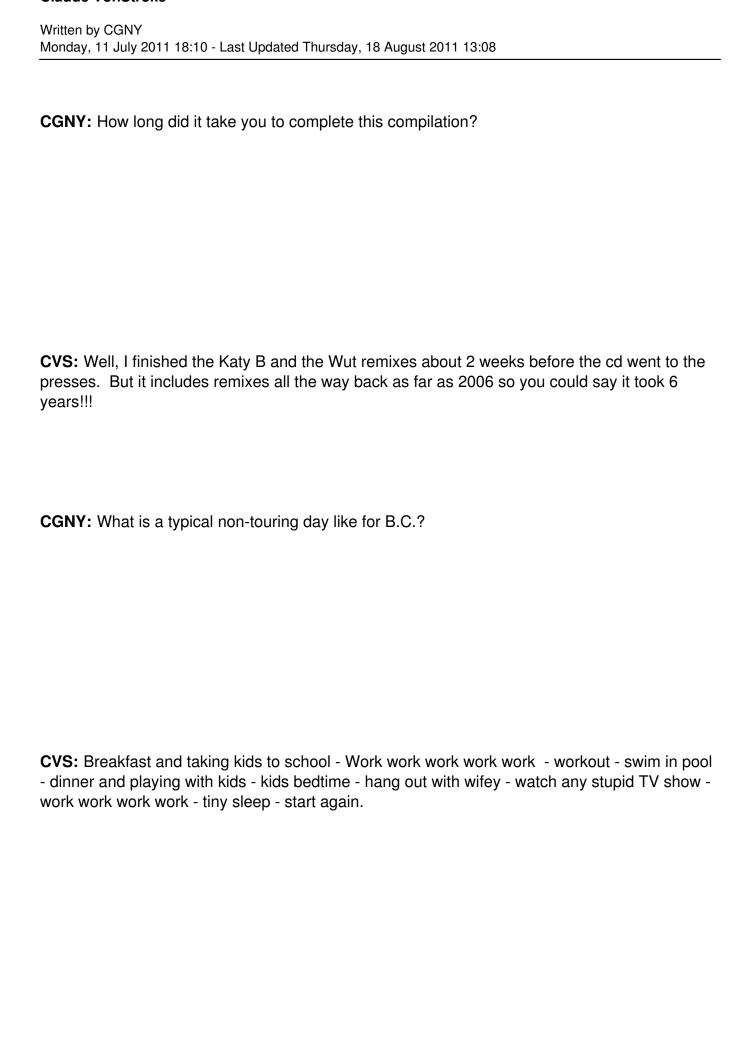
**CGNY:** The news about Kim Kong is devastating. How did the benefit party at The Icon Ultra Lounge go? Did you reach your goal for the evening? How can individuals, who could not make it to the benefit, still contribute?

**CVS:** I only knew Kim through emails until that night. She has been doing online promotions for our party for a couple years. I think she is going to beat the whole thing. I'm not really sure how to donate to her cause; perhaps that info is on her Facebook so check it out. The night did very well, nice turnout and lots of people wearing funny wigs to support Kim. It was really cool.









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CGNY: I love reading your blog on dirtybirdrecords.com. In most of your blogs you provide some kind of list - for example, Top 7 San Fran, Top 5 to starting a label, Australia vs. US Cheeseburgers, Hangover cures, etc. Is there any list you can provide your fans, in this interview, that no one will see on your blog?
CVS: Top 5 really really lame things that I should be embarrassed for liking:
1. Cleveland Browns
2. Survivor
3. Entertainment Weekly
4. At home workout videos
5. Bob and Doug Mackenzie
http://www.dirtybirdrecords.com/

