

X-CLAN



As a group, you're considered pioneers of hip-hop. Do you feel you still have something to prove in the rap game?

Brother J: I don't feel X-Clan has anything to prove as a consistent messenger group, but in the face of independent music we pay dues everyday - through touring, in-stores, community events, etc.

What caused the re-formation of the group? The evolution of X-Clan was needed from the 1990's version of our group. We had to learn how to address a new generation and a new age of music. Most of the new X-Clan members have been with our organization for years outside of the spotlight. The purpose of each member will continue to unravel to the masses as our popularity continues to grow. Each member of X-Clan are also parents of children of this new generation, so our passion to balance hip hop is more than just selling units, it's about offering elements of the Golden Era that we enjoyed in the early 90's. Freedom, equality and respect are few of the elements that made us a hip hop nation.

Is the group's re-emergence an indicator that you guys feel

something needed to change in today's hip-hop scene?

Yes. I feel there needs to be a seasoned voice of revolution in today's hip hop scene. Angry music pushes away our elders, [and] without the elders as our guidance, hip hop music has become barbaric, materialistic, and repetitious. X-Clan as a messenger group offers you solid production and intelligent content. This combination opens doors for not only underground music, but for commercial artists that are trapped in a thug image.

What is your opinion of today's hip-hop, and what do you feel is missing from tracks heard on the radio? I am disappointed at the level of composition that is accepted by major music corporations. There are so many artists that represent the new Curtis Mayfields, Nina Simons, and Miles Davises, that will never be heard because of the square standards of pop music. Rap music did not spawn from pop radio, it spawned from the streets. What is missing from hip hop is the true and honest expression of artists and not opportunists.