

BEHIND THE MUSIC

Behind the Shadow

DJ Shadow thinks rap is the future of hip-hop

What do you have planned for Beijing? I will be doing an updated version of my current show. There's a little bit of my old stuff and some of the new stuff people like as well. **What's your opinion of the current state of hip-hop?** I think that the only truly thriving aspect of hip-hop culture at the moment is rap, but I can't say that I really listen to too much of it right now. Perhaps it's my age, or that I'm looking for something a little more sophisticated musically. **What's the next album like?** Because the album was recorded in a rural environment, there are parts of the record that feel lonely and introspective. But there are also some good club songs. **Why did you title it *The Less You Know The Better*?** It's just a title that resonates with me. For example, I don't like to engage in too much social networking. I don't like knowing that corporations are monitoring my intellect and influences for their own use.

DJ Shadow at Mix,
Saturday, Oct. 1,
mixclub@sohu.com

Corporations
are monitor-
ing my
intellect



B&B service,
high-end feel



The Orchid ★★★★★

Hutong Hooch

This charming boutique bed & breakfast has been turning heads since it opened early this year. Like the quaint B&B it's in, the Orchid's bar is cozy and reminiscent of a sophisticated hidden garden. Vines drape around the doorways and the comfortable lounge seating holds 30 thirsty guests. Open to the public, the bar boasts an impressive wine list, a simple cocktail list (¥50) and a few coffee and tea options for mid-day quenching. Dimly lit and decorated in lime green and yellow with raw wood and natural elements, this is truly a successful blend of old and new. ■ **Lauren Johnson**

Find it: 65 Baochao Hutong, 宝钞胡同 65号, Tel: 8404-4818, www.theorchidbeijing.com

3 Rock ★★★★★

Rock Oasis

If you're looking for a rock hideout in the midst of the electronic and hip-hop dominated Sanlitun Bar Street, this bar is for you. With reasonable drink prices, a foosball table and décor described as a "rock chic," it's the perfect oasis for anti-clubbers. While it caters to the foreigner crowd, locals also frequent the joint sipping on innovative drinks like the fruity "sex pistol" (¥30), or the popular 3 Rock special (¥30). Skip grinding on stranger for a night and try rocking out instead. ■ **Chris Louney**

Find it: 42 Sanlitun South, 三里屯南42号,
Tel: 6416-3506

A little bit rock,
a little bit kitschy



MIXOLOGY

Scarlett | Hem-
mingway Special
Writer's
Block

The Hemmingway Special was created for the famous writer in 1947 at El Floridita because he didn't like mojitos. It's a best seller at Scarlett (¥58).



A mix of Cuban rum, lime juice, maraschino and grapefruit juice, this drink is served frozen, the perfect fall drink. A mix between a mojito and a daiquiri, the drink epitomizes Hemmingway's style of always living between nations and on the move. We suggest it to cure writer's block.

Find it: Hotel G, A7 Gongti Xilu,
工体西路甲7号, Tel: 6552-2880