



## Party Like It's 2099

Austin's Plus Move set their sights on Justice's crown.

Since Justice stormed America's shores like a reverse Normandy invasion, legions of like-minded edit-and-vocoder frenzied DJ/producers have been emboldened to take their laptop symphonies in headier, harder directions. Plus Move, an Austin-based pair of 21-year-old digital dynamos, count themselves among those inspired by the French electro lords. They also understand why their brilliant brand of dance floor fire has some anointing them as the American heirs to Justice's throne.

"If people are comparing us to them, then we're doing something right," says Josh Shifrin, who formed Plus Move in 2006 at New England Institute of Art in Boston with classmate Paul Mihailoff.

On their debut EP, *2099*, the similarities are stark, but the

three tracks are anything but cheap knockoffs. The two put their own distinct and very melodic stamp on each track, setting themselves apart from the Français-speaking dance masters that created the genre while simultaneously paying them tribute. "Boss" is already an infectious blogosphere smash while "Tic Toc" is electro euphoria with its slap-bass funk, squelching guitars, and

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digitized vocal snippets. And the title track is, simply, a futuristic party anthem.

"We were just creating as many songs as we could," Shifrin says. "That's the thing we love more than anything—just sitting in our little room and fucking creating as much as we can."

The two connected while Shifrin was studying video and Mihailoff was taking

audio courses. Shifrin was more into rock and Mihailoff was more of a hip-hop kid, but the two found common ground in Daft Punk and started a rock band that evolved into an electronic duo. Soon, they were rocking clubs and underground parties with Boston's Basstown collective alongside rising stars like DJ Die Young, Etan and Volvox.

"We tried to start a rock

band and it didn't really work. We started talking about electronic music and realized we both liked that," Shifrin recalls. "We kind of just put our music together and started going from there."

After doing a remix for dance-rockers Ready Fire Aim, they were picked up by Expansion Team. They recently relocated to Shifrin's hometown of Austin—partly out of a

need for a scenery change and partly in search of warmer weather—and are already deep into recording material for a follow-up.

"Our next EP, I think, totally destroys this one," Shifrin says. "I think our music is getting way more out there and completely different than Justice."

They're continuing to mine their collection of "ghetto programs," like Fruity Loops and Cool Edit Pro, but are using more guitars, bass and keyboards and are even thinking about adding a live drummer. They work part-time at an American Apparel store but hope to soon give up the day job and take their music to the next level.

"People know us for just hard-hitting bangers," he concludes. "But the new stuff, they're more like surf jams, funky bass lines. I think we're just trying to take it as many places as we can. We don't really know where it's going to go yet."

—Dave Wedge