

Slum Village Release F.U.N.



Slum Village release *F.U.N.*, their first album in almost a decade. T3 and Young RJ wave their SV flag hard on the album with guest appearances from The Dramatics, Larry June, Cordae, Robert Glasper, Abstract Orchestra, and more. The duo says that the starting point and inspiration for the album was collecting disco records. Their sonic destination becomes obvious on “To The Disco” which posts up with horns and rhythm descended from some of Gamble and Huff’s Philadelphia dance music. Those vintage sounds also appear on “Keep Dreaming” where Young RJ admits to still having dreams about a spaceship after a sample evoking the *Shaft In Africa* soundtrack fades into the background. They perfected a rollerskating jam with “All Live” constructed of a Tom Browne trumpet opening and a groove reminiscent of “Climax” from their *Fantastic Vol. 2* days.

The title track grabs some of Funkadelic’s fervor circa 1978 to make a statement about their proud Detroit origins. It has been almost three decades since J.Dilla’s group emerged and like another legendary Detroit group, The Temptations, Slum Village has survived the passing of members and different lineups to keep making music. *F.U.N.* reveals that T3 and Young RJ still have the spark that started the whole thing in the first place. They shine equally with a good group of collaborators and have added a new worthy edition to grown-up rap.

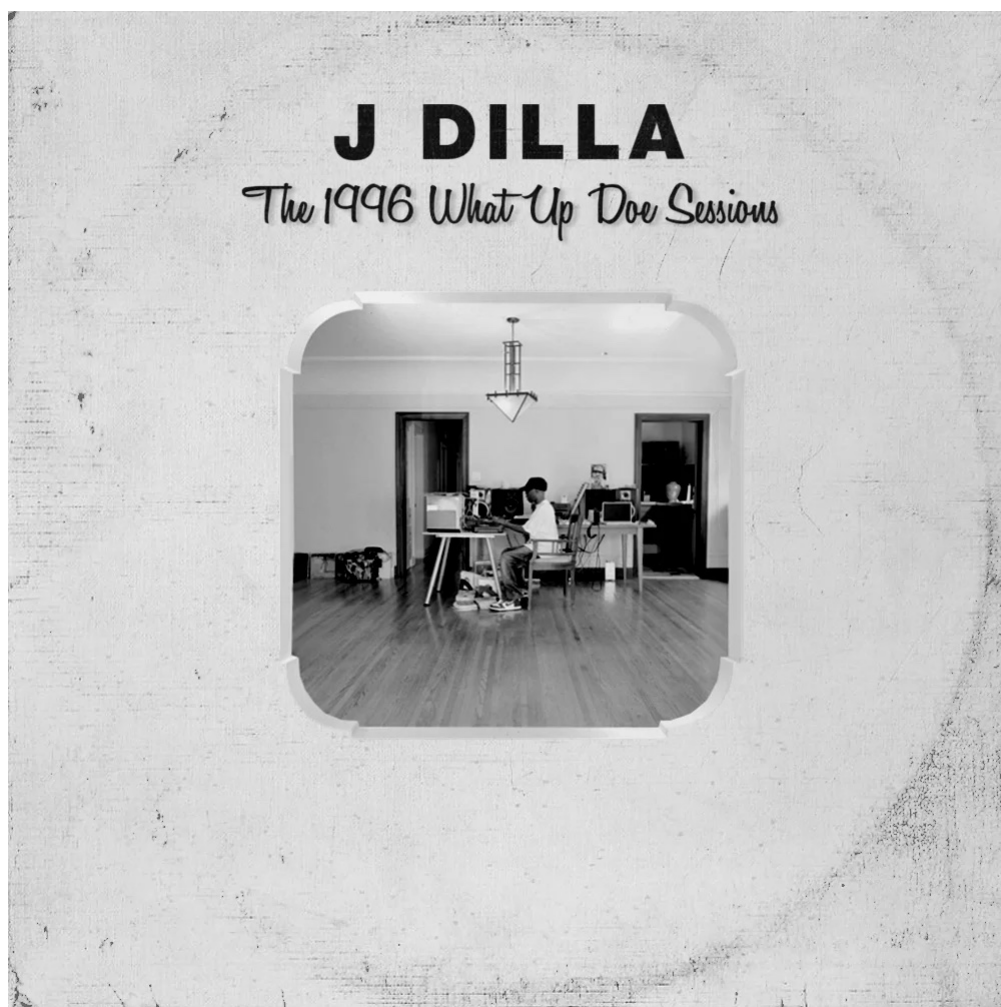
Slum Village Recruit Eric Roberson & Elijah Fox For Factor



Slum Village is releasing their *FUN* album very soon and now they unveil “Factor” featuring Eric Roberson and Elijah Fox. “Factor” is a love proposal with a little bit of caution voiced by Young RJ outweighed by Roberson’s notes of longing. The group has never shied away from rapping about relationships and incorporating R&B into their sound. “Just Like You” was the first single from *FUN* and it was also about love but [“Request”](#) released in February put the focus back on their business. Young RJ and T3’s return is long welcomed because it was more than eight years ago when they released *Yes!*. They will return to Europe on April 4th for their *FUN*

Since 92 Tour. The first show in Bologna, Italy begins a 28-date stint abroad. *FUN!* will hit retail on April 19th via Ne'Astra Music. Slum Village is on the roster alongside Sza and more for the Jack Harlow-presented Louisville, Kentucky-bound [Gazebo Festival](#) in May.

Throwback: J.Dilla-Sunbeams



J.Dilla's "Sunbeams" is from *The 1996 What Up Doe Sessions*. The title comes from how many Detroiters greet each other by saying "What Up Doe?" The song was built with Joe Sample's "Black Is The Color" and Grady Tate's "Be Black Baby." "Sunbeams" was another instance of Dilla's genius

understanding of rhythm. He took the samples from each song and turned them into an endless moody meditation helmed by a delicate snare drum. The sound of early morning or late at night depending on the listener is one of Dilla's most famous instrumentals. The bootlegged collection of beats was recorded in 1996, the same time Dilla's productions were being heard on De La Soul's *Stakes Is High* and A Tribe Called Quest's *Beats, Rhymes and Life*. The Detroit Pistons chose to honor J. Dilla in 2024 which would have been his 50th year of life with a new line of merchandise that will debut on [March 13th](#).

Media Questions Of The Week

Does Derric "D-Dot" Angelettie have a better catalog than J. Dilla?