

Kassa Overall Takes On Digable Planets' Rebirth Of Slick (Cool Like Dat)



Jazz drummer, producer, bandleader, and rapper Kassa Overall takes Digable Planets' "Rebirth Of Slick (Cool Like Dat)" and gives it a new interpretation. Overall speeds things up and takes the funk, opting for a straight jazz feeling. The song combines his longtime love of jazz and hip-hop. He had plenty of time to learn every quirk of the song as a fan and as an opening act for Digable Planets and their drummer for a year. He broke down the methodology in a press release.

"It nods to Digable Planets' smooth flow and Art Blakey's 'Stretching.' Knowing the song so well, I was able to flip the script with odd time rhythms and utilize many elements

from the original, from vocal parts to production details. This one is high energy and still crispy.”

The song is among a collection of hip-hop covers that will be on Overall's forthcoming album, CREAM, which is his fourth. The forever conversation between jazz and hip-hop is still alive and Overall's passion for both will be fully unleashed on CREAM. The album comes out September 12 on the Warped label and he will start his next American tour before its release. You can see all of the dates and buy tickets on his [website](#).

Emma-Jean Thackray Shares It's Okay Feat. Kassa Overall



Credit: Lewis Vorn

Emma-Jean Thackray shares the cool jazzy vibes of her new single “It’s Okay,” featuring Kassa Overall. Thackray’s collaboration with the Seattle drummer, bandleader, and rapper is the third single from her forthcoming sophomore album, *Weirdo*. Thackray’s next album started out as a meditation on mental health, and the course of the project changed with the sudden loss of her longterm partner. “It’s Okay” is the sound

of exhaling after a long breath, and Thackray shared her thoughts on the single in a statement.

“This is a lullaby for everyone that needs some soothing – a hug or a pat on the shoulder. It’s been quite difficult for me to engage with the trumpet as much recently, so there isn’t a lot of brass on the album. The moments where there is brass is where I’m really digging into my feelings, so the trumpet solo in the bridge is quite revealing. Kassa is a fellow weirdo and totally delivered the message. The message to all the listeners is that no matter what happens “it’s okay”; or maybe it’s a message to myself.”

Thackray’s *Weirdo* drops on April 25th. Next month she has a DJ set at the BBC’s Radio 6 Festival.