

Throwback: Tricky-Aftermath



Tricky's "Aftermath" was his first song with Martina Topley-Bird and marked the beginning of their professional and personal relationship. The producer had offered the song to his former group Massive Attack but they chose not to record it. The hazy tune that resisted any one genre wound up on Tricky's debut album *Maxinquaye*. The song about two people connecting intimately was seen by critics as one part of the full-length emergence of trip-hop. Tricky resisted this label and told the *New Music Express* in 1995 that he made music around a particular sound, not a specific genre. Their daughter Mina Mazy was born one month after the release of the album.Â

Maxinquaye was critically acclaimed in Tricky's home of the UK and abroad in the United States. The English media called it the best album of 1995 the American music press pinned it as a brilliant sonic masterpiece. *Maxinquaye* continues to land on critics' lists year after year since its release in the '90s. Tricky's 13th album, *Ununiform* was released in 2017. Jay-Z co-engineered the album that has appearances from Topley-Bird, Francesca Belmonte and more. Martina-Topley Bird has four solo albums and has made guest appearances on projects from Gorillaz, Common and more. Stephen Marley covered her song "Sandpaper Kisses" which was sampled by The Weeknd. In 2019, Martina Topley-Bird and Tricky experienced personal loss when their daughter passed.Â

[youtube id="25y3cMC9i94"]

Throwback: Massive Attack - Lately



[youtube]ya0QwAk32BI[/youtube]

Massive Attack was the production trio of Robert "3D" Del Naja, Grant "Daddy G" Marshall and Andy "Mushroom" Vowles. They met each other as members of the UK soundsystem The Wild Bunch. ["Any Love"](#) was their first independently released single in 1988. Shortly after the record came out they received the support of Neneh Cherry who helped them get a deal with Circa Records in 1990. The company would eventually be obtained by EMI through a series of deals. Their first single, ["Daydreaming"](#) with guest vocals from Shara Nelson, appeared in 1990 before the full album *Blue Lines* emerged the following year. The album was their critically acclaimed debut that led the way for a subgenre of R&B called trip-hop. Adrian "Tricky" Thaws had hung out with them when they were The Wild Bunch and he appeared on the album doing whispery raps. "Lately," ["Unfinished Symphony"](#) and ["Safe From Harm"](#) created an influence that would inspire bands like Portishead, Beth Orton and Tricky's solo career. Three years later *Protection* was released and the laid-back fusion of hip-hop, R&B and dub most impressively heard in the [title track](#) and ["Karmacoma"](#) motivated the media to use the trip-hop label more freely in describing them. By the time of their third album *Mezzanine*, Tricky and Andrew Vowles had left the group. Their sound changed dramatically and prior jazz and hip-hop influences were replaced with dark ambient sound that was praised by the critics and sold well. The majority of the songs including ["Angel,"](#) ["Inertia Creeps,"](#) ["Teardrop"](#) and

[“Dissolved Girl”](#) were used in films. *100th Window* was their fourth album and it was released in 2003 with Robert Del Naja as the only remaining core member. [“Special Cases”](#) and [“Butterfly Caught”](#) were the album’s two singles produced by Del Naja and Neil Davidge. In 2009 the *Splitting The Atom* EP came out. *Heligoland* would be released in 2010 as their fifth full-length album to date. The album was promoted with eight mini films and the singles, [“Splitting the Atom,”](#) [“Psyche”](#) and [“Paradise Circus \(Burial Remix.\)”](#) In October 2011 they released the Burial collaboration project [“Four Walls/Paradise Circus.”](#)

Tricky-Ghetto Stars

[youtube]spBiWsgJ0d4&[/youtube]

Tricky takes his dark moodiness and crafts a song about the pit of nothing in the ghetto. This is from his latest CD *Mixed Race* and the artist has agreed to reunite with Massive Attack.