

Throwback: Digital Underground-The Humpty Dance



"The Humpty Dance" is the second single from Digital Underground's first album, *Sex Packets*. Shock G produced the thick whirling beat using three samples of songs by Sly and The Family Stone and Parliament plus a kick drum, snares, bass, guitar, and hi-hats. George Clinton's Sirnosedevvoidofunk alter ego inspired Shock G's Humpty Hump character. Sir Nose had a big nose and was in distress about being forced to dance. Humpty's backstory was that Edward Ellington Humphrey III was the lead singer of the group Smooth Eddie and the

Humpers who became a rapper after somehow burning his nose in an accident with a deep fryer, hence the fake nose. Humpty Hump is a ladies' man, and the whole song is about his encounters with various women, most famously one he met in a Burger King restroom. Shock G not only wrote, produced, and performed the song, but he also drew the artwork for all of their releases. Digital Underground was another bridge between funk and hip-hop that was made easier thanks to George Clinton's early understanding and acceptance of sampling and hip-hop. Tupac Shakur made one of his earliest public appearances in the background of the hilarious video.

"The Humpty Dance" updated those grooves for Gen X, who had a seamless understanding of Digital Underground because they had grown up listening to Clinton on the radio. P-Funk's profound influence on West Coast hip-hop was being shown in contrast to New York rap, which relied more on soul samples. The single charted well, making No. 1 on the Rap Singles chart, Top Ten on the R&B chart, and Top 40 on the pop chart, but despite its heavy popularity and influence it was not nominated for any awards. Today, "The Humpty Dance" is celebrated as one of the most creative and eminent songs in hip-hop and of the era. Artists have sampled "The Humpty Dance" over 100 times in other songs and Shock G's left-field approach to hip-hop is a precursor to California rap weirdo Tyler, The Creator. Shock G's *The Piano Man* album of solo piano improvisations was posthumously released on TNT Recordings after his 2021 passing.

Digital Underground Co-Founder Chopmaster J Pays Homage To The Late Shock G on the One-Year Anniversary of his Passing



Los Angeles, CA – Digital Underground co-founder and drummer, Jimi “Chopmaster J” Dright, is paying tribute to his former bandmate and D.U. co-founder, Gregory Edward Jacobs, better known worldwide as Shock G aka Humpty Hump, on the one-year anniversary of his passing, April 22. DUNxG (DU Next Generation), spearheaded by Dright’s son, composer/producer/emcee, SOTU (Son Of The Underground) are releasing a mixtape entitled “Sex Packets II – The Mixtape” as an homage to the innovative 1990 original debut album “Sex Packets.” The free downloadable mixtape, as well as a free limited NFT for the first 2000 who sign up to be down with the

Underground, are available at [Dunxgmusic.com](https://www.dunxgmusic.com).

“Sex Packets,” the debut studio album of the hip hop/pop sensation Digital Underground, was originally released in 1990. In 1998, the album was selected as one of The Source Magazine’s “100 Best Rap Albums Ever.” “Sex Packets II -The Mixtape” pays homage to the 32-year-old classic with whimsical renditions as well as new sex-laced, funk-filled, cosmically tinged offerings.



“I was concerned with not seeing Shock properly celebrated and acknowledged so we wanted to do our part. He was a brilliant musical genius that I shared creative space with,” cites Chopmaster J. “It still blows my mind that it’s been 32 years since we envisioned a classic that was nominated for both the Grammy and American Music Awards. The Next Generation of D.U. puts a new spin on our old classic that does not disappoint. The new iteration of D.U. is a departure from any D.U. line-up of the past with new bandmate MEGA, but there’s also a cameo by D.U. alumni, Money B. As our most legendary band member Tupac always said, ‘you either evolve or become irrelevant and evolution is our only quest.’”

“Not many new artists get to launch their careers in the footsteps of legacy,” adds SOTU. “I’ve got D.U. in my DNA! While ‘Sex Packets II – The Mixtape’ sets it off for DUNxG, we are dropping our debut album, “EVOLUTION” on June 10th. The single “MOVE” from that project, is out now on all streaming platforms. The D.U. lives!”

“Sex Packets II – The Mixtape” is the first of many releases from the Chopmaster J Legacy Series which includes a body of work featuring such acts as Dave Hollister and George Clinton to name a few.

Listen to the Sex Packets II -The Mixtape:

Download the free Sex Packets II – The Mixtape and receive a free NFT at <https://www.dunxgmusic.com> .

Watch the music video for "Step Up" DUNxG's new spin on an old classic off their tribute mixtape "Sex Packets II – The Mixtape"

<https://youtu.be/B6rY5Jw4Ua4>

Digital Underground Co-Founder Chopmaster J Snubbed by Former Bandmates in Oakland's DU Day Proclamation Drops New Band D.U. Next Generation On Shock's Birth Date

Los Angeles, CA – When Digital Underground co-founder and drummer Jimi "Chopmaster J" Dright learned that the City of Oakland would honor his former band and recently deceased front man and co-founder Greg "Shock G/Humpty Hump" Jacobs with a proclamation to recognize the group's civic and artistic contribution, he was initially elated. However, upon learning he was not welcome at the City of Oakland's Digital Underground Day proclamation ceremonies and he was stricken from the band's historical record, he was disheartened by the snub. In short, it was Chopmaster J who initially visioned the making of Digital Underground as well as introduced Tupac to their ranks, before departing years later to sign another of his creations, Force One Network, to Quincy Jones at Warner Bros. Records. A true creative genius, Chopmaster J remains undaunted, announcing the release of his son's, SOTU, new group, D.U.Nx.G. (D.U. Next Generation) and their new album, single and video,

“Evolution,” dropping on August 25, 2020, Digital Underground Day in Oakland, CA.

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I had been informed by the group’s former manager that my presence is not required, nor wanted at the festivities honoring my former partner and friend Shock G and his ingenious musical contributions to the Hip-Hop firmament,” Dright laments. “This proclamation is a recognition of the group that Shock G and I founded, together. To add insult to injury, my name was removed from a citation that was awarded to the group on Digital Underground Day. This act seems especially mean-spirited and anathema to fairness and the historical record. This appears to be an act meant to erase and cancel my contribution to the group and to Oakland’s Hip-Hop history as the only surviving co-founder of Digital Underground,” Dright adds. “I am, however, particularly grateful to the Office of the Mayor’s Chief of Staff, Shereda Nosakhare and Director of Education, David Silver who are both working to rectify the affront.”

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Dright spent years writing, rehearsing, producing, performing and touring with Digital Underground. He recalls, “We recorded ‘Underwater Rhymes’ and ‘Ya’ Life’ a Cartoon” and put it on vinyl thanks largely to a \$10,000 loan from my father, a well-established Oakland business owner.” Later, Chopmaster J recruited DJ Fuze and Money B into the group and eventually signed to Tommy Boy Records. “From there, our star rose rapidly,” says Dright. In addition to being the group’s drummer and sampling programmer/performer, Dright was the executive producer, and acted as de facto radio promotions manager, band manager, and contractor, often sleeping in his car, while pitching airplay and record deals in Los Angeles for the group. “I was sort of a P.T. Barnum, only the circus didn’t bear my name,” recalls Dright.

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D.U.Nx.G., headed by Dright’s son, M.C, producer and songwriter, S.O.T.U. (Sun of The Underground) and bandmate MEGA, is a continuation of that legacy, as a second-generation hip hop super group birthing from and paying homage

to the original multi-platinum selling, Digital Underground. A Bringing a new, yet familiar wave led by S.O.T.U., alongside counter-part DJ/producer Mega, D.U.Nx.G. relights the torch and continues with a funky and futuristic inheritance. Crystalizing their DNA with colorful rhymes, amazing production, crazy performances, storytelling and more, D.U.Nx.G. merges the past, present and future into a "now" galactic musical journey. "Evolution" the group's new single, is a cosmic, as opposed to digital, ascension of sound and visuals that embrace the planet's new landscape of otherworldly advancements. A Dright conceived and produced the group, but S.O.T.U. and Mega are the driving components who are joined by a revolving door of musicians, singers and creatives.

"For me, the disrespect being thrown at my dad just drives me to propel D.U.Nx.G. to another level," adds S.O.T.U. "His genius is in my bones and blood. Our musical legacy will never be cancelled. The essence of the D.U. sound resonates in my beingness and D.U.Nx.G. serves as proof of his innovation, vision and genius."

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The Chopmaster adds, "Tupac used to say 'You either evolve or become irrelevant' – thus, the name of D.U.Nx.G.'s debut release is Evolution."

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Dright says he wants his name to be included in the Oakland proclamation, so that Digital Underground's historical origins are properly recorded for posterity as he is the legitimate co-founder of the group. He now presents D.U.Nx.G. as the sonic amplification of a next generation that can't be denied.

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Follow D.U.Nx.G. across all social media and music platforms, including Spotify, Apple Music and Instagram at @dunxgeneration.

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Catch D.U.Nx.G.'s flow with their new music video for "Evolution" on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTGDoVCqejc).

Throwback: 2Pac-I Get Around Feat. Digital Underground

2Pac 's"I Get Around" was another collaboration with the Digital Underground camp. The second single from his *Strictly 4 My N.I.G.G.A.Z.* 1993 sophomore album was all about the fun in being a player. They had already worked together on Digital Underground's "Same Song" which was on the soundtrack for the movie *Nothing But Trouble*. Shock G produced "I Get Around" and rapped on it with Money B. It was one 2Pac's less serious moments in contrast to a song like "Keep Ya Head Up" that was about the struggles of Black women.

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The album was not received well initially but "I Get Around" became one of 2Pac's biggest songs and it helped *Strictly 4 My N.I.G.G.A.Z.* fare better commercially than his *2Pacalypse Now* debut. In 1996, *Death Row's Greatest Hits* was released and it had the ["I Get Around"](#) remix which has three verses from 2Pac and the absence of Money B. The [Above The Rim](#) soundtrack was reissued in May 2021 on cassette with the addition of the song "Pain" which was previously only available on the cassette release 30 years ago. 2Pac's influence on pop culture continues to be felt 25 years after his passing. Shock G passed in April 2021 leaving a legacy with Digital Underground, his soloÂ work and being the man that presented 2Pac to the world first as a background dancer and then as a rapper on "Same Song."

