

JAH FREE 2016

THE DUB ACTIVIST



The unique sounds of JAH FREE MUSIC seems to have no boundaries, he really can't contain or control the movement of his music or where it will take him next.

The people really do have the power and it is their love, vibes and support which keeps Jah Free Music very much alive and well today. The man himself never having had a plan, tries to take a natural musical path of progression, following the vibes and trying to always stand for the positive, his most important aim is to bring a 'one love' message in his musical works and live shows for anyone who cares to listen.

Jah Free has been involved in the UK, European and now global reggae music scene for some 35 years with Roots, Dub, Digital productions and remixes. He first started out playing keys, percussion and singing in his band Tallowah back in the late to early 70s/80s, the band was formed by himself and his musically talented friends. The band's name was later to become "Bushfire", remembered by most as a highly successful UK Roots band for its time.

Even now people mention those times and the live shows they enjoyed. Bushfire were asked to perform outside of the UK in Europe at festivals notably taking its own Wango Riley Stage on the road with its own mixing desk and P.A included, this being where Jah Free first learnt his many skills in live mixing. Worth mentioning that the Wango Rileys stage went on to become a very well known stage on the festival circuit over its many years, but sadly burnt down in the 90s. There is a new Wango Riley stage in action to this day, as a homage to the original, but its far bigger and more modern. Zion Train perform on it at One Love festival 2014 in the UK... For the band Bushfire, being asked to perform outside of the UK was a very rare and big opportunity in those days, especially if you were a underground and not commercialised type of band.

The Bushfire, track one and two

Some years later Jah Free went on to build The Rainbow Studio and create his own solo works, label and productions. Jah Free first started out recording on 4 track Tascam 244, then 24 track 2" reels, then to 8 track cassette Tascam 488 which could sync with a Atari computer with cubase program. Now days using an apple computer with Logic program into a 32 track desk. The first vinyl Jah Free independently released was a track entitled "The wicked Cant Run" back in 1990s... Some of his storming sound system successes include...

7" <u>WICKED CANT RUN</u>

12" <u>LIGHTNING CLAP</u>

7" ROD OF CORRECTION

7" I AM THE REBEL

12" DEVILS PLAYGROUND

12"RASTA CHANTA

12" CONSCIOUS ONE

It was some of these earlier productions plus his distinctive and powerful live sessions which brought Jah Free to the attention of Zion Train's 'Universal Egg' label, **Jah Free's first Universal Egg CD** was 'Breaking Out',

In 2004 he returned to his own 'Jah Free Music' label and productions with his CD release 'Unity' shortly followed by the release of 'Dub Unity'

Ethiopia / Lion Guitar Mix / Hear me Dub

The split Jah Free & Vibronics 'Outer National Dub Convention' (featuring rod Of correction) release, 12" single 'Stringed Instruments' along with compilation appearances on 'All the World in an Egg', 'The Egg Files' and 'Lead with the Bass' CD/LP and Dub Head release, have all gone a long way towards making Jah Free a firm favourite with Universal Egg fans, and increased his stature on the UK and European Roots Reggae and Dub scenes.

A strong bond with fellow Egg artist Vibronics resulted in the 'Outer National Dub Convention Vol.1' LP/CD release and scores of live Dub Conferences across Europe during the late 90's. His 'Rod of Correction' 7" on Deep Root label, another huge Sound System hit, received BBC Radio One plays from the late great John Peel and was championed by Andy Kershaw. Giving attention to his many works which led to numerous live performances at Glastonbury

3 decades of Jah Free Music has flowed and evolved on the UK, European and worldwide Roots, Digital Reggae and Dub scenes, seeing him playing from squats to big festivals, bars, protest marches, clubs and dancehalls to huge events and stages performing alongside some of today's best reggae producers, sounds, singers and players of instruments, most notable being Mad Professor, 'Zion Train, Twinkle Brothers, Vibronics, Iration Steppers, Aba Shanti I, Bush Chemists, Devon Russell, Wayne Mcarthur and Sister Rasheda, Young warrior and Joe Ariwa. Not to mention some truly great european sounds such as 'Dandelion Sound, Br Stylers, King Shiloh, Kibish Tribe, Radical Dub Kollective, Warrior Charge, Blackbourd Jungle, Moa Anbessa, Imperial Sound Army/Dan I, Bababoom HiFi, Kibish Tribe, Red Lion, Shalamanda Sound... the list goes on. His other musical credits include performing live on stage with Zion Train, live mixing The Revolutionary Dub Warriors, collaborations with founder of Jah Works UK roots inspiration Rej Forte.

Jah Free quotes, "It's great to see how far the music and message has grown from the pioneering days, in which Zion Train, Vibronics and myself were first taking the UK vibes, Roots, Digital and Dub styles of our music out into europe, to now witness what has now grown up into a massive global reggae scene" with sound systems bands and productions popping up everywhere. People just can't get enough of the message and vibrations, can't wait to build their ownsound systems and collect the latest vinyl.

Out of Poland in 2006 came the release 'Pillar Of Salt' CD/LP Produced by Jah Free with the rhythm being turned into a one rhythm multi version album on the Siodemki label, Warsaw, featuring many great vocalists who have since gone from strength to strength as strong artists in their own right. Jah Free was totally amazed to realise so many singers were ready and willing to put their voice to his Pillar of Salt rythm, (to this day one of his personal favourite productions). With its beautifully designed cover and its double sided, most indepth exclusive Jah Free interview hidden within the sleeve of each LP. Since 'Pillar of Salt' Jah Free has moved ever forward to reach new heights, in his musical and creative journey and style.

The 7" release 'I Am The Rebel' on the Kibish Tribe Label was twinned with the 7" Burn Dem' on his own Jah Free Music label, both tracks coming from his CD release, 'Rebel In This Time', which features 8 heavy weight Jah Free vocal tracks and dubs, this being the first ever full 'Jah Free' solo vocal CD to be released.



Although we have heard Jah Free feature many Sister Simiah tracks over the years in his live sessions, 2010 saw the first ever 'Sister Simiah' vinyl release on 12" track entitled 'Turning the Grace', and on the B side featuring a conscious vocal style by the Italian up and coming artist 'Dan I' from the' Imperial Sound Army. A very well received release in uk , europe and the sound system scene. Next up came Universal Eggs rerelease LP/CD 'The Best Of Deep Root', featuring a re press of Jah Free anthem tune 'Rod of Correction, for the enthusiasts.

Jah Free, ever forward in Jah works, has been working with many other artists, in recent years, remixing their music, creating Jah Free dub versions and continuing to fill venues with his unique high vibed live sessions, playing many of his exclusive dub plates without fail.

He continues working alongside and recording with artist Gary James and Sister Simiah,

In 2010 Jah Free Music broke previous boundaries by playing several live sessions in Miami, Florida and Moscow.

Jah Free Updates 2011-2016

2011 saw many fruitful and memorable moments for Jah Free playing live sessions, radio plays, and interviews, some being in connection to the launch of 'United Forces of Dub' label from the Czech

Republic, which featured the Jah Free 12" 'Run Babylonian'. Jah Free enjoyed some heartical Vibronics reunions with both artists having tracks releases on the United Forces Of Dub label as well as Bush Chemist, Kenny Knots, Riddim Tuffa, Solo Banton and others. He Produced 12" release, track entitled 'Devils Playground' supported played by Jah Shaka, also featuring the angelic voices of Sister Simiah (uk) and Sista Sherin (de).



Original track taken from the 2010 Rebel In This Time CD . Jah Free enjoyed a very nostalgic return to Poland and warm welcome performing at the Ostrada Festival

Also Reggae Bus Belgium, Brixton Jam UK, Hootanay UK, Heartical Vibes IT, Riding Higher Germany, Reggae Geel. During 2010 Jah Free Music also received a notable amount of plays and promotion from the Lesterfari family on the United Nations of Dub Radio sessions during 2011.

New years 2011/2012 came in with a high vibed session playing alongside Aba Shanti I and Nucleus Roots in France.

2012 Jah Free produced 2 X 12" releases in Italy, Rastafari Vibes and Rasta Chanta which brought a positive end to joint works with Sister Simiah and the very talented singer, producer and sound man Dan I/ Imperial Sound Army, whom has since globally become a storming sound system success. Forward!! Both tracks were spiritual inspirational vibes works after being invited into the F.A.R.I community event celebrating Selassies earthstrong.

A limited edition export was released on vinyl from Japan, 12" Jah Free meets Sak Dub I, track entitled Warrior Style... In 2012 bredrin Richi Roots (Founder of Vibronics Scoops label, singer, Counter Actions Band co founder and United Nations of Dub radio and festival) moved on to Jah kingdom. Jah Free remembered and celebrated his life works by playing in support at what has now become a yearly 'Richi Rootz Foundation dance. As a tribute to his bredrin, Jah Free completed and produced a long time unfinished joint works featuring the man Richi Roots called Oh No! which was put out on 12" for the world to remember and hear .

Memorable Jah Free Live dub sessions in 2012 at Get Up and Skank Nantes, 1st Dub Gate IT, Dub Church IT, alongside Warrior Charge at Heartical Vibes, Riding Higher, Festa Musica, CSA La Torre, Dub Beat/RootsRevival, JahFree/Dawa HiFi, Sea Splash Croatia, Dubwise Carnival festival and a live session featuring both Sister Simiah and Gary James at Ghent reggae festival.

In 2013 came a big Sister Simiah works with the CD "Rasta InThe Heart". This production was 1 year in the making, featuring 8 heavy weight conscious vocal tracks and dubs, all tracks featuring Sister Simiah vocals, alongside close bredins, reggae singers, players and inspirators. Dan Imperial, Idren Natural, Tiqur Humble, Dawa HiFI, GT Moore and Johnny Osborne. 2013 most memorable sessions, Richi Roots foundation dance, Rise and Shine, Vienna, Fusion Festival, Sea Splash Croatia, Fes Tin Ten Da, Selini Summer fest IT, Vaison Dub with Iration Steppas FR, UNOD weekender Uk, Dub On The Lake IT and the Inna Zion Festival south of France

2014 saw the long awaited release of the track Conscious One on 12" previously only released on the Unity and Dub Unity CDs. A long time Jah Free anthem featuring 3 vocal versions and 3 dubs with Gary James, Sister Simiah, Christiano Jah Voice FR. The last release for 2014 was 12" The War Drags On, Donovan Inspired track by Jah Free, featuring heavy vocal versions by I Mitri Counteraction/

Counteraction Sounds UK and Ras Mat I/ Tam Rat(IT) Memorable sessions Reggae Bus, Sea Splash Croatia, Fusion Festival, Dub Club Poland, Kiev Ukraine.

2015 most memorable sessions included <u>Dub Station</u> France alongside King Shiloh Sound System Sea Splash CR, United Nations Of Dub festival UK, Dour Festival Belgium, One Love Festival UK, Fusion Festival, Kleur Festival Belgium, a long awaited return to Switzerland, Mexico tour and several positive know Your Roots sessions in aid to raise funds for One Love Foundation.

Alot of interest and support was shown for the 12" release Conscious One featuring Gary James. Played by Aba Shant-I, King Shiloh and Jah Tubby Sound, Conscious One sold out quick, so was repressed. 2015 Other Vynil productions were Sister Simiah 12" Guide and Protector, 12" Hail The King featuring Hail the Acetate by I Mitri Counteraction, Hail the Melodica and a heartical Ital Horns version "Hail the Horns", which was recorded at Jah Free's Rainbow Studio.

So far In 2016 a 7" has been released on the Bababoon Sound System label Italy "We Are The Ones". Jah Free has played out in France, massive session in Poland and several uk reggae events. The man himself is looking forward to a very heavyweight conscious vibed musical year, soon to be playing United Nations in Dub weekender, Reggae Bus Belguim, several sessions in Italy, France and Poland coming up in the spring summer, others dates to be confirmed so keep posted. Jah Free could soon be dubbing it up inna heavyweight conscious style, coming to a town near you soon!

2016 Plans to releases vinyl with, Juniah Kinky/Ras Mat I on Mockshap, Sister Simiah, a return to Jah Free CD Unity style with a big production, alot more fresh Jah Free works coming its time for their exposure. Sister Simiah has currently been working on tracks for release with Anaia Records France featuring a Jah Free version soon come on vinyl, Sister Simiah production also coming out on Cap Roots Label France, which will also be on vinyl sometime soon. Hope to also reveal a potential release with Dub Iration, Mexico also in 2016.











Jah Free Music from its foundations and musical beginnings has gone from strength to strength and now become a Jah Free Music Family Tree, featuring original and new artists from uk and Europe, who Jah Free continues to push forward and promote by showcasing their joint creative works/ vibes and productions which can be experienced in full effect at all Jah Free live shows.

A global realisation and awareness is now fully upon us the people, more and more are awakening to the powerful message within reggae music, of love which is now in these very hard times more relevant than ever!

Give thanks to Jah and the people for their continuing support of our music and works All the works done and inspiration given is for the greater glory of the creator JAH RASTAFARI!

Or keep an eye on the Jah Free or sister simiah facebook pages https://www.facebook.com/Jahfree

