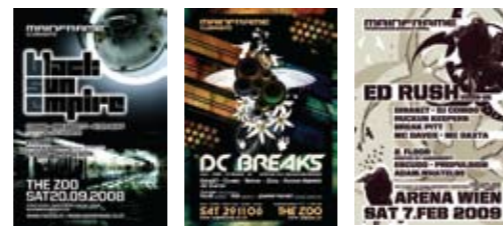




Words Stefan Genser  
Photography Thomas Unterberger

# INSIDE THE MAINFRAME



## MAINFRAME MEMBERS

Artists: DisasZt, DJ Combo, Camo, Tenchu, Zool, Ruckus Keepers (Kos & Egoshoota), Infame, Johnny Rocket, Pandora, Kidd Ruff, Break Pitt, MC Daxta, MC Davox

Production: DisasZt & Andi (head of Mainframe, financial, bookings and coordination), D3MA Production (graphics), Optical Engineers (visuals), Ani.Ko & Combo (press/ PR)

Vienna, Saturday February 7th 2009, 2am, Arena: Ed Rush steps on stage, facing a screaming and ready-to-rock crowd of 2000 drum & bass enthusiasts. After dropping his first tune, the crowd is out of control and ready to get infected. It's Mainframe time!

Rewind to 1995, two boys have just bought their first set of turntables and fallen in love with drum & bass. "I'm still laughing my ass off about the first mixer we used," remembers DisasZt.

"It had these terrible built-in bomb and machine gun samples which covered all of our early tapes. Back then we spent most of our time in record shops trying to get our hands on every piece of jungle vinyl or in front of the decks," adds DJ Combo.

They kept mixing at home, went to various parties and got in touch with the Viennese d&b scene. "Compared to now, there weren't so many places you could go out on a weekend but place-to-be was definitely the Flex!" says DisasZt.

In 1998 DisasZt got in contact with Dom.N.K and Phazes from the Bass Infection crew, and managed to play at one of their parties. He became a member of Bass Infection, and DJ Combo soon followed. The first big party with an international line up was in December 1998 at a club called Sub Zero (which also closed its doors recently) and featured a relatively unknown DJ Friction on the decks. After loads of parties at Sub Zero, Bass Infection moved into a bigger location – the Wuk. At the monthly Perpetual Soundscapes nights, they presented the top playaz of the national and international d&b circuit, and Bass Infection

soon became one of the leading names of drum & bass in Austria. They even did a monthly radio show on the Viennese radio station Orange.

In 2001 DisasZt made his first steps in the studio. He teamed up with producer Su3-ject, and under the alias Harddrive they released on the Austrian labels Trickdisc and Break:Form.

It was until 2002, that the interests of the Bass Infection members began to drift apart, and DisasZt felt it was time for a change. The last (and legendary) Perpetual Soundscapes took place in March 2003 and featured Bad Company on the decks. As DisasZt had a lot of promoting experience by this time, the decision to continue on his own wasn't a difficult one. After a little organization, the first Mainframe party took place in July 2002 at the Wuk.

"The name Mainframe basically came from Mampi Swift's LP, which had quite an impact on us," remembers DisasZt. Many parties followed and Mainframe quickly became an important player within the scene. With more and more visitors the Wuk was soon bursting at the seams every month and they had to move into a bigger location. In 2003 they found their new HQ in the famous Arena.

The first Mainframe at the Arena took place in October 2003, and it was none other than Shimon from Ram Records who inaugurated this important event. He played in front of more than 1500 people and gave the starting shot for something that soon became the biggest drum & bass rave in Austria!

Around the same time, a busy young guy called Andi and some highly motivated DJs were doing drum & bass parties in upper Austria, named Sprawl. As luck would have it, Andi and DisasZt got to know each other on one of these events, and it soon turned out, that both had the same opinion about promoting. So they teamed up and the foundation of a long and healthy collaboration was laid in November 2003. From that point, the two became a well-rehearsed team, with Andi behind the business side of things, and DisasZt behind the decks and the acquisition of international top DJs and new national talents.

"The main idea behind Mainframe was to give people an understanding of drum & bass, to spread the sound we loved so much ever since. And not least we wanted to give national talent, whether they are DJs, producers or MCs, a platform, to present their work to a wide audience," states DisasZt.

In February 2006 Mainframe finally hit the 2000+ mark, with Aphrodite behind the decks, and nearly 2300 people in front of him! But it was another event that made 2006 a very special year for the Mainframe crew. As luck would have it, Andi and DisasZt got the chance to run their own venue in Vienna. After months of renovation work (all done by the Mainframe members and some real helpful friends), the crew opened the Zoo club in April 2006.

"The creation of our own club was pure chance. We were just at the right place at the right time," says DisasZt.

TheZoo opens its doors every weekend, and parties vary from drum & bass, dubstep, reggae and dancehall, to techno, house, hip hop and other styles. "We don't wanna exclude any promoter or genre of electronic music, as long as we're seeing a benefit for the scene and youth culture in general," claims DisasZt.

Among loads of external promoters, theZoo is also home for two events by the Mainframe crew itself. There is the monthly Mainframe club night, which is a nice contrast to the big raves at the Arena, as the atmosphere in the club is always something special. The other regular night is The Harder They Come, which offers the darker side of d&b, featuring names like Spor, Panacea, Temper D, Dying Punks and many more.

In 2007 Mainframe made another important step to unite the scene. In cooperation with the Urban Art Forms crew, they got all national crews playing at one party and launched Austria's major national d&b event – Bass City. In August 2007 the Arena turned into a huge platform for almost all Austrian artists and music lovers! With two drum & bass floors, one dubstep and a huge outdoor dancehall floor, and more than 60 DJs playing in one night, Bass City was an awesome showcase of the national talent. The following year the event saw an even more successful rerun.

Ever since his first production steps, DisasZt always tried to find some time in the studio, if not organizing events or running a club. Shimon playing at the first event resulted in a lasting friendship with DisasZt and the Mainframe crew. Shimon and DisasZt collaborated in the studio recently and their

first tune together, 'Lightspeed', is featured on the recently released 'Quarks' EP on Audioporn.

Last year DisasZt contacted a lot of talented Austrian producers and managed to make them a part of the Mainframe movement. Artists like Camo, Tenchu & Zool, Ruckus Keepers (Kos & Egoshoota), Infame and Break Pitt were producing lots of quality stuff and DisasZt felt it was time to make all their tunes available for everyone. So after some time of planning, he set up his own label. The first Mainframe Recordings release, Camo & Krooked – 'It Has Begun' / Mutated Forms ft. MC Coppa – 'Mafia', was released in July 2008 and got a big response from people all over the scene.

"The aim of the label was to give the local scene a platform, and to further represent the party influenced vibe, people love Mainframe for," states DisasZt. Mainframe Recordings recently had its third release and with a forthcoming EP and remixes from Phetsta and DC Breaks the future looks bright.

So with having all this, what future plans could DisasZt and the Mainframe crew still have? "Right now we're mainly concentrating on the label, which already had a tremendous start. Besides that we're working on the relaunch of our website, which will offer constant audio and video material of our parties and artists in the future. And we still wanna push the scene forward and supply the crowd with the freshest beats drum & bass has to offer!" answers DisasZt.

[www.mainframe.co.at](http://www.mainframe.co.at)  
[www.mainframerecordings.at](http://www.mainframerecordings.at)

## MAINFRAME

### MAINFRAME RECORDINGS DISCOGRAPHY

#### OUT NOW

MFR001: Camo & Krooked – It Has Begun / Mutated Forms ft. MC Coppa – Mafia  
MFR002: Camo & Krooked – Vision / Receptor – Flash  
MFR003: Camo & Krooked – Fatman / Kos & Tenchu – Toxic

#### OUT SOON

MFR004: Shimon & DisasZt – Zoids / Camo & Krooked – Dakota  
MFR005: DisasZt – Together / Camo & Krooked – Vampire  
MFR006: Together EP: DisasZt – Together (DC Breaks rmx) / Future Prophecies – September (Camo & Krooked rmx) / Camo & Krooked – Last Moment / DisasZt & Infame – Oh My Dear