VIBE PRESENTS: URBAN ASIA VOL. 1

B2 Music in Hong Kong is proud to present the first-ever compilation of all-Asian Hip Hop, ‘Urban Asia’ in collaboration with the iconic VIBE magazine from New York. The compilation presents 15 of the best new and classic Hip Hop tracks from across the Asia region. From the hottest Chinese newcomers like Bohan Phoenix and the Higher Brothers, to established heavyweights like Edison Chen, MC Yan and Chef, the album scans the Asian musical landscape with hits from India’s Raja Kumari and Divine, Korea’s TPA Feat Al Rocco and Ivy, and Mrs M and UKA from Mongolia, to name just a few.

VIBE Presents: Urban Asia is a true cross section of the region’s best Hip Hop, with songs in English, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Hindi and Mongolian – all unified by hot beats, with strong melodies and dope rap flows. Whether rhyming about politics, street life or partying, each track on ‘Urban Asia’ hits hard and makes the speakers shake!

TRACKLIST:

1. CAN’T BREATHE – Eddie Supa Feat Jackson Wang and Stan Sono (Exclusive)
   The first track on the record is also the sexiest. Eddie Supa is a Korean American from the streets of Chicago, who has been quietly building a career as a producer and singer, before breaking out with Wiz Kalifa collaborator Stan Sono and Chinese superstar Jackson Wang to create this smooth Trap inflected love song that cuts through the machismo and lays bare the true feelings of a young hustler in love.

2. NO HOOK – Bohan Phoenix X Higher Brothers
   There have been few groups any hotter than the Higher Brothers in 2017, with feature articles everywhere from Hypebeast to the New York Times. Here the Chengdu rappers team up with US-Chinese MC Bohan Phoenix to deliver three and a half minutes of pure Fire, and NO HOOK! Bohan Phoenix is currently set up to take the controls in 2018, after touring non-stop in China and internationally in 2017, he is now touring the US with Higher Bros, and has just dropped his latest EP ‘Overseas’. He is surely the one to watch this year.

3. YOUTH ANTHEM – Boss X Feat Xinwen Xu and Alex Hong (Exclusive)
   The spiritual home of Chinese Hip Hop is Chengdu, and Boss X is the Godfather, straight up. Formerly known as Fat Shady, he has been spitting fire for years, and now is coming up from the Hip Hop underground to create hits with a variety of artists, like XinWen Xu from superstar Jane Zhang’s Showcity camp, and Chinese American newcomer Alex hong. Youth Anthem is an uplifting Chinese style Hip Hop song, and truly an anthem in the inspirational sense. Once Boss X gets on the track it’s pure Heat, and he spits crazy bars of fast, tight, LIT lyrics.

4. BANG – Mrs. M
   Mrs. M is one of the most popular young artists in Mongolia. A truly multi-talented soul, she can sing as well as rap and write her own music. Her Youtube videos reach the millions, and they vary from uber-creative ballads to the fun and sexy ‘Bang’ video, in which we get a glimpse of
nightlife in the fast lane of Ulaan Baator. A style icon at home, Mrs. M does her own send up of the popular roll call of Luxury brands, calling them out one by one over a hypnotic Trap beat. This one has been on auto-repeat ever since we first heard it.

5. **CITY SLUMS – Raja Kumari Feat. DIVINE**
   Raja Kumari’s parents emigrated to the US when she was a kid, and it’s there that she studied Indian classical dance and music, as well as Western song melodies and Hip Hop rhyme flows. Her solo projects received critical acclaim, but it was her songwriting for such luminaries as Gwen Stefani, Iggy Azalea and Fallout Boy that really got people’s attention. Last year she moved to Mumbai and signed with Sony – who promptly paired her with India’s top MC, DIVINE and the result is the glorious G Funk meets the Gully hit ‘City Slums’ which has already garnered millions of YouTube views and is ready to conquer the world.

6. **PAPILLON – Jackson Wang**
   One of the biggest breakout artists of the China Hip Hop scene last year was a solo effort from K-Pop star (Got 7) Jackson Wang. Hong Kong born Wang dropped a heat seeking missile, ‘Papillon’ which cemented his MC credentials and also landed him a slot on the #1 show in China ‘the Rap of China’. Now commanding a millions-strong army of fans, Jackson Wang looks ready to take the mantle of China’s top Hip Hop heartthrob in 2018.

7. **JUST LIKE THAT – Tittsworth & Mestizo Feat. Rome Fortune and Bohan Phoenix (Exclusive)**
   Veteran Asian-American club DJ Tittsworth teams up with Electronic duo Mestizo to create this atmospheric, catchy Trap gem. Vocals from Atlanta rapper Rome Fortune (iLoveMakkonen) provide the hook and a lit verse, while China’s Bohan Phoenix drops some hot bars of his own. This track creeps up on you and stays in your head.

8. **CHINA TRAP HOUSE – TPA Feat Ivy and Al Rocco**
   TPA is a young Korean DJ/Producer on a mission. He’s coming out of Big Bang star Seungri’s label, NHR and has started creating EDM meets Trap crossover tracks that really do Bang! ‘China Trap House’ features Hong Kong MC Al Rocco with a sick flow, and newcomer Ivy, who lends sly tones to this EDM tinged banger. The video is crazy!

9. **THAT’S NOT ME -Silverstrike & Gianni Marino Feat. Shimica (Exclusive)**
   Hong Kong Boy Wonder beatmaker Silverstrike is back with an edgy Trap beat (in collaboration with Dutch producer Gianni who did the drops) that provides the perfect canvas for Shimica’s claws-out rap about not being the typical Chinese girlfriend. And this multi-talented mixed (Japanese-Filipina) Hong Kong artist is anything but! Together, Silverstrike and Shimica have created some of the most fresh and compelling electronic music coming out of Hong kong today.

10. **TURNT – Thitianium**
    ‘Thai Tay’ have been ruling the Hip Hop game in Bangkok for over a decade, and they show no signs of letting up the choke hold with this offering. Built around a melodic Trap beat with Thai elements, MC’s Khan, Way and Day drop tight bars in English and Thai, mixed with some Thai inflected singing that hit just right.

11. **DON’T STOP – UKA Feat. DJ Zaya**
    Uka is one of Mongolia’s biggest stars - with her singing and rapping skills and her blonde Asiatic good looks, she takes listeners by surprise when they hear her spit rapid fire rhymes. ‘Don’t Stop’ is a straight up celebration of Old School Hip Hop – complete with breakers, DJ scratching
and Uka’s confident microphone control. The track is like a guilty pleasure, infectious and fun, and the video is bananas.

12. MAHJONG – Beijing Boiz
These Boiz hail from the West Coast, and they are repping the Chinese diaspora hard with this absolute gem straight outta Chinatown! The track (and video) is set in a Chinese market, with all of its varieties of flavor – and some nice rapid fire spitting in English, and has an insane drop! This one is a sleeper.

13. THIS IS MY LIFE – Khasi Bloodz
Hip Hop is truly a global phenomenon, and Khasi Bloodz represent that as much as anybody. These four Shillong based brothers have been rapping about life in depressed North Eastern India for a while now, to the point that they are considered OG’s in the S. Asian game. This track is built around an Uptempo Old Skool beat with a driving synth line, and when you hear them spit over it, you know it’s REAL.

14. ON & ON – SEAMO x Crystal Boy x KURO x SOCKS
Japan gets represented lovely here, with a joint that is reminiscent of the Beastie Boys ‘To the Five Boroughs’ flow. Seamo is one of the serious OG’s of the Japanese Hip Hop scene, and for ‘On & On’ he recruits fellow heavyweights Crystal Boy, Kuro and Socks for this straight up celebratory party jam. The track is led by a crunchy guitar line, and four MC’s pass the mic back and forth effortlessly, showing some true Hip Hop roots. Seamo cites Kool Keith and MC Hammer as influences, so you know it’s bananas!

15. ALIEN GIRL – Edison Chen x MC Yan x Chef
Edison Chen is one of the most well-rounded stars in all of Asia, through his early singing and movie star fame in Hong Kong. He also owns the regions coolest streetwear company, Clot, which recently debuted at NY fashion week. What you may not know is that he has been consistently making Hip Hop records with Super OG MC Yan (LMF) and MC Chef. Edison and Yan have created some memorable rap joints, like the ‘Hong Kong’ anthem, and the addition of Chef has seen them continue to create hits. ‘Alien Girl’ sits on a retro funky groove that reminds you of a classic Blue Note Funk joint, and the 360 degree video is also dope.
L-R: Chef, MC Yan, Bohan Phoenix, Edison Chen, Mrs M, Raja Kumari, DIVINE, Jackson Wang, Boss X