

Buraka Som Sistema (Portugal)

The wild beats of Angolan Kuduro music has been big in Lisbon clubs since the late 90s and Buraka Som Sistema - AKA **Lil' John**, **Riot** and **Conductor** – have fused it with 21st century electronics to create a whole new sound.

Now this electro ghettech take on their favourite South West African music has is quickening and corrupting dancefloors all over the world on the basis of an EP with sounds not many have heard before.

Lil John and Riot began making music together in their teens, but the core of Buraka Som Sistema formed when the two began working with Angolan producer, Conductor, who brought along an extensive knowledge of **Kuduro** music to the equation. The three draw influences from the music of their youth and culture, fusing it with the inspiration taken from music genres as diverse as techno, drum'n'bass, hip hop and dance music. A revolving cast of talents complete the picture for Buraka, including guest vocals from **Petty**, **M.I.A.**, **Pongolove**, **Kalaf**, **Nolay** and **DJ Znobias**.

Despite having only one 12" release ("Yah!") under their belt in the UK to date, the band's unique sound has already made them favourites with critics and DJs alike. Championed by **Diplo**, **M.I.A.**, **Santogold** and **Switch**, Buraka also scored FACT MAGAZINE's prestigious 12" **Single of the Year** for "Yah!" and were finalists in MTV's New Sound of Europe competition. Their video for "**Sound of Kuduro**" featuring M.I.A. has become a viral sensation online. It features footage of their recent trip to Angola, where kids are dancing in the streets, despite being surrounded by all manner of violence.

Buraka Som Sistema are currently in the studio putting the final touches on their debut album, tentatively titled "Black Diamond" and due out June 2008. Tracks span the width and breadth of their influences with a distinctly political edge, referencing the inescapable corruption that goes hand in hand with the presence of diamonds and oil.

Quickly becoming renowned for their captivating and involving live show, catch the band on the festival circuit this summer, and stay tuned for more details.

www.myspace.com/burakasomsistema

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CkXhtw7UNk