

# Mp3 Uncle Ray - King Of The Drama Queens



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SF 4 track soul-popster transplanted from N.J., this collection combines harmony hook laden power pop with hip-hop, rock and psychedelic soul. 16 MP3 Songs POP: Quirky, ROCK: Psychedelic Details: Singer, songwriter, and 4 track fanatic UNCLE RAY takes his pop clean and clever, and his funk raw and nasty. It confuses even him sometimes. Armed with a 12 string acoustic and a microphone, he discovered San Francisco, leaving New Jersey for lack of a better car. Neva Chonin of the SF Bay Guardian called Ray "...an all around Renaissance kind of guy..." and described "a recording stuffed with a multiplicity of textures". He has worked with Art Alexakis (Everclear) Scott Mathews (he starred as Fluke Starbucker in "Hardware Wars", also wrote a song for Barbara Streisand, and has produced John Hiatt and Roy Orbison). Ray's influences are varied, blending the vocal stylings of Marvin Gaye, David Bowie, and Chuck D. with a songwriting style derived from 60's and 70's pop, tossed up in a salad of hip-hop lo-fi soul and punk DIYness. Ray took up drums at 5, sax at 6, organ at 7, and then quit trying to play music and just listened very carefully. Top 40 and soul music on the east coast am radio controlled Ray's concentration and close-and-play phonograph, his biggest influence was most likely his older cousins for leaving their 45's at the house. AT 15 Ray bought an electric bass after a football accident broke his hand, and wore out the grooves of the first Pretenders LP, teaching himself with his cast on. He then spent the next 10 years bouncing from guitar to drums to bass to keys, jack off all trades masturbator of none. Then, after he moved to San Francisco, Ray bought a little sampler, and his songs have never been the same. He has been deeply entrenched in San Francisco's music scene since 1987, playing in several ground breaking bands. His first, Rabbit Season, was a hyper pop, volume fueled post-punk pop band which included Alison Faith Levy on keyboards and vocals, Josh Pollack on Bass and Guitar, and Chris Stohr on drums. Ray played guitar and bass and made his first bunch of pals. Josh and Ray later went on to form Zircus, an

amazing "dorkestra" of genre hopping musical gypsies. Everyone brought a friend with an instrument they could just barely play-it really has to be heard to be understood ,but they have been compared to Captain Beefheart, The Muppets, The Fat Albert Band, Earth, Wind & Fire, Duke Ellington, and the Beatles, but sounded like NONE OF THEM. 20 minute Devo Medleys, When the Saints Come Marching In, Country Funk, Noise Pop- whatever it was, they covered it and many came along for the ride. This band was the first to pack the Bottom of the Hill, produced and courted by Art Alexakis (Everclear) and his now defunct "Shindig" Label, became the favorite local opener for Counting Crows, and were finally signed to Racer Records years after they split up. The Cd is that worth hearing. Extinguisher is an ongoing hip hop project Ray has, collaborating with Andre' Jones and Vincent Moore, they have written and recorded well over 200 songs together from 1991 to the present. Tang was a 9 man funk band from Cal Berkeley who took up much of Ray's time in the late 90's. Read about them @ the website tangmusic Ray has been VERY busy, and his solo release "King Of The Drama Queens" includes 15 years of 4 track demos, and different collaborations of his favorite original songs. The influences you may hear on this recording range from Beck to Barry White, Kiss to Elvis Costello, Arthur Lee to Prince , Sonic Youth to the Carpenters and back again. Now Ray has graduated to a digital 8 track, is currently working on many projects. A new solo album is near complete with many songs left over from the!TANG, along with oddities and experiments recently unearthed. It has sort of a 60's rock flair, with a psychedelic, hip hop overtones.

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