

## **Best Specialist Music Programming Entry – “The Shiny Disco Ball,” David Campbell, Subcity Radio**

“The Shiny Disco Ball” is a specialist disco programme which plays a selection of underground, rare music from the genre along with well-known classics. There have also been guest mix editions where DJs from Glasgow have either sent them in pre-recorded or performed them live in the studio. It is produced, presented and researched by David Campbell through various means – disco forum recommendations, record stores in Glasgow such as Rub-A-Dub Records and Level One Records. He also seeks recommendations from Ian Dewhirst – a presenter on Starpoint Radio who also produces rare groove and hard to find disco compilations which compliment the show well.

Its style is informal while acting as an alternative to the various modern dance programmes aired on local and national stations during weekends across the UK. Moreover disco music is often cited as the blueprint for subsequent style of dance – to this day songs from disco are sampled in pop, dance and hip-hop. The programme gives the audience an opportunity to explore the roots of today’s music which they love. The format of the show is to invite listeners to get in touch while inform them of notable new CD releases and club nights which those interested in disco will appreciate. Moreover, news items from the past week are mentioned on-air which relate to the style of music – from details on Donna Summer’s new album to local disco dance competitions and any new single releases which sample disco songs.

This edition aired on December 9<sup>th</sup> 2007 was presented as a documentary about the film “Saturday Night Fever,” to entertain and educate the listener. A day before the show is due to broadcast it is scripted and programmed, though because it is a live programme sometimes the free-flowing style of presenting can make it flexible towards the listener needs if say, they would like a mention or to dedicate a specific independent disco song which mainstream stations shy away from. For this edition however, David spent two weeks researching material from numerous reference sources – most notably from “Turn The Beat Around” by Peter Shapiro and “Saturday Night Forever” by Alan Jones and Jussi Kantonen.

This weekly programme is unique, as it actively gives relevant information about disco music to those in Glasgow. While the programme broadcasts internationally through the internet, Subcity’s core audience is the Glasgow University student body. Within this is a soul/funk/disco subculture which in the past has attracted DJs such as Norman Jay to The Buff Club (Bath Lane, Glasgow) and Jeremy “Mastercuts” Newall to host a one-off 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary night celebrating Salsoul Records in The Riverside Club (Maxwell Street, Glasgow).

Notable editions:

David Mancuso & The Loft Special: 11/02/2008

Jack Archer Live Mix: 25/11/2007

Joe Still Mix: 4/2/2008

Tom Moulton Sandpiper Tapes Exclusive: 14/10/2007