

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Func Spec VS TXTual Healing**

Audience Participation is required when Func Spec kicks up *THE SPICE* with TXTual Healing

Where: BLVD

When: Friday, July 25, 2008

Time: 9:00PM – 11:00PM

NEW YORK CITY - **Func Spec** is seasoning the hip-hop world with positive flavors with their full-length release, *The Spice*. After being dubbed "India Bambatta" by **Afrika Bambaataa** himself, rapper/producer, the1shanti, was determined to fully realize Bambatta's words of blessing to "...make whatever funky music you make to rock/funk the world." And thus the1shanti's concept of **Func Spec** was born. Inspired by the creativity and passion embodied in the music of Digable Planets and the Fugees, the Brooklyn-based trio of Mark 'Ko' Dutta, Sho 'Nuff and the1shanti derived their sound from their roots in and traditions of Indian culture. Dutta has been hailed by **India's Daily Telegraph** as the only artist of his generation to usher in the fusion of Tagore – traditional Bengali vocal stylings – with hip-hop. Having started performing in Calcutta at the tender age of 6, Sho 'Nuff has lent her remix and vocal skills to such artists as **Lil' Flip (Sony/BMG)**, **Teedra Moses (TVT)** and **Dum Dum Project (Universal)**. Rapper/producer the1shanti, has been cited by **MTV's** John Norris as "one of the few South Asian emcees with any credibility."

Taking hip-hop's beloved tradition of freestyle to the next level, the premier of **MC TXT**, a collaborative project between **Paul Notzold** and the1shanti, will be flipping the script quite literally. During this interactive hip-hop experience, the audience takes part in the creative process. Notzold's MC TXT system, powered by TXTual Healing, spits text messages sent by the audience directly to MCs for use in their creative flows. This is Notzold's first endeavor in using his "speech bubble art" in a musical setting. His work was showcased at the opening of the **Takashi Murakami** exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum. MC TXT finds Notzold teaming up with MCs Jocey (Rawkus, Glow in the Dark Records), NYC (5G Productions) and the1shanti.

**About Laskar Music**

Laskar Music, a subsidiary of Laskar Group LLC, is a one-stop music management and marketing entity which houses its own independent labels. Laskar Music works hand-in-hand with artists to help them achieve their own vision of music and an individualistic sound. Func Spec's *The Spice*, to be released worldwide on July 15, is Laskar Music's third full-length release with the1shanti following the artist's successful sophomore album released jointly with **Rawkus Records**. For more information, visit <http://www.funcspec.com>, <http://www.myspace.com/the1shanti>, <http://www.laskarmusic.com>

**About Paul Notzold**

Paul Notzold is a Brooklyn based designer, artist, and performer. His work is inspired by his observations of society's acceptance of popular culture consumed through the technologies of mass media as "truth." In particular, he has focused on the mobile phone and its capacity as a networked medium for individuals to create their own truths with. TXTual Healing, his continuing project and collaboration, is a public space happening that encourages community building and idea sharing as a public dialog performance using text messaging from personal cell phones. For more information, visit <http://www.txtualhealing.com>

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