

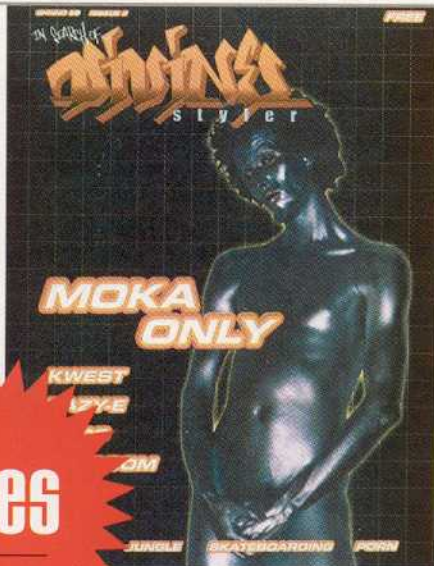
In Search of... *Divine Styler*

Lending a whole new dimension to the word *fanzine*, *In Search of...Divine Styler* magazine was founded in 1996 for a somewhat unique purpose. "My friend B-Side and I were thinking about [rapper] Divine Styler...and we decided that we wanted to find him and make him come back out and do new music," reminisces Editor Fritz the Khat. "It's like a 'zine for all the 'Divine Stylers' of Hip-Hop, all the really creative, awesome musicians who just kind of get ignored by the mainstream."

The past three years have seen *Divine Styler* go from a xeroxed newsletter to a full-fledged 32 pages of newsprint—some even in color, for crumb's sake. The Spring '99 issue witnesses fruition with the release of



Zines



Divine Styler's Word Power, Vol. 2 LP, but, despite declarations of bankruptcy, disappointment in mainstream music and copious profanity (plus seminudity), *Divine Styler* must go on...

"There's something going on here with this scene which is greater than a couple of individual people," Fritz says. "Every time I try and stop [the magazine], I can't—so

many people in the world keep writing and saying they really like what we're doing."

In fact, *Divine Styler*, the magazine, is now branching out into Divine Vinyl, the label, due to have a compilation album out in conjunction with Good Vibe Recordings, featuring the likes of Styles of Beyond, Kwest the Mad Ladd and the man, the myth—the original Divine Styler.

"We tracked him down, and he actually came up to Toronto and played our anniversary party," Fritz recalls of their initial meeting. In fact, in a March/April '98 *Urb* interview, Divine Styler partially credits *In Search of...* with his reemergence on the scene. Mission accomplished.

For fans of opinionated articles on those "certain" types of underground artists—Phoenix Orion, Company Flow—*Divine Styler* is your Canadian connection. (Note: This was in no way influenced by the "Divine Styler Guide to Hip-Hop Magazines.")

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