On Soul Search Swedish producer/DJ Freddie Cruger delivers a debut album of original tracks that illustrate why this master of genre-mash-ups has made a permanent home in DJ record boxes across the globe. Cruger’s authentic mix of old school hip-hop and b-boy grooves effortlessly incorporates dirty funk, soul, reggae, Latin and disco rhythms into impossibly irresistible tracks.

Integral to the rise of influential independent Swedish labels like Raw Fusion and GAMM, vinyl-buying fans of hip hop and soul will have found it hard to ignore the barrage of 16 releases and remixes featuring the name Freddie Cruger or pseudonym Red Astaire over the past few years. Despite the majority of his music being released purely on vinyl to date Cruger has gained many devoted supporters including names like Jazzy Jeff, Bobbito, Gilles Peterson, Quantic and even Erykah Badu.

Hailing from the southern district of Stockholm, Sweden, Cruger has been making beats for a decade or so. Aiding his graduation from bedroom producer making simple instrumental beats to hit-capable producer carving out an album of soulful reggae, b-boy disco and dark ghetto blues are a handful of guest vocalists. Soulstress Linn, who glides in like a Scandinavian Jill Scott on “Pretty Little Thing,” and the talented MC ADL represent Sweden. Joining them are Swingfly on the dancefloor bound “I Feel Quote Whatever”, Rapadon, Anthony David on the Latin-tinged “I Wanna Make You Move” and bluesy “New World Time”, and Cee-Rock “The Fury” from the USA with Desmond Foster from Jamaica on the good-time reggae flavored opener and “Something Good”.

Cruger’s first release was a limited edition affair in 1994 under the name Chimney Heads. Since then he’s worked as a producer with artists like China Moses (daughter of Dee Dee Bridgewater), Bob Powers (Tribe called quest, The Roots), Rappadon, Baz Baz, La Nata (France), Bas-1 and many more. He’s currently signed to Raw Fusion Recordings in Sweden but and has also released music on Swedish Brandy, GAMM (as the notorious Red Astaire) and his own Home Grown label. Until the release of Soul Search, Follow Me is Cruger’s most lauded release to date, dropped under the name Red Astaire. Using the acapella of a well-known soul tune with one of his beats proved to be a party pleaser with DJs worldwide and it made way for the birth of the infamous GAMM mash-up label.

CMJ performance at Scion Showcase, plus US Tour dates TBA!

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