

Kid Fonque Biography 2015

Kid Fonque has become a vital part of South African electronic music and club culture over the last 20 years. Uniquely accomplished in both influence and scope, he is an over-achiever in every one of his roles: DJ, label manager, promoter and more recently, producer.

Firmly established as a tastemaker in South Africa, Kid Fonque's influence can be felt and heard in the music of the many artists he has helped nurture in his role as label manager of Africa's seminal dance label Soul Candi Records.

Kid Fonque's talent is the type that refuses to acknowledge boundaries of any kind – be they genres or borders. The respect he is paid by the industry is a result of his no compromise attitude to playing and making music. Rather than following trends, Kid Fonque has always done things his own way and on his own terms. Importantly, every record he reaches for bares all the hallmarks of the Kid Fonque sound - a golden thread that ties all his sets together somehow.

Like a painter dabbing his brush into different hues, Fonque's palette embraces everything from bass and broken beats to bossa nova, hip hop and every shade of house - and with this open-minded approach he's been deconstructing dancefloors at home and abroad for well over a decade. Over the last couple years he's played dates in Hong Kong, Dubai, the UK and Switzerland.

Recently he represented South Africa's dance music community alongside other industry leaders on a panel at Amsterdam Dance Event 2013 and in the same week shared the stage with Black Coffee for a Boiler Room set.

In 2011, Kid Fonque launched his long-running monthly night, #2SIDESOFTHEBEAT as a platform to showcase underground music from all genres at the same venue. Dubstep and house rubs shoulders with hip hop, broken beat and everything in between. Kid Fonque handpicks the line-up which has seen esteemed musos like Dego, King Britt, Swindle, Mala, Zaki Ibrahim and local stars like Jullian Gomes, Cuebur, Kenzhero and The Layders on the stage.

In 2014 Kid Fonque moved into the producer's chair and released his critically acclaimed debut artist album *Kid Fonque and Friends* and a string of remixes.

Two singles from the album "BE", "Usangikhumbula" and a recent collaboration with D-Malice "All This Time" did serious damage in the charts – all claiming the number 1 spot on the YFM Urban Top 20. His recent studio output has paired him with luminaries like Clara Hill, Mark de Clive-Lowe, Nia Andrews, Jonny Miller, Okmalumkoolkat and Atjazz.

2015 sees plenty of new projects on the horizon for Fonque including remixes of Beebar, Mark de Clive-Lowe and Urban Renewal Project and a full length collaboration with London's D-Malice due for release on Arco which features a rich and varied cast of artists including Melo B Jones, Bhubesii, Jonny Miller, Atjazz, Ruby White and many more.

Whether he's behind the decks or if his productions flow from the speaker, Kid Fonque's sonic adventures continue to fill and thrill dancefloors, pay attention!