

Music makes me crazy

I wait for you on the dance floor!

by Zarpaelamor Dilleis (Elvira Valle y Ramón Domíguez)

In the future, people will remember the early 21st century as a time when almost everyone was a DJ.

A Dilley is a DJ. A disc jockey, deejay, or pinchadiscos, is the person who selects, clicks and mixes recorded music at parties, discos, and radio stations. Vinyl discs and mix table were used by DJs years ago; nowadays, a DJ clicks music with any reproduction system or electronic sequencer. Some use compact discs. In the early XXI, many started clicking because they had a friend (or some friends) who owned a trendy pub - they clicked so they could get into clubs. More and more dilleis use computers because it is the handiest way to play - you have hundreds of songs in your hard-drive, tracks are easy to find, and you no longer need that heavy, uncomfortable valise any more.

The typical early XXI Dilley is a university student or someone who has a job outside of the music world; they understand this new facet simply as entertainment. She or he loves to be well known and, above all, to be loved - but that is all. These DJs do not pretend to make their living out of their music. On the contrary, they usually waste more money drinking in the next pub than the sum earned with music.

Is it necessary to achieve a technical or musical knowledge to become a Dilley? Not at all. It is more important to choose the music, to connect one song to the next, and to ensure the quality of the sound. We live in a time when anyone who wants to can have a broad musical knowledge. Media - radios stations rather than printed press or TV - and the Internet keep us in

touch with more bands and songs than we can ever listen to. Let us think for a moment. How many new groups have we found through Myspace this year? Have we heard all of them? Sure we can think of more than one, more than ten. This is an advantage and we, and in particular the Dilleis, must make a profit out of it.

That anyone can become a Dille is not a bad thing. It is advantageous because the Dille is happy playing the music they like (and drinking as much as they want) and the pubs make money for nothing. In my opinion, it is fantastic for the venue owner to have a new Dille each week, and for the people to listen to different sounds. Unfortunately, it is not like that. In the exciting world of the Dilleis, around 80% of them click the same music for years; often the same music that they (and their old brothers) used to listen to for years. Please, Joy Division is dead! Why must we continue dancing to Love Will Tear Us Apart each night? Why do you continue to bruise our ears with New Order's Blue Monday? And why do all the new bands you click sound like that? We do not want to hear it anymore!

There are also Dilleis that click to impress, and others who aim for people to have a good time. Perhaps they do not know much about music, but they know what people want to hear. In my opinion, it is more important to look for folks on the dance floor than to achieve a reputation as a coherent and expert Dille.

The perfect click does not exist; not everybody likes the same music, nor feels like listening to the same music at the same time. Some practical tips: listen to Fly Music and some radio program in R3 for a week and then next Friday click a brand new session. You must click an 80s song, because of older people, and you must also remember the grunge times, something pop,

punk and "petardo" (campy) and finish with a hit to sing.. you will have a great success!

If you go into a pub and you like the music, you will go again, for sure. This is why the Dilley is the most important person at a night. In a pub where you are sitting chatting with friends, you can listen to B-tracks, obscure bands, and musical rarities that the old dilleis like to click - but you cannot do that late at night or in the morning hours when people just want to dance. Why do we go out? To have a good time, to laugh, and to dance. We prefer to dislocate our hip dancing to Hung up than listen to the latest song by Antony & the Johnsons or Micah P. Hinson. We must say it: It is no fun dancing to Antony, Micah or Radiohead. Dancing to Le Tigre, Saint Etienne, Electrocute or Roisin Murphy is great fun.

Another curious thing is that the majority of dilleis are men. If I count all of the dilleis in my city (and there are quite a lot), I can only count four women. This is odd - on the dance floor there are more women than men. What is the reason? To make a bad joke: in the DJ booth you cannot see her breasts. To be serious, perhaps men are afraid of being taught a lesson. We know for sure that whenever the women get up in the booth, everything is funnier. Meanwhile, we accept what we have.

Or we can hang the Dilley.

It is what they (a lot of them) deserve.