

Frivolous

From the wilds of British Columbia to the beating heart of Berlin and back again, Daniel Gardner's journey through music has been all his own. To call his style idiosyncratic would be a disservice, for his is a sound that feeds off the world outside his studio as much as it comes from within.

Through his formative years discovering music in a remote location detached from the ebb and flow of cultural movements, Frivolous took shape as a distinct proposition inspired by the European minimal explosion but defined by bold strokes of playful ingenuity, both in his sound sources and the way in which he deployed them. This first came to light on Andy Vaz's celebrated Background imprint; a label as concerned with funk and imagination as it was with glitchy production ethics. Likewise appearances on Karloff and Proptronix gave the perfect platform for Frivolous to indulge in his love of irreverent sampling and heart-wrenching melodies, as dizzying arrangements of found sounds and dusty rips filtered fed into a tonic that was equal parts humour and emotion., not to mention eminently danceable.

As his confidence grew and steady European bookings gave him the chance to focus ever more on his craft, Frivolous' own voice started to creep into the tracks, while his home made instruments became a key talking point in a scene that was becoming riddled with characterless laptop botherers. Out of this phase of his career came the *Midnight Black Indulgence* LP on ~scape, an album steeped in warm tones and oddball pop while still rooted to the fundamentals of house. The stylistic progression from here to 2011's *Meteorology* was a smooth one, even as the graduation to Luciano's techno empire Cadenza marked a serious ramp up in exposure and time on the road for the boy from BC. In a swell of widespread acclaim Frivolous took his live show far and wide for a good two years, living something of a vagabond existence while based around various parts of Europe.

After that rollercoaster, he is now settled back in Western Canada with a wealth of fresh material fuelled by new perspectives both musical and experiential, thus opening a new chapter in a career that has blossomed gracefully since its inception. As if to gauge this development, a collection of archive material has surfaced on Lessizmore that spans 2004-2011 and lets the light fall on gems that might not otherwise have gotten out there to be enjoyed. *Lost & Forgotten* serves as a perfect snapshot of Frivolous as he has always been, older and newer tracks sitting comfortably side-by-side and basking in the glow of refined musicianship and sonic innovation. While there may be no clues as to what comes next, the notion is reinforced that he will always do things his own way, and the results will always sound unmistakably like Frivolous.