

Lords of the Underground

The **Lords of the Underground** (**L.O.T.U.G.**) is a hip-hop trio based in Newark, New Jersey. The group is composed of Dupré "**DoItAll**" Kelly (born January 14^[2], 1971), Al'Terik "**Mr. Funke**" Wardrick (born November 15, 1972) and Bruce A. "**DJ Lord Jazz**" Colston (born November 20^[3], 1968).

Lords of the Underground



DJ Lord Jazz (left), Mr. Funke (center) and Doitall (left).

Background information

Also known as	L.O.T.U.G.
Origin	Newark, New Jersey
Genres	Hip hop, East Coast rap, Golden age, Hardcore rap ^[1]
Years active	1990–present
Labels	Pendulum Records, Jersey Kidz Records, Goon MuSick
Members	DoItAll Mr. Funke DJ Lord Jazz

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History

MCs Mr. Funke and DoItAll Dupré met DJ Lord Jazz (a native of Cleveland) when all three were undergraduates at Shaw University in North Carolina. A friend of Doitall's introduced the group to legendary producer Marley Marl, who invited them to record at his studio with help from K-Def.^[1] In 1990, Redman at the beginning of his career served as DJ for DoItAll of Lords Of The Underground at club Sensations in Newark, New Jersey.^{[4][5]}

The group released their debut album, *Here Come the Lords* on March 9, 1993 with production handled by Marley Marl and K-Def.^{[6][7]} In 2013, the American magazine *Spin* added the album to its list of "The 50 Best Rap Albums From 1993".^[8] The album peaked at 66 on the *Billboard* 200 and featured five charting singles, including the group's signature song, "Chief Rocka".^[9] In 2015, *Complex* placed the song in 85th place on its list of "The 100 Greatest Hip-Hop Beats of All Time".^[10]

By the end of 1993, the Lords had received an award from BET as best rap group of the year.^[1]

The group released their second album, *Keepers of the Funk* the following year on November 1, 1994. *Keepers of the Funk* peaked at 47 on the *Billboard* 200 and featured three charting singles, the most successful of which was "Tic Toc".^{[11][12]}

The group received negative criticism when it was implied in their 1995 single "Burn Rubber" that they condoned car-jacking. The group claims the song was created specifically for the car-jacking movie "New Jersey Drive".^[13]

They reunited for a third album with 1999's *Resurrection*. Released via Queen Latifah's Jersey Kidz imprint, was so small-scale a release that few realized it had been recorded.^{[14][15]} The Lords returned again in 2007 for a fourth album entitled *House of Lords*, but like *Resurrection*, it failed to reach the Billboard charts.^{[16][17]}

The Lords are best remembered in connection with the golden age of hip hop. As such, when Nas decided in 2007 to do a remix of his song "Where Are They Now?", which asked of the fates of several long-forgotten golden age rappers, the Lords were among those requested to appear. DoItAll Dupré performed eight bars on the track.^[18]

DoItAll appeared briefly in the final scene of the final episode of *The Sopranos* credited as Du Kelly, as one of a series of potentially ominous figures entering the diner.^[19] He also appeared on other TV shows: *Law & Order* as Two Tone, on *Oz* the HBO series, and on the Christmas episode of *30 Rock* on NBC (2008).^[20] He has also been in independent movies such as *Somewhere in the City* with Bai Ling, Rhyme & Reason, and with Treach of Naughty By Nature. He has also starred in an off Broadway play entitled *Diss Diss & Diss Dat*.^[21]

In 2012, the group first performed in Russia as part of the Hip-Hop Don't Stop event and the Soul City 2012 festival.^{[22][23][24]}

In 2017, DoItAll revealed he planned on running for Councilman at Large for his hometown of Newark.^{[25][26]} He started his campaign in 2018, and despite not winning a seat still plans to help the city.^[27]

In 2020, Lords of the Underground released their comeback song "Insomniac" produced by Snowgoons. The track is the first single off *So Legendary*, the group's first album in over a decade.^{[28][29][30][31]} At the end of January, Lords of the Underground released a video for the song "Whats Up", recorded with Onyx,^{[32][33]} which was later released in a single for this song.^[34]

Discography

Studio albums

Year	Title	Chart positions	
		U.S. <i>Billboard</i> 200 ^[35]	U.S. Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums (<i>Billboard</i>) ^[36]
1993	<i>Here Come the Lords</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released: March 9, 1993 Label: Pendulum 	66	13
1994	<i>Keepers of the Funk</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released: November 1, 1994 Label: Pendulum 	57	16
1999	<i>Resurrection</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released: April 20, 1999 Label: Jersey Kidz 	175	42
2007	<i>House of Lords</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released: August 21, 2007 Label: Affluent 	–	89
2020	<i>So Legendary</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released: February 21, 2020 Label: Goon MuSick 	–	–

Compilation albums

Year	Title
2014	<i>Lotug 20: The 20th Anniversary Collection, Vol. 1</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released: July 8, 2014 Label: Pirate Recordings, Inc.

Singles

Year	Single	Chart positions			Album
		U.S. Billboard Hot 100 ^[37]	U.S. Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs ^[38]	U.S. Hot Rap Tracks ^[39]	
1992	"Psycho"	–	–	17	<i>Here Come the Lords</i>
1993	"Chief Rocka"	55	35	1	
	"Funky Child"	74	52	2	
	"Here Come the Lords"	93	67	18	
1994	"Flow On"	–	–	36	<i>Keepers of the Funk</i>
1994	"Tic Toc"	73	52	17	
1995	"What I'm After"	111	–	32	
	"Faith"	–	–	49	


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External links

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