

# Mix the Vibe: Frankie Feliciano

## King Street Ricanstructed



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Coming from a background rich in music and culture, it is no wonder that Frankie Feliciano has become one of the house music community's most respected denizens. Born on November 19, 1970 in Brooklyn, New York, Frankie was raised in a home filled with music. His grandfather was a musician in Puerto Rico, his father played and sang in bands in New York, and the television at home regularly featured Spanish-language variety shows that showcased music from around the world. As an adolescent, Frankie was exposed to and enthralled by the vibrant hip-hop culture that was exploding all over New York and the boroughs, and he soon convinced his parents to buy him some gear. Here, then, was the genesis of Frankie's DJ career...a fourteen year old cutting, scratching, and mimicking what he heard at block parties and on underground hip-hop radio shows.

A couple of years later, Frankie was introduced to house music via "Little" Louie Vega, who was spinning at the old Hearthrob nightclub in New York. Unbeknownst to Frankie at that time, Louie later would go on to become one of his greatest friends in the industry. As Frankie continued to develop as a house DJ and producer, he also was inspired by house giants such as Shep Pettibone, Tony Humphries, and Timmy Regisford.

After a brief stint working in promotions at a local, independent house music label, Frankie moved into DJing and producing full-time, with his first serious paid gig at none other than the famous Ministry of Sound nightclub in London. As a DJ, Frankie since has gone on to play at renowned parties all over the world, from Angels in Love in Italy to Dance Ritual in NYC.

Frankie is a superb DJ, with brilliant programming and technical skills. He is also an amazing producer whose productions have garnered him acclaim for years. Frankie has produced such gems as "Don't Ever Give Up" (Innervation) and "Missing You" (Kim English), as well as the hot Latin-jazz "Boogalu" project and the Body and Soul flavored sound of "The Real Thing," his first King Street production. He has also produced achingly beautiful remixes of anthems such as "Ain't No Running Away" (Paula Ralph), "Father" (Kenny Bobien), as well as brand-new mixes for this year's funky, chart-topping cut, "It's Yours" (Jon Cutler & E-Man).

When asked about his musical tastes, Frankie had this to offer: "I'm a moody person, so I guess I make moody music. Rarely would I want to make a "stomp your feet and shout" kind of record. I listen to a lot of dark jazz, and Brazilian songwriters, who are always dark, poetic, and have a lot of irony to their songs."

Now with his own label and production company, Ricanstruction, Frankie is swiftly advancing on his musical journey. With this "Mix the Vibe: King Street Ricanstructed" compilation, he takes us on a jazzy, Latin, dark, yet deliciously bumpy ride, with King Street classics such as Kimara Lovelace's "Misery" and "Little" Louie Vega's "Souffle H," as well as unreleased tracks by Big Moses and Frankie himself. Enjoy this ricanstruction of your ears and your body language in this rhythm-filled 68 minutes of King Street and Nite Grooves magic!

Lorie Caval  
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Nite Grooves