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1278 indiana st. suite 400, san francisco, ca 94107  
[www.anticon.com](http://www.anticon.com), [baillie@anticon.com](mailto:baillie@anticon.com)



## **mansbestfriend**

### **(aka sole) poly.sci.187**

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- ∴ New Sole project under his Mansbestfriend alias
- ∴ Features contributions from members of Skyrider

#### **Track Listing:**

01. Dedemma Speaks
02. The Teachings of Leviticus
03. Wilting Onward
04. High Noon and Sobered
05. Allieverwanted
06. Stuck In My Head Since I Was 12
07. Giant Man Eating Bird
08. Bosnian Jazz
09. Spin The Humans
10. 50 at 30
11. Firefish
12. Father Vs. Courage
13. Party Till We Drop
14. Missile Defense
15. How Big Is Space
16. 6million Wayz 2live

While past Mansbestfriend projects dwell in a glorious sort of doom, *Poly.sci.187* plays ethereal and heavy like a series of ghost dreams drifting through thick Arizona air. The title reads as the foregone conclusion of Sole's notable ventures, both philosophical and literal, into a world of human strife and dirty politics: "Political Science: This Shit'll Kill You." But without true lyrical content, the instrumental *Poly.sci.187* occupies a space more reflective than edifying, its songs positing suggestion and sentiment in the mind of the listener about our most current troubled times. On album opener "Dedemma Speaks," Tim samples legendary anarchist Emma Goldman saying she's "excited to be back in the United States—my hunting ground of 35 years," which slyly speaks to his own return. And "Spin the Humans" begins with a heartfelt YouTube appeal for peace in Lebanon by a young boy whose family escaped the recent conflict, before closing with a vintage recording of Wheel of Fortune broadcasting live in blazing American irony from the New Orleans Superdome. It's political done subtle, and the songs of Mansbestfriend adopt a similar bent, often ending on question marks or drifting out of frame.

True, hip-hop's collagist tendencies are present here, but the songs are freeform—ambient, heavily textured soundscapes that ride a beat out just as easily as they derail it in favor of new ground. "Wilting Onward" is a heady mélange of jungle drums, surging guitars, sampled voice and crystalline static that plays with layers of competing rhythm before mindfully devolving into a three-room houseparty. Conversely, "Allieverwanted" kicks in with the head-nodding fury of a rap banger—think the Wu's east meets wild west—all big synth styles, pulsing beat and crunchy organ tones with a Sole sample rattling around the song's tall halls and Ryan Fritch (from Sole's recently adopted Skyrider band) playing searing E-bow. "High Noon and Sobered" is an icy overture for white noise and violin (also Ryan), and "How Big is Space" bleeds eerie weirdness over booty beats gone sci-fi. From start to finish, *Poly.sci.187* is filled with such sonic explorations. The album is an accomplished work that testifies not only to the fine art of experimentation, but to the aural abilities of Tim Holland, instrumentalist—may he be loud even in silence.

**Press Contact:**  
Baillie Parker / Shaun Koplow

[mrhiphop@anticon.com](mailto:mrhiphop@anticon.com)

415.282.9400

