FIVE CUESTIONS FOR.

KAREN P

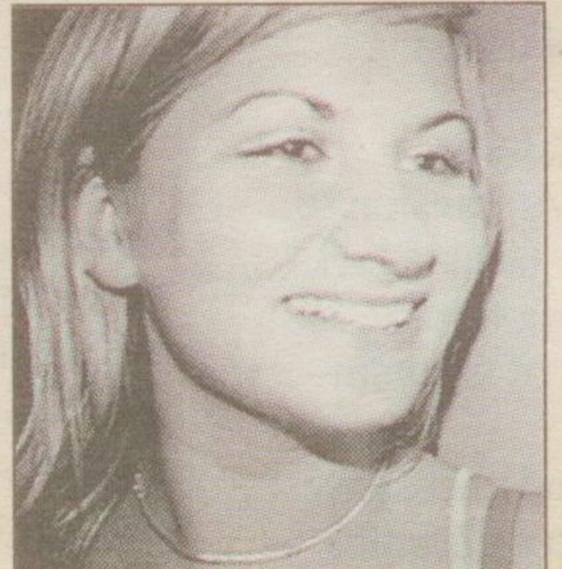
Karen Pearson became Radio 1's youngest ever producer when she worked on the Gilles Peterson Worldwide programme at just 23. She comes to New Bohemia as DJ alter-ego Karen P, teaming up with former Hot Pot Radio producer and pal Lil' Minx.

You're a regular visitor to New Bohemia, aren't you?

This is the third time now.
The first time I did it on my own, and the next time I did it with Francine Hayfron, who's Lil' Minx. A lot of the stuff I'm listening to at the moment is Brazilian and Afrobeat stuff. I'm loving the Haggis Horns and bits of R&B, house and broken beats. I'll be playing all over.

You recently launched Audio
Acupuncture in Manchester with Lil'
Minx. Is it your first clubnight? It's the
first I've run outside of London. I used to
play house and soul at a night I ran with
mates, and I did Gilles's Independent Mix
night at Cargo. I used to have an input on
the bands and we'd DJ around them.
Audio Acupuncture is at Contact and
has a nice Sunday afternoon vibe.

Did working with Gilles Peterson broaden your musical tastes? Yes. He was playing the kinds of music I liked but working with him really opened up my mind, mostly to music from all over the world. I realised that the scene Gilles belongs to, there's a bit in every country, and by connecting up to them you find independent music. It's not all about labels. It's about searching for bootlegs and 12-inches.



Where do you go cratedigging? I do the London Soho thing. When I'm in other countries, I get the people that book me to take me to second-hand places. I played in Portugal recently and got there a day early just to go to a particular record store. When I got there the guy had gone on holiday and it was shut.

What does the New Year hold for you? I'm setting up my own production company, Karen P Productions. I'm gonna have to start employing people next year. It's just energy and working with amazing people that's keeping me going.

AT

Tonight, New Bohemia, The Faversham, 1-5 Springfield Mount, Leeds, 10pm to 2.30am, £5, £4 NUS/members.
Tel: 0113 243 1481. www.karenp.co.uk

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