

Semaj da Dj “Mixtape Entrepreneur”

From cassettes to globally streaming mixtapes.



Jersey City, New Jersey Apr 3, 2023 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Imagine growing up running to the music store to grab the hottest new mixtape out, to becoming one of those dj's who music is streamed all over the world? Well, let me introduce Semaj da Dj who became just that.

Semaj da dj was raised in Jersey City, NJ where he was introduced to a special style of music at an early age. Listening to the music blasting out of yellow Sony or sometimes spray painted boom boxes. As the older kids would play on the corners rolling dice or riding by on bikes with someone standing on pegs coming out of the back tires. What sounded like R&B Artist Singing Over Hardcore Rap & Break Beats. The Songs Sounded Familiar, But Didn't Sound anything like the versions played on the radio stations.

He would later come to find out they were mixes. Also known as blends or mashups. Which were available at neighborhood music & electronic shops, where the local dj's would drop them off with posters that were put into a binder with newer releases on the front page. This mixtape book would be Semaj's favorite place to discover new music. Every weed he would run down to the local mixtape spot to grab the latest mixtape. Having the newest tape blasting out of your radio was the new flex.

As time went on Semaj was thrown out of school in the 7th grade and was sent to Academy II. A schools where some of the baddest kids from all Jersey City schools were sent. This is where his Empire began. Being from the heights Semaj didn't know many people past the Journal Square section. Being in this new school he became connected with friends from every neighborhood in the city. From Downtown To Marion Gardens, Duncan Projects Up To Curries Woods.

The new found group would also come with new insights into the mixtape culture. Introducing some local Dj's whose music didn't make it up to the music stores in the heights. Which meant trips to other stores in other parts of the city to see how those mixtape books looked. From the Music stores in Journal Square To Hudson Mall, Stans Square Records And Even T-Shirt & Clothing Stores Carried These Mixed Cassettes.

Fast Forward to all this new found mixtape content and being introduced to local dj's in the process. Semaj Got his hands on some equipment & started his own record label in 1998. Drafting members stretching all across Jersey City. By making their own mixtapes, the group went from T-O-M "Thugged Out Mobb" to "Taking Over Mixtapes" To The Current "Team Of Monstars".

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