



Mo' Lava Entertainment launched their second album on the BGI Riddim Project at the Monsta Grill & Bar last Friday evening to an enthusiastic audience. The show celebrated the recent release of Slaughter Riddim Vol.1 got started a mere ten minutes after the scheduled 9pm. It was a comfortable mix of interviews, discussion and performance. Artists were backed by the Mo' Lava Band and the event hosted by Hurricane who included the lively audience members in the evening's discussion.

Guest acts included Loc' Dong riddim artists; the dynamic Albert Olton, and Adonijah, who at the urging of the patrons, delivered an un-scheduled but stirring performance of his song Personally. Slaughter Riddim performances included I-Fan's Things Brown and Pong performing No Better. Pong spoke of becoming uncomfortable as a father, seeing young girls "skinning out" to his music, and being more selective about his messages in future.

Buggy Nhakente was eloquent, patient and resolute in his message of political freedom and economic equality for all on Political Ride. His was a riveting performance until the deejay triggering unnecessary sound under the band drew some colorful comments from both Buggy and the audience.

Mo' Lava producer James De Lovell described Slaughter Riddim Vol.1 as a "message for the average man", which calls on Barbadians to take back control of their lives, and to "...stop waiting on the government and those seen as powerful to act. Each man need to check himself for his own power. Look around at your reality, believe in yourself and fight for the truth because the other way ain't workin."

Guest speaker Andrea King Director of the Barbados Cultural Industries Development Authority warned of the dangers of relying too heavily on foreign educators to guide their children and encouraged local creatives to believe in the value of their work.

It was a good evening from all accounts, despite early hitches. In closing off the show Lovell said "It is critical that we reach the people. This is not about race, religion, preference, nor habit; we all feel the pressure...this is about humanity. This is about us saving ourselves." He reiterated Mo' Lava's intentions to offer strong and positive messages for the average man and encouraged creatives to be conscious of and act on their social responsibility to the masses.