

DANCE  
PIONEER  
GREG WILSON  
AND RAP  
OUTSIDER  
KID ACNE  
FIND  
COMMON  
GROUND  
IN THE  
ELECTRO-FUNK  
UNDERGROUND  
OF THE  
80s



Rizla's Invisible Players return to the UK festival circuit this year, with appearances at Rockness, Big Chill and Bestival. Inspired by the original eccentric 1920s travelling troupe of the same name, three musical gentlemen and one MBE-appointed ma'am will be travelling the length and breadth of Britain this summer, spinning the most sun-blissed and inspired tunes they can select.

The ever-charismatic Annie Nightingale, suave DJ/producer Justin Robertson, original Hacienda head Greg Wilson and British pub-rap sensation Kid Acne will all go head-to-head, armed with wit, love and a deep-rooted creative heritage. Exploring their various musical inspirations, electro-funk anthropologist Greg Wilson talks with rapping art vandal Kid Acne about the sounds of the underground that have shaped their lives and their music.



**Greg Wilson:** The electro-funk era was the one that I most connected with – the music that was coming out of the states in the early 80s. Radio in America had decided that disco was over, but it wasn't.

People were still going out dancing! Electro was everything – it could be uplifting and moody, that's the way it was played in the clubs. Such a hybrid.

**Kid Acne:** I love all that stuff, the hard, programmed beats of the early 80s. It's all so ramshackle and amateur – it's the lost hip hop. When I first started recording with Req, I was really self-conscious about the music. I'd ask Req what he thought and he'd say, 'I've heard worse.' That would make me feel good. I got into hip hop off the back of the rave and hardcore scene that was sampling hip hop breaks – the precursor to jungle.

