

Attention to miniscule details, translating intense emotions into sound and striving for the highest standard have been lifelong values that hardstyle pioneer Ran-D possesses. As one of the most dedicated, yet down-to-Earth figures in the Hard Dance movement, Ran-D has perpetually topped all expectations through his productions and moving presence during his performances.

It's obvious that Randy Wieland, or better known as Ran-D, was born to pursue a career in music. His knowledge extends into all aspects of production and his enthusiasm and drive shines throughout all of his creations. His attention circling within the harder styles during his younger years, Randy used to visit various parties and events and intently watch every move that the DJ would make. Little did he know that within a matter of years he would be climbing to unimaginable heights and pursuing his lifelong dream as a musician...

In 2006 and after years of working on his technique in the studio, a breakthrough presented itself that would ultimately change Ran-D's life forever. After one of his first ever gigs, Randy noticed that his vinyl bag was missing and although this seemed like one of the most unfortunate things to happen to a young DJ, it was essentially a blessing in disguise. Turns out that his vinyl bag ended up in the hands of Special Records' head honcho A-Drive, and after hearing Randy's potential, he offered him to release a remix of his track "Crystal Clear." Following up this debut with two further releases "Bomb This Place" with MC Rems and "Rage," Ran-D's music soon made its way to the ears of one of his greatest heroes, Zatox. The rising attention towards Ran-D marked the beginning of a fruitful career for this driven producer.

Ran-D was unaware that many pioneers of that time had their eye on him, including Alpha<sup>2</sup> who then invited him to begin releasing his music on A2 Records in 2008. Shortly after kicking his career off in the A2 Records team, Ran-D received an unexpected phone-call from Q-Dance with a request to perform at one of the most renowned events of the time, Qountdown. Years of perfecting his productions and performing at small-scale events paid off when Ran-D stood upon thousands of visitors in the Heineken Music Hall. Said to be a dream come true, this performance marked Randy's realisation that his biggest passion was evolving into a steady career as a respected musician.

In 2009, another huge breakthrough came about for Ran-D when he released one of the most cherished tracks in the history of hardstyle. "Living For The Moment" was undoubtedly his first big hit and has been deemed one of Hardstyle's most iconic anthems. The emotional aspect of the track is incredible and with Ran-D's skills not only in production, but also writing and singing every single lyric, a unique magic to his music was always added and became something that set him apart from many other producers.

Ran-D's talent, knowledge and skill was undeniable, allowing him to quickly work his way up to being acclaimed as one of the most credible artists in the Hardstyle scene. Holding a status at the top of the industry, numerous memorable performances followed at Defqon.1 Festival, Decibel Outdoor Festival, X-klusive Holland, Q-BASE, Reverze, Qlimax, The Qontinent, Intents Festival and many more.

Ran-D went on to produce numerous knockout tracks in 2013, including "No Cure" with Redixx, "Dimensions," "Rebel To The Grave" with Digital Punk and "Hectic" with Zatox. His remarkable ability to focus on the most miniscule details whilst injecting boundless amounts of emotion and

energy into his tracks is something that ultimately brought Ran-D's name into the big leagues as a force to be reckoned with.

Whenever Ran-D steps on stage, you can literally feel the passion radiating throughout the venue; his presence is infectious and the way he connects with the crowd is so unique! Whether he is performing in a small club that holds 200 visitors or in front of thousands of people, one thing's for sure, Ran-D will always give it his all! With the look and feel of a true entertainer, opportunities kept flowing in for Ran-D as he cast his spell on crowds in Australia, The United States, Chile, Germany, Canada, United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, Sweden and many more.

After dropping sensational productions "Animals" with Hard Driver, "Antidote" with Endymion and Intents Festival anthem "The Hunt" featuring E-Life, in 2015 ground-breaking productions just continued to flow from his studio! With his musical spirit and technique reaching its pinnacle, Randy captivated the industry when he unleashed game-changing tracks such as "I Am Legion," "Firestarter" with E-Life, "Wolfchild," and of course, his notorious raw Hardstyle anthem "FCK EDM." The spin-off from these releases was phenomenal, and merely a small taste of what Ran-D's futuristic and refined sound was yet to do!

Furthermore, 2015 also saw Ran-D claiming 'ownership' over the biggest hard dance gathering when he had the huge honour to create the Defqon.1 anthem "No Guts, No Glory" with Skits Vicious. The anthem marked one of his most memorable performances to date when he stood in front of thousands of fans and tore apart the mainstage during his incredible closing set.

Ran-D was evidently recognised as one of A2 Records' front-men since the early stages of his career, however in March 2015 another career expansion presented itself that saw this pioneer teaming up with a like-minded team of artists. With the sole purpose to innovate and represent creative, top-notch productions, alongside Adaro, B-Front and Frequencerz, the brand-new record label 'Roughstate Music' was established. Since the conception of the imprint, Roughstate haven't just earned their spot as one of Hardstyle's leading labels, but have also hosted various events, such as XXlerator RAW.

Any Hard Dance artist can vouch that one of the biggest achievements is scoring a place on the Qlimax line-up. With this mysterious and élite concept designed to showcase the works of the most admirable artists of that year, Ran-D first-handily experienced the magic of this superior event not once, but three times! Displaying his unequalled vision to a packed out GelreDome in 2014, 2015 and 2016 as a surprise act, it's no secret that Ran-D has reached a supreme and highly influential status in Hardstyle.

Another thing that Ran-D is renowned for is the chemistry that he has in the studio with close friend Adaro which has seen the pair releasing tracks such as "My Name Is Hardstyle," "Struggle For Existence" and "Under Attack." With their collaborations quickly climbing to success, Ran-D and Adaro knew that it was time to take the next step in their career and in 2011 they formed the stellar act Gunz For Hire. After already producing a collection of hits together, the two now had the chance to take this special concept to the next level and become the most renowned live-act in the history of Hardstyle.

Gunz For Hire was quickly acknowledged as an irreplaceable and legendary live-act in Hard Dance's entity and their early releases "Bolivia," "Kings Of The Underground," "Sorrow" feat. Ellie and "Swagger" liberated the Hardstyle scene, soaring to be recognised as modern classics.

Whenever Gunz For Hire take centre, total madness is ensured! Notorious for putting on legendary performances accompanied by a fully-fledged, soul-immersing production, Gunz For Hire have detonated crowds at Qlimax, EDC Las Vegas, Defqon.1, Decibel Outdoor, Intents Festival, Hard Bass, Rebirth, Electric Love, Airbeat One and many more.

This past year has seen Hardstyle's favourite super-act reaching an élite status with their Earth-shattering performances and beguiling, timeless productions such as "No Mercy," "I'm A Criminal," "Plata O Plomo" and "Executioner Style." Furthermore, Gunz For Hire also embarked on an extraordinary 'No Mercy' world-tour which ran throughout Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Chile, Italy, The United States, Austria, Scotland, Spain, Australia, Finland and France.

In amongst the hustle and bustle of Gunz For Hire, 2016 was also a defining year for Randy's solo endeavours. With 'raw' Hardstyle's popularity booming to prevail worldwide, Ran-D's impeccable productions were pronounced at the top of the industry's ladder. Exhibiting an unswerving level of quality in releases like "Paranoid" with Phuture Noize, "Shut Up" with Frequencerz, "Blinded" alongside Alpha² and his Decibel Outdoor anthem "United" feat. LXCPR, it's no surprise that Ran-D is viewed as a highly respected producer by fans, fellow producers and professionals of the industry.

Welcoming in 2017 with new and exciting quests, one of Ran-D's biggest career highlights was presented on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, when he teamed up with Q-dance to host his own X-Qlusive. As one of the biggest honours a Hardstyle artist can receive, X-Qlusive marked an unforgettable night where Ran-D fervently connected with his fans and fellow artists to celebrate over one decade of achievements and loyalty to the genre. Encompassing all eras of his prosperous career, Wieland felt delighted to treat visitors of this event to an exclusive 'classics' set, as well as damage the dance-floor with a class selection of his latest and greatest weapons!

With this milestone fresh in his memory-bank, Randy is charged-up on adrenaline and ready to continue kicking goals! After announcing a mysterious 'We Rule The Night' set as part of his X-Qlusive line-up, this is just the tip of the iceberg regarding this boundary-dissolving concept. Proudly unveiling that 'We Rule The Night' will also embody a brand-new mix-tape and album, this concept is set to overhaul and enhance the genre by bringing back the central mentality surrounding traditional Hardstyle.

Holding an ever-growing worldwide fan-base, a packed-out performance schedule and an abundance of timeless hits up his sleeve, Ran-D is undoubtedly one of the most talented artists in the history of Hardstyle. His modest and hardworking attitude is admirable and has served as an inspiration for budding producers as well as his sophisticated and intelligent approach to creating masterpiece after masterpiece...

**THIS IS OUR WORLD, WE RULE THE NIGHT!**