

1788-L
SYNTHETIK



DEADBEATS • 2019

A mysterious new name entered the world of electronic dance music (edm) in 2018 that has since gained a notable reputation. Despite this producer accomplishing in one year what takes decades for others, listeners are still left wondering who the producer truly is.

FEATURED TRACK:



SYNTHETIK — 1788-L

[Via Spotify / SoundCloud](#)

1788-L brought a new sound to electronic dance music. While the identity of the producer(s) remains a mystery, the persona hints at being a “Synthetic Automaton”, or self-aware robotic program. With the producer(s) focusing efforts on the newly forming sub-genre of mid-tempo, the genre has become a home to the sounds of 1788-L. With an emphasis on high-energy and hard-hitting bass, 1788-L has made a sound for themselves that has quickly gained attention from listeners.

After the release of their debut track “Replica” on January 26, 2018, 1788-L released their first extended play (EP) *SENTIENCE* just seven months later on August 24. Since then, they signed to DEADBEATS, label of Canadian edm duo Zeds Dead’s, and debuted their second EP *SYNTHETIK*. With highly followed edm producers like Rezz, Subtronics and GRiZ already signed to the label, it wasn’t long until the “Synthetic Automaton” became a household name in edm.

The release of the EP brings us four new songs featuring prominent American producer Josh Pan and rising stars Slooze, Deathpact and totto. The title track “SYNTHETIK” is the first collaboration 1788-L work on with Toronto-based producer Slooze. Starting off with a gradual buildup of ambient noise and subtle bass, a synthesized female voice bursts through, listing off operations like “human voice translator version one, online” and “auditory testing control, online,” which reminds listeners of the “Synthetic Automaton” that created these sounds. Once online, the song hits hard with a wall of bass that leaves listeners eager for more.

The EP’s second track “MALFUNKT” features similarly mysterious, but lesser-known producer, Deathpact. A homage to one of 1788-L’s first tracks released, a remix of Daft Punk’s “Rinzler,” the collaboration carries a heavy *Tron*-esque tone similar to that heard in the movies. For some,

the track may be hard to follow and can even dissuade those unfamiliar with the genre; but, for those familiar, they will find themselves easily lost in the world of *Tron* as they are consumed by the synthetic bass of the duo.

After first collaborating on “FULL/BURST” for 1788-L’s debut EP, the two are back at it with the album’s third track “ORGANIK.” Taking on a *Tron*-esque tone like that heard in “MALFUNKT,” the piece also pulls from the hard-hitting bass in the album’s title track. After easing in with the note-by-note rhythm prominently heard in *Tron*, listeners’ eagerness for bass is fulfilled yet again. Unlike the previous two songs, “MALFUNKT” takes an ambient twist that leaves listeners in a state of disorientation before the final track.

Featuring vocals from known edm producer Josh Pan, the album ends on a much lighter note. As the only track with human-sounding vocals, “WICKED” takes on a much slower pace. While there are clearly vocals, the meaning behind them leaves listeners with more questions than answers. Having only eight lines to the song, ambient percussion and, you guessed it, more bass fill in the rest. As the final track gradually fades out, the producers compete for your attention as they drag out their final sounds.

Despite launching their career less than two years ago, 1788-L achieved phenomenal success. With nearly a half-million monthly listeners on Spotify and over four-million plays on SoundCloud, the faceless producer(s) gained enough following to play 18 shows and headline 9 edm festivals in 2019.

While identity is clearly a non-factor to their success, rumors formed that 1788-L is actually Stonewall Klaxon, a lesser-known mid-tempo producer. Regardless of the validity of these rumors, 1788-L has certainly made a name for themselves with the introduction of their energetic bass-heavy sounds into the world of edm.

If you are interested in the mystery of 1788-L, the sounds they make or the producers they’ve worked with, give them a listen by checking out 1788-L on [Spotify](#) or [SoundCloud](#).