

# MAKE CHANGE

SO YOU WANT TO **MAKE CHANGE** HUH!?

TRY LIVIN' OUT A JAR  
OF NIKELS AND QUARTERS  
DIMES AND PENNY BOARDER WARS  
ROACHES IN CORRIDORS  
YOU SEE,  
THIS IS MY HORTICULTURE  
TAKE A PACOIMA TOUR  
AND ASK A KING HOW HE GOT BEAT DOWN  
ON A PEASANT FLOOR  
IN 1992 WE STURRED UP REVOLUTION  
IN THE VIEW TERRACE  
WHILE THE REST OF THE WORLD  
THEY STARRED AT US  
WE IN THE 818  
WHERE WE EATIN' CAKE AND FLAN  
OFF OF REAGAN LAND  
RONALD WAS A KLAN  
WHOLES IN SHEETS AND HEROINE  
NOW YOU WANTED ME TO SPEAK THIS SLAM  
SO THIS IS THAT TIANANMEN SQUARE STAND  
YOU SEE,  
POETRY AINT LOVELY  
THIS IS PITUITARY GLAND  
OF A THIRTY YEAR OLD MAN  
SLIPPERS AND PALMADE CANS  
I SWALLOW GARLIC AND LEMON  
TO GIVE A CHANT

LIKE THE CHAIN GANG SLAVES FROM KIN TO CANT  
BEAT BOX SKATES AND RAMPS  
MAN, I SURVIVED ON PORK AND BEANS  
ARLETA STREET DREAMS ARE MADE OF THESE  
NAS IT WAS WRITTEN  
ANGELES ILLMATIC TAPE FIENDS  
WHO GOT TIME TO GET THEIR TEETH CLEANED  
AFTER SUCKIN ON FISH BOWLS  
MY MOLAR'S TUNNELED UNDER MY ROOTS  
TO MAKE CANALS  
THAT SPIT TRUTH  
THEN STRIKE YOUR NERVE  
TWO FINGERS OVER CROSSED SEEMS MY BROTHA  
AND WATCH THE BOTTUM DROP FROM RIGHT OUT  
UNDER YA  
YOU EVER HEARD A NIKE AIR BUBBLE POP  
IN VIETNAM  
MI SAIGON  
A BROTHER STOOD ON A CORNER  
POINTED AT ME AND SAID SOUL POWER  
YEA, SOUL POWER  
IT'S EQUIVILENT TO KEEPIN YOUR LIGHTS ON  
AND OWNIN' YOUR OWN GENERATOR  
PLAYIN' INSPECTOR GADGET  
AT AGE SEVEN  
STICKIN A PAPER CLIP IN A SOCKET  
NOW THAT'S SOUL POWER  
I GOT THE SCARS TO PROVE IT  
GO 'HEAD AND JUDGE ME ON THIS OPEN MIC

YOU EVER PULLED A HEAD OUT OF AN OPEN VAGINA  
TOOK YOUR SEED AFTER NINE MONTHS  
CUT THE AMBILICAL CHORD  
AND HELD YOUR DAUGHTER  
WELL MY OPEN MIC  
IS AS FRESH  
AS MY BABY GIRL'S FIRST SCREAM  
SO MIC CHECK  
AND DIRECT DEPOSIT MY SHIT  
BECAUSE AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE  
THAT THIRD EYE ON THE BACK OF A ONE-DOLLAR  
BILL  
IS GONNA STAY OPEN  
BECAUSE I'M GONNA DOUSE IT  
AND DOUSE IT  
AND DOUSE IT  
WITH CLEAR EYES VISINE AND METHAMPHETAMINES  
UNTIL I GET MY PEACHES AND CREAM  
INSTANT OATMEAL  
BACKED UP TO MY HOUSE IN A TRUCK  
BY MR. QUACKER HIMSELF  
AND WHEN HE GETS OUT  
TO UNLOAD MY SHIT  
AND ASK ME FOR A TIP  
IM GONNA HAND HIM  
A HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL  
AND SAY, GUESS WHAT?  
LETS, **MAKE SOME CHANGE**

## JAHPETO ILLIAD



To quote Eldridge Cleaver, "Every black champion until Muhammad Ali has been a puppet...but with the coming of Muhammad Ali, the puppet-master was left with a handful of strings to which his dancing doll was no longer attached" (Cleaver p. 92-93. *Soul On Ice*). Hip Hop is more than just music; it is an iconoclastic voice that provokes humankind to move mountains, spark revolution, heal the soul, and feed the mind. The MC, in essence, becomes a tool that conducts the follower to embody conviction, and live social change. If one were to liken the craft of the MC to that of a Puppet Master, within that comparison, one would find, Jahpeto. Amidst the Los Angeles cityscape there exists an eccentric rap artist who has embodied the role of the Puppet Master. Jahpeto, put simply, is a craftsman and a Master of the Ceremony. As a rebel, a writer, and a national spoke-word competitor, this articulate Los Angeles M.C., is a Da Vinci in a concrete setting. His sound is cerebral, but never too complex for the casual listener. When you find yourself enslaved to the rhythmic, musical nuances, and captivated by the spoken lyric, you will know the crux of Jahpeto's music. It is often found in between the head nod and the up-rock, the record needle, and the street corner block. His narrative is a blend of intricate phrases and carefully placed diction that reminds the listener of a time when hip-hop was pure, filled with substance and untainted by corporate marketing. The moniker Jahpeto, taken from the literary narrative of Pinocchio in 1883, was a poor marionette, who was inspired to turn a plain block of wood into a something real, who could feel, touch, and embody the pulse of the world. Fast-forward to the 21st century and you will find an artist from humble beginnings who is devoted to his craft, refreshing the listener with veracity/truth. In the spirit of Rakim and Ice Cube, Jahpeto is an artist who will leave his imprint on your psyche while respecting the essential elements of hip hop and providing his own unique style of bold phrases and descriptive dialect.