

POW POW MOVEMENT

It was in the mid Eighties when **Ingo & Backra** first got in touch with dancehallmusic through a friend who brought some soundsystem cassettes with him from Jamaica, after they had already been listening to Bob Marley, Peter Tosh and others. They were both fascinated by this raw style of music coming from this small island far away in the caribbean Sea, and became very interested in Jamaican culture. In 1992 Reggaemusic was hard to find in Germany, so they decided to promote Dancehallmusic in their hometown Cologne. They first started to build up their own system and named it "**Pow Pow**" (after two gunshots, wich marked a salute in dancehalls in Jamaica). In the same year they travelled to Jamaica (together with crewmember and artist Gentleman) to find out more about the music they adore so much. Staying in Mobay first, they got introduced to a veteran sound named "King-a-tone", wich was a popular set in the early days in Jamaica. One day, the veterans decided to show the "whities" how dancehall used to be and how it started. The veterans got their old set out, and played very rare foundation stuff. It was a unforgettable night for the Germans.



On the same trip **Gentleman** had his first appearance on stage, entering a talentshow in Mobay (Glen Devon), and he mashed the place together with German singer Chicken George. Before they got back to Germany the first dubplate specials were voiced, and the enthusiasm was big and the roots were set to become a soundsystem of bigger size, and take the music further in their own country. Another big influence was Englands very own "**David Rodigan**" who was soon invited by thy now called "Pow Pow Movement" including another selector **Mr. Brown**. People started to follow Pow Pow Movement, and numerous parties made them well known in the country.

After playing their sound illegally on some festivals, the promoters figured the soundsystem culture was getting popular, and soon Pow Pow was invited to several festivals and concerts. As a result of some fines they had to pay for holding illegal dances, Pow Pow Movement looked for a club to play which was unusual back then. In 1995 Pow Pow started playing every Friday very successfully in their homebase **Petit Prince** club, which is still "the" dancehallclub on Friday nights. You will find first class dancehall events there, with guestsounds like Stone Love, Bodyguard, David Rodigan, Saxon, Tony Matterhorn etc. playing alongside Germany's finest throughout the year, aswell as people from different cultures and nationalities jamming



together. In 1995 "**Devon**" joined the crew as MC. Devon is a Jamaican who has been living in Cologne for ten years now.

In 1996 Pow Pow got on the radio with their own show "Pow Pow Reggae Radio". The rest is history, Pow Pow played their sound on every spot and festival throughout Europe, in places like Italy, Switzerland, France, Netherlands, England etc. as well as international places like Jamaica, U.S.A. , Africa or Canada. Numerous dubplates specials got voiced whenever there was a possibility on their trips to Jamaica, the U.S. or England. Pow Pow Movement truly set a foundation in Dancehall in Germany (Europe) along with some others, playing their own, very unique style. Many young sounds still follow the movement into the next millenium, and make Dancehall music in Europe what it is today. It's the love for this wonderful music from



Jamaica which has brought Pow Pow where they are today. As a result of being one of Europe`s top class soundsystems Pow Pow Movement entered **worldclash** 2000 in New York, as Europe`s first intercontinental sound ever for such an event. Although they failed to win, Pow Pow Movement gained worldwide recognition, and is still a sound to watch out for in the future. In 2001 Pow Pow Movement started producing their own tunes on their own **Pow Pow Productions** record label.

Their first bombastic riddim came out 2002 was called **Celebrate** which features artists like Beeniemann, Turbulence, General Degree and Gentleman and many more. After they won the euroclash in 2002, the label released another riddim in 2003. The legendary **shanty town** riddim with artists like Sizzla, Luciano or Tanya Stephens was a worldwide success in the dancehalls and is still a riddim you can hear nowadays. Jamaica 2004, the biggest Reggae radio station IRIE FM plays the new Pow Pow Riddim "**Blaze**" on heavy rotation. The riddim is taking jamaica by storm, and the big tune from the "artist of the year" Richie Spice "blood again" is on the No. 1 position for weeks on the reggae charts in Jamaica, New York, Europe and Japan. Also



Chuck Fender`s "cry for my people" and Junior Kelly`s "blaze" are mashing up the dancehalls all over the globe. The next production "**superior**" is another sureshot. Gentleman`s first single of the platinum selling album "confidence" goes straight on the No. 1 position of the german popcharts. The song "superior" becomes one of the most played songs on radio. Produced by Ingo Rheinbay (producer of the year 2004/2005 riddim magazin) the selcection gets high international ratings again with songs from Morgan Heritage, Anthony B or Sizzla, just to mention a few. Pow Pow Movement, now joined by another dynamic MC "**Jr. Carl**", gets rated as germany`s best soundsystem of the year in 2003/2004 and 2005 at riddim magazin. More songs got released in 2k5 on the



“gladiator” riddim with jamaica`s top notch artist Bounty Killer (gehtto gladiator), T.O.K., Daville or germany`s band “seed”, who also featured the song on their platinum selling album “Next”. One year later it was time for roots music again with the first sight riddim. Big tunes by Turbulence, Chezidek or Fantan Mojah, who already start work with Pow Pow in 2002 before he got well known in the reggae business.