

Michael Caine on Chill

Michael Caine won't DJ at your wedding but he makes great mix tapes

Featuring: Arnold Schwarzenegger. Bent. Claude Challe. Lethal Weapon.

★ I buy all the chill albums to make my own hobby, that's what I do in to music all day and if I put it on a compilation. I Swollen by Nottingham a track with a massive beat. - but it's called Swollen by romantic title for a love song compilation years ago.

I probably have about the Buddha Bar CDs - Claude Challe is my hero. I've never met him but I went into Hotel Costes in Paris and was having dinner once and when the disc jockey saw me he started playing the music from Get Carter - which is on one of the Costes albums, funnily enough.

“ I've always made chill CDs for friends and family or my daughters if they were a bit more hip ”

I have just put together my first commercially-released compilation, Cained. I've always been a frustrated disc jockey - so for 40 years I've made these compilations. This is a chilled one. It's a romantic album but with a beat. It's about finding love and losing love and regaining love - it's the oldest plot in movies. But for me, the beat is there because I grew up with disco and although I'm older and no longer go to discos, even if a record is slow and romantic there has to be a beat. The CD is the cream of my crop.

The idea came about while having dinner with Elton John in Nice, in the south of France, and he had background music on. We weren't listening to the music, we were talking, and suddenly I said 'That's Sarah McLachlan' and he said 'How the bloody hell do you know these things?' So I told him the idea I'd had. The idea is for the CD to be a romantic thing that you can play as a background for dinner or just sit and listen to it. And you might even find some music that you didn't know about. It's not music everybody knows.

I've always made chill CDs for friends and family or my daughters if they were a bit more hip. I'm pleased to say that my daughters both like this one though and they've both got

★ I buy all the chill albums and listen to them to make my own compilations. It's my hobby, that's what I do in my spare time. I listen to music all day and if I hear one I really like, I put it on a compilation. If you take that record Swollen by Nottingham act Bent, it's a romantic track with a massive beat. It's a beautiful love song - but it's called Swollen by Bent! It's not a very romantic title for a love song, is it? I found them on a compilation years ago.

I probably have about 5,000 CDs. I have all the Buddha Bar CDs - Claude Challe is my hero. I've never met him but I went into Hotel Costes in Paris and was having dinner once and when the disc jockey saw me he started playing the music from Get Carter - which is on one of the Costes albums, funnily enough.

musical taste has changed over the years - I love Chicane now.

The title Cained was invented by the record company. I have a contract for three CDs but I said if it goes in the toilet, they'll have to tear the contract up! I like the idea that you can get cold chills and hot chills, where you go romantic or disco. There are a lot of old disco records that the younger generation have forgotten. I play them all the time but I don't know the names of them. And if you brought that back that would be great.

I've not yet had a chance to give a copy to Elton. Whenever I see him, we're always at this great big party and the last thing you want is for someone to give you a CD. He's sort of my agent. I was going to give him ten percent - but he wouldn't notice so I'm not going to give it to him!

Words
Michael Caine

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