



On January 5th 2008, The ECC competed against 11 other remixers in the [Crate Digger Death-Match](#). The Challenge: with only \$12 of materials, create at least 12 minutes of music in only 12 hours.

It was brutal. Only half of the competitors even managed to finish. For those that did, their music -- 6 songs of 2+ minutes each -- will be judged by 3 judges. Also, each competitor chose a "hit song" to be judged by a 4th judge... the public. (If it's not too late, please [visit the voting page](#) and vote for The ECC's track,

[\*\*Boom-a-lakka-boom\*\*](#)

) The results will be announced on January 14th.

Here are all six of The ECC's songs:

Read on for commentary and reax about being in the first ever Crate Digger Death-Match:

It started with a very important decision -- where to spend the \$12. Obviously, San Francisco is *not* the place to try to stretch \$12... I was certainly jonesing for the good ol' thrift days of Columbus... but, short of driving to perhaps Oakland, San Francisco it is. I picked the Community Thrift on Valencia, chosen because they (alone?) actually categorize their records. They also tend to have more 12" singles than usual; potentially helpful for drum loops or a capellas. However, 12"s are a risk, since you'll only get one track for the cost of a whole record. Keep in mind that the competition forbids pre-made drum loops or synths -- the music produced must be made from *only* your \$12 of materials.

Unfortunately, I wasn't the only one with this strategy. There was another competitor there when I arrived... and yet *another* competitor arrived before I left.

As well, it turned out that Community Thrift was charging \$1.50 a record -- pricey for a thrift store. I probably would have done better to go to Amoeba, or another record store with dollar records. Luckily the 45s were only 50 cents, so I focused on those. I tended to focus more on spoken word picks, since I can coax music out of spoken word, but not vice versa. Some selections were also made to meet the three "motifs", themes chosen to spices up the competition (they were: 80's, country and/or house, and something backwards). My final selections were:

# Crate Digger Death-Match, Round One

Friday, 11 January 2008 07:14

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During the death match, the contestants (Kaleo Paka and the smoky shemle) fought for the right to be the first to dig through the crates. The winner was the smoky shemle, who was able to find the most valuable items. The loser was Kaleo Paka, who was unable to find any valuable items. The match was a close one, but the smoky shemle was the victor.