

Source: Detroit Institute of Arts, http://www.dia.org/portrait_studio/wall.html#



DJ Ray Oshay, Jit Happens at the DIA, 2014

“I started DJing in 1979. And I have seen, you know, the hip-hop come in, the Jittin’, all the dances. A lot of dancers in Detroit came to my parties and had sessions at my parties, Jittin’ and, you know, doing their thing. So, always just enjoy playing their music. When I saw them walking in, I knew what they wanted. They didn’t want no ballrooming, they didn’t want no hustle, they wanted the Jit, and that’s what I set out to play for them—Jittin.’ And when you say Jit the people come out. They love it. They love it. My part in the music is when you play the Jittin’ music, you’re playing the right booty music they want to hear, you want to mix it, you want to play. And they’re certain ones you just can’t play any Jit music. It’s the vibe that Detroit has, they know. When you play jit, jit, jit, jit, jit, jit, jit, oh and then da, da and then da, da. They know the certain record that’ll make them really get loose. So, that’s why I play a part in knowing that that’s what they want to hear. And so when you give them what they want, they really open up.”