[DC] 5.13.12 Dub Nation DC Feat. Mt. Eden

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As dubstep production duo Mt Eden (formerly Mt Eden Dubstep), Jesse Cooper and Harley Rayner are truly putting New Zealand - and dubstep as a genre - on the map. You could write that off as industry hyperbole, but in this case a little braggadocio is entirely apt: to date the New Zealand based act can claim over 80 million collective plays of their tracks on YouTube - more than any other New Zealand act, ever.

Having first made their mark with the epic 'Sierra Leone', Mt Eden have since remixed tracks by Ruby Frost, Six60 and legendary producer DJ Fresh, as well as many other incredible local and international artists - simultaneously building a large enough collection of their own material to warrant the recent release of their EP MEDS. Says Rayner, "It felt like the weight was shifted when we put out MEDS, because we finally had a body of original work we could be proud of and that was well received." Having put MEDS to the people Mt Eden are already at work on their debut album, which will feature collaborations and remixes with a number of other respected producers and artists from around the world. Claiming they only started making dubstep because of genre godfathers Benga and Skream, the duo's influences also include Baths, Doctor P, Ben Sage, Hudson Mohawke, Skrillex, James Blake and Tokyo Prose.

Live, Mt Eden's shows are built around moments - extended build-ups, drum solos, double and triple drops - the focus always being to generate momentum and keep the crowd in the right frame of mind. Featuring a lot of unreleased material - including their own unreleased bootlegs, unheard edits of their own tunes and unreleased tracks from other artists - every Mt Eden set is a unique journey. "We have always played a good mixture of light and dark, so it can be an uplifting and gut-wrenching journey all at the same time," elaborates Cooper

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