

Dance

TRICKY
MAXINQUAYE
Island BRCD 610 1995

Laid-back, way-back trip-hop from former **Massive Attack**-er **Tricky**. His promising solo singles "Aftermath" and "Ponderosa" appeared early last year, but were followed by nearly a year of silence. "Maxinquaye," is well worth the wait, however, offering truly brilliant moments. The opening track, "Overcome," lays out one basic blueprint: dope touches added to a main sample (in this case **Shakespears Sister**), with vocalist **Martine** mellow and sensual on top. You may feel uncomfortable hearing recognizable samples featured so prominently but there's no denying that "Maxinquaye" uses them well. The best example is "Pumpkin," where the beautiful guitar line from **Smashing Pumpkins**' "Suffer" becomes a seamless part of the chorus. Martine's voice has just the right edge of growl to it, while Tricky's vocals are spoken in a lazy cloud of weed. The highest-pace floor-filler is a surprising and brilliant cover of **Public Enemy**'s "Black Steel." If you're looking for albums with concept, innovation and imagination, go no further than the cutting edge of dance, a place at which Tricky and "Maxinquaye" most definitely reside ... 9