Sensational

Sensational aka Torture aka Perfection

Owldom Meets Sensational In The Twilight Zone

After over three decades in the game he still remained the same: An enigma you could not grasp. Even after witnessing him at the highest highs and an all time low you failed to come to grips with what drove him and which devils fought him. He remained raw and never stopped. No prisoners were taken on his ride. Long live Sensational!

Colin Julius Bobb, better known as Sensational, was born in Guyana and grew up in Brooklyn.

From an early age, Bobb was interested in music, particularly reggae and calypso, before he discovered hip-hop culture. His musical experiments began to take on new forms as he rapped over albums by Karlheinz Stockhausen that he discovered in Bill Laswell's collection. This would have a lasting impact on his unconventional style.

At the age of 15, he joined the Jungle Brothers, initially as a backup dancer and later as a rapper under the name Torture. He made his debut on *J. Beez Wit Da Remedy* (1994), where he stood out with his extremely fast flows. The album, originally produced by Bill Laswell, was shelved by Warner Bros. due to its experimental nature, and a tamer version was released instead. Four tracks from the original sessions were released in 1999 as *The Payback EP* under the name Crazy Wisdom Masters, on Black Hoodz. It wasn't until 2020 that Bill Laswell released the complete album as it had originally been planned.

In 1997, Bobb signed with Spectre's label WordSound, changed his name to Sensational, and released his solo debut, *Loaded With Power*, a groundbreaking lo-fi masterpiece recorded entirely using a four-track recorder, a drum machine, and headphones as a microphone.

Out of principle, Sensational refrained from using outside samples and produced his own sounds. He collaborated with Bootsy Collins, Dan The Automator, Kevin Martin, Mike Ladd, Kouhei Matsunaga, Sofa Surfers, Badawi, Cardopusher, DJ Sotofett, James Ruskin, DJ Scotch Egg, Ghostigital and Marc Acardipane, among others.

The biopic *Crooked* (2002), in which he plays himself, portrays the period of his life at WordSound.

The rest of his career was marked by immense productivity, as well as homelessness and drug problems.

The documentary *The Rise and Fall and Rise of Sensational* (2010) followed his struggle and his survival tactics over the course of five years, featuring interviews with fellow artists such as Bill Laswell, Mike G (Jungle Brothers), and Skiz Fernando.

Sensational, the uncrowned king of outsider hip-hop, remained uncompromisingly true to himself until the very end. In August 2026, just a few days before the start of his comeback tour, he passed away unexpectedly. *Owldom Meets Sensational In The Twilight Zone* is his final

album.