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Press Release

***COPYRIGHT CRIMINALS* REMIX CONTEST EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH 14
New Vocal Samples from Chuck D and George Clinton Made Available for Use**

San Francisco, CA, USA - February 15, 2006

Creative Commons, along with filmmakers Kembrew McLeod and Ben Franzen, today announced that due to overwhelmingly positive response, the *Copyright Criminals* Remix Contest has been extended by two weeks, ending on March 14. Additionally, new vocal samples from influential rapper Chuck D (of Public Enemy) and pioneering funk musician George Clinton (of Parliament and Funkadelic) have been made available for use in the competition.

Winners will be chosen according to the same criteria as originally announced; no other contest details are changed.

The *Copyright Criminals* Remix Contest encourages producers, DJs, and remixers from around the world to use audio snippets from the upcoming documentary film *Copyright Criminals* in new, original songs. One winner will have his/her music featured prominently in the final edit of *Copyright Criminals*. The winning track, along with 11 runners-up, will be included on the film's companion CD. The contest is going on now at ccMixer.org.

Drawing from more than fifty interviews with prominent musicians, artists, scholars, lawyers, and music industry representatives, *Copyright Criminals* looks at the development of sound collage (also known as sampling). The film explores the complicated impact that copyright law has had on the creative practice of sampling and studies the conflicting opinions artists and others have about appropriation.

Samples of dialogue by artists like De La Soul, DJ Qbert, Matmos, Coldcut, and members of Negativland - all taken from interviews conducted for *Copyright Criminals* - are available online at the popular remix community ccMixer.org for use as source material to be included in entrants' songs. Entries will be judged by McLeod, Franzen, and author/producer Jeff Chang. Contest rules and details are available at ccMixer.org.

About the judges

Kembrew McLeod is a professor at the University of Iowa and an award-winning independent documentary filmmaker. McLeod has written music criticism for *Rolling Stone*, the *Village Voice*, and *MOJO*; and has authored two



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books, most recently *Freedom of Expression®: Overzealous Copyright Bozos and Other Enemies of Creativity* (Doubleday).

Ben Franzen is an Atlanta-based artist who owns an independent production company called Changing Images LLC, which specializes in video, photography, and multimedia. Franzen edits the animated TV program *Squidbillies*, which appears as part of the Cartoon Network's Adult Swim line-up.

Jeff Chang is the author of the American Book Award-winning *Can't Stop Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation*. In 1993, he co-founded and ran the influential indie hip-hop label, SoleSides (now called Quannum Projects), helping launch the careers of DJ Shadow, Blackalicious, Lyrics Born, and Lateef the Truth Speaker. He has helped produce over a dozen records.

About Creative Commons

Creative Commons is a nonprofit organization that promotes the creative re-use of intellectual and artistic works by empowering authors and audiences. It is sustained by the generous support of the Center for the Public Domain, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Omidyar Network, and the Hewlett Foundation. For more information, visit <http://creativecommons.org>.

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Press Kit

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