

# Harlem Renaissance

## Immortal Technique

Let me welcome both of you to the show this morning  
To talk about what I consider  
To be a very very important topic, the Harlem Renaissance  
But before we get into that  
Harlem once was red line district rated  
Designated ghetto like the yellow star of David  
And you wonder why people don't own they homes  
'Cause the racist bank wouldn't fuckin' mortgage a loan  
Until after the invasion of gentrification  
Eminent domain intimidation, that's not negotiation  
And it's frustrating to look at every day  
Like watchin' a porno on 56k  
Biohazard labs instead of store rooms  
What's next motherfucka', projects as dorm rooms?  
You ain't foolin' nobody in this community, dude  
With your little fake Manhattanville community group  
Ivy league real estate firms are corrupt  
That lay siege to your castle like the Moors in Europe  
They treat street vendors like criminal riffraff  
While politicians get the corporate kickbacks  
Harlem Renaissance, a revolution betrayed  
Modern day slaves thinking that the ghetto is saved  
'Till they start deporting people off the property  
Ethnically cleansing the hood, economically  
They want to kill the real Harlem Renaissance  
Tryin' to put the Virgin Mary through a early menopause  
The savior is a metaphor for how we set it off  
Guerrilla war against the rezoning predators  
When I speak about Harlem I speak to the world  
The little Afghan boy and the Bosnian girl  
The African in Sudan, the people of Kurdistan  
The third world American indigenous man  
Palestinians, Washington Heights Dominicans  
Displaced New Orleans citizens  
Beach front Brazilian favelas that you livin' in  
The hood is prime real estate, they want back in again  
I didn't write this to talk shit, I say it because  
Some of y'all forgot what the Harlem Renaissance was  
We had revolution, music and artisans

But the movement was still fucked up like Parkinson's  
'Cause while we were giving birth to the culture we love  
Prejudice kept our own people out of the club  
Only colored celebrities in the party  
And left us a legacy of false superiority  
W.E.B. Du Bois versus Marcus Garvey  
And we ended up selling out to everybody  
The Dutch soldiers and the John Gotti's banksters  
Modern day gangsters, immobile army  
They want to move us all out the NYC  
Like they did to the Jews with the Alhambra decree  
So support your own businesses and institute of knowledge  
'Cause the real Harlem Renaissance is economic  
Harlem Renaissance, a revolution betrayed  
Modern day slaves thinking that the ghetto is saved  
Till they start deporting people off the property  
Ethnically cleansing the hood, economically  
They want to kill the real Harlem Renaissance  
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The savior is a metaphor for how we set it off  
Guerrilla war against the rezoning predators  
When they were saying it is the renaissance of Harlem  
They didn't mean that we had stake in that  
They meant to say that they could make money out of us  
They are coming in with all kind of prejudices  
In Brooklyn they're doing the same thing  
In Queens they're doing the same thing, the Bronx  
There's hardly any place which is affordable  
I mean these people are putting up condominiums  
Which start from a million dollars  
How many people in this community make that kind of money?  
How many people have that kind of money?  
People of Harlem, they are the natural allies  
Of the oppressed people of the world  
Whether the struggle is in Panama, in Africa, Cuba  
We spend money with the wrong people  
We are looking for love with people who don't love us  
What's wrong with us loving each other  
And making sure we are protected?

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