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Etan Goldman

G Whiz!

June 26, 2009

For his new [CD](#) titled “Foundation,” Baltimore-born rapper **Etan G** (aka **Etan Goldman**) got a little help from some unlikely sources—**Paul Shaffer**, of David Letterman fame, music producer **Cedric Samson** and **Rami Jaffe**, keyboardist for Foo Fighters.

“Foundation” takes a decidedly universalistic approach. “My [music](#) connects to people of all ages, backgrounds and religions, even those who don’t generally like rap music,” said Etan G. “People love the positive messages in my songs as well as the live instruments and clean lyrics that aren’t usually incorporated into typical rap songs.”

Mr. Shaffer collaborated with Etan G on a song titled “Generations,” which the band leader had commissioned as a tribute to his synagogue for its centennial.

“I saw Etan G perform, and I was immediately intrigued by him,” said Mr. Shaffer. “I asked him to [work](#) on a cute idea of mine—a rap duet featuring Etan G and a 91-year-old congregant. It came out so well that he decided to use it on his album ‘Foundation,’ and I was thrilled about it. Etan G lays it down.”

Obviously, so does the congregant.