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MEDIA focus



BREAKIN' Breakdown

Let hip-hop dancer Roger G break and shake his way into your living room with the new instructional DVD, *Hip Hop for Kids Pop! Lock! and Break!* Released online in late spring 2005, and in stores last month, this DVD combines old school steps with the hottest new moves so viewers can learn the Harlem Shake, Chingy and the six-step, at their own pace. This sequel to the original *Hip Hop for Kids* includes sequences of professional dancers flaunting their moves and a bonus soundtrack CD. Check out the "My Style" section, where young dancers share signature steps, such as the Pomtail and Uprock. Roger G has worked with Jay Z and Stevie Wonder and has appeared on several television shows, including "106 & Park," "Def Comedy Jam" and "The Equalizer." Ideal for beginners: Expect very basic moves taught at a slow pace.

hiphop4kids.net
—Amber Herring

Ozomatli street signs



EDITOR'S PICK

DANCE tracks

Looking for a fresh new sound for your dance routine? Check out Latin and hip-hop band Ozomatli's *Street Signs*. Released in 2004, the CD features socially conscious lyrics set to beats so contagious, chances are you won't be able to sit still. Although the rock-tinged "Saturday Night" track has received

ANIME & Arabesques

The world of comic books and anime culture is Artforum Editor's focus. Film published more than 25 years ago is right, the comic has rapidly moved straight, translated into English. The story stars (left) Masami, a young and inexperienced dancer determined to succeed as her sister competes in ballet school.

Swan comes to the U.S. as part of a stage known as "skate songs," or Japanese comics available in English. This important genre has gained momentum with American audiences through popular comics and animated TV shows such as "Sailor Moon." Swan's book, released in 1994, is the original Japanese version. Everything from elaborate track-and-website illustrations depicting the story when it is in scene.

