

TWENTY4SEVEN

ENTERTAINMENT EVERLASTING

MAGAZINE

ISSUE #31-
2015



Meet SyFy's "Z Nation" Star,

PISAYPAO



INDY LEAGUE. SHANX. WIN. MIKKE RIPPER.
My Boyfriend And I Broke Up. | Dr. Umar's F.D.M.G. St. Paul's Fund.

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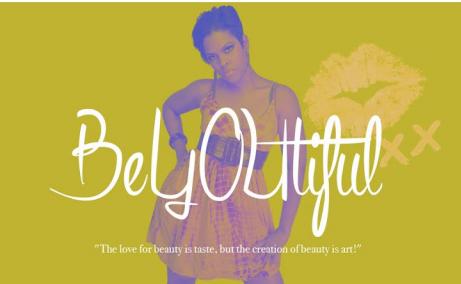


Photo By Vince Trupsin

TWENTY4SEVEN

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Words and interview by: **Lucky Smith**

Indy League is a movement that consist of independent recording artists, songwriters, and producers.

Who are the members of Indy League and how did it come about?

The members are BenOne, John Blu, DatBoyHot and Rio Dezonero. DatBoyHot came up with the vision and John Blu and Rio put the vision into play. Afterwards, they contacted BenOne, he joined, and they started recording. DatBoyHot was like, "Hey, that's disrespectful! Ya'll are going to let me in on this or I'm going to f**k somebody up", lol. He said, "Somebody better start removing verses and making room for me right now and I got some songs that I'm going to take some verses off of too". So, Indy League was complete.

You've all had success as solo artists. What do you expect to come of this merger?

We expect to be able to take our brands and allow them to co-exist within one entity. We realize that we all have huge followings/fanbases and we know that there is strength in numbers. We can grow stronger together on top of what our success has been as solo artists.

How would you describe your style musically?

If you are familiar with our individual styles, Indy League is a combination of all them. It's a little R&B, a little Hip Hop, a little Pop, and a little Trap. We are a movement, so musically we will make club songs, trap songs, love songs, freaky joints, and also music with messages. The Sky is the Limit!

What is the title of your project? Also, who is doing the writing and production? The name of the project is "IndyLeague". We are still recording it at the moment so the title may change. Our first single,

"Bruce Leroy" is being played on radio stations in your city. We all write and produce along with Donis Beats, Tylann, Showtime, Johnny Yayo, and Meatball. They are all a part of the Indy League's production and writing team.

Boy bands are not as popular these days. Do you think you all can spark that back up?

Definitely, BUT we're not a group or "boy band". We're a movement!

What would you say is the weirdest part about being a solo artist working in a group?

John Blu: It's a humbling experience and makes you less selfish. The true definition of "TeamWork".

BenOne: Well, it's nothing weird about this movement to me because I started with a boy's group by the name of "Strong", which consisted of me and my biological brothers. Indy League consists of my brothers from another mother, LMAO.

DatBoyHot: The weirdest part for me is that you have to take other people into consideration when making decisions. It's not all about you anymore. It's about compromising to get to the greater goal!

Rio Dezenero: The weirdest thing for me is that we are all so different, with different styles, different opinions, and have different ways of doing things. But, it comes together and works for Indy League.

John Blu is known as the "R&B Bully". Does he try to be the bully in the group?

Hell naw! He doesn't bully the movement. He bullies that music, those lyrics, and those beats!

Contact info? Any last words?

Twitter and IG: @OfficialIndyLeague and Facebook: IndyLeague. We just want to thank everyone that supported us in the past, present, and future. That's who made us who and what we are today.

MAKIN' NOISE

Shanx is an hip hop artist emerging out of East New York Brooklyn. His name is noticeable in his lyrical ability as well as his straight to the point approach in his music. He began recording his first tracks in 1999 and produced 3 mixtapes in 2004 under another management company. He also recorded a mixtape in 2012 entitled "Shanx- G Mix". He recently signed to Shatown Entertainment, Inc. and produced two mixtapes entitled, "For You" and "That's Life". His newest mixtape is "Hooked-Up", a collaborative project with many of the artists he has worked with recording at Hook-Up Studio as well as tracks with his label mate. He brings versatility, professionalism and a great show performance.

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SHANX



WIN

The Bahamas born, Florida raised choirboy/wordsmith honed his skills by impressing sorority girls as a student at the University of Arizona. There, he and producer DJZK teamed up to release his 1st mixtape "Fly, In First Class" in fall of 2009. After, they created the record label/entertainment company G-Air Ent which focuses on artist development and production. Soon enough, performing at philanthropy events, major pool parties, theaters and local clubs quickly became the weekend usual. While at The UofA he was awarded an internship at The Arizona School of Music Senior Recording Studio under accomplished Professor Wiley Ross until graduating in May 2012 with a double major in Psychology and Creative Writing and a minor in Vocal Performance.

Over the last 2 years he has toured with and opened for Mac Miller, 2Chainz, Twista, Machine Gun Kelly, Nipsey Hussle, Travis Porter & Jeremih. The rapid exposure and consistent evolution secured multiple clothing sponsors including AVSW, Imaginary Foundation, Oneupmanship Clothing Company, TRM Apparel, Undergroundation, and Hustle By Nature. In 2014 G-Air Ent will release his independent EP "Learned My Lesson" & his 5th mixtape "iWin" which features Bud Lee, Widow White, IV, Ashton Jazz, HD, Khyri, Intellect, Relli B, Ellz, Nita B & M.I.S.T.E.R Smith with production from LoudxPack, JayDot, Nyght Ryder, DJ Philero, R.O.A. and Meech&Kellz.

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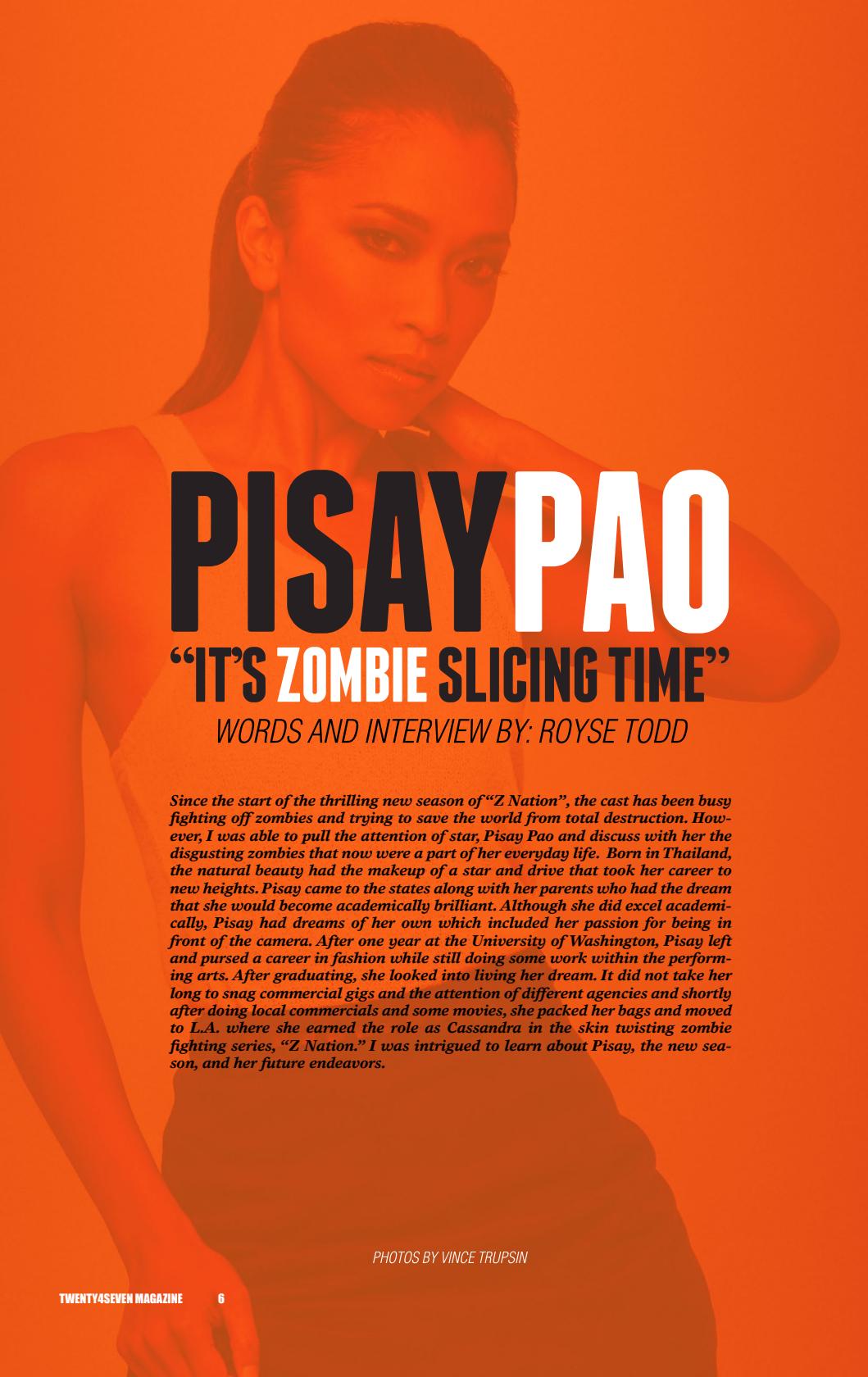
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PISAY PAO

“IT’S ZOMBIE SLICING TIME”

WORDS AND INTERVIEW BY: ROYSE TODD

Since the start of the thrilling new season of “Z Nation”, the cast has been busy fighting off zombies and trying to save the world from total destruction. However, I was able to pull the attention of star, Pisay Pao and discuss with her the disgusting zombies that now were a part of her everyday life. Born in Thailand, the natural beauty had the makeup of a star and drive that took her career to new heights. Pisay came to the states along with her parents who had the dream that she would become academically brilliant. Although she did excel academically, Pisay had dreams of her own which included her passion for being in front of the camera. After one year at the University of Washington, Pisay left and pursued a career in fashion while still doing some work within the performing arts. After graduating, she looked into living her dream. It did not take her long to snag commercial gigs and the attention of different agencies and shortly after doing local commercials and some movies, she packed her bags and moved to L.A. where she earned the role as Cassandra in the skin twisting zombie fighting series, “Z Nation.” I was intrigued to learn about Pisay, the new season, and her future endeavors.

PHOTOS BY VINCE TRUPSHIN



You've always had a niche for acting. What was the eye opener that gave you the inspiration to go after what seems to be your calling?

I was getting to a turning point in my life where I did not know what I was doing or where I was going. Every decision I wanted to make was somehow bound by finances so I asked myself what I would do if I won the lottery and did not have to worry about money. The first thing that came to mind was moving to LA to pursue acting. I realized that even with all the money in the world, I still wanted to pursue my dreams and at the same time I realized what my dreams actually were at that moment! I will never forget it.

It seems like everything happened so fast with your career. Was there ever any conflicts or setbacks that really brought you down?

The first year in LA was really hard for me emotionally. I just had not found my groove, my friends, or my routine. I was still discovering the city and myself. My agent back in Seattle (Melissa Baldauf) was really supportive. She told me to give it at least two years. I did and everything started working out right around the two year mark.

Tell us about Z Nation.

Z Nation takes place 3 years after the zombie apocalypse. My character Cassandra, along with a group of other survivors, are trying to get the only known human to have survived a zombie bite to a blood lab in California so we can reproduce a cure. We do not quite make it there but we run into a lot of other things along the way like Viagra zombies and a zombie bear. It is a bloody fun time.

Seeing how zombie centered shows are taking over television, what attracted you to the role of Cassandra in Z Nation? Do you and Cassandra relate? Why or Why not?

I am attracted to how mysterious Cassandra is and how they never announced in the breakdown nor the series where she is actually from. I get a lot of people asking me that and I love to hear their guesses. I also relate to Cassandra's inner strength. I have not gone through nearly as much as she has but I have always been really different. I had to endure a lot of bullying in school.

What separates Z Nation from the other trillion zombie shows out there?

Two words. Zombie. Bear. Two more words. Viagra. Zombies.

What would you say will be the biggest fan upset for this season on Z Nation?

SPOILER ALERT!! We just lost Michael Welch who played Mack and I am pretty heartbroken about it. I love Michael. I just think he is so committed as an actor and is a kind human being.

Z Nation has a solid cast. Who is your favorite actor/actress you're working with on the show? Why?

Like my mom says, "I don't have favorites." But, I get along pretty well with Nat Zang. We are both from Seattle, he is a great dancer, and he likes my cooking. What more can a girl ask for?

So far, what was your favorite scene to shoot for Z Nation?
I shot a scene while strapped to a car going 30 miles an hour with blood and guts all over my face. That was pretty epic. I cannot talk about my favorite, favorite scene just yet but it does involve 10K.

Fans don't generally show as much love to all of the behind the scenes talent that makes a project work. What's it like working amongst makeup artists who have to create these zombies? What's the process like?

Our makeup team is phenomenal. Mostly because of their talents but also because they have to deal with our whimsy butts sitting in the makeup chair for four or more hours.

My makeup does not take that long but it does get hard to sit still even after one hour. It is amazing to see it all come together no matter how long it takes though.

Are you ever grossed out on set?

No. My mind knows it is not real so I do not react to things in the same way.

Besides slicing and dicing up zombies, what else gets your adrenaline pumping?

Just being on set! I am on an awesome TV series that is in its second season and has fans all over the world, dang nabbit!!!!

What is life being Pisay when the cameras are not rolling?

I usually work out in the morning. I have been doing a lot of Pilates and juicing. I also love walking, hiking, and dancing. Anything to keep me active and moving. Afterwards, I am either on my computer working or going through my never ending "to-do" list. "Buy green juice at Trader Joes". Does that sound exciting? Probably not. Then, I either cook something delicious for myself or go out for dinner because food does excite me.

Being into fashion, do you have a particular "go to look" that you just love to see yourself in or you're the most comfortable in?

I love dressing for the occasion. Like when I wore leather zip up short shorts to San Diego Comic Con or when I wore a gold lame gown to our season premiere in honor of Cassandra's gold get up. When in Rome...Fit and fabric are also important for me. I do not like to sacrifice fashion for comfort because I do not think looking uncomfortable is fashionable.

What type of charity work do you enjoy doing or a certain cause that you focus on?

I am actually in the process of researching which charities I want to donate my time and energy to. There are a lot of great causes out there and I want to be as involved and committed as possible when I find the right one. Given my background though, I am sure it will involve women in or around South East Asia.

Tell us something about yourself that most don't know.

I wanted to adopt 10 children from all over the world at one point in my life. If I ever meet a Brad Pitt look-a-like that might still happen.

You're wanting to write children's books at some point in your career. Who were your favorite childhood authors?

Shel Silverstein is a genius. I wish I had been more familiar with his work when he was still alive.

How would you describe your healthy living lifestyle? What makes your diet and your exercises work well for you?

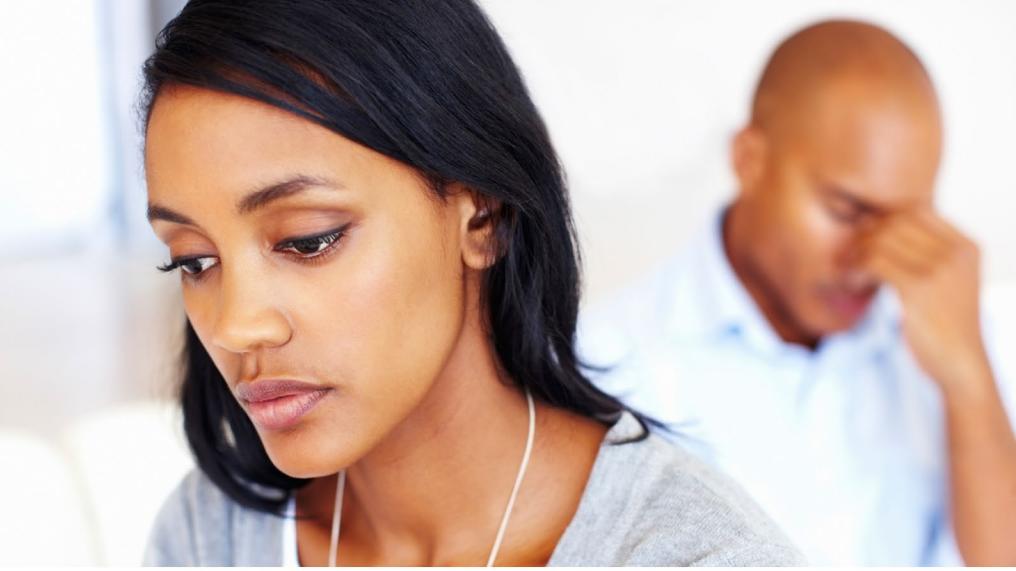
I have been doing a lot of Pilates and being mindful of what I eat. Honestly, 80% of being healthy for me is eating healthy. I have lost weight just from changing my diet and not working out at all but I think it is important to keep ourselves active regardless. You never know when the zombie apocalypse might happen and you always want to be ready to break into a run.

With Z Nation in its prime what is next for you?

Italy! We have a comic con there in November so I am looking forward to meeting our international fans.

How can you be reached (social media)?
My Twitter handle is @pisaypao and my Facebook page is the same.

Any last words?
Dream big. The bigger, better.



MY BOYFRIEND AND I BROKE UP

BY D'ANNIE GRANDISON

My boyfriend and I broke up. I told him I needed time; which turned out to be euphemistic for breakup. We were together 8 months I admit I thought he was the one. We talked about everything it seemed, good books, good food, good points, good possibilities of what we could be, while basking in the glow, enjoying who we were when we were together.

We attended a wedding once where we danced the day away. Staring in each other's eyes as though we finally found what we were looking for while simultaneously wondering where we'd been all each other's lives; brought back to the reality of at least we are here now.

We had long talks in the shower, passionate debates in the shower, talks of things and those we admired in their genius and their moments of wtf, in the shower, and of course there were other moments... In the shower.

We couldn't get enough of each other's brain but I began to realize that we couldn't get each other's hearts. We said I love you a thousand times and each time we thought we meant it. We took trips, wrote love letters, even poems for each other. We read each other's stories which we wrote before we even met. I thought we were soulmates, but to be soul mates there has to be a soul.

He tried to tell me on many occasions that his life, x wife, him not being with his three kids and child support was taking pieces of him he could no longer hold on to, but I did not hear him. He told me that he felt as if he was so trapped from yesterday that he could hardly breath the air of his tomorrow's, but I did not hear him. He told me that the presence, connectivity, consumption and possession I craved, he could not give me. Not because he didn't want to, but because he was fighting for air, for freedom from his past, and his what seemed like would be all his tomorrow's.

He told me that my requirement for his emotional presence was perhaps hindered before we met and yet I still wanted to show him tomorrow would be a brighter day. But with all of my tomorrows he needed me today and with all of his today's I needed his tomorrows.

It was too late. We were becoming the best of times and the worst of times. I wasn't giving him what he needed, he wasn't giving me what I wanted. So I asked for a break one day when he looked through me, past me, over me,

around me, he did not see me. Although I saw him, I did not see him, the way he wanted me to see him. He was trapped by his yesterdays while I tried to run to tomorrow's.

We never came back from our break, it was over. We stood there, in a room whose walls once smiled at the mere sight of us; as if it was nothing. Now we were nothing but stubbornness, pride, regrets on my part he denied his.

Concluding that I would have never given him what he needed, I think that was easier to believe, it didn't require any more work and he could go back to comfort, apathy, que sera sera and I having learned a lesson that may never serve me because the moments then now and tomorrow had passed... The ship has sailed.

Contact D'annie Grandison:
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NEFERTITI MONTAS

BEAUTY OF THE MONTH



HOMETOWN: BOSTON, MA

CURRENTLY RESIDING IN ATLANTA, HAITIAN/MEXICAN MODEL, NEFERTITI IS AN UPCOMING MUSIC ARTIST AND ALSO A MARKETING GURU FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

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TWEET DAT!

@lilduval: Amber Rose got too much power to be so lost. Where iyanya?

@WesKnuckle: How old is too old to wait for someone outside of a bar with the intentions of beating them up?

@waxkyng: I don't do that no more I sale eggs #IDontKnoNothing

@TeamRomany: To me, life works better when I spend more time seeking reasons to be happy and less time seeking reasons to be upset.

@TAXSTONE: Women don't care if they get cheated on just how bad they get embarrassed while cheated on

@MayaAMonroe: Stop talking to your friends about the problems you have with your significant other BEFORE the actual person.

@ChrisGardnerJr: You can't make yourself happy bringing misery to other people.

@deray: I love my blackness. And yours.

@MercedezUAZ: One day, it'll all make sense but in the meantime.... Laugh at life, live your life and love your life....

@N8dogg91: @sherylunderwood @deiontroy Our community needs both now more than ever looking out for our financial empowerment and competitiveness.

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#SLUTWALK

@Raquel_Savage: You don't have to like Amber Rose but she's attempting to bring awareness to a topic(s) ppl otherwise wouldn't talk about.

@JSnowPro: Draya deleted her hoeness too soon. #SlutWalk

@A1Lilray: Black Women are the last people on earth that should support a #SLUTWALK ... How about a "Rebuild the Black Family Walk"

@LisaVikingstad: Do people calling Amber Rose a hoe also call Wiz Khalifa a hoe? #SlutWalk

@TheReelAnderson: i am 100% against violence and abuse towards women but i don't like the title #slutwalk bc it's misleading im torn and sitting this out

@charliekrose: I understand that your outfit shouldn't be an excuse for rape, but the promo commercial had nothing to do with rape awarness. #slutwalk

@DaPromoKing: I guess now we can say theirs a way to make being a #hoe look good with this #slutwalk

What say you? Email twenty4sevenmagazine@gmail.com.

HEY, WHAT'CHA GOT THERE?

"SAME AS YOU, HUNNY! TWENTY4SEVEN MAGAZINE!"



SUPPORT A CAUSE

DR. UMAR'S F.D.M.G. ST. PAUL'S FUND

VIA DR. UMAR JOHNSON



Photo by: Cedric Jones Photography

Good Day To All!

I badly need your help! I'm trying to raise funds to acquire and rehabilitate either the Historically Black St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville Virginia, or the Chamberlain-Hunt Academy in Port Gibson Mississippi, with the expressed intent of transforming one or both of them into the Frederick Douglass & Marcus Garvey RBG International Leadership Academy for Black Boys; which will be America's first private K-12 residential academy for African-American males based upon the principles of Traditional Afrikan Culture, Pan-Afrikan Leadership, Community Self-Determination & Cooperative Entrepreneuership.

As a School Psychologist, School Principal, and Doctor of Clinical Psychology, with more than 20 years of experience servicing African-American boys, I am committed to reversing and ending the detrimental effects of special education, juvenile incarceration, societal alienation, psychological frustration, and premature ex termination that has become commonplace for boys of color in this country.

<https://www.gofundme.com/drumar>

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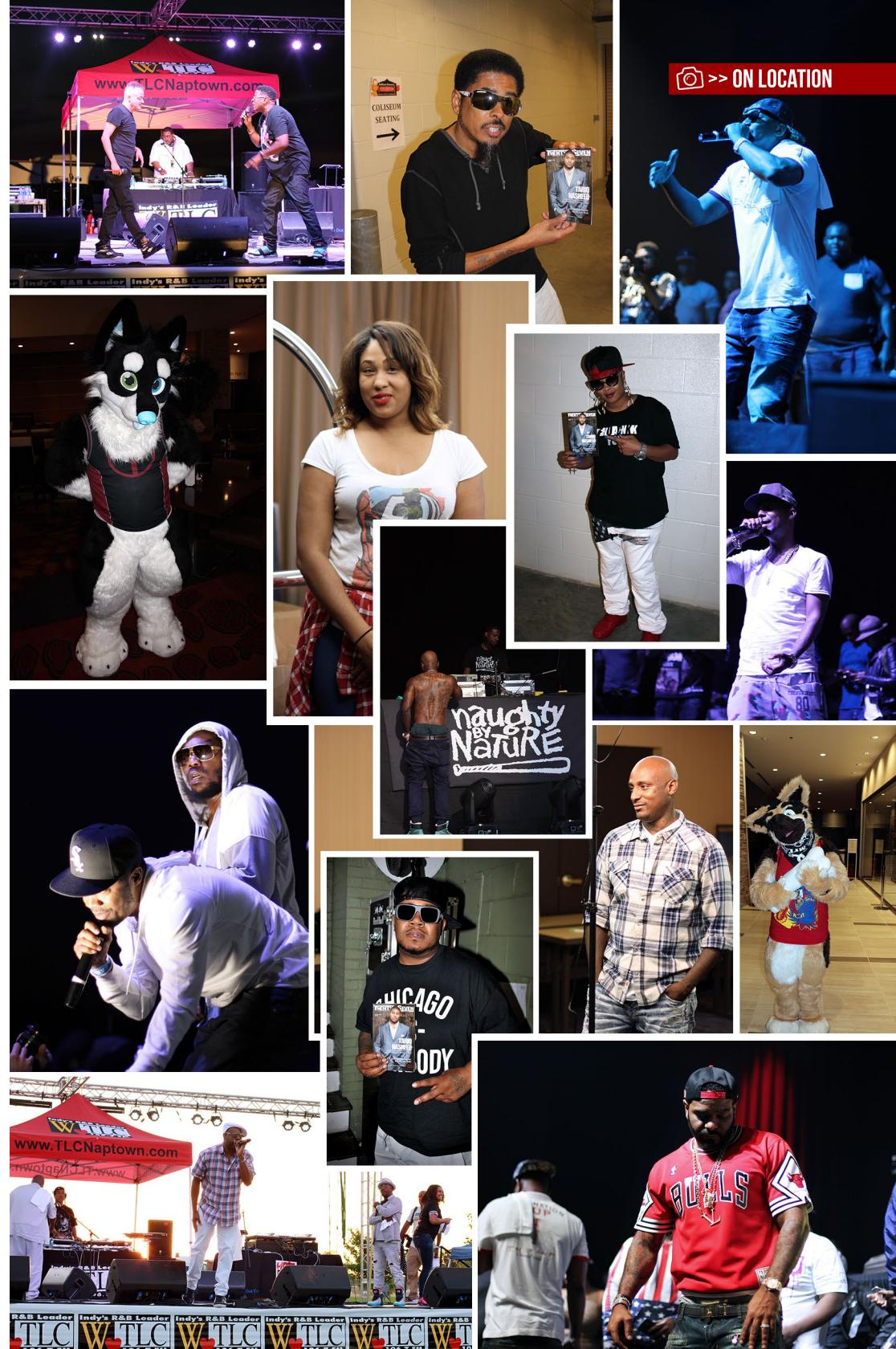
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CHECK ME OUT

MIKKE RIPPER

CHICAGO, IL & ST. PAUL, MN



Q&A by: Lucky Smith

Where are you from?

I'm was born in the southside area of Chicago, IL but we moved to Los Angeles, CA for some time and then relocated to Saint Paul, MN after my youngest brother was born.

When did you first start making music?

I started doing music when I around 6 years old. I began with poetry and little nursery rhymes then I began writing more vivid details about my life from a kid into my adolescent years. I've always wanted to be loved like Michael Jackson was, (hahaha) like every other kid who grew up listening to Michael. Also, I grew up watching my older cousin do music and at the time he dated Quincy Jones' daughter, Kidada. He always use to tell me I had talent because of my energy, writing ability, and the fact that I was such a fast learner. I would sit in front of the television and mimic 2pac and Ice Cube when their songs came on.

How would you describe your style, musically?

It's very complex because I'm so into all of the genres. Personally, I would say it's very soulful. I chose soulful because whether it is Pop music, Hip-Hop, or even R&B it always has a soulful feel that leaves you emotional.

What are your future goals for your music career? Any-one you would like to collaborate with in the future?

My goal is to create greatness, become iconic, and always make timeless music. I would like to work with Kanye West, Katy Perry, J Cole, Drake, Lil Herb, & King Louie.

What projects have you released and what is the status or what you have out currently?

Well, I have released 1 mixtape and 2 albums, all independently. My new mixtape I'm currently working on is called "The Breaking Point" and will have special guest appearances, solid producers, and will be hosted by the best DJ's in the music industry.

How have you advanced in the music industry?

I have always remained humble and stayed focused and loyal to those who were loyal to me.

Any challenges slowed you down along the way?

I lost my cousin to cancer this year but that just made me go even harder.

Are you currently involved in or do you see yourself branching out into other areas of entertainment?

Acting is always something I've studied and went to school for when I was younger. You never know. You just might see me in the next big Hollywood motion picture.

Where can we find your project?

My new mixtape, "The Breaking Point" is coming soon and will be available at Spinrilla, My Mixtape & Dat-piff.

Who is your main team or staff that you work with and some of your affiliates?

The people who believed in me since they've been working with me are Ron G aka Laron Marks. He's been working with me before my first radio single, "Forever" hit Power 92.3 fm. Also, behind all of my success is the hardest working man in the music industry, Delle Dell. Shout out to my hype-man and road partner, Twinboy who always keeps the crowds hyped and my whole AMG team, family, and good friends.

What's your contact info?

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FREEWAY

CRACK IN THE SYSTEM



A FILM BY **MARC LEVIN**



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