

TWENTY 4 SEVEN

ENTERTAINMENT EVERLASTING

MAGAZINE

ISSUE #71
2022

SUZETTE SAMUEL

+

*Cora Christian. Alexis Finley. Alix Lapri.
Garfield Wilson. Hallea Jones. \$kilo. Dumm Munee.*

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What up, World?

The last few years have been wild to say the least so if you are reading this, congratulations. You've made it another year. I know people die every day but lately it seems as if more people we actually know or know of, celebrities, etc. are passing away at alarming rates. With that being said, I want to shout out everyone who has lost someone close to them. I know it is hard and I definitely understand. I'm wishing nothing but blessings, healing, positive vibes and prosperity for us all moving forward. We definitely need it.

We have a lot planned for this publication this year. Expect to see a lot of unreleased content we have been "hoarding". This has to be the year to release it all because tomorrow is definitely not promised. In the meantime, subscribe to our YouTube channel and check out www.twenty4sevenmagazine.com for news, interviews and other great content.

Tyrone Davis



TWENTY4SEVEN

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ALEXIS FINLEY

NO SPONSORS

Words + Interview By Lucky Smith

Hailing from Houston, TX, Alexis Finley is an entrepreneur and songstress whose goal is to educate and motivate others to live their dreams. Her journey in the business hasn't been easy and though she has been through both emotional and financial struggles, she hasn't given up and is making a way for herself with no sponsors.



PHOTOS:
TARF STUDIOS

Who is Alexis Finley?

First and foremost I am a woman! I am an R&B singer, songwriter and entertainer whose main message through music is to teach and encourage people to overcome different obstacles in life when it comes to love, relationships, finances and hard times as a whole.

Why would you say you are the future of R&B?

I feel that I offer something different with my music and artistry as a performer. I have a lot of versatility and the music I make sounds and feels good. I create the perfect blend between R&B, Hip-Hop and Soul.

How do you get in the zone to create a record?

It definitely has to be a vibe but once I feel the beat it doesn't take that much to get me in that mindset. I have to focus on the task at hand and not worry about anything while I'm in the studio. I just key in on the record and make everlasting music.

What impression are you trying to leave on your listeners?

That you are strong and you can do anything you want to or put your mind to. We all have the same opportunities. We just have to take them.

Break down your single, "All Me (No Sponsors)"?

I wanted to talk about all of my accomplishments. I'm in a very good space in my life and it took me a while to get there. It was the manifestation and me actually taking action so when I'm seeing certain things come to life it is a beautiful feeling. I'm in my bag and bossed up. On past records, I've talked about heartbreak and growing better, not bitter and the levels of heartbreak and transitioning to a place where I believed in myself enough to go after the bag no matter the obstacles while remaining focused on myself. *All Me (No Sponsors)* reflects me going after my dreams.

Outside of music what are some of your hobbies?

Exercising, watching movies and social events (Game Nights).

What is the most misunderstood thing about you?

My facial expressions. They are not always directed at the person I am talking to.

What has been the most shocking to you in life thus far?

Getting the notoriety or recognition from people that I idolize and grew up being a fan of as a kid and for them to see me now and respect my craft. I was also shocked at how individuals who were my friends prior to the fame saw my hustle and grind and instead of supporting me, they did things to make me feel like I was being sabotaged.

How do you balance relationships and your career?

First, I must say everyone around me respects my career and understands my journey as an entertainer and whether family, friend or romantic, I feel like having an understanding of my career is a huge requirement. Anyone that is around me that hasn't understood my career and my path, I've made sure to minimize my time and communication with them so I can focus and have time for those relationships that really matter.



My circle knows that there are more positives than negatives that can come out of a successful career so I'm going to have great relationships with people who are rooting for me. I do what I can when I'm at home in Houston so if I have availability, quality time with friends, family and my team is a must. Balancing is never hard when there is an understanding. Also, I definitely sacrifice a little sleep but planning helps with balancing my relationships and career.

What else can we expect from you in the near future?

Timeless music! I will also be opening up for some major acts, going on tour and my fans will definitely see more of me as I take over the R&B scene from city to city. Aside from music, I am growing in the real estate industry and plan on making big moves with my label (A Finley Music) and selling homes.

Follow Alexis Finley on all platforms @IAmAlexisFinley. For booking, features and appearances, email management at iamalexisfinley@gmail.com.



PHOTOS:
TIM CAVER

ALIX LAPRI

STAYING POWER

Words By Lucky Smith

Alix Lapri is an actress and singer most known for her role as Effie Morales in STARZ's, "Power Book II: Ghost". The Topeka, Kansas native and I discussed her childhood, relocating to Atlanta, singing, "Power" and more.

Happy Belated Birthday! How did you celebrate?

Thank you! Unfortunately I was sick on my birthday so I didn't feel like doing much. My sister surprised me and put together the cutest picnic with all of my favorite things!

Are you into horoscopes? If so, do the personality traits attached to Scorpios reign true to you as an individual?

I'm fascinated with the zodiac. I'm a Scorpio through and through. We're the best!

Where are you from originally and how did you grow up?

I was born and raised in Topeka, Kansas. We were in tough environments a lot of the time but my mom always did an amazing job of making our childhood perfect.

Kansas isn't known for having a big entertainment market and obviously moving to Atlanta did you justice. Would you advise others pursuing entertainment to move to a bigger market as well or has social media evened the playing field?

I think everyone's journey and timing are completely different. I'm a dreamer and have always been comfortable with taking risks so I would of course encourage anyone thinking of doing the same to take that leap! If you're not able, focus and execute because social media has given you the world in the palm of your hand.

In the early 2010s, we attended an event in Atlanta where both Jacob Latimore and Issa performed. It was the first time we heard of them, they were really young at the time and have done some great things in their careers. You have worked with them both. How did all of that come about and do you still collaborate with either of them today?

We were all signed to the same management team. We loved making music together. They are killing it still til this very day!

Did you always plan to transition over into acting? If not, how did that happen?

The idea was always put into my head but I wasn't very interested in trying at first. My management at the time took me to an agency to audition and I got in. Once I started booking and being on set something just clicked for me and I became hungry for it.

Of all of the characters that you've played, which one has been the most like you in real life?

I'd say Effie. We're actually pretty different but very similar in lots of ways too. We're both intelligent, we do what needs to be done and we can be a little feisty.

You played Maloa, the daughter of 50 Cent's character in 2018's "Den of Thieves". How did you land that role and what was the experience like?

I did a self tape audition in Atlanta and got the callback. I didn't even know how big the cast or film would be when I read for it. I got on set and felt like a sponge just soaking everything in. I was new to acting and I was so committed to learning the ins and outs.

More often than not, we see actors collaborate with each other over various projects. Sometimes, it just happens that way due to agents, timing, etc. and other times, those in power positions may hand pick specific people for roles. In your case, how did your role as Effie Morales in "Power" come about?

I was waiting for an audition to come through from Power for a really long time. My manager kept checking in with them over and over. Finally, Effie crossed my desk and she was perfect. I did an audition tape and they really loved what I did.

From the outside looking in, it seems everything has been going quite well for you and you've landed some very dope opportunities. At the same time, we know things can be rough at times. What type of obstacles have you had to overcome over time?

For me the most difficult thing was the transition of going from working a regular job to becoming a full time actor. My dream was expensive. I was constantly calling off of work to make last minute travels and barely sleeping some nights. But, it was so worth it in the end.

What is the biggest misconception about the entertainment business, from your perspective?

A really big one is the perception versus reality. A lot of people see someone book a really big role and they think they've made it when a lot of times that is really just the beginning. It is a constant hustle.

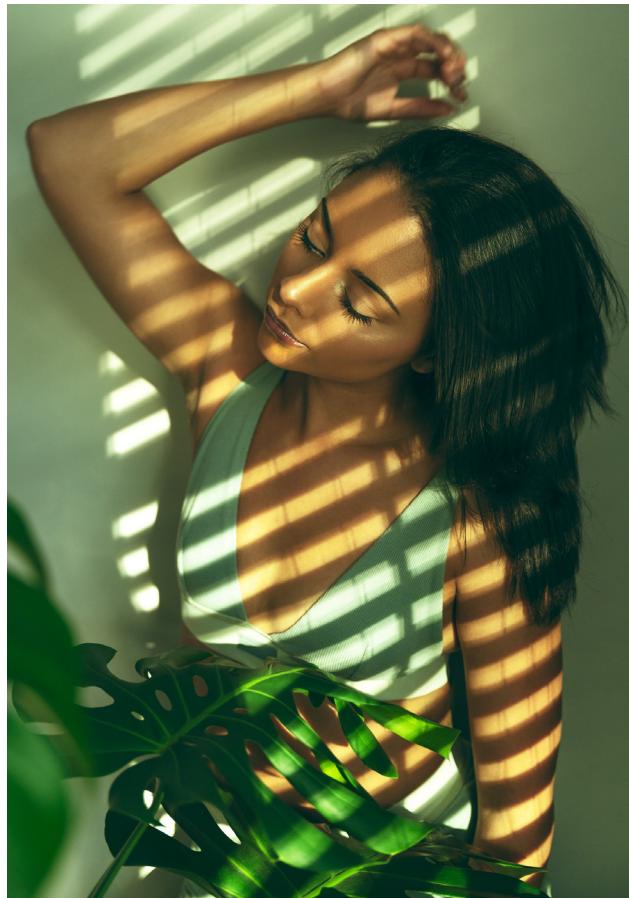
Not too long ago, it was announced that Effie will be returning in as a series regular character in "Power Book II: Ghost". Were you surprised when you got the news or were you expecting it?

I wasn't expecting it when it happened but I always had a feeling. The way they handle my character is a slow burn but she is constantly reappearing just when they need her the most. And the fans really love Effie so I think that helped.

In what ways did you prepare for the role and is there anything specific that you had to do that stands out?

I just like to have fun with her! Once I step into the wardrobe and out into the streets of New York, the persona comes to life. What has been your most memorable moment on set so far? Ah man, any moment with the boys. Gianni (Paolo) and Michael (Rainey Jr.) make every day so much fun. We have a dope relationship on and off set.

Is there any advice that you have received from 50 Cent



lucky girl!

What is your dream role and why?

I can't wait until I can play something super out of the box. I like characters with quirky personality traits....Maybe a siren or something of the fantasy world.

What is next for Alix Lapri?

More TV and film! I can't wait to hit your screens again.

Lastly, how can people keep up with you and your endeavors via social media?

You all can find me on Instagram @thealixlapri and on Twitter @AlixLapri where I talk about everything and nothing at all.

or anyone in the cast that you have held onto? If so, what was it?

I remember being on set of the episode that 50 directed during season 6 of Power and he told me to just do whatever I feel. Throw away the lines and get out of my head. His confidence is contagious.

The "Power" franchise is extremely popular. What are some of your favorite TV shows of the last decade?

I loved Queen's Gambit and Squid Game on Netflix. I really loved Walking Dead, Breaking Bad and Dexter too.

Being in the position you are in currently as an actor, do you plan on working on any new music any time soon?

I've been missing music so much and I have so much to write about. It's a possibility!

A lot of entertainers have it hard when it comes to dating. What is your relationship status and how have you managed dating so far?

My partner is my best friend. Everything that's supposed to be difficult they make so very easy. I'm a

DIGITAL DOPE

GARFIELD WILSON | ASPIRE TO INSPIRE



PHOTO: J BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY
INTERVIEW BY: TYRONE DAVIS

Sacrifice within the entertainment business:

When you see amazing performances on the big screen, small screen, or the stage it is compelling because they are reflecting and representing real emotion and conveying what we experience or witness in our lives. For me, it's literally like being a fly on the wall. Those performances seem effortless and easy to do because what they're doing seems so familiar. We can be deeply moved by a performance because it reflects how we feel, or they are exactly like someone in our lives, or it inspires. The truth is that what we see seems so effortless, or the moments that affect us so deeply are achieved through some of the greatest artists (actors) known (and unknown) in history.

It goes back to what I said earlier about "listening". I've seen actors in class (myself included) and on set be so absorbed with what they're saying that they cease to really listen, it doesn't matter how their fellow actor says their line or changes their mannerism, they remain unaffected because they're not listening. When we're locked into a great conversation with our friends, loved ones or family we don't care how we sound or what we look like because we're intensely listening to what the other person is saying and that motivates our reply. Acting is no different, it is all about the conversation.

To view Garfield Wilson's full interview, visit us at twenty4sevenmagazine.com. Also, check him out on instagram @garfieldwilson.

HALLEA JONES | MASTER KEY



PHOTO: NICK MERZETTI
INTERVIEW BY: LUCKY SMITH

For those who aren't familiar, break down Netflix's "Locke & Key" and your character Eden Hawkins.

Eden Hawkins is the high school mean girl turned demon sidekick in Season 2 (Oops, spoiler if you haven't seen S2!). She is intense, funny, determined and has a killer fashion sense (pun intended).

You mentioned during season 1 that Eden was your most challenging role to date. Has it become easier this go round?

Oh yes, definitely. In season 2, Eden was by far the most challenging I've ever been as an actor and it was an absolute joy to be given the opportunity to play so many angles to the character. In season 1, she is a standard mean girl but in season 2 I got the opportunity to really lean into the physicality of being a menace. It did get easier as we went through filming because I really settled into the work and found new confidence in my abilities as an actor.

Name 3 things that were significantly different while filming season 2.

The number of scenes and episodes I got to do lead to working several times a week, rather than a few days a month. This led to making some really great friends with the crew because we got to see each other often. I miss them every day. The physical and emotional demands of my character were far more intricate and challenging. Also, I got a trailer with a bathroom in it that I could decorate with little colorful fairy lights. It was my safe haven.

To read Hallea Jones's full interview, visit us at twenty4sevenmagazine.com. Also, check her out on instagram @halleajones.



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HAIR:
DESTINAE "DEZ" CLIFFORD
MAKEUP:
MAKEUP BY BARBEE

SUZETTE SAMUEL

REALTY CHECK

Words + Interview By Tyrone Davis

Suzette Samuel is a Real Estate Agent and Financial Consultant originally from Bronx, NYC. Now residing in Atlanta, GA, the former video vixen and I discussed her upbringing, college, the importance of credit and credit repair, real estate do's and don'ts, reality TV, relationships and more. Take notes!

The following is an excerpt.

Describe your background and how you grew up.

My mother came to America from Trinidad when she found out she was pregnant with me and we spent most of our time in the Bronx, NYC. I was then placed in foster care at 16 and pretty much stayed there until I had my first daughter at 20 years old. After my first daughter, I got my first apartment in the projects and the rest is history.

Overall, what were some of the downsides of being a video vixen and when/why did you decide to move on?

The downside of being a video vixen in today's time is not like it was before. Video vixens get paid next to nothing compared to back in the day. If you're not booked at least 3-4 times a month, there is no way that being a vixen is paying your bills and allowing you to live. It is more about the lifestyle that comes with being a vixen.

I decided to move on when I figured that out. I wanted more and I felt my purpose was more than just that. However, it was a great stepping stone but I knew eventually that I wanted to own and operate my own businesses and I now have the audience that I do because of where I come from. I had to learn how to build off my intellect and not my looks alone.

What is the biggest misconception about reality TV and how would you describe your experience on "Black Ink Crew: New York" as a whole?

The biggest misconception is that what you see someone being portrayed as on TV is not who they really are in person. Reality TV is a form of acting. My experience on *Black Ink Crew: New York* has been good. I really have no complaints outside of lack of privacy and how my "life" is not an open book when I am really low key and private.

A lot of women prefer their significant other to post about them publicly via social media, otherwise "they are hiding something." As someone who has been in a relationship in the public eye, do you feel the same? Also, if you had a choice, would you change anything?

Honestly, it depends on what works for that couple. Social media is full of a lot of miserable souls who have a hard time being happy for others. Sometimes, I love when my boyfriend posts me and sometimes I hate it. At times, we both go a time period of not posting each other.

In the beginning, he did not post me and it took him a while to, lol. While my friends found that to be a big deal and it made them upset, it didn't bother me because in real life we were living together (moved in together 2 months into dating), traveling, he became part of my kids life and we were happy off social media.

When he finally did post me, bad and good followed that. However, he promotes my businesses almost everyday. So, I am not pressed over social media. I need things handled in real life, lol.

Speaking of social media and being a public figure, explain your thought process on cosmetic surgery, the pressure

to have it in the first place and it being an ongoing process. Also, how did it affect your health and self-esteem?

I am not against cosmetic surgery if it is done by a certified doctor and people research their aftercare. I do believe social media has increased the demand based on lifestyles and images that are being portrayed. I also know that women in certain fields of work are under the most pressure to alter their appearance since this is how they get paid and they are in competition with others.

People must understand that surgery is an ongoing process. For example, breast implants must be switched out every ten years but to me personally, it is time to swap mine out and it has been under 8 years. When I got my silicone injections in 2014, I went into a coma for three days and as the years progressed, it started to affect the different body parts and organs in my body. This prompted my breast implant removal in July of 2021.

I've always had good self-esteem. I was a medium skinned girl in the urban industry and no one was checking for my complexion and slim body type like they were the thick Spanish girls in New York at that time. Once I got my surgery, I was booked and busy even though I still faced discrimination based on my skin complexion, it was nothing compared to the way it was before the surgery. I did what I had to do to make my money and take care of my kids as a single parent with no help and it definitely boosted my self-esteem because it boosted my pockets and made life a little easier.

Let's talk credit. Why does credit trump cash in a lot of cases?

Credit trumps cash because you have more purchasing over someone who uses cash. Also, certain purchases honor a credit card over cash and debit cards. Credit must be leveraged.

Jumping back to social media and its effects on human behavior, these days it is filled with people who overshare and over the last few years, people posting their credit scores has become a thing. What is your take on that?

I think it is a great way to motivate and educate others. I did the same thing about four years ago when my score was in the 500's and I recorded the process of me getting my score to a 753. On a business level, it helps my business and brings more clients in. Credit is not taught in school so it is up to us to educate ourselves and others. People really get inspired by those types of posts. It beats the drama, lol.

What is your favorite book based on financial literacy and why?

Think and Grow Rich by Napoleon Hill. It is a self-help book that really helped me tap into an entrepreneur mindset. It is about personal development, self-improvement and being more conscious and aware of living a certain type of way. Getting money, keeping money and being organized about where it is going will be easier to decipher once you read this book. There is a difference between rich and wealthy, settling and getting what you want. You have to convince yourself to become wealthy. It outlines the steps you need to take and the steps you need to avoid.



Tell us about your company, "A&N Realty/A&N Solutions." Also, what made you decide to get licensed in Georgia over any other state?

The A&N in both my business name represent the initials of both my daughters, Asiza (pronounced Asia) and Niyah. One is for my real estate company while my other company Solutions is my financial literacy, credit consultant and now how I get paid through television (a key reason why when you start a business you want a universal name created under different reasons so you don't have to create a new business every time you start something new...FREE GAME).

I also just launched CNS Tax Solutions since I am now a tax preparer and partnered with a CPA firm to provide credit tax and home buying options to everyone. I got licensed in GA because that is my place of residence so initially that should be the first place I get licensed; where I reside.

Real estate.....Why is rent so high?

MAAANNNNNN. High is not the word but you know what? Sellers have the advantage in today's market. Property tax went up and what happens when that happens? Mortgage increases. Therefore, for a seller to really get some type of profit they have to raise the rent (for homes that are for rent). As far as condos and apartments, it is supply and demand. Georgia was one of the very few states who was functional during the COVID-19 pandemic so our population doubled and a doubled population means what? More money!

What is your opinion on corporate companies purchasing up land and property in bulk?

From an investor's/corporate point of view, it is a smart idea! Corporate homeownership can not only subject tenants to higher living costs but often destroys their ability to buy these homes themselves as companies pay top dollar to take them

off the market. Unfortunately, as an agent, it sucks because these are who we are losing these bidding wars to the majority of the time.

Home buyers face increased competition from investors aka cash buyers. Cash buyers trump everyone followed by conventional then FHA then VA (not so good for a seller in a seller's market.) Cash buyers trump because they can close in as soon as 15 days (some sooner) with no financing or appraisal contingency, cash to sellers at closing, sold as is.

When creating generational wealth, most people think of passing that wealth down to their offspring. Can also passing wealth up, sideways, etc. to parents, grandparents, siblings also be beneficial?

Generational wealth can be passed down to whom you please. Not everyone has children.

What are your thoughts on home equity?

Home equity is a great tool and financial advantage for a homebuyer because as someone's home goes up in value, their equity goes up and you can pull out your equity at any time. Some let it sit and build, some may use it for their children's college tours, remodeling home, paying for big expenses, etc.

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

I am a homebody. I enjoy being home, I hate crowds and prefer business partners over friends. You're blessed if you can experience both.

To read Suzette Samuel's full interview, visit us online at twenty4sevenmagazine.com. Also, follow her on Instagram @Suzette_TheRealtor.



Words + Interview By Lucky Smith

Washington DC native by way of San Diego, California uses music as his way to navigate through life.

What was the atmosphere like growing up in DC?

It was a little rough but you just take the hand that is given to you. I wouldn't change it. I've had good and bad times like most people.

How would you describe the entertainment scene for indie artists?

I don't. It is a little different in DC. It is better in California. There are a lot of indie artists there and a lot of the artists are dope.

What was your reason for getting into music?

I always freestyled but I didn't write music until the Covid-19 pandemic hit. Then, I recorded something with my boys and it was terrible but I caught the bug and have been on it ever since.

Why do you think the younger artists work so hard for money and fame then turn all the way up in the streets to go to jail or get killed?

I think they are stuck in the hood mentality but it is not their fault. That is all they know. Some want to go flex back home and that is just not a good idea.

What do you feel separates you from other artists?

I'm 100% authentic. I write from everything I've seen and been around. I am a story-teller type of artist. You can feel the pain in my music.

The Covid-19 has put a strain on a lot in the entertainment business. How do you navigate with that being the situation to keep pushing?

When one door closes, I open another or try to. I don't quit.

Give us the name of your new project and meaning behind it?

It is called, *For Whom It May Concern* and the concept behind it is all the emotions I've felt this past year. From family, lost ones, women, friends and things like that.

If you could make one change to the music industry, what would it be and why?

To stop the killing of these young rappers. I think the industry needs to help these artists stay on the straight path.

Lastly, where do you see yourself in next five years?

Performing on big stages, opening up for someone or maybe someone opening up for me, hopefully.

Follow \$kilo on Instagram: [@The_real_kiloking202.](https://www.instagram.com/the_real_kiloking202/)

Photo By Kash Onle



COMING TO THEATERS
CATCH A FLICK.





CORA CHRISTIAN

BEYOND BEAUTY

Words + Interview By Tyrone Davis

Cora Christian is a best selling author and celebrity body transformation specialist/body contouring expert who has worked with Dr. Contessa, Alexis Sky and more. She is also the founder of "Beyond Beauty", a beauty spa located in Jackson, Mississippi and is the first black woman to create and manufacture Body Sculpting Ice which is a safe, non-invasive way to achieve the "perfect body."

Over the last few years, I've heard more women talk openly about having or wanting plastic surgery, specifically Liposuction and BBLs (Brazilian Butt Lifts). Why is cosmetic surgery so common today?

Well truthfully speaking, cosmetic surgery is nothing new. However, I do feel social media plays a big role.

I understand that in some cases, certain problems can't be fixed without going under the knife, but it seems a lot of people who choose cosmetic surgery (of the kind we've spoken of) could have spent a few months in the gym and achieved the same results. Aren't gym memberships cheaper than surgery? Why do you think they are bypassing the gym?

Yes, gym memberships are cheaper than surgery. However, there are certain problems that even a gym membership won't fix. For example, a woman who has had a cesarean birth and has lost weight after. Sometimes, there is too much loose skin to tone, even working out. So, I wouldn't say all people are bypassing the gym because even after the surgery you have to maintain the results so you definitely have to workout.

What are your thoughts on social media's impact on people and instant gratification?

I definitely feel like social media brings it more to the light, meaning you see it more because they can post it versus back

in the day when you only saw it on TV or videos. Let's be real, everyone (not just women) has something they would change about themselves. Some people are just more open than others about it.

Risks.....That just reminded me of the incident(s) where someone died because they were being injected with a bathroom caulk by someone who wasn't qualified. Do you recall that story?

Well blood clots are common, infection and fat embolisms (where injected fat moves into the bloodstream and can travel to the lungs,) so there are definitely some major health risks. I don't recall that story in particular but there was this one story here in Mississippi where a guy injected a young lady with "Fix-a-Flat" and it killed her.

Tell us about your beauty spa, "Beyond Beauty."

At Beyond Beauty, we offer non-invasive services to help you achieve your body goals without going under the knife. My slogan is: "Before You Go Under The Knife Try Our Beyond Beauty Body Ice™". Non-invasive procedures help you achieve your body goals without the risks of going under anesthesia, no downtime, or risks of blood clots. Non-invasive procedures are safe and more cost effective.



Break down what a “non-invasive” surgery is, and how it can be more beneficial than surgery itself.

Well, with our body ice we activate your body's thermogenesis; a process in which is generated from inside the body. It accelerates metabolism causing your internal body temperature to rise and your body then breaks down fat naturally and burns additional calories.

I saw a post on Facebook not too long ago from a young guy who put up a photo of himself pre and post liposuction and abdominal etching surgery. He looks like he is in his early 20's and was already a super slim dude prior to the surgery. I know more guys are getting hair pieces these days, but how common is it for men to get those types of surgeries? How often have you seen it?

Yes, men definitely get surgery. We see it a lot, especially with body builders.

Let's talk about you for a bit. Where are you from originally and how did you grow up?

I am from Jackson, Mississippi. I grew up in a home full of entrepreneurs so I knew first hand what having your own meant.

At what point did you decide that your current occupation was the one for you and why?

I knew I wanted to help people achieve their body goals. The first time I did the non-invasive procedures on a client, she

started crying and told me I gave her confidence. That made me feel so amazing on the inside.

What is the biggest misconception about being an entrepreneur in 2021?

Oh wow; that things happen overnight...No one wants to do the work anymore. They think when you wake up you're successful and it doesn't work that way. You have to do the work.

When you aren't body sculpting, what are your interests?

Well, I am a mom of 3. I have 2 sons, Jacari and Jaylen Christian, and 1 daughter, Janiyah Christian. I am also a wife to Justin Christian, so when I am off I try to spend as much of my time with my family.

We all have experienced loss of some kind during the pandemic. What have you learned about yourself during all of this that you may not have known prior to?

I learned that even in a pandemic I still made an impact in so many people's lives from my clients, to my students, etc. I stayed positive even when we didn't know what was next.

Lastly, how can people contact you, book an appointment or just stay up to date with your endeavors?

They can locate us on Instagram: @beyondbeautyllc or Facebook: beyondbeautyofms or visit our website beyondbeautyofms.com or call (601) 316-4729.



CHECK ME OUT

DUMM MUNEE

STOOPID IZ, AZ DUMMIE DOES



Words + Interview By **Lucky Smith**

Dumm Munee is an artist and businessman from Texas. With a few projects under his belt, he tells us about his upbringing, influences, business endeavors and his latest project, "Stoopid Iz, Az Dummie Does".

Introduce yourself and tell us where you're from.

The streets call me *L.Teezy*. Sneed and professionally **Dumm Munee**. I'm from the greater Houston Area (born in Galveston, TX). I'm a small town dude with a big city mind and my childhood isn't any different from anybody else's except the fact I had both of my parents in my life. My dad is a Texas native and my mom is a native of Trinidad and Tobago.

I was like a ghetto Steve Urkel that was stuck permanently as

the alter ego Stefan Urkelle, smart as a whip and smooth as ice but being from Texas you can't be soft so fighting came naturally. I was good at three sports: baseball, track, and boxing. Though I have played sports since I was about five.

What got you into music and how long have you been at it?
I like all types of music but I fell in love with Hip-Hop as a kid listening to LL Cool J and NWA. I've been writing and recording music since I was about 16 so it has been about 21 years now total.

You are part of the International Singer-Songwriters Association (ISSA). How did that come about?

Back in November of 2021, I went to the *L.O.U.D. Radio and Press Junket* in Texas and while there networking I met this dude who was promoting his radio station. He gave me the game as far as joining ISSA.

What mark do you want to leave on the industry?

Black excellence! I mean, I look up to people like J Prince, Master P, Trac Tha Truth, TIP, Z-Ro, the late Nipsey Hussle, just to name a few. They are all owners and philanthropists.

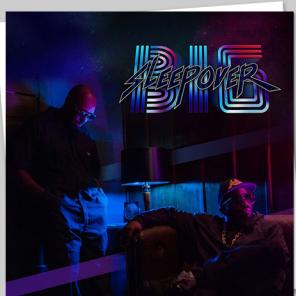
Outside of music, what are some of your other endeavors?

I have another business, I'm working on a cannabis business and I do boxing training with my children and girlfriend as a family thing. My sister, her husband and daughter box as well. Also, I'm about to launch a podcast speaking on the troubles in our society today and what we can do to overcome things that are plaguing us.

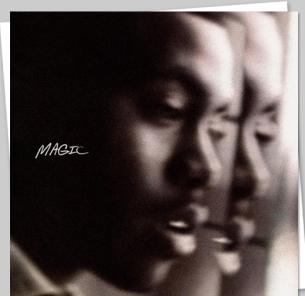
To read our full interview with Dumm Munee, visit us on our website at www.twenty4sevenmagazine.com. Follow Dumm Munee on Instagram @doddummie, Twitter @dummieand on Facebook: dummieand.

Photo of Dumm Munee by Daniel T. Davis

MIX PICKS



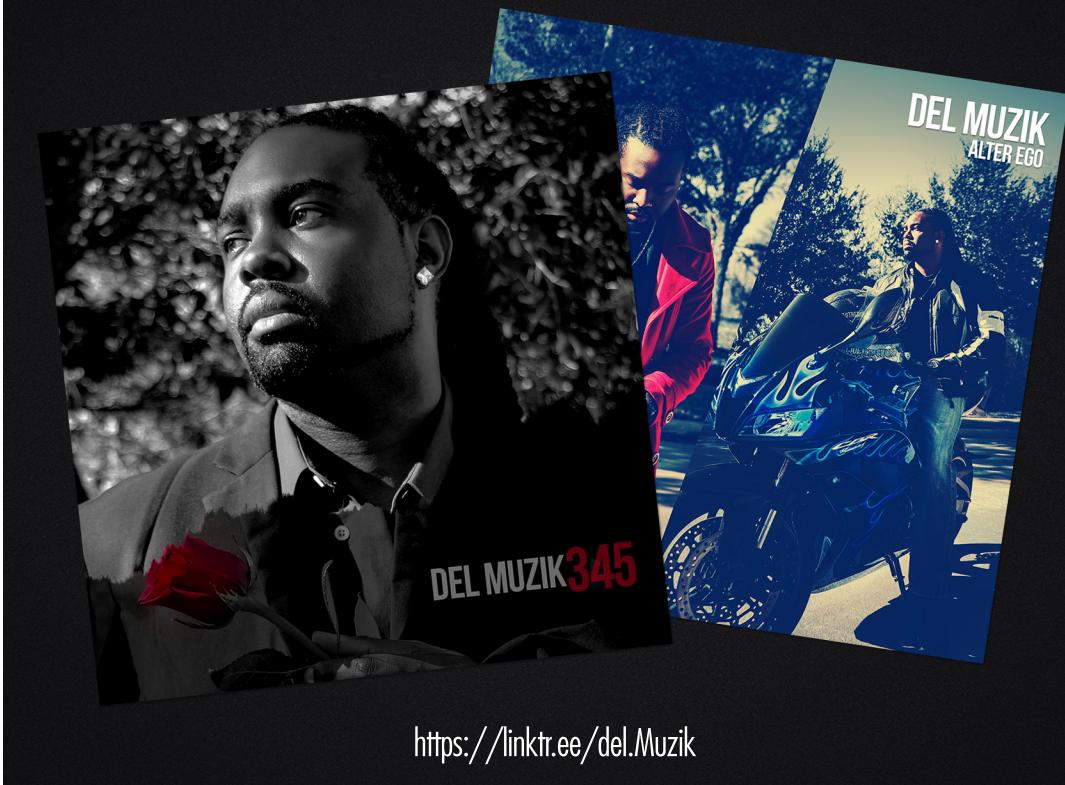
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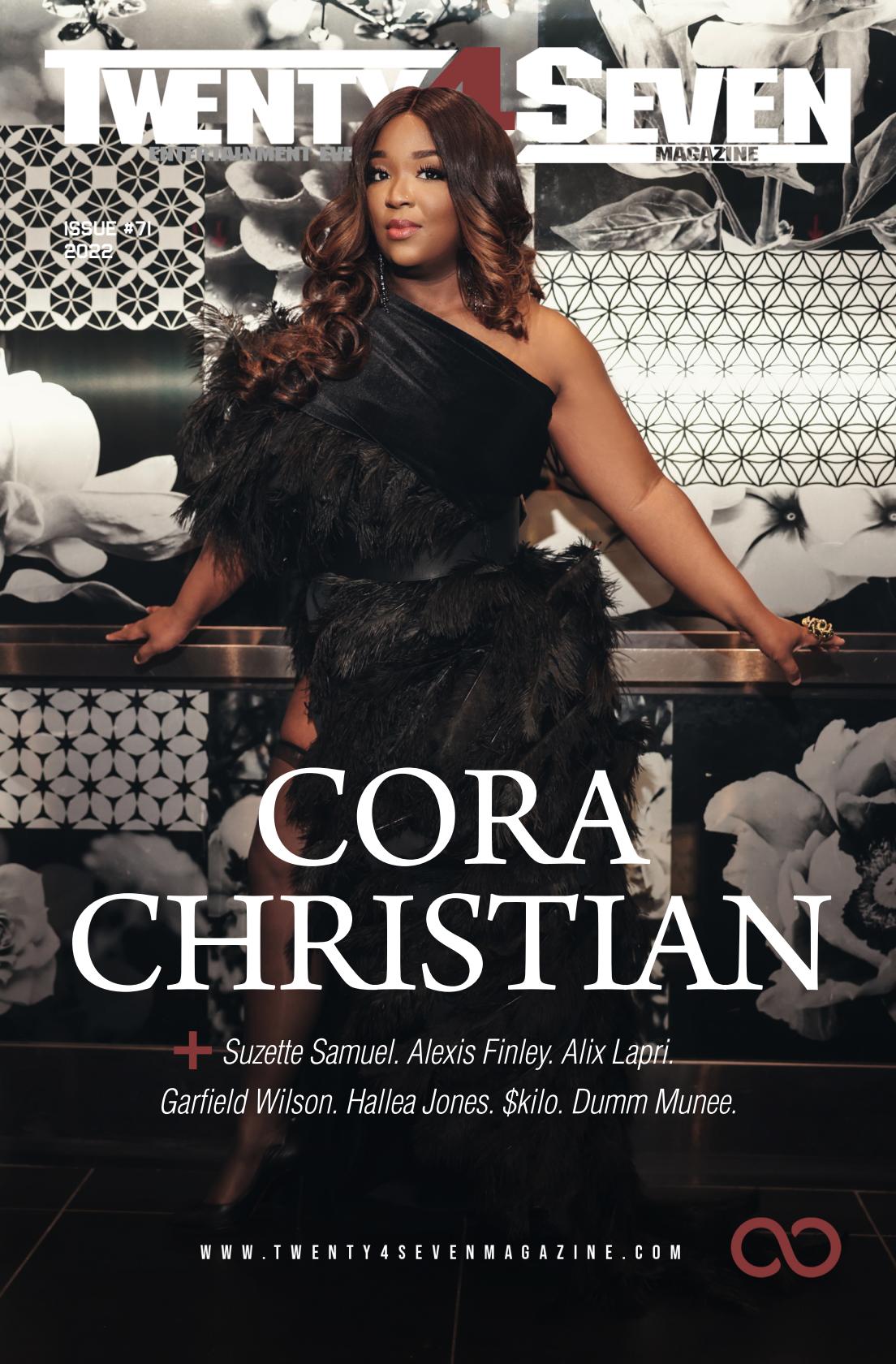
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*Suzette Samuel. Alexis Finley. Alix Lapri.
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