

ISSUE #80
2026

ROBERT JACKSON

+ *Nancy Daly. Funny Thing About Love.*

Winx Club: The Magic Is Back. Big Suave. Melba Moore.

Silka Weil. #alleyboy.

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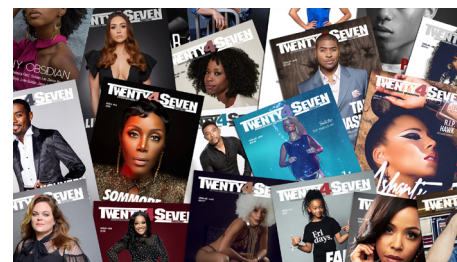




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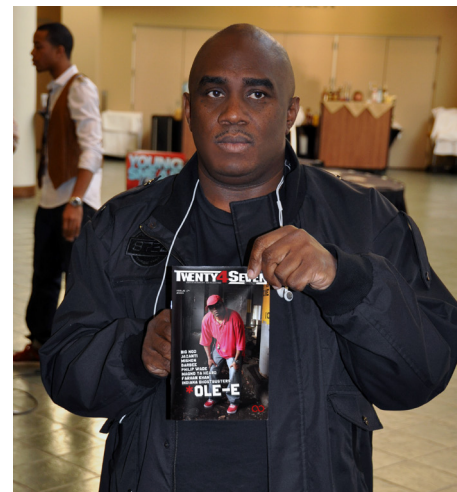
Hello World,

Time...Time is something a lot of us take for granted because we believe we have an abundance of it. With this precieved abundance of time, we waste it on things like commuting, holding business and personal positions where we are unfulfilled, scrolling social media, or as my Grannie Wannie says, simply "piddling around". All of these activities are distractions in some form or fashion, they hinder each of us from finding or pursuing our purpose, and they lead to other behaviors that ultimately shorten our lifespans.

What is a life fulfilled? That will vary for each of us. Some people have lived amazing lives, are loved immensely, and have made a huge impact on the world and in their respective fields. Some people's lives were cut short and they didn't quite "get there", but are loved the same. Sometimes fulfillment > time as life is unpredictable like that and we are only responsible for what we can control.

So again, time is something a lot of us take for granted because we believe we have an abundance of it. I have time to unleash my dormant ideas, unfinished projects, and unreleased content. I have time to spend more time with my friends and family. I have time to start hooping again. I have time to change the world. I'd like to think I'd be upset if I went "too soon" with these goals unaccomplished but for now, I still have time. Much love to those of us who don't. I hope you all are at peace.

Tyrone Davis



IN LOVING MEMORY
BILLY "BIGGA RANKIN" PLUMMER

TWENTY4SEVEN

ENTERTAINMENT EVERLASTING MAGAZINE

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CONTENTS

FUNNY THING ABOUT LOVE	5
WINX CLUB: T.M.I.B.	6
BIG SUAVE	8-9
ROBERT JACKSON	10-13
PICS: ON LOCATION	14
MELBA MOORE	15
#ALLEYBOY	16
NANCY DALY	18-21
SOCIAL BATTERY	22-23
SILKA WEIL	24
"THE BLUEPRINT"	26



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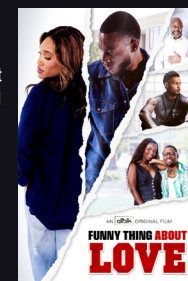
Words By Tyrone Davis

Directed by Taiillah Breon, *Funny Thing About Love* is a romantic comedy film that premiered on June 11, 2026. The film is set around Hunter College, a fictional HBCU in Atlanta, GA and follows the lives of Alice (played by Kourtney George in her film debut) and Miles (Courtney Burrell). Alice is a dance instructor currently married to childhood friend and NFL player, Derrick (played by Jeff Logan) and Miles is an author who has written a tell-all memoir about his and Alice's college relationship, exposing secrets that lead to all hell breaking loose during and after their 10-year college reunion. The film was written by Christel Gibson and also stars Reece Odum, Jessie Woo, Joslyn Y Hall, Bobb'e J. Thompson, Rockmond Dunbar, Dwayne Boyd, and more.

I was curious to see how everything would come together in the film, being that the on-screen and behind the scenes talent arrived on the carpet prior to showtime and I was able to see and interact with them first. Kourtney George was one of the first to arrive and she looked familiar to me but I couldn't figure out where I knew her from. It wasn't until after I watched the film and looked her up later that I realized she had gone viral some years back (Hurt Bae). I knew I wasn't tripping. She did her thing and it was dope to see her people come out to support her.

Overall, I was being introduced to majority of the cast for the first time (some so I thought), so I went in with zero expectations and that made for a better experience for me. They did a good job creating a cohesive and entertaining film. The storytelling was well-paced, the acting was solid, and there was a balance of drama and comedy without being too over the top in either direction. I thoroughly enjoyed the film. Great job, family!

Funny Thing About Love is streaming exclusively on ALLBLK.



**COMING TO
THEATERS**

+ STREAMING PLATFORMS.





NOW STREAMING: WINX CLUB: THE MAGIC IS BACK ON NETFLIX

Words By Taylor Simone

Officially streaming on Netflix as of July 28th, *Winx Club: The Magic is Back* is a CGI reimagining of *Winx Club*, the Italian animated fantasy series that originally launched in 2004 and ran for 8 seasons. This new installment is produced by Rainbow and brings fresh stakes, new threats, and a catchy new remix of the fan-favorite theme "Forever Winx," performed by Virginia Bocelli.

The series follows 16-year-old Bloom, who is from Earth but finds out she is a fairy and joins a magical school (the Alfea School for Fairies and Witches) to master her ancient and mysterious power: the Dragon Flame. There she meets new friends who are also fairies, forms the Winx Club, and vows to protect the Magical Dimension.

In its second season with six new episodes of the series, Bloom

returns to Gardenia in search of answers about her past which leads to an ambush by the Trix and the disappearance of her parents. She is also stripped of her powers and works with the Winx and Hunter to find her parents and recover the Dragon Flame.

Winx Club: The Magic is Back is continuing the legacy for both longtime fans of the original animated series and a new generation of viewers discovering the series for the first time.

Rainbow is also launching Winx Songs Universe, bringing together the franchise's complete catalogue of more than 450 songs across YouTube, alongside tracks on Spotify and other major streaming platforms. The catalogue is now available globally. To listen to this amazing music, visit youtube.com/@winxclub.



Sept 8 **FX** | **hulu**

BIG SUAVE KEEP IT IN ROTATION

Words + Interview By Tyrone Davis



PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG SUAVE

Originally from Philadelphia, PA, Big Suave is an artist and entrepreneur now making moves in Miami, FL. He and I discussed his latest single, "Rotation", ownership of "Crisppi's" restaurants and drive-thrus, "Crisppi's Presents", and more.

Let's start off with a little bit about your background, man. Introduce yourself to us.

Oh, man. I'm Kirk. My artist name is Big Suave. I'm from Philadelphia, PA but I'm here in Miami taking over when it comes to the entertainment and food and beverage industry. I have a business called, "Crisppi's", which is one of the top businesses in Miami. I've only been here one year and we are taking over.

What made you relocated to Miami?

It is nice and sunny out here and I see that there is not a lot of successful African Americans here when it comes to entrepreneurship. There is a big market here. A lot of other nationalities are taking over this whole city and I think it is time for somebody of my color to come in and do what we do best, which is create the best things when it comes to products from the spotlight to everything else we created out here in America, you know?

Gotcha. On the music side, tell us about your current single, "Rotation".

"Rotation" is a club record, a party record. Like I said, I'm Suave, so everything about me is cool, you know? None of that killing and drill music, or any of that type of stuff. Just real cool, smooth stuff for the OGs. I am not an OG, but I do it for the OGs. I make music

for real people that just like to have a good time.

So, "Rotation" is out right now. That is one of many hit records that I have in the archives. I have been out of the music game for a minute because I was focused on entrepreneurship and I just came back because all of my entrepreneurial endeavors are flowing and everything is running itself. So now, I am coming to attack them on the music side and be the number one artist in the game outside of Drake.

How are you going about managing the two different endeavors right now with the single and with the restaurant as well?

So, I mean, it is pretty easy to manage both because I have a very solid team so I don't even have to worry about "Crisppi's". I got it up and running and my team stepped in and took over. Now, it gives me time to really focus on my craftsmanship when it comes to the music and right now, I believe the music industry is missing realness. It is missing real artistry and not entertainment. What I mean by that is that all these artists out here are just entertainers. Where is the real artistry? People get paid to be fake. People get paid to look a certain way. How about we bring out artists that are real, that are born with it. Born with the look. Born with the sound. You got me, "Big Suave".

You mentioned trying to be one of the biggest in the game (not trying....not trying), and you said Drake is the other. How do you feel about the current situation with the music business as a

whole and also with everything that has transpired with Drake, the label, and things of that nature?

I think Drake is the industry. I think everybody that is great gets hated on. When you are great and can do it in your sleep and at ease without having to even try, this is what they hate on. So, I think that Drake needs to continue to do what he is doing because I understand his pain and I get it.

People don't want to see people like us be great. For example, I am opening up drive-thrus in Miami. I have only been here a year and I took off so quickly. The industry is so fake, they get made when real comes. That is what I see, what I experience, and what Drake experiences. We both go through the same thing.

Now, tell us a little bit about your restaurant, "Crisppi's". What do you guys serve and where are you located?

Crisppi's is in downtown Miami at 2917 Biscayne. I have a drive-thru that is opening up July 6th at 7021 Southwest Eighth Street, Miami, Florida. I have two stands inside of the Dolphin Stadium, and I did all that in one year. I sell the best fried chicken in America. We sell chicken sandwiches, chicken and waffles, and chicken wings all at prime real estate locations.

Both the restaurant industry and the music industry can be tough and everyone has different experiences navigating them. What made you decide to go with chicken instead of pizza, for example?

Chicken is the number one product in America and in the world from Jamaica to Africa to China to Korea. Anywhere you go, chicken is sold. This is why they have all these Korean companies here in America that are selling Korean fried chicken like Jolly Bees. I can name a couple. Chicken is booming, but it is about creating that brand. This is why they are scared. They see Crisppi's coming and that we do it with ease. It is like brushing your teeth in the morning. The logo speaks for itself so it doesn't have to have a face. The logo is the face.

Break down how you go about cross promoting yourself as an artist and the restaurant.

You know, I am an artist for the company. At a time, I was invested into other artists but these artists are lazy. They don't want to work. This is why you don't have a lot of successful independent artists. They don't want to work seven days a week. They want to celebrate holidays. They want to celebrate birthdays. They want to do everything that is not conducive to becoming successful. I'm not going to keep putting my money into artists that are not even willing to work hard seven days a week like I am. Those are Americanized things that don't exist to me. This is why I'm in a position I'm in. I created the company and now I'm the artist of the company. That is how you do it. That is the blueprint. That is \$1 million worth of game.

OK, so that brings us to Crisppi's Presents. Tell us a little bit about that.

What I realize in the industry is that there are too many

gatekeepers. I don't have time for gatekeepers. Everyone thinks they are somebody. Everybody thinks they are big and that they control the game so cool. I don't need to go through you. I am going to go around you. I just created my own thing. I created my own Crisppi's Presents concerts. I create my own "Torch the Mic". I don't need "On the Radar". I don't need none of them because at the end of the day, ain't none of them on my level. Remember, I'm not a high paid ambassador. I'm a creator. These people are high paid ambassadors for companies. I create companies. I create them from the ground and I make them make millions. I have my own brand and my own customers so I'll create the entertainment, I'll get my own venue, and I'll have my own concerts. This is why I have hundreds of artists uploading to crisppis.com because they understand that it is real, we give real opportunities, and I am not a gatekeeper. Period.

Now, while you are promoting yourself as an artist, is there anyone else on "Crisppi's Presents" radar that we should be looking out for as well?

July 29th, people will see a lot of the upcoming artists that I selected for this concert. They are the ones you should be on the lookout for that aren't getting the shine because they aren't kissing ass or anything like that. They just have real talent and aren't compromising their dignity to be an entertainer. Real talent doesn't have to sell out to be number one so I'm building my own island.

So the concert is coming up July 29th. What else do you have in the works?

I have an archive of music but I know the next single I want to push. It's called, "Upper Echelon". I am doing a lot in Africa right now. I'll be going over there to tour. My fan base is heavy in Africa. My next move after that is to open up a thousand locations across the globe. When it comes to Crisppi's, I have a couple deals on the table, but I'm moving in silence so they see things in real time instead of just talking about it.

I was looking at your Instagram page and I saw you've worked with Relic Rhymes. What was that about?

I had a series, "Cooking Up with Crisppi's" where I was bringing in celebrities like Relic, Bobby Lytes, and Tokyo Stylez (Cardi B's stylist). We had a couple of people on there. They would come in and do a little intro, go in the back, and make a sandwich. It was something fun to do with different up and coming celebrities. After making the sandwich, they could name it whatever they wanted. Just fun activities, pretty much.

Lastly, let us know how to reach you on social media within all your endeavors. How can we keep up with your movement?

People can find me on Instagram @bigsuavemiami or online at www.bigsuave.com. If you want some good chicken, the best chicken, you go to crisppischicken.com Come check us out over there on Biscayne and check out our new drive-thru where we had Commissioner Rosado come out to cut the ribbon. I was excited about that and he gave a 10/10. Politics. Not the wrong politics. The right politics.

COVER
STORY

ROBERT JACKSON

WALKING
IN MY CALLING

Words + Interview By Tyrone Davis

I was made aware of this brother around 2011 when I was getting to know a relative of his who was a colleague of mine at the time. We are from the same neighborhood in Indianapolis, IN so I friended him on Facebook with the intentions of reaching out to him to connect at some point. Life does what it does but he has remained on my radar over the years.

Recently, I was scrolling the Instagram timeline and saw a flyer posted by a random account for THE MAN-KÂVE, which is a mental health experience designed for men to have real conversations. The event was to be held at the historic HBCU Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia and he was listed on the flyer as a speaker. So, since I was in the area, I made it a point to go introduce myself and support.

Robert Jackson is an international speaker and award winning author with several speaking engagements and books under his belt. During a break at the event, he and I had an impromptu conversation and discussed his upbringing in the neighborhood, his brief stint in the NFL, his calling as a consultant and mental health advocate, and his latest book, "Leading Through Pain: Transform Your Pain into Wisdom and Create Leaders who Create More Leaders". Brightwood, stand up!

Mr. Jackson. Let's start off with your background.

Okay. My name is Robert Jackson. I am an international speaker and bestselling author. I grew up in Indianapolis in a neighborhood called Brightwood in a single parent home with four sisters, my mom, and I. I lost a lot of my friends growing up to prison. Some of them ended up getting killed. It was pretty tough. I went to college on a full scholarship. I played football and ran track then went to the pros, briefly. NFL stands for "Not For Long". I got cut by the Minnesota Vikings and I started teaching and coaching after that.

Teaching and coaching led me to jump into pharmaceutical sales, which led me to come back to the route to work with young people, educators, administrators, corporate leaders, church leaders on leadership, mental health awareness, self-care, and social emotional learning. I really enjoy this work. Well, it's really not work. It's a ministry for me and I'm passionate about helping other people become a better version of themselves.

Let's get into a little bit about the neighborhood (Brightwood) because obviously that's one of the big connections that we have. The neighborhood is the neighborhood, right? Yeah. There is a lot going on in the neighborhood but a lot of good has come out of it. In your particular situation, what do you think helped you become the person you became today despite the circumstances in the neighborhood?

Well, I believe what helped me become the man of God I am today is having those experiences and growing up the way I did. If I hadn't lost my friends Tony Binion, Larry Shotwell Jr., and a couple other friends, I may not be passionate about doing this work even though that was traumatizing for me. Working with kids, parents, and students is a ministry, you know?

Growing up in Brightwood, there is a lot of positive that we need

to focus on that comes out of that neighborhood. It's not just "everybody is getting killed". We have doctors. We have lawyers. They come out of that neighborhood. We also have international speakers and authors. We need to start focusing on positive things because they (society) want us to focus on the negative aspects of growing up in inner city.

I remember before we got bussed to township schools, we were able to walk to school. That was a lot of fun. The culture, the camaraderie of my neighbors, the closeness, etc. I really miss that as an adult because back when I was a kid, if you got in trouble in school, you just didn't get in trouble with your mom. You got in trouble with your neighbors, your extended family. There was a village that came out to support you, a village that would celebrate you, and there was a village that would scold you. That is what I liked the most about growing up the way I did.

[Afterthought] *One day when I was around 6 or 7 years old, I was walking down Adams St. to my friend's house with a fresh bologna sandwich that I had maybe only taken 1 bite of at that point. I looked down at it and there was a big bug that had flown into the sandwich and I was so mad and disgusted that I threw the sandwich down, stomped, and ground it into the sidewalk in front of my friend's next door neighbor's house. That lady used to be on our case's all the time and she came outside, cussed me out, and made me scrape that sandwich up. Lol, she gave me a broom, dustpan, and all. [End]*

My mom joined the military when I was young so we got around quite a bit, spent some time in Germany, etc. I had been back and forth my whole life but when I was 15, she got sent to Korea and I couldn't go so I came back home to my grandma for my Sophomore year of high school at Perry Meridian. One thing that I noticed that year was that in almost all of my college prep classes, either I was the only black person in there, or there was 1 or 2 more, maximum. Lol, yeah. Me too. Mr. Benjamin Brown....I know Bam Brown. He put me in a program while I was there and we went to one of the colleges in the city for some program like every Saturday for some weeks. I enjoyed that. What did you learn while you were going there and how did that help move you forward in life? At Perry Township, I learned patience. I learned about racism. I learned about culture barriers. I learned about discrimination. I also learned about grit. We had to get up early in the morning to ride to school. I played sports, so sometimes I stayed late into the evening and when you stay late into the evening, sometimes the bus may come and get you or they may forget you. So sometimes we would get home at 11:00 p.m. - midnight, then have to turn around the next day, get up at 5:00 a.m. in the morning and do it again.

So, I think it taught me accountability, being on time, and responsibility. It also taught me integrity. I would ride the activity bus to go out to the school to lift weights and I tell you, going out to Perry Township was challenging because sometimes, like you, I was the only person of color in my classes, and that taught me to keep going. Just because you're the only person of color doesn't mean you can't do the work. Pain is temporary, but quitting is forever. The only place that success comes before work is in the dictionary. So, if you put in the work, you're going to be successful.



I put in the work and that's what I contribute some of my successes to. Going out to Perry Township taught me a whole lot. There were some bad things too but with anything in life, you're going to have the good and the bad but the good far outweighed the bad.

You said you did a brief (Not For Long) stint in the NFL? Yes. How did that go?

Well, it wasn't for long, but it was fun while it lasted. That wasn't my calling. See, God had to remove me from that stage to let the person who manifested in that fulfill their dream because I thought the NFL was my destiny. I thought it was my dream, but that was somebody else's dream. My destiny and my ministry is what I do now, which is traveling, speaking, writing, and touching lives. Whether it's five lives or a thousand, it's touching other people and doing it with humility and staying out of my pride.

I'm walking in my calling. I can say that now, but it was hurtful back then. When all you think about and work on is being a good athlete and playing on Sundays, when it's over, it's depressing. You deal with anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, and all kinds of things but I thank God he kept me through it. A person giving you advice has their own set of shortcomings, but it doesn't mean they can't give you the peace you're missing. Even though I'm missing pieces, I was able to give some kids and some adults the pieces they're missing as well.

Now, present day. We're talking about trauma and how as a people, we've been through and continue to go through a lot. One thing that stood out to me today (during THE MAN-KÂVE event) was the gentleman that broke down a little bit when discussing his lack of assistance while working with young athletes. You said he suffered from "Compassion Fatigue".

Yeah. "Compassion Fatigue" is like you're passionate for this work but you can be over passionate to the point where you're doing too much. Back in the day, my grandmother would say "Go sit down somewhere." Right? Sometimes when you overdo the work, you're hurting yourself. You're causing yourself anxiety and other health issues. You don't take a break. You're not spending time with your family or with yourself on self-care because you're so passionate about the work. The work is not going anywhere.

When I get on an airplane, the last thing they tell us before that plane takes off is if the air pressure drops on this airplane, put the mask on yourself first. That is because when you take care of yourself, you can take care of other people. So yes, I love and enjoy the work that I do but sometimes you have to take a break and it is okay to do that.

All right. So, in your attempt to help people, tell us about your latest book and the journey that you've taken from the first to now.

Okay. My latest book is called *Leading Through Pain: Transform Your Wounds into Wisdom and Create Leaders Who Create More Leaders*. Many of us walk around in pain. How do we deal with that pain? You go through a divorce. You lose your mother. Your kids are acting out. You lose your job. Or, you're on the job and you're miserable or you're having a bad relationship. How do you continue to lead through pain? What are the steps that you can take? Throughout the whole book, it gives strategies on what you can do when you're dealing with pain, because you have to acknowledge it. You have to grieve through the pain and that means that it is okay to cry sometimes and it is okay to get therapy. Lastly, turn those wounds into wisdom, whatever those wounds are. You've been knocked down, but you haven't been knocked out.

You have to learn how to enroll in a class of discomfort because I have never met a comfortable, successful person. They had to enroll in the class of discomfort, just like that diamond. Diamonds shine but they go through the heat before they can get to the shine. So, that is the same thing that happens in life. It is okay to be uncomfortable because when you're uncomfortable, you're growing.

You mentioned six things you do every day. Break that down.

Six things that I challenge myself to do daily: Exercise. Eat right. Meditate. Pray. Rest. Laugh. Yes, I said laugh. Even when you're having a bad day, laugh. Exercise. Spend some time moving, you know? Get yourself together. Get your shoulders and stuff. You have to move around a little bit. Eating right sometimes is pushing away from the table. Spend some time fasting. Spend some time praying. Exercise. Eat right. Pray. I pray every day. I meditate daily and praying and meditating are totally different. Praying is spending time with God. Meditation is just spending time with the universe and just (hoooo) breathing. Practice some deep breathing.

Exercise. Eat right. Meditate. Pray. Rest. Rest doesn't necessarily mean sleep. It just means getting off your feet and just relaxing and not thinking about work. Don't have a computer or a phone in your lap. Just chill and then laugh. Laugh in the morning, laugh in the afternoon, laugh at night, and then wake up and laugh some more. Spend some time laughing every single day. I promise you that joy is going to be the happiness that doesn't depend on what happens. You're going to be a happier person.

Lastly, how can people keep in touch with you, see what you have in the works, etc.?

If you want to keep in touch with Robert Jackson, I'm Robert Jackson on Facebook, @robjmotivates on Instagram, @RJMotivates on X, and I am on TikTok @robjnupe. Shout out to the Bruhs, N.U.P.E. You can also email me at robert@robertjacksonmotivates.com I have several books on my website www.robertjacksonmotivates.com.



📷 > ON LOCATION

MELBA



Love Wins...Every Time

MELBA MOORE REVEALS HER NEW SINGLE "LOVE WINS EVERY TIME"

Tony Award winner, four-time Grammy nominee and legendary R&B hit maker Melba Moore unveils a new single, "Love Wins Every Time."

Now available on all major streaming platforms, including Spotify, Apple Music, YouTube and Amazon Music, Moore's latest track is an anthem, reflecting the unstoppable power of love.

Produced and written by Rahni Song and Chloe Barjona-Dunbar, with Beau Huggins and Charli Huggins as executive producers, "Love Wins Every Time" highlights Moore's unmatched vocal endurance and ageless ability to connect deeply with fans across generations.

"Music has always been my vessel for healing," says Moore. "Right now, the world needs a reminder that no matter the struggles we face individually or collectively, love remains our ultimate victory. This song is my heart poured out for everyone who needs a little light right now."

The single builds on the massive success of Moore's recent projects, which includes her recent Amazon Books five-star rated memoir, "This is It...Marvelous and Getting Better."

Melba Moore will be performing at two locations of the Blue Note nightclub this fall. First, in Los Angeles (September 4th and 5th), then New York City (November 7th & 8th).

Follow Melba Moore on social media
Facebook: @mooremelba
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Website: www.iammelbamooore.com

Submission courtesy of Angelo Ellerbee for Double XXposure Media Relations.

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9. BABIES
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THE BARBERSHOP

@batbglobal: Cheesecake Factory slices getting smaller and smaller but the price keeps increasing.

@JayMarz_007: Like I said Caitlin Clark will be back to normal when she faces a good team. Its literally like clockwork dating back to her rookie year. Literally almost all her good to great games comes against the bad teams that year. Inefficient high turnover shock chucking game. Typical

@urbambi_1: if my wife died giving birth i would low-key blow my shit

@twigpantheress: y'all are so mean to people you don't find attractive and it's disgusting as fuck

@_Chemist1: People who reach a high level of awareness become unsociable.

@MonkeyBlood: Js ain't selling out now because shit is tight and folks don't wanna spend \$240 on some kicks, it's that simple.

@sirDukeDevin: Why are US soldiers dying in a war Trump has won 38 times?

@KarlosM: Somebody got drunk and changed the Twitter layout. This shit terrible.

@questmcdody: Watching Bodied. Lux and Hollow were so good.

@JamieBonkiewicz: Mitch McConnell has taken more medical leave than most mothers in America get for maternity leave.

@_NYVKU7: Weed smokers have to defend their entire existence while alcoholics get invited to brunch.

@Ms_Physics: Teeth are so important. Handle that.

@_iamhabeeb: By this time next year I'll be in a better place.

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#ALLEYBOY

@kodakk6000: Boy that perspective with Bank with Alley Boy interview hit different. It's like bruh went to speak his peace before he left man damn.

@BleuCapone: Boy the fucc yall mean Alley Boy dead?!?!?

@KelsusChristTFG: Nobody rapped from the angle Alley Boy rapped from. He was a warlord in hell. It's a level of street rap that only Alley Boy achieved. Listen to Nigganati from top to bottom if you don't get what I'm saying. Long Live the Don

@93tev: Alley Boy the Don mixtape was a classic

@lamDJACE: Damn duct tape havin a bad run right now. Rest easy alley boy

@COONnificent: Didn't Alley Boy set up Yung LA in a trap house and beat his ass over that Duck tattoo? I think I saw that on World Star YEARS ago

@ampaveli: RIP Alley Boy. Met him last year when we interviewed Yung LA. When that nigga seen me he gave me a big ass hug

@Ironman18837900: Just was talking about Alley Boy to my friend. I remember when him and Master P had a mixtape Louie V Mobb. RIP Alley Boy

@SwopeDza: I thought Alley Boy and Trouble were about to be the next best shit coming out of Atlanta when they did songs with Jeezy and Tip. I was hella disappointed when they started beefing after that

@MR_koach_carter: Damn alley boy died from kidney failure at only 45 man that's crazy

@DocQtorr: Niggas ain't loyal was the one, rest up Alley Boy

@MitchMillionz: Alley boy was one of the first rappers to go viral...alley boy really introduced the streets to metro boomin. Shit crazy

@freshbydef19: RIP to One of the Realest MF Atlanta Legends Ever. This Is Insane Man Mobb In Peace Alley Boy

@A_King_Of_1Self: Alley Boy was just crying about Trouble in that interview. These young bulls going home too early SMH

@sameflannel: Bankroll Fresh, Young Scooter, Trouble, Alley Boy, Shawty Lo, Takeoff, Rich Homie Quan, Lil Keed...all gone

@HipHopLivesNATL: Alley Boy said Gucci Mane str8 before he died. Gucci str8 then fuck it

@NeverBeenStunna: Big Bank done lost everybody man

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COVER
STORY

PHOTOS:
NANCY DALY

NANCY DALY

MOTHER

Words + Interview By Tyrone Davis

Originally, when I spoke with actress Nancy Daly, I had not yet had the chance to watch Netflix's new thriller, The Boroughs, in which she plays the role of 'Mother'. I had heard great things about the show online, saw a few stills of her prior to our conversation, and although she did a great job explaining the show's plot and her preparation for the role, I still felt I was missing some context.

I promised her I would watch the show as soon as I could and I now have that context. Taking place in an retirement community where evil lurks, The Boroughs houses an all-star cast of retirees who are all going through different things in their own lives but come together for friendship and the greater good. She described it as Stranger Things for adults and though I was thoroughly entertained as the 8-episode debut season progressed, in anticipation I kept laughing to myself, thinking "WHERE IS MY GIRL!?" She did an AMAZING job!

Also, Miss Nancy made my viewing experience much more pleasurable because I got to hear her perspective prior so I was fully tapped in as if I was behind the scenes during filming. She and I discussed her preparation for the role and the 5+ hours it took to apply makeup and prosthetics, her role in Bullet Train, Alzheimer's disease and her fight for a cure, and more. She and I have a few things in common and I enjoyed speaking with her. Go Miss Nancy, Go!

Let's start off with Netflix's The Boroughs. Tell me all about it. Oh, talk about the role of a lifetime! I would say I'm working with a cast of titans. This is a show that is produced by the Duffer Brothers, who produced *Stranger Things*. Now, we are being called the *Stranger Things* for grown ups, the advanced age. Lol, I work with an incredible cast. I work with Geena Davis, Alfred Molina, Denis O'Hare, Bill Pullman, Clarke Peters, Alfre Woodard, Jena Malone, and Carlos Miranda.

I mean, all those people just lift this whole storyline even higher than it was. It takes place in a retirement community and we discover very quickly that the people within the community have adapted to this situation and are making it work for them. Geena's character Renee Joyce is a yoga instructor, Alfre and Clark (Judy and Art Daniels) are doing their thing, and Bill Pullman (Jack Willard) is like the person who welcomes everybody in.

Then, Alfred (Sam Cooper) joins the community and really just doesn't want to be there and by the end of the first episode, we discover that there is trouble afoot, if you will. There are strange things going on, like creatures that are appearing in the middle of the night. Things are happening and my character (Mother) is only referred to up until episode six. Until you meet her, you have this sort of impression of her like she must be a villain and this terrible human being.

She is very close to my heart Tyrone, I must tell you. Nobody would recognize me. I'm in head-to-toe prosthetics. I have contact lenses

and my mouth is partly glued shut. My ear is glued shut. So, I could only communicate with feelings and barely audible sound. That was the challenge. All of us have been in this position in some way where you are at the mercy of other people and those other people are controlling you and using you for their own gains. Through decades of this happening, she has known anguish, horrific loss, despair, rage, and everything that comes to play in that situation.

I had to train very hard to do this role because I wanted to be in the best physical shape I could be in. At the beginning, I was in the makeup chair over five hours. It is very extensive and some people asked if it was awful. It wasn't because it was a collaboration with myself and the makeup team. We were creating Mother from the base of my existence and with every piece that was attached, there she was.

I remember the very first time that I had to wear her for a costume fitting, right before I started shooting. The man who created the creature was there. As I was looking into the mirror and I saw her, I realized something and gestured him over. I said, "She used to be pretty". They said, "Oh, yes. She was. She was beautiful." I looked at what she had become because of having been manipulated by all these people and I knew that was another loss she had to bear.

Tyrone, I have to say it was the most physically daunting, challenging, but greatest honor of my life to play her. Throughout the storyline up until you meet her, the other band of wonderful people that are in this retirement community, all decide to rally to stand up for their own. It is a phenomenal story being performed with such greatness within all of these people. There are moments that are absolutely hilarious but then lives and humanity are at stake as well. That is why I love this genre, because everything is heightened. I am blessed to be among those masters of the craft to tell this story.

You mentioned your ear and mouth being glued. Does your character speak at all or is the acting physical only?

Well, she didn't have any lines. She had no actual words come out of her mouth. There are sounds. You can't really hear her in the first season except occasionally because there is a lot of sound going on around her. So, it was my job to convey through movement and emotion what she was thinking and how she was feeling. I could not eat solid foods during filming and I had some very long days, I must tell you. I could only drink water, juice, coffee, and smoothies for about 12, 16, 18, or 20 hours a day.

Tell me about the process of the makeup and prosthetics. You said it took five or more hours to apply everything. I've seen video footage over the years of different actors having to go through that process. How do they go about making sure that the makeup looks exactly the same every application? Or, does it vary?

You know something? You have to have makeup artists that are at the top of the game, which I was blessed to have. They know because some things take place on different days. So, if it was slightly a little bit darker one day to the next, or if the end of an



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NETFLIX

episode veered into the next and are taking place within minutes of each other, my makeup had to match. They take pictures every day. They would take pictures as they applied the makeup, you know? "Last chance to go to the bathroom because we are putting on the hump" became a great big joke.

Lol, I had fake legs and fake arms so it was this whole thing. There were different pieces of her face and her neck. Everything had to be attached but they took all of these pictures, which is almost like a montage of me, right in the makeup trailer so they could keep track of it and because they are such experts and have been doing it for so long, they knew from one day to the next what matched. It is very, intrinsic, detailed work, which is why it takes as long as it does.

Also, I had fake teeth and contact lenses and as time went on, they got more into the rhythm of the process of putting all this stuff up and we eventually got down to four hours of application time. I will say they gave me a compliment. They kept saying to the producers, "She is so Zen. She made our lives so much easier." I would just sit there and let them do their magic. We had music playing in the background and I would always request Motown because that is my favorite music in the entire world. It just is. It always shall be. I was able to get through it because I trained for it. I would hike 4 to 5 miles every day for like five days a week and I lifted weights and did yoga so that I would be in the greatest shape as I could to sustain that.

That is a specific role, different from the norm. What made you go for this role in particular versus any other?

What happened was the audition went out and they asked all the actresses to do a monologue from *Still Alice*. I only knew vaguely but I hadn't seen a picture of her. I knew she was going to be in head-to-toe prosthetics, but I had no idea what she was going to look like. So, I did the monologue and the showrunners asked to meet a few actresses in person. That was their concern. They were like, "Do you think you can handle this?" I was able to say, "You all, I'm an athlete. This is what I do."

I also pointed out I was a SAG-AFTRA captain and if I can be out

there jumping in front of cars for five hours, I promise you I can sit in a makeup chair, lol. I made it very clear that I was in good shape. You can't plan something like that. It has to happen organically. So, the day that I was offered the role, I was actually on set filming *Ballard*.

Do you want to hear something interesting? Sure, yes. ***My little sister is 13 years younger than me and till this day, I introduce her to movies she hasn't seen yet. About a month and a half ago, she came over and we watched, "Bullet Train" together.*** (Gasps) Oh my God! You saw me! You saw me shushing Brad Pitt! That was great! Very nice man!

It is just a crazy coincidence that we are speaking today.

I love that you got to see me shush Brad Pitt and be that sort of very annoyed woman and then you get to see me covered in head-to-toe prosthetics. I don't know how old your little sister is, but this is a great show. If she likes, *Stranger Things*, she might like this. But if she is too young for *Stranger Things*, she may not want to. I'm honored. ***Yes, ma'am. She actually turned 28 not too long ago.*** Oh, lol! I thought she was like 14! Oh, well that's wonderful. I think she would enjoy it. I think she would. It is a beautiful story.

I lead teams around the country for Walk to End Alzheimer's because I've lost five members of my family to the effects of dementia or Alzheimer's. In the show, Ed Begley Jr. plays a man (Edward) who is losing his memory. It is not Alzheimer's or dementia. It was diagnosed as something else, but it just breaks your heart to see him ask his wife, "Where is Joey?" and Joey is his son who has died. Then, in the courtyard, there is an elderly gentleman that is seated. Alfred (Sam Cooper) sits next to him and the man says, "I'm waiting for the 515 bus." and you know that every day he is going to be there waiting for the 515 bus that will never arrive.

So, I love that there is such a dichotomy between doing *Bullet Train* and now doing *The Boroughs*. I'm glad you asked why I wanted to do it. It resonates so deeply with me because of my background in losing so many members of my family. With Mother, I completely

empathize with that sense of loss, anguish, helplessness, and rage completely. It is a story that needs to be told and I am honored that I get to play her. She becomes a hero by making sacrifices that are for other people.

We have a few things in common. You mentioned Alzheimer's. My great-grandmother had dementia and I recall seeing her going through some of the stages of it. I learned a lot during that time period and I realized that a lot of times she didn't know where she was and she was always talking about going home and pointing across the street. Tell me about Actors and Artists Unite to End Alzheimer's.

We began in 2011 and had four teams. Each one was in Los Angeles, New York, Washington, D.C. (my hometown), and Miami. My union, SAG-AFTRA, and Actors Equity were so thrilled that we were doing this so for the first two years with those four teams, broadwayworld.com would post articles about this. In the comments, people were saying they were walking in Nashville, Montana, Chicago, etc. and asking if we had teams there. So in 2013, we became a national team and that was amazing to me because I would get these emails saying, "We've got a team in Georgia, Texas, Oregon, Massachusetts, etc." People would join us around the country and as their captain, I would spend every Saturday and Sunday out there at like 5:30 a.m. in California because that's what a captain does. You walk with your team.

Then, when the pandemic hit that first year, the walks did not take place because we couldn't have thousands of people gathering so after that, we kept going as long as we could but I think for a lot of people, once they lose their loved one, they need to take a step back. I understood that but for me, I made a promise to my dad. I lost my mom in 2012 to Alzheimer's and the greatest heartbreak of my life is that I had no idea that I would lose my dad to this same disease seven years later. I lost my aunt (my mother's sister) to the same disease as well in 2015. So, I go out there every single year and I walk and I walk, but there is some part of my heart that keeps saying, "I'm too late." I'm too late because we didn't find a cure in

time to save my aunt or my dad. We are no longer a national team but we still have teams around the country and I say to them, "We walk now so that when we find a cure, then we dance."

I promise you, Tyrone, I am not going to leave this earth until we find a cure. I will be out there walking every single year. I know how hard it is, having lived through it myself. There was one night my mom slipped out of the house and went to our neighbor's house next door. It was 1:30 in the morning, she was banging on the door and said to them, "Can you take me to London? I need to go to London." They had to call my dad to come and guide her home because way back before my mother became ill, they would take trips to England. They had wonderful friends in England. So in her mind, she had to go to London, even though it was 1:30 a.m.



I don't know if this happened to you with your great-grandma, but I will never forget this moment: It was July 4th, 2010, I had came home, and my mom was still with us. She was still at home and kind of fragile. She would try to cook and we would have to go behind her and try to fix things so that she wouldn't start a fire in the kitchen. I was helping out the whole weekend I was there and as my brother and sister were getting ready to drive me to the airport and I was about to leave, my mom came up to me and she said, "It was so lovely to have you help us. You were so helpful. We're going to write your parents and tell them how wonderful you were." She had

no idea I was her daughter.

So, there is enough of us out there that keep doing this walk so eventually we get to do the dance. I think everybody knows what it's like to have lost a loved one. You lose them a hundred times before they actually die. You lose them every time they look at you and don't know you.

To read the rest of our chat with Nancy Daly, visit us online at www.twenty4sevenmagazine.com.

To keep up with Nancy and all of the wonderful things she is involved in, visit her on Instagram @nancydalyactor.

SOCIAL BATTERY

Words By Taylor Simone



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEITH LOBO

*As a purple raindrop swims
in the lake of a blue ocean.
I am different,
but never without reproach.*

*I choke when asked,
"Where are you from?"
Not because I lack
the notion of friendly conversation,
but because I am drained.*

*Absent of the electric styles of
Jimmie Hendrix.
Missing the descriptive nature
of creative expression.*

*I am at fault
for insufficient boundaries,
failing to draw the line
to my emotional capacity.*

*I am lost in a crowd
of laughter and splendor,
where I am furthest from reality –
a common causality,
of sweet flavors of savor.
Of encounters
with a potential friend or colleague.*

*I am folly.
Steadily rocking on this ship –
Aaliyah's boat.
The irony
of an active listener
screaming for the chance to speak.*

*But I am weak,
too shy to say:
I am not comfortable
with gossip nor complaint.*

*Consistently on the ropes
with condescending behavior
wailing blows
at my personable nature.*

*I am an extrovert
with a seat belt.*

*Frankly,
my energy glens
from solo adventures –
Pacing the comforts
of my own home.
And when I'm ready,
I bloom.*

*Like the rooms of Carnival,
10mins before
boarding groups arrive.
I am trying something new,
intrigued by the expectation
of the souls I would meet,
stories from the sea.*

*My heart has yearned to know
since 9,
Yet I am fine –
Being alone, being without
Companionship
for 8 days.*

*I lie in the depths of a deck,
like Jack awaiting his Rose.
And I am told
Once I start,
I won't be able to stop.
But there lingers this thought
that this particular experience
will cause interference
to where I am destined to wander.
And I ponder...*

*Will my social battery
revive the life
I'm known to live?*

*Oh, would I give
for the chance to spend
The next 7 days
with a friend
I've prayed to swim with.
Not tossed to and fro
by the ways of this wicked world.*

*That'd rather commune
over the attire
of another body,
than bask in the glory
God has revealed in His creation.*

*I'm waiting...
For that encounter
that founded
this belief in me.
That not all millennials
are glued to the socially deliberate
association
with a screen
that never displays anything
contrary
to the highlighted reels of life.*

*I am high,
Off the simplicity
of a genuine language
That's universal.
A royal dance
with a priesthood that withstands
The test of time.*

*But as I've said before,
I'm fine.*

*Because I am the divine number
of 7,
A cloud of completion
flowing through heaven*

*I am no longer
the damning digit of 6,
I am fixed.*

*To the grace swirling
in the curves of 5
I am alive.*

*A resurrected being amongst the 4.
More elevated
And separated like the 3,
That gifted me,
Eternal life.*

*And now I see
the importance of two.
As we lie together,
our warmth is bound
to elevate the room.
But how can one,
be warm
alone?*

CHECK ME OUT

SILKA WEIL

MIDNIGHT BLUE EP



Montréal singer-songwriter Silka Weil releases her long-anticipated sophomore EP, 'Midnight Blue,' out now on all platforms. The Musi-Flo Artist of the Year follows her celebrated 2023 debut with a record that pushes further into both her rock edged confidence and her most intimate songwriting yet, built around three core threads that run through every track: passion, intimacy, and commitment. The EP's rollout began with "Make Me Lose Control," a charged, confrontational single born from Weil's desire to write something electrifying for the stage. The track pairs rock heavy verses and

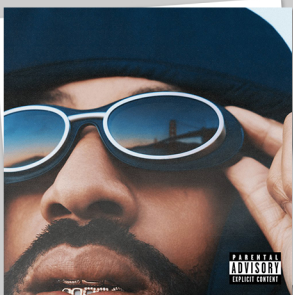
chorus with a softer, more intimate bridge, a contrast Weil has called one of the most rewarding parts of building the song. Recorded at Studio de la Ruelle with longtime collaborator Jean-Sébastien Brault-Labbé, the track carries the energy of its own creation, with Weil finishing the third verse on the spot in the studio and a late decision to swap in live drums after the bridge giving the recording a final surge of physicality.

Where "Make Me Lose Control" leans into tension, second single "Forever" settles into ease and security. Written in the lead up to Weil's 2023 wedding, the song draws on imagery from the honeymoon she and her partner were planning at the time, using travel as a way of contrasting fleeting highs with lasting commitment. Even at its lightest, the song acknowledges the weight of what came before it, framing the relationship it celebrates as a steady anchor rather than a temporary escape.

With 'Midnight Blue' now available, Silka Weil delivers the fullest picture yet of an artist equally comfortable in confrontation and tenderness, offering listeners a record built on the belief that real love, like real forgiveness, rarely arrives in just one shade.

*To learn more about Silka Weil, visit her at www.silkaweil.com.
Submission courtesy of Eric Alper at www.ThatEricAlper.com.*

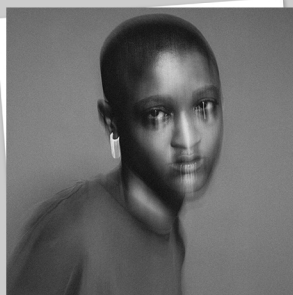
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PRESS PLAY

“THE BLUEPRINT” | MODUS AV X LYMPY BY ZOLEE G.



WORDS BY: TYRONE DAVIS

For the 25th anniversary of “The Blueprint” by Jay-Z, actress Zolee Griggs (Wu-Tang: An American Saga) and technologist Chelsea Wright hosted a listening session of the classic album in full at the Modus AV Listening Lounge in Suwanee, GA.

Modus AV is an audio visual equipment store that simplifies the process of integrating high-performance audio, video, and smart technology into forward-thinking homes and businesses.

During the event, Chelsea covered the technology of the sound equipment while Zolee covered the culture and impact of the album. Topics centered around the audience being able to hear the records at full quality as they were intended, Jay-Z vs Nas, and the climate of the industry and the world during the album release, which was on the same day as the 9-11 attacks. Those convos then spiraled into “Kendrick vs Drake”.

Real Hip-Hop convos are always a pleasure to have and apparently, they host these types of events regularly. Shout out to LYMPYO by Zolee G. as well. Tap in.

In closing, if you aren't familiar with Chicago Hip-Hop lore, look into Payroll, Kanye, and the “alleged” original version of “Never Change”. Compare the records and let us know what you think. Thanks in advance!

To view more images from this session, visit us at twenty4sevenmagazine.com.



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ENTERTAINMENT EVERLASTING MAGAZINE

ISSUE #80
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NANCY DALY

+ *Robert Jackson. Funny Thing About Love.*

Winx Club: The Magic Is Back. Big Suave. Melba Moore.

Silka Weil. #alleyboy.

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