



Vivian Green

Give Me Five Reasons to Hit Pause...

- 1.** Her debut album, *A Love Story*, was critically-acclaimed and her sophomore effort, *Vivian*, is poised to surpass her prior work in terms of content and quality.
- 2.** While not dipping too deep into pop rap/R&B, Viv has collaborated with hip-hop beat maestro Scott Storch for "Mad" and "Wish We Could Go Back."
- 3.** If you're down with love songs, this is the album for you. Vivian tackles all the complexities of love with fun-loving sensibility.
- 4.** While not knocking her previous effort, this singer/songwriter confesses that this time around she tried to reinvent herself. "This album is more youthful and more fun, and not so melancholy and jazz-oriented as the first one."
- 5.** For fans of contemporary R&B, this young songstress can belt out soul like a seasoned pro – her rendition of Billie Holiday's "Love For Sale" left critics clamoring for more.

What Else Should I Know Before I Hit Play?

Vivian is not some bi-polar weirdo. "I don't want anyone to think I'm heartbroken," she confesses. "When I was writing my first album, there was a lot of sadness going on there, but this one is different. Even the breakup on this record is not sad... this is happy, it's all good. I'm not on an [emotional] rollercoaster."



Nivea

Give Me Five Reasons to Hit Pause...

1. Still untitled as of press time, Nivea's sophomore effort forms a bridge between classic soul ballads and crunk anthems with production from superstars Jermaine Dupri and R. Kelly.

2. This time around, Nivea wrote many of her own songs. "I went through a bunch of changes [over the last two years]," she admits. "[This album is] much more relatable, especially for women. They'll listen to it and be like, 'Girl, me too!'"

3. We already know this girl's got talent. Her 2002 self-titled debut soared up the Billboard Heatseekers chart and her single, "Don't Mess With My Man," was nominated for a Grammy.

4. She's keeping Atlanta on the map and realizes that the amount of talent currently coming out of Georgia is actually nothing new. "We're kind of in our little hot mode right now and we're having a great running streak," she explains. "But Atlanta's *always* been hot."

5. We all got our first taste of Nivea when she appeared on Mystikal's blazing hot chart-topper, "Danger (Been So Long)." At age 18, she was whisked away on tour and made a star practically over night.

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Though she grew up in a house full of singers, Nivea was extremely shy and never thought she'd wind up as a recording artist. She was actually inspired to lose her stage fright after watching Mariah Carey sing. However, she still finds it easier to sing for strangers, rather than her family. "I never wanted to be a professional singer," she recalls. "I hated singing in front of my family." At least she doesn't rely on her family to buy CDs and tickets!

Joi

Give Me Five Reasons to Hit Pause...

- 1.** Her last album, *Star Kitty's Revenge*, won major accolades for its clever mixture of rock, hip-hop and soul. With *Tennessee Slim is the Bomb*, she is pushing her talent even further.
- 2.** Joi is a firm believer in split personalities and uses it in her recording career. "Star Kitty was the glam girl, fun girl," she says in regards to her artistic personalities. "Tennessee Slim is fun, very funky and all of that, but she's a little more serious. A little more pimped out. And she's on a mission. She's refined-but-yet-slightly-gangster. [She] gets sh*t done rene-gade."
- 3.** As Tennessee, Joi can show off her knowledge of music history. She reaches back into the '60s and '70s for a classic sound that combines, alt-rock, soul, funk, R&B, pop, jazz and even crunk.
- 4.** To escape the common trappings of the music industry, Joi created her very own independent label named Joilicious.
- 5.** Joi was a member of the Raphael Sadiq-led group, Lucy Pearl and has been winning one small battle after the next to succeed as a solo artist.

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At this point in her life, the former Calvin Klein model and singer/songwriter is *also* an introspective mother, who's growing by phenomenal leaps and bounds and making peace with her past. "Through the difficult process of pain, inside I feel really, really good about myself," she admits. "I've come through the fire and I'm alright. I'm like 'Damn, I might even be the bomb!'"



Da Back Wudz

Give Me Five Reasons to Hit Pause...

1. Their debut album, *Wood Work*, promises to hit listeners with a mélange of classic crunk, throwback funk and juke-joint soul. Critics are already saying that though they are clearly from the South, Da Back Wudz production contains obvious east coast influences.

2. So impressed by their work, superstar music producer Dallas Austin signed the group to his new label, Rowdy Records. "This is the best rap group to hit the Atlanta hip-hop market since I've been here," claims Austin.

3. While they know how to have a good time on a track, they can also step back and rap about topics of substance. "I respect the whole Dungeon Family and Organized Noize camp (which includes the likes of OutKast and Goodie Mob)," says Big Marc. "They talked about everyday stuff that happens and that [real] people could relate to – subject matter that spoke to the spirit."

4. Though they started their careers separately and went to different high schools, as blood-related cousins, Sho-Nuff and Big Marc have turned their music-making into a family thang. "We're family and we have our differences, but at the same time, we never part ways mad at each other," says Sho-Nuff. "I'm happy about working with somebody I can trust and communicate with."

5. Hailing from Decatur, Georgia – just a few miles east of Atlanta, these cats come from the same poverty-stricken countryside as actor/comedian Chris Tucker and are poised to rise above the crop of next generation Atlanta-based artists.

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While Da Back Wudz may eventually prove to be talented and successful Southern-fried rappers, they actually began their music career the way most R&B artists do: in the church. "We're both singers," says Sho-Nuff. "We're some choir boys who were raised on different genres of music, but Gospel is a major influence."

By Anthony Q. Casasnovas