Chicano Hip Hop Artist RedCloud Releases Debut Album

Written by Robert ID3675 Wednesday, 23 May 2007 23:31 -

Mexican hip hop artist RedCloud belongs to the Chiapas tribe. He was born into a family knee-deep in the Chicano Gang lifestyle. This unique hip hop rap artist has released his long-awaited debut album HAWTHORNE's MOST WANTED, out now on Syntax Records, distributed by Koch.

The hip hop rap artist has three singles kicking off HAWTHORNE'S MOST WANTED. The funky "Tapatio" features RedCloud and Pigeon John trading braggadocio rhymes, while the thumping "Guns & Roses," which presents RedCloud alongside heavyweight hip hop guests Jayo Felony, Eek-A-Mouse and Tonex, examines spiritual topics. "405," with Lord Zen and Dannu of the Visionaries, allows RedCloud to salute the famous California highway that connects several prominent cities, including Los Angeles and San Diego.

"Original hip hop was uplifting and positive which is exactly what I needed in my life," says RedCloud. "My mom had me when she was 17, I got my first tattoo in the 7th grade, she pierced my ears in the 6th grade, I jumped in the gangs the next year and, 'boom,' got arrested twice. Hip hop gave everybody hope and changed people's lives. It was street poetry that everybody could relate to. Now, people are rapping about things that your average person can't relate to -- the cars, the diamonds, the money. I rap about average person stories, issues that people don't usually deal with.

I want to let them know what's really going on."

Turning away from his rough upbringing, RedCloud found hip-hop in the high school yard, and had a spiritual awakening. He became the one to beat on Los Angeles' Power 106's Tha Baka Boyz freestyle competition Roll Call and developed a regular LA Angeles club following that evolved into a non-stop U.S. touring schedule. RedCloud's first two underground, self-released albums, 2001's IS THIS THING ON? and 2003's TRAVELING CIRCUS

sold more than 40,000 copies collectively.

Currently, RedCloud's 2007 touring schedule is packed with 140 shows. However, he not only plays the clubs with his music from the indie releases, as well as the new HAWTHORNE'S MOST WANTED, but the hip hop rap artist does mission outreach to Native American reservations where he comes face to face with poverty, addiction and other rough problems.

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"We travel from reservation to reservation sharing a message of hope to the Native American people, the First Nation's people and Indigenous people of Mexico" explains RedCloud. "Nowadays, 90% of Native American youth are into hip hop. They forget what their elders are telling them these days, or they don't care about tradition or their heritage tells them. They want to do what they love, which is hip hop and we speak that language very, very well."

'HAWTHORNE's MOST WANTED' from RedCloud is in stores this now.