

## Hip Hop Soul from Musiq Soulchild Dropping 3-13-07

Written by Robert ID3250

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For six decades, Atlantic Records has been home to the most innovative, compelling, and enduring artists in soul and R&B. Now, Atlantic welcomes a new addition to its storied roster - Musiq Soulchild. The multi-platinum, Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter will release his eagerly anticipated label debut, "LUVANMUSIQ," on March 13th.

Musiq's first new album in over three years, "LUVANMUSIQ" sees the Philadelphia-raised artist continuing to develop his own unique sound, a distinctly modern melding of 70s soul, classic funk grooves, and hip-hop swagger. The album's first single, "Buddy," has already exploded at radio outlets nationwide, with the companion video slated to premiere in mid-February.

Musiq Soulchild is partnering with Courvoisier to launch his new album as part of the House of Courvoisier (HOC) Music Room Tour. Kicking off in Chicago on March 8th, Musiq Soulchild will play ten cities across the country, performing live at a series of intimate HOC concerts.

Commenting on his signing to Atlantic, Musiq said: "I'm excited to be an Atlantic recording artist for the simple fact that it's a label of great tradition and legacy, which has been responsible for signing some of the greatest artists of all time - from Ray Charles, Led Zeppelin, and John Coltrane to Gerald Levert, T.I., and James Blunt.

Just to be added to this great list of artists is enough in itself. I look forward to working with the Atlantic team to continue the legacy."

"I am thrilled to welcome Musiq into the Warner Music Group and Atlantic family," said Warner Music Group Executive Vice President Kevin Liles. "I had the pleasure of working with Musiq during my career at Island Def Jam Music Group, and he is without a doubt one of the most creative, inspirational, humble, and important soul singers of his generation. "LUVANMUSIQ" is a brilliant combination of honesty, emotion, and soul like only Musiq could deliver."

Inspired by such icons as Stevie Wonder, James Brown, and Ray Charles, Musiq made a blockbuster debut right out of the gate with 2000's acclaimed "AIJUSWANASEING." Fueled by the breakthrough singles, "Just Friends (Sunny)" and "Love," the album went on to earn RIAA platinum for sales exceeding 1 million. In addition, Musiq was honored with a number of awards, including Billboard Music Awards for "Best New Artist," "Top R&B Artist," "Top R&B Male," and "Top R&B Single" (for "Love"); the Soul Train Music Award for "Best R&B/Soul Single" (for

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"Love"); and the ASCAP Rhythm & Soul Award for "Top R&B/Hip-Hop Song" (for "Love"). Further nominations came from the Grammy Awards, American Music Awards, The Source Awards, BET Awards, and NAACP Awards.

In May 2002, Musiq unveiled his second album, "JUSLISEN," which entered both the Billboard 200 and Billboard's "Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums" chart at #1. The collection, which featured a pair of hits in "Dontchange" and "Halfcrazy," was soon certified RIAA platinum and again earned Musiq a variety of prestigious awards. Among the trophies were Soul Train Awards for "Best R&B/Soul Album" and "Best R&B/Soul Single" (for "Dontchange"); an ASCAP Rhythm & Soul Award for "Award Winning Song" (for "Dontchange"); and a BMI "Urban" Award (for "Halfcrazy"). What's more, Musiq received nominations from the Grammy Awards, MTV Video Music Awards, BET Awards, NAACP Awards, and Billboard Music Awards.

"SOULSTAR," Musiq's third album, arrived one short year later and he was once again greeted with both critical and popular success. Hailed as one of the year's finest collections of contemporary R&B, the album featured two radio smashes, "Forthenight" and "Whoknows." The winner of the Soul Train Awards' "Best R&B/Soul Album," "SOULSTAR" also reaped nods from the Grammy Awards and BET Awards.

In addition to the many honors he has received for his solo albums, Musiq also scored a 2004 Grammy Award nomination in the "Best Urban Alternative Performance" category, acknowledging his take on the classic "Are You Experienced?," found on the "POWER OF SOUL: A TRIBUTE TO JIMI HENDRIX" collection. Other extracurricular efforts include contributing guest vocals to the Roots' "Break You Off" (found on 2002's "PHRENOLOGY") and Carlos Santana's 2002 "SHAMEN."

For more on Musiq Soulchild, please visit:

<http://www.musiqsoulchild.com>

<http://www.myspace.com/musiqsoulchild>