

Virgin Records recording artist and dancehall rap superstar Beenie Man is set to unleash a collection of his most raucous and rhythmic romps with "Kingston to King of the Dancehall: A Collection of Dancehall Favorites," the greatest hits collection that will be hitting stores on February 1. A compilation of smash tracks spanning the

breadth of his extraordinary career -- from 1995's wickedly controversial

"Slam" to the hilariously catchy "Dude," the long running hit from Beenie

Man's last studio album, 1994's "Back to Basics" -- the new disc also includes

an exclusive previously unreleased track, "The Specialist," featuring Vybz

Kartel, one of Jamaica's hottest rising stars.

An incredible document of Beenie Man's long and diverse reign as "King of

the Dancehall," the new collection includes many of his chart-topping

collaborations with some of Jamaica's most legendary dancehall producers,

including Dave Kelly ("Slam," "Dude"), Tony Kelly ("Bookshelf," "Miss

L.A.P.), "King of the Dancehall"), and Sly and Robbie ("Foundation"), plus

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Written by Robert ID787

Friday, 28 January 2005 08:41 -

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hits from up-to-the-minute studio wizards like Wyclef Jean ("Love Me Now") and

The Neptunes ("Girls Dem Sugar" and "Bossman"). Guest artists on the various

tracks include R&B princess Mya and fellow dancehall star rap artist Sean Paul, and stars Miss Thing, and Lady Saw.

Performing in Kingston dancehalls since the age of 5, Beenie Man has had

more than 60 #1 hits in his native Jamaica. The prodigiously talented artist

first came to worldwide attention with his Jerome Harding-produced crossover

smash "Who Am I" (also included here), the first dancehall track to ever crack

the Top Ten of the Billboard "Hot 100" in it's original version. The track

ushered dancehall -- and Beenie Man -- boisterously into the mainstream and

helped open doors for many of his fellow Jamaican riddim-riders.

Known for his brilliantly kinetic wordplay and his ability to handily

transform the stark, hardcore beats of dancehall into multi-dimensional hits,

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Beenie Man has delighted audiences and critics alike with his three

phenomenally-regarded Virgin-released records: "Art and Life" (2000), which

earned a Grammy for Best Reggae Album, "Tropical Storm" (2002) and "Back to

Basics" (2004).

Both an overview of an incredible musical legacy and a confirmation of the

infinite artistic potential still to be tapped, "Kingston to King of the

Dancehall" demonstrates one of the world's most unique artists truly at the

top of his powers.

Visit Virgin Records Web Site: <http://www.virginrecords.com>