

Mp3 S.t.l. - Alright Already!!!



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Stress FINALLY hits the scene with his long awaited CD that's been described by both fans and critics as a "possible classic". See for yourself what happens when a rapper takes 4 years to complete one album.

21 MP3 Songs HIP HOP/RAP: East Coast, HIP HOP/RAP: Rap Details: During the summer of 1998, R&B artist / producer D-vine returned home to Richmond, VA after two years of college. During his time at college, he had done numerous local performances while working on his own material for his debut release. As he put together his modest recording set up little by little, he came across a tape of then 14 year old Stress rhyming over a homemade Mase instrumental. This peaked his interest to the point where he'd ask Stress to rhyme over one of his beats. The result was Stress's first recording "Been Away Too Long". A few weeks later, they'd record another song "Phenomenal". Unfortunately, neither song did much to create a buzz, but alot of good did come of the situation: both Stress D-vine decided to take a more serious approach to music recording, and a music relationship had been born. For many reasons, including school for Stress and work and a relationship for D-vine, the two wouldn't record for another two years. The summer of 2000 saw the duo get back to work, recording almost non-stop. During the recording session for this album, Stress decided to call himself Stress Tha Lyricist in an effort to differentiate himself from local radio personality DJ Stress. He'd even go further with this cause by shortening his mic name to S.T.L. Within 3 months, Stress had completed a 13 track CD entitled "The Legacy Begins", which, aside from 3 songs, was entirely produced by D-vine. Despite mainly positive reviews both locally and in the duo's home town of Bronx, NY, the team decided to scrap the CD and head back to the drawing board. As a result, the vast majority of those recordings have never been heard. In late 2001, Stress began to try his hand in producing. He'd produced 2 songs on "The Legacy Begins" so it wasn't completely foreign to him. The first song he'd produce is the soulful "Not Me", which gained

him some recognition online and among his peers at his college. His next production credit would be the popular "Hot 2 Death II". The reaction he recieved from these songs prompted him to go full throttle with his music production and recording. This drive resulted in 2002's "Alright Already Mixtape Vol. 1" and "Alright Already Mixtape Vol.2". This collection included songs that were widely available on the internet such as "Mr. Mischief", "Hot 2 Death II", "I Hate", "Random Thoughts", and one of Soundclick.com's most popular songs ever "One Sprite". That song stayed atop the websites chart for months and gained over 3,000 downloads and over 10,000 realtime streams. Despite those two mixtapes, Stress still had plans to release the official "Alright Already!" LP. His partner in crime D-vine, however, saw his priorities shift after marrying his high school sweetheart and purchasing a new house. In the meantime, Stress linked up with fellow VA talent Defakto and put together an LP called "Stress Management". The LP was largely produced by Defakto, and also featured production from Stress himself. It featured a remake to the Skillz classic "Together". It was in Oct. of 2003 when Stress really began to generate some interest when he decided to put together "The White Album". Initially, this was nothing more than a joke to parody Jay-Z's "The Black Album". But before long, Stress got serious about the project and many producers and emcees wanted to be a part of the LP. "The White Album" included apparences from Germz, Dynamikz, Mercury and production from Nemesis, Dox-1 (Who's also produced for Wordsworth and Drano) Trakula and Marhood. More importantly, it would also mark the first time Stress worked with NC based producer Korleon. Not long after "The White Album" was completed (and received critical acclaim) Korleon and Stress developed a strong musical relationship. He was offered a spot in The Good Ol' Boyz, a group the Korleon had a hand in founding, and Stress jumped at the chance. The two worked together and completed 2004's "The Soundtrack", which was completed a mere 6 months after the Dec 2003 release of "The White Album", an impressive turn around time for any artist. In fact, Korleon, who produced virtually the entire album, fed Stress with so many beats, that "The Soundtrack" was originally slated to be a double album. It was at the last minute that Stress decided to trim the album to 17 songs, instead of the 26 he'd originally recorded. In November of 2004, the album was submitted to Rapreviews.com, where it earned a 7/10 rating. In addition to the surge of solo recording Stress had done, he also had a hand in completing the Good Ol' Boyz LP "The Next Level". The group, which consists of Mojo, Eso(teric), Stress, Korleon and producer Marhood, proved that they are lyrically a force to be wreckoned with. So with so much material put together in the 4 year gap since he'd worked with D-vine, the question was would

"Alright Already!" ever see the light of day? After D-vine settled down in his new home and got his studio up and running, the answer to that question was a resounding "yes". While Stress had been doing projects with Korleon and GOB, D-vine had been producing for local acts in VA and artists in Philly and NY. His productions even managed to reach heavy hitters like State Property. Always one to strike while the irons hot, Stress reached out to D-vine and the duo decided to get back to work once again and finish what they started in the summer of 2000. The album, which is now all but complete, features frequent production from D-vine (who handles roughly half of the albums tracks) and Stress himself. Of course, we can expect to see Korleon appear on the album as well. Fellow VA emcees DeFakto and Drano can also be found on the LP . For the last 4 years, Stress has been touting this album as his definitive opus, and in 2005, Hip-Hop fans will finally get to see what all the fuss is about.

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