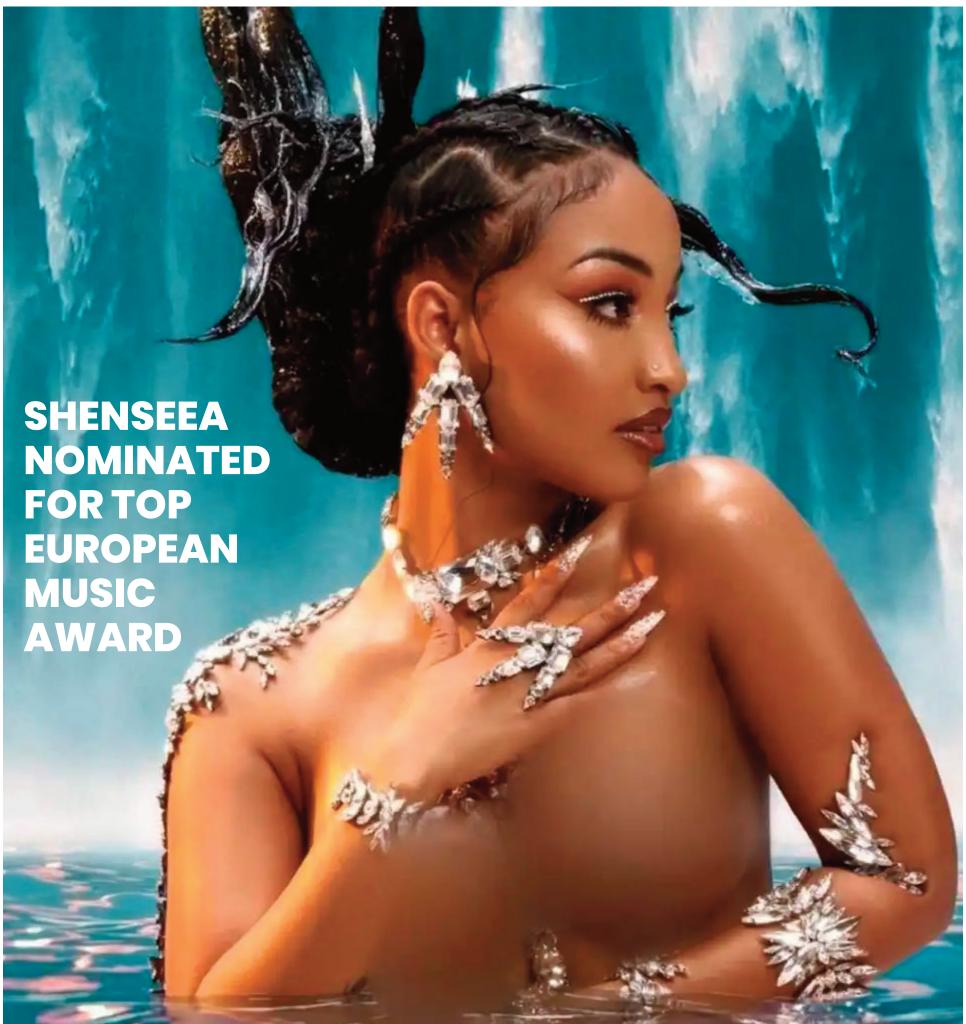




#### INSID



Rihanna tribute to Chadwick Boseman







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## Rihanna Tributes Chadwick Boseman In New Song "Lift Me Up"

The name for Rihanna's upcoming reggaeinspired song on the highly anticipated second installation of Black Panther has been revealed. The track "Lift Me Up" will drop on October 28, the singer revealed on Wednesday morning.

On Twitter, she dropped the name and release date, accompanied by a simple audio teaser in which she is heard humming and harmonizing. Just a day before, Marvel released an advertisement for the movie with the slogan "Wakanda Forever," merging into an R for Rihanna. Fans immediately went crazy at the news that Rihanna is dropping new music almost six years after her last album.

The confirmation comes a week after fans began speculating that the Fenty Beauty founder was creating new music for the Black Panther movie. There are reports that she reportedly recorded two soundtracks for the second film, Black Panther: Wakanda Forever, which is set to premiere on November 11.

In the meantime, the song is reportedly a tribute to the life of Chadwick Boseman, who played the lead character- Black Panther, in the movie. Boseman passed away in 2020 after a battle with colon cancer. During his cancer treatment, the actor filmed the first movie, and parts of the second movie were also close to completion. Marvel later decided to keep the scenes of the actor and build out the story rather than use a new person as Black Panther.

In the meantime, "Lift Me Up" sees writing credits for Tems, Ludwig Göransson, Rihanna, and Ryan Coogler.

Tems, known for her banger "Free Mind," spoke about the song coming to life and working

with Rihanna.

"After speaking with Ryan and hearing his direction for the film and the song, I wanted to write something that portrays a warm embrace from all the people that I've lost in my life," Tems said. "I tried to imagine what it would feel like if I could sing to them now and express how much I miss them. Rihanna has been an inspiration to me so hearing her convey this song is a great honor."

On the other hand, fans reacted to the announcement after pining for new music from Rihanna for a very long time.

"WE ARE SCREAMING," one person tweeted. "It's an Afrobeats song," another said.

"Queen of music is back," one said while another added, "Taylor, Rihanna, drake oh god the competition is fierce."

# Granny's not the babysitter, Mom. Be a parent!

Disclaimer: The content of the Ask Di column is for information purposes only, and the author is not responsible for the actions taken or performed by the reader. No individuals, including those under medical care, should use any of the information provided here to self-diagnose or self-treat any health-related condition. No assurance or warranty regarding the accuracy, timeliness or applicability of the content is given.

Dear Di thank you. My question is that my 23-year-old daughter-in-law has a beautiful healthy 6-month-old baby and she just will not connect with him. She believes that her job is over. When he sees me, his grandmother he is so happy and only wants to sleep and play with me. She does nothing in the house and is always on the phone. I cannot get through to her for it is like a wall I am speaking to. I literally babysit 24/7 and I am not in the best of health. Do you have any suggestions for this situation? – C.S.

A1: Hi CS, first of all, congratulations to the grandparents and of course the parents of your bundle of joy. You and I are from the baby boomers' era, and were cut from a different cloth to the now new parents. They feel as if they know everything however they forgot where they came from, that is from us their mothers. They never listen to us and yet they survived as well as us.

There are so many factors here to address however I will do my best to address a few. Please note that this does not apply to every new parent however there are exceptions to every rule, so relax and breathe. It can be cultural upbringing, wanting freedom to leave their parent's home and rules (yeah that is not working here for there are more responsibilities here), growing up (this one is that kids are having kids and missing out on the experience, discovering what it means to enjoy and discover themselves before bringing another into this world), then another is the freedom to have sex with permission. Having a sexual partner is fine however there is always the possibility of becoming pregnant and if they are not ready to be an adult then this is where the problems begin. In all fairness to your daughter-inlaw maybe she did not have a loving home and did not want to live there anymore and so she saw an opportunity and accepted it. I am curious to know what your son says about the situation. Also, do you live with them or do they live with you? I can understand that your grandson is cute and a heartbreaker and you can be like putty in his hands however you have to also create a few boundaries for them and yourself and yes you need to protect him. You are a grandparent and you should have them respect you as a grandmother and not a live-in nanny. You said that she does nothing in the home and does not care for her son so how do they support themselves? Listen, someone has to grow up and it is either them or you. If you entertain and enable it, then you have to make a few major decisions for at the end of the day it is not about you or the parents, it is about your grandson.

One day the parents will wake up and they need to be on their own. The parents or

you can move to a nearby city or town and you be the grandmother you are supposed to be and not the live-in nanny and they can be the parents. They will fall and they will get up and do it all over again.

All the best to the family and do enjoy your bundle of joy.

Dear Di, I am a business owner and I have a client for a few years. I am in the service industry, and I suspect one of my workers went behind my back and is trying to poach my client. I cannot quite prove it yet. How do I protect my business, not lose my client and deal with this situation all at the same time? I have a good relationship with my client, however this worker is quoting prices so low that even my client cannot under how he can do it. What can I do to not lose this contract? – D.A.

Hi DA, business can very tricky, frustrating and even draining at times. Everyone is hustling and unfortunately many forget the rules of life and which

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state that, "One should not envy thy neighbour." If your relationship is a good one and you have proven yourself to your client, just go with that and let it ride out. Of course, I am not saying to do absolutely nothing, build a stronger relationship with your client. This could be a test to force you to make a few sensible business changes in your organizational structure and have more protocol in place. The bottom line is that in business not everything is about money, I mean yes of course but there are actual people who care about your performance, relationships and how you have served them. There are many fishes in the sea, and if you do a great job, have faith in what you and your team have done and so be it. As for the worker, keep an eye on him and once you prove your suspicions, take appropriate action.

Share your questions and responses by sending an email to info@TheExperiential-Coach.com. All the best!



# Toronto's Rhoma Spencer launches comedy album

While better known for her background in theatre, Rhoma Spencer has a long history in comedy. Her first experience was in 1991, when the late Dennis "Sprangalang" Hall told her Paul Keens-Douglas was looking for women to perform in his Talk Tent.

"Sprangalang gave me his number and I went to perform for just one show – and I was clearly a hit enough to stay there for eight years, (until) I migrated to Canada in 1999.

"My career there mainly focused on acting and directing in theatre, so comedy took a back seat, but people who knew what I used to do would still hire me to do shows, and that way I could still get that part of my performing-arts genre in."

In 2018 Spencer was hired to appear at the International Multi-Arts RUTAS Festival, where she curated and hosted the event Word Up! An Oral Cabaret, which featured spoken word and comedy. She said seasoned comedians were so taken by her performance that they encouraged her to get onto the mainstream Canadian comedy circuit.

"That's when I decided to make the move from performing only for my Caribbean/Trini (compatriots) to the mainstream, performing for the whole of Canada. Once I did that crossover, performing at the Kenny Robinson Nubian Comedy Show, called the Nubian Disciples of Comedy, that's when I was being seen by the mainstream.

"I felt my comedy would only be appreciated by my Caribbean people, but the white people and the mainstream people got it. My accent also helped, as people marvel at that, and then my sense of comedy is also very different from what my other colleagues do.

"For me, comedy is storytelling. I'll take local and international trending news situations and turn them on their heads to the point of stupidity.

"I'm also not afraid to talk about myself – I deal with my ageng process, menopause, senior moments, and that is what makes my work a little different from the others."

Her new comedy album consists of works from throughout the years, and focuses topics such as size, Me Too, the proliferation of beads and bikinis in Carnival (but only for women), and some of her experiences over the past year.

She performed at the first Black Women Comedy Festival in Detroit, headlined An Evening of Caribbean Comedy, the Black Women in



Rhoma Spencer: found success on the comedy stage

Comedy Laugh Fest at the Gotham Comedy Club in New York in June 2022, and in Edmonton, Alberta, with Jamaican/Jamaican-Canadian comedians Blacka Ellis, Gunta Na Laff and Keisha Brown. Her last performance in TT was in 2020 at the Little Carib Theatre and Folk House with Lisa Allen-Agostini and Louris Lee Sing.

Before the pandemic, Spencer was invited to work on the play Solitudes, based on Gabriel Garcia Marquez's book 100 Years of Solitude. The play was in development for two years and was performed just as the pandemic began: it was one of the last plays to be put on in Toronto.

In 2022, she was called back for a role she hadn't auditioned for, in Lorca's The House of Bernarda Alba, and was immediately cast. Her performance gained her a Dora Mavor Moore Award nomination (the Toronto equivalent of the Tony Awards) for Outstanding Performance.

Spencer said she also used the pandemic to reimagine herself as a documentary filmmaker, as theatres and entertainment spaces were shut down between 2020 and 2021. She said the Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, the premier queer theatre in Canada, put out a call for people to submit projects for what they called Queer Pride in Place.

"I decided to do a project called Queerantine, a physical theatre presentation on the sidewalk outside my house, with two dance artists. Although I'm a director and an actor, I've always felt that I could do choreography, and I could talk the dancers through the images I had in my head. I used a particular style of theatre movement to tell the story of how two lesbians navigated the pandemic, all in movement, with no text. It was highly successful."

Her first film, My Execution Will Be Televised, was inspired by the support shown worldwide for the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement following the murder of George Floyd in the US in 2020.

Spencer said the pandemic, BLM, and "leaning into" her queerness in her work have brought her many new opportunities. She is now artist in residence at the Queer and Trans Lab at the Mark S Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies in Toronto, where she is developing and creating a musical about Calypso Rose. Last year, with support from the University and hosted by ad-hoc forum Roots of Calypso, she organised their first-ever calypso symposium, and this year is hosting a symposium on Calypso Rose on October 22.

# Irish museum remembers Trini singer Mona Baptiste

A FAMOUS but now largely forgotten Trinidadian singer, the late Mona Baptiste, was remembered on October 22 in Dublin by the Epic Irish Emigration Museum, which records the global impact of Irish emigrants and their beliefs and heritage.

She is also now featured in the museum's exhibition Revolutionary Routes: Ireland and the Black Atlantic.

The event consisted of a talk by Baptiste's biographers, Bill Hern and David Gleave, who earlier this year published their book *What about the Princess? The Life and Times of Mona Baptiste*.

Hern was quoted online as saying that a few years ago, one day over coffee, the two men had reckoned that in line with the 70th anniversary of the 1948 arrival of the Empire Windrush, bringing West Indian migrants to the UK, they should explore the lives of some of those original passengers. Why had they gone to Britain and what did they achieve?

"Gradually, though, as we found out more and more about her, we realised there was a whole book to be written about just one passenger. Passenger number seven on the passenger list was Mona Baptiste and her story is a remarkable one.

"Mona was a big star for several decades but is now largely, unjustly in our view, forgotten. We hope our book, the first full-length biography, will bring her the recognition she deserves."

Hern said Baptiste was a black woman from humble origins, overlooked by history, a shortcoming he hoped the book would help remedy. A book review on the Amazon website recalled her arrival in the UK.

"In June 1948 Mona disembarked from the Empire Windrush ship at Tilbury. Like so many of her fellow passengers she had travelled from the Caribbean to England to start a new life, and what a life it turned out to be!"

Within weeks of disembarking she made the first of countless radio appearances and she would go on to feature regularly on the television, produce a string of popular records, and appear in many films as well as stage shows in London, France and Germany."Truly a superstar in her day, Mona deserves to be remembered in the United Kingdom she loved and in the land of her birth, Trinidad.

"A statement from the museum said Baptiste was a legendary Trinidadian-born singing sensation, with a fascinating life story."



Mona Baptiste: had a successful international career after migrating in 1948

Baptiste, whose musical genres were calypso and blues, had a successful international singing career and appeared in several films."Within two weeks of arriving in England she was featured on BBC radio and was soon singing with the bands of Ted Heath and Cab Kaye and as part of the Stephane Grappelli Quintet." Heath later became British prime minister."

French star Yves Montand invited her to appear in Paris and her fame quickly spread across the continent. Her greatest success would come in Germany in the 1950s and 1960s when she was one of the highest paid entertainers in that country."In London, she met and married Liam Morrison, and in 1972 returned with him to his native Ireland, which she would eventually call home.

## Ban on 'Gunman Music'

#### Jamaican musicians outraged after violent songs kicked off airwaves

Musicians in Jamaica are outraged after the country's broadcasting regulator announced a new ban on content that glorifies drugs and crime.

The Jamaican Broadcasting Commission said in a statement released Tuesday that the ban reinforces their commitment to "keeping the airwaves free of harmful content given the important role traditional media still play as agents of socialisation."

Jamaica regularly ranks as one of the deadliest country's per capita in the Americas and is rife with gang violence.

"The use of the public airwaves to broadcast songs that promote/glorify illegal activity could give the wrong impression that criminality is an accepted feature of Jamaican culture and society," the statement said. "It could also unwittingly lend support to moral disengagement and further normalise criminality among vulnerable and impressionable youth, and the young adult demographic."

The ban, which does not apply to digital content platforms, prompted instant backlash from many of Jamaica's most prominent musicians.

Romeich, a Jamaican musician and entertainment executive, took to social media to question the ban.

"While I understand why people feel like this and even I don't agree with glorifying guns or any use of any drug at all, we can't stop the creatives (artistes) from singing about what they see around them or grew around," Romeich wrote on Instagram. "Are you going to ban Apple Music, Spotify, SoundCloud and other platforms where the same people have the same access to the same songs?"

In the comments, another Jamaican musician known as Ryssian replied that "This is crazy lol. Let's just ask them to write the songs too."

"Good thing we don't need radio anymore. I can't remember last royalties they paid me. YouTube d ting Deh anyway," he wrote. The broadcasting regulators defined the ban as targeting lyrics that promote or glorify crimes like "scamming, the use of illegal drugs, use of guns and other offensive weapons to perpetrate harmful/illegal actions, and jungle justice."

"Jungle justice" is a common phrase used in Jamaica and other countries to refer to retribution or vigilante justice, often carried out by angry mobs.

This isn't the first time Jamaica has attempted to censor its local music industry. In 2009, the broadcasting regulators banned sexually explicit lyrics, but the sanctions have rarely been enforced over the years. Other countries have also dabbled in banning controversial music. In Mexico, various cities and states have attempted bans or regulations on the popular narcocorrido genre that churns out ballads dedicated to drug traffickers, but has similarly failed to stop its widespread popularity.

Legendary Jamaican reggae artist Tanya Stephens wrote an oped in the local Jamaica Observer newspaper following the ban, and noted how similar attempts have failed in the past.

"Every single time there is great pressure to curb crime or antisocial behaviour some of these very same unchanging heads meet again and roll out the same archaic ban as a 'measure,'" Stephens wrote. "If banning worked, why is there so much more music designated to be banned now?"

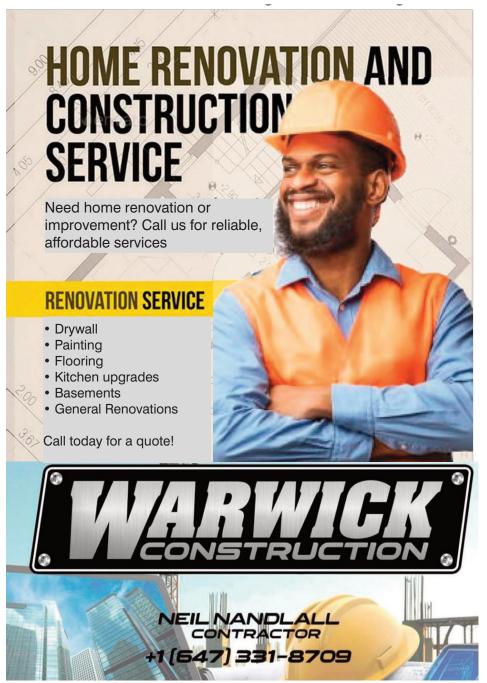
She suggested that instead crime and antisocial behavior should be addressed with "critical thinking and honest conversation."

Other musicians seem unphased by the ban.

Skeng, a popular rapper who recently collaborated with Nicki Minaj, has racked up tens of millions of views on YouTube with his tracks about the streets of Jamaica like "Gvnman Shift" and "Gang Bang." After news of the ban, Skeng tweeted a yawn emoji with a 21 second clip from his track "Rain Like Hell."



Tanya Stephens: similar attempts have failed in the past





**CALYPSO SYMPOSIUM:** An extremely lively and informative session on the history of calypso and an insightful lesson on music was held in Toronto on October 15. The event was organised by Calypso historian George Maharaj and sponsored by OCPA, the Organization of Calypso Performing Artists, a Canadian group. The evening featured a lecture by noted music critic and historian, Nicholas Jennings, and also explored the foundations and beginnings of Caribana that had gravitated around calypso. Here, from left, are organiser Maharaj, former Canadian Calypso Monarch Cosmos and Barbadian calypsonian Roger Gibbs. PHOTO BY HERMAN SILOCHAN

## From Lord Nelson to Dr Nelson

Soca and calypso legend Lord Robert Nelson, mas band leader Rosalind Gabriel, CAR-PHA executive director Dr Joy St John, former TTMF managing director Ingrid Lashley and several others will be receiving honorary doctorates from the University of the West Indies come October.

In a statement, the UWI said it will welcome 16 outstanding global citizens to its graduation stage this year. It said in keeping with annual tradition across the five campuses, the University Council has approved the conferral of the 16 at The UWI's 2022 Graduation Ceremonies.

The honorary graduands, recognised for their contributions to several areas, including Sport, Culture, Law, Business, and Science, will join the 2022 graduating class in person this year, as a majority of campuses return to faceto-face ceremonies. However, The UWI Open Campus will retain the hosting of a virtual graduation ceremony.

The UWI added that the 2022 Graduation Ceremonies take place between October 8 and November 5. It said this year's honorary graduands join the ranks of a prestigious list of fewer than 500 persons who have been awarded since 1985.

The 2022 honorees include Dr. Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted for contributions to Agricultural Science and Nutrition – Doctor of Science (DSc); Ms. Ingrid L-A Lashley for her work in Corporate Banking/Finance – Doctor of Laws (LLD); Ms. Rosalind Gabriel of Trinidad and Tobago for her work as a Band Leader/Entertainer – Doctor of Letters (DLitt) and Dr. Wayne A. I. Frederick for contributions to Surgical Science – Doctor of Science (DSc)



## A taste of Columbus



## Club Med re-opens its storied resort in the Bahamas

Just in time to start taking reservations for the holiday travel season, Club Med Columbus officially reopened for guest stays on October 22, 2022. This elegant, colonial-style Club Med beachfront resort is the only all-inclusive property to inhabit the secluded tropical island of San Salvador in the Bahamas.

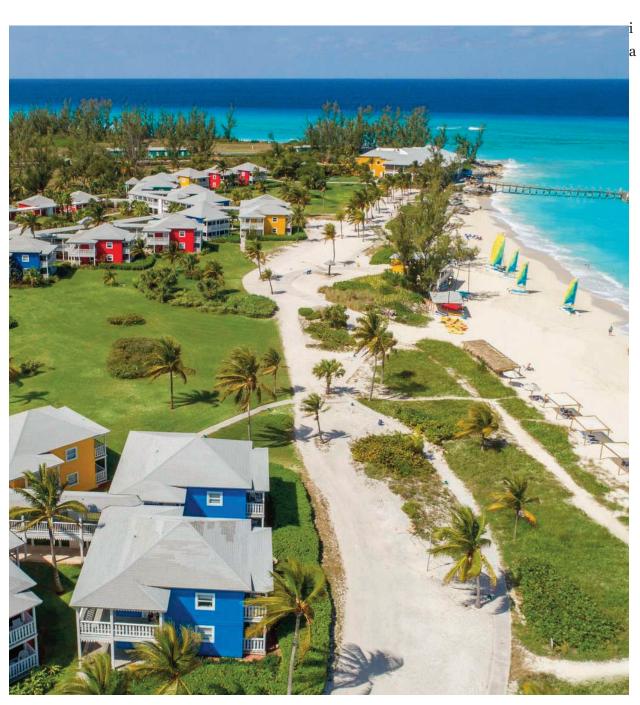
Since closing its doors in 2020, Club Med Columbus has developed new offerings that make it an ideal retreat for couples, multigenerational families and large groups alike. Its pristine, remote location enables vacationers of all varieties to disconnect from their frenzied everyday lives, and embrace the island's warm hospitality and vibrant Bahamian culture in its purest form.

Guests will have unlimited access to a wealth of holistic wellness experiences, authentic culinary concepts, premium beverages, onsite entertainment, watersport and on-land activities. In short, endless opportunities for excitement, adventure and relaxation.

This exotic island escape is situated along a sublime stretch of powdery white-sand beach and features newly refreshed, two-story bungalows surrounded by palm groves, lush native flora and luminous turquoise waters

Guests staying at this Bahamian haven can expect to see such new additions as:

— New Dining Concepts: The La Pinta Beach Lounge Restaurant is a stylish new openair dining option offering breathtaking overwater views and all-day service. With a serene, relaxed atmosphere during daylight hours that shifts to a more sophisticated vibe at night, La Pinta will introduce a new culinary concept: Mediterranean-inspired cuisine with a Bahamian twist. It will serve fresh seafood fare that's best paired with high-end spirits from the cellar for an enhanced dining experience. The resort's main restaurant, Christopher's, will continue to offer a variety of international food options from breakfast through dinner; including new plant-based menu items, which were developed during an in-



Club Med Columbus was closed for repairs in 2020

tensive training period led by renowned vegan chef Chloe Coscarelli.

— Enhanced Wellness Experiences — Using a 360-degree approach to encouraging mental, physical and emotional well-being Club Med's new Wellness Fusion program will introduce a harmonious blend of wellness experiences to produce ultimate peace of mind. The resort's new wellness programming will include comprehensive yoga practice, moonlight massages and four holistic treatments at the Club Med Spa by Sothys.

— Endless Adventure – Club Med Columbus

watersport enthusiast's paradise, being an ideal spot for such activities as snorkeling, scuba diving, sailing, waterskiing, kitesurfing, kayaking and more. In fact, a total of 22 types of activities are included in guests' stays. Other amusements include weekly beach sunset rituals, flyboarding, cycling, volleyball and tennis (on brand-new courts). Guests can also participate in destination excursions, including new quad tours, which offer a guided ride around the island to explore unspoiled landscapes, and discover hidden beaches and sea caves, with breaks along the way to grab a bite while mingling with the locals.

## Luce Latina

### Venezuelans in Trinidad create new fashion line

The arrival of thousands of Venezuelans in Trinidad and Tobago looking for socioeconomic alternatives has brought with them the inspiration and ideas of many migrants who show the local community their intention of help the TT economy.

Two of these migrants are cousins Yennifer Muñoz Ramírez and Ingrid Díaz. Their plans for self-improvement have led them to create their own women's clothing factory in TT: Luce Latina.

Ramírez said: "It is a small business we are starting, but it is our pride, it is like a newborn baby seeks to strengthen every day, not only for us, but also for this country opening its doors to us and needs a lot of our help to keep growing."

Both women, who have spent more than three years in TT, are professionals who studied in Venezuela and have made a long journey through women's fashion there.

"We started this business in November 2021 out of the need to earn extra money by taking advantage of the talent and knowledge we have in the clothing industry," Ramírez said.

The initial idea came from another cousin, Cynthia Muñoz Ramírez.

"She was part of Luce Latina, but for reasons of not having the opportunity of school education for her six-year-old daughter, she had to leave TT and return to Venezuela."

Ramírez, a student of economics and new trends, and Díaz, a specialist in cutting, sewing, knitting, and embroidery with more than 25 years of experience, make the perfect combination.

"With the investment process, we began to investigate if they sold the necessary machines for producing basic garments here. Then we visited the fabric stores, the haberdashery and the other stores for equipment needed to start a sewing workshop," Ramirez recalled.

Diaz said after getting all the information, calculating accounts and analysing the market, they decided to start Luce Latina.

"We bought the sewing machines, tables and other tools and we started to make trendy swimsuits. We made it public through some networks and since then we have not stopped growing," Ramirez said.

They invested \$20,000 to start the project.



Ingrid Diaz, left, and Yennifer Muñoz Ramirez are fashion designers

Today, Luce Latina is inspired by the creation of trendy garments for Caribbean women.

"We can make garments for girls, boys and men – but we are focused on women, working with 100 per-cent local materials...fabrics, threads, zippers, chains, lace," Ramírez said.

They work directly with the client. Ramírez explained the women come to her workshop, show the design they want and, together with the seamstresses, work on improving the ideas, colours, sizes and models. Custom gar-

ments take between three and four days to be made and delivered to customers.

They also show their own designs through social networks like Instagram or TikTok. "We make our sales digitally, it is a good alternative. Daily we post the garments that are available in their specific colours and sizes," she said.

Designs include casual dresses, crop tops, swimsuits, tops, skirts, shorts, pants, clothing for pregnant women, sets, uniforms and pyjamas, among other things.

## World On Fire

### Steamy, dreamy soca symphony hits streaming platforms

World on Fire, a steamy, dreamy soca symphony hit local and international airwaves on all major streaming platforms on September 30.

The soca collaboration with DJ Private Ryan and Patrice Roberts teaming up with Freetown Collective and also features Nigel Rojas, guitarist and co-founder of the rock-reggae band, Orange Sky.

World on Fire is now available everywhere music is sold or streamed, and has been distributed across local, regional and international radio networks, a media release said.

The song tells of the bond between two souls entwined in a love affair; one that reveals the allure of soca that beckons them to fall in love with a joyous expression of self that begets movement, happiness and laughter. This is what the energy of soca does: it possesses the hearts of those who connect to its rhythm, igniting light and heat in equal measure, setting the World on Fire, the release said.

Producer Private Ryan reinforces the song's deeper meaning explaining that, "On another level, the song is really about our love for country and culture. It says emphatically that when these are threatened, our desire to band together burns like an inextinguishable fire. The discovery of how rich, deep and beautiful we are as a people will, itself, set the world on fire."

Ryan wrote the hook of the song and approached Freetown Collective's Muhammed Muwakil with the concept.

"We spent a morning in studio by Sheriff

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Guitarist Nigel Rojas is part of World on Fire

[Keron Thompson] and came up with the song and chose Patrice to be the voice. Sheriff added some great musical elements and the final bit of magic was including Nigel Rojas with his unique guitar flare to round off the track," Ryan said in the release.

Muwakil, the track's male lead vocalist, describes what this collaboration represents to the Freetown Collective team: "Somewhere in the

realm of soca there is a place that is burning to expand, new sounds, new horizons; this song is the fire needed to forge anew."

Roberts says of the song, "This song is simply beautiful. I was excited when they reached out to me to be part of the project, and I am happy that the world is going to experience the beauty of this track."





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# Patrice, Destra 'thankful' for being part of Nikki Minaj's hit song

"Thankful," that is how soca star Patrice Roberts feels about being a part of TT-born, US rapper Nicki Minaj's and dancehall artiste Skeng's remix of Likkle Miss.

The remix was released on October 6 and features an array of female talent including TT soca stars Destra Garcia and Roberts; Jamaican dancehall star Spice, British rapper Lady Leshurr, Jamaican dancehall artistes Pamputtae, Dovey Magnum, Lady Mercedez and rapper London Hill.

The nine artistes are referred to as The Fine Nine on the six-minute, 11-second official audio video on YouTube.

Garcia sings at 4.47 on the track while Roberts sings at 5.18 on the track. Roberts' part was followed by Skeng's.

The video, at the time of writing, amassed 47,000 views on YouTube. Roberts' publicist Adanna Asson, who is also part of her management team, said, "The song became live on digital streaming platforms around midnight."

She said it has been a couple of weeks since Minaj engaged Roberts directly about being part of a project.

"We did not know of all of the specifics as it related to the song. We knew what song it was. We did not know exactly what she was going to do because it was very tight-lipped."

Asson said she believed Minaj wanted to surprise everyone. "She just kept saying it was going to be a legendary project. Of course, when she approached Patrice to be a part of the team it was a no-brainer.

"It was something we definitely wanted Patrice to be involved in and something, of course, Patrice wanted to be involved in as well."

Roberts was sent guidelines which said she needs a verse. Minaj sent the music.

"For Patrice, she might be a little lost for words. Just talking to her this morning, she is just really full of gratitude.

"She is very excited about the fact that Nicki could have looked at her talent and realised that she is someone she wanted involved in the project. Nicki Minaj really handpicked the women she wanted in the project," Asson said.

She said this was great for soca.

Asson said Roberts worked tirelessly at her music and craft so she was able to generate interest for herself and the genre.

She said the team could only anticipate



Patrice Roberts: part of the Fine Nine that includes Nikki Minaj

what other opportunities might come for Roberts as a result of being a part of this.

"Patrice is very prepared for whatever opportunities may come her way. But she is just full of excitement, gratitude and love."

Roberts' verse was written by TT songwriting company Full Blown Entertainment, headed by Kory and Kevon Hart.

On her Instagram page Garcia, who calls herself the queen of bacchanal, said it was no secret how she feels about Minaj and "all she does and keeps doing."

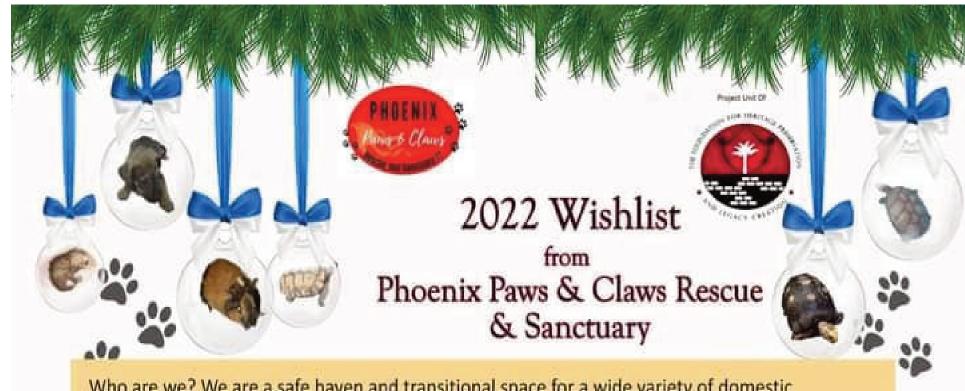
"But this project right here is giving the true

meaning of female power, talent and unity... queens."

Minaj is also seen on a video on Garcia's page singing Garcia's part and saying the queen of bacchanal/soca still has her favourite soca song of all time... It's Carnival (done with Machel Montano in 2003).

In that video Minaj also shouted out Jamaican dancehall icon Ninja Man. She said she loved him.

"A lot of these artistes to me don't get their just due and they've paved the way on inspiring some of your favourite artistes...," Minaj said.



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Chainlink Fencing
Green Coated 1/4" x 1/4" wire
Gravel

Cement

Animal crates: wire or plastic

Ply Wood

Paint

6 yards blue stone

### **Donations**

Donations from outside of Trinidad & Tobago Paypal through www.gogetfunding.com

#### Cash donations in T&T

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# Doh Cry Ah Leavin'

## Calypso legend Explainer passes on at age 74

Veteran calypsonian Winston "Explainer" Henry has died, the Trinbago Unified Calypsonians Organisation (TUCO) announced on its Facebook page on Friday. He was 74.

TUCO said Explainer died on October 7. It did not state the cause of death.

Explainer gave TT many hits, including Ras Mass and Lorraine.

The TUCO release said he was born on November 13, 1947 and was the father of three children: Wendell, Stageann and Winston.

It added that he was "affectionately dubbed the messenger because he composed songs which expressed the ills of society and the oppression of the poor man."

Explainer began singing calypso in 1969 and spent more than 50 years in the industry producing hits like Lorraine with producer Rawlston Charles.

"Lorraine, that highly infectious song, was indeed a hit with locals and fans abroad. In fact Lorraine made it to the British charts at position number 35," the release said.

Throughout his career, he collaborated with many colleagues, including Bunji Garlin, Maximus Dan and Farmer Nappy.

It added that he composed for and mentored many young calypsonians, among them Devon Seale, Karene Asche, Rondell Donawa, Chuck Gordon and Victoria Cooper.

"As a cultural ambassador, Explainer took calypso around the world. He performed in Europe, North America, South America and throughout the Caribbean. He also performed in prestigious venues like the Commonwealth Institute in London, The Apollo Theatre, Madison Square Garden, Studio 54 and Brooklyn Academy," it said.

In 2018 Explainer was awarded the Hummingbird Medal Gold for his contribution to TT's culture.

In November last year, he launched his own web page, www.explainertt.com.

Explainer started his career in the year 1967, after making his debut on Scouting for Talent with the Late Holly Betaudier, then two years later proceeded to the Southern Brigade Calypso tent in 1969 which was managed by the late Edwin Peters.

In 1970 having that urge to be recognized nationally, he was taken to the late Lord Kitchener by Mr. Emorold Phillip (Valentino) and



Explainer was best known for his song about homesickness, called Lorraine

was accepted on the cast of The Calypso Revue the said year, where he sang during the period 1970 - 1974.

Explainer, being an admirer of the great Mighty Sparrow, who was also his mentor. He joined the Sparrow's Original Young Brigade (OYB) in 1975, singing his first popular song called "Man and Wages", followed by Mr. African in 1976 which took him to the National Semi Finals

From there on he then shot to fame 1977 where he sang "Caribbean Integration" which took him to his first National Finals. After which he was no stranger to the Big Yard because he made it to the National Finals ten (10) times in total, and though not fortunate to win, was a favorite among his fans, with hits like "A Tribute to Maestro" in 1978.

Explainer had a bumper season in 1979, with major hits like "Kicksin in Parliament", "Sunday Night Fever", "Yuh Got to Pay" and the

first Raga Soca called "Dem Weh Dred". From there on he never looked back and his name was on the lips of every Calypso Lover.

Explainer then joined Ace producer Rawlston Charleswho produced memorable tunes like "Ras Mas" in 1981, and the immortal "Lorraine" in 1982. "Lorraine", that highly infectious song, was indeed a hit for locals and fans of Explainer internationally. In fact "Lorraine" made it to the British Charts at position #35. Notably in 1983 he sang "Rasta Chick", "Free Base is Waste" in 1984 and "Is Horse" in1985, just to name a few.

Explainer stopped competing in the year 1998 because he recognized music as a "Mission and not a Competition". However, he continued to compose songs for various artistes namely, Rondell Donawa, Lady Adanna, Lady Melody, Queen Victoria (Victoria Cooper) Twiggy and Joanne Foster.

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## Remembering Kenny J

## Soca Parang festival to be held in late singer's honour

Soca Parang Fiesta will return in December and will pay tribute to the late entertainer Kenny J.

The evening will showcase popular seasonal music as well as selections from the extensive repertoire of Kenny J performed by some of the top names in the soca parang genre, a media release said.

The event features Crazy, Marcia Miranda, Cro Cro, Alicia Jaggasar, Sugar Aloes, Marilyn Williams, Eddie Charles, Ninja, Bindley B and Poser, backed by The A Team and performing their popular hits.

The talented Xavier Strings, known for their fusion of Caribbean and folk music using the violin and other instruments, as well as parang champions Los Alumnos De San Juan, will give additional entertainment.

The two-day event is scheduled for December 10 at The Southern Academy of the Performing Arts (SAPA), San Fernando, and December 11 at the National Academy of the Performing Arts (NAPA), Port of Spain.

The late Kenwrick Joseph, aka Kenny J, was known for his double-entendre Christmas ditties such as Paintbrush, Alexander and Hush Your Mouth.

There will be door prizes for patrons.





Kenwrick Joseph died in January this year of Covid







## New Vybz album is for his g/f

Vybz Kartel has dropped his new EP, True Religion, a project dedicated to his fiancée Sidem Öztürk.

While the dancehall legend is making news for his fiancée's TV interview this week, his core fans are excited today because of his new music. Last month, Urban Islandz exclusively reported that Vybz Kartel is engaged and has a new body of work coming dedicated to the leading lady in his life. A lot has been happening in the Gaza world since then, with his Turkish fianceée doing her first public interview, which has seemingly led to Kartel being transferred to another prison.

The EP True Religion arrives on Friday, September 30, with 7 tracks and no guest features. You will find singles like "Interracial," "My World," and "Immortal," all of which are love song-themed singles the artist recorded for his queen.

Vybz Kartel's manager told Urban Islandz that he and Öztürk started dating back in 2015 while he was being housed at the Horizon Remand Centre in Kingston. "When he was at Horizon initially and their relationship has blossomed since then," his manager said.

In the meantime, Vybz Kartel was abruptly transferred in mid-October from Horizon to GP, leading to his attorney issuing a scathing rebuke of the Correctional Department.



**Vybz Kartel: transferred to another prison** 

## 50 Cent disses son over child support

50 Cent says his son, who turned 26 in mid-October, is too old to be talking about child support

It looks like all 50 Cent's son, Marquise Jackson, wanted was his father's attention. His way of getting it was his \$6,700 offer for some quality father-son time. That's if we're to go by a recent interview that he did with TMZ, where he expressed that all he really wanted was to have a conversation with his dad and get his side of why their relationship is so strained. He's willing to do it even if they don't agree with each other.

Marquise Jackson admitted that he was quite unsure as to if a sit-down would bring any sort of healing but that he wanted to extend an olive branch. "If you're up for it, I'm up for it. I'm definitely willing to sit down with him so I can hear his perspective and gain a little bit of understanding. We're both men at the end of the day – we should be able to agree and disagree and it not be a problem," he further shared.

Jackson went on to say that his father, for some reason, believes that he is just an entitled kid, but he knows that is not the case. For him, It's never been about the money but more so the relationship with his dad, he added.

Marquise Jackson once again reiterated that he has no idea if any sort of good would come about with a meeting with the veteran rapper, but he really wants to try and make peace. He also has questions that he thinks he needs to ask for clarity about their current relationship.

Again he said it was something he would be willing to pay for in the interest of healing. "Maybe we could just gain understanding of each other, maybe we could understand each other a little bit better, and maybe that's what a better situation looks like. But I can't tell you exactly what it should look like or what it would look like," he added.

He continued on to say that as he got more mature, he started to think more about their relationship, and while he thinks that the situation is unfortunate, he's just not sure what can be done at this point.

Just earlier this month, the younger Jackson caused a social media storm when he offered his father the \$6,700-a-month child support payment for a sit-down. His reasoning at the time was that the money he received from 50 Cent

wasn't enough to maintain his lifestyle in New York City.

When fans shared their opinion of his attitude, he made the offer.

"Since y'all think \$6,700 is sooo much money someone tell my pops I will pay him \$6,700 for just 24hr of his time so we can do everything I ever wanted to do with him as a kid," he wrote at the time while spelling out "Entitled" with cash in his photo.

The successful television exec has since responded by sharing a screenshot of a comment Demetrius "Lil Meech" Flenory Jr. made on his son's post.

Marquise Jackson went after his dad again yesterday, October 12, by sharing a poster for a parody TV show called Power Book III: Raising Marquise in place of 50 Cent's Power Book III: Raising Kanan series.

50 Cent's response to all of that is to share a video clip of himself in his bathtub and seeing his son on his TV.

"This ni\*\*\*'s crazy. You 25 years old, why you still talking about child support?" Fifty said.

# Looking for an EMA

## Jamaica's Shenseea nominated for European MTV award

Shenseea has been nominated for her first MTV EMA.

The nominees for the 2022 MTV Europe Music Awards have been announced, and international dancehall artist Shenseea is among the star-studded list, nabbing her first nod. The Jamaican music star was nominated for Best Push Act, which is the Best Breakthrough Artist category at the EMAs. 'Best Push' was first introduced in 2009, and since then, it's been awarded to stars like Justin Bieber, Bruno Mars, Shawn Mendes, and most recently, Olivia Rodrigo.

Shenseea has been making consistent strides in her international music career since her big move to the United States. She has gotten a major boost since signing with manager Wassim Sal Slaiby last year. Slaiby took to Instagram to make the grand announcement keeping the caption succinct by simply stating the nomination category. Her premiere nomination for 'Best Push' at the MTV EMAs also marks the dancehall star's first major nomination in Europe.

Previously, Shenseea earned a Grammy nod for her contribution to Kanye West's Donda album in the category of Album of the Year and received her first MTV VMA nomination for Best Push Performance last year. She also won the MOBO Award for Best Reggae Act in 2021. The trail of award nomination success has evidently continued into 2022 as Shenseea secures her place in the running for the 'Best Push' award at the Europe Music Awards. The singer is nominated among the likes of "Hours" singer Muni Long, Korean boy band SEVENTEEN, Saucy Santana, and more.

There is no doubt that the "R U That" artist has been on a noticeable upward climb following the release of her freshman album Alpha. The successful project featured stars like Megan The Stallion Offset, 21 Savage, Sean Paul, and more. The album had many online critics dishing mixed reviews, particularly about its pop-infused singles. Even so, ShenYeng has remained committed to her new sound and her long-term goal to break into the hip-hop and pop scene.

Following her MTV Video Music Award nomination last year, the star noted that this was not only her first VMA nod but the first for Jamaica as a whole. Shenseea continues to prove that while not everyone will be a fan of her work as she grows with her career, it is certainly getting her the recognition and accolades she set out



Shenseea: nominated for the Best Push award

to achieve.

dorf, Germany, this year at the PSD Bank Dome The MTV EMAs will be hosted in Düssel- and will air live on MTV on November 13.

## STFU, Kanye!

## Rapper pisses off Rihanna, A\$AP Rocky over sex claim

A\$AP Rocky and Rihanna are no longer on speaking terms with Kanye West following Ye's recent claim about Rocky.

Last week, Kanye West made a bold allegation that designer Yoon Ambush slept with A\$AP Rocky. The designer has also denied the allegation and has received support from a member of the A\$AP Mob. In a post last week Thursday night, Kanye shared a screenshot of a list of names where he circles Yoon's name as well as several others. "Other fake friend opps who hearted that Tremaine Threatened me on," he captioned the screenshot.

He posted another screenshot that read, "Ambush weak Rocky F\*\*\*ed Yoon next." In the comments section, Yoon denied the claim, writing, "Lol. Not true but okay." A\$AP Nast chimed in saying, "Keep the gang out this gz."

A\$AP Rocky has not publicly responded to Kanye West, nor has his partner Rihanna, but sources close to the Bajan billionaire exclusively told Urban Islandz that they both cut Kanye off. We're told that Rocky and Ye were working on new music and were in regular contact with each other, but that all shifted when the G.O.O.D. Music chief made the allegations about Yoon. Rocky felt betrayed by Ye and felt the claim disrespected his baby mother, Rihanna.

"They haven't spoken about the lie he told and believe me ASAP feels strongly about it because its like an assault on his relationship with Rih, almost like the guy trying to ruin their relationship," sources said. "They're one hundred percent not on speaking terms and its unlikely their recent recordings will see the light of day."

Our sources told us that A\$AP Rocky has privately denied the allegation. The Harlem rapper and Kanye West regularly spoke, and Ye and Rihanna also occasionally talked. "All of that changed after last week, all communication stopped," sources said.

A\$AP Rocky was also close friends with the late fashion icon Virgil Abloh who Kanye West also took aimed at in his rant, which further soured their friendship.

Earlier this year, Rocky and Kanye were



A\$AP Rocky with Rihanna before the birth of their child

spotted in the studio working on new music, with Pusha T also showing up to the recording. Now it seems that music will not see the light of day because of Ye's rant.

Kanye last week hinted that he wanted to be considered as one of the artists to grace the stage alongside Rihanna, who was named as the head-liner for the Super Bowl Half Time Show at the end of September.

The Donda rapper had posted on his Instagram Story a screenshot of a news headline that said he was in the line-up of artists to be chosen. However, his recent behavior brings into ques-

tion whether he will be chosen for the big stage, as the artist seems bent on stirring up controversy at every opportunity.

This week has been unending with drama, and Yoon isn't the first victim as Kanye continues to bash those who seem to disagree with him or support persons who stand up to him.

The rapper has been under fire for his controversial 'White Lives Matter' shirts, which have cast a dark shadow on Paris Fashion Week with Kanye calculatingly stealing the spotlight from the fashion show. The controversy has spilled over for days after the Yeezy season 9 launch.

## Here comes Trouble

Dane Layne views himself as a limitless entertainer, and his versatility supports this claim.

The Penal resident, known in the entertainment industry as Mr Kronic, recently released his latest song, Trouble.

The groovy-dancehall song is a collaboration with long-time friend and singer Steffon "Lion Plas" Placide, also known as Plas.

He said Trouble centres around a woman who stands out among other women at a party or any social gatherings.

"There is always that one person who everyone tends to go after. She attracts everyone's attention at the party. Her presence takes over the whole event. She is the one who people must stay away from because she is Trouble," Layne said.

"This is one of my best productions."

Joshua "Supayouth" Salcedo created the rhythm, and Aaron "Fires" Marquez produced Trouble at Proden Studios.

Layne said, "The people on the ground love the song. I also started a TikTok challenge in which people dance to Trouble. Some people use lines from the song in scripts. I thank all those who do the challenge."

Layne has been singing for the past 22 years, for seven of which he sang with the now-defunct, local crossover-band Blackrose as a frontline vocalist.

In 2015, he collaborated with Ziggy Ranking on a reggae song called Silver Lining.

In 2020, Layne entered the Chutney Soca Monarch competition with his first-ever chutney soca Look Shanty.

In May 2021, he premiered the official music video for Lie Again, a song he wrote. It was produced and mastered by Pengo.

Layne said Lie Again was intended to be a groovy dancehall, but many people felt it had soca elements.

He added, "I also sing alternatives and rock. I also have a soca parang which I sang when I was in the band."

When Layne is not working in the entertainment industry, he works as a scaffolder and painter.

"I also do hydro-blasting. I do promotions and host events," he said. He hosted Bikini Bottoms in August at the Moruga Beach Facility in Grand Chemin.

Layne said to people thinking about venturing into the entertainment industry: "Prepare yourself for some disappointment.

"If you do not intend to do the job with your heart and soul, do not do it, because it can sometimes be discouraging. The bottom line is, you must not give up. It can be challenging."

He said he is willing to collaborate with anyone willing to collaborate with him.



Dane "Mr Kronic Layne

One of his dreams is to work alongside American singer Lauryn Hill.

Layne said his favourite artiste of all time was American rapper Tupac "2Pac" Shakur.

Other favourites were the late Americans

Chester Bennington, the lead vocalist of rock band Linkin Park, and "King of Pop" Michael Jackson.

Layne also loves the music of Bob Marley.

## Do **YOU** Know Your Elephants?

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- Abandonment
- Lack of Love
- Mental & Pyhsical Abuse
- Depression
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Sucidial Feelings
- Anxiety Feelings
- Fustration
- Relationship Issues
- Financial Issues
- Lack of Support
- Illness
- Attachments
- Family Rejection
- The list does not END here...

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