

Philly raised... Atlanta made, it's T'Melle!

Written by Alysha "AP" Price



A change in condition and appearance can be described as a metamorphosis.

There's no question that 23-year-old T'Melle has pushed through the awkward transformation from child protégée to woman with a no nonsense approach to reaching her goals as an artist. Once the youngest member of girl group, Egypt, and mentee to the late Grammy Award winning icon, Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, the Philadelphia native pulls from her past experiences and delivers a raw and unapologetic mixtape titled, "The Interview."

The daughter of a music teacher, T'Melle's love affair with music began before she could utter a word. Respecting her father's expertise and knowledge, she currently looks to him for constructive criticism; although, she's careful not to share the more provocative songs as of yet.

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"No I keep the bad stuff from him for now but I know he'll hear it all one of these days," said T'Melle, playfully.

As if coming from a musical background wasn't all the motivation she needed, having been signed to Left Eye taught her a wealth of information about the industry.

"She was my mentor; she taught me so much. Years later, I find myself saying that's what Lisa was trying to tell me. I mean the most random thing can happen and I realize what she was trying to teach me," said T'Melle.



With urgency in her voice T'Melle disclosed that it's imperative for her to be known for who she is, not for whom she once worked. And T'Melle leaves no question about who she is on her latest project. With bangers such as "Pill" and "Tupac-Biggie" T'Melle shows her ability to speak for the ladies while catering to men. The closing track on the mixtape, "Classic" describes her best; she's most vulnerable on this record and details her struggles. In addition, "Go To War" featuring Waka Flocka Flame shows a more grimy side – almost a modern day Bonnie riding for her Clyde.

Stepping out on faith with lessons from her father and Left Eye and tools she's gathered along the way, T'Melle is ready to put her past behind and focus on today. Although she's proud of her Philly roots, the R&B up-and-comer resides in Atlanta, the place she credits for molding her into the sultry singer she is today.

"I always tell people that Philly raised me and Atlanta made me. I grew up in Atlanta this is where I became a woman, where I learned what I represent and what I stand for. So yes, Philly raised me but Atlanta made me."

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For "The Interview" mixtape visit www.datpiff.com or www.livemixtapes.com.