

Lia Renee Dior: Loving the skin she's in

Written by Harry Colbert, Jr.



One of the most requested songs on 89.9 KMOJ-FM isn't from established icons such as Beyoncé, Kelly Roland or Robin Thicke – it's a song from an artist living right here in south Minneapolis.

The song title lives up to its name – "Beautiful." The artist is 23-year-old songstress, Lia Renee Dior. And judging from the number of calls coming into the only radio station in the area regularly playing R&B/soul/neosoul, Dior might just be the next big Minneapolis export. Judging from her poise on stage, Dior may not be next – she may be now.

With her debut album "Love Child," Dior hopes not only to entertain, but also to inspire.

"'Love Child' is about me and the lessons I've learned in discovering who I am and loving who I am," said Dior. "And with the song, 'Beautiful,' it's about how do we define beauty, not in a physical sense, but mentally. That's why I ask the question (in the hook), 'what is beautiful.' In some sort of way we are all beautiful."

Dior, who went to North Community High School and is a 2008 graduate of Thomas Edison High School, said she's been singing since she was 3 years old and singing professionally for the past four years, when she linked up with area hip-hoppers, Swag House and later with The Moguls. Though still affiliated with some of the members of the two camps, Dior decided to go her own way this past year and put out her own project, which she describes as hip-hop inspired, conscious neosoul.

Lia Renee Dior: Loving the skin she's in

Written by Harry Colbert, Jr.



www.liareneediord.com