Talib Kweli Talks To The Detroit Free Press

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2007 was a big year for Brooklyn-bred MC Talib Kweli. On New Year's Eve, he released the critically acclaimed "Liberation," his collaboration with \tilde{A}^1_4 ber-producer Madlib, free on the Internet and followed that up with "Eardrum," a summer release that debuted at No. 2 on the Billboard 200. The masterful "Eardrum" beautifully bangs between mainstream sensibilities and underground edge and is Kweli's first album on his own label, Blacksmith Records (with distribution through Warner Bros). As 2008 begins, Kweli is on top of his game and pushing his two artists: female flow queen Jean Grae and West Coast group Strong Arm Steady. Fans, meanwhile, hope the 10-year anniversary of his breakout classic, "Black Star" (with Mos Def and DJ Hi-Tek), may bring the three back together on wax or live. Kweli recently rapped with the Free Press.

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