

# Throwback: Jamal-Keep It Real



[youtube id="FRSwsOUiVOE"]

Jamal's short-lived solo presence on the rap scene in the '90's produced the album, *Last Chance, No Breaks*. The Philadelphia rapper was originally signed to Dallas Austin's Rowdy Records as one-half of the group Illegal. For his debut he had the benefit of producers Rockwilder, Easy Mo Bee, Erik Sermon and Redman. "Keep It Real" didn't establish him as a top-shelf lyricist but the Stevie Wonder sample made the song linger and the whole production was ambitious for a 16-year old. Redman produced "Fade Em All" which became the other single on the album. The [Pete Rock remix](#) is often cited as the favored version and some fans feel it should have been chosen for the full-length instead of Redman's interpretation. Although Jamal's work as a solo artist was brief he appeared

on songs with several artists including Busta Rhymes, MC Breed, Method Man, Young Zee and others. *Last Chance, No Breaks* did not launch a huge career for Jamal but it is mostly remembered for being another defining deposit to the Golden Era sound.