

Throwback: Rihanna-Umbrella Feat. Jay-Z



Rihanna's "Umbrella" featuring Jay-Z is from her third album *Good Girl Gone Bad*. The single and album marked a new direction for Rihanna's sound and image. She moved away from Caribbean-influenced styles and into an edgier American mix of pop, rap and R&B. Christopher "Tricky" Stewart, The-Dream, Kuk Harrell and Jay-Z wrote "Umbrella" which was originally intended for Britney Spears whose record label rejected it. The compressed hi-hat, the 'ella ella' hook plus Jay-Z's verses were memorable and quickly sunk into pop culture. "Umbrella" was a worldwide hit and the video received five MTV Video nominations. It was a defining moment for Rihanna and she morphed from a moderately known singer into an icon and superstar. Looking back, "Umbrella" is accepted by most fans and critics as Rihanna's signature song. Rihanna released her eighth studio album *Anti* in 2016. In the past five years, she has launched the popular Fenty fashion brand, Fenty Beauty cosmetics, Savage X Fenty lingerie and Fenty Skin.