

# **Lady Wray Rolls Out Next Album With Hard Times**



Credit: Shervin Lainez

Lady Wray releases her single "Hard Times" in preparation for her next album, *Cover Girl*. "Hard Times" is the second single

after “You’re Gonna Win,” and it’s about a resilient love that has survived challenges based on The Clark Sisters’ “You Brought The Sunshine.” Lady Wray’s tribute to the gospel classic takes the uplifting message and flips it for a secular relationship. *Cover Girl* marks 10 years of Lady Wray collaborating with producer Leon Michels. The throwback aesthetic they created on *Queen Alone* is still there on “Hard Times,” except they pluck their inspiration from the ’80s instead of the ’60s and ’70s. *Cover Girl* is Lady Wray’s fourth album and she will go on a North American tour after its release on September 26th. The first show is in Kingston, New York, and it will end in Austin, Texas. [Tickets](#) are available at her site.

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**Asaka The Renegade Charms  
With Y’all Be Safe Tho**



Asaka The Renegade's "Ya'll Be Safe Tho" has the warmth of the Caribbean in its dancehall flavor. Asaka's overtures of love are delivered in the hybrid rhythm of a Jamaican toaster and an American rapper, almost teetering into an Afrobeats kind of vibe. The emerging Detroit artist is still feeling more than the usual encouragement after winning T-Pain's March Music Madness earlier this year. "Ya'll Be Safe Tho" is just one side of Asaka's multi-genre sound. Fans are still locked into the R&B of "Think Of You" that T-Pain shared with followers. "Ya'll Be Safe Tho" is the prelude to Asaka's next mixtape coming out in the fall. Stay tuned for more from Asaka as he continues to churn out infectious tunes for the soul.

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## Watch: Amaria's Video For Dream Of You

Amaria makes sure to deliver something for summer playlists before the season is over with "Dream Of You." The soft-spoken chanteuse expresses her feelings with classic grooves in the vein of '90s soul. She also lent her voice to Solomon Fox's ["Fallin Back,"](#) and both songs are her latest, as it was almost a year ago when she released her third album, *Free Fallin*.

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Questlove, Anna Fantastic & More Attend IMAX L.A. Screening Of Prince's Sign O' The Times







Questlove, Prince muse Anna Fantastic and Billboard hip-hop editor Gail Mitchell were in the crowd that attended the IMAX screening of Prince's *Sign O' The Times* in Los Angeles Tuesday night. Mitchell opened the event with remarks and Prince's childhood friend and estate representative Charles Spicer Jr. introduced the film. The attendees had a pre-show celebration in a room decorated in purple and they honored Prince's contributions to music and pop culture and his lasting influence. The Roots' co-founder and drummer Questlove, who also got to share the stage with Prince, was snapped with Anna Fantastic, who inspired "Pink Cashmere" and "Lemon Crush." Prince's legendary lighting designer LeRoy Bennett; actors Kingston Rumi Southwick (*Presumed Innocent*), Kelvin Brown, and Anika Poitier (actress/director and daughter of Sidney Poitier); DJ Alix Brown; filmmaker/DJ Michelle Kath Sinclair; content creator Ashamad Heard; influencer Simply SashaAnne and a mix of cultural creatives and industry folk got a first look at the IMAX version of the film. *Sign O' The Times* was Prince's second double album and third movie. The album was the next level of Prince's innovations in pop music and the movie captured one of his peak moments as a live performer. The IMAX film opens in theaters today for a one-week run and tickets are available through the [IMAX site](#).





Charles Spicer Jr. of the Prince Estate



Gail Mitchell and Alexis Simpson



*Anita Poitier and Fashion Designer Allison*







*Questlove and Anna Fantastic*

