

Prince Fans Get Fed-Up



In an extraordinary, but not unfamiliar move, the rock legend Prince is using an army of lawyers to launch attacks on his own fans.

Several of the largest web communities dedicated to the artist have received notices to cease and desist all use of photographs, images, lyrics, album covers and anything linked to Prince's likeness.

It is our opinion that these threats are not made in an attempt to enforce valid copyright as Prince alleges in his threats, rather we believe they are attempts to stifle all critical commentary about Prince. We strongly believe that such actions are in violation of the freedom of speech and should not be allowed. Prince claims that fansites are not allowed to present any artwork with Prince's likeness, to the extreme that he has demanded removal of fan's own photographs of their Prince inspired tattoos and their vehicles displaying Prince inspired license plates.

Prince's representatives have requested that the fansites provide them with "substantive details of the means by which you [the fansites] propose to compensate our clients [Paisley Park Enterprises, NPG Records and Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG)] for damages..."

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Michael Gonzales On Greg Tate

This morning, I couldn't write. Though I'm on deadline to finish a Village Voice critique about my favorite band Apollo Heights (whose disc *White Music for Black People* should be blasting from your boombox right now, since it's the perfect soundtrack for the forthcoming narrative), I can't wrap my mind around a review at this moment.

Instead, I sat down at the keyboard and chopped-up a textual testimonial to one of my favorite writers, once known as Ironman.

Last Friday evening at the Studio Museum of Harlem on a 125th Street, a bunch of the New York Niggerati (and a few palefaces) gathered to pay homage to cultural critic, short story writer, musician and Black aesthetic lighting rod Greg Tate. Looking as young as the day I first met him more than two decades before (black don't crack), it was amazing that the brother was turning fifty years old.

With familiar folks like Vernon Reid, Dream Hampton, Kevin Powell, Maureen McMahon (whose 2004 tome *Right to Rock: The Black Rock Coalition and the Cultural Politics of Race* is a must buy), Charles Stone III, Trey Ellis, Bruce Mack, Karen R. Good, Arthur Jafa, Nicole Moore and others in attendance, all were gathered to celebrate the birthday and legacy of the Afro-American king of funky critical bop.

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Keyshia Cole 2: The Way It Is



NEW YORK “ October 23, 2007 “ R&B diva Keyshia Cole is back and more compelling than ever in the second season of BET’s hit docu-drama KEYSHIA COLE 2: THE WAY IT IS. During this season, which premieres on Tuesday, October 30 at 10:30 PM*, Keyshia attempts to deal with all of her family drama while putting the finishing touches on her new CD, Just Like You.

In its inaugural season, the hit series was hailed by critics, including the New York Daily News, which said “[Keyshia Cole] is a refreshing revelation in a star’s life.” Vibe Magazine said, “... [W]ith the cameras rolling, music fans get a chance to witness Cole’s realness, which is ironically a rarity in reality TV,” and TV Guide said, “Ashlee who? There’s a new diva on the reality scene, only this one is mad talented instead of a lip-synching punch line.”

The first season of the top-rated Keyshia Cole: The Way It Is gave viewers insight into what it took for Keyshia to rise up from her troubled past as the daughter of a drug addict growing up in Oakland, Calif., to become a critically acclaimed, platinum-selling R&B superstar. This season, Keyshia has invited several members of her family to live in her multi-million dollar Atlanta mansion, including her mother, recently released from prison after serving three years for drug-related charges, and her sister, Neffie, who suffers from alcoholism. For her mother and sister it’s a lofty premise, until they realize that they have to play by her rules “ one of which includes no men in the house.

“No company? Are we just going to look at each other? Are we in prison? We don’t get no conjugal visits?” Neffie complains.

“I still feel locked up,” says her mother Frankie. “That’s not a good way to feel, especially since I’m free. I don’t want to feel locked up, so I gotta do me.”

Keyshia soon questions whether her efforts to provide her family with such a cushy existence are really worth the toll it is taking on her personally. When she realizes that she cannot balance the pressures of her career with trying to help her mother and sister adapt to their new surroundings and sobriety, she seeks professional help.

KEYSHIA COLE 2: THE WAY IT IS is executive produced by James Dubose of Dubose Entertainment and BET.

For up-to-the-minute and archival press information including releases and photographs, visit BET's press-only Web site at www.bet.com/pr.

* All times ET/PT

Gold Selling R&B Star, Tweet To Release 3rd Album, "Love, Tweet" On Jheryl Busby's Umbrella Recordings

Gold-selling R&B songstress Tweet is set to release her third (3rd) album, Love, Tweet on Jheryl Busby's Umbrella Recordings on April 8, 2008. Tweet officially came on the music scene in 2002 under the tutelage of the talented Missy Elliott with her first release the gold-selling Southern Hummingbird. The top 5 album spawned a #1 hit single with "Oops (Oh My)" a risque' song about self love. Soon-there-after a list of who's who from Madonna to Angie Stone to Mark Ronson called to work with the rising star. She released her 2nd album, It's Me Again, in

2005 again with Missy Elliott. It's Me Again was a Top 20 album on the Billboard charts and now with her third album, Love, Tweet, the "King of the South," T.I., lends a hand with Tweet's buzz single "Good Bye My Dear" which he produced and is featured on.

"'Good Bye My Dear' has that Atlanta sound, which I like," says Tweet. "Marz [the producer] called me one night and asked me to come by the studio, Grand Hustle, and it just happened. I always wanted to work with T.I. and didn't know how soon it would happen. But the opportunity came about and I went for it!" In addition to T.I., Love, Tweet features production by producers such as Nisan Stewart (who worked with Tweet and Missy on previous recordings), Warren Campbell, and Novel who has produced the official 1st single "Anymore."

Umbrella Recordings' first release was on five decade diva Patti Labelle where she released her first gospel album, the #1 charting The Gospel According to Patti Labelle. The company's second (2nd) release was Carl Thomas' "So Much Better."

"Time will underscore the fact Tweet is one of the most talented vocal stylists to ever stand behind a mike. Known for her vocal harmonies and strong song writing, Tweet delivers her best most diverse release in her young career." says Jheryl Busby. Tweet recently performed in honor of Missy Elliott on this year's VH1 "Hip Hop Honors."