

The First Annual VH1 Soul Presents: VIBE Awards Special premieres on VH1 Soul Wednesday, November 14 at 9PM*



NEW YORK, NY September 7, 2007 –“ VH1 Soul breathes new life into VIBE magazine’s celebration of urban music, lifestyle and culture with VH1 Soul Presents: VIBE Awards Special. Hosted by Eve and premiering on VH1 Soul Wednesday, November 14 at 9PM* and on VH1 Monday, November 19 at 10PM*, this one-hour special will highlight music artists and trend-setters whom have inspired us through their contributions to urban culture.

Focusing on music and lifestyle achievements, this year’s categories are Hip Hop Artist of the Year, R&B Artist of the Year, Best Collabo, Breakthrough Artist of the Year, Producer of the Year, Song of the Year, Video of the Year, VStyle, VIBE Props, Mixtape of the Year, Ringtone of the Year and VHollywood. (See Attached).

From September 5 through September 30, viewers can log on to vibeawards.vh1.com and vote for the VH1 Soul Presents: VIBE Awards Special winners.

Eve, the Grammy-award winning rapper, singer, and actress has sold millions of albums during her musical career. Eve’s first three albums have already reached over 4.8 million copies sold in the U. S. alone. In 2003, Eve became the star of her own TV show, “Eve,” which lasted for 3 seasons and has also achieved success in fashion with her Fetish clothing line. Eve’s™ fourth album, Here I Am is in stores October 2007.

VH1 Soul Presents: VIBE Awards Special is executive produced by Jac Benson II for blacjac Entertainment Group. Keshia Williams and Lee Rolontz are executive producers for VH1.

Launched in 1997, VH1 Soul is the 24-hour network that brings music lovers the hottest, soul, neo-soul and R&B hits from the 90s and today featuring core artists such as Alicia Keys, Jill Scott, Outkast, Mary J. Blige and Usher. VH1 Soul, the premier source for all R&B and soul music, is now seen in the Top 20 U.S. markets for African-Americans and is available in nearly 20 million U.S. households.

VIBE Media Group, an affiliate of The Wicks Group of Companies, L.L.C., is a leading music/lifestyle media company that publishes the award-winning VIBE magazine, the preeminent brand in urban and music culture, which was founded by Quincy Jones in 1993. Additional VIBE Media Group properties include Vibe.com; Comcast's VIBE video-on-demand channel; The VIBE Awards; the wireless content service mVibe; and VIBE Books, which published The New York Times bestseller, Tupac Shakur.

*All Times ET/PT

VH1 Soul Presents: VIBE Awards Special Categories:

Hip Hop Artist of the Year

T.I.

Diddy

Lil Wayne

Jay-Z

R&B Artist of the Year

Ne-Yo

R. Kelly

T-Pain

Beyoncé

Best Collabo

R Kelly duet with Usher "Same Girl"

Fabulous featuring Ne-Yo "Make Me Better"

DJ Khaled/T.I./Akon/Rick Ross/Fat Joe/Lil Wayne/Baby "We Takin'™ Over"

Ludacris featuring Mary J. Blige "Runaway Love"

Breakthrough Artist of the Year

Robin Thicke

Rich Boy

Amy Winehouse

Chrisette Michele

Producer of the Year

Timbaland

Scott Storch

Swizz Beatz

Polow Da Don

Song of the Year

"Lost Without U" Robin Thicke

"Irreplaceable" BeyoncÃ©

"Buy U A Drank" T-Pain featuring Yung Joc

"We Fly High" Jim Jones

Video of the Year

"Runaway Love" Ludacris featuring Mary. J. Blige

"Get Me Bodied" BeyoncÃ©

â€œUmbrellaâ€ Rihanna featuring Jay-Z

â€œSame Girlâ€ R. Kelly/ duet with Usher

VStyle

BeyoncÃ©

Diddy

T.I.

Kanye West

Kimora Lee Simmons

VIBE Props

Stephon Marbury

Jay-Z

Barack Obama
Oprah Winfrey

Mixtape of the Year
Kanye West "Can't Tell Me Nothing"
Lil Wayne "Da Drought III"
DJ Drama "Gangsta Grillz 16"

DJ Soul "Assorted Donuts"

Ringtone of the Year
"We Fly High" Jim Jones
"This Is Why I'm Hot" Mims
"Lip Gloss" Lil Mama
"Party Like a Rockstar" Shop Boyz
"Walk It Out" Unk

VHollywood
Ice Cube
T.I.
Jennifer Hudson
Will Smith

Keyshia Cole To Perform National Anthem At NFL Opener



Rock & Roll, R&B and gospel soul will fill the RCA Dome during the "NFL OPENING KICKOFF 2007 PRESENTED BY SPRINT" on Thursday, September 6.

Award-winning R&B singer-songwriter KEYSHIA COLE will be joined by Ft. Wayne, Indiana's VOICES OF UNITY YOUTH CHOIR in singing the National Anthem to kick off the 2007 NFL season. Indiana legend JOHN MELLENCAMP will celebrate his Super Bowl XLI champion Indianapolis Colts with a live performance.

As part of the show, the anthem and the celebratory moment will be televised live from 8 – 8:30 PM ET on NBC and the NFL Network and leads into the season opener between the Indianapolis Colts and the New Orleans Saints (NBC, Westwood One Radio Sports, 8:30 PM ET). For the first time, the live pregame broadcast will also be available via NFL Mobile on Sprint's wireless service to Power Vision pack subscribers with multimedia enabled phones.

The performances are part of the celebration to kick off the 2007 season and to honor the Super Bowl champion Indianapolis Colts and the city of Indianapolis.

KEYSHIA COLE is an award-winning and chart-topping R&B artist producing five #1 songs in a span of two years, including collaborations with Diddy and Sean Paul. The follow-up to Cole's platinum selling debut album, "Just Like You," is due for release on September 25th.

VOICES OF UNITY YOUTH CHOIR most recently visited the RCA Dome in November 2006 when they sang the national anthem in front of a sold-out crowd and national television audience. The Voices of Unity Youth Choir is the youth choral program of Unity Performing Arts Foundation, the first phase of a multi-faceted artistic vision that includes vocal music, dance, drama, oratory, creative writing and instrumental music. It is comprised of young people ages 9 through 20 from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.

As previously announced, FAITH HILL, KELLY CLARKSON and HINDER will perform during a free concert open to the public at Monument Circle parts of which will air live during the

special pregame show.

This is the fourth consecutive year the NFL has saluted the Super Bowl champions with the opening game in their stadium on a Thursday in primetime.

NFL OPENING KICKOFF 2007 is an NFL NETWORK PRODUCTION and will be executive produced and directed by WHITE CHERRY ENTERTAINMENT and DON MISCHER PRODUCTIONS, the producers of the Super Bowl pregame and halftime shows.

In addition to presenting sponsor Sprint, top tier sponsors for the NFL's kickoff platform include Coors Light, Diet Pepsi MAX, EA Sports and GMC.

Electro-Soul Vocalist Jennifer Johns Tours w/ KRS-1 & Releases "Painting on Wax"



August 22, 2007 " Los Angeles, California – Vacillating between Hip-Hop, R&B, Soul, Electronica, Funk, Reggae and every kind of rhythm in between, sultry voiced Jennifer Johns crafts stirring tunes that are both heart-rending and head-bobbing. The Oakland, California music powerhouse proved herself as a potent interpreter of taboo desires with a passion for creating "Electric Hip-Soul," on her critically-hailed debut,

heavyelectromagneticsoularpoeticjunglehop, showing up & coming singers/songwriters/lyricists/producers how itâ€™s done.

“It is not every day that an artist achieves the ability to stir the heart and soul through song and vibration. My heart has not yet stopped stirring since I have heard Jennifer Johns.” KRS-One

Jennifer Johns, another locally bred singer on the verge of an artistic breakthrough whose oversized personality matches her talent. Another Bay Area-bred singer on the verge of an artistic and commercial breakthrough is Jennifer Johns. She’s an Oakland native who’s toiled for years, opening shows for national artists such as KRS-One and touring with alt-hop fan favorites Blackalicious. Johns’ 2004 debut album, “Heavyelectromagneticsoularpoeticjunglehop,” was an eclectic fusion of electronic beats and organic vocals, which touched on everything from hip-hop to soul to drum and bass to spoken word. Johns’ second album, titled “Painting on Wax,” looks to build on that foundation considerably, with production by Grammy-nominated producers Spontaneous (Mystic) and Charles Stella (Norah Jones), as well as local stalwart Amp Live (Zion-I, Goapele).
San Francisco Chronicle

Johns is one of the most promising voices in indie soul music today. Recently signed to Hiero Imperium Records alongside famed underground hip hop artists Casual, Del the Funkie Homosapien, Domino, Pep Love and Souls of Mischief, her triumphant sophomore album Painting on Wax is a compelling overload, combining warm, seductive vocals and vintage R&B with a funky new-age twist. Her music is a celebration of love and life; a powerful package of brilliant songwriting and flawless harmonizing. She still has that demure California charm about herself and a unique vulnerability that paints a picture of a young woman with an old soul full of timeless, liberated melodies. Although it was predominately West Indian rhythms that filled her home as a young girl, Jennifer says it was somewhere between Slick Rick and Doug E. Fresh’s “The

Show", Rakim's "Know What's on Your Mind", and Queen Latifah's "Ladies First" that she first fell in love with hip-hop music and soon identified as a part of the culture.

"Oakland native Jennifer Johns will inevitably draw comparisons to Jill Scott, and possibly fellow Oakland Youth Chorus alumnus Goapele, but be clear Johns is her own artist. From the opening 808 kick of "Heavy" to the spoken word/D&B of "Do You Believe in Love" to the doleful ambitious cover of Sade's "Cherish the Day" Johns proves that she's an original voice." XLR8R Magazine

Currently on tour with the exquisite and elegant French/African duo Les Nubians Johns is an exceptionally graceful artist who got her start by hitting high notes in the church and school choirs. It was her experience performing with the multi-cultural Oakland Youth Chorus alongside soul pioneers Goapele and LaToya London, where she received her comprehensive training. Allowing her boisterous pipes to branch out and extend across Adult Contemporary and Hip-Hop, Johns boldly stakes out her own turf on her sophomore effort, *Painting On Wax*, a title that symbolizes the calm after the storm. "I was coming out of a painful relationship during the recording of my first album and had a lot of emotional experiences. I felt as if I had poured everything out of me; like I had bled on wax. So I felt that this time around, I would much rather paint."

"Mademoiselle Jennifer Johns incontournable souffle de musique avoir et à écouter car la vie, c'est maintenant." Les Nubians

"Like it's mouthful of a title suggest, John's musical offerings merges elements from all over the place, from the bumping drum n' bass rhythms of it's title track to a dream Massive Attack style treatment of "Cherish the Day". And while covering someone as singular as Sade might prove tricky for many up and coming artists, John's husky, honeyed vocals

possess polish and poise (honed through her years with the Oakland Youth Chorus and performances with artists like De La Soul, Medusa and Mystic) that anchor the track, and the entire album, in John's eclectic yet organic sound." San Francisco Bay Guardian

The dazzling 12-track composition is a perfect balance of genuine, intoxicatingly erotic slow burners and feel-good vocal confections that are full of life. While the first single, "Move With It", as well as "Goody Goody Gumdrops," contain trunk rattling bass signifying certified club anthems, "Nasty" is on the opposite end of the spectrum; a clever cocktail of 80's-era electro-Pop with sexually charged lyricism. On "Ghetto International", the talented tunesmith calls on a bevy of talented California artists from the underground Hip-Hop scene to join her in a global jam fest where you find Palestinian and Panamanian MCs rhyming in their native languages. The Latin-flavored dancehall jam, "Get Up" was co-produced by Johns and is an exuberant funhouse of a record that makes you want to crank up the volume and do just what it says. "Chasing The Sun" is another musical gem in which Johns also co-produced, and is a beautiful expression of her spirituality and electro-soul. With guest appearances by Gift of Gab from Blackalicious and Zion of Zion-I, and Kaz Kyzah of the Team to name a few; production provided by Amp Live (Zion I, Linkin Park, Goapele and Grammy nominees Spontaneous (Mystic) and Charles Stella (Wax Poetic and Norah Jones), Painting on Wax is a musical masterpiece.

"You may have noticed a progression of talented female vocalists from the Bay Area recently: Ledisi, Goapele, Mystic, LaToya London, Jennifer Johns, Femi. All are stylistically diverse artists who have redefined the urban soul genre! Performing in a recent underground hip-hop show at West Oakland's 2232 MLK, the spoken-word poet and soul diva Jennifer Johns nearly stole all the shine from her sassy

cohort Jean Grae. After all, few can resist the heft and deliciousness of Johns' voice, which bears a rich inheritance from old-school jazz and blues women, harkening to forebears like Mavis Staples and Sweet Honey in the Rock.â€ East Bay Express Newspaper

The standout songstress has opened for some of the most respected names in the industry including Lauryn Hill, Mos Def, Common, Capelton, Black Eyed Peas, Slum Village, Lyfe Jennings, Zap Mama, De La Soul, Mary J. Blige, Chaka Khan, Missy Elliott, Be el Gilberto, Les Nubians, The Roots, and many more. Beginning October 2007 Johns will travel and perform alongside legendary hip hop icon KRS-One during the â€œI Am Hip Hopâ€ Tour which shares the same name as his honor at the upcoming 2007 BET Hip Hop Awards. Her music abounds with experiences that are both familiar and inspiring, which is an instant reminder of her hit making prowess. In addition to amplifying her voice for the masses, Johns also lends her time to a variety of community based organizations, namely after-school music programs. She sits on the board of Girlfest, an organization that raises awareness for battered women and children, in addition to working with Youth Speaks in California and Sybarite Productions Artist Development Center in New York- both programs that support young people and the arts through poetry, music, dance and performance.

â€œClassic hip-hop beats are freshened up with the sultry vocal harmonies and showering flows of Jennifer Johns. While honing her singing skills in the Oakland Youth Chorus, the sexy songstress/MC fell in love with hip-hop culture and decided to meld her R&B ambitions with boom-bap rap. The versatile Johns is well on her way to establishing herself as one of hip-hop soul's elite.â€ Chicago Tribune

â€œJennifer Johns is a powerful performer. In front of hundreds of people at local stage shows in Berkeley and Oakland, Iâ€™ve seen her captivate the crowd and bare her soul, undeterred and in pure neo-soul fashion. Her music is

off the hook too, with fierce punches of funk, dub reggae, social commentary and raw emotion, mixed with hip-hop beats, deejay tricks, and natural percussion.â€” Shout Magazine

Describing her poignant album as â€œsexy, b-girl-woman, international electro-soul-dance-hip hop experience,â€” the left coast diva who was influenced as equally by Sade, Whitney Houston, Lauryn Hill and Sweet Honey in the Rock as she was by Bob Marley, Earth, Wind & Fire, Paul Simon, Phoebe Snow and Jay-Z has successfully created a record of new material as durable as her old.

â€œOakland based soul sister Jennifer Johns will no doubt move you to raise your fist in the air in solidarity and peace.â€” 7x7 Magazine

â€œIn the same vein as Eryka Badu, Lauryn Hill and Jill Scott, but with her own style, spoken word artist and soulful singer Jennifer Johns impresses on this release. Overtop a range of electric beats and sonic breaks mainly provided by Spontaneous, atmospheric additions from live instruments and R&B vocals are well produced to create an alternative for the more popular sounds of the Neptunes and the like. Johns comes off easily appealing with provocative production and a sexy delivery of her voice.â€” Impact Press

â€œOnce the audience was sufficiently aroused with poetic foreplay, Jennifer Johns took the stage. The background music was an instrumental of Tupac's â€œHail Mary,â€” and the crowd moved as one to the hip-hop-electro-reggae-funk. Johns moved smoothly on stage to melodic rhythms and lifted her feet one at a time, although against the backdrop of the night it seemed like she could fly. It was surreal. Beneath Johns' entrancing voice, DJ Solo mixed and scratched with the skill of a surgeon. Johns performed into the early hours of Saturday morning, free styling while DJ Systematic spun a soundscape of dance hall reggae. It was surely Alaskan Hip-Hop History. We all bore witness to a star on her flight to fame.â€” Anchorage

Press Newspaper

New York tastemakers, trendsetters and industry executives are cordially invited to attend "Re-Living Voluptuous Living," an exclusive non-profit event to raise money and benefit Sybarite Productions' Artist Development School and New York Dance division. The show will highlight musical artist Jennifer Johns as well as include independently choreographed routines from famed urban choreographers including Tanisha Scott (Sean Paul, Beenie Man), Eric Negrón (Destiny Child, Missy Elliott), Tweety (MTV's Dances from the Hood) and Marc Inniss (Amerie, Fabolous, P. Diddy, Elephant Man). "Re-Living Voluptuous Living" will also include a fashion extravaganza, featuring collections from such prominent designers as Adidas, Dickies Girl, Mecca, Brooklyn Xpress and LRG/Luxirie. This monumental and necessary artistic event will take place at New York's prestigious S.O.B.'s (204 Varick St. @ W. Houston) on Tuesday, August 21st from 10pm-2am.

Keyshia Cole Headlines New Tour



Santa Monica, CA Aug 10, 2007 Award winning R&B star Keyshia Cole is kicking off her House Of Blues concert tour today, August 10th in Minneapolis, Minnesota as her latest hit "Let It Go" produced by Missy Elliott and featuring Missy and Lil' Kim has vaulted into the top five on the Billboard and Radio & Records R&B/Hip-Hop charts. Keyshia will headline shows in

twenty cities through September 9th where she ends the tour in Seattle, Washington. Kon Live/Geffen Records comrade and R&B vocalist Ray Lavender (Akon's artist) and Capitol Records J. Holiday perform as her opening acts.

Keyshia will follow-up up her debut platinum-selling CD *The Way It Is* and four #1 singles: "Should Have Cheated," "Love," "Give It Up To Me," with Sean Paul and "Last Night" with Diddy with her second album *Just Like You* on Geffen Records which is scheduled to be released on September 25th. Once again she's collaborated with several A-list producers including Geffen Chairman Ron Fair, Rodney Jerkins, Baby Face, Scott Storch and Bryan Michael Cox. In addition to features by Missy Elliot and Lil Kim, Keyshia's Oakland homeboy Too Short and R&B soul singer Anthony Hamilton grace the album as well.

The Benny Boom-directed video for the first single, "Let It Go," featuring Missy and Lil' Kim premiered one month ago and is in heavy rotation on BET, MTV and VH1 and is a dazzling combination of three dynamic and entertaining women in music today.

As Keyshia puts the finishing touches on her sophomore release, she's also very busy working on season two of her BET reality show "The Way It Is 2" which she is executive producing with her manager Manny Halley. She will also make her movie debut in the upcoming MTV film "How She Moves" due to be released in January 2008.

The Oakland native established herself as a fan and critic favorite with one of the biggest hits of 2005, "I Should Have Cheated," followed by one of the most played songs of 2006, "Love"- both from *The Way It Is*. She earned the Vibe Next Award and also received numerous nominations at the BET Awards, Soul Train Music Awards, American Music Awards and NAACP Image Awards.

Earlier this year "Love" was honored with a 2007 ASCAP Award for R&B/Hip-Hop Song. Keyshia is also up for a 2007 Teen

Choice Award for her collaboration "Last Night" with Diddy.

KEYSHIA COLE TOUR DATES

Date City Venue Fri 08/10/07 Minneapolis, MN Trocadero Sat 08/11/07 Milwaukee, WI The Rave Eagles Club Sun 08/12/07 Chicago, IL House Of Blues Tue 08/14/07 Cleveland, OH House Of Blues Fri 08/17/07 Washington, DC Love Sat 08/18/07 Atlantic City, NJ House Of Blues Sun 08/19/07 New York, NY Nokia Theatre Times Square Tue 08/21/07 Norfolk, VA The NorVa Fri 08/24/07 North Myrtle Beach, SC House Of Blues Sat 08/25/07 Atlanta, GA Center Stage Sun 08/26/07 Lake Buena Vista, FL House Of Blues Wed 08/29/07 New Orleans, LA House Of Blues Thu 08/30/07 Dallas, TX House Of Blues Sat 09/01/07 Las Vegas, NV House Of Blues Sun 09/02/07 West Hollywood, CA House Of Blues Mon 09/03/07 West Hollywood, CA House Of Blues Wed 09/05/07 San Diego, CA 4th & B Concert Theater Thu 09/06/07 Anaheim, CA House Of Blues Fri 09/07/07 San Francisco, CA Mezzanine Sun 09/09/07 Seattle, WA The Showbox