

Scion Presents: Australian Characters – Sept 15th



Los Angeles – Sept. 2007 – Scion goes international with Australian Characters, the latest art show at its 4,500 square foot Installation L.A. Gallery. The show features Australian artists Amanda Shelsher, Stormie Mills, Jodee Knowles, Leon vs Pippa and Frances Andrijich reclaiming the representation of their country and its history.

“Due in large part to early colonization, Australia has one of the most culturally diverse populations on the planet,” said curator and Aussie Stormie Mills. “Prior to anyone arriving in the country it was gainfully inhabited by mainly nomadic and largely peaceful aboriginal tribes. It wasn’t until Captain Cook landed his ship in Botany Bay [now a suburb of Sydney] in 1770, and therein opening the floodgates for ship loads of thieves and reprobates in quantities too large for the prisons systems of Great Britain, that everything changed. Nowadays the wiry smile, the quick wit and steel handshake are firmly ingrained across all cultural ethnicities in cities, country towns and stations. This small collective of West Australian artists are well versed in these characters and it’s these wider known [to us] and lesser known [to you] depictions of our country we bring, the characters, the larrikins, the dark and disturbed, it’s another view of our wide brown country, one we’re more comfortable with.”

The opening reception takes place September 15, 7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. and will run through September 29 at the Scion Installation LA Gallery, 3521 Helms Ave. (at National), Culver City, CA 90232. Artists will be present from Australia.

Dedicated to fostering independent artistic expression, the

Scion Installation L.A. Gallery is a space that allows artists to explore their creative visions. The new Scion Installation Gallery hosts art shows and art-related events for cutting-edge artists from across the globe. Due to success and growth, the Scion Installation L.A. Gallery recently moved from its Washington Boulevard location to Helms and National near the Hayden Tract area. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM and by appointment - 310.815.8840. For more information, visit www.scion.com/space.

About Scion:

Scion is the newest line of vehicles from Toyota Motor Sales (TMS), U.S.A., Inc. Developed with a new generation of youthful buyers in mind, Scion's mission is to provide distinctive products, the opportunity to personalize, and an innovative, consumer-driven process at the retail level. The Scion brand features three groundbreaking models: the all-new xD subcompact five-door; the xB, an urban utility vehicle with an iconic shape; and the tC sports coupe. For more information, visit www.scion.com.

Kimora Lee Simmons' Baby Phat Show And VIP Dinner: A Celebration Of Giving Green With Simmons' Jewelry Co's Green Bracelet



NEW YORK, NY (September 11th, 2007) – Kimora Lee Simmons turned her celebrity laden Baby Phat and KLS Collection Fashion Week show into a celebration of giving Green Friday night. The show, attended by Russell Simmons, Mary J. Blige, Olivia Palermo, Jamie-Lynn Sigler, Nick Cannon with fiancée Selita Ebanks, Star Jones, Mya and and Djimon Hounsou, promised attendees a first-class trip to St. Tropez, and delivered that and then some. Along with the candy colored hot pants, hoodies, monokinis and more, Kimora armed her models with what is rapidly becoming a symbol of giving back to Africa – the Simmons Jewelry Co's Green Bracelet.

Made of green malachite beads and a rough diamond, the bracelet was the brainchild of visionary and Simmons Jewelry co-founder Russell Simmons, upon his return from an African fact finding mission last December to see how diamonds were helping Africans in countries where they are a natural resource. The Green Bracelet sells for \$125 and more than \$20 from the sale of each goes back to Africa for education programs via the Simmons' created Diamond Empowerment Fund(TM)(D.E.F.).

Kimora also hosted a special VIP dinner following her show in honor of D.E.F.

The list of celebrities putting on the Green Bracelet to show their support of helping Africans help Africa keeps growing. At Fashion Rocks the previous night, the Green Bracelet had adorned the wrists of Jennifer Lopez, Usher, Mary J. Blige, Tyra Banks, Mischa Barton, Nicky Hilton and LL Cool J, among others.

"The Green Bracelet symbolizes giving and there's nothing sexier than that. I can't believe how gracious and sweet the celebrity community has been in supporting it," said Russell Simmons.

Celebrities are not the only ones that have access to this powerful Green Bracelet, it is also available for sale at

select retailers and on-line. Visit www.simmonsjewelryco.com for more information.

Mo'Nique, Let's Talk, Let's Test Foundation to Host Town Hall Meeting...



CHICAGO (Sept. 11, 2007) â€“ Demonstrating her passion to help end the HIV/AIDS crisis in the Black community, television and film star Moâ€™Nique will host â€œFight 4 Life,â€ a town hall meeting Sunday, September 16 at 3 p.m. at Chicago State University.

Lloyd Kelly, executive director of the Letâ€™s Talk, Letâ€™s Test Foundation and Dr. William Johnson, executive director of the Luck Care Center, will join Moâ€™Nique at CSU's Douglas Library Auditorium for this open and honest discussion on HIV/AIDS.

Mo'Nique is the host of "Showtime at the Apollo," the "BET Awards" and "Moâ€™Niqueâ€™s Fat Chance."

â€œMoâ€™nique is well known and well respected in the Black community and she should be commended for her commitment to ending HIV/AIDS in our community,â€ said Kelly. â€œShe keeps it real. Our hope is that this discussion will get people to understand that this disease is killing our community.â€

The Letâ€™s Talk, Letâ€™s Test Foundation and the Chicago

Department of Public Health are sponsoring the free event, which is open to the public.

The Let's Talk, Let's Test Foundation is dedicated to increasing awareness about the HIV/AIDS crisis in the Black community and has signed on to the National Call and Commitment to end the disease by 2012.

The call charges Black America:

- To develop a national commitment to reduce HIV rates by 50 percent during the next five years.

- To double the number of people who know their HIV status.

- To ensure that HIV-positive people are in appropriate treatment.

"This is a disease, not a disgrace. The stigma of HIV/AIDS is holding the African-American community back. We have turned this into a disease of sexuality instead of a sexually transmitted disease."

Smif N Wesson Return On 10-23-07 With The Album

Bucktown, USA—Duck Down Records announces the return of Smif N Wesson! Tek N Steele will return on 10-23-07 with the release of their 4th LP The Album.

Ever wonder who originally coined the phrase "Bucktown," the slang which has since become synonymous in the Urban landscape to describe the concrete borough? That's right,

Smif N Wesson's Tek & Steele.

Appearing under the name, Smif-N-Wessun, Tek and Steele's first-ever recorded experience dates back to fellow 'Bucktown' representatives and Boot Camp members, Black Moon's stellar LP, 1993's *Enta Da Stage*. Textured with the murky, dungeon-core production of Da Beatminerz, and crackling with the flavor of a reggae vocal long-forgotten, the collaboration would set the stage for the unique blend of sound clash street-speak which was to follow. And follow it they did—nearly 2 years later, when the fast-rising pair dropped their groundbreaking *Dah Shinin'* debut on Nervous Records. Acclaimed by both hip-hop and pop press alike, the record would feature an abundance of single-worthy cuts, including the now-classics, "Sound Bwoy Buriel", "Stand Strong", and "Bucktown." And the fans liked it too, copping enough copies during its opening week to ensure both a #1 slot on Billboard's Rap Album chart and #3 debut on its R&B measure—impressive stats for a new artist release in any genre.

By the time Tek & Steele began recording their sophomore LP, *Rude Awakening*, Duck Down had a new recording home and distribution deal with Priority Records and was the talk of the underground scene. But just as things looked ready to take off, Tek & Steele were served a cease and desist order from gun manufacturer Smith And Wesson, which banned them from being able to record under their original recording moniker Smif N Wesson; hence, when *Rude Awakening* was finally released in 1998, Tek & Steele were forced to release the LP as Cocoa Brovaz—a road block which would have crippled most artists with lesser talent. Though Tek & Steele signed a deal with former Indy Powerhouse Rawkus Records in 2000, it was short lived, as Rawkus folded its doors shortly after Tek & Steele had finished recording their Rawkus debut. Yet, the duo remained busy, as they stayed active by contributing to Rawkus' *Soundbombing II* (Get Up) and *SB III* (Spit Again) and appearing (Gun Talk) on Talib Kweli's

2002 release Quality.

In 2005, Smif N Wesson released their third LP, Reloaded, the integral and final piece to Duck Down's "Triple Threat" campaign (which also included releases from Buckshot & 9th Wonder (Chemistry) and Sean Price's solo-debut (Monkey Barz) and more recently Tek & Steele added their unique flows and deliveries to collective BCC efforts The Last Stand (2006) and Casualties Of War (2007).

After working with some of Hip-hop's great artists, Tupac, M.O.P., Mobb Deep, Talib Kweli and Aaliyah, on their latest opus, The Album, Smif N Wesson left their comfortable surroundings in Bucktown to seemingly reinvent their sound, as in a quaint studio in Sweden, Tek N Steele worked diligently for three weeks recording tracks with producers such as Ken Ring (who previously produced "Trading Places" off BCC's Last Stand album, and "Reloaded" off Smif N Wesson's Reloaded album), Tommy Tee (who produced "Church" on Sean Price's Jesus Price Supastar album), Rune Rotter, and Soul Theory. The Album's lead-single, "Stomp Thru" f/Rock (from Heltah Skeltah) and Joell Ortiz is already gaining considerable momentum!

After 14 storied years in the rap game, Smif N Wesson are back with their signature name and have created a personal reflection of their experiences in the music industry with The Album.

Download Link to "Stomp" f/ Rock & Joell Ortiz:
<http://www.zshare.net/audio/3593927c1c2187/>

Tracklisting and credits for Smif N Wesson's The Album:

- 1.) See The Light (produced by Ken Ring and Collen & Webb)
- 2.) Gotta Say it f/Chuckii Star (produced by Ken Ring and Collen & Webb)

- 3.) Trouble (produced by Ken Ring and Collen & Webb)
- 4.) K.I.M. 200 f/Loudmouf Choir
- 5.) P.N.C. For Life (produced by Ken Ring & Rune Rotter)
- 6.) Gangsta Prayer f/Million Styles (produced by Ken Ring & Rune Rotter)
- 7.) Stomp Thru f/Rock and Joell Ortiz (produced by Ken Ring and Collen & Webb)
- 8.) Who Gonna Save Us (produced by Ken Ring & Tommy Tee)
- 9.) Still Fighting (produced by Ken Ring and Collen & Webb)
- 10.) Yeah (produced by Ken Ring & Tommy Tee)
- 11.) Movie (produced by Ken Ring & Tommy Tee)
- 12.) Canâ€™t Stop (produced by Ken Ring & Soul Theory)
- 13.) Canâ€™t Feel My Face f/Loudmouf Choir (produced by Ken Ring & Tommy Tee)
- 14.) Still Here (produced by Ken Ring and Collen & Webb)