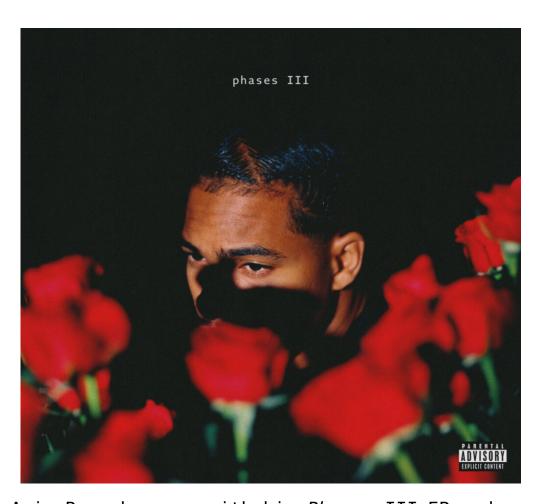
Arin Ray Drops Phases III EP & Video For Wait So Long



Arin Ray shows up with his *Phases III* EP and a video for "Wait So Long." The Cinncinati R&B singer-songwriter's career has been moving like a slow burn since his days as a post-X-Factor contestant. Phases III follows his 2022 *Hello Poison* album, and Ray's artistry is heralded as new R&B that respects the best of the genre that came before. "Moonlight" and "Cold (with Vanilla Is Black)" wholly embrace the future with a new voice but tout the influence of Usher. "Save It All" recalls the Junior M.A.F.I.A.'s use of Slyvia Stripling's "Can't Turn Me Away" in "Get Money. The Tricky Stewart-produced "Wait So Long" is the biggest fan favorite to date, and the visual is just as popular. Ray is constantly being labeled as one of the most underrated artists of his generation, but he told *Ebony* that the lack of visibility is due to his introverted nature.

Thankfully, fans will see him emerge from his shell with his tour kicking off in November.