

Media Questions Of The Week



Who will play Teena Marie
in her biopic?

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Busta Rhymes took the stage at the MTV VMAs on Sunday to accept the inaugural Rock the Bells Visionary Award and memorialized Ananda Lewis— despite the awards ceremony surprisingly paying the late TV legend they employed, dust. More on BOSSIP.com ? : @mtv

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Why didn't the VMAS pay tribute to Ananda Lewis?

Alia Rose Debuts With LIGHTSHOW Single



Alia Rose comes forth with her debut single “LIGHTSHOW.” The singer-songwriter taps into her sensuality in the video for the song about desire. She explains, ‘LIGHTSHOW’ is that feeling when you really want someone. It should feel like pure

fire. It's passion, sparks and fireworks. If the excitement isn't there, what's the point? You deserve a 'LIGHTSHOW!'" Rose is carving out her artistry after years of studying music and watching her mother the late soul legend Teena Marie. She recorded her album in 2020 which will be released in the summer of 2023.

Throwback: Teena Marie-I Need Your Lovin'



Teena Marie's *Irons In The Fire* was her third album and it was dedicated to her father who had passed three years earlier in 1976. By 1980 Marie was a respected soul star who had initially shocked fans because her Rick James-produced debut

album did not have a photo of her. She was an unusual sight as a white woman R&B star with a passionate mastery of the genre. *Irons In The Fire* was the first time she produced herself and she wrote the majority of the songs. “I Need Your Lovin'” was a bold uptempo party record introduced by Allan McGrier’s wicked bassline. The combination of jazzy horns blasting and classy strings in the arrangement made “I Need Your Lovin'” a disco-funk hybrid. Marie’s vocals came in with the force of a storm putting soul fans in awe of its layers of emotions. “I Need You Lovin'” went to number two on the Dance charts and solidified a lot of people’s feelings that she was the Ivory Queen Of Soul. Marie later admitted that *Irons In The Fire* was her favorite album and “I Need Your Lovin'” still highjack parties with its timeless grooves. I Need Your Lovin'” still highjacks parties with its timeless grooves and Marie’s posthumous legacy is still respected and free of any culture vulture criticisms.

Throwback: Teena Marie-Square Biz



Teena Marie’s “Square Biz” was a combination of her usual soul-quaking vocals with a rap influence. Her 1981 album *It Must Be Magic* was her fourth and final one for Motown. She had the rare privilege of being a woman artist who wrote and produced her music which she had done previously for her *Irons In The Fire* album. She referenced R&B, jazz, poetry and rap

in "Square Biz." Her unmistakable soprano made the innovative decision to rap on the song and she mentioned the poet Nikki Giovanni, a verse from the Sugar Hill Gang's "Rapper's Delight" and jazz singer Sarah Vaughn. "Square Biz" put Marie into a club of singers who have rapped and sang including Angie Stone, Queen Latifah and Erykah Badu. Commercially speaking, "Square Biz" did better than any of her other songs and helped *It Must Be Magic* achieve Gold status. The album also received a Grammy nomination for Best Female R&B Vocal Performance.Â

Teena Marie left Motown as the most successful solo white artist to have been signed to the label. *It Must Be Magic*Â was remastered and re-released in 2002 with three additional songs.Â

Marie's 14th and final album, *Beautiful* was posthumously released in 2013. Her daughter Alia Rose finished the recording because Marie passed in 2010 during the process. Teena Marie is regarded as one of the most important artists of the '80s and one of the few white singers to have mastered R&B.Â