

DOCUMENTARY PROPOSAL



JOHNNY 'J'
LEGEND
THE MAN BEHIND THE MUSIC

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Legend: The Man Behind the Music

A Documentary Proposal

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JOHNNY 'J'
Sold more than
100 Million records
Worldwide

SYNOPSIS

“Johnny 'J' Legend: The Man Behind the Music” is an ambitious 4-part documentary film targeted for audiences of the Hip Hop culture. Many know the story of the late, great, rap music icon, 2PAC Shakur, but few know the story of the producer behind the multi-platinum selling artist, Johnny 'J', who had a major role to play in the success of 2PAC, as well as many other artists.

2PAC is the highest selling rap artist of all time and this film takes an intimate look at Johnny 'J''s contributions to 2PAC's career and record sales of over 100 million worldwide. Although Johnny 'J' produced for other rap and R&B artists, the majority of his work was collaborating and co-producing with 2PAC. The two were the perfect match co-producing 5-6 songs per day, completing 150 songs. There is power in this film that gives us an opportunity to finally tell the story of a Latino born in Juarez Mexico, who played a vital role in the rap career of 2PAC which will empower, engage and enlighten both old and new generations of the Hip Hop culture.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

“Johnny “J” Legend: The Man Behind the Music” is a documentary about a man born in Juarez, Mexico. He was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, an African-American father and Latino-American mother, and raised in South Central, Los Angeles. They named him Johnny Jackson, so later the name Johnny “J” just stuck professionally. He attributed his distinctive sound to his heritage and listening to the Sounds of Philadelphia, Motown, and Stax Records, brought home by his father. At the age of three, his father bought him a drum set which he played every day and was

SMASH HIT SONGS

Are You Still Down
Thugz Cry
Nobody Can Stop Me
All About U
Picture Me Rollin
Made Niggaz

a major contribution to his success. Johnny “J” would stay in the Guitar Center and other electronic stores for hours making beats then finally bought a drum machine and keyboards to produce records.

This self-taught musician started creating tracks while in the high school drum line, as the first chair. He attended Washington

Preparatory High School, in Los Angeles and was in the marching band. Though he received a full scholarship to attend the Berkeley School of Music in Boston, he chose not to attend. Rightfully so, immediately after high school he produced his first platinum single “**Knockin’ Boots**” for fellow classmate and artist Candyman, with a platinum album “**Ain’t No Shame in My Game**” to follow. Johnny “J”’s hit with Candyman made him the first platinum selling rap artist on Epic Records in 1990. It also garnered him

Grammy and *American Music Award* nominations for the album and single.

The platinum selling single “**Knockin’ Boots**” garnered Johnny “J” major label success, and later paved the way for the platinum albums that would follow. Johnny “J” and 2PAC met in 1992 after 2PAC heard an underground record from **Big Syke**. They recorded nine songs together, in three days. Following those recordings in 1993, Johnny “J” produced 2PAC’s **Thug Life** hit single “**Pour Out a Little Liquor**” (from the multi-platinum selling

Above the Rim soundtrack) and the movie score for “**Above the Rim**”.

The song also appeared on the “**Thug Life Vol 1**” album that went platinum. Johnny “J” also produced a song on 2PAC’s 3rd solo album released in 1995, “**Me Against the World**” titled “**Death Around the Corner**”. These two songs were from the original nine songs that Johnny “J” recorded with 2PAC in 1992.

Johnny “J” and 2PAC had an incredible chemistry and would go on to make music history. In 1996, Johnny “J” produced and co-wrote eleven songs with 2PAC on the double album “**All Eyez On Me**”, which sold more than 15 million records in the U.S. alone. 2PAC’s first single “**How Do U Want It**” off the album sold more than 3 million copies, and was 2PAC’s first number one song across all

FILM AND SOUNTRACK

The Fan
The Big Hit
Gang Related
Gridlock ‘d
Don’t Sleep, Mark Wahlbergs

of **Billboard Magazine**, making this album the first rap album to enter the **Billboards #1** spot upon its initial release and rap's first double CD. The album and single were later nominated for *Grammy Awards*, *American Music Awards* and won a *Soul Train Award for Best Rap Song*.

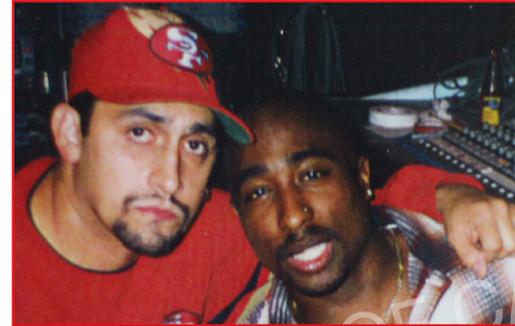
Prior to 2PAC's untimely death, Johnny "J" produced and co-wrote approximately 150 songs with him. Those recordings are now posthumous releases and Johnny "J" produced 17 songs on "**Until the End of Time**" and "**Better Dayz**" albums alike; three songs on "**Still I Rize**"; and seven songs on "**2PAC's Greatest Hits**", which has garnered sales in the tens of millions. After losing his music partner, Johnny "J" ventured into producing other artists and movie soundtracks.

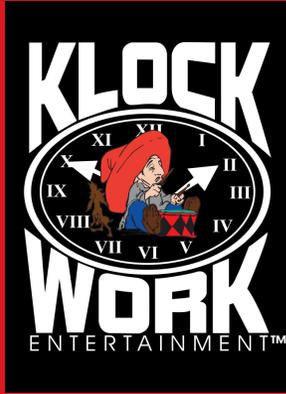
THE ARTISTS
2PAC
Jon B
Bizzy Bone
Tatyana Ali
Lil Eazy E

The first artist was Jon B, who was introduced to Johnny "J" after Jon B asked 2PAC, "who produced *his* records?", which happened while filming the video for "How Do U Want It" in which Johnny "J" later produced the 2PAC/Jon B collaboration "**Are You Still Down**" off of Jon B's **Cool Relax** CD, which was an original 2PAC song titled "**Tongue Kissin**". Both the album and single sold over 1 million copies. The first rap artist Johnny "J" produced after his musical partner was killed was Bizzy Bone. The collaboration spawned a Gold album, "**Heavenz Movie**", from the two singles that Johnny "J" produced "**Thugz Cry**" and "**Nobody Can Stop Me**".

Johnny "J" has produced and scored music for a number of movies and soundtracks such as, "**The Fan**", "**The Big Hit**", and Mark Wahlberg's last recorded song "**Don't Sleep**", "**Gang Related**", "**Super Cop**", and many others. Johnny "J" scored the entire DVD release of the documentary "**Thug Angel**", which sold over one million copies. He also scored the Oscar-nominated documentary film "**Tupac Resurrection**" which was a multi-platinum album.

Johnny "J" produced and co-wrote with 2PAC who is the highest selling rapper of all time. He played a huge role in helping Tupac transcend music, to become one of the most influential figures in voicing injustices through his music. Through new interviews with friends, family, collaborators and scholars we will take a look back at his life and the contributions he gave to Hip Hop through his electrifying music producing genius. His music lives on after his passing which continues to be played all over the world. Johnny "J" never received proper recognition for his work, so through this documentary we give you the life and career of the legend and the music that he left behind.





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Produced the biggest diss record of all time *Hit Em Up!* which appears on the B-side of the Multi-Platinum single *How Do U Want It*

75 million in sales,
Posthumous 2Pac Releases

Greatest Hits

Better Dayz (7)

Until The End Of Time (16)

Still I Rize (17)

Pac's Life (2)

Best of 2Pac

Part I Thug (2)

Part 2 Life (6)

Part I Life

R U Still Down (Remember Me)

Soundtracks and much more.