

May 21, 2023—ToxiPlays, the rising trap/hip-hop artist, has released a new mixtape titled *Rewind & Remix*. This is the first full-length project in the ToxiPlays discography. The mixtape pays homage to the greats of hip-hop such as Nas on “Broken Record” whilst acknowledging the status of the rap scene today on tracks like “BITE BACK! (TELL ME)” featuring [REDACTED].

Rewind & Remix is an eight-track album showing Toxi's unique blend of new-school trap with nostalgic sounds that are reminiscent of classic hip-hop. With guest appearances seasoned artists YUNG CEES and aurainairy, alongside the debuting juwunky and CofStars, it's hard to point out a boring moment on this mixtape. The mixtape is in its majority mixed by Toxi, apart from “BITE BACK!”.

ToxiPlays is excited to announce that *Rewind & Remix* is available for streaming on SoundCloud and YouTube. The mixtape is also the first album available on the Toxadil BandCamp.

We sat down with Toxi and asked her a few questions about the album. Here are her answers:

1. What inspired you to create *Rewind & Remix*?

I mainly wanted to create something that was a true throwback for the older fans of hip-hop (or people simply familiar with the history with hip-hop) whilst putting a new-school spin on it. This is a message I initially landed on with Starstruck, and I'm extremely glad to have delivered on it with this mixtape. So beautiful, man!

2. What was the recording process like for this mixtape?

Well... I don't know if it was anything you'd consider “extraordinary” [laughs]. What was different about this time, though... I'd say was the way I chunked it out. To get most of the album done, I recorded a singular song a day. Under any other context, I'd stress about creating full-length albums a lot because going the full distance felt daunting. But chunking it out to a song a day felt really secure and was a lot more manageable.

Every collab as well was done over the Internet, which I think is so beautiful. Nowadays, we can do everything on there. I forget that not everybody is able to do that all the time – it's a luxury that I'm not taking for granted, to say the least.

3. What was it like collaborating with the people that appear on the mixtape?

*I'd be lying if I said I also didn't have my doubtful periods about working with these people, but I'm so glad I could hold out. So many emotions ran through me throughout the course of creating *Rewind & Remix*, and all I can say “pre-release” is that I love the energy everyone was on, and I feel like we made a great match.*

4. What do you hope fans take away from *Rewind & Remix*?

...awfully deep, ain't it? [Laughs]. I guess this is really going back to my initial Starstruck message – the old and the new don't have to be these very disconnected concepts. We can all coexist and have fun, no big deal. I also feel like the fans, they are getting (maybe rightfully) sick of me not dropping an album for so long. Well, this is for you tired ones, and this is also for the ones that wanna have nothing but a good time.

I really hope that at least one track can resonate with as much listeners as it can. I know not everyone is a hypebeast, just as much as I know not everyone can be as emotionally-touched as other people – it doesn't matter to me. Luke 15:7 [King James Version] says, "...Joy shall be in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth...", so likewise; if someone walks away only enjoying one song, if they absolutely adore that song, then I feel accomplished enough.

5. What was your favorite track to create on this mixtape?

I really don't like choosing favorites. I could go on and on about every track. Besides – I'm an artist where I value the listeners' interpretation of my art, so I don't really interject my own opinions unless I have to, like if someone thinks I said something... I don't know, blatantly bigoted. [Chuckles].

But absolutely, hands down, if you forced me at gunpoint to choose... I'd choose "Broken Record". This is a story I planned to tell again on Starstruck, and – as I say in the intro – waiting for the entire album to be done for the story to be heard felt like I was inadvertently just bottling up the pain. Plus, I had more to say, didn't I? [Laughs]. But, yeah, I love being vulnerable in my music. It tones down the relatability, maybe, but I'm in it for me after all, not for anybody else.

6. What can fans expect from ToxiPlays in the future?

Firstly – love the question. I'd been waiting for an excuse to say the following for a bit.

I said at the release of "Keep the Faith" that "this is only the beginning". And now that it's in the season where I am really homing in on, they'd say, album mode, I feel like I'm unlocking a new chapter in my career, and it's definitely fixing to show in my musical output. As a matter of fact... I'm already working on the follow-up album to this one. It's going to be themed around the nostalgic vibes of playing around with an old Atari system. And this one is going to go on the big boys--Spotify and all that. What can you expect? Expect that I am going to be pulling some crazy stunts the entire rest of this year, and be there for the ride!

7. How has your style evolved since you first started making music?

I can remember my first solo song, “No Regrets”, that was released under the same capacity as I am doing music now. Since then, I’ve not only developed my lyrical skills, but I did a ton of work on my mixing and recording skills, and I also expanded my abilities outside of rap. I mean – this is the season of Darts At as well, you got to remember; “The Universe” is probably the weirdest song I’ve released in the context of my discography, but it’s beautiful. I’m branching out to contemporary gospel as well.

Also, forcing myself to study on the older aspects of hip-hop culture to apply myself to them forced me to get way out of my comfort zone, which was a principle that helped me so much in breaking out of my own box, genre-wise and otherwise. It may be just a remix tape, but it lowkey made me much more appreciative of the art of the original music. And, I’ll admit, the making of this project was the push I needed to actually dig deep into the roots of hip-hop culture. And I’m glad I did so. There’s a lot of classics I listened to that I haven’t shown, but greats like A Tribe Called Quest popped up on my radar. I can definitively say this project positively changed not just my style but me as a person.

8. What advice would you give to aspiring hip-hop artists?

[Vocalizing] Make money, but make sure that the money isn’t making you!

[Chuckles]. But on a serious note, fellas. This album exists despite so many thoughts that I was unworthy, that I was somehow defiling the art of hip-hop by doing what I do here. Those thoughts came way early on, and, had I listened to those thoughts, this greatness would’ve never happened. Sometimes, we have to come to terms with the fact that we are our biggest critic. That awareness helps me to not get too stuck in my head all the time. I mean, seriously – from the number of times I’ve caught myself disrespecting my own art when someone else meets it with praise -- it seems all too blatant for me now. But seriously. I had been trying at this album for years now, and I finally have one to my name. If you’re willing to put in the effort, and have the means to do so, then by all means you can do it. And you also don’t have to do it alone – I mean, this isn’t a solo tape, is it?

I love all my fellow artists. And I’m willing to support y’all any way I can, because I’m still a small dude myself. Artists support artists in this, y’know?

Thank you for having me.

~ FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ~

Rewind & Remix is a must-listen for fans of trap and hip-hop who appreciate classic sounds and new-school artists. ToxiPlays is an artist to watch in the hip-hop scene, and *Rewind & Remix* is a testament to her talent and unique sound.

For more information on ToxiPlays and *Rewind & Remix*, please see the video embedded below or follow her on social media.

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