

= 23 (song) =

" 23 " is a song by American record producer Mike Will Made It , featuring American recording artists Miley Cyrus , Wiz Khalifa and Juicy J ; it was released on September 10 , 2013 by Interscope Records . The song was written and produced by Mike Will Made It , with additional songwriting provided by Juicy J , Khalifa , Pierre Ramon Slaughter , and Rock City . " 23 " is set to a midtempo beat and lyrically references Air Jordan sneakers and recreational drug use .

" 23 " received generally mixed reviews from music critics , who were ambivalent towards its production and Cyrus ' rapping ability . It peaked at number 11 on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 , and charted moderately internationally . An accompanying music video was filmed in Brooklyn on August 26 , 2013 , and premiered through Vevo on September 24 , 2013 . It received mixed reviews from critics , who were divided in their opinions of its 1990s and high school influences . Cyrus performed the song during the first leg of her ongoing Bangerz Tour .

= = Production and composition = =

During the production of " 23 " , Mike Will Made It prepared a verse for himself to rap , which he originally planned to include alongside verses by Juicy J and Wiz Khalifa . However , after the latter two finished their respective recordings , Mike Will Made It decided that his contribution should be replaced by a woman . Mike Will Made It had recently finished producing Miley Cyrus ' track " We Can 't Stop " for her fourth studio album Bangerz (2013) when she first heard " 23 " and expressed interest in being included on the track . Mike Will Made It was initially hesitant of her suggestion , having met her earlier that day , although he " left her on there " after " she laid down the verse [and] killed it . "

" 23 " is a synth @-@ driven hip hop song set to a midtempo beat and contains elements of bass. and is distinguished in Cyrus ' catalog as the first track in which she raps . In the chorus , Cyrus mentions recreational drug use , particularly in the line " I ? m in the club high off purp with some shades on " . The track later transitions into the repeated hook " J 's on my feet " delivered by Juicy J , which references Air Jordan sneakers . Cyrus ' individual verse appears first , and is respectively followed by those by Khalifa and Juicy J.

= = Release and reception = =

Mike Will Made It first previewed a 25 @-@ second snippet of " 23 " on August 7 , 2013 , and announced that the full recording would be released on August 26 ; however , its release was eventually delayed . Its original single cover was unveiled by September 3 ; it features a modified version of Michael Jordan 's Chicago Bulls basketball jersey , and was designed by Kreemo of Atlanta , Georgia . The track was ultimately released on September 10 , and was serviced to rhythmic contemporary radio stations in the United States on September 17 .

" 23 " received generally mixed reviews from music critics , who were ambivalent towards its production and Cyrus ' rapping ability . In a favorable review , Mike Wass of Idolator was complimentary of Mike Will Made It 's " slick , multi @-@ layered production " and was indifferent towards Cyrus ' contributions . Sharing a similar sentiment , a writer for That Grape Juice stated that the artists " [gave] fans just what they want " , adding that they " [went] a long to make the jam the smash that it is . " Complex ranked " 23 " at number 23 on their list of the 50 best songs of 2013 , saying that Mike Will Made It knew that Miley would make this collaboration even better . However , in a more mixed review , Danielle Cheesman of MSN opined that " the song sounds like everything else Mike WiLL 's touched and turned to gold so it will be a smash but , much to Miley 's chagrin , it won 't be because of her " , and criticized Cyrus ' verses for " [stealing 2 Chainz 's] whole flow . " Tony Maglio from The Wrap also questioned her lyrical content , specifically criticizing the lyrics " I back it up , cause I don ? t give a fuck " and " I ? m MC Hammer fly . " Jordan Sargent from Spin called the track " far from Mike Will 's best work " and negatively compared Cyrus ' delivery to that of Lil Debbie .

= = Commercial performance = =

In the United States , " 23 " entered the Billboard Hot 100 at number 70 , and later peaked at number 11 . It additionally peaked at number 2 on the Billboard Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs component chart .

Elsewhere in North America , the track reached number 26 on the Canadian Hot 100 . In Europe , " 23 " respectively peaked at numbers 19 and 85 on the UK Singles Chart and the UK R & B Chart , both of which are organized by the Official Charts Company . The track respectively peaked at numbers 27 and 1 on the Ultratip component charts in Flanders and Wallonia , representing the fifty songs that failed to reach the flagship Ultratop chart in each Belgian region . It also peaked at number 31 on the French Syndicat National de l'Édition Phonographique , and number 44 on the Spanish Productores de Música de España . In Oceania , " 23 " reached number 39 on the Australian ARIA Charts and number 22 on the Official New Zealand Music Chart .

= = Music video = =

An accompanying music video for " 23 " was filmed in an undisclosed location in Brooklyn on August 26 , 2013 ; it was directed by Hannah Lux Davis . An advertisement for a casting call posted to Juicy J 's Instagram account requested " edgy , rebellious , sexy , [and] hood types " to appear as extras in the clip , and further stated that individuals " must wear [their] favorite pair of Jordans "

The music video was premiered through Vevo on September 24 . The music video takes place in a high school ; it begins with the school principal leaving his office , which Mike Will Made It enters and begins playing " 23 " on a Beats Pill over the intercom . Interspersed throughout are scenes of Cyrus wearing a bikini similar to Michael Jordan 's Chicago Bulls basketball jersey ; she is frequently shown smoking in the bathroom and writing on its mirrors with red lipstick . Khalifa raps his verse in a chemistry lab , while Juicy J 's verse is rapped in a trophy room . A school @-@ wide pep rally later takes place , where Cyrus is gyrating against Mike Will Made It and notably wearing the foam finger used in her controversial performance at the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards in August .

Critics were divided in their opinions for the music video . In a more favorable review , Zayda Rivera of Daily News stated that Cyrus is " undoubtedly the star of the video " and that the " ultimate cameo takes place when Cyrus brings back the infamous foam finger she waved and gyrated against during her MTV Video Music Awards performance " . Ray Rahman from Entertainment Weekly recognized the prominent 1990s influence throughout the clip , and felt it was " reminiscent " to the visuals for " Make ' Em Say Uhh ! " by Master P . In a more critical review , Carl Williott of Idolator opined that the music video was " sort of like a massive hip @-@ hop version of the " Smells Like Teen Spirit " video , with Air Jordans and Beats instead of anarchy symbols " , while Kayla Upadhyaya from The Michigan Daily called it a " pile of red and black vomit and a poorly edited mishmash of uninspired shots " .

= = Live performances = =

Cyrus performed the song during the first leg of her ongoing Bangerz Tour . During the second leg of the tour , " 23 " was replaced with The Beatles ' " Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds " . During the performance , Cyrus wore black @-@ and @-@ red Jordan 1s , a striped fishnet bikini and crotchless leather chaps with " Miley " scrawled down the side , through which she paid homage to Christina Aguilera 's " Dirrty " music video . Aguilera herself approved of the outfit and named Cyrus her dirrty girl successor , writing , " Cheers from one dirrty girl to the next @ MileyCyrus ... wear em ' loud & proud , girl- yes ! ! " on her Twitter account . Jane Stevenson of the Toronto Sun praised the performance and wrote that it saw Cyrus finally twerk it out with her dancers .

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =