

= Flashback (Ivy Queen album) =

Flashback is the fifth studio album by Puerto Rican reggaetón recording artist Ivy Queen , released on October 4 , 2005 through Univision and on September 15 , 2007 as Greatest Hits in Germany and Spain . It is often considered as a studio @-@ compilation release due to the amount of the album being previously released material . Queen began working on Flashback after the moderate success of Real in early 2005 . Featuring content dating back to 1995 , when she was still a part of the all @-@ male group The Noise , the album includes four new pieces of work all produced by Rafi Mercenario , the genre 's most requested record producer at the time .

The four tracks were written and recorded after the end of Queen 's nine @-@ year marriage to Omar Navarro , months before the album 's release . Lyrically , the remaining sixteen tracks tell stories of female empowerment , love and heartbreak and sociopolitical criticism . Following an international tour of South America which began in 2004 and presentations in the United States , Ivy Queen partnered with the co @-@ founder of Perfect Image Records , José Guadalupe , to form her own record label Filtro Musik and signed a distribution deal with Univision Music Group in 2005 . She was previously signed to Guadalupe 's independent label Perfect Image Records which was distributed by Universal Music Latino . The Flashback Tour was launched in September 2005 to promote the album .

It spawned three singles , " Cuéntale " , " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " , and " Libertad " , all of which reached the Top 10 of various Latin charts in the United States . Commercially successful in the Latin market , the album peaked at number ten on the Billboard Top Latin Albums chart , becoming her highest peak on that chart , until 2007 when her sixth studio album reached number four . Despite selling 5 @,@ 000 copies in its first week , it failed to debut on the Billboard 200 . It also reached number seven on the Billboard Top Heatseekers chart , number two on both the Billboard Top Heatseekers (Pacific) and Billboard Top Heatseekers (South Atlantic) chart . It reached number three on the newly instated Billboard Latin Rhythm Albums chart , making the album ineligible for the Tropical Albums and Reggae Albums charts , which had previously been dominated by Queen .

The album was met with generally positive reviews from music critics , who praised its lyrical content and musical production whilst some noticed that Queen 's 1998 duet with Haitian rapper Wyclef Jean , " In The Zone " , was missing from the track list . Critics also noted that there was scarce new material to be found on the album , but complimented the album 's track list . It became one of the best @-@ selling reggaetón albums of 2005 along with Real , when sales of both albums went " through the roof " . This gained Queen several nominations for awards . At the Billboard Latin Music Awards 2006 , it was nominated for " Reggaetón Album of the Year " and for " Urban Album of the Year " at the Premio Lo Nuestro 2007 award ceremony . It received a nomination for " Compilation Album of the Year " at the 2007 People 's Choice Reggaetón and Urban Awards .

= = Background = =

Following the commercial failure of her first two studio albums , Queen was dropped from the Sony label , and subsequently took a hiatus from her music career in 1999 . Beginning in 2001 , Queen began appearing on other artists ' reggaetón compilation albums from which many of the songs on this release originate . Queen returned to the music industry with her highly anticipated third studio album , Diva , which was critically acclaimed and later recognized as a factor in reggaeton 's mainstream exposure in 2004 along with Daddy Yankee 's Barrio Fino and Tego Calderon 's El Enemy de los Guasíbiri . Diva was later certified Platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America . She then began working on her fourth studio album Real . It too was a commercial success , albeit to a lesser extent , despite initially being Queen 's debut full @-@ length English @-@ language studio album . She then embarked on the " Reggaeton Tour 2004 " which also featured other artist such as Aldo Ranks and La Factoria . The tour touched upon various South American countries , including her first in Ecuador , where she performed songs such as " Papi Te Quiero " and " Tu No Puedes " to promote both Diva and Real . This followed presentations in

Atlanta , Brooklyn , and New York City , where she was designated as the " Puerto Rico Youth God Mother of the National Puerto Rican Day Parade " in June 2004 .

In June 2005 , Ivy Queen partnered with co @-@ founder of Perfect Image Records , José Guadalupe to form Filtro Musik . This stemmed from Guadalupe parting ways with the other co @-@ founder of Perfect Image , Anthony Pérez who in turn would launch his own label The Roof Records . Filtro Musik 's concept initially stemmed from its name which means " filter " in English . Guadalupe explained the title , saying " I 've been in this industry for 15 years now , and we have the ability to filter and pick the best " . In the coming year , Univision Music Group signed the label to licensing plan to release the album in September 2005 , which ensured that the " album was positioned in Latin and mainstream accounts that would normally not carry Latin product . " Ivy Queen was previously married to fellow reggaeton artist Omar Navarro , known by his stage name Gran Omar . They were divorced in 2005 shortly before the release of Flashback , which influenced the composition of the album . She denied ever having found him in the act of adultery , while claiming that if she had found Navarro with another woman , she 'd be in La Vega Alta , a prison for women in Puerto Rico . She also denied rumors that she had physically assaulted the woman she caught with Navarro . She stated they had not lived with each other for two months citing the " extensive travels of her husband and his workload of being a producer " as being causes to the end of the nine @-@ year marriage .

= = Songs and repertoire = =

Flashback is a " fusion of the past , present , and future , consisting of a totally contagious medley of the best hits and entrancing rhythms " . The album 's repertoire consists of previously released material along with four new melodies . " Cuéntale " (" Tell Her ") , the lead single off the album , has Ivy Queen exploring lyrically as she " plays a mistress who tells her lover to pick between her and his wife " . She explained " the mistress just gets tired of seeing him for a short time and listening to him complain about his unloving wife " . Musically , it features danceable grooves , synthetic instrumentation and synthesizers while taking influences from Afro Latin and reggae music ; it is set in minor key . " Marroneo " is the second of four newly produced tracks by Rafi Mercenario , " the most highly requested producer in reggaetón " at the time . It received comparisons to Daddy Yankee 's " Gasolina " . " Si Una Vez " (" If Once ") was originally written by Pete Astudillo along with A.B. Quintanilla III and performed by American singer Selena in 1994 on her album Amor Prohibido . Ivy Queen 's interpolation of the lyrics tell a story of a " woman who looks back at a lover and wonders why she even loved the lout who abused her love " . She choose to cover " Si Una Vez " over other songs by Selena including " Como La Flor " (" Like The Flower ") and " La Carcacha " because it was the one she could identify with the most , being more inline with what Queen stands for ; citing Selena as her primary influence . The " reggaetón @-@ ed up twist " on Selena 's classic , features bitter @-@ romantic lyrics , synthetic instrumentation and synthesizers , while taking reggae influences similar to the original . " I feel honored to be able to sing one of Selena 's songs , " Queen explained . " She was the first artist to make a successful crossover before Jennifer Lopez and all the rest . " " Libertad " (" Freedom ") , the last of the four new tracks on the album was composed in minor key tonality . Queen appears infuriated in the lyrics as the songs takes influences from Afro @-@ Latin music .

" La Mala " (" The Bad Girl ") , originally featured on Don Omar 's reggaetón compilation album Los Bandoleros (2005) as " Según Tú " (" According To You ") , employs simple harmonic progressions and synthetic instrumentation . The album , which collectively brought together almost every top name in reggaetón at the time featured only one female artist , Ivy Queen . The song interpolates La Lupe 's songs " La Tirana " and " Puro Teatro " . The opening verse of " La Mala " directly cites these two songs . Following this , Queen describes " a tumultuous relationship , where Ivy is considered " la mala , " where in reality , " the male lover is responsible for its demise . " " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " (" I Have Love , I Have Cried ") , the third and final single from Flashback was originally included on Mas Flow 2 , a reggaetón compilation album by Luny Tunes . The song is a blend of reggaetón and bachata music known as bachaton or bachateo , a musical

movement in the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico which combines bachata melodies and reggaeton style beats , lyrics , rapping , and disc jockeying . Queen makes use " bachata 's signature guitar sound " and " slower more romantic rhythm " while incorporating " bachata 's exaggerated emotional singing style " in this song as well as in " La Mala " . Composed in major key tonality it features simple harmonic progressions , " angry @-@ romantic " lyrics , Puerto Rican and Caribbean roots and Afro @-@ Latin as well as Caribbean influences according to the Music Genome Project . Lyrically , the song calls for violence and revenge over a former lover . It " evokes the story of Lupe 's " Amor Gitano " . It begins with Queen " declaring her unwavering love for her partner , " later describing him as a " liar , cheater , and abused who made her suffer . " Queen threatens her former lover with a dagger , threatening to kill him with it , telling of the horrible life that awaits him . Queen " reverses the typical bolero structure by actively rejecting the assumption that her role as the woman is to suffer , instead imagining that she would inflict particularly violent forms of suffering on her former male lover " . " Yo Soy La Queen " (" I Am The Queen ") , featured on a mid @-@ 1990 installment of The Noise , contains a " speedier rap over a quick @-@ thump hypnotic beat " . Taking influence from Caribbean music , roots of Puerto Rican and Caribbean music can be found on the track of only one minute and twenty seconds ; the shortest on the album . " Muchos Quieren Tumbarme " (" Many Want To Knock Me Down ") , alludes to a boxing match with the phrase " many want to knock me down " , and cites female empowerment as a prominent theme in the song . In addition to this , she degrades the thought of women 's power being underestimated . She speaks directly to men requesting that they not be cowards . She then argues that women are actively struggling for equality among their male peers , later asserting that " women are coming strong " .

" Al Escuchar Mi Coro " (" Hear My Chorus ") and " Reggae Respect " are from the same installment of the album . On the former , Gran Omar accompanies her , while both return to the early styles of " old school reggaetón " . " Como Mujer " (" How Women ") , included on Queen 's debut studio album En Mi Imperio (1996) is a sociopolitical themed song . Returning to more modern reggaetón , " Yo Voy Pal Party " (" I 'm Going To Party ") contains erotic and sensual lyrics in which Queen describes what she wants to do at a party with her lover . Composed in the minor key , roots from various Caribbean countries are prominent on the song . " Quiero Saber " (" I Want To Know ") , the second single off of Queen 's third studio album Diva (2003) , is a duet with Gran Omar . The song was produced by Luny Tunes , Noriega , and DJ Nelson . It was also one of the first songs Luny Tunes produced as a duo when Queen trusted their talent and gave them their first assignment . " Quiero Bailar " (" I Want To Dance ") , the lead single off of Diva and Queen 's first big hit , incorporates the Liquid riddim , a musical riddim produced by the " Jamaican cross @-@ over guru " Jeremy Harding . The song 's lyrics warn her dance partner not to misinterpret her moves . In the song , Queen clears away her partner 's misconception that their partnership will lead to sexual relations between them afterwards . " Yo Lamento " (" I Regret ") , formerly on Noriega 's compilation Contra La Corriente (2004) , titled " Amiga No Pienses " (" Friend Do Not Think ") , contains modern reggaetón rhythm .

" En La Disco " (" In The Club ") , originally from Escorpiones (2004) , features an Arabic @-@ influenced beat infused with reggaetón . Lyrically , Queen assures her lover that if she finds him in the club , she promises to dance with him disregarding what other people have to say about it . She assures him that there will be no other like her . " Miles De Voces " (" Thousands Of Voices ") , a hip hop track from Buddha 's Family (2001) , contains simple harmonic progressions , synthesizers , affronted lyrics and a sociopolitical theme while alternating between major and minor key . " La Abusadora " (" The Abuser ") originates from Iván Joy 's Diamond Hits (2004) . While reviewing the compilation Reggaeton Diamond Hits (2006) , Steve Leggett , from Allmusic , named the song the highlight of the album . " Aunque La Distancia " (" Although The Distance ") was originally included on the compilation release Romances Del Ruido 2 (2003) by Baby Rasta & Gringo as " Lloro Mi Corazón " (" My Heart Cries ") . Queen 's rap contributes to a hip hop beat accompanied by Gran Omar . It is also known by the name of " Eres Mi Hombre " (" You 're My Man ") . " Yo Lamento " (Salsa Version) , also from Contra La Corriente , is essentially the same track only re @-@ recorded and mixed into salsa with a duration of four minutes and sixteen seconds ; the

longest on the album and only salsa track . In the song , Queen sings to her friend about loving her friend 's man . She tells her that she had never intended to hurt her . Queen assures that she loves her friend , but acknowledges the fact that their friendship was lost . " He looked at me and we started dancing while the music took us away . Dancing , he touched me . My mind wasn 't thinking , passion was leading . My friend don 't think that I don 't love you " , she sings .

= = Release and promotion = =

The album was released on October 4 , 2005 to physical retailers through Univision Records . On August 29 , 2006 , Flashback was released digitally on Machete Music . A television commercial was commissioned to promote it . A year after the standard edition 's release , on October 4 , 2006 , an album by the name of Reggaetón Queen was released in Japan . It featured a similar tracklist with " Si Una Vez " , " Yo Soy La Queen " , " Al Escuchar Mi Coro " , " Como Mujer " , " Voy Pal Party " , and " En La Disco " not appearing on the album . Instead , the a cappella version of " Libertad " and its remix instrumental were included . In September 2007 , the album was released in Germany and Spain as Greatest Hits . " Cuéntale " , " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " , and " Libertad " served as the album 's singles . In September 2005 , to coincide with the release of " Cuéntale " to radio , she launched The Flashback Tour . The former was released in December 2005 to radio respectively , while the latter was released to radio in February 2006 . A CD single of " Libertad " was also released with remixes of the song . On November 14 , 2006 , a five track extended play (EP) was released featuring the three singles plus " Quiero Saber " and " Quiero Bailar " to digital retailers .

In February 2005 , further promoting the album , she appeared at the " Festival of Puerto Rican Stars " , which was a historic achievement for reggaetón , as no other performer from the genre was invited to attend the event . In June 2005 , she appeared on the " Invasion Del Reggaetón Tour " with Daddy Yankee , which grossed \$ 817 @, @ 220 for the week of June 18 . In September 2005 , she headlined the La Kalle 105 @. @ 9 Block Party concert at Madison Square Garden , which grossed \$ 962 @, @ 390 for the week of November 19 , 2005 . She also attended and performed at the Billboard Bash ! , the night before the 2005 Billboard Latin Music Awards . She performed " Cuéntale " at the 2005 Premios Juventud . Ivy Queen interpreted " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " on The Cristina Show in August 8 , 2005 . In October 2005 , it was announced that MTV Networks would launch a " new cable television network devoted to Caribbean music and culture . " In conjunction with the launch on November 21 , MTV Networks hosted " Caribbean Rising " , " a series of concerts featuring performances from more than 80 artists across genres such as reggae , dancehall , reggaeton , hip @-@ hop , and calypso . " Queen appeared at the Nevis concert , held on October 30 , 2005 . She appeared alongside Wyclef Jean , Luciano , and Morgan Heritage , among others . " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " was also performed at the 2006 edition of the Premios Juventud award ceremony , with Queen being given the honor of performing the grand finale to a televised audience of five million . Two days later , she held her first concert at the Fine Arts Center in Santurce , Puerto Rico , where she recalled her " sojourn from little Añasco , to the Fine Arts Center stage " , kissed her new boyfriend , who at the time was DJ Urba , and announced plans to market an Ivy Queen shoe , clothing , and perfume collection .

On the cover of the album , Queen appears in a " low @-@ cut , cleavage @-@ showing little black dress " , and is seen wearing various gold bracelets that cover her right eye . Similar to the cover for Real , the look sported by Queen is more sexually provocative . The change in image for Queen is attributed to Universal Latino feeling that the album Real had crossover potential to U.S. mainstream audiences . This is also attributed to Queen responding to the criticism she has received in the past for looking like a tomboy , wearing baggy pants and larger shirts , from the Puerto Rican press , middle class and members of the older generation , a subject Queen addresses in her autobiography , Detrás Del Glamour (Behind Glamour) . However , Queen took responsibility for this change in image , which she attributed to a " new growth in person " . She confessed the makeover stemmed from a " crisis " and " female vanity " . Seeking to recontour her figure , Queen enlisted the help of a Colombian plastic surgeon . Her breast were augmented in July 2004 , during

a promotional tour of the country . The album cover also features Queen 's signature long nails which she sports in a variety of colors ; in this case they are light blue and white .

= = Commercial performance = =

In its first week of release , Flashback scanned 5000 sales , however failed to debut upon the Billboard 200 . As of March 2007 , the album has sold over 104 @, @ 000 copies in the United States and Puerto Rico alone . It became her best @-@ selling album until Sentimiento (2007) . It was able to break Queen 's peak at number twenty @-@ four on the Billboard Latin Albums chart when it reached number ten . At the time , the album was among few noncompilations releases (aside from Daddy Yankee) that were able to chart on the Billboard Latin Albums chart since the summer of 2005 . These included releases by Yaga & Mackie , Angel & Khriz , Tony Touch and Bimbo , with Queen 's Flashback being in the best seller of the six . On Billboard Top Heatseekers chart , the album reached number seven . It reached number two on the Billboard Top Heatseekers charts for the Pacific and South Atlantic areas . It reached number three on the Billboard Latin Rhythm Albums becoming her debut on the newly instated chart . After this chart was instated , it was revealed that reggaetón titles could no longer appear on the Billboard Reggae Albums and Billboard Tropical Albums charts , deeming Flashback ineligible for the charts in which Queen had previously appeared on . Still , however , Queen was unable to enter the Billboard 200 until 2007 , when her sixth studio album , Sentimiento reached number 105 on the chart .

On the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart , " Cuéntale " peaked at # 3 for the week of November 19 , 2005 . On the Billboard Latin Rhythm Airplay chart , the song peaked at # 4 for the week of November 12 , 2012 . On the Billboard Latin Tropical Airplay chart , the song reached # 1 for the week of November 5 , 2005 replacing " Amor De Una Noche " by N 'Klabe . It moved 4 @-@ 1 from the previous week and gave Queen her first # 1 on the chart . Only to being succeeded by " Amor De Una Noche " a week later . On the Billboard Bubbling Under Hot 100 chart , the song peaked at # 14 for the week ending December 31 , 2005 . Meaning , the song had potential to chart of the Billboard Hot 100 chart , technically peaking on that chart at # 114 . " Libertad " peaked at # 13 of the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart for the week of April 6 , 2006 . On the Billboard Latin Rhythm Airplay chart , the song peaked at # 12 for the week of April 1 , 2006 . On the Billboard Latin Tropical Airplay chart , the song also peaked at # 12 for the week of March 25 , 2006 . On the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart , " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado debuted at # 38 for the week of December 03 , 2005 and peaked at # 10 for the week of February 04 , 2006 . The song occupying the ninth spot was " Cuéntale " . On the Billboard Latin Pop Airplay chart , the song debuted at # 38 on the week of December 03 , 2005 being the only other debut that week behind " Yo Voy " by Zion & Lennox featuring Daddy Yankee at # 37 and peaked at # 26 on the week of January 07 , 2006 . On the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart , " Quiero Bailar " debuted at # 35 for the week of September 3 , 2005 , becoming the " Hot Shot Debut " of that week and peaked at # 29 for the week of September 17 , 2005 . While on the Billboard Latin Rhythm Songs chart , it peaked at number eight for the week of October 29 , 2005 . It debuted under the name " Yo Quiero Bailar " at # 37 on the week of December 20 , 2003 and peaked at # 24 for the issue dated January 17 , 2004 on the Billboard Tropical Songs chart . The song re @-@ entered the Billboard Tropical Songs chart under the name " Quiero Bailar " at # 36 on the week of March 6 , 2004 and peaked at # 16 for the week of July 9 , 2005 . The song became the first Spanish @-@ language track to reach # 1 on Miami 's WPOW Rhythmic Top 40 , an American radio station based in Miami , Florida that does not usually play Spanish music . She explained : " I 've worked very hard in my career , but I get surprised because I 've never expected to get to these places . " She added : " When I read Sony 's reports and they tell me out of nowhere that my song is number one , I [got] surprised and look [ed] for explanations . "

= = Reception = =

Flashback was met with generally positive reviews from music critics . Johnathan Widran of

Allmusic praised the album giving it a three out of five stars . He started off the reviewing by stating that through the album , Ivy Queen can give insight into reggaeton to a person who is unknown to the genre . While noting that " In The Zone " with Wyclef Jean was missing from the album , he stated the it " has more than enough driving grooves , chunky beats , symphonic atmospheres , and infectious raps to compensate " . He noted that the songs " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado , " Yo Soy La Queen " , and " Reggae Respect " capture Queen 's " irrepressible inspirations , spirit , and vibe " . Lastly , he praised " Quiero Bailar " and " En La Disco " as tracks that get the party and people going . An editor for the Star Tribune called the album a " retrospective that also has a few new tunes " , later claiming that Queen knows how to " take shots at men " . An editor for Newsday said the album " cements her status as the Queen of Reggaetón and Latin hip hop " . Wayne Marshall writing for The Phoenix opinionated that the " retrospective of recent hits and career standouts , is a crucial primer on the reigning Queen of reggaeton " . Ramiro Burr of the San Antonio Express @-@ News saw the release of Flashback , along with Daddy Yankee 's Barrio Fino En Directo (2005) and Don Omar 's The Last Don Live (2004) as releases that combine current hits , remixes , live renditions and previously unreleased material , because the artists haven 't had time to produce an all @-@ new album due to the genre 's demanding status , at the time . An editor for the Dominican Times claimed the album to be " as strong as she [Queen] is " and awarded the album four and a half stars out of five . Natasha Washington from NewsOK claimed the album to cover " Queen 's 10 @-@ year singing career with 16 classic hits familiar in Latin markets , fresh to the United States , " while selecting " Cuéntale " , " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " , " Si Una Vez " , " Marroneo " and " Libertad " as the stand out tracks .

According to Noche Latina 's Navani Otero , Queen represented the ladies on Omar 's release Los Bandoleros with " Segun Tu " , showcasing that " she too is a musical outlaw herself " . According to Jesus Trivino of Latina magazine , " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " is the best song released by Queen during " Reggaetón 's Golden Era " , which lasted between 2003 until 2007 . Ramiro Burr of Billboard stated that " Quiero Bailar " shows how effortlessly and quickly she alternately sings and raps , claiming that she has a distinct vocal style that evokes Gwen Stefani . Kid Curry , PD of Rhythmic Top 40 WPOW (Power 96) cites Ivy Queen 's release of " Yo Quiero Bailar " as " the last reggaetón super @-@ hit " . The album along with the singles received multiple nominations for numerous awards . At the 2006 Billboard Latin Music Awards , it was nominated for " Reggaetón Album of the Year " . This became her second nomination for the same award twice in a row . At the Premio Lo Nuestro 2007 awards , it was nominated for " Urban Album of the Year " . When the 2007 People 's Choice Reggaetón and Urban Awards arrived , Queen ended up with three nominations , winning two of them . These were " Female Artist of the Year " and " Song with the Best Elaboration of Lyrics " for " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " . Flashback was nominated for " Compilation Album of the Year " . At the Premios Juventud 2005 awards , Queen was nominated for " Voice of the Moment , Female " and " Favorite Urban Artist " . At the Premios Juventud 2006 awards , she was again nominated for " Favorite Urban Artist " and awarded the first ever " Diva Award " , which honored the singer for her musical career . Queen was awarded " Best Reggaetón Singer " at the 2006 Premios Furia Musical . At the Broadcast Music , Inc . (BMI) Awards of 2007 , " Cuéntale " and " Te He Querido , Te He Llorado " were presented " Award @-@ Winning Songs " . " Cuéntale " was also nominated for " Best Latin / Reggaetón Track " at the 22nd Annual International Dance Music Awards , which was ultimately won Shakira and Wyclef Jean with their # 1 single " Hips Don 't Lie " .

= = Track listing = =

Standard Edition :

= = Charts = =

= = = Singles = = =

= = Sales and certifications = =