

= Chasing Time (song) =

" Chasing Time " is a song recorded by American rapper Azealia Banks for her debut studio album , Broke with Expensive Taste (2014) . It was released as the third single from the album on September 22 , 2014 . Production of the song was handled by Andrew " Pop " Wansel , while it was written by Banks , Ronnie Colson , Warren Felder , Jonathan Harris , Steve Mostyn , Kelly Sheehan and Wansel . Lyrically , the track discusses Banks recovering from a breakup . " Chasing Time " received positive reviews from music critics , with Mike Wass of Idolator commenting that the song included a " soaring chorus " . To promote the single , Banks released a music video for " Chasing Time " on November 13 , 2014 , which was produced by Nina Dluhy @-@ Miller and directed by Marc Klasfeld . Banks also held a contest in which she asked budding producers to submit remixes of " Chasing Time " , with the winner receiving \$ 10 @, @ 000 .

Pitchfork Media included the track in their list of ' The 100 Best Tracks of 2014 ' .

= = Background = =

In 2011 , it was reported that Banks was working on her debut studio album with British producer Paul Epworth , despite not having signed to a record label at the time . In January 2012 , Banks signed a record deal with Interscope and Polydor Records to work on new music , and a month later , she announced the title of the album as Broke with Expensive Taste . Approximately a year later , she submitted the complete version of Broke with Expensive Taste to her labels . Banks initially thought it would receive favorable reception from the labels , but the representatives informed Banks that she had not recorded a " hit " single for the album . Ultimately , Banks ended the record deal with Interscope / Polydor in July 2014 . She later approached Jeff Kwatinetz and signed a contract with his company , Prospect Park . Banks eventually released the album on November 7 , 2014 .

Throughout December 2014 , Banks released a series of videos in which she broke down tracks from Broke with Expensive Taste and revealed how each song came to be , dubbed the ' 16 Days of Azealia ' . During the breakdown video for " Chasing Time " , Banks revealed that the song was conceived after the aforementioned occasion of her handing a completed version of the album in to her labels . In response to their request that Banks created something more current , she produced " Chasing Time " . This was further confirmed in an interview with Pitchfork Media 's Jeremy Gordon , in which Banks said " it got to a point where they were like , ' Azealia , we get it , you ? re cool , but we 've spent \$ 2 million on this record , can you just give us one [hit] ? ' So then I did ' Chasing Time ' , and I was just like , ' You know , this isn 't gonna work out . ' "

= = Composition = =

" Chasing Time " is a song that runs for a duration of three minutes and thirty seconds . Jon Dolan from Rolling Stone described the song as " diva house music " , going on to commend the tracks instrumental and Banks ' vocal surge . In a later Rolling Stone article , Jon Blistein said that the song balanced an " eclectic " mix of influences , from Banks ' fast rapping technique over the electronic @-@ inspired beat to the " pop @-@ diva " hook she performs on top of house production . Colin Stutz from Billboard described the song as a " hook heavy pseudo @-@ sung track that rides the line with hip @-@ hop and pop over some crisp house production " , going on to label the track as seapunk . Elias Leight , also from Billboard , described the song 's production as a mix of hip @-@ hop , pop and dance beats , going on to describe how the track boldly shifts in genres throughout its duration , and that the track could be aimed at a man , or her former labels . Consequence of Sound 's Dusty Henry noted that Banks " spends most of the time showing off her singing chops by wailing over booming , dance club beats " .

Banks describes the track as genre @-@ specific , citing pop @-@ crossover and UK garage . On the song 's lyrical content , she explains " It 's about the journey , the breakup is apart of it , but it 's really about the journey " . She went on to describe how the song fits in to a larger puzzle of the album in which the album 's opening track , " Idle Deliah " , is the metaphorical morning , and later

tracks on the album , including " Chasing Time " are representative of later in the evening .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical reception = = =

" Chasing Time " received generally positive reviews from critics . Rolling Stone 's Jon Dolan gave the song three @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half stars , commenting that Banks was " delivering a splashy anthem of resilience and determination in the face of romantic collapse " . Mike Wass from Idolator concluded that Banks " genuinely shines in the soaring chorus " , while observing the difference in style she displayed on the song compared to her earlier singles . While reviewing the music video of the single , Melissa Locker from Time commented that " Chasing Time " was " one of the more noteworthy songs " from Broke with Expensive Taste . Pitchfork Media 's Tim Finney ranked the song as the 70th best track released in 2014 .

= = = Commercial performance = = =

" Chasing Time " first appeared on charts on December 27 , 2014 , debuting on the US Dance Club Songs chart at number 39 . Over the duration of seven weeks , the song steadily climbed the chart , eventually peaking at number 12 , remaining on the chart for a total of twelve weeks . Internationally , the song peaked at number 48 on the Japan Hot 100 , as reported by Billboard .

= = Promotion = =

= = = Music video = = =

A music video for " Chasing Time " premiered on MTV on November 13 , 2014 . The video was produced by Nina Dluhy @-@ Miller and directed by Marc Klasfeld . John Walker from MTV likened the video past sci @-@ fi themed videos , " the black and white visuals are as sleek and futuristic as some of the sci @-@ fi music video greats " going on to compare the video to visuals for songs such as " No Scrubs " by TLC and " Scream " by Michael and Janet Jackson . Both Tom Breihan for Stereogum and Melissa Locker for Time commented on the obscenity of the video , both claiming that the video was only just safe for work . Melissa Locker from Time also called the video a " beautifully minimalist [ic] clip " , going on to comment on Banks ' likeness to Lil ' Kim in one scene of the clip . Elias Leight from Billboard also compared Banks to past music stars , seeing three distinct similarities . He writes , " her ensembles call to mind three ' 90s acts : Missy Elliott (when Banks and her dancers wear trash @-@ bag couture) , Lil ' Kim (in her famous nipple @-@ pasty look at the 1999 VMAs) and TLC (in their ' No Scrubs ' -era revealing space suits) " .

= = = Remix contest = = =

In November 2014 , shortly after the release of Broke with Expensive Taste , Banks announced that a contest would take place around " Chasing Time " . The contest , for which Banks partnered with Soundcloud , BitTorrent and MTV , involved fans creating remixes to the song using stems made available to download from BitTorrent , to then upload their entries to Soundcloud . The winner would receive \$ 10 @,@ 000 , and their remix would become the first official remix to the track . Entries for the competition closed on December 15 , 2014 . Eliza Berman from Time commended the contest , commenting that the song " practically beg for a remix " , while revealing that there were a large variety in entries , with submissions ranging from acoustic to club sounds . The winners were announced on January 13 , 2015 . The second runner @-@ up received tickets and backstage passes to one of Banks ' upcoming shows , the first runner @-@ up was allowed to spend the day

with Banks in the studio , while the winner won the aforementioned \$ 10 @,@ 000 .

= = = Live performances = = =

On April 10 , 2015 , Banks performed " Chasing Time " during her set at the Coachella Festival . Rap @-@ Up commented that the audience 's " energy was consistently high " during the performance . The song was also part of Banks ' Broke with Expensive Taste Tour (2014 ? 15) .

= = Track listing = =

= = Charts = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from Broke with Expensive Taste liner notes .

Locations

Recorded at Mason Sound and Glenwood Place studios (North Hollywood , California)

Mixed at The Fortress of Amplitude studios (Los Angeles , California)

Personnel

Vocals ? Azealia Banks

Songwriting ? Azealia Banks , Ronnie Colson , Warren Felder , Jonathan Harris , Steve Mostyn , Kelly Sheehan , Andrew Wansel

Production ? Andrew Wansel

Mixing ? Rob Kinelski

Mixing assistant ? David Baker

= = Release history = =