

CHINO XL

BORN TO RHYME

Photo Barry Underhill

How did you hook up with Pitbull on "Latino Pride?"

The song with Pitbull is a remix that was spearheaded by a Latino radio station out here in L.A. I heard the track and wanted to be a part of it. Chino XL, Pitbull, Sinfull, Jacken of Psycho Realm how could we lose?

Why do you only have dope ass lyrics dissing entertainers. What about politics and racism in your rap?

I don't just discuss entertainers. I have used the shock value of the similes containing famous icons to sneak across a lot of my political views. As far as racism I have a song called what am I that is damn near required listening in some colleges, dealing with mixed race issues see mixed folks.com for more info.

Are labels just stupid and only see black rappers maybe because you were Latino they were scared of you as an artist back in the day?

I don't think labels have a particular color...but yes I do think the amount of skills I have scared a lot of people coming from a Latin cat.

I still remember that first album and all the dope lyrics doing the Crip walk like Christopher Reeve, the Oklahoma City lyrics and of course OJ all controversial shit at the time.

Yes, I remember the OJ line that is a prime example of my political entendre. I was saying a lot of OJ's problems were systematic from his self hatred and lust for a woman so different from himself.

Where you been homes?

After my second album I told you so...I was in lots of movies and concentrated on raising my daughters.

Top MCs in any order?

My favorite mc's are Kool G Rap, Bun B of UGK, Proof from D 12 and Big Pun that's is in no order.

You speak Spanish?

I speak a little Spanish enough to get by but I have mastered English so I use that mostly.

You were skinny now you big what happened and anything mas Chino?

I was thin yes I have been working out for a couple years now...thanks for all the love and look out for my release on Sway and Tech's Bolo Entertainment, Universal in the spring also the *Poison Pen Lost Tapes*...Fellie Fell presents

Chino XL and Stat Quo I also have a song on the *Million Mans More* sound track...this year will be big for Latinos and being the Puerto Rican superhero. Its only right there's a lot of Chino XL.