

SILKK THE SHOCKER

ALL IN THE GAME



How Long you been rapping?

Silkk: 10 years now, since I was 16. My best year in this game was '99 when *Made Men* came out and went platinum. I was on Snoop's records and on Mystikal's and Mia's records too. So that was a hot year for me.

Who's better at hoops you or P?

P's got a good outside game. He's good at the 3 pointers. And I have a good inside game. We're both good, just at different things. We have different games.

Name some cool songs on *Based on a true story*?

"We Like Them Girls," the single with me and P and Petey Pablo. That's real hot. "Playa, Playa" I like that a lot. "Get That" and "Be There" is really hot. Be there is the next single and it's a chance for me to give something positive to the women. It's a song for the ladies and talks about positive things.

C-Murder what's up with him?

He's doing really good. He's writing songs and trying to work on his new album. The verdict in the case got thrown out a while ago and he getting a

new trial because a lot of the evidence against him was bogus and they found out that a lot of the witnesses got paid off. So the new trial is going good since all of that came to light.

How many brothers you got?

I have 2 brothers, one is deceased, though Mia X is back in Louisiana. She is still dealing with the death of both of her parents a few years ago. She is taking care of her family and her children.

Other businesses you run?

I have a line of watches by Technomaster called The Shocker Edition by Technomaster I have a sit com that me and comedian Ricky Smiley created that was picked up by a major national network. I will be starring in it along with Ricky Smiley and Ashanti. It will be on the air in November, so look for it.

Any movies dropping?

I also have a movie that will be coming on straight-to-DVD called *All in the Game*. It's about a guy named King who's having a really rough time trying to go straight. He loses his job and lost his last paycheck. He tries to rob a house and the owners come home. His friend has a gun and shots and

kills someone, and the day just gets worse and worse by the minute. Everything happens all in one day.

What changed for you when you became a rap star on *No Limit*?

Before the music, I was focused on basketball as a way to get out of the hood and make money. This was a different way to make money. My family and my friends began to treat me differently because they saw I was trying to make something of myself. I also became a business person. I had to learn how to do business in this industry and make and keep money. If I hadn't gotten into music I would probably still be in the streets. So my life changed for the best.

Who's hot now it's the south?

Well, everybody gets their turn. The East coast got their turn being hot and the West Coast got their turn. It used to just go back and forth between the east coast and the west coast but now the South is in the game and it's the South's turn now to be hot.

Who you feeling in rap?

I'm feeling Lil' Wayne, young buck, R. Kelly of course and Jay Z and Dr Dre. But I can't say I'm listening to anybody now. I am concentrating on my next album. I just wrapped up *Based on a True Story* and I am working on getting my next project out.

Silkk name doesn't have anything to do with Jamaal Wilkes of the Lakers?

I chose the name Silkk the Shocker because people used to say that my style and my rhymes were smooth like Silkk.

It this album rowdy and gangsta?

Nah, it's a little bit of everything. Its gangsta, its rowdy, its down south, it's about girls, its east coast. There's everything on it

Coming up in the rap game what advice you give?

You got to stick to you guns. if you think you got talent you gotta go for it and don't give up. People used to say, "them country dudes ain't gonna sell no records." and look what happened. Lil Jon has been around for a while. He's been out here for a while. And the Neptunes been out here for a while. And they were hot when Lil Jon was trying to get hot, but Lil Jon didn't try to be like the Neptunes. He did his own thing. He had his own style. He did what he wanted. I say do what you want to do and what you're feeling and the world will adjust to you.

Interview by Alberto Rosas