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HIP-HOP JOURNALIST RAHIEM SHABAZZ BEGINS PRODUCTION ON *THE SUN WILL RISE*

(ATLANTA, GA) The urban romantic comedy *THE SUN WILL RISE* starring Lil' Zane, Jevon Dewan, Nina Nicole and Mami Chula begins production **APRIL 22** in Atlanta. Written by hip-hop journalist Rahiem Shabazz, *THE SUN WILL RISE* centers on two furniture movers, Malachi (Zane) and Stephon (Jevon) who land a record deal with a local rap mogul. But when Malachi falls for the mogul's daughter Arnelle (Nicole), drastic measures are needed to save the recording contract and keep the girl.

THE SUN WILL RISE is directed by **Byron Horne**, who co-wrote and directed the 1999 independent blockbuster *Dollar* starring **MC Breed**, as well as comedians **Ryan Cameron** and **Bruce Bruce**. The film sold over 100,000 units nationwide with talks of a sequel coming soon.

Over 1500 actors and actresses turned out to the casting call for *THE SUN WILL RISE*. "The people of Atlanta are really looking forward to this movie," says **Micah White**, Editor-In-Chief of *Urban Enterprise Magazine*. After reading the script, filmmaker **Ray Culpepper** (*Big Ain't Bad*, *The Naked Truth*) said, "Malachi is a fabulous protagonist and Arnelle is his ideal counterpart. Remarkable script." And according to Michael Trammell, the CEO/Founder of *Break Magazine*, "Shabazz shows a willingness to write for today's generation. He has not let us down. It's the best script I've read thus far."

Veteran producers **Ron-G**, **Kyze**, **Dame Grease**, **Carlos Broady** and **Ty-Boogie** are slated to appear on the soundtrack to *THE SUN WILL RISE*, as well as rappers **Lil Zane**, **Jevon** and **Sec Cheddar**.

Sean Anthony Anderson will oversee the production of the entire film as managing producer, while **Rahiem Shabazz** will serve as executive producer.

About the Cast

Lil Zane plays the lead role of Malachi. Zane is known for his 2000 rap album *Young World: The Future* on Priority Records. He's also appeared in films such as *Finding Forrester* with Sean Connery, *Dr. Dolittle 2* with Eddie Murphy and *The Fighting Temptations* with Beyonce and Cuba Gooding.

Jevon Dewan plays Stephon, Malachi's partner-in-rhyme. **Jevon Dewan** is mostly recognized for his appearance in several movies such as *The Naked Truth* (Kitoya Johnson), *Eat For Life* (Marla Gibbs), *Mama Flora's Family* (Queen Latifah, Cecilly Tyson and Mario Van Peebles), *Chasers* (Nievea, Xscape - Tiny), and Universal Picture's *Hood Rats* (Isiah Washington, A.J. Johnson, Ice-T, and Miguel Nunez) and *Groupies* (Chris Style Wilson, Bill Nunn, Big Gipp and Ludacris). Mr. Dewan's a true thespian who is known as the choreographer to the stars having worked with Avant, Jagged Edge, Guinewine, X-scape, The Brat, Nivea and B2K. The multi-talented actor appeared on Jay Leno, 106 & Park, Soul

Train and BET Soundstage. Jevon will bring extreme moments of suspense to the big screen along side his rap partner Zane (Malachi).

Nina Nicole plays the role of Arnelle, the beautiful daughter of a local rap mogul. Nicole is a model and actress who began her career by appearing in videos for Lil' Jon's "Get Low" and "What You Gon' Do," as well as Youngbloods' "Damn" and the Ying Yang Twins' "What's Happenin'." Nicole's face has graced the pages of such magazines as *The Source*, *Smooth*, *Street Masters*, *Upscale*, *Black Men*, *3XS Magazine*, and Mo Girls USA 2004 "Sports Zone" calendar. She is also the lead actress in Towanda Kilpatrick's hit musical "Can A Hoochie Mama Be A First Lady?" and starred in the hit Internet movie *Lewd Behavior*.

Mami Chula, radio personality at Atlanta's Hot 107.9 FM, appears as herself in this film. Shock-jock, ghetto guru, and radio scandal-monger are just a few of the titles she is known to carry.

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em Shabazz is a recognized hip-hop journalist with credentials in writing video treatments, movie scripts, bios and press releases. After penning three movie scripts, Shabazz has wasted no time in working on his first novel about his life story. In the novel, Shabazz re-introduces readers to the early days of hip-hop and details his childhood and his journey to becoming one of the industry's most sought-after journalists. He is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists (Atlanta Chapter) and the Atlanta Screenwriters Circle.

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