

BLACK ALLEY



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Black Alley Bio

BLACK ALLEY has been pushing the art of music to its rhythmic limits for some time now. Determined to create a unique musical elixir, Black Alley has taken the finest ingredients of trap, rock and go-go to create their own genre-bending sound called "Hood Rock".

With endorsements from national recording artists such as Pharrell Williams, Raheem DeVaughn and Jill Scott; hip-hop standouts Common, Big KRIT, Wale, Pharoe Monch, Grand Puba, & Lord Finesse; super engineer Young Guru; and legendary musicians Doug E. Fresh and Sheila E, Black Alley is constantly striving to put on for our city, our music, and our culture.

In September 2017, BLACK ALLEY won Musicology's first-ever Paisley Park Battle of the Bands in Minneapolis, MN. The contest, held at the late great estate of Prince, was judged by some of Prince's former band members who worked closely with the legend. Even before the national recognition that came along with winning the Battle at Paisley Park, Black Alley was, and continues to be, one of the most followed, trend-setting and sought-after music groups hailing from the nation's capital.

Black Alley was also hand-selected to perform at the inaugural South By South Lawn Festival (SXSL) held at the White House and spearheaded by former President Barack Obama.

-- Press and Highlights/ Placements --

BLACK ALLEY has been featured on Gabrielle Union's My Journey to 50, Diarra from Detroit (BET+), and Residue (Netflix); and on various media outlets including TV One, BET Soul, MTV.com, Essence.com, Okayplayer, DJBooth, TimeOut NYC, Creative Loafing, Washington City Paper, and the Washington Post.

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Black Alley Curriculum Vitae

Key Performances:

1. Something in the Water (performed with Pharrell)
2. Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania, Lebanon, Armenia (headliner at various festivals)
3. Mid-East/ Africa Entertainment Tour (Bahrain, UAE, Kuwait, Jordan, Djibouti)
4. Paisley Park/ Musicology Battle of the Bands (Grand Prize)
5. Art of Cool Fest 2018
6. Black Love Experience
7. Howard vs. Morehouse Tailgate @ RFK Stadium
8. South By Southwest
9. North By Northeast
10. South By SouthLawn (White House Festival for President Obama)
11. AfroPunk (DC activation at Howard Theatre)
12. Broccoli City Festival
13. Kindred Presents... (Philly)
14. The Last Poets Block Party (with The Last Poets, Talib Kweli)
15. Bowery Electric (NYC)
16. SOBs (NYC)
17. The Bitter End (NYC)
18. 9:30 Club (with Chuck Brown)
19. Warner Theater (with Common)
20. Howard Theater (with Scarface)
21. Howard Theater (with Big KRIT)
22. Amnesty Int'l/ Sofar Sounds (with Ed Sheeran)

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Black Alley Curriculum Vitae (cont...)

Releases:

1. "Soul.Swagger.Rock.Sneakers." - 2012
2. "Live... from Rock N Roll Hotel" - 2013
3. "Recycle Bin... Vol. 1" - 2015
4. "Recycle Bin... Vol. 2" - 2017
5. "Dirty Laundry" - 2018
6. "Recycle Bin... Vol. 3" - 2019
7. "Almost Famous" - 2020
8. "Lift Every Voice" - 2021
9. "Turn Me Up" - 2023
10. "Topsy" - 2024

Community Service:

1. Established #HoodRockUniversity in 2017:
 - Awarded 4 scholarships totaling \$2K to local youth.
 - Black Panther movie buyout for youth w/ Made In the DMV
 - Sponsored fresh, locally grown produce for 10 DC families
 - Sponsored photo exhibit, "Last Bite of Chocolate City"
 - Contributed to legislation making Go-Go the official music of the District of Columbia
 - Created photo-essay, "First, They Came..."
 - Helped curate and participated in a panel discussion at the 2019 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Legislative Conference.
 - Authored curriculum for "The Lyrics Project" - using original Black Alley song lyrics to teach English to ELL students across the world.