

## Music Now

### Music Interview: E M J

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Folks, we have a powerhouse of an interview with EMJ. EMJ, who is a native of Chattanooga, TN, currently resides in Marietta, Georgia. E M J first got started with Around the World Records in Tacoma, WA. in 1999 soon after that he began to write songs that were known for its realistic yet positive message. E M J took the time recently to answer some questions for this online interview.

**MUSIC NOW:** When and how did you first become interested in music?

**E M J:** I knew that I wanted to be in the music industry since the 12th grade. Oddly enough though, I was more interested in the business aspect of the industry then the creative aspect. Back then I would spend my last dollar to get the latest Hip-Hop/R&B release and I would spend days just reading the liner notes and all the legal jargon on the album covers trying to understand what it all meant. After completing high school, I attended the Art Institute of Atlanta and majored in Music Business Music Management.

**MUSIC NOW:** How long have you been playing music?

**E M J:** I have been playing and producing music since 1998

**MUSIC NOW:** What are your musical influences?

**E M J:** I am influenced by music icon like, Russell Simmons, Will Smith, and Rick Rubben just to name a few

**MUSIC NOW:** Does anyone in your family play music?

**E M J:** Yes, my older brother is also a songwriter, producer and my younger brother is a songwriter.

**MUSIC NOW:** When you are making music, describe how you are feeling?

**E M J:** It's kind of hard to describe how I feel when I make a song. Every song I make provokes a different emotion for that particular song.

**MUSIC NOW:** Why did you write or decide to play any of your songs?

**E M J:** 95% of the songs that I write are motivated by my own life and the way I feel about things or situations that I have encountered or witnessed others go through.

**MUSIC NOW:** Why did you choose to play this kind of music?

**E M J:** Hip-Hop and R&B have been the two genres of music I

have been exposed to since I was a child. I love the feel and arrangement of the two genres.

**MUSIC NOW:** What do you feel is missing in the music industry today?

**E M J:** I feel the Hip-Hop industry is missing positively and creativity

**MUSIC NOW:** Do you feel like you are a role model to others?

**E M J:** I try to be a great role model for my own children, and if others look up to me for what I'm doing in life, then that's good too.

**MUSIC NOW:** What keeps you going even when times you feel like giving up?

**E M J:** When other artists and music lovers come up to me and tell me that my music is hot, I see that they are excited about my music.

**MUSIC NOW:** What are some of the big projects you are working on?

**E M J:** I am currently recording my 3rd official LP titled "CORPORATE DOLLAS". I feel this album is my best work.

**MUSIC NOW:** What can we expect from you in the next several years?

**E M J:** Expect me to be a behind the scene mover and shaker in the music industry.

**MUSIC NOW:** Any new releases, updates, or anything else you would like to tell our audience?

**E M J:** My new album titled "CORPORATE DOLLAS" is scheduled to be released in summer 2007. The first, second, and third single have already been leaked out on my Myspace page. [www.myspace.com/emjonline](http://www.myspace.com/emjonline)

**MUSIC NOW:** Thanks for this great Spotlight

**E M J:** Thanks for your support,

*Photo used in this story was provided by E M J*

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