

As *FEATURED* in Sister 2 Sister Magazine March 2009 Issue

Michael Keith of 112 said he was born to sing solo

It's hard to tell whether 112 is still together, but **Michael Keith** doubts he'll be reuniting with the group in the future. **Michael** said a publishing check that was meant for him was not given to him. "I tried to work it out with the guys," he said, but they couldn't come to an agreement. "I still love these guys as dear friends, but businesswise I had to take certain actions."

One of those actions was releasing a self-titled solo album in the fall. On the album you hear that **Michael's** musical taste is slightly different from the bouncy beats that he sang to with 112. "I was more so the soulful dude in the group," **Michael** said. "My whole

purpose in this album is not to make you dance. I'm more socially conscious with what's going on with today's society."

A good example of his style is a song called "Father," which is about **Michael's** reconciliation with his father, who did not help raise him. "He was this hood figure.

Everybody in the hood knew him, but his kids didn't know him. I didn't have the relationship that people thought that I had." He feels that singing a letter to his father may help kids in the same situation.

Michael said he was a creative force in 112, a group that did lots of writing for Bad Boy artists such as **Faith** and **Soul 4 Real**. He remembers coming up with the idea for 112's hit "Peaches

and Cream" after hearing someone order peach cobbler at a diner. **Michael** said he would never say never when asked if he might reunite with his friends in 112, but right now he believes in his ability as a solo artist.

"I believe that I came up with one hell of an album," he said. Fans of the CD brag that they don't need a remote control once it starts spinning because every track is quality. Downloads are on sale at iTunes and Amazon.com, and hard copies are sold at michaelkeithonline.com. "It's going to be kind of strange with the guys not being there," **Michael** said. "But I really feel like this is what I was born to do."

(bottom) Photo courtesy of Farina Records



Former 112 member Michael Keith went solo after he failed to reconcile with his bandmates over a missing publishing payment.