

SABRINA CLAUDIO

Sabrina Claudio embraces her womanhood and artistry to the fullest extent on her 2019 full-length, *Truth Is* [SC Entertainment]. The album marks the culmination of a three-year journey from D.I.Y. bedroom singer and songwriter to prolific international headliner—and, most importantly, a confident, conscious, and charismatic femme fatale. The journey itself saw her leap from a shy and introverted solo creator to an outspoken collaborative force in the studio, welcoming evolution, expressing herself aloud, and speaking her truth. Ultimately, Sabrina has arrived at her new sense of self marked by confidence and self-actualization she unassumingly first set out for at just 19-years-old...

“The process of this album has helped me not only grow as a woman, but also as a human being as well,” she affirms. “By letting go of my fears and concerns, I’ve gained so much happiness and freedom. In that freedom, I’ve also gained confidence, but I’m still proudly learning about myself, my body, and my mind. Now, I’m really telling my story.”

In 2016, the Miami-born and Los Angeles-based half-Cuban and half-Puerto Rican songstress, quietly uploaded her debut EP, *Confidently Lost*, to Soundcloud. After six months, due to an overwhelming demand, the EP was released commercially and landed #3 debut on the iTunes Top R&B Albums Chart. Generating nearly half-a-billion streams across projects such as *About Time* [2017] and *No Rain, No Flowers* [2018], audiences fell under the spell of her seductive delivery, sweeping range, and shuddering nineties-inspired soul. Apple declared her “Up Next” as she made her television debut on *The Late Late Show with James Corden*. She toured alongside 6LACK and contributed “Cross Your Mind” to the chart-topping *Fifty Shades Freed* Original Motion Picture Soundtrack. Not to mention, she collaborated with everyone from Khalid and BURNS to A\$AP Rocky and Wale.

Coming home from her first headliner the “*No Rain No Flowers*” Tour in November 2018, Sabrina dove in to writing what would become *Truth Is*. The album took shape throughout the next nine months, reflecting the twists and turns of her life.

“Due to the high from performing every night, I was just incredibly inspired to start writing again,” she explains. “I’d like to think every song was a captured moment in time. The sentiment behind each song holds a similar meaning.”

Capitalizing on this inspiration, she opened up to collaboration like never before, challenging herself to write in a new way. Rather than isolate, she welcomed a myriad of co-writers and producers, ranging from Julia Michaels [Justin Bieber, Selena Gomez], Simon Wilcox [Nick Jonas, Camila Cabello, Demi Lovato], Lisa Scinta, and Jessica Karpov a.k.a. HARLOE [JoJo, Madison Beer] to Stephan Moccio [The Weeknd, Dua Lipa]. As a result, the vision organically expanded.

“I was way more open-minded than I normally am,” she admits. “I’m an extremely introverted writer, but I was starting to feel exhausted, as if my writing was becoming redundant. As much as it was a silly fear of mine, I began opening myself up to other writers. It was the best decision I could’ve made for my art.”

To honor and celebrate the incredible impact these collaborators had on both the album, and Sabrina’s personal growth, their illustrations are prominently featured on the official album artwork created by Markedric. “I don’t believe collaborators get the credit they often deserve,” Sabrina explained. “Most importantly, they impacted me, they played an enormous role in this album, they’ve affected my growth and removed my fears, and they are the stories behind *Truth Is*. I also connected with so many more women creatives, which has only made me stronger!”

She teased out the album with the single “Holding The Gun,” which *Paper* praised as “*stormy, sultry neo-R&B*.” Co-written with Nasri [Halsey, Pitbull], the first single “Rumors” [feat. ZAYN] and title track “Truth Is” illuminate her connection and chemistry with the co-writers and producers as well as her new found empowered womanhood.

“I wrote ‘*Truth Is*’ during a quick session with Julia Michaels,” she recalls. “It was our first time working together. It was like telling a story alone to a diary. The song is about emotions we often think of but are afraid to voice—the feelings we try to convince ourselves we don’t actually feel. Those two words, *Truth Is*, symbolize everything this album is about.”

The jazz-y noir catharsis of “Me In Her” sends “*a brokenhearted love letter to someone who has moved on only to find someone who is almost exactly like you*.” Elsewhere, dreamy piano tingles on “As Long As You’re Asleep” where she details “*someone only being able to live life happily knowing the person who left them in pieces is asleep*.”

In the end, Sabrina Claudio emerges as the artist and woman she was always meant to be on *Truth Is*.

“I want my songs to be a vessel to express emotions listeners may have compressed inside of them,” she leaves off. “I want my songs to feel. That’s my biggest motivation when writing.”