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**BIO**

When you know yourself, you can share your story. During a meteoric rise as one of hip-hop’s most enigmatic figures, Quando Rondo discovered himself. The Savannah, GA native went from D.I.Y. upstart to multiplatinum phenomenon, but he also simultaneously transformed from a complicated teen into a thoughtful young man. Along the way, he found fame and fortune, yet he lost friends and loved ones. After earning nearly 2 billion streams, over a dozen RIAA certifications, and widespread acclaim from *Pitchfork*, *Complex*, *REVOLT*, and many others, this sharp street storyteller divulges more than ever before on his 2023 third full-length album, *Recovery* [Atlantic Records].

“I’ve been through a lot,” he affirms. “I’ve dealt with trauma and the death of my homies who were close to me. It’s time to recover from all of that though. In my career, I’ve gone from hard times with my family to spending money on stupid shit. I’m in the position I want to be in. I know how to spend my money wisely, and I’m trying to stay out of trouble. I’m growing up.”

He grew up with all eyes on him. In 2017, Quando introduced himself as an uncompromising voice at only 17-years-old. Never letting his foot off the gas, he built a bulletproof catalog of bangers highlighted by platinum singles—“ABG,” “I Remember” [feat. Lil Baby], and “Imperfect Flower”—as well as a slew of gold singles, namely “Bacc to the Basics,” “Dope Boy Dreams,” “New Ones” [with NoCap], and “Scarred from Love,” to name a few. Meanwhile, his 2020 full-length debut, *QPac*, crashed the Top 25 of the *Billboard* 200. On its heels, *Complex* hailed the 2021 album *Still Taking Risks* as *“an introspective look into Quando’s state of mind*.*”*

Throughout 2022, he assembled what would become “Recovery,” teasing its impending arrival with standouts such as “Long Live Pabb” (dedicated to the late Lul Pabb) and “Me First.” He made a conscious decision to dive deeper into his journey.

“If I learned anything, I learned that I’m growing, and it’s time to put childish things away,” he admits. “I’m not putting my energy into negativity. I’m done with that. I’m ready to live life normally, take care of my family, and be here. I’m putting out good energy to receive good blessings. I can’t be out here doing bad things and moving in a bad way, because that’s the energy karma will put on me. I’m trying to live a righteous life and outdo the bad with good.”

The single “Tear It Down” sees him lock into a reflective flow over upbeat 808s. As if chronicling his formative years, he recalls, *“Thirteen, I was spittin’, writin’ rhymes without a pen. Fourteen, I was on my grind and fresh from out the pen’. Fifteen, fucked up in the mind, all I know is spin. Forever sixteen ‘til the day I die.”*

“I wanted to make a song about my dead homie, but make it turnt,” he notes. “I was speaking my mind without sounding sad. It was letting my anger go.”

Piano underscores the confessional bars of the undeniable opener “50.” He lights up the rhythm with clever wordplay and a chantable chorus.

“This album is going to surprise people,” he promises. “I’m not necessarily talking about violence. I’m trying to go number 1 and reach different audiences. It has a positive imprint, and it’s still turnt-up.”

Elsewhere, funky bass thumps alongside a hypnotic keyboard loop on “I Admit” as he proudly shows up with *“a record for the females*.*”* On “Nightmare,”dramatic production practically bends under his admission, *“I beat the odds, even though I’m still doing wrong*.*”*

“It’s for all of the people struggling and going through poverty out here,” he adds.

Then, there’s the emotional apex of “Forever 16.” Piano cries in the background as 808s quiver, and Quando *“They don’t know that I’ve been going through some things all day, sitting by the window hoping the rain go away*.*”*

“*‘Forever 16’* was all the way dedicated to Pabb,” he states. “After the situation happened, this was the first song I made. It took some time to shake some trauma after losing my righthand man.”

In the end, it’s these kinds of moments that showcase just how far Quando has come and how much he has to give as he tells his story.

“I really want the world to know all of the past stuff that happened is in the past,” he leaves off. “I was able to write songs I’ve never written before. I’m ready to take off. I feel like this record is headed to the top.”

**BOILER**

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