Detroit Artist Jai Fears Releases Debut EP, Gemini

By Jordan Woods

For the past few months have driven many people into a much-needed space of self-reflection and discovery. But even when the world fully reopens, we will each continue to learn more about who we are as individuals. Every single day. One of the main ways we will communicate that to the world is through our personal style.

Marvin “Marv” Neal not only does this for himself, but goes a step further by helping other individuals, and some of the biggest brands around, do the exact same thing. With an impactful background that includes a personal shopper position with Versace, work with prominent figures such as Toni Braxton and Joique Bell, spreads in publications such as Ambassador Magazine and work featured during New York Fashion Week, Neal has uniquely high level of understanding on how to create looks that demonstrate who people are, to the world.

Marv’s Personal History

Marc I come from a single parent, single mother home, but I was raised in a house with three or four generations in one house. So it was my great-grandmother, my grandmother, the oldest Aunt, the middle aunt, and my mom. I was the only boy. I used to sit and watch them, how much they paid attention to dressing, and how they friends would all come over to see what they had new. My one aunt worked retail right Downtown [Detroit]. There used to be a store inside of the Renaissance called Camay’s. She used to take me in to work with her on Saturdays or Sundays, when she had to close. That was my first introduction of seeing how women would come and buy clothes. I remember about four or five, maybe six. I took paying attention to it.

I come from a family where the men were taking a long time ago. The women are we know how to do. My aunt, my grandmother, great-grandmother, worked at cleaners for years. That’s what she retired from. I guess my DNA is to be kind of around clothing. That’s pretty much my background. I’m born and bred here. Come from the ceremony, I was brought up to be detailed. The men that they married or dated all dressed well too. So I think it’s just a thing of just paying attention to be detailed.

Discovering His Purpose

Marc I think I always knew that I wanted to do fashion, I just don’t think that I’ll say, ‘I want to be a fashion designer’. When I heard. I want to be a fashion consultant. I started out with loving to draw, and then I want to, maybe high school, I kind of knew that I wanted to be a fashion consultant. And then I had this. “There has to be somebody that dresses the people in between.” I knew it had to be, wherever they were, in the world, where the people that were in the magazines that I was looking at came from.

That’s how I found out about Puff’s baby mom, Missy Hylton Brinn. So it was her, Grammy Law, those names I would see all of the time inside of all of the Vibes or Sources [Magazines], and all of the things that were written, since hip-hop was really hitting. So I would just see their names, and it would be like “wardrobe stylist”, or “fashion consultant” I was like, “That’s what I want to do.” So by the time I got to school, like ‘94, I knew. So after that, I didn’t know what I had to do. I just figured I had to go to fashion school, and then move to wardrobe styling or move to New York to do it.

Jai Fears’ talents are exemplify when it comes to the music and entertainment industry. She spent years working as a backing dancer for singer, songwriter and record producer, Charlie Wilson, and has even owned the title of becoming his protégée. Her ex- uncles’ don’t stop there – she’s become his protégée. Her record producer, Charlie Wilson, dancer for singer, songwriter and entertainment industry. She’s ry when it comes to the music the eve of her upcoming birthday. Jai Fears’ talents are exemplify when it comes to the music and entertainment industry. She spent years working as a backing dancer for singer, songwriter and record producer, Charlie Wilson, and has even owned the title of becoming his protégée. Her ex- uncles’ don’t stop there – she’s become his protégée. Her record producer, Charlie Wilson, dancer for singer, songwriter and entertainment industry. She’s ry when it comes to the music the eve of her upcoming birthday. Jai Fears’ talents are exemplify when it comes to the music and entertainment industry. She spent years working as a backing dancer for singer, songwriter and record producer, Charlie Wilson, and has even owned the title of becoming his protégée. Her ex- Fears’ debut project, Gemini, not only showcases her talent as an artist but also gives fans an opportunity to learn more about who Jai Fears really is. From her single “I, U, D, S…,” where Fears details her determination to live a good life regardless of her circumstances, to her ballroom track, Detroit Vibe – listeners truly get a closer look into what Fears is passionate about.

“I’m proud of being born a Gemini and it plays such a big role in who I am,” said Jai Fears. “With this being my first full project, I really wanted my fans to get to know me, which will definitely help them understand my artistry. With the help of our incredible new poses, voiceovers, and costuming, we have created an experience that is allowingFears’ fans to see her as she is, and I’m really excited for fans and everyone else to receive it.”

Moving forward, Fears hopes to work on visuals for her remaining tracks, celebrate the release of her EP and book live performances across the Midwest. Fears’ first single “I, U, D, S…” and the release of her EP, Gemini, can be found on Tidal, Apple Music, Spotify and SoundCloud. To learn more about Jai Fears, her most re- cent project and upcoming shows, visit JaiFears.com.
their own algorithm. So there might be a problem with reposting older stuff, just works off of social media. I don’t have a following, I always kind of feel like a homegirl just texted me today about a birth and celebrity, all the way down to just, my friends of friends. I've worked from the higher end magazine doing, or has the experience, because someone that really knows what they're doing, or your friends got on set, and they do it, they just come in, clean your closet, or whatever the case may be. Then you have people that just do clothes... They don’t really need to want to do it. They just come in, clean your closet, organize your clothes, and make it suitable for whatever your lifestyles is. If you want to get rid or purge a bunch of stuff, you have people that do that. Then everything has a price, a price on it or what it is.

Creative Director
Marv: I think we hire the creative director role just kind of fall into place, because I’m always the one that people ask when they're like “I don’t have a idea how I want it to look, period.” So they're like, “Hey, to my end they should be, how my makeup should be, where I should be shooting at,” or whatever the case may be.

Stereotyping and Nepotism in Fashion
JW: Would you say that in the fashion world, once you're dealing with the higher end products and bigger brands, that’s it's harder for people of color, or people from single parent backgrounds to break in? Because there is a kind of... Stereotypes?
Marv: Stereotypes?
JW: Stereotypes... and then in the corporate world, I know from my previous experience, that a lot of jobs are reserved for friends of friends.
Marv: Exactly.
JW: Would you say it’s the same in the fashion world?
Marv: It’s the same in the fashion world. I mean, everything with me has been kind of like undeniable, just because I have the work to show for it. So they kind of really don’t deny it.

Spring and Summer Wardrobe Tips
Marc: I would just say that the best thing to do is to know your personal style and knowing your sizing. Sizing is a big factor. So for someone like you, who is a little bit taller than me, we will always be finding the bag and tall, and then finding a good suarness, or a good tailor that will take things with the brands here. It’s just that you don’t really have much, in Michigan. You have Gucci, of course, Nemen Marcus and Saks kind of cater to all of those, then there is an H&M downtown (Downtown Detroit), now. So in Downtown Detroit, you’ve got a little bit more looking up. So yeah, I think that it’s just a thing because you're using your sizes, and then being able to buy pieces that complement in Detroit, that you do interchange, because that’s just important.

On Current Style Trends in Detroit
Marv: I think the core of Detroit is still the same, it’s different when it comes to the urban type to it. I think Detroit has a certain flare that, what happens with that is that like opportuni- ties that aren’t here, or the jobs that aren’t here, you get the people that are traveling in and out of town. The people saw them in New York, or something, and wondering where they’re from, because we’ve just got a certain kind of swing about us.

But with the gentrification going on, there are a lot of people from Brooklyn that have moved here. So you kind of get the New York key functionality, but it’s still Detroit, I guess. I just really my Downeast or Maine. But if you go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Maine. And you got to go east or west, in the whole, it’s all the same vibe. That If you freshen your denim, your denim, your denim, and then you’re just jumping really just basically your Downeast or Main...