

Jhené Aiko's third studio album "Chilombo" is a musical journey of healing, awakening and self-discovery. Through her creative direction, Jhené has utilised her vocal versatility to overpower and push each song to an expectation defying level.

Collaborations are strong on this project, including: Ty Dolla \$ign, John Legend, Future, Miguel & Dr.Chilli. Not to mention a veteran in the hip-hop scene Nas on the song "10K Hours". Each of which support the project, by creating a different energy with their performance.

"None of your concern" Featuring Big Sean is the standout track from the project. Being a very honest ,vulnerable and relatable rendition of the various transitions during a heartbreak. Jhené's vocals coupled with a low-tempo drowned out kick and snare push the narrative forward by emphasising emotional turmoil and uncertainty throughout the breaking down of a relationship.

The tracks structure, is built to showcase the different mentalities that occur during the end of a relationship. With the first verse, Jhené softly vocalizes her confusion and hurt at the instant of her relationship ending "You seem irritated, baby, why you never say it?/Isn't this worth saving?" creating a sense of urgency and pain from the situation at hand.

The chorus continuously changes in lyrics as the track progresses, conveying the strength of time and the right support, helping overcome and understand a hard situation. This is clear to see on the second rendition of the chorus where Jhené exposes a more confident and resilient aura, with the subtle addition of Ty Dolla \$ign's vocals in the background, personifying the power of support. The final verse that Jhené performs shifts in focus. The pain is dealt with, the realisation of self-reliance has emerged and the confidence in her voice whilst performing emphasises this. "I was traumatized and suicidal, I'm sick and tired, I am not to blame/Once I felt a way, but not today, I'm not afraid,". A narrative is forged through the understanding of a songs production, which Jhené has accomplished and dare I say perfected, capturing an emotional period of time and portraying the mindstates as genuinely as possible.

Ab-soul is another collaboration on "Chilombo", having offered scarce but refined features in the hip-hop scene, with the likes of Kendrick Lamar, Mac Miller, Rapsody, Anderson .Paak etc. His inclusion on "One Way st." depicts the receptive nature of feeling lost, straying from the path of society, Ab-soul's lyrics with the drowned out bass conclusively captures the vision of confusion being forged. "They want me with my back against the wall/I bounce back, that's a echo (Echo)"

"Chilombo" has created an essential genre bending gap in the current climate of music, where pure passion, freestyling and beautiful melodies have generated complexities in a basic concept. We are here for it.