

Ziggi Artist Bio



Finally the time has arrived

The debut album of Holland's #1 Reggae/Dancehall artist, Ziggi, is a reality as of **February 6th 2006!** In 2005, Ziggi a.k.a Ziggaman has shown us that he is more than able to stand amongst the absolute top Reggae/Dancehall artists in **the Netherlands, Germany, England and Jamaica.**

His debut album **So Much Reasons** is filled to the rim with tantalizing Dancehall tunes and conscious, melodious Reggae.

So Much Reasons is an album that suits the artist and the man **Ziggi**. Born in The Netherlands on March 8th 1981, **Ziggi** left for the Caribbean island of St. Eustatius, his father's motherland. In St. Eustatius the young Ricardo Blijden grew up with his grandparents who gave him the nickname **Ziggi**; a nickname which he has had ever since.

Growing up on **St Eustatius** and visiting the church on a regular basis, **Ziggi** came in contact with Gospel. It was in the church as well that **Ziggi** had his first performance. Other musical styles such as Hip-Hop, Reggae and Dancehall combined with Gospel all form the basis of the music **Ziggi** makes today.

After he returned to the Netherlands, **Ziggi** was introduced to **Mr. Rude** the owner of an independent label in Rotterdam called **Rock'N Vibes Entertainment**. Shortly after this, "chilling out in the studio with my friends", became a professional musical career for Ziggi.

Ziggi's first two singles "**In My Head**" and "**High Time**" blew up immediately and spent 5 and 6 weeks respectively on the **#1** spot in the X-Charts of the popular urban radio station FunX. (In My Head was also # 34 in the Slam FM top 40 and **#1** in Surinam for 3 weeks)

The buzz surrounding **Ziggi** became a roar. This resulted in a nomination for **BNN's Dutch MOBO Awards** in the category "**Best National Breakthrough.**"

Ziggi certainly can't complain where media attention is concerned in 2005. Industry leading media such as **Vibe Magazine, Pleasure Magazine, De Fret, Mocciah (The Box), FunX, Juize fm, VPRO, NPS, De Amigo (Dutch Antillies), De West (Surinam), Xtra News (Jamaica)** and many others shone the light of their attention on Ziggi. Adding to this, Ziggi has had a great number of performances in 2005 at all types of venues, big and small, including **Sail 2005, The Amsterdamse Uitmarkt, Two 7s Splash**(along side Gentleman, Richie Spice, Morgan Heritage to name a few), **Noorderslag 2006** and **Paramaribo Suriname**. He also delivered sensational openings for **Beenie Man, Mr. Vegas** and **Eek a Mouse**.

The album **So Much Reasons** has a number of noticeable features, one of which is with the **Jamaican superstar Elephant Man**. Another Jamaican that can be heard with Ziggi is **Turbulence** on the official remix of the international **#1** hit "**Notorious**". The features with artists from the Netherlands such as **IVA** and former Postmen singer, **Shy Rock** are more than worth listening to!

Ziggi recorded the single "Run Da Dance" with the best known Reggae band in the Netherlands, **Beef**. A single which was on heavy rotation on both 3FM and MTV Networks. Ziggi stormed several central podiums throughout the country in the final months of 2005 doing the opening act for **Beef**.

"**Call Me**", Ziggi's latest single is an outright club banger and just like his first two singles it took the **#1** spot in the XChart (FunX) This success has reached the other end of the ocean as well, where "**Call Me**" hit the **#1 spot** in Surinam for 4 weeks

So Much Reasons is a very varied, mature album with Reggae and Dancehall music of a unique and rock solid quality.

Upon its release on February 6, 2006, **So Much Reasons** gathered media attention at large, from being CD of the week in **Nieuwe Revu** to capturing CD of the month in **Yes** and **Maxim magazine**. It did not stop there because known newspapers such as **Het Parool**, **NRC Next**, **Algemene Dagblad**, **de Spits**, **Contractst** to name a few all published fantastic articles and reviews about Ziggi and his debut album.

Since the release of **So Much Reasons** **Ziggi** has been invited as guest on a variety of tv and radio shows such as; **3FM**, **Kink FM**, **Llink FM**, **Juize FM**, **Club 3voor12 (VPRO)**, **Goedemorgen Nederland (KRO)**, **Rymann is laat (NPS)** and **The Box (music television)** broadcasted different informative items about Ziggi and his album.

On March first 2006 the day of the official launch of **So Much Reasons**, **Ziggi** started his first tour "**The So Much Reasons Tour**" around Holland. Along with his band **The Renaissance Band**, **Ziggi** created a great buzz and interest nation wide with this tour.

At the end of April 2006 **Ziggi** and his band were invited to St Maarten (Caribbean) to play for the **Youth Extravaganza** an event which is a part of the islands carnival. During this event **Ziggi** shared the same stage with American stars the **Ying Yang Twins**. During his stay on ST Maarten Ziggi flew to the island where he grew up **St Eustatius** (Statia). Here **Ziggi** did a benefit concert for the Old People Home (where his grandfather lives) which was a great success.

Midway June 2006 it was made know that **Ziggi** had won his first award for his debut album **So Much Reasons**. This was the prestige **Essent Award**, a well respected national award for music debutants.

On June 26th 2006 **Outta Control** the 4th single from **Ziggi's** debut album was released. The video for this summer track was shot in St Maarten.

The summer of 2006 promises to be **Ziggi's** summer. In Holland he'll play on the main festivals like **Reggae two 7Splash (alongside Sean Paul, Elephantman,**

Ziggy & Damian Marley etc), Festival Mundial, Parkpop, Nijmeegse 4 Daagse, Lowlands and Uitmarkt. Ziggi will also be present at the **Rototom Sunsplash** in **Italy** and other festivals around **Europe**.

It's going to be a hot summer.

Ziggi "One Time Again!"

For more info visit www.ziggionline.net or www.rocknvibes.com