

## **Rick Ross – Bio (Port of Miami 2)**

After thirteen triumphant years served in the coliseum of hip hop, [Rick Ross](#) has begun his victory lap towards rap legend. The catalyst for the leader of the Maybach Music Group's longevity is consistency. After introducing himself in 2006 with a classic anthem ("Hustlin'") and platinum debut (Port of Miami), the Slip-N-Slide franchise player spent the following decade plus dominating as both mogul and Top 10 scribe. While his mighty pen positioned him as peer to southern kings like T.I. and [Gucci Mane](#) and empowered him to stand bar-for-bar with the greatest to ever spit ([Jay-Z](#), [Andre 3000](#), Drake) and sing ([Chris Brown](#), [Usher](#), [John Legend](#)), Ross' contribution to his craft and culture travels far deeper than rap. Grammy nominations and classic verses aside, "The Biggest Boss" graduated his unparalleled vision and insane work ethic from Carol City's unforgiving corners to corner offices and corporate partnerships. Inside the music business, his MMG label catapulted the careers of future legends [Meek Mill](#) and [Wale](#). Outside of the biz, he's the brilliant owner of a litany of brands from spirits (Belaire, Bumbu) to comfort food franchises ([Wingstop](#), Checkers). But after birthing nine stellar albums, Ross, like any great, has challenged himself to outdo his greatest work. He accomplishes that on his latest opus Port of Miami 2. "I felt album number 10 is a special one," says Ross. "It's a milestone period. It almost feels like Pac doing the double CD."

Rozay's tenth studio composition as the sequel to his debut is apropos poetry. It being the most exquisite rap album of 2019, thus far, thrusts its author back into Grammy contention. On Port of Miami 2 track burner, "The Biggest" leans into his strengths—impeccable beat selections and pocket flow—while raising the stakes with a supreme guest list and rare transparency. The warning shot "Big Tyme" is equal parts braggadocio and motivation empowered by the colossal production of Just Blaze and vocal energy of [Swizz Beatz](#). Its follow up, "Gold Roses" is an ironic gift to the rap world as Ross and Drake deploy 24 karat rhyme bars for some expensive catharsis. "A hundred-room mansion but I felt abandoned/Love making love but where will love land me?" Double R continues speaking to the opposite sex on the album's inevitable radio hit "Summer Reign." The winner features a beautiful homage to SWV's "Rain" supported by the gorgeous vocals of Atlanta songbird Summer Walker.

Yung Renzel optimizes his latest album to simultaneously flex his 15 million social media following and pave a lane for rap's future. His guest list is grade A: The late Nipsey Hussle appears with [Teyana Taylor](#) on the scorching "Rich Nigga Lifestyle;" "Born To Kill" sees Jeezy turn things up; [Meek Mill](#) helps his mentor separate the fake from authentic on "Bogus Charms." Then, like any smart boss, "The Biggest" offers opportunity to the next generation like upstart MCs Denzel Curry and A Boogie wit da Hoodie ("Running The Streets"). It is Ross' blessing of an ear that allowed the lion's share of POM2's production to be scored by exceptionally talented yet lesser known composers—for example, Harmony "H-Money" Samuels ([Jennifer Lopez](#), [Ariana Grande](#)), Cardiak (Drake, Dr. Dre) and TROP whose rotund bass drops allow Rick and Gun Play to bounce atop the car system-official "Nobody's Favorite." The seamless coexistence of vets and new blood can be credited to the album's cohesion. Over a warm [Isley Brothers](#) groove provided by legendary southern producer Toomp, Rozay opens up about the seizures he suffered. He then uses a pristine J.U.S.T.I.C.E LEAGUE symphony and a

couple bars from a sterling “Vegas Residency” performance to smirk at fashion designers’ new interest in his weight loss.

Port of Miami 2 is the current front runner for the Grammy’s Rap Album of the Year. It is the masterpiece of a Carol City survivor turned valedictorian who returned years later to motivate alumni, faculty and graduating class. The opus will go down in history for [Rick Ross](#) diehards as a Top 3 catalogue favorite. Top 10 best MC conversations will evolve into Top 5 debates. This is the MMG general’s tipping point in stereo. “Everybody got a certain way to deliver their message,” Ross begins. “I know I’m delivering something different but it took me album ten to present that. The priorities are still the same. We just had to perfect it.”