



D'ANGELO AND THE VANGUARD DEBUT AT THE TOP OF THE CHARTS WITH CRITICALLY AND CULTURALLY ACCLAIMED ALBUM '*BLACK MESSIAH*'

'BLACK MESSIAH' ENTERS AT NO. 1 ON BILLBOARD'S R&B ALBUMS CHART, NO. 3 ON THE R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUMS CHART, NO. 5 ON TOP 200 ALBUMS CHART

IMPACTS GLOBALLY PEAKING AT #1 ON ITUNES IN 29 MARKETS, TOP 5 IN 27 MARKETS



“The man has released the most poignant and powerful album of his life, putting him in the running for the greatest comeback story popular music has ever seen...”

The Washington Post

“It doesn't leap out of speakers; it oozes and bubbles, waiting for a listener to be drawn in.”

The New York Times

“The beauty of D'Angelo's return is that he comes back full-force, and as fantastic as his fans remember... amazing and right on time...”

Associated Press

[New York, NY – December 24, 2014] **D'Angelo**, the Grammy Award winning and multi-platinum selling singer/songwriter/musician/producer, achieves critically acclaimed and chart topping success as his long awaited third studio album ***Black Messiah***, featuring **The Vanguard**, debuts this week at No. 1 on **Billboard's** R&B Albums chart, No. 3 on the R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart, and No. 5 on the Top 200 Albums chart, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

Released on December 15th on RCA Records, ***Black Messiah*** peaked at No. 1 on the iTunes Top Albums charts in a total of 29 markets worldwide including US, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and more. Additionally, ***Black Messiah*** peaked within the Top 5 on iTunes charts in France, UK, Germany, Austria, and Ireland; Top 10 in 7 other countries including Spain.

Black Messiah has been streamed nearly 8 million times worldwide and with topics ranging from protests [“The Charade”] to pollution [“Till It's Done (Tutu)”], there's no question that the album's music and message has impacted fans on a global level. States the **Los Angeles Times**: “The timing couldn't be better; it's almost as if the

artist was holding off delivering the record until the times demanded it. With unrest bubbling and the protests continuing, ‘Black Messiah’ seems built as some sort of soundtrack.” Huffington Post cites “The diversity of sound on ‘Black Messiah’ is representative of our reasons to assemble. There is a voice and a feeling – anger, discomfort, paranoia, joy, love, uncertainty – on the album for every united population from New York to Cairo to Hong Kong, and back.”

With its surprise release, *Black Messiah* has managed to top several of the Best Albums of 2014 lists including Billboard, Noisey and Washington Post, as well as earning one of The Los Angeles Times’ 100 Trophy Moments - “Best long-delayed, potentially disappointing album that was actually a masterpiece.”

D’Angelo will perform songs from this “masterpiece” and other classic hits when he embarks on his “The Second Coming Tour” with his band **The Vanguard**. The European tour will kick off on February 11, 2015 in Zurich, Switzerland and will wrap on March 7 in Brussels, Belgium.

The Second Coming Tour Dates:

February 11	Zurich, Switzerland @ Kaufleuten
February 12	Neu-Isenburg, Germany @ Hugentottenhalle
February 14	Berlin, Germany @ Columbiahalle
February 16	Paris, France @ Palais Des Congres
February 17	Birmingham, UK @ Academy
February 18	Manchester, UK @ Apollo
February 20	London, UK @ Apollo
February 24	Hamburg, Germany @ Docks
February 27	Oslo, Norway @ Sentrum Scene
February 28	Stockholm, Sweden @ Annex
March 2	Amsterdam, Holland @ Paradiso
March 3	Amsterdam, Holland @ Paradiso
March 4	Utrecht, Holland @ Grote Zaal
March 6	Cologne, Germany @ Tanzbrunnen
March 7	Brussels, Belgium @ Forest National

In 1995, the Richmond, VA native made an undeniable impact with the release of his debut album *Brown Sugar*, ushering in a new and inescapable sound with classic hits such as the album title track, “Lady,” “Cruisin,” and more. **D’Angelo** returned in 2000 with his platinum-plus selling album *Voodoo*. The critically acclaimed album won a Grammy Award for Best R&B Album and the hit single, “Untitled (How Does It Feel),” won a Grammy for Best Male R&B Vocal Performance.

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For the *Black Messiah* album cover and latest photos please visit:

<http://www.rcarecordspress.com/artist/dangelo>