

A N Ġ E L

A multi-hyphenate talent whose music seamlessly moves between genres, Angel has already been one of Britain's best-kept secrets for a minute. Now, he's part of the ByStorm Entertainment/RCA Records family, and his new single "Blessings" is the perfect re-introduction to his unique artistry—a song about being grateful for what you have and where it's brought you, in spite of where you've been amidst an ever-changing world.

The musician born Sirach Charles grew up in the Shepherd's Bush area of West London in a "house of music". His father Tendai—a keyboardist who accompanied reggae luminaries such as Bob Marley and Dennis Brown—provided a steady diet of reggae while his mother introduced him to the swirling, sensuous world of 1990s R&B. "My mom would be playing Jodeci, and I was like, 'Let me study this.'"

From a young age, he was bitten by the musical bug; he formed a band with the rest of his siblings, the Charles Family, who were signed to Warner Bros. when he was 13. After years of gigging, his brethren called it quits while he persevered in the industry: "My brothers and sisters started doing other things, but I just stayed on it."

As Angel, he re-emerged in 2010 with the *Patience Is a Virtue* mixtape, notched a co-write on Roll Deep's chart-topping "Green Light" and collaborated with fellow UK leading lights like Wiley and Giggs; last year saw the release of his sophomore record *Woman*, which took his predilection for R&B further than ever before. "It represented me more ways than one," he explains. "The sound, what I'm talking about, the relationships I've had with women in my life, from my mom

and my sister to different females. It's about the things that we go through every day with women, and I was putting that out there."

After putting out releases on Island Records, Angel parted ways from the label to move to Mark Pitts' ByStorm Entertainment and RCA Records, and he wrote "Blessings" the week he decided to make the move. "The whole country knew me, but there was still a barrier to how far I could go," he explains regarding the move, and the acoustic, lilting tune reflects the moment when one's perspective shifts while acknowledging the need to find harmony in your own surroundings.

"I wasn't thinking what I was saying—I was speaking subconsciously," Angel states regarding the song's positive message and how it came to him in the moment of creation. "What I say matters to me and everyone—in more ways than one. I needed to say something, and I felt like what I was saying mattered—not just to me, but to everyone. It came out from nowhere, but it changed my life."

And "Blessings" is sure to change more than a few lives in the process, too, not to mention what he has on the way. Angel's currently in the studio cooking up a new album for release sometime soon, and he's getting ready to continue spreading his positive, forward-thinking message to a whole new audience in the U.S.