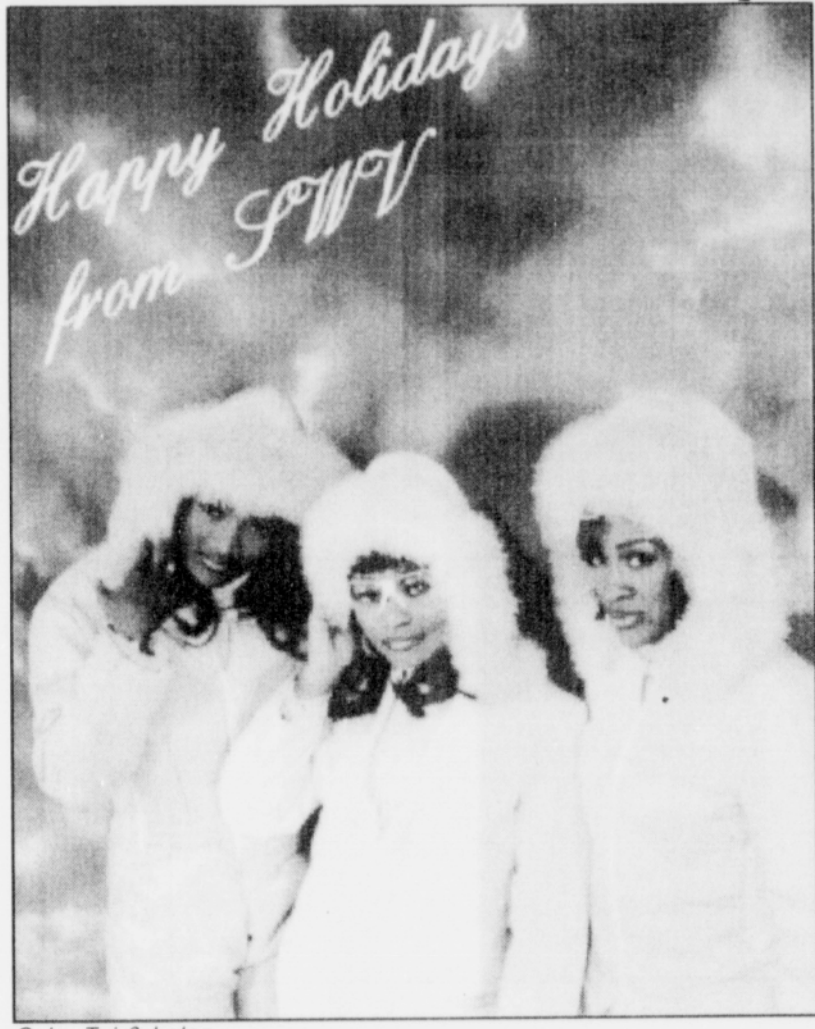


# Arts ENTERTAINMENT

## SWV: A Special Christmas



Colo, Taj & Lelee  
SWV

mas memories. We look forward to the holiday season and the warm felling it brings to people. And like our name says, "sisters with voices," we wanted to use our voices in their full glory (we really worked hard, like Santa's elves) to demonstrate how highly we regard the holiday season.

Traditions are important to us, and the songs on this album are all Christmas favorites, down with our own flavor. We especially suggest that you give a listen to "The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting On An Fire)," "This Christmas," and "O Holy Night," we filled them with spirit, to

lead you into the season. Taj gives a new twist to "Christmas Ain't Christmas" and Lelee and Taj turn in a wonderful interpretation (if we do say so ourselves...) of "My Favorite Things," great for wrapping—or unwrapping—colorful gift boxes. And an especially notable track is the outstanding duet between Coko and her gospel singer mother, Tibba Gamble, on their heartfelt rendition of the classic "Silent Night."

In closing, we'd like to wish you and yours a very happy joyful 1997 holiday season. We hope you enjoy listening to this album as much as we enjoyed making it!

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Yuletide greetings from SWV! Welcome to our first RCA Records Christmas album, "A Special Christmas." We really enjoyed recording these very special holiday songs.

You'll hear live music, played by real musicians, on this album. All three of us—Coko (Cheryl Gamble), Taj (Tamara Johnson), and Lelee (Leanne Lyons)—sing leads on its various songs.

Our producer was Michael Powell,

noted for his work with vocalist Anita Baker. And though we did this album quite quickly, Michael, ourselves and executive producer Kevin Evans created this album like clockwork, like a finely-tuned machine. It is our labor of love. (Oh—and we can't forget producers Phil Temple and Rex Rideout, who guided our melodic version of "Silver Bells.")

On this new offering, we talk about our families, our pets, and fond Christ-

## DIAMOND D



Diamond D is one brother you don't have to tell, "keep it real." In 1993, the Bronx-born producer, emcee and Diggin' In The Crates crew co-conspirator formally invaded rap music's collective consciousness as its self-proclaimed "Best Kept Secret" on his speaker-searing debut single of the same name. Like that individual classic, Diamond's sterling inaugural LP, Stunts, Blunts & Hip Hop, served as a first class exhibition for the hip hop heavyweight's prowess from both sides of the studio control boards, delivering undeniably dope songs like "Sally Got A One Track," "F—K Whatcha Heard" and the underground posse barnstormer "You Can't Front," featuring former Brand Nubian, Satat X and fellow DITC-associate Lord Finesse.

More than three years, and a series of now squashed label-complication later, Diamond makes his highly anticipated return as a recording artist with his long-delayed follow-up, Hatred, Passion and Infidelity and exciting collection of showcase compelling lyrics and expertly crafted tracks that once again invigorates hip hop with a much-needed dose of creativity, ingenuity and legitimacy.

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