



Platinum selling artist, Jade Starling, to release debut solo album, 'Captive'



By: Allen Foster | AXS Contributor | Jul 17, 2014

Back before there was autotune, photoshop, and “going viral,” an artist became a star with little more than their own talent, charisma and hard work to propel them upwards. Individuals who rose to the top in those days were a different breed of entertainer,



altogether. [Jade Starling](#), one half of the platinum selling duo called Pretty Poison (“Catch Me I’m Falling”), is one of those particular types of stellar talent. Starling writes addicting songs that grab you and refuse to let go. There is also a soul at the core of her music that forges a deep and lasting bond with her audience. On August 12, this dance music superstar is stepping out on her own to release her debut solo album entitled *Captive*.

Though much of today’s music is single-driven, Jade’s debut is an album worthy of start-to-finish listens. Every song on *Captive* is a kinetic, hyper-charged expression of euphoria, but the real and lasting impact of Starling’s masterpiece is its ability to take the listener on a journey. The album has a

beginning, middle, and an end, so listening straight through is a thoroughly satisfying experience.

AXS.com recently spent an afternoon with this chart-topping diva discussing everything from how collaborating has changed due to technology to the real reason why Starling writes and performs.

Jade is an impressive woman who, despite her iconic status in certain communities, remains a pure, down-to-earth delight. In fact, even though her singing voice is solid gold, she maintains her endearing regional accent while speaking, thoroughly embracing her Philly/Jersey girl roots. Starling possesses a refreshingly upbeat perspective, a healthy sense of humor, and a wonderfully melodic laugh.

"We've been very fortunate," Jade opened. "I mean, who knew that 'Catch Me' would have the longevity that it's had, and the success that it continues to have. It continues to reinvent itself! The song has been used on *Breaking Bad* and MTV's *Ridiculousness* besides the dozens of films it's been in and all the compilations it's been on. It's just a miracle!"

Although Jade continued collaborating with her longtime partner Whey Cooler for her solo debut, she also worked with top DJs, producers, and remixers from around the world. "We started writing songs for the album, and it was going one way, but then we had a remix done by UK-based Bimbo Jones (Lady Gaga, Rihanna, Kylie Minogue, Katy Perry, etc.) and from there it just started to expand into a whole other direction. Lee Dagger (part of Bimbo Jones) was really interested in what we were doing, so he sent us about a dozen tracks and we just started writing."

"Because Lee lives in the UK," Jade informed. "we collaborated via Skype. He would send the tracks to us, we would write the songs and record them — I recorded all the vocals here in our studio in Cherry Hill, New Jersey — and then we would send it back to him and he would mix it down. So there was production going on here and there was production going on there, as well!"

Jade and Whey also worked with Laszlo (Selena Gomez, Kelly Clarkson, Justin Bieber, Nicki Minaj) and French DJ/remixer Franck Dona (Universal France).

Captive is a dance album comprised of great songs. Jade doesn't take a hook, loop it, and parade it through your ear-space with different filters for fifteen minutes just to keep you on the dance floor, she delivers substance. Though each track easily stands on its own, the album is a cohesive whole with an overall theme. This debut is purpose-driven, more Kylie Minogue than extended DJ remix.

Regarding the title, Starling remarked, "I felt captive of my own ambition throughout the process of writing and recording this record, but captive also means me wanting to captivate the audience."

"This album is very deep and very spiritual," she continued. "It's also very personal and very positive. There's just so much going awry in the world today ... I feel that music is a touchstone to happiness and joy."

The second single from *Captive*, "Think About U," is an exhilarating beatopia! The track mesmerizes with an abundance of swirls, waves, and fuzzy pulses while Starling's pristine vocals electrify your soul making you feel truly alive!

"I just wanted to create something that would make people happy and want to dance," Jade expressed. "Something to make you open your heart again and feel happiness and

love. I wanted to take you back to a more pure time when you first fell in love and get you to remember those feelings that you had. Also, the falling in love is about how I fall in love with the audience every time at every show!”

“People relate to lyrics, people relate to melodies,” Starling pointed out. “And that’s what we do. We are award winning songwriters, so we are not going to disappoint — the songs are all really good songs. And I’m not just saying that because it’s my record, I honestly feel that it’s a very solid record. It came from my heart and soul and there’s not one thing on there that I’m not proud of!”

“I don’t know if people are aware of this, but we’ve had 7 number 1 dance hits on Billboard over the years, and we’ve had 2 top 10 pop songs,” she concluded. “But that’s not the reason why we do what we do. The creative process is my passion in life and I’ll continue to make music no matter what because this is what I’m meant to do.”

Jade Starling’s next single, “Think About U” featuring Lee Dagger, comes out July 18. *Captive* will be available August 12. To stay in touch with Jade, visit her [website](#), like her on [Facebook](#), and follow her on [Twitter](#).

Following are Jade’s current upcoming dates (more TBA):

7/18 – Resorts World Casino NYC – Jamaica, Long Island, NY

8/9 – The Cutting Room – New York, NY

8/11 – Scores Atlantic City, DJ Times Expo – CD release event - Atlantic City, NJ

9/12 – Freestyle Explosion, [Amway Center](#) – Orlando, FL

9/13 – Freestyle Explosion, [Tampa Bay Times Forum](#) – Tampa, FL