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**FANTASIA DECLARES: *FREE YOURSELF* WITH DEBUT
ALBUM ON NOVEMBER 23**

**America's *American Idol* favorite completes her first album produced by
hitmakers Missy Elliott, Jermaine Dupri, The Underdogs and others**

The first single, "Truth Is," impacts Urban radio on November 15th

(Nov. 10, 2004 - New York, NY) J/19 recording artist **Fantasia**, the *American Idol 3* champion who made Billboard History with her first record "**I Believe**" in June, is set to release her debut album ***FREE YOURSELF***. The album, arriving in stores November 23rd, will feature guest appearances by Missy Elliott, who is producing three tracks, and a host of hitmakers that include Jermaine Dupri, Rodney Jerkins, Soulshock & Carlin, The Underdogs, Jazze Pha, and others.

FREE YOURSELF album producer Clive Davis, Chairman and CEO, BMG North America – who served as a judge in the final stages of "American Idol" and signed **Fantasia** to J Records in association with *American Idol* creator Simon Fuller's 19 Recordings Ltd. – has announced that the artist's first single will be "**Truth Is**," produced by Soulshock & Karlin. "**Truth Is**" will impact Urban and Rhythm radio on November 15th, and Top 40 radio on November 29th.

"Fantasia is the real deal, an artist who is instantly identifiable and very much her own person," said Davis. "She will have a long and illustrious career."

In addition to reprising "**I Believe**", ***FREE YOURSELF*** will include **Fantasia's** show stopping version of the Gershwins' "**Summertime**," the song that took her to the final round on the *American Idol* competition. Fantasia made Billboard history by becoming the first artist in the history of Billboard's Hot 100 chart to debut at Number 1 with her first record, "**I Believe**." "**I Believe**" is currently the best selling single this year according to Nielsen Soundscan charts.

FREE YOURSELF will also contain no less than three collaborations with Missy Elliott as producer and co-writer: "**Selfish (I Want U 2 Myself)**" (featuring Missy), the album title tune "**Free Yourself**" and "**Good Lovin**". Among the album's other highlights: The Underdogs produced "**Ain't Gon' Beg You**" and "**You Were Always On My Mind**" made famous by Willie Nelson, "**Baby Mama**" (co-written and

produced by Harold Lilly), "**Don't Act Right**" (with Jazze Pha), "**It's All Good**" (with Rodney Jerkins), "**This Is Me**" (The Underdogs), and "**Got Me Waiting**" (produced by Jermaine Dupri).

"Working with Fantasia was fun because she's so into what she does and she understands that she's one hit record away from being not only the biggest American Idol, but one of the biggest stars in the world," said Jermaine Dupri.

Fantasia's upcoming appearances include the American Music Awards, Good Morning America, 20/20, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Ellen, Live with Regis & Kelly, and Early Show. Fantasia will also make a guest appearance on NBC's *American Dreams* (Nov. 14th, NBC) as her idol, Aretha Franklin and she will perform on the *American Idol Christmas* special (with Kelly Clarkson and Ruben Studdard) airing on Fox on November 24th.

As the pre-release campaign heats up in support of ***FREE YOURSELF***, the High Point, North Carolina native and single mother is proud of the work she has accomplished on her debut album. "I want the songs I record to show different aspects of what I can do musically," she says. "I feel like God has blessed me and now I just want to give something back..."

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