

MACY GRAY RELEASES "BUDDHA" OFFICIAL VIDEO

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Legendary R&B/soul singer **Macy Gray** has released the official music video for "**Buddha**" (featuring blues-rock guitarist [Gary Clark Jr.](#)) from her **latest album, RUBY!** The video was directed by the multi-talented [Teyana "Spike Tee" Taylor](#).

"Buddha" finds Macy reflecting on her 20+ years in the music business, the disorienting nature of fame, and her quest to find her center and stay grounded.

As Macy told *Rolling Stone*,

"Underneath the Gary Clark solo, the incredible production by Johan Carlsson, and the Teyana Taylor-directed video is a little story about my battles with mental health. Though it has held me up and set me back many times, I was able to write this song because I am winning my war with it. And I'm able to celebrate my present and look forward to my future because of it. To everybody struggling with something, it'll be okay, just don't let it beat you. Buddha says 'concentrate the mind in the present' - and that's where it's at all the time."

Leading up to the video release, Macy hosted a **cover art contest** on Instagram and received over 300 submissions from artists hoping to win the \$500 prize and have their art featured as the official "Buddha" single artwork. The winner, created by Jonathan Caustrita, is below!

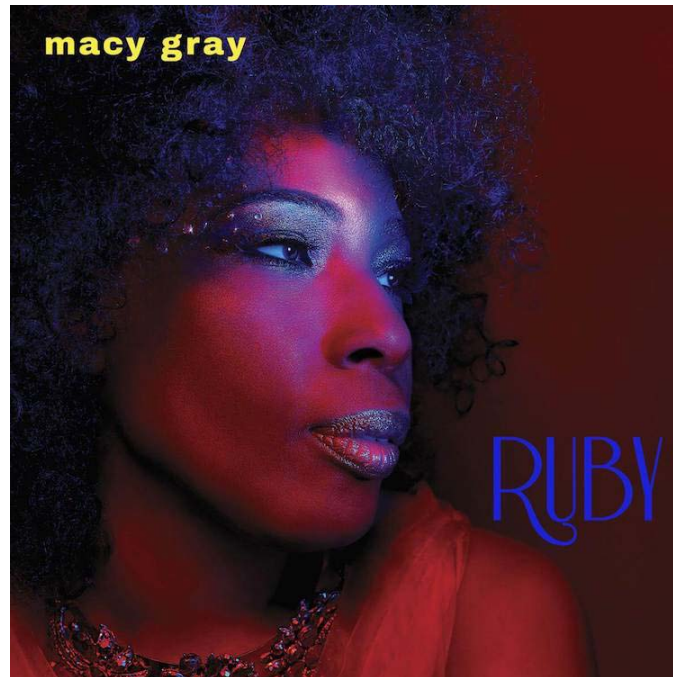
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Cover artwork contest winner: Jonathan Caustrita

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"Macy Gray's *RUBY* is named for more than just a jewel: it describes her polish, passion and the rich, regal countenance she's absorbed since reclaiming her focus and artistry." - [Soul Tracks](#)

"With stunning production and Gray at her most charismatic, [*RUBY*] is a showcase of an artist in her prime." - [Atwood Magazine](#)

More about Macy Gray:

"I love the gem ruby," Macy explains. "It's so regal. I really wanted a title that would stick. The stone is also red of course, which is my favorite color. It's rich and has history. It's classic -- and so is this album."

That unmistakable rasp, unshakable grasp on soul, and funky spirit ensured her status as a 21st century icon since her arrival with the **triple-platinum album *On How Life Is* in 1999**. Selling over **25 million albums globally**, winning a **GRAMMY® Award** and **two BRIT Awards**, collaborating with everyone from Ariana Grande to Galactic, and selling out venues in nearly

every corner of the globe two decades into her storied career. Macy's talents resound beyond music as well. She starred in Tyler Perry's Black Reel Award-winning *For Colored Girls* and would grace the screen everywhere from *Brotherly Love* and *Cardboard Boxer* to NETFLIX's hit *Fuller House*. Moreover, she made a now legendary appearance in *Training Day* alongside Academy® Award winner Denzel Washington one of many on-screen hallmarks.

Now, her **tenth full-length album, *RUBY*** [Artistry Music/Mack Avenue], reaffirms and reasserts that signature rarity millions continue to treasure.

Channeling the spirit of the "grimy" R&B and smoky jazz closest to her heart, Macy made a leap forward by looking back to formative inspirations. However, she updated those elements with enriched, entrancing, and enigmatic soundscapes brought to life by producers Johan Carlsson [Michael Bublé, Maroon 5], Tommy Brown [Jennifer Lopez, Fifth Harmony, Travis Scott], and Tommy Parker Lumpkins [Janet Jackson, Justin Bieber].

"They're all stellar producers, and they helped me craft an incredibly rich project," she goes on. "They were brilliant in integrating horns and strings. There are so many complex layers. I wanted something that never got boring in terms of the music."

RUBY canvases a wide spectrum for the songstress. Raucous horns that feel ripped from a classic seventies flick augment the grit on "Cold World" as "Jealousy" spins a covetous narrative that soars as it seduces. Gary Clark Jr. adds six-string firepower to "Buddha." Everything culminates on the reggae-inspired "Witness," which shuffles between mainland soul and island grooves as she croons, "I wish I was Jesus. I would make sure to fix it. Can I get a witness?"

"I think my sound reflects where I am," she exclaims. "I'm a little older...just a little [laughs]. I've had more experiences and influences. I want my sound to feel fresh and relevant. I feel that I was able to achieve that, and I'm extremely proud of this album." Audiences will feel that, too as she brings the record to life nightly in North America, the UK, and Europe on her 2018 tour.

In the end, *RUBY* represents Macy Gray at her most passionate, poetic, and powerful. "I hope audiences can feel connected to the record," she leaves off. "I hope that I can make them smile and make them reflect. I love when fans reach out with stories of how I've inspired, influenced them, or helped them get through a moment in their life. I want them to take away sincerity, honesty and authenticity. I'm hopeful that I am providing them with something that is meaningful and thoughtful. I'm still looking at how I can contribute more artistically and as a human. This is one way."



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