

THE GAME

Compton's own Game (aka the Game and Hurricane Game) issued his debut LP, *The Documentary*, in 2004 through Aftermath/G-Unit/Universal. With everyone from Dr. Dre and 50 Cent to Nate Dogg, Kanye West, and Just Blaze contributing to the album, *The Documentary* made it clear from the outset that geographic squabbles weren't a part of Game's agenda. Rapping hadn't been at first, either. Having gotten involved in the drug trade after a rough childhood, it took being shot during a home invasion to cause an epiphany in Game. Inspired by N.W.A, *The Chronic*, *Doggystyle*, and classic albums from 2Pac, the Notorious B.I.G., and Jay-Z, Game began rapping in 2001 and never looked back. His barbed and bold freestyles caught the ear of Dre, who signed him to Aftermath in 2003 and executive-produced his debut. It was delayed a few times, but *The Documentary* finally dropped in January 2005.

Doctor's Advocate Soon Game and 50 Cent were at war over the former's reluctance to beef with any and every enemy of G-Unit. Freestyles and mixtapes were spawned in amazing amounts from both sides, and every time a truce seemed possible, things fell apart at the last minute. Dr. Dre was stuck in the middle, and while he never publicly denounced Game, he passed on working with the rapper for his next effort. Despite Dre's absence, Game's sophomore release kept its original title of *Doctor's Advocate* when it was released in late 2006. Two years later, *LAX* was released. With fewer mentions of Dr. Dre and 50 Cent, the uneven album found the rapper moving on from his previous obsessions. After periods of retirement talk, the MC had a change of heart and began recording *The R.E.D. Album* ("R.E.D." being short for "rededicated"). After several delays and the release of numerous promotional singles, the album was released in August 2011.

Jesus Piece A year later, *Jesus Piece* landed with a long guest list including Rick Ross, Lil Wayne, 2 Chainz, and Chris Brown. The conceptual album explored both the divine and the devilish, and how the rapper attended church as often as strip clubs. Late in 2012 he announced he had partnered with rapper Stat Quo and formed the label Blood Money Entertainment, which saw its first release two years later when "Bigger Than Me" was released. The single landed on Game's 2014 release *Blood Moon: Year of the Wolf*, another feature-filled album with Too \$hort on board for the follow-up single "Or Nah." Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, Nas, and Q-Tip led off the long guest list on his star-studded 2015 effort *The Documentary 2*, an album that was introduced by the single "100" featuring Drake. In 2016 the A&E network aired his three-part documentary series *Streets of Compton*, while the eOne label released the soundtrack that same year.