

AUNT CHLOE

A Journal of Artful Candor

ISSUE 2021



Kennard Garrett

“The Art of Making Music”

“I look at music as art. I really think about it almost like it is a film, like a picture. And it needs to tell a story.”

Award-winning music producer, composer, and arranger Kennard Garrett has worked with some of the biggest artists in music. Listen to him discuss his process, his Grammy-winning single, and his passion for music.

AUNT CHLOE: How did you first break into the music industry?

KENNARD GARRETT:

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Kennard Garrett

AUNT CHLOE: How do you approach a raw song that you are going to produce?

KG:

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Ordinary People (John Legend) video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIh07c_P4hc

AUNT CHLOE: Do you also write songs? Please discuss the process of writing a song.

KG:

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AUNT CHLOE: How did “Don’t Make Me Wait” come to be... How did the collaboration of Shaggy and Sting happen?

KG:

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Don’t Make Me Wait (Sting and Shaggy) video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L0xKz5TsYb0>

AUNT CHLOE: From your perspective as a Black producer, do you think there is a tendency to pigeonhole some people into specific types of music that they can produce?

KG:

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The Vanishing of Harry Pace podcast - <https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/radiolab/projects/vanishing-harry-pace>

AUNT CHLOE: In November 2020, you co-created a music app titled “House Mark 1.” Discuss why and how...

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Kennard Garrett

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-z3PMKl44FQ&feature=emb_imp_woyt

AUNT CHLOE: Who are your biggest influences in music and why?

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One in a Million (Aaliyah) video - <https://youtu.be/KKSz4NE6PwY>

AUNT CHLOE: What advice would you give to someone trying to become a music producer?

KG:

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Check out music by Kennard Garrett here: <https://www.auntchloelitmag.com/music>

(This interview was conducted by Elyce Strong Mann with assistance from Kennedy Dunning. Kennard Garrett photo on Aunt Chloe homepage courtesy of the artist.)

Kennard Garrett is an Emmy-nominated, award-winning record producer, composer, and arranger. He has produced and received musician/arranger credit on numerous chart-topping songs for various artists—from the PussyCat Dolls, Jesse McCartney, and Korean pop star BoA to R&B singer Case, and rappers J. Cole and Drake.

Kennard produced “Don’t Make Me Wait,” the lead single on the collaborative album 44/876 by international superstars Sting and Shaggy, which spent nineteen weeks at No. 1 on *Billboard*, and won Best Reggae Album honors at the 61st GRAMMY Awards in February 2019. In 2020, Kennard, along with award-winning producer Justin “Henny” Henderson, developed the music app “House Mark 1.” Within the first week of its release, it was the No. 1 music app and the No. 4 paid app overall in the App Store.

Kennard Garrett serves as a national trustee for the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (GRAMMYS) and is a member of the Producers and Engineers wing and the Songwriters wing. A graduate of Morehouse College and Georgia Tech, he is an adjunct professor at Morehouse College.