

Those anxious to get off the bandstand details about the lives of rappers will enjoy **Hip Hop 411** (MVD). From Jay-Z discussing what makes a true MC master to Pharrell discussing his idols and Naughty By Nature offering their views about what split them apart, this disc lets the performers tell their own stories.

It also covers a good cross-section, from early stars like Young MC and rapperturned-actor Ice-T to Snoop Dogg, Master P. and others such as Skee-Lo and RL of Next. Co-producer and director Mark Saint Juste does triple duty, co-hosting the affair with Natashia Williams. Although a bit more steering of the interviews toward the musical at times would be nice, Hip Hop 411 offers some insights not only into the creative process, but also the hectic, bizarre and nonstop lifestyles several rappers experiences.

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