

## Island Records sign Shaheen

following worldwide frenzy of interest + he announces summer online reality show. First episode to air July 19<sup>th</sup> on

www.shaheenofficial.com

"If I was still in the business I'd sign him tomorrow"

Berry Gordy founder of Motown Records

"This kid has a great future" Stevie Wonder

"Shaheen is incredible" Lionel Richie

"You have an extraordinary future ahead of you and I'm proud to know you"

Larry King talking to Shaheen on his show

"I wanted to pass the torch through Shaheen onto the next generation"

Michael Jackson – As told to Kenny Ortega

Island Records UK is proud to announce that they have signed possibly the most famous 13-year-old musical talent on the planet today. Shaheen Jafargholi decided on the move after months of speculation following his jawdropping performance of 'Who's Lovin You' at Michael Jackson's Memorial service last year, which was watched by over a billion people across the world. Shaheen was invited by the Jackson family to sing after Michael originally asked him to perform a duet at the late singer's O2 Arena London shows. The teenager was initially brought to the world's attention on TV talent show Britain's Got Talent, where he wowed the judges and racked up millions of YouTube hits in the process. An album will be released in November and in the lead up to it Shaheen will also star in his own online reality show - the through website first episode of which July 19th will air on www.shaheenofficial.com

Shaheen's talents were praised by numerous legends in music including Berry Gordy, Stevie Wonder, Lionel Richie, Smokey Robinson and the Jackson family following his now historic performance at The Staples Center in LA. Shaheen was immediately embraced by the US media, who were smitten with the story surrounding this amazing young boy and his incredible voice, and he was promptly whisked off to guest on several massive US primetime TV shows including Larry King Live, Ellen Degeneres and Oprah (the latter on which he actually performed again too).

Shaheen has now been signed by a label that not only has an incredibly rich musical history stretching back to when it was founded in 1959 to the present day with signings like U2, Bob Marley, Grace Jones, Pulp and PJ Harvey and more recent success stories like Amy Winehouse, Keane and Florence + The Machine, who have sold over 20 million albums between them.

Details of the new record are heavily under wraps at the moment, but the album has been confirmed for a Q4 release in the UK. 'Island Records has long been associated with great voices. Shaheen is one of these voices. This album will mark Shaheen out as a unique talent among his generation.' DARCUS BEESE Co-President of Island Records.

Shaheen's new online reality show will air on <a href="www.shaheenofficial.com">www.shaheenofficial.com</a> with the first episode to go up on July 19th. The show will give fans and viewers a fly-on-the-wall view of everything Shaheen has done over the last twelve months including the whirlwind media attention in the US over a year ago. The episodes will plot Shaheen's movements right up through recording his new album, to releasing it in November of this year.

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