

1 993 was the shit.

The L.A. underground was blowing up. The Pharcyde, Freestyle Fellowship, Alkaholiks, Mad Kap, and others were all over the place. Everyone was talking about the Good Life Cafe's Thursday night "Pass the Mic" session as the just-discovered mecca of true lyricism. Fifty different groups must have been signed that year, but fewer than ten of them probably ever dropped albums. Among the missing Good-Lifers was a group called S.I.N., composed of two sisters (cousins, actually) named Ko-Ko and Medusa. When the feeding frenzy faded out, they found themselves sitting on a shelf in the confused offices of East-West Records, their careers on hold. Ko-Ko bounced down to Atlanta to work with her father, which left Medusa (a pop-locker from L.A.'s old-school days) to strike out on her own.

"That whole clique got shaft-

ed." says Medusa, "Besides the Pharcyde, obviously they've made a name for themselves, same with Xzibit and the Alkaholiks. Sometimes underground heads can get heads open because they're different, original. Technical in a lyrical sense; they make you think, and a lot of people don't want to think that hard. Maybe during that time they just didn't have that particular formula, or the world wasn't ready for that formula yet."

"But it's a new age," she states, oozing confidence, "and I think they're ready for it now."

Influenced by the Isley Brothers, Carol King, and the Last Poets, as well as the hip-hop that she heard growing up, Medusa has spent the past few years perfecting her half-singing/half-rapping style. Working with producer Fat Jack, she has come up with a whole gang of songs, some of which made it onto her recently released EP *Do It The Way You*

*Feel It (Good Vibe)*.

For those not familiar with her style, it may take a while to digest. "I feel like, if you feel it, that's wonderful. If you don't like it now, you will eventually," Medusa says. "I can see how people might find it difficult to feel because it is so different, but it's original things that have longevity. I'm not just trying to make some chips out here - I'm trying to really express myself. If just 10 people feel me, then that's how many are supposed to feel me. Those are the ones who are supposed to receive the message. But I guarantee that after seeing us perform, they'll feel it. Then they'll be coming up talking about 'Where can I pick up the wax?'" Medusa's stage show with the nine-woman crew Feline Science is quickly becoming legendary, and with her reputation and demo circulating, Medusa caught the attention of Destiny Entertainment in New York, and