

Christina Milian

WHY THIS DO-IT-ALL DIVA'S QUICKLY RISING TO THE TOP *by Lisa Arcella*

At just 23, the Cuban-American starlet, who made it big with the leave-nothing-to-the-imagination hit "Dip It Low," has finally reached the top of casting agents' lists as well. She's starred in not one, but two major motion pictures—*Be Cool* with John Travolta and *Man of the House* with Tommy Lee Jones—and will release a follow-up to her hit album, *It's About Time*, later this year. Here, she tells *For Me* what it's like to be the girl everyone's talking about.

FM: You seem to have changed your style over the last couple of years to ultra-sexy. Was that planned?

CM: I want people to see that I've grown up. The fun part of being an artist is changing your image.

FM: Do you hate it when people call you little Beyoncé?

CM: We get a lot of comparisons because of our looks, but honestly, if you really listen to our music, you can see that we are individuals. I'm going more the acting route rather than just being a singer who acts here and there.

FM: Any tips on staying in shape?

CM: I bought some tapes I saw on an infomercial that work really well, called *Slim in 6*. I love Cuban food, but I have to watch it, because it consists of a lot of rice, and I gain weight easily.

FM: Do you love Cuban music, too?

CM: Yes! It was one of my influences growing up. We would listen to that kind of music and dance around while we were cleaning.

FM: We've heard you have a crush on Brad Pitt. True?

CM: He's hot! If I could choose anyone to do a movie with or date, it would be him.

FM: How are you going to keep up your momentum?

CM: You just have to have the passion and drive to do what you want in this business. It's all about believing in yourself.

ESSENTIAL INFO

- Christina was born September 26, 1981, in New Jersey, but she grew up in Maryland. She later moved to L.A. with her mom and sisters to pursue showbiz.
- Christina recorded two songs for the *Be Cool* soundtrack, cowrote Jennifer Lopez's hit "Play" and has toured with Usher and Kanye West.
- When she was a kid, Christina lived in the same apartment building as Jessica Biel, Green Day and Tupac Shakur.
- Like many pop stars these days, she has the Disney Channel to thank for her first break: a stint as a child reporter.

PSST! CHRISTINA: "DIP IT LOW" IS ABOUT KEEPING A GUY ON HIS TOES IN A RELATIONSHIP."