**MR JUKES & BARNEY ARTIST ANNOUNCE JOINT ALBUM, “THE LOCKET”**

**RELEASED 2nd JULY 2021**

**NEW SINGLE “VIBRATE” STREAMING TODAY**

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*(*[*Hi-res.*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/9okkbh8t916mvnx/MrJukesBarneyArtistLead%20JoshShinner.jpg?dl=0) *Credit: Josh Shinner)*

**Mr Jukes & Barney Artist** are excited to share details of their collaborative album, **“The Locket”** to be released on **2nd July.** The album is preceded by the single **“Vibrate”** which is out today - **stream here / watch the video here [LINKS]**

“Vibrate” is a playful introduction to the world Jukes (Jack Steadman) and Barney have created, built on a mutual love of A Tribe Called Quest and J Dilla, alongside contemporary heavyweights like Kendrick Lamar, Kano and Ghostpoet. Its breezy, laid back energy is purpose-built for summer listening and soundtracking moments as the world reopens. Its accompanying video sees Mr Jukes and Barney take a trip to an empty Alton Towers, breathing life back into a space that’s been deserted for too long. The pair initially asked permission to film on a rollercoaster as part of a different idea for the video but when Alton Towers instead offered them private access to the whole theme park, they knew they had to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Speaking about the track, Barney explains: *“Vibrate was the very last song we made for the album. It really summarises mine and Jack’s relationship which is great vibes with a meaningful message.”*

*The Locket* features ten tracks cut from sessions that span over eighteen months. It’s sunshine-dappled, psych-tinged, hip-hop flavoured, leftfield pop. Beats, bars and a unique sort of retro futurism that zips from sepia-tinged to full technicolour almost as fast as Barney’s flow. Its title track refers to memories of happier times: *“we fill a locket with memories we protect, and don’t forget to keep it round your neck.”* It’s a reminder to focus on positivity in the face of adversity. A collaborative project designed to be enjoyed together. A celebration of music, unity and looking ahead. *“The aim is to bring hope to people after the maddest year,”* Barney says. It couldn’t have come at a better time.

During a period of prolonged inactivity, Jack Steadman scratched an itch to do something new. He went by the moniker of Mr Jukes and released an album, *God First*, in 2017. We say ‘by himself’ but it was very much an open-door policy, resulting in a collaborative record that brought contributions by legends such as Charles Bradley, De La Soul, Horace Andy, Lianne La Havas, BJ The Chicago Kid and Lalah Hathaway. The project also features a contribution from Barney Artist, who Jack had quite simply stumbled upon on a Spotify playlist and never forgotten.

Barney’s music takes the vibrance of jazz infused hip-hop but with a London feel. Growing up in Forest Gate, East London, Barney touches on conscious themes by way of lively, dynamic delivery to create something instantly likeable, like the artist. He’s a larger than life presence, fun to be around and a searing, peerless talent too. A collaborator by nature, Barney grew up around Tiana Major9 and Jay Prince and has made music with Tom Misch, Alfa Mist and Jordan Rakei.

Barney’s contribution to *God First*, “From Golden Stars Comes Silver Dew” (also featuring Lalah Hathaway) proved to be a standout. Bonded by a mutual love of the ever-changing landscape of modern hip-hop, the two artists instantly fell into step with one another. There was no clear plan or brief to fulfil for a full-length Jukes X Barney project, but both artists instinctively knew that it would be a waste not to explore the potential they’d uncovered. They were right, clearly.

**“The Locket” will be released on 2nd July, including the below tracks.**

1. The Locket
2. [Blowin Steam (Open Up Your Mind)](https://mrjukesandbarneyartist.lnk.to/BlowinSteamSo)
3. Poems
4. Déjà Vu
5. Vibrate
6. Autumn Leaves (feat. Lex Amor)
7. All For You
8. Check The Pulse (feat. Kofi Stone)
9. Leaving Us In Light
10. Gratitude

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**“The Locket” Artwork**

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