

P.O.S.

WORDS BY **ADAM BERNARD**

»» Better Than Ever

It would be apropos to call P.O.S.'s *Never Better* a "long awaited" album. The Minneapolis based emcee started working on it immediately following the release of his 2007 effort, *Audition*.

His plans, however, took an unexpected turn during a stop in Columbus, Ohio. "My van got broken into," P.O.S. remembers. "They took my hard drives and all my shit. I didn't have any more backups, so I lost all those beats."

The theft set him back eight months in the creative process, but when inspiration finally struck again P.O.S. says the result was a marked improvement over his lost tracks. "When I finally sat down to start making the record again it came out way different, way better, way more aggressive."

P.O.S. prepped for *Never Better* while working on the Doomtree collective album. He says working with his Doomtree crew "got me really flexing my rap muscle." According to P.O.S., the results have been noticeable. "I've gotten better at saying what I want to say without it coming off too blunt," he explains, "I feel like I'm more subtle as a rapper than I've ever been. I'm really enjoying rapping, really enjoying trying to kill it every single time."

Musically, P.O.S. feels *Never Better* is "a lot more dynamic than *Audition*. There's a lot of heavy noise and heavy subject matter on the record, but the overarching theme is this hopeful idea of standing up and doing something you enjoy." With the album (released in February), P.O.S. hopes listeners will agree that it's been worth the wait.

