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ALLSTON BRIGHTON

Former resident, BU alum releases 'Allston Christmas' song

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

A former Ashford Street resident and musician released a song this week dubbed "Allston Christmas" to celebrate the neighborhood's unofficial, ongoing holiday -- a time when abandoned items left curbside from the early September apartment turnover are scooped up by other residents as if they were gifts left under a lit-and-decorated conifer tree.

"The song is about memories and it's nostalgic, but it's also gritty which is important," the musician said by phone today. "There's a bitter-sweetness to it."

The 24-year-old musician, who asked to be identified only by his stage name Aviator, lived in Allston during his junior and senior years while studying sociology at Boston University, before moving out of the neighborhood two years ago.

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Allston was where Aviator said he got his "bearings as a young 20-something," and it was also where the "Allston Christmas" song was recorded about one month ago in a studio run by music engineer Fresh. His younger brother, [InfinitiRock](#), helped produced the beat for the song that was written around five months ago. [Brain Trust Collective](#) along with [Base Trip Records](#) are helping to promote the 3-minute, 29-second piece released Wednesday.

"People are saying it really takes them back to Allston," said Aviator.

He remembered partaking in "Allston Christmas" when he was an off-campus college student.

"We definitely had a futon that sat on the street we had to disinfect and a few chairs that went through the same thing," he said, but added that, "Even though we took stuff off the street, we put stuff back as well. It's cyclical."

In early spring 2010, shortly after releasing his mixtape "Thank You, Come Again," Aviator opened at the intimate House of Blues Boston venue for a sold-out show headlined by rapper Kid Cudi, who had been nominated for three Grammy Awards three months earlier.

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"Things are picking up for me, and I owe that to the people of Boston," the artist said.

He continues to record new songs and music remains a priority, but to hold him over financially, Aviator, currently a Brooklyn resident, has taken up a job opportunity working on Wall Street. He hopes to eventually be making music on a full-time basis.

The "Allston Christmas" song contains explicit lyrics. It can be streamed and downloaded, [here](#). To read the artist's blog, [click here](#).

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