

...all about the music!



WHAT'S HOT IN MUSIC

Pictured clockwise from left: Dig Jelly, PINE*AM and Kumiko Kato

A DIVERSE GROUP OF MUSICAL ARTISTS AND BANDS ROCKED THE AUDIENCE FOR CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST ASIAN POP CULTURE EVENT, **PACIFIC MEDIA EXPO 2005** IN LONG BEACH. **BY EDWIN MACARAEG**

Photography by **NERGENE ARQUELADA**

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WHAT'S HOT IN MUSIC

When we found out about the PMX concert lineup, we were very curious about the way these bands were going to sound.

It would seem as though this lineup would create something diverse with hopes of touching different areas of Asian musical entertainment.

We were literally amazed as we found out that these wonderful artists from all over the world would be performing in Long Beach, California for Pacific Media Expo.

The first band on the list to perform was the wonderfully talented Jane Liu, who is originally from Hong Kong.

Her band consisted of a violin player, cello, plus the basic rock setup (bass, drum and guitar) with Jane Liu playing on the keyboard.

Her music can be described as emotionally smooth, colorful and even jazzy

at times.

Jane Liu's voice is charming. She would connect herself to the audience by talking and getting to know her audience.

It was like being enveloped into a nostalgic and peaceful conversation with an old friend.

I really enjoyed the mixture of the violin and the cello in her music.

The second performer was Corrine May.

Born and raised in Singapore, she is a very talented piano player and song writer.

The lyrics that Corrine May were singing were wonderfully inspiring.

As I sat in the audience and listened to their uplifting music, I felt more and more anxious to listen to what she was going to sing about next.

It made me feel happy to know that

someone with such beautiful perception is sharing her feelings with the world.

Japanese tri, PINE*am was set to perform on the first and second day of Pacific Media Expo.

These girls sound is like a combination of techno and 70's type of bubble gum rock.

These girls on stage were cute and their music just made me want to dance.

One can probably describe PINE*am sound as fun, hypnotic, party music.

They do some really neat effects on the synthesizer keyboard and electric guitar.

The lead singer had a really cool voice and they were a really fun group, to watch and enjoyed as they encourage the audience to come up to the stage and dance.

The next musical guest to perform was Sounday music artist Kumiko Kato.



Pacific Media kicked off their three-day event with music performances by Jane Liu (left), followed by Corrine May (right)

This Japanese pop R & B artist was amazing as she was singing with all of her heart's content and captivated her audience with her rhythmic, sensual dance moves.

We found out later from her press conference that all of her dance choreography was created by Kumiko herself which makes her an even more talented singer and dancer.

The audience fell in love with her as she would describe the songs she was going to sing.

She would sing about an experience and the emotions she would go through in a relationship and it was something that we all can relate to.

Watching Kumiko perform was a wonderful and extraordinary experience.

One of the coolest bands to perform and end the first day of performances at Pacific Media Expo would be Los Angeles based band Dig Jelly.

This rock band performed with such power and intensity.

The talented band members played created a sound that was hard-hitting and exciting.

Rayko was awesome as she pumped the audience with her creative vocal styles.

She was very cool and she gave me an opportunity to interview her after their phenomenal performance.

We learned that she really enjoys performing in front of an audience like it was a form of therapeutic experience!

She really enjoys the intensity of being in front of an audience in that she can really be herself on stage.

Rayko explained that she wants her audience to hopefully relate to what they sing about because they are just like everyone else and that "we are all in this thing together kinda thing."

The last band J!-ENT was able to catch that weekend was Random Ninjas.

These talented young performers enthralled the audience with their stage presence as a cool band of ninjas.

They were covering music from anime and video games as well as performing several of their own songs.

This unique bunch also had ninja dancers as well as on-stage fight choreography.

One of the most memorable events at the concert was to see the group of ninjas break-dancing in front of the audience.

People in the crowd were euphoric as they danced and sang along to some of their favorite anime tunes.

After attending each of these diverse concerts, I would like to say that I was very impressed by the line-up of musi-

cians who performed at this year's Pacific Media Expo..

The bands altogether created an awesome array of diversity which touched many areas in music.

I was touched by each of the band's music in a different way.

Some bands made me want to get out of my seat and dance around while others made me want to patiently listen as their music took me through an inescapable path of nostalgia.

I am definitely looking forward to hearing more from these bands and would like to congratulate Pacific Media Expo for putting together a very fine group of performers from diverse cultural backgrounds.

We definitely look forward to Pacific Media Expo 2006. ■



Random Ninjas rocked the Pacific Media Expo crowd on the second day of music performances.



