

nt2099 world groove

A little more “Chemistry?”

It has been a few years since I watched two talented vocalists: Yoshikuni Dochin and Kaname Kawabata battle it out with other really good male vocalists from Japan on the variety show “Asayan”.

“Asayan” has featured American Idol-esque talent search competitions which has spawned popular idol groups such as Morning Musume and promoted the careers of Namie Amuro, globe, Tomomi Kahala and many others had one more major talent competition before the show was cancelled and that was the “Asayan Danshi Vocalist Audition”.

Around 19,000 talented male participants came from all over Japan to have the chance of a lifetime and Dochin and Kawabata reached the finals among a few other talented vocalists which were grouped as pairs and each released a CD single. Dochin and Kawabata released the CD single “Saigo no Yoru” (end of the night) on January 15, 2001 and reached the Oricon Daily Chart at #9.

Breaking the top 10 was a blessing for the two as they were selected as the winners of the talent competition due to their chemistry of combining Dochin’s high vocals with Kawabata’s soul-inspired vocals. At this point, Chemistry was born.

The duo released their first CD single “Pieces of a Dream” in March 7, 2001 and sold over a million cop-



ies and reached #1 on Oricon CD single rankings.

Since then, the group has continued to rack up many more #1 hits such as “Point of No Return”, “You Go Your Way”, “Floatin’”, “It Takes Two” and their first album “The Way We Are” has also reached #1 spot on the Oricon ratings.

The duo has started to branch outside of Japan attracting more fans internationally with collaborations such as the Japan/Korea collaboration for the 2002 FIFA World Cup and also the Anti-Piracy Concert in Shanghai, China which

Chemistry and music artist, Nakashima Mika represented Japan.

Among the many accomplishments that these two have had in their career, they now have a chance to add another successful notch to belts.

Chemistry has been nominated for Space Shower TV’s Music Video Awards (which will take place on January 29, 2004) for Best Live Act.

You can sample some of Chemistry’s popular hits by visiting their official website at: www.chemistryclub.net. ■

— DENNIS A. AMITH

JAPAN

CHEMISTRY

Yoshikuni Dochin
Kaname Kawabata

Sony Music Entertainment Japan

CHEMISTRY (L-R): Yoshikuni Dochin & Kaname Kawabata. Photo courtesy of Sony Music Japan.