

Shimatani Hitomi

Dragonfly

Avex Trax
AVCD-31135/B (CD+DVD) | AVCD-31136
(CD only) | DURATION: 16:28
RELEASE DATE: February 21, 2007

01. Dragonfly
02. Bye-Bye
03. Dragonfly (instrumental)
04. Bye-Bye (instrumental)

DVD:
Duration: 8 minutes, 4:3, Region 2
01. Dragonfly - Single Version Music Clip
02. Dragonfly - Music Clip Making -

Shimatani has always been an interesting singer to follow. Unlike many of the other female divas from Avex, there is always a consistency I find.

May it be BoA, Amuro Namie, Hamasaki Ayumi, Suzuki Ami, always some sort of consistency. The same can't be said about Shimatani Hitomi.

Not only is she beautiful but she can do it all. May it be an R&B song, a rock song, a latin song and even enka (which is the music she originally began singing when she debuted).

But at the same time, some listeners can often be impatient and for Shimatani fans, many have been attracted to her music that either has a dance, symphony or latin-style to it.

It's a formula that has worked tremendously well with songs like "DESTINY ~Taiyou no Hana~", "Mermaid", "Garnet Moon", "Falco", etc.

For her 24th CD single, Shimatani Hitomi is back with "Dragonfly" which is more rock influenced.

For me, I have accepted Shimatani's music and accepted that there will be no consistency, something a bit different and I don't mind that at all. Some will but I don't.

It's what makes me appreciate her as an artist, because she stands out among other female artists is her ability to do challenge herself musically with different genres. And she makes it happen.

Interesting enough, the coupling song "Bye-Bye" is very different and more R&B-based and reminiscent of the style of a past Avex artist Amagata Naomi.

The music video retains Hitomi's sexiness and features the artist performing with a band and dancing. The making of shows the making of the music video.

All in all, it's something different and if you are willing to accept her music and the change of styles that she experiments with, then go for it.

Otherwise, if you are expecting another "DESTINY ~Taiyou no Hana~", then this CD single may not be for you.

Make sure you check out Hitomi's new album (her 6th) titled "PRIMA ROSA" which came out on March 7th.

For more information on Shimatani Hitomi, please visit her website at:

www.avexnet.or.jp/shimatani

— DENNIS A. AMITH



< And yet...something a bit different.

Shimatani Hitomi goes rock with her 24th CD single "Dragonfly"

HAVE YOU HEARD OF CAMILLE?

Because this band's music is available
on JapanFiles.com and it rocks!

CAMILLE OF THE RASPBERRY JUICE

TEARS
Death Pop Records

Duration: 32:28
6 tracks total

Coming from Tokyo is the trio known as CAMILLE OF THE RASPBERRY JUICE featuring YOO-KOO on guitar and vocals, YOSHIKI on bass and background vocals and HURO on drums and percussion.

Their music can be classified as somewhere between a cross between YUZU and SPITZ-like. It's emotional rock which the songs are poetic and can often be tragic.

Their sixth mini-album release titled "TEARS" is a pretty good album in which you will find a great balance between great singing and rock music.



The band has played in many live houses throughout Tokyo and Chiba and through their performances have sold many of their albums.

A bit surprised that this band has not signed with a major label because their music is pretty good but fortunately, you can find this mini-album outside of Japan through JapanFiles.com.

For more information on this group, please visit their official website at:

www.camille-raspberry.com