

# ...all about the music!

A DIVERSE GROUP OF MUSICAL ARTISTS AND BANDS ROCKED THE AUDIENCE FOR CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST ASIAN POP CULTURE EVENT, **PACIFIC MEDIA EXPO 2006** IN LOS ANGELES AT THE LAX HILTON. **BY EDWIN MACARAEG**



**WHAT'S HOT IN MUSIC**

Pictured clockwise from left: OLIVIA, UCHUSENTAI NOIZ & MECHANICAL PANDA @ PACIFIC MEDIA EXPO 2006

Photography by **NERGENE ARQUELADA**



\* **RANDOM NINJAS PERFORMING AT PMX.** Photography by Nergene Arquealada

As the numbers of attendees appearing at PMX would increase each year, we were skeptical about the types of performances that would be happening during this October 2006 event.

Due to the forthcoming Halloween holiday coming directly after the convention, this PMX would have a more or less visual kei/gothic Lolita appeal to it.

It was awesome to see that this year's events would have guests that could not be any more fitting than the ones we were able to witness on that weekend.

We were purely excited with the American debuts of bands such as Mechanical Panda and Imitation PoPs Uchu Sentai NOIZ.

Fans were eager to have the return of bands such as Dig Jelly and Random Ninjas.

Finally, with OLIVIA headlining this concert series, music lovers from different areas of the globe has come to watch

as these magnificent bands perform on an unforgettable Halloween weekend.

The first band to perform was shocking. As each member of the band would introduce themselves to the audience, their powerful formations amazed everyone.

We welcomed these brave warriors from outer space to promote peace to our planet.

This band can be no other than Imitation PoPs Uchu Sentai NOIZ. There was nothing more fitting than to open this concert series with a band with such high energy.

NOIZ created a rock sound that was very pleasing to the audience in that many of the fans found themselves mimicking and dancing along with the band members.

One of the most memorable moments of the NOIZ concert was the way lead singer (Angel-Taka) interacted with the audience.

With his "sexy" remarks, the audience was euphoric in laughter as they enjoyed the music performed by this wonderfully unique band. NOIZ played two shows, both the Saturday and Sunday of the PMX weekend.

Dig Jelly was the next band to perform as they are once again welcomed into this unforgettable concert series.

This LA-based rock band performed with such power and intensity.

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

Rayko, the lead singer for Dig Jelly was awesome as she pumped the audience with her creative vocal styles and thought provoking lyrics.

It was fascinating to see Rayko switch from busting out her own funky-creative rap style and then switching to a beautiful singing voice, and furthermore melodically screaming into the microphone.

Dig Jelly brought a great variety to the types of music brought to you by PMX.

OLIVIA performed an extraordinary concert as she made her American debut at the Pacific Media Expo.

Fans cheered as OLIVIA entered the stage with her amazingly beautiful lolita fashion.

From this point on, fans were standing on their feet through out the night as they were captivated by sweet intensity in her voice.

OLIVIA expressed a high level of emotion within each song. The crowd danced as the band rocked out with songs such as "Wish".

At the same time, the audience would be mesmerized by heavenly melodies with ballads such as "A Little Pain".

For her fans worldwide, OLIVIA's performance at PMX is definitely a concert to remember.

Mechanical Panda is a new punk rock/electronica band composed of all Japanese female members.

Through an earlier J!-ENT interview with these beautiful music artists we learned that they live life without any barriers.

Being a man or woman should not be a barrier in pursuing ones own dreams.

These women clearly showed us that night as they rocked the stage with their hard-hitting riffs and awesome vocals.

It was awesome to see lead singer Ren as she performed wearing Japanese kimono, carrying a traditional umbrella on to the stage.

The audience grew wild as they danced and raised their hands with songs such as "Mugen".

Mechanical Panda performed an awesome performance and we are definitely going to be forward to more of them in the future.

The final band to perform for this concert series was the Random Ninjas.

This awesome talented young band

made a huge impact during last year's PMX.

This time around they have come back with a lot more to deliver to their patiently long-awaiting audience.

It was great to see Random Ninjas come to PMX as they performed new music.

The dance and fighting choreography is an awesome addition to their inspiring performance.

The audience (many of them were also dressed as ninjas) found themselves dancing in front of the band, and singing along to their favorite songs, making this event such a memorable experience.

Random Ninjas is an awesome addition to this event in that the growing number of fans will be patiently waiting to see them again for the next PMX.

This years event has definitely become the best of previous years for PMX.

Every band to perform during these two nights played each show with much excitement and passion.

It was an especially wonderful and rare experience to attend concerts by these awesome Japanese artists.

A dream come true for many fans of OLIVIA, Mechanical Panda, and Imitation PoPs Uchuu Sentai NOIZ.

With the surprising announcements of these wonderful bands to perform this year, we are definitely interested in who will become the upcoming stars to perform for next year's PMX. ■

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\* RAYKO, LEAD VOCALIST OF DIG JELLY. Photography by Nergene Arquealada