



**RINO NAKASONE**

Infamous Harajuku Girl & Dance Choreographer  
Interviewed by Kaba Modern's **YURI TAG**

**ARTIST SPOTLIGHTS:**

FAR EAST MOVEMENT + DJ SLEEPER  
& DJ QBERT

**FASHION**

ANITA 's RUNWAY LINE &  
FOREIGN FAMILY

[WWW.ARCMAG.NET](http://WWW.ARCMAG.NET)

# Tantriq:Entertainment

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[www.tantriquentertainment.com](http://www.tantriquentertainment.com)

**Tantriq Entertainment LLC.** was created in January 2002. Jason Kawakami, Guy Brassuer, Gerald Oda, and Rob Collins created Tantriq Entertainment for the simple fact of throwing a "slamming" party. Tantriq grew in popularity over time attracting thousands to each and every venue in the beautiful state of Hawaii. Feeding off of Hawaii's word of mouth, Tantriq is now Hawaii's premiere entertainment night spot.

## TOP 5 TANTRIQ HOTSPOTS

**Wednesdays @ D&B's**

**Thursdays @ Level 4**

**Fridays @ W Hotel**

**Saturdays @ Chai's Island Bistro**

**After hour spot - Venus Lounge, and Level 4**

# SYNERGY PROMOTIONS

**Synergy Promotions** founded in 1997 is a respectable marketing/promotions company that constantly innovates to bring something new to the entertainment industry. In the eleven years since its inception, Synergy Promotions has become the premier events production company catering to the young adults of the Bay Area. Our reputation has been tested and proven through numerous entertainment events in Northern California's best nightclubs and venues. Thousands of patrons attend our productions on a weekly basis and experience the quality and dynamics of our internally produced events. The partners of Synergy Promotions and sister groups Level, Bartop and EFX present ground-breaking events which include huge theatrical productions, featured celebrities and performers. They also consult, own, and operate some of San Francisco's most highly regarded nightclubs.

[www.Synergysf.com](http://www.Synergysf.com) + [www.Levelsf.com](http://www.Levelsf.com) + [www.Societysf.com](http://www.Societysf.com) + [www.Bartopsf.com](http://www.Bartopsf.com)

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www.partytilam.com

**MOTTO: Sleep All Day. Party All Night. Never Grow Old. Never Die. PARTY TIL AM**

### TOP 5 PARTYTILAM's FAVORITE HOTSPOTS

**LAX** - 1714 N Las Palmas Ave Hollywood, CA, 90189 - Posh WeHo hotspot where all the beautiful people in LA chill. If you don't have a table...prepare to wait! Groups of hot girls get on the list and get there early!

**AREA** - 643 N La Cienega Blvd West Hollywood, CA, 90069 - You'll run into tons of different people at this hotspot! Everyone from members of the Black Eyed Peas to street wear skate teams, and unpretentious Hollywood hotties hit the dance floor at LAX!

**MOOD** - 6623 Hollywood Blvd Los Angeles, CA, 90028 - One of the most beautiful and best designed clubs in Hollywood. If you don't have a table prepare to wait on certain nights.

**OPERA & CRIMSON** - 1650 Schrader Blvd Hollywood, CA, 90028 - The new version of the old 1650 is completely HOT HOT HOT! It's a great sized venue when both clubs are put together and is a guaranteed good time as long as they don't close the divider between the two clubs!

**BOULEVARD3** - 6523 Sunset Blvd Hollywood, CA, 90028 - An incredibly chic and modern club with some hit or miss nights. Special events here are great! Some nights can be slow inside with tons of people trying to get in outside because of the strict and tough door.

### STAFF'S TOP 5 FAVORITE AFTER HOURS EATERIES

**Hodori** (Korean) - 1001 S Vermont Ave Los Angeles, CA, 90006

**Thai Hollywood** (Thai) - 5241 Hollywood Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90027

**CanTERS** (Deli) - 419 N Fairfax Ave Los Angeles, CA, 90036

**Fred 62** (American Diner) - 1850 N Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA, 90027

**Original Pantry Cafe** (Big Cheap Breakfast) - 877 S Figueroa St Los Angeles, CA, 90017

### BEHIND THE SCENES PARTYTILAM ROCKSTARS BIOS

**Arika Sato aka Tokyo Barbie**, 22, is a new addition to the AM Family and currently runs the Bottle Service for Party Til AM. She loves shoes, shopping, and most of all loves being in the spotlight. She is an aspiring TV host and can't wait until she is famous.

**Jon Shieh aka The Drunken Ninja**, 26, is one of Party til AM's best grass roots promoters and will hit up anyone without a second thought. He goes to school, works, hits the gym, and kicks it with the homies, and dinner for 1...

**Eddie Kim aka the Badge Nazi**, 27\_, has been with AM since the beginning and has got to be one of the most loyal guys you'll ever meet. He enjoys basketball, swimming, snowboarding, and making badges.

**RINO:** It wasn't hard at all! I was just more excited because I really wanted to come out to LA and experience the entertainment industry. I've always wanted to be an entertainer and since I love to dance so much, becoming a dancer was the most natural thing to do. It's just exciting. I don't know why but I just have a great interest in entertaining and becoming an entertainer was completely stuck in my head ever since I can remember.

**YURI:** were your parents supportive?

**RINO:** Yes and no. they wanted me to have regular jobs that are stable but knowing me, my mom knew that was not gonna happen. even though she wasn't sure, she would let me do whatever I wanted to do. And Finally after getting my working visa/green card, she realized I could really make it as a dancer.

**YURI:** What was the one dream/vision you had coming to america

**RINO:** I just wanted to be an entertainer. that was my dream and vision and it still is! Working with my idols (artists, their dancers and the choreographers) were crazy dreams of mine that actually came true for me! But I have yet to work with my all time favorite, MICHAEL!!!

**YURI:** I remember hearing about how you almost got sent back to japan? What was that about?

**RINO:** Yup. I got denied from immigration to the US when I first applied, but I knew I had to stay here, so I hired a different lawyer and tried it again. It was still hard and immigration was giving me a hard time. We tried everything and he told me to wait for the final answer in japan; but luckily, that's when I booked Janet and her people helped me get my visa and I ended up staying here!

**YURI:** What are your goals now that you've accomplished so much? (continue...)



# THE INTERVIEW by Tom Ngo



**TOM:** Why the name foreign family?

**FF:** Cause I wanted to create a company where all people who are into foreign lifestyles foreign cultures can relate to what the company puts out. We are all foreign in what we do and who we are so, why not unite everyone who feels the same way under one roof. Last thing is, I wanted to take care of my family and friends, so FOREIGN FAMILY only seemed right, plus it's such a great universal name for a company.

**TOM:** Why hand draw your stuff?

**FF:** Cause that how our designers keep it, all hand-drawn work, no messin around.

**TOM:** How has Los Angeles influenced you guys in your designs?

**FF:** Everything we have done or thought about has come from LA and the stuff we go through in LA.

**TOM:** Describe Foreign Family using 3 adjectives.

**FF:** sweaty, smelly, green

**TOM:** Most fun collaboration piece?

**FF:** um.....nothing fun yet cause we haven't got around to do any real hands-on collabos with other brands or accounts; we mostly send in the art. Still waiting on VIVID and Slipn Slide so we can get a FFxslipn slide video collabo. LOL.

**TOM:** What would you be doing if not for Foreign Family?

**FF:** I dont know, I would probably be doing whatever to make money and eat. Maybe I would have been a lil food shop owner. hahahah

**TOM:** What shall we expect in the next year?

**FF:** Great products, great videos, great photos, more FF events.

**TOM:** Thanks for the interview, any last words?

**FF:** Okay and I want to say hi to everyone that supports FOREIGN FAMILY, thanks for the love everyone. Big ups though to DIGITALGRAVEL, ATTIC in buena park, JOHN from Selector, all the warehouse dudes JOSH Y, Ivan from Nike, BUBA from SOLETECH, TOMMY, and gogo and puggy rip and SNIPPO and blimps, and all the Party til AM heads! :) ta-daaaa oi-eeee oi-eeee!

**Models get way, way more than dancers!** I understand it's different, but I think us dancers deserve more! We are completely necessary in this industry!

**YURI:** any advice to other dancers?

**RINO:** Seriously, you just gotta stay positive. The main thing is to have fun and practice hard! Back in the day, I studied other dancers hard. I didn't go to dance school! I just watched how they danced. I really tried to look like them so that I could learn everyone's style. When watching a group dancing together, I would look for the little differences between individuals and copy those details. When I audition or take classes I try my hardest try to adapt to their style but also add my own style on top. You gotta study the creators of the style, and learn from the OGs!

**YURI:** any shout-outs?

**RINO:** Shout outs to Michael Jackson! Tell him I'm ready to work for him! Thank you Michael for your inspiration! Also shout outs to my husband, family, and my crew, Beatfreaks. every thursday at 2, I teach at Debbie Reynolds with Maryss, or you can also buy my classes online at [www.digitaldancers.com](http://www.digitaldancers.com).

**Resume:**

**Crew:** Beat Freaks

**Dance Partner:** Maryss from Paris

**Dancer:** Gwen Stefani (Harajuku Girl as "Music") + Missy Elliot ("I'm really hot" MV Lead) + Britney Spears (Onyx Tour & "Me Against Music" MV) + Mary J. Blige + Chris Brown + Avril Lavigne +

**Commercials/Ads:** Ipod + Nike + Hard Tail + K-Swiss + JC Penny

**Movies:** You got served + Snow Flake (new movie of Wayan Brothers)

**Choreography:** Janet Jackson + SHINee (Korean Artists "Replay" MV) + Common + Big Red commercial.

**411:** [www.digitaldancers.com](http://www.digitaldancers.com)/RinoNakasone



Hiroyuki is flossing the Tokyo T-shirt with custom black Foreign Family black shorts.



Arika is wearing a ladies royal blue Foreign Peace dove tee. Also comes in purple, both are available at [digitalgravel.com](http://digitalgravel.com).



a food fight outside of a taco shop with tortilla chips and jalapenos and us thinking.. these cats are cool hahaha.. then I remember late night tacos again in LA at Chabelita on Western and the 10 freeway.. there must be a connection to us and mexican food hahah.

**ECHO:** WOW...Carne Asada Power! yeah that was a long time ago! You guys have really developed as a group and have still maintained a strong level of connection with your audience. What is the most touching or moving thing that a fan has ever said to you?

**FM:** We've been extremely lucky to have such caring fans.. and I'd hate to remember one gesture and not another because most of our fans have become friends as well and continue to help build this movement with us. There was one letter we had received on Myspace about a year ago from someone who said they were old enough to be our mother, but they loved our music and how inspired she was by our lyrics and what we're doing in the industry. We were all really touched cuz it really confirmed to us that we're doing the right thing and to keep on pushing.. it was motivating to know our music reaches all types of people. That person turned out to be the superintendent of a school district

and - ended up becoming a close friend and mentor to all of us on an educational program called 4C The Power now.

**ECHO:** Any plans for tours in the near future?

**FM:** YES...Look for the FM ANIMAL Tour to take over ASIA very soon... and we'll be back on the road in the US working our next radio single later on this year or early next year.

**ECHO:** I know you guys are busy so let's just say for more updates check out [fareastmovement.com](http://fareastmovement.com) and keep an eye out for some hot new stuff from FM!

Any last words for all of our FM fans out there?

**FM:** Thanks to Echo and the AM Staff for reppin the movement and helping us grow all these years. And to the readers that have been down with us... lets grab some tacos soon!

**For more on the info visit:**

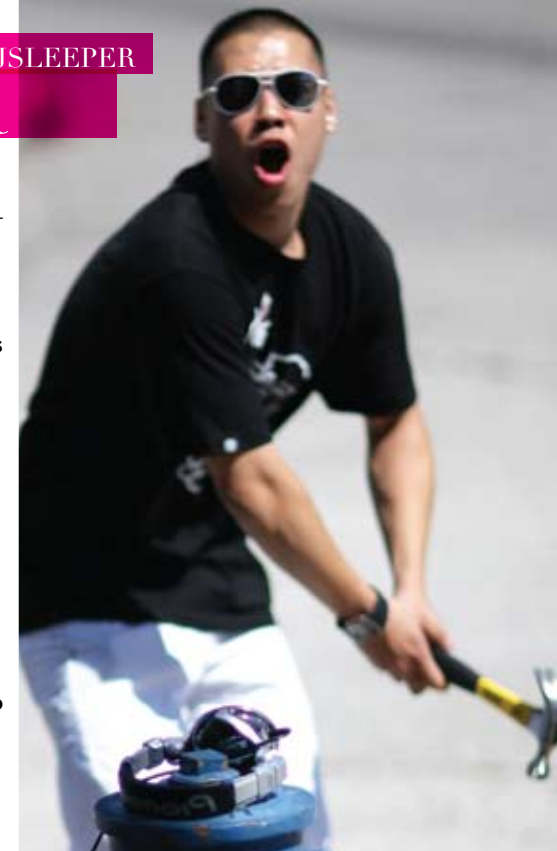
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# DJ SLEEPER

interviewd by Eric Cho



Take for example her beaded spectacle of a bodice. Metal pieces of bronze, gold, copper, and iron, interloop with chains making for a stunning top and finishes off the faux suede high waisted tiered gown.



**Echo:** Ken, how goes the crazy life of Dj Sleeper? Where did the name SLEEPER come from?

**Ken:** First off, I love you.

Your calm demeanor and sense of cool in this crazy world gives me hope for our children. As for the name, I really couldn't think of anything else. I do sleep a lot and love sleeping with dogs. And some people would call me the sleeper in battles because no one knew who I was. But yea, couldn't think of anything better.

**Echo:** Where did you grow up? How did that influence your musical style?

**Ken:** I grew up in MARYLAND! Moved to Hong Kong when I was 10, lived there for 2 years, then back to MD. Miraculously got into Indiana University and got my first turntable... took me almost 6 years to graduate, then came to LA two years ago.

In middle school I was obsessed with doing cassette-recording-the-radio mixtapes that I thought were awesome... I'd listen to them on my walkman every night and think of girls...

Growing up in MD I listened to a lot of alternative music: Weezer, Radiohead, Smashing Pumpkins... Violent Femmes was my first concert.

I got into hip-hop a lot later than most kids, LL Cool J's "The Ripper Strikes Back" (yea I know most random track ever) was the first track that REALLY caught my attention for some reason... that and Cypress Hills "Insane In The Membrane"

Then I went on to Trance for a while (YEA-HA!!!!!!) Then in college just went through the whole shebang, underground hip-hop, funk, soul, jazz, indie, downtempo, blah...

**Echo:** What was the toughest transition for you coming to the west coast?

**Ken:** No trees. Hardly any leaves and grass out here, Maryland and Hong Kong was surrounded by vegetation.

My mom always said looking at green colors kept your eyes 20/20.... I had almost perfect

I had almost perfect vision before I moved out here... can't see stuff. So yea becoming blind and steadily more deaf out here is shabby.

That, and not knowing anyone.

My first real gig in LA was @ The Hideout on PCH in Santa Monica, dive bar right on the beach. (thanks SCOTT for hooking it up!) It was packed & the crowd was completely bonkers the whole night.

I remember sitting in my car (CAMRY BABY!) after the dust had settled, and just tearing up b/c I felt so blessed.

**Echo:** Now that you have established yourself out here what are some things you want to accomplish in the next couple years?

**Ken:** Get closer to God.

Move my Baba and Mama out to LA, become a bodybuilder, and then a shepherd. Also, marry a professional tennis player.



# TRIBAL TRANCE FASHION LINE

In a time of minimalism and modern fashion, **Anita Chugarnkar** ( [www.anitachugarn.com](http://www.anitachugarn.com) ) has a different theme for Fall; unconventional lines and shapes representative of nature. This is where she found her color scheme; from the suede sand of the African desert to the vivid orange of an afternoon sunset and patterned wovens of Nigerian culture; she has truly stood apart from the current norm. To her credit, however, she used what her growing audience has learned to love about her: her young, eccentric, and unique take on evening wear punctuated with precise tailoring and a flair for intense shots of decoration. (continues...)



Photos: George Kim + Stylist & Designer: Anita Chugarnkar  
 Make up: Natasha Dressler + Models: Comisha Johnson+ Madison Petrich



**TANTRIQ ENTERTAINMENT (HAWAII)** - Need something to do or a place to enjoy the night life in Hawaii? Well Tantriq Entertainment, Islandfire Productions, and Architech Hawaii gives locals and visitors something exciting to do at the "Playground." Such events are held W Honolulu and the Raw Bar.



**CLIMAX SF + SYNERGY (SAN FRANCISCO)** Nightlife in general – San Francisco's nightlife scene is as diverse as "The City" itself. Depending on your vibe and the type of music you are interested in, there are many bars, clubs, and lounges that can fulfill your needs. If you're into hip-hop, **SF's SOMA** has plenty of clubs within walking distance. For bar hoppers and rockstars, the **Mission District** is the place to be. For more elegant and upscale bars and lounges, the **Marina** is the place to hang out. There are also a handful of gay-friendly bars located in the **Castro**. Last but not least, North Beach and Broadway are always open late for party-goers that do not want the night to end.



# PING PONG PLAYA

[www.pingpongplaya.com](http://www.pingpongplaya.com)

**Synopsis:** Christopher "C-dub" Wang is a suburban guy who sports an urban swagger, waxes political on all things Asian American, and clings to pipe dreams of a career as a pro basketball player. Blaming genetics for his failure to make the NBA, C-dub lives at home, works a dead-end job, and squirms in the shadow of his older brother, Michael, a doctor and ping pong champion.

With a family-run store devoted to all things ping pong and a mom who teaches it at the local Chinese Community Center, the Wangs' entire world revolves around the sport. But despite the family legacy, C-dub opts to spend his free time playing video games and daydreaming about get-rich-quick schemes with his best friend JP Money.

C-dub is kicked back into reality when his mom and Michael are hurt in a car accident, leaving his father to watch over the store and forcing C-dub to take over his mom's ping pong class of misfits. C-dub starts to appreciate the benefits of ping pong when he starts using the class to make some extra money on the side and befriending one of the kids who happens to have a beautiful older sister.

But when the Wang family livelihood is threatened by a rival ping pong player's attempts to lure the kids away, C-dub begins to take things more seriously. With the National Golden Cock Tournament coming up and an injured Michael unable to defend his title, C-dub must become the player he pretends to be and defend his family's ping pong dynasty.

Featuring Music by the Far\*East Movement

Starring: Jimmy Tsai, Andrew Vo, Khary Payton, Roger Fan, Jim Lau  
Directed by Jessica Yu