



THE YURI & TAEKO SHOW!!!

Photo courtesy of www.Invsibleink

Yuri Tag, of Kaba Modern, and Taeko Carroll, of Fysh N Chicks, have joined forces to create an internet talk show. They'll be covering behind-the-scenes and certain aspects of the entertainment industry that isn't well-known.

www.theyuriandtaekoshow.com

Editor's Note

Everyone reading this has some interest in nightlife and is somehow tied to the scene. There's just something incredibly exciting about going to a place with a quality crowd, great music, and an awesome vibe; that feeling has kept me involved in with the industry and motivated progressively building better event brands for the past 8 years. The nightlife scene has evolved quite a bit, and by evolved I mean matured. Yet, one thing that hasn't changed with my take on event production is that there "cannot" be too much attention paid to customer service and details.

Throughout the years as things change, we must cater to the needs and desires of our clientele; it is this attention to detail that has piloted the masses of quality patrons towards anything produced by ourselves and our national/international partners.

What people don't understand is that this attention to detail involves a lot of planning, market research, and relationship building. In many ways we've managed to help streamline these processes through the use of technology. Just walking around the club you'll see every person involved with the event (even patrons), taking advantage of what texting and email have to offer, which would not be possible without the proliferation of smartphone technology throughout our culture. It almost seems fitting that the first issue we are producing happens to be sponsored by a savvy tech innovator like Palm partnered with the wireless company with the most reliable 3G network, Verizon Wireless.

In this issue of Centro Culture we are taking you on a journey through our events on the frontside and behind the scenes. We'll also be getting you an exclusive inside look at the incredibly talented artists, fresh influencers, and behind the scenes characters that are all involved in bringing you the scene that you love and have grown with since 1995.

Representing Okinawa, Japan, Rino Nakasone is one of the most successful dancers in the industry today. Amongst all of her accomplishments, she is most popularly remembered as Gwen Stefani's Harajuku Girl "Music." As one of four Harajuku Girls, Rino travelled as Gwen's confidant, performing at every show and following her everywhere she went. Gwen's Harajuku Girls were not only her dancers but also their dancers at the forefront, which really showcased Rino's talents. It was also the first for an Asian dancer to really be spotlighted in mainstream media. Although Rino is more popularly known for this, she is also known amongst dancers for her humility as well as her funky, original, groovy style and choreography.

YURI: When and how did you start dancing?

RINO: Since I was born. I was never trained when I was little but have I always loved to dance.

YURI: Was there a specific style of dance you would imitate from watching?

RINO: Of course Michael Jackson then Janet and TLC. Every artist has influenced and inspired me in very different ways, but Michael is my no.1!!! His dance style, his songs, his voice, the way he performs, and just the way he carries himself...EVERYTHING!!!

YURI: When and how did you come to America?

RINO: I came to the U.S. for the first time when I was 16 in 1996 as an exchange student in Oklahoma, and went to high school for 10 months, and then came back to California in 1999. I started going to school while taking dance classes on the side.

YURI: It must have been really hard to leave Japan to pursue your goals here! Why did you want to move

RINO

Interviewed by Kaba Modern's Yuri Tag



Climax Entertainment originated in San Francisco and is one of the pioneer promotional companies that started the Asian scene nightlife events. A group of guys that just wanted a place for their friends to hang out on the weekends turned into one of the most successful promotional companies around today. Climax SF's vision is to create quality events to cater towards students and young professionals. Our team is composed of people from all different walks of life to create diversity.

A couple venues that we worked with in the past includes; **Temple**, **Club 1015**, **Suite 181**, **Club Boss**, and **Space 550**. After hours spots include **Insomnia** and **Body Shop**.

TOP 5 CLIMAXSF VENUES

- Temple** - 540 Howard St San Francisco, CA, 94105
- Suite 181** - 181 Eddy St San Francisco, CA, 94102
- Suede** - 383 Bay St San Francisco, CA, 94133
- Tabu** - 520 4th St San Francisco, CA, 94107
- 1015** - 1015 Folsom St San Francisco, CA, 94103

TOP 5 CLIMAXSF CHOICE EATERIES

- Teo Korean** - 3741 Geary Blvd San Francisco, CA, 94118
- My Canh** - 626 Broadway San Francisco, CA, 94133
- Yuet Lee** - 1300 Stockton St San Francisco, CA, 94133
- Lucky Chances** - 1700 Hillside Blvd Colma, CA, 94014
- Osha's** - 696 Geary St San Francisco, CA 94102

CLIMAX SF ROCKSTARS

Warren Yip aka Dupleu, 30, was born and raised in San Francisco. He started with Climax in '99' and steadily worked his way up to being a Project Manager. He loves to network and meet new people.

Candy Tam aka SexyBack Candy, 25, is founder of Villains and also in charge of Finance of Climax SF. While pursuing her MBA, she finds time to work full-time and Climax at the same time. Her driven attitude and motivation brings an encouraging vibe to her friends around her.

Fanny Huynh aka Rocker, 25, is definitely the Rockstar of the group. Her idea of a good time includes great music, awesome people, and a rock out team. She enjoys meeting fresh, good-looking faces, so don't be afraid to say hi to her when you see her around.



RINO: Well I still dont think that I've accomplished everything yet, it never ends! I really want to dance for Michael. I would love to work more with Beat Freaks and take it to the next level, as well as doing choreography jobs with Maryss. I want to be more involved with my creative side and take opportunities as much as I can. I'm open to do different things, because I love the whole entertainment industry.

YURI: Any crazy stories about working as Gwen's Harajuku Girl?

RINO: It was a major opportunity, following the life of a superstar. We basically experienced what it was like to be a superstar. It was a good learning experience. Gwen is such an amazing artist! The way she handles the interviews, she also sings live all the time, and I love her music and what she writes about. She always goes full out in rehearsals, she's my new inspiration here because I've seen so much stuff that she does on the side.

YURI: Are you a real Harajuku girl yourself?

RINO: Well when Gwen went to the Harajuku district in Tokyo, she fell in love with the fashion there. The people in Harajuku dress gothic, crazy high school uniforms. In reality, I am not a Harajuku girl. I'm from Okinawa. At first I thought it was crazy cuz I would never dress up like they did. That's not really me. But as I started working as Gwen's Harajuku girls, I've learned how to adopt and becoming that character. What I loved about Gwen was that she would let us become who we are as a person, and let us have our own personalities. I am so thankful that I am one of the Harajuku girls and I was a part of that history.

YURI: What do you not like about the entertainment industry?

RINO: They highlight dancing more now so it's getting better, but it's still bad. Musicians get little pay, and dancers work really hard with bad pay.



it's what we are. It's who you are. Together we're able to create events like none other you've ever experienced. Bringing the love of Glamour, Life, Art, and Music into your lives & ours in Los Angeles, along with our sister company, PARTY TIL AM.

MISSION & VALUES

Nowadays who doesn't promote at an A-List club in Hollywood? We know that everyone out there does, and so do we. But that's not what it's about.

It's about A-List, but in our case, the A stands for Asian American. And featuring our love of G.L.A.M., we're able to target our community and bring things back to the true meaning of what a * real * party is about.

THE G STANDS FOR GLAMOUR

Anything glamour related? Just ask. We've devoted our events to Glamour in all its many forms and incarnations. From the days of Sunset Room and Glam LA, we were the first to bring you fashion shows, displaying only the hottest of anything and everything GLAM. We are always looking for Models, Designers, Make-up Artists, Stylists, and Fashionistas in General.

THE L STANDS FOR LIFE

We live. We love. We party. Lifestyle is really what we're about. It's not just one party, but a whole network of event integration here at your fingertips. If you have a product or a message you'd like to deliver, let us know. If the shoe fits, and if it's part of our lifestyle, let's live it, love it, and ROCK IT.

THE A STANDS FOR ART

Arts and Entertainment. This is LOS ANGELES, baby! Home of the Hollywood Stars, Movie Magic, LACMA, MOCA, and the Silver Lake Art District, we're proud to be in the epicenter of the entertainment industry and the LA art scene. If you have a movie release, gallery opening, or anything art-related, just let us know!

THE M STANDS FOR MUSIC

Music makes the world go 'round'. It doesn't matter where you are, or what language you speak – Music is Universal. The House of Glam welcomes music into our home – our parties - and we share it with you each and every week. If it's the hippest beats or the hottest performances, we're there!

Contact us for any inquiries, live performances, DJs, or anything related to the beats that make you move and let us rock your body.

GIVING BACK

As a member of this community, we strongly focus on giving back by participating in fundraising events for non-profit organizations such as Movementality, C.A.U.S.E., Rock the Vote, Youth Olympics, Apex, Visual Communications Film Festival – as well as leveraging our influence to relief funds for the recent Katrina Hurricane Disaster at our weekly events.

Together we are creating awareness, and together we can make a difference. for more info email us at: Party@thehouseofglam.com + www.thehouseofglam.com



Hiroyuki is wearing the white FForgiveness T-shirt. Available at www.digitalgravel.com

HIP HOP ARTISTS

FAR*EAST MOVEMENT

ECHO: Whassup FM! I know you guys have been SUPER busy lately and we haven't had much time to catch up...so whats been going on with FM in 08 so far?

FM: 08 has been crazy. In the beginning of the year we released our first single on major radio called "You've Got A Friend" featuring Baby Bash and Lil Rob. That really opened the doors for us and attracted the attention of the industry for us to release our second single "Lowridin" which has really taken off and has been getting spins across the nation. Now we've just been doing radio promo tours in different cities to push the single.

ECHO: I just saw the Dance like Mike video... SICKKKK. The song is great, really caught my attention and the Quest guys did a great job! Any info on the concept for the Lowridin vid?

FM: Thanks, family. The Dance Like Michael Jackson video was a fun project put together by us, Wong Fu Productions, Quest Dance Crew, and Shutter Shades as a viral online campaign to get people talking and to do something different in the industry. The feedback has been amazing. We're still waiting on the Lowridin video... but we just released the remix with Warner Bros recording artist Wiz Khalifa who has that single "Say Yeah" that samples Alice DeeJay "Better off Alone" so you might see a vid for the remix since the feedback by the dj's was good on that song.

ECHO: Catch(Carl Choi of CMG) has been your guys' manager for a long time now...and I've also known you guys for quite some time....do you remember how we all first met?

FM: We were introduced to Carl through the grace of God... and together we've been chasing the light... and you...HAHAHAHAH... i remember meeting you in San Diego and you starting



Hiroyuki with the new khaki Foreign Affairs tank tops. Just one of our many selections in tank tops.





FOREIGN FAMILY...

is a design-based lifestyle company out of the heart of Los Angeles. It was established in 2004. Everyone in the world is a foreigner and everyone in this world lives a foreign lifestyle. Being strong believers in unity and family, Foreign Family set out to produce and give the world designs and products that every single person can relate to in one way or the other. Foreign Family is about everyone coming up together as a family in any way. Working and living in the melting pot of cultures, Foreign Family sets themselves far apart from other brands under the street wear umbrella, while taking their own path, innovating and creating future classics. www.foreignfamily.com

Photos: George Kim + Stylist: Foreign Family
models: Hiroyuki Tomioka + Arika Sato



Arika is sporting the new "Family" fitted hat.

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



DJ QBERT by Arika Sato

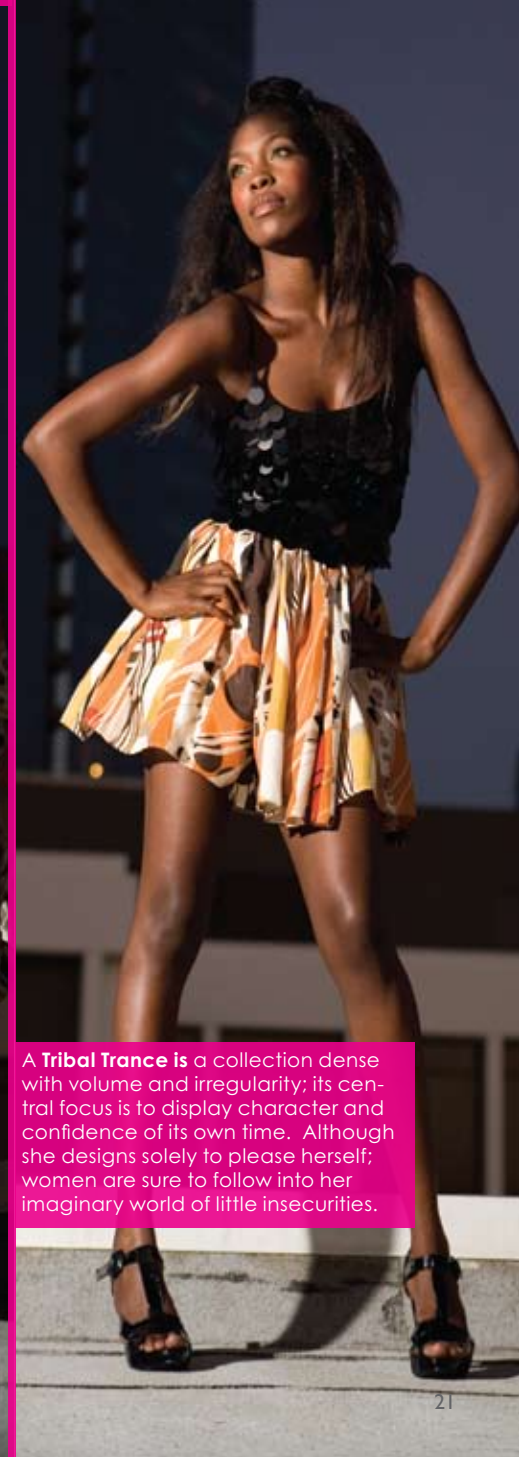
WWW.DJQBERT.COM

They call him the ambassador of the DJ world, the man who turned DJing into a newfound lifestyle... Meet DJ Qbert, also known as the World's Greatest Skilled DJ!

DJ Qbert first laid his hands on a Fisher Price turntable as a toddler which jumpstarted his musical prodigy career. Immediately at the age of 15, he began playing with records and competed in his first DJ battle in high school against Mix Master Mike and lost the competition. However, this didn't stop him from showing off his scratching skills where he joined a DJ group called FM20 along with Mix Master Mike and DJ Apollo. One after another, with Qbert's amazing talent on the turntables, many fellow turntablist crews were attracted to his style and couldn't stay away. He was recruited into the Rock Steady Crew, when they won the Disco Mix Club World DJ Championships (DMC) world title in 1992.

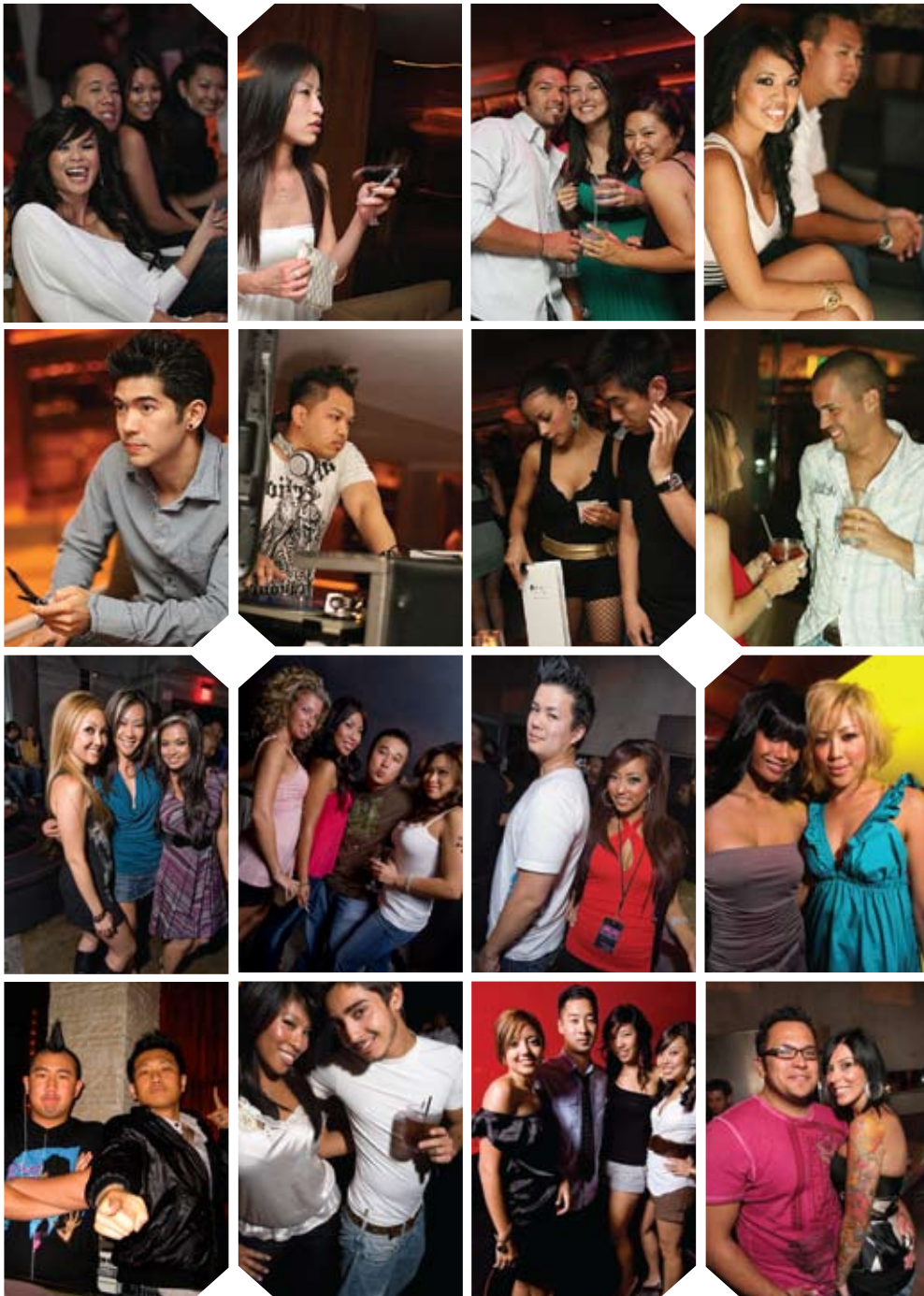


But what really displays her obsession with lines is her floor-grazing, asymmetric dress with trailing trains and series of tiers unevenly constructed to tie around the wrists for someone's spinning fantasy.



A **Tribal Trance** is a collection dense with volume and irregularity; its central focus is to display character and confidence of its own time. Although she designs solely to please herself; women are sure to follow into her imaginary world of little insecurities.

CLUB COVERAGE



HOUSE OF GLAM + PARTY TIL AM (LOS ANGELES): in the city of angels...LA LIFE is the only way to live! Most of you reading this probably frequent the local hotspots around Hollywood and Downtown. There's tons of places for all different kinds of people out here, and one thing is for sure...the fast pace of LA will never leave you bored! What other place on earth could you stroll into a restaurant or lounge and be surrounded by a plethora of undiscovered starlets and the occasional A-list celebrity?





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