



Imagine mesmerizing trance beats and an enchantingly unique ambience as you dance on the sea.

Or at least this is the nearest you'll get to aquatic partying at tomorrow's biggest trance event in southern Taiwan. DancePort 2010 will be held at Kaohsiung's Ocean Theater, the only large-scale performance venue in Taiwan situated on the sea.

DancePort will host some of the trance world's biggest global and local names, with a lineup including more than 10 artists, including Odin (大馬), techno spinner Kenji and house/trance mixer Eros. Also in the bag is a visual performance by the Samadhi VJ Team and fire dancers True Spin (火舞團).

The first of two international acts on the bill is Australian trance singer-songwriter Emma Hewitt, who first turned heads in the summer of 2007 with her global dance floor classic *Carry Me Away*. Hewitt's ethereal vocals earned her three nominations at this year's International Dance Music Awards.

What makes trance appealing is its strong emotional content, says Hewitt. "When tracks are produced well, the combination of beats, music and voice definitely has the ability to take people on a journey."

Inspiration has come in many shapes and forms, and is also very much driven by sounds, she says. "When someone sends me a track or I hear some chords that inspire emotion, usually the melodies and words start taking shape from there."

Hewitt will be performing a mixture of songs released over the last couple of years, including *Waiting*, *Not Enough Time* and *Lasting Light*. She will also sing her new track with Lange titled *Live Forever*, the first time the song will be performed live. Also watch out for "something unique," a surprise Hewitt and the team are preparing especially for the event.

"I hear there are great party crowds in Taiwan, so I expect it could be quite crazy out there," she said.

The second international act, English trance DJ The Thrillseekers (real name Steve Helstrip), has played more than 500 gigs in 70 countries over the past 10 years.

While some people think trance has had its



Above: DMC World DJ Championship finalist Noodles joins Kentaro and Mykal tonight at Luxy. Right: Who said trance has had it's finest hour? Not Emma Hewitt.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NOODLES AND EMMA HEWITT

day, Helstrip believes the genre has been evolving over the past few years. "We have seen a huge increase in new talent on the scene, with great new ideas," he said.

At DancePort, Helstrip will showcase his Live Xtreme performance where he'll rewire live on stage the biggest tracks from his career. For a teaser of what the show will be like, go to <http://bit.ly/9nUu8x>.

DancePort 2010 (電音港) tomorrow from 9pm to 6am at Ocean Theater (海上劇場), Lover's Wharf (情人碼頭), Singda Port (興達港), Cieding Township, Kaohsiung County (高雄縣茄定鄉).



Admission is NT\$1,000 at the door. NT\$800 presale tickets are available at 7-Eleven ibon kiosks or online through www.spunite.com/danceport/english. Shuttle buses to the venue run from near Xingtian Temple (行天宮) in Taipei City, Tainan Train Station (臺南車站) and the Taiwan High Speed Rail's Zuoying Station (高鐵左營車站) in Kaohsiung. For more information, go to www.spunite.com/danceport/english.

Up north in Taipei, there's a special treat at Luxy tonight as BounceOnDecks presents former DMC world champion Kentaro. Japan's master turntablist, whose inspirations as far as

scratching is concerned are Craze and Shortcut from the US, feeds on making his own unique sounds. "I get to create my own way of art, music, and I get to play them through a big sound system, that's the most interesting thing," he said.

Kentaro has recently been flexing his muscles as a music producer with his production debut, *Enter*. The album runs from funk and bubbly downtempo soul to cosmic hip-hop.

What Kentaro loves most is "seeing people's reactions when [I'm] performing; that is exciting ... When crowds are feeling it the way I anticipated it to be, it's a lot of fun." On Kentaro's

menu for tonight is a bit of house, electro-dub step and drum 'n' bass. It's been a couple of years since he's visited Taiwan, but "I always hear great things about Taipei people and the club scene here," he said. "I can't wait to come down this month!"

Supporting Kentaro tonight at Luxy is Taiwan's own DMC finalist Noodles, along with Mykal.

Night of Mayhem tonight from 10pm to 4am at Luxy, 5F, 201, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市忠孝東路四段201號5樓). Admission is NT\$400 at the door.

On the Net: www.luxy-taipei.com.

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theater

For **Gnosis**, inspired by a tale from the ancient Sanskrit epic the *Mahabharata*, British choreographer Akram Khan teams up with drummer and singer Sunahata to tell the tale of Queen Gandari, who blindfolds herself for life to follow her blind husband. Featuring live music by five musicians and a solo dance by Khan, *Gnosis* is the choreographer's fourth work to appear at the annual Novel Hall Dance series. ■ Novel Hall (新舞臺), 3 Songshou Rd, Taipei City (台北市松壽路3號) ■ Tonight and tomorrow at 8pm, Sunday at 3pm ■ Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$2,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Green Ray Theater Troupe's (綠光劇團) popular musical **Wedding (結婚!結婚!辦桌)** returns to the stage to tell the comic story about a wedding, two families and a runaway bride. ■ Metropolitan Hall (城市舞台), 25 Bade Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市八德路三段25號) ■ Tonight and tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$450 to NT\$3,000, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

Andy Warhol once said: "I want everybody to think alike. I think everybody should be a machine." Against Again Troupe's (再拒劇團) **American Dream Factory (美國夢工廠)** starts off with the quotation, and asks if the American dream is as pretty as it appears to be. [See story on Page 14.] ■ Guling Street Avant-Garde Theatre (牯嶺街小劇場), 2, Ln 5, Guling St, Taipei City (台北市牯嶺街5巷2號) ■ Tonight, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30pm, tomorrow and Sunday at 2:30pm and 7:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$450, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

In **Disappeared Files (失蹤檔案)** by Building Lab (實驗大廈劇團), a man leaves the city where lives on a mission to search for a file that may or may not contain all of his memories. ■ Wenshan Theater (文山劇場), 32 Jingwen St, Taipei City (台北市景文街32號) ■ Tonight at 7:30pm, tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

In **Q & A**, the first episode of Tainaner Ensemble's (臺南人劇團) *Quest & Amnesia* series, a man named Liu struggles to piece his past life back together after a car accident causes him to lose his memory. One day a man appears and tells Liu they were lovers long ago. Confused, Liu decides to go to Berlin to find out more about his past.

■ Taichung Chungshan Hall (台中中山堂), 98 Syueshih Rd, Taichung City (台中市學士路98號) ■ Tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm ■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$2,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Classical music

2010 Lexus Classical Music Series — BBC Symphony Orchestra (2010 LEXUS古典音樂會 — 英國BBC交響樂團) brings over the world-famous orchestra for two concerts in Taiwan featuring clarinet virtuoso Sabine Meyer and conducted by Ji Belohlavek. The program for the concert tomorrow in Kaohsiung will include Smetana's *Verture* and three dances from "The Bartered Bride," Weber's *Clarinet Concerto No. 1 in F Minor*, Op. 73, Debussy's *Premiere Rapsodie* and Elgar's *In the South Op. 50* and *Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1*, Op. 39. The concert in Taipei will include Prokofiev's *Symphony No. 5 in B-flat Major*, Op. 100 and works from the Kaohsiung concert. ■ Tomorrow (Kaohsiung) and Sunday (Taipei) at 7:30pm ■ Kaohsiung Cultural Center's Chihshan Hall (高雄市立文化中心至善堂), 67 Wufu 1st Rd, Kaohsiung City, (高雄市五福一路67號) and National Concert Hall, Taipei City ■ Tickets are NT\$800 to NT\$6,000, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.tickets.com.tw

Jose Carreras and Kiri Te Kanawa Concert presents two greats of the opera world in concert in Kaohsiung and Taipei. Carreras is the last of the "three tenors" who continues with an active concert schedule, but has already announced that he may be joining Domingo in semi-retirement some time soon (Pavarotti passed away in 2007), so this could be one of the last opportunities to see this opera legend perform live. He is joined by Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, who is acknowledged as one of the world's foremost sopranos. ■ Today at 7:30pm (Kaohsiung) and tomorrow at 7:30pm (Taipei) ■ Kaohsiung Arena (高雄巨蛋), 757 Boai 2nd Rd, Zuoying Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市左營區博愛二路757號) and Taipei Arena (台北小巨蛋), 2, Nanjing E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市南京東路四段2號) ■ Tickets are NT\$800 to NT\$6,800 (NT\$5,800 in Kaohsiung), available through the organizer's Web site at www.kham.com.tw

Les Petits Chanteurs de Saint-Marc (法蘭聖馬克兒童合唱團) won a huge reputation in Taiwan following the release of the film *Les Choristes* (放牛班的春天). They are back to present their own special brand of music, ranging from sacred hymns to folk songs. ■ Tomorrow at 7:30pm ■ Yuanlin Performance Hall (員林演藝廳), 99, Ln 2, Zhongheng Rd, Yuanlin Township, Changhua County (彰化縣

員林鎮中正路2巷99號) ■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$1,500, available through ERA ticketing, 7-Eleven ibon kiosks and at Family Mart convenience stores

NSO Classics — Sheherazade (NSO精選 — 1001天方夜譚) features clarinetist Emma Johnson performing with the National Symphony Orchestra (國家交響樂團) under conductor Chen Mei-ann (陳美安). The program will include John Adams' *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*, Sun Ying-chieh's (孫瑩潔) *Ballo Solo* (野柳綺想曲), Mozart's *Clarinet Concerto in A Major K622* and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Sheherazade, Op. 35*. ■ Sunday at 2:30pm ■ National Concert Hall, Taipei City ■ Tickets are NT\$600 to NT\$1,500, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Contemporary

Legacy Taipei, located in a former warehouse at Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), hosts top Taiwanese pop performers and international acts. Tonight's Vicious Circle Nite features 16 DJs, bands and performers. [See story to the right.] Pop star **Shino** (林曉培) leads a band of six female musicians on Wednesday. [See story on Page 13.] ■ Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), Center Five Hall (中五廳), 1, Bade Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市八德路一段1號) ■ Shows start at 9pm tonight and 7:30pm on Wednesday ■ Admission is NT\$900 tonight and NT\$500 on Wednesday. Tickets are available through ERA ticketing, online at www.ticket.com.tw or www.legacy.com.tw or at 7-Eleven ibon kiosks

Hardcore metal rockers **Mutaker**, **KoOk** and **Dying Chelsea** appear at the **The Wall (遺牆)** tonight. **Solidor** (固定客), **Lumay** (露魅), **Beright** (做對樂團) and **Gun Powder** (槍砲樂團) perform tomorrow. Indie rockers **Radicalo**, **Windmill** (風賴坊) and **Penguinbear Likes to Eat Chicken Ball** (企鵝熊愛吃雞肉球) play on Sunday. ■ B1, 200, Roosevelt Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路四段200號B1). Tel: (02) 2930-0162. On the Net: www.thewall.com.tw ■ Tonight and Sunday's shows start at 8pm. Tomorrow's show starts at 7:30pm ■ Tickets for tonight and tomorrow's shows are NT\$400. Sunday's performance is NT\$300. Tickets can be purchased online through www.thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw

Indie-pop groups **Ding Ding & Shi Shi** (丁丁與西西) and **Bitter** perform tonight at **Witch House (女巫店)**. **Tomodachi** (偷摸大雞) plays tweeppop tomorrow night. ■ 7, Ln 56, Xinsheng S Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市新生南路三段56巷7號). Tel: (02) 2362-5494. On the Net: www.witchhouse.org ■ Performances start at 9:30pm. Restaurant/bar with queer/feminist bookstore and large collection of

board games open 11am to midnight Sundays through Wednesdays, 11am to 1am Thursdays through Saturdays ■ Entrance fee for music shows is NT\$300

Jazz Duo **Men's Ride** (旋律的駝客) performs tonight at **Riverside Cafe (河岸留言)**. Tomorrow's show features popular rockers **Coach** (教練) and **The Little Hao-en** (昊恩) and **Panai** (巴奈) appear on Sunday. Monday is the venue's open-jam night. **Elesha** (伊魯莎) and **Kira and Big Danger** (奇樂與大冒險) perform on Tuesday. **Cool Silly** (耍酷樂團) and **Zoom In** split the bill on Wednesday. **Picks** (痞客四) and **Zag Lope** appear on Thursday. ■ B1, 2, Ln 244, Roosevelt Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路三段244巷2號B1), next to Taipower Building (台電大樓). Tel: (02) 2368-7310. On the Net: www.riverside.com.tw ■ Shows start at 9:30pm tonight and 9pm all other nights. For a list of standard songs and ground rules for the open jam, visit the venue's Web site. ■ Entrance fee is NT\$400 tonight, tomorrow and on Sunday. Weekday shows are NT\$350. Monday's open jam is NT\$150

Cherry Boom (櫻桃幫) performs tonight at **Riverside Live House (西門紅樓展演廳)**. **DCW** (東城衛) performs tomorrow night. **Beright** (做對樂團) and **Overdose** (毀滅之前) share the stage on Wednesday. American metal drummer **John Tempesta** plays on Thursday. ■ 177 Xining S Rd, Taipei City (台北市西寧南路177號). Tel: (02) 2370-8805. On the Net: www.riverside.com.tw ■ Shows start at 8:30pm tonight, 6:30pm tomorrow, 8pm Wednesday and Thursday night ■ Entrance fee is NT\$400 on all nights except Thursday, which is NT\$250. Tickets can be purchased online through www.riverside.com.tw livehouse or tickets.books.com.tw

Punk groups **Children Sucker** (表兒) and **Inhuman Band** (非人物種) perform tonight at **Underworld (地下紅會)**. **Bowztiger** (包子虎) and **Pleasure Science** (愉悅科學) appear on Wednesday. ■ B1, 45 Shida Rd, Taipei City (台北市師大路45號B1). Tel: (02) 2369-0103. On the Net: www.upsaid.com/underworld ■ Music shows run from 9:30pm to 11:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 9pm to 11pm on Wednesdays. Underworld is open daily from 9pm, closed on Mondays. Happy hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays before midnight ■ Entrance for music shows is NT\$300 on Fridays and Saturdays, which includes one drink, NT\$100 on Wednesdays

Sappho de Base, a late-night lounge and jazz venue, hosts **Jo Jo Ma Quintet** tonight and **Flaneur Daguerre** tomorrow night. **Yohei Jazz Trio**, **Ash and Friends** and **Emo Jazz Trio** perform on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights, respectively.

■ B1, 1, Ln 102, Anhe Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市安和路一段102巷1號B1). Tel: (02) 2700-5411. On the Net: www.sappho102.biz ■ Music shows begin at 10:30pm tonight and tomorrow and 10pm on other nights ■ Entrance for music shows is NT\$350 tonight and tomorrow and NT\$300 on Sunday and on weekdays

Pop jazz group **Sky Jazz** performs tonight at **Roxy Roots**. The Beachfest Pre-Party (哇哇雷鬼海灘會前派對) goes down tomorrow night with acts including **Black Reign** and **Obnoxious**. ■ 90 Songren Rd, Taipei City (台北市松仁路90號). Tel: (02) 2725-3932. On the Net: www.roxy.com.tw ■ Shows start at 10pm ■ Entrance is NT\$350 on Fridays and Saturdays (NT\$200 credited toward food and drinks)

EZ5 Live House hosts Mando-pop singers backed by a live band every night. Highlights for the week include **Julia Peng** (彭佳慧), a major draw who appears every Tuesday, and male crooner **Shin Lung** (辛隆), who performs every Saturday. ■ 211, Anhe Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市安和路二段211號). Tel: (02) 2738-3995. On the Net: visit www.ez5.com.tw ■ Music shows run from 9:45pm to 12:30am ■ Entrance fee (includes two drinks) ranges from NT\$600 to NT\$850, depending on the performer

Taipei Swing holds dance socials on Friday nights at **Capone's**, with live music from blues band **BoPoMoFo** (ㄅㄛㄆㄛㄇㄛ). Dancers of all levels are welcome, and beginner's lessons are offered while the band takes a break. Tomorrow is salsa night with live music from **Latin on Fire**. ■ 312, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市忠孝東路四段312號) ■ Live music from 9pm to 11:30pm on Fridays, 8pm to 11:30pm on Saturdays ■ On Fridays there's a minimum charge of one drink, dancers receive a free drink coupon. On Saturdays the minimum charge is NT\$300

Pingtung indie rockers **The Man** (男子漢) appear tomorrow night at **The Mercury** (水星酒館). ■ 46 Liwen Rd, Zuoying Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市左營區立文路46號). Tel: (07) 550-8617. On the Net: mercurybar.blogspot.com ■ Show starts at 9:30pm ■ Entrance is NT\$200

VU Live House features **Against Nature**, **OverNight** and **NeverMind** tonight. **The Rednoz** (紅鼻子樂團), **Gray Spiral** (灰色螺旋), **Shock Mail** (夏卡毛), **Underflow** and **Paranoia** (偏執狂) play tomorrow night. ■ B1, 77, Wuchang St Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市武昌街二段77號B1). Tel: (02) 2314-1868. On the Net: www.velvet-underground.com.tw ■ Show start at 6:30pm tonight and 6pm tomorrow ■ Entrance fee is NT\$450

BY ALITA RICKARDS

MUSIC

Spunky punks

This weekend's Vicious Circle Nite (held not at the venue of the same name but at Legacy Taipei) is an attempt "to combine all kinds of music but with a punk spirit," said organizer Adam Chen (陳敘廷). He quotes lyrics from Operation Ivy's song *Unity*: "Unity, as one stand together/Unity, evolution's going to come."

When it comes to underground subculture, "everyone is divided into really small groups and not combining, just separating," he said. "It's not that supported here because the mainstream in Taiwan is pop, if they are not going to help us we need to help ourselves."

The music ranges from punk to psychedelic, passing through disco-rock, power pop and electro, even touching on rock and metal. The only thing the genres have in common, said Chen, is that "they have a punk 'spirit' — we want to support all kinds of music."

The eclectic lineup includes indie bands, with synth pop-rock by The Looking Glass, Kenny From Casino's (賭場肯尼) American-style power pop, garagey post-punk by My Skin Against Your Skin, the Broken Flowers (碎紙花) with punk and Queen Suitcase's (皇后皮箱) 1960s-inspired psychedelia.

Guitarist DC (唐達智) from Yellowback, another the indie band on the roster, said of his group's music: "We never want to restrict our imagination. You can say that Yellowback is an indie-rock band or disco-rock or post-punk or something else. All the above are correct. We tried to mix those things and create a style [that] belongs [to] us. The most important thing is how to express our emotions and faith through song."

The signed artists on the bill are no less diverse, with acoustic rock and pop from Queen (魏如昀), rock band Mojo (張國賢), alternative-pop band 13 (拾叁), post-rock band Orangegrass (橙草) and pure punk from Fire Ex (滅火器), as well as Allen Wes (艾瑞倫), a Remix model and former member of Dizzy Butterfly whose features are only enhanced by facial piercings, side burns and a scowl.

"I won't limit myself in one genre or one certain type of music," Wes said of his current hard-rock thrashing, most of which he composes while riding his bike. "I'm changing and learning all the time." Learning experiences so far include jumping up and down so hard on stage that he's cracked his head on the ceiling — something he hopes to avoid in the future.

DJs run the gamut from City Villains (electro), Xiang (house and alt-rock), experimental Point (formerly in nu-metal band Monkey Insane (猴猴)) and the prolific Mykal, whose music ranges from rock to drum 'n' bass, hip-hop and electro. Chen says the audience may be "shocked" when they hear the DJs, who will be playing alt-rock inspired sets.

The event includes graffiti artists, a craft market and extreme sports. There will be no MC. Instead, bands will introduce each other, said Chen, "so the audience has more confidence in the music scene."

"We want to recall the feeling of the old generation of punk influence," he said. "There is new blood, we want to show that we are still passionate."

PERFORMANCE NOTES

WHAT: Vicious Circle Nite

WHEN: Tomorrow from 4:30pm to 3:30am

WHERE: Legacy Taipei,

located at Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), Center Five Hall (中五廳), 1, Bade Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市八德路一段1號)

ADMISSION: Tickets are NT\$900 at the door and NT\$700 in advance, available at various locations including Vicious Circle, 1F, 8, Alley 26, Ln 205, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市忠孝東路四段205巷26弄8號1樓), tel: (02) 2777-2218, and at Remix, 1F, 19, Ln 96, Kunming Street, Taipei City (台北市昆明街96巷19號), tel: (02) 2375-8092. For more locations check the Web site below

ON THE NET:

www.chaospunk.com



Allen Wes takes headbanging to a whole new level.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLEN WES