



L'ARC

Rockin' in USA!



BY DENNIS A. AMITH

CONCERT PHOTOGRAPHY BY NERGENE ARQUELADA • IMAGES COURTESY OF PONY CANYON



LM.C (L-R): maya and Aiji. Image courtesy of PONY CANYON INC.

The duo that rocked the USA, to be exact, San Jose, California where the Japanese visual kei rock and electronic pop unit LM.C. performed for over 2,000 people last June. The duo which consists of maya (a former support guitarist for rock artist Miyavi) and guitarist Aiji (who came from the visual kei rock band Pierrot).

The two made their debut in Japan in 2006 with their two singles "Trailers (Gold)" and "Trailers (Silver)" but the singles that would catch the attention of fans internationally was their single "OH MY JULIET." and the song "☆Rock the LM.C☆" which were used as the theme song for the anime TV series "Red Garden".

The group would garner more worldwide attention through their singles "BOYS & GIRLS" and "88" which were used for the anime TV series "Reborn!".

Their popularity led to the band's performance in Los Angeles in 2008.

As of right now, LM.C has released a total of ten singles, four albums and two DVD's.

In 2010, the music unit released their new full-length album "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC" in March and in May, the duo had a successful performance in San Jose at FANIME and their upcoming concert DVD

"The Live Of WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC" which features the group's concert performance from Shibuya C.C. Lemon Hall (from this past May) is set for a release later this month.

J!-ENT recently had the opportunity to interview LM.C members maya and Aiji to discuss their music, their new album and also their performance in San Jose.

J!-ENT: Before we get into questions about your music, let's first learn about the group. How did you guys come up with the name LM.C?

LM.C: We wanted to name our unit something without any specific meaning, so we chose the row of alphabets, which sounds easy on the ears. So many people misunderstand that the name of "LM.C" actually came from the official Website, "lovely-mocochang.com", but it is not named from "lovely-mocochang.com".

J!-ENT: How did the two of you meet and go on to create this musical unit?

maya: I have let Aiji listen to the songs I made in the beginning. I met him a very long time ago.

Aiji: maya was my junior from my hometown, and while he came to see the concerts of my previous band and so, we started talking and getting closer,

and before we knew it, we decided to do this unit together.

J!-ENT: When you were younger and still in school, what career did you imagine yourself working in?

maya: I was thinking of becoming a medical doctor.

Aiji: I had never really imagined myself being a musician, but I just could not imagine myself working as a regular normal businessman.

J!-ENT: What was the moment in your life where you decided and you knew you would be pursuing music as a career?

maya: Without realizing it. (laughing) The moment I actually decided to pursue music as my career is when I moved to Tokyo for doing LM.C.

Aiji: When I was in a high school, I played at a school festival and have experienced how happy and excited I could be and how much accomplished I would feel to create one stage with everyone.

J!-ENT: What kind of students were the both of you in high school. The athlete? The troublemaker? The bookworm? The prankster? Normal



LM.C performing at FANIME in San Jose, California. Photo by Nergene Arquelada.

student?

maya: I was a band kid, who went to a studio to practice every single day as soon as the school finished.

Aiji: I was somewhat a saucy and wild boy. I have already started a band, so I spent my days in a studio to practice for the band.

J!-ENT: Which artists or bands did you listen to a lot while growing up?

Aiji: From female vocals to Japanese band music and so on. Female vocals include Cindy Lauper, Kate Bush, and Dreams Come True. Japanese bands includes BOØWY, BUCK-TICK, ZIGGY, Unicorn, and so on.

J!-ENT: And was there any artist that inspired you?

maya: Mainly J-Pop. I have almost never listened to foreign music when I was in school.

Aiji: I think the artists I mentioned earlier inspired me.

J!-ENT: If I was to look into your MP3/CD player right now, which artists or song would you be listening to at this time?

maya: When I looked right now, it was LM.C. (laughing). I often listen to LM.C, but today, I was thinking of the set-list for the next live while I was in a car on the road, that's why I was listening to LM.C.

Aiji: "FURTHER" from The Chemical Brothers.

J!-ENT: You have a strong music following outside of Japan and you have many fans in other countries. What is your reaction when you see people all over the world who love your music?

maya: I still feel weird sometimes, but simply I am happy. I could only feel them from the letters I received before, however, now I am just so happy that I could actually see them in person during our tour and other events.

Aiji: It makes me very happy and just thinking of that there are lots of people waiting for LM.C music all over the world, is a great motivation for all the work. Just appreciate to know LM.C and the miracle we meet like this.

J!-ENT: You have performed in various countries but are there any cities that you both have dreamed of performing

at?

Aiji: At the moment we started the unit, we have already talked about that we would like to tour around Asian countries with the same kind of feelings as we do tour in Japan. So, for that point, the dream is coming true... However, in the end, I am so thankful that we are able to perform in other countries.

J!-ENT: Are there any cities that you have both dreamed of visiting?

maya: The place we have never been able to come even though we have received the letters and messages on MySpace from.

Aiji: Its not a country, but I would like to try to conquer all possible continents.

J!-ENT: Let's talk about the music of LM.C. First, I want to start from the beginning. maya, you were a sup-

port guitarist for Miyavi in the band Ishihara Gundan and also a guitarist for The Sinners. Aiji, you were from the band Pierrot. When the both of you came together, what did you guys want to do differently with LM.C?

maya: I did not really thinking of doing

"I did not really thinking of doing differently from before. Just purely, I wanted to shape the world of what I really wanted to do."

- maya



LM.C's Aiji. Photo by Nergene Arquelada.

differently from before. Just purely, I wanted to shape the world of what I really wanted to do.

Aiji: I was thinking more to do music that makes me want to listen to from moment to moment, than doing something differently from before. And still now I feel the same.

J!-ENT: Was there any goals you guys wanted to accomplish in the beginning?

Aiji: I did not have any specific goal to accomplish in the beginning. However, suffice it to say, that I wanted to set up a comfortable environment to work as soon as possible.

J!-ENT: In 2006, you debuted with your first two singles "Trailers" (Silver) and (Gold). Looking back at those two singles, what memories do you have of making those two songs?

maya: Something like... I had so many things I wanted to do. Compared to how I am right now. (laughing)

Aiji: It reminds me of the days that three of us, a manipulator, maya, and

me, working at the studio everyday for a month.

J!-ENT: Your third single "OH MY JULIET." was used as the 2nd theme for "Red Garden" and the song "☆Rock the LM.C☆" was used as the 1st ending theme to the anime series. The way they used the music for the anime series was pretty awesome and it introduced many people outside of Japan to your music. How was that experience for you to see and hear your music in an anime series?

maya: It was the very first experience in my entire life, so I was so happy that I recorded every single episode and watched them.

Aiji: It was such an honor our music was used and I was also very glad.

J!-ENT: Your single "BOYS & GIRLS" and "88" were used in the anime series "Katekyo Hitman Reborn". A popular anime series and another great exposure for people outside of Japan to your music. But for those discovering your music through anime,

I need to ask this question... Do you guys watch anime and if so, what is your favorite series growing up or if you have any now?

maya: I have watched almost all famous Japanese anime. Lately, I do not really watch them, though.

Aiji: I used to like "DRAGON BALL", "Captain Tsubasa", and "Wingman". Recently, I do not really watch anything.

J!-ENT: In March, you released your album "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC". How was the experience of working on this album?

maya: It could expand the space/universe of LM.C.

Aiji: During the working period on this album, the days were fulfilling.

J!-ENT: And how long was the process of writing the songs, composing and recording?

maya: About a half year. In that half year, we had a tour and other things, so the actual days to work on the album was not that long.

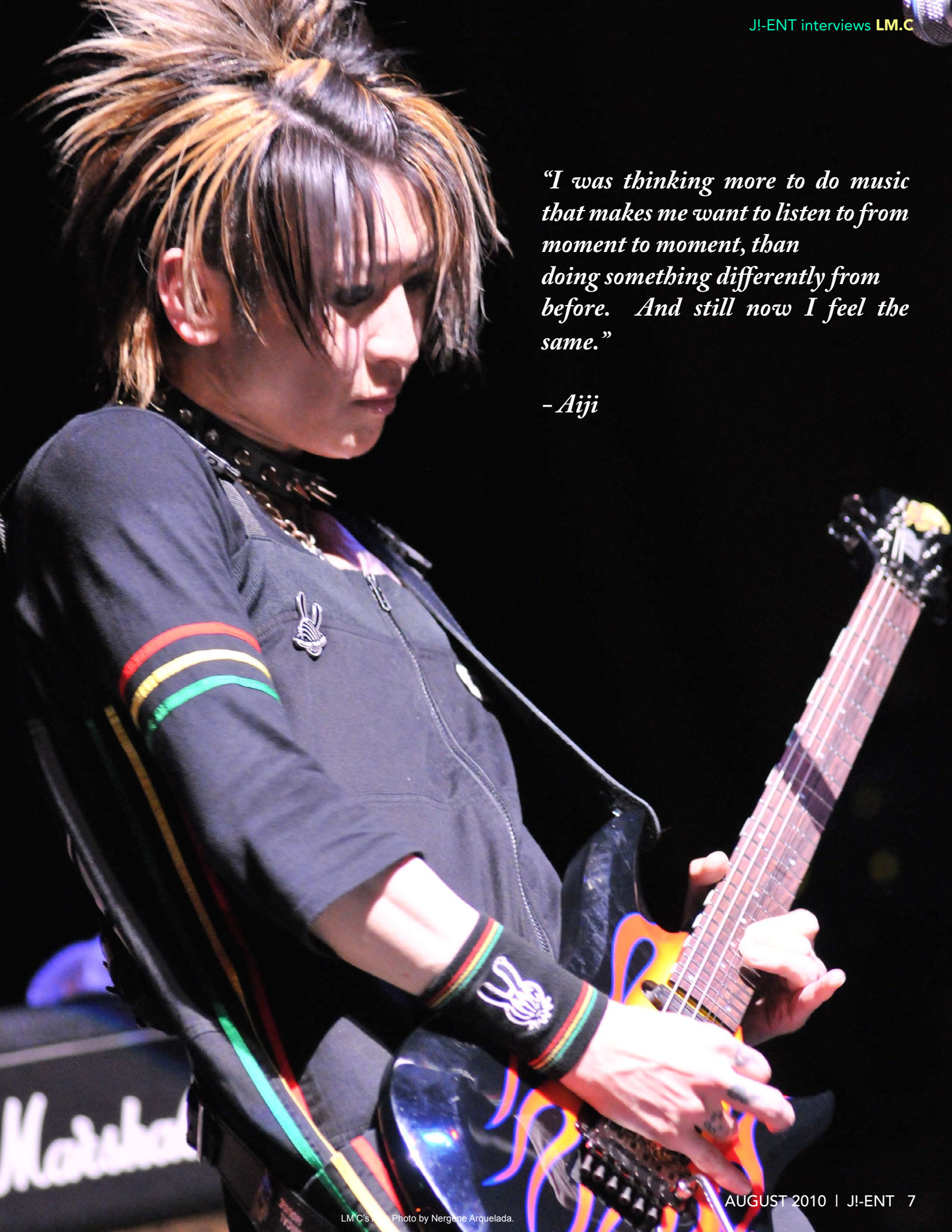
Aiji: We were not working on the album



PHOTO: LM.C performing at FANIME in San Jose, Photo by Nergene Arquelada.

"I was thinking more to do music that makes me want to listen to from moment to moment, than doing something differently from before. And still now I feel the same."

- Aiji



THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

NO WONDER PEOPLE SAY
"GESUNDHEIT" WHEN YOU SAY
"TCHAIKOVSKY."

If one were to make a quick list of the world's favorite composers, despite his relatively recent vintage Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky would be on it. After all, he did compose *Swan Lake*, which is perhaps the

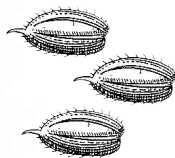


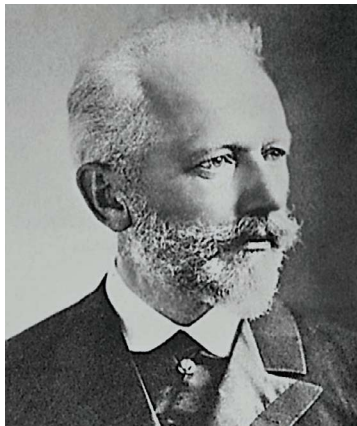
Fig. 1 Pollen

Causes watery eyes. Much like Tchaikovsky's composition "Romeo and Juliet."

most famous ballet of all time. And there can't be more than just a handful of

ballet companies that don't perform *The Nutcracker* every Christmas.

Indeed, this great Romantic composer should be so immortalized. As a young man, he pursued a career in music at enormous personal risk and against his own father's advice. His mild temperament combined with his tendency to work too hard left him with insomnia, debilitating headaches and hallucinations. On top of that, Tchaikovsky's composition teacher never liked his work,



Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky endured many setbacks, not the least of which was a blind barber.

even after he became world-famous.

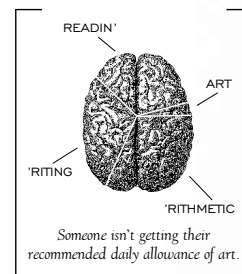
Setbacks like these could have finished a lesser man. Instead, they informed his work, which remains some of the best loved in history. Yet some kids will still confuse Tchaikovsky with a nasal spasm.

Why? Because the arts are slowly but surely being eliminated from today's schools, even though a

majority of the parents believe music and drama and dance and art make their children better students and better people.

To help reverse this disturbing trend, or for more information

about all the many benefits of arts education, visit us at AmericansForTheArts.org. Or else Tchaikovsky could seem like just another casualty of allergy season.



ART. ASK FOR MORE.



For more information about the importance of arts education, contact www.AmericansForTheArts.org.



LM.C performing at FANIME in San Jose, California. Photo by Nergene Arquelada.

every single day, so I am not sure how long actually we spent, but I guess we worked on for 3 - 4 months in total.

J!-ENT: Which song on "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC" was most memorable for you and why?

maya: "PUNKY♥HEART". From this song, the new LM.C towards the new album has been started.

Aiji: It is very hard to pick one song, but when I wrote "meteorion" and "EDO FUNK", I felt that I wrote good songs.

J!-ENT: And what song was the most challenging/difficult?

Aiji: "EDO FUNK"

J!-ENT: When it comes to songwriting and musical arrangement, are you perfectionists when it comes to creating your music?

maya: Sort of. What is important for me is not the perfection level as music in general, but whether the music reaches the completed shape that I have in my mind or not. On the songs I wrote, I tend to be more meticulous.

Aiji: I think I am more of a perfectionist.

J!-ENT: The CD+DVD version of "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC" comes with performances from the "LM.C TOUR'09-winter-FINAL [NAGANO de HOLY★NIGHT] at Hokuto Bunka Hall/09.12.25" and another album version with performances from "LM.C Club Circuit'09-CRAZY A GO GO 2-FINAL at STUDIO COAST 09.08.30". How was it like performing at Hokuto Bunka Hall on Christmas Day? Any memorable experiences from that night?

maya: It was a tour final in my hometown, Nagano, so just that fact we did the tour final in Nagano made a great memory. On top of that, since the venue was the one where I used to go to see lots of concerts a long time ago.

Aiji: I have been able to spend the best Christmas with lots of fans. For me, all the fans looked like Mr. Santa. (Laughing)

J!-ENT: Any memorable experiences performing at STUDIO COAST?

maya: The stage setting was so flashy. (laughing)

Aiji: It was the first time for LM.C to

make a center stage and the live was that we have been able to try lots of new things as LM.C.

J!-ENT: Most recently you performed at Fanime in San Jose, California. You have performed in the U.S. before but how was this latest experience performing in America?

maya: More fans came to see us than last time and I had spent the best time there.

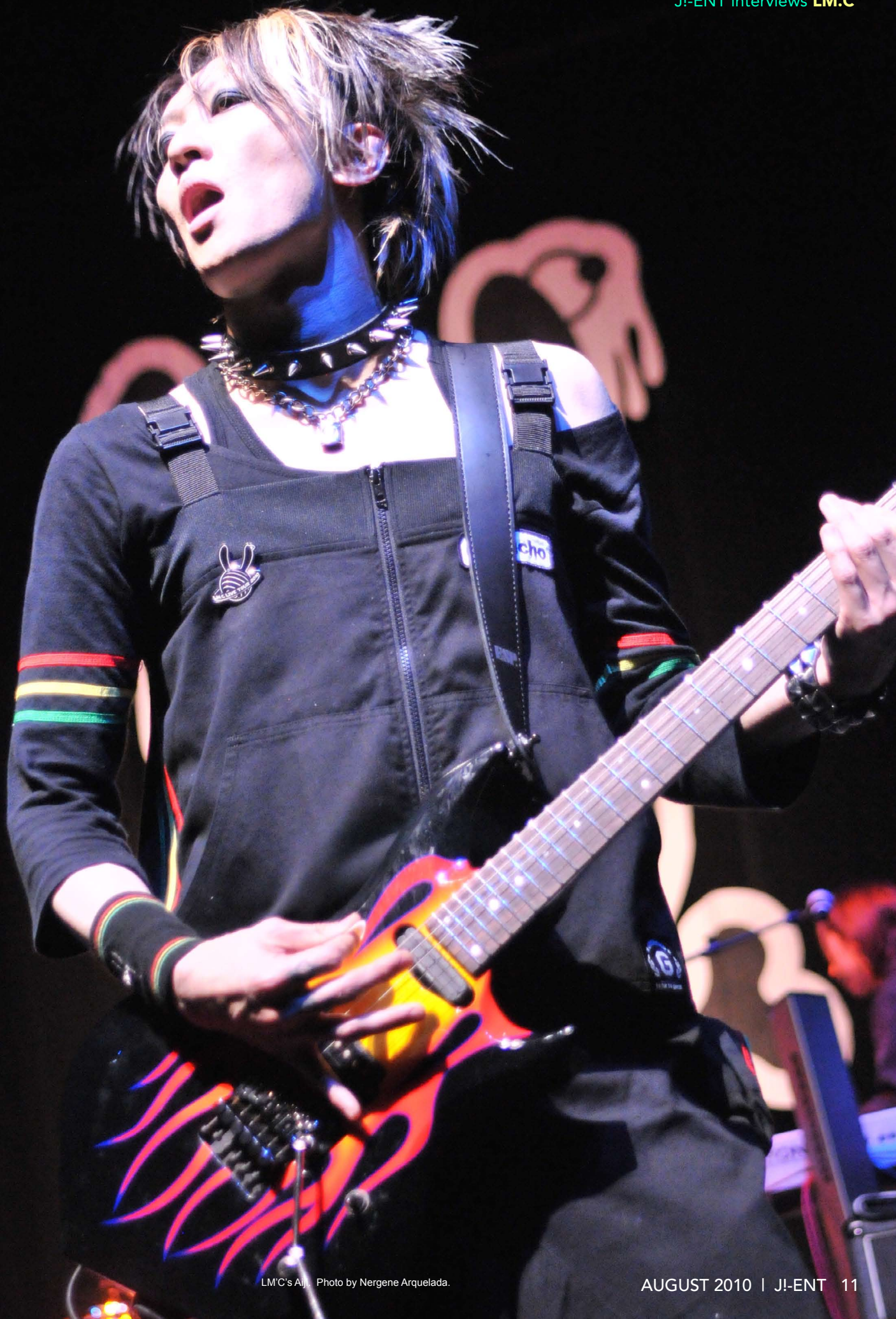
Aiji: It was awesome! From the excitement of the fans that I saw there, I felt that everyone was waiting for LM.C. It was a great live.

J!-ENT: You performed in North America, South America, Europe and throughout Asia... Any crazy stories or experiences that is most memorable for you that you can share with us?

maya: Everyone sang for us the beginning of the song called "88" (pronounce as HACHI-HACHI), and the beginning was so great and clear but it was getting fuzzy since they were not sure about the rest of the lyrics. (laughing)

J!-ENT: Before a performance, do





any of you have a special routine or something that you like to do hours before you hit the stage?

maya: Being maya of LM.C. I mean, mentally.

Aiji: I always say something to each members before the show.

J!-ENT: Outside of music, what other hobbies do you enjoy doing?

maya: I don't have one at all.

Aiji: I haven't been able to do any in private recently, but I like traveling and also photography.

J!-ENT: If we had the chance to hang out LM.C. for a day, which city in Japan and what area would you take us to and why?

maya: Starbucks in front of Shibuya station. No specific reason.

Aiji: Shibuya and Kyoto. For Shibuya, it is the one of the towns you could feel the Japanese culture and trend. And Kyoto is the world-class city that we should proud of and where still keeps the history, the tradition, and the elegance of Japan.

J!-ENT: Have you ever sung your songs at a karaoke bar and have you ever received a perfect score?

maya: I only sing my songs. I do not do the scoring.

Aiji: I have sung them before, but I've never gotten the perfect score with whichever song I've ever sung.

J!-ENT: If there is one word to describe yourself, what word would that be and why?

maya: "Awesome".

Aiji: "Happy". I think I am alive and kept alive for the happiness of myself, staff and fans.

J!-ENT: For every interview, we have a section called word play which I give you five words and you give me your definition for those words:

A. LOVE

maya: The love is everything

Aiji: The feeling that cares for another person without regard for personal profit.

B. SUCCESS

maya: The name of the brand for hair regrowth.

Aiji: Being recognized.

C. PAIN



LM.C performing at FANIME in San Jose. Photo by Nergene Arquelada.

maya: I don't like pain.

Aiji: The things that I must overcome and get through as well as make myself stronger.

D. FANS

maya: I want to get married.

Aiji: Buddies/teammates/fellows.

E. ROCK N' ROLL

maya: The other name of adolescence and youth.

Aiji: Free/Freedom.

J!-ENT: What final words do you have for your fans worldwide?

maya: Love is EVERYTHING. Right? Love.

Aiji: Thank you very much for always listening to LM.C music. I hope to enjoy our live together and have a great time with you someday! If you have already seen LM.C live before, please hope to a day when LM.C could come again to see you in your country and in your town. We will continue delivering you great songs, so please wait for them. I look forward to seeing you. Be Happy! ■

For more information on LM.C, please visit their websites at:

<http://lovely-mocochang.com>

<http://www.myspace.com/lmcofficial>

WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC

LM.C

Pony Canyon Inc.

PCCA-03103

DURATION: 50:29

RELEASE DATE: March 3, 2010

TRACKLIST:

1. ~A Sound Odyssey~
2. GHOST+ HEART
3. Space Wannabiez
4. mosaïque city
5. The Midnight Museum 4
6. DAYS (WFWH mix)
7. ~Time Warp Reel~
8. EDO FUNK
9. Optimisland
10. pOlyLiF
11. meteorion
12. PUNKY♥HEART
13. 僕らの未来。
14. It's a Wonderful Wonder World

A wonderfully addictive album that showcases a heavy-hitting rock sound, energetic melodies and overall, a well-produced album.

The musical unit LM.C makes their return with a new full-length album titled "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC".

In Japan, there were three releases for "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC".

The first being a normal CD version and the other two albums which are limited editions which include the following: Limited version A of "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC" includes a CD + DVD DVD of the digest of the LM.C TOUR'09-winter- FINAL[NAGANO de HOLY☆NIGHT] at Hokuto Bunka Hall in Nagano on Dec 25, 2009.

For limited version B of "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC", the CD + DVD DVD included the digest of the LM.C Club Circuit'09 - CRAZY A GO GO 2- FINAL at Studio Coast in Shinkiba on Aug 30, 2009.

The album kicks off with "~A Sound Odyssey~" which is a :30 instrumental track which then leads to the upbeat, heavy hitting rock track "GHOST+ HEART".

The third track "Space Wannabiez" continues that heavy hitting upbeat style with a guitar churning, yet awesome rock track.

The fourth track "mosaïque city" features an electronic/rock track that sports spacey electronic sounds in



< A WONDERFULLY ADDICTIVE ALBUM!

conjunction with an addictive bass and then traditions to an upbeat track laden with guitars and percussion.

The fifth track is a pretty cool mid-tempo track which starts out gentle with and then transitions to a blunt rock churning track.

The sixth track "DAYS [WFWH mix]" features a very accessible rock track that is comparable to the unit's previous work. Really cool synth strings and electric guitar utilized in this track.

The seventh track features a short electronic instrumental track titled "~Time Warp Reel~".

The eighth track "EDO FUNK" features an upbeat pop-style of track that employs a Bossa Nova style of instrumental during the breaks. Pretty cool track!

The ninth track "Optimisland" showcases a Summer-style of track with a reggae musical feel.

The tenth track "pOlyLiF" is a track similar to "DAYS" which is an accessible, commercial style of rock/pop track.

The eleventh track "meteorion" features a pretty awesome arrangement and electric guitars and cool vocals! Definitely one of

my favorite, if not my favorite track on the album.

The twelfth track "PUNKY♥HEART" features an upbeat rock track with churning guitars courtesy of Aiji that compliments maya's vocals.

The 13th track "僕らの未来。" (which translates to "Our future"). A pretty cool and smooth track and a track that is well-sung and also sports a pretty cool arrangement. My second favorite track off the album.

The final track on this album is "It's a Wonderful Wonder World". A fitting upbeat rock track for the album with pretty cool musical arrangement.

Overall, LM.C's "WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC" is a fantastic album from the musical unit.

Featuring solid production, awesome musical arrangements and great vocals, fans should not be disappointed with this release.

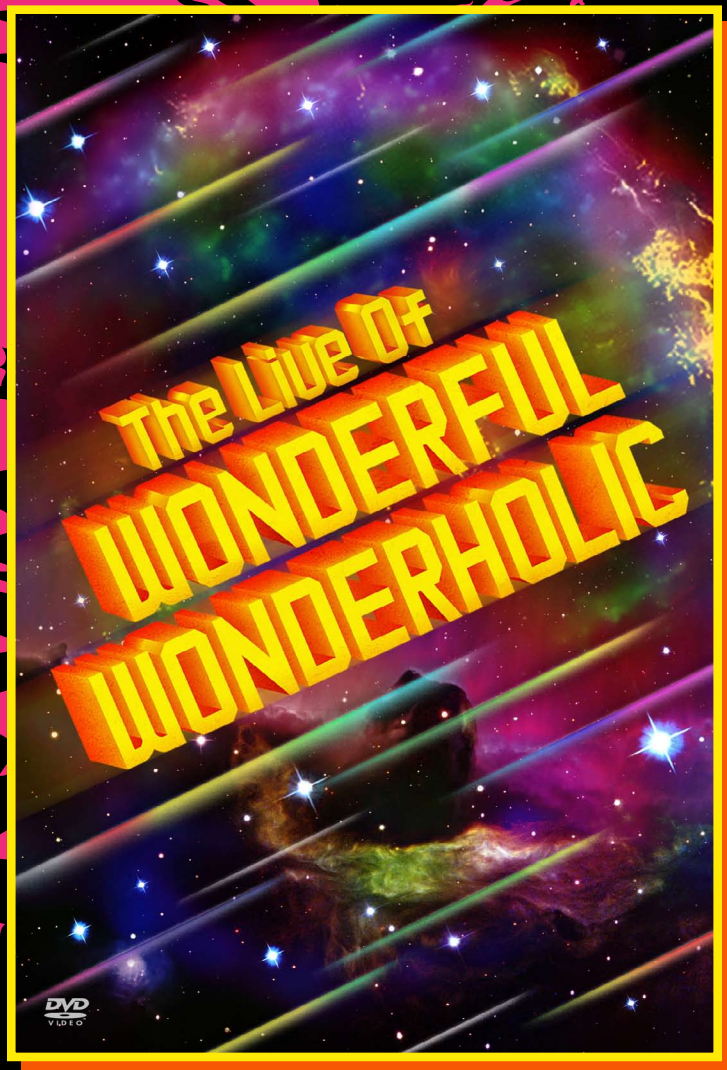
- DENNIS A. AMITH

AVAILABLE ON JULY 28

The Live Of WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC
[DVD] PCBP-52040 ¥6,000 (tax in)
The Concert DVD includes a bonus content
of "Behind the scene from the LM.C LIVE
TOUR 2010 in EUROPE"

[Track List]

01. A Sound Odyssey
02. GHOST † HEART
03. Space Wannabiez
04. mosaïque city
05. The Midnight Museum 4
06. DAYS [WFWH mix]
07. Time Warp Reel
08. EDO FUNK
09. Optimisland
10. pOlyLiF
11. meteorion
12. PUNKY♥HEART
13. Bokura no Mirai.
14. It's a Wonderful Wonder World



THE VERY WONDERHOLIC MUSIC VIDEOS, "THE LIVE OF WONDERFUL WONDERHOLIC" HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED!! TOTAL OF 12 MUSIC VIDEOS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON ITUNES MUSIC STORE WORLDWIDE. IN SPRING 2010, REMEMBER THOSE DAYS THAT LM.C WENT AROUND THE WORLD TO GIVE YOU SO MUCH LOVE AND HAPPINESS... STEP INTO THE WORLD OF LM.C WHEREVER YOU ARE, WHENEVER YOU WANT, AND WHENEVER YOU NEED!
DOWNLOAD NOW BY CLICKING HERE!

UPCOMING LM.C LIVE PERFORMANCES AND RELEASE NEWS:

- GO TO THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY -

LM.C LIVE 2010 DATE: NOVEMBER 17TH, 2010
VENUE: SHIBUYA-AX

LM.C LIVE 2011 - YAON DE FEVER FEVER - DATE: APRIL 2, 2011
VENUE: HIBIYA OPEN-AIR CONCERT HALL

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CAN'T LIKE,
SAY SMART
STUFF."

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STEREOPONY

ステレオポニー



COMING THIS JULY ON J!-ENT

BY DENNIS A. AMITH

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