



Interviews



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Kristina Sky



September 29, 2011: We had the chance to interview the Southern California club hit: Kristina Sky. She's played at the hottest clubs in the area, as well as opened for some of the top DJs in the world including Ferry Corsten and Markus Schulz. Here is what she had to say:

Q: If you had to pick, which is your favorite genre? Trance, house, or another?

A: Trance is my first love but proper house and progressive is a close second!

Q: Which DJ(s) inspired/inspires you to be working in a field that is very male dominant?

A: Paul Van Dyk was my first inspiration in the mid-late 90s but Paul Oakenfold and Armin Van Buuren became another source of inspiration shortly after. Additionally Ferry Corsten, Markus Schulz, Gareth Emery and Max Graham have also been big influences but really, I'm inspired by every artist/label who has produced/released a track I play in my sets.

Q: Are you friends with any other female DJs/producers? Are any close with each other?

A: Sadly, not really! I work with mostly male DJs and don't get much opportunity to hang with female DJs. I am friends, however, with a bunch of female vocalists in the global scene like Jes, Betsie Larkin, Aruna and Marcie to name just a few.

Q: If you could open for anyone (dead or alive) who would it be and why?

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A: Would probably be PvD as he's one of the only DJs I haven't opened for, and was my main inspiration in starting electronic music!

Q: What is your favorite food/guilty pleasure?

A: French fries in all shapes, sizes and forms. And I don't feel guilty about it at all! :p

Q: How would you describe your sound?

A: Melodic progressive, house and trance with touches of electro and techno. It's pretty broad! But there is ALWAYS melody ;)

Q: What do you look for in a track?

A: Strong basslines, proper intros and outros as I like to do long mixes, and a great melody or vocal. I usually know within seconds of hearing a track whether it will end up in my sets. Just a feeling!

Q: What is your favorite track at the moment?

A: That's a REALLY difficult question.. But just one track I've been playing a ton recently is Calvin Harris' - Feel So Close. Everyone knows the words now and sings along, it's cute.

Q: Which is your favorite venue to play at?

A: Would have to be a tie between Avalon in Hollywood and Sutra in Costa Mesa. Both are world-class venues with great sound-systems and atmosphere.

Q: Which gig has been your all-time favorite you have played?

A: Coachella for sure. Sharing the same stage as Madonna (and may other great acts), along with being my favorite festival prior to me starting to DJ, made that a really special gig for me. Plus they asked me to play a 2nd set later that night so it was a massive double-win!

Q: What was the strangest gig you have ever played?

A: I'd probably have to say this show at Salvation Mountain years ago, out deep in the desert of Southern California near the Salton Sea. It was on this hippy commune that's been there for decades, run by a funny old hippy named Leonard. The promoters arranged donating most of the proceeds in return for using the land. It had all of these man-made mountains with religious, peace and love related messages written in colorful clay. Truly bizarre sight (but very cool!) Best part was when I found out that the stage I played on was a major stop on Christopher McCandless' crazy journey in the 80s, which ended up being turned into an amazing film directed by Sean Penn, "Into the Wild", ironically one of my favorite movies all-time! So as strange as the gig was, it was actually really cool to know I was in the same place as Chris McCandless and being under the night sky and bright stars didn't hurt either. Really fun crowd and came away with a good story to tell!

Q: If you weren't a DJ, what would you be doing?

A: I would probably be doing A&R, management type stuff in the mainstream music business (which is what I originally went to school for) because I love discovering and developing artists. If not that, I'd probably be a concert promoter/festival organizer. Was never a question I'd be working with music in one way or another. Knew that since I was real small!

Q: Do you have plans to play at any local SoCal festivals soon?

A: I'm actually playing Wet Electric on Saturday October 1st in Irvine, Ca. It's at Wild Rivers Water Park. 2 days, 40+ DJs and the park is fully operational during the event. Should be a great time!

Q: What event would be your dream event to play at and why?

A: Probably Tomorrowland (unbelievable production and venue, not to mention a legendary EDM festival) or Coachella again because it's only gotten bigger and better and is still my favorite music festival.

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Eric Prydz - The Hollywood Palladium

The Hollywood Palladium has been a special place for us at MusicAlerts ever since we witnessed the epic Trance Around The World 350 performance by Above & Beyond. When we heard that Eric Prydz was making his return to the US after 5 years and that Arty would be performing along side him, we knew



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