



# Fan-tastic Journey

Kristina Sky takes a wild ride from fliering festivals to fan favorite

By **DEANNA RILLING**

◆ **NEWBIE. UP AND** comer. Rising star. SoCal skater-chick-turned-trance-addict Kristina Sky has been called them all. And this is *after* she had already worked her way up the ranks from handing out fliers at the Electric Daisy Carnival to being selected by Armin van Buuren more than a decade later to play the festival's A State of Trance stage. It's safe to say, Sky has arrived. She attended UCLA for music business and helped the trance scene grow on the West Coast. "I actually started the first 100 percent pure trance club in America in 2003 called Heaven," she says. "I was bringing in 80 percent of the trance DJs that were relevant, or up-and-coming in Europe at that time." Sky honed her skills as a resident DJ, cultivated her musical taste while working in a record shop and built a loyal fan base from there. Catch K.Sky in action when she spins at Marquee with Markus Schulz on February 15.

**Lately, you've been delving more into production. The track "Signals" you debuted last summer at the Electronic Daisy Carnival in Las Vegas is finally out, right?**

It's a collaboration I did with Menno de Jong. We actually wrote that track when I was in Amsterdam for ASOT [A State of Trance] 550 before the summer. It finally got released on Armada last month. It's a progressive-trance track, something a little off our beaten path—it's totally

trance, but it *is* more mellow. We're excited about it. He's been a longtime friend of mine and I brought him to the U.S. for his first gig ever in 2004. He wasn't even old enough to play in the clubs! We're probably going to do more stuff this year, but that's our first official thing together.

**Although yours may not be the most familiar name to Las Vegas clubbers, you've got some really dedicated fans around the world. How do they show support?**

I'm really, really lucky. I've been getting a lot of homemade banners and stuff like that. I get a lot of "kandi" [bracelets], because I also derive from the rave scene. I've got quite a big rave-kid following and I love that. I have a little treasure chest that I bought just to store all of that stuff because I was getting so much of it.

**Any Kristina Sky tattoos walking around yet?**

Not yet, but I have heard talks about it. I'm not sure how I feel [about that]. I do have quite a dedicated group of fans that are coming around the country with me now. Of course not everyone can afford to do that, but I do seem to have fans with jobs that allow them to bounce around and follow DJs. I have this one fan, for example, who was in Chicago, was going to be in Houston, he came to L.A., he was on Groove Cruise, and now he's coming to Vegas. There are people that are making

a lot of effort to come to the shows and that means a lot to me. For the Vegas gig, I'm getting droves of SoCal people that are coming, which is probably one of the reasons why they want me to be in Vegas, because they know that the L.A. kids really make the effort.

**Being that you're a female, does that ever get creepy?**

It could get stalker-ish and yes, I have had a couple of those. Luckily, out of 10 years, I've only had a couple that genuinely freak me out. Since I'm not the "Sexy DJ," when I see people come to the shows over and over it's kind of obvious that they're following me for the music and not for some sexy image or something. I think I don't attract those types of people because I'm not putting that out there.

**Fans can also rock some Kristina Sky gear thanks to a new partnership?**

I teamed up with Remix [watches]. They're doing stuff with a couple of other DJs, and it's a very club-oriented design where you can pop out the watch faces and put it in different bands. It's like "How do you remix?" You make your own watch. They approached me right before the summer and said that they wanted to do a Kristina Sky watch. I really like their whole brand. We came up with this design based off of this semi-famous photo of me from Coachella, and they put that on the face. It was released to the public right before Christmas and it's on XWatchCo.com/KristinaSky, that's where you can go to actually see the watch and order it. We're going to be coming out with an alternate color scheme and design in the spring. They're really cool guys and I like what they're doing, so I'm going to work with them as long as possible. 🎧

*Sky answers fan questions about why she spins trance at VegasSeven.com/KristinaSky.*

## NIGHT-LITES

### ROCKHOUSE MOVES, FUZZY FRIDAY GROOVES, 3LAU GIVES 3ACK

Rockhouse is bigger and better than ever—and now with bathrooms! The casual party spot previously housed at the Imperial Palace received a major upgrade at its new home in the Shoppes at the Palazzo (across from First Food & Bar). Now open, the boisterous bar—or "anti-nightclub" as owner/operator Jonathan Fine calls it—has all the ingredients for a night that would make any fraternity jealous: 85 screens, Rockhouse's signature daiquiris in guitar-shaped souvenir glasses, beer by the 20-pack, beer pong and bull-riding. But to us boozers on a budget, Rockhouse has the most affordable grub we could find on the Venetian/Palazzo property, with simple, yet tasty variety. "Two items: tacos and hot dogs," Fine says. "Sushi-style—you get a pencil and mark off the toppings. You can have a turkey hotdog with smoked gouda!" For the full story, visit [VegasSeven.com/Rockhouse](http://VegasSeven.com/Rockhouse).

Another alternative to the nightclubs—this for younger dance-music fans—is Fuzz Fridays. Las Vegas has struggled to maintain a place for teens to hang out, thanks to strict dance-hall regulations within city limits. But the crew behind the long-running Sounds of the Underground is launching a new all-ages weekly dance party, Fuzz Fridays, on February 22 at the Fort Cheyenne Events Center. Visit [Facebook.com/FuzzFridays](http://Facebook.com/FuzzFridays) for more info.

Speaking of doing something for the youngsters, international DJ/producer 3lau is giving back. Partnering with Pencils of Promise, 3lau—a Vegas native about whom you can read more at [VegasSeven.com/3lau](http://VegasSeven.com/3lau)—donated 100 percent of the proceeds from his "Back to New" single, which was enough to build the first of three schools in developing countries. Donations can be made via his Justin Blau fundraising page at [PencilsofPromise.org](http://PencilsofPromise.org). — **Deanna Rilling**